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Vice-Chairman & Cottages	Trevor Ellis	20 Batley Avenue, Marsh, Huddersfield 34666
General Secretary	Robert Dewey	38 Paris Road, Scholes, Huddersfield Holmfirth 5022
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Project Officer	Keith Gibson	Northcote House, Nields Road, Slaithwaite, Huddersfield. Tel: Huddersfield 844596

non-council members

Company Secretary	John Fryer	2 Popley Drive, Meltham, Hudders- field.
Membership Secretary	Val Dewey	38 Paris Road, Scholes, Huddersfield Tel: Holmfirth 5022
West Side Secretary	Jean Wrigley	44 Stamford Street, Millbrook, Stalybridge. 061-338 9027
West Side Chairman	Mrs Jean Buckley	37 Edward Street, Oldham. 061-624 4881
East Side Chairman	Brian Badminton	62 Rawthorpe Lane, Dalton, Huddersfield.
Sheffield Branch	Joyce and Phil Calverley	25 Wulfric Road, Eckington, Sheffield, Chesterfield 432140
TCF Chairman	Vincent Willey	31 Middle Green, Ashton-u-Lyne. Tel: 061-330 9810
TCF Secretary	Hazel Maskell	19 Quick View, Mossley. Tel: Mossley 3992

Cover photo: County Councillor John Sully (left) and Bob Dewey seen with the film crew and Marilyn Webb of Yorkshire TV outside Tunnel End Cottages, Marsden. (see page 11) Photo: Robert Carter.

HCS LTD. REGISTERED OFFICE: Ramsdens, Ramsden Street, Huddersfield.

PENNINE LINK) No.50 March/April 1983 Contents

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editorial

Welcome to the 50th edition of Pennine Link. The Society has now been going for 9 years with two of its founder members John Maynard and Bob Dewey still on the committee and working just as hard as ever.

As I'm limited for space on this page, this issue, it's a good excuse for me to sign off but not before saying I hope to see lots of you at the AGM on 29th April and may I take this opportunity to wish Mikron Theatre Co., a safe and successful tour for 1983.

P.S. Have you all seen Mark Strickson — a fellow HCS member and ex-Mikronite as Dr Who's new assistant?

Sue Gibson

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chairman's remarks

We begin 1983 with the publication of three reports: "A Proposal for the Restoration of the Huddersfield Narrow Canal from Marsden to Slaithwaite", "Proposed Restoration of the Huddersfield Narrow Canal from Ashton-under-Lyne to Stalybridge" and "A Report on the Job Creation Potential of the Huddersfield Narrow Canal as a Navigable Waterway".

All three reports have been presented to the British Waterways Board, the relevant Councils and to the Press. Some of you may have seen Bob Dewey's interview on television last month and many of you must have read of our reports in the National Canal and Waterways press. To further our aims we need to involve the riparian councils and other public bodies with an interest in the environment.

Progress on restoration will not be as fast as some members would like. Our efforts at Uppermill have demonstrated that restoration schemes are worthwhile. The Canal Society is largely a pressure group but we must also lead by example and our performance at Uppermill is being closely monitored. We must demonstrate to the general public that we can make a relatively short section of canal navigable again.

We have almost cleared both locks, we have ordered the lock gates and we shall hang the gates this year. Progress could be faster. We rely on the same few people at our working parties. I urge those able-bodied members amongst you who live within reasonable travelling distance to make the effort to attend our weekend workings. If you want a chat about how you can help, please telephone or write to me or Graham Maskell.

Our two restoration reports have been well received and are now being discussed by officers and members of the Councils concerned and the British Waterways Board. I shall report on progress in detail at our AGM on 29th April.

Your Vice-Chairman and myself have attended two meetings re the Marsden-Slaithwaite report, chaired by David Pyrah of BWB in Leeds, and I have submitted the jointly produced report on Ashton-Stalybridge to the Tame Valley Officers Working Party. This latter report is a combined Waterway Recovery Group/Huddersfield Canal Society study and has by now been read (I hope) by every interested councillor in Greater Manchester Council and Tameside.

We look forward to a momentous year for the Society when we shall see a partially restored Uppermill stretch, a newly opened information centre and base for our Society at Marsden and another Canals Festival. Successful fundraising will be vital in 1983. We are committed to a full-length trip boat at Uppermill, we need an exhibition for Marsden, more reports on the canal are promised and we may be called upon to finance lock gates on either or both sides of the hill. I, therefore, welcome our new council member, Tom Rushton, who is to co-ordinate our fund-raising activities. No newcomer to raising capital, Tom will be writing in the next Pennine Link of his plans for the future.

I look forward to meeting many of you at the AGM.

PENNINE LINK uppermill progress report

Not much progress to report this time, unfortunately our last weekend working party before Christmas was snowed off, so that put us back a week. The January working party was sadly depleted by not having the support from the Community Service people (they were already doing another job that weekend), but perhaps more importantly by new 'Navvies' from amongst our ranks. One bright spot from that weekend is that we now have a 'brewer up' and very welcome **he** is too.

The lock chamber is just about cleared and one more good weekend should finish it off. Measurements for both top and bottom gates have now been taken (only a mad scramble on Sunday afternoon enabling these to be made), so gates will soon be ready for both locks on this section. We now have some full-time work going on, on the towpath wall, and it looks to be a very good job, pity that the materials for the job are being imported when there is a large and cheap pile of stone lying nearby that only requires dressing.

Future working parties are as published in the last issue, just to remind you they are as follows:—

March 19-20th April 16-17th May 14-15th June 11-12th August 6-7th September 3-4th October 1-2nd October 29-30th November 26-27th

In addition to these weekends there will be additional working parties as and when the need arises. All members will be made most welcome. So please come, if only to stop me going on at you via these pages.

Graham Maskell

HAPPINESS IS — Friday night at the Festival.

tunnel end cottages

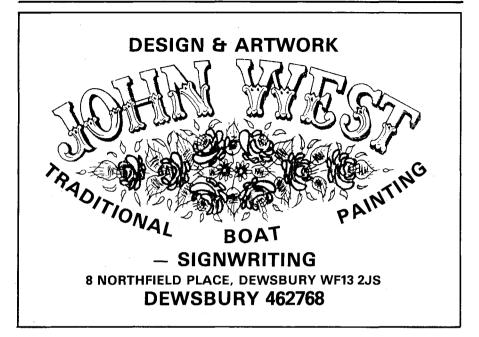
The cottages have taken a major step forward visually with the fitting of new windows and doors, though a considerable amount of work remains to be done internally. A compromise has been reached and British Rail's electrical cabinet has been encased in stone. Much work has gone into tidying the surrounding area, though a large, wet hole still awaits the installation of a septic tank. The response to our appeal for articles to illustrate the exhibition was less than encouraging. However once a plan of action is agreed we hope to press on with the job ready for the opening in September. (For details see elsewhere in this issue).

Trevor Ellis

CHEESE, WINE & MIKRON EVENING - 8th April

We have arranged a special cheese and wine evening with the chance to see the preview of the (yet untitled) new Mikron Show at the Brownhill Visitor Centre at Uppermill which is in itself well worth the visit. Admission will be £3. This includes the cheese/wine and Mikron Show.

Tickets are limited, so book now by ringing Dave Weston on 061-303 7881.



Don't get pickled.....but you could make a jar of preserves (or a cake) for the HCS stall at the Festival. Contact Leslie Paton on 061-484 1360.

press cuttings

If you see anything mentioning the Huddersfield Canal or the Society in newspapers, magazines, etc., please could you cut out and send to Dave Finnis, 12 Chapel Hill, Linthwaite, Huddersfield, who is now taking over as Press Cuttings Officer.

press date

Articles for inclusion in the May/June issue of Pennine Link must be received no later than the 10th April.

Find a good home for unwanted but good-as-new toys — contact Gill Grimshaw on Mossley 3992.

SOLUTION TO CROSSWORD NO.10 ACROSS:

1 Archive, 5 Shore, 8 Oboe, 9 Tameside, 10 Stain, 11 Sprint, 12 Gap, 13 Banger, 15 Ironed, 18 Inn, 19 Regain, 21 Serve, 24 Outboard, 25 Axle, 26 Toddy, 27 Stilled.

DOWN:

2 Robot, 3 Heeding, 4 Vote, 5 Steep, 6 Opinion, 7 Elect, 10 Sub, 11 Spin, 12 Grin, 14 Negated, 16 Overall, 17 Due, 19 Roost, 20 Ivory, 22 Value, 23 Adit.

huddersfield canal society limited

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Third Annual General Meeting of the above named Company will be held at The Coach & Horses Public House, Standedge, Marsden, Huddersfield, West Yorkshire, on Friday the 29th day of April 1983, at 8 p.m. to transmit the following businesses: —

- (a) To receive and adopt the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31st December 1982 together with the Reports of the Council of Management and of the Auditors thereon
- (b) To re-elect the Auditors and to authorise the Council of Management to fix their renumeration.
- (c) To re-elect Susan Patricia Bradbury as a Member of the Council of Management
- (d) To re-elect Robert A. Dewey as a Member of the Council of Management
- (e) To re-elect David L. Finnis as a Member of the Council of Management
- (f) To re-elect John K. Maynard as a Member of the Council of Management
- (g) To re-elect Tom Rushton as a Member of the Council of Management
- (h) Any other business

DATED this Second day of February 1983

By Order of the Council p.p. *J. M. Fryer* Secretary

Registered Office: Ramsdens, Ramsden Street, Huddersfield.

N.B. A Member entitled to attend and vote at the Meeting is entitled to appoint a proxy to attend and vote on his behalf. A proxy must also be a Member of the Company.

form of proxy

I/WE

of

in the County of

being a Member/Members of

the above-named Society hereby appoint

of

or failing him

of

as my/our proxy to vote for me/us on my/our behalf at the Annual General

Meeting of the Society to be held on the 29th day of April 1983 and at any adjournment thereof

SIGNED

this day of

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tunnel end festival '83



Tunnel End Cottages, Marsden, probably the most photographed of all those of the waterways. HCS are indeed fortunate in being party to their refurbishment and having the exciting challenge of maximising their potential for many years to come.

It is with this in mind that we hope to mark the re-opening of Tunnel End Cottages with a celebration. This will coincide with the Marsden Festival, the weekend of 10/11th September, so that the local community will also be fully involved.

It has been suggested that the event should have a 'traditional' theme, possibly trying to recapture the vitality the area must have known before the canal was closed. We have considered Morris dancers, bands, craft demonstrations, model boats and even transporting real ones!

A committee to organise the event has been formed, but anyone who feels as enthusiastic as its present members would be most welcome to help, suggest or encourage. There is a great deal of work to be done, to introduce people to HCS's latest piece of restoration, namely our new centre, where we hope to show canals in general and the Huddersfield Narrow in particular.

All offers of help and enquiries to either David L. Finnis or Trevor Ellis.

WHY NOT CRUISE WITH...... THE PENNINE LINE and explore the Yorkshire Dales at your leisure We have the largest hire fleet of luxury narrowboats on the Leeds/Liverpool Canal as well as the widest choice of interiors for you to choose from. SEND FOR OUR FREE COLOUR BROCHURE TODAY! The Pennine Line The Wharf, Silsden, West Yorkshire. Tel: 0535 54552 DON'T ACCEPT ANYTHING BUT THE VERY BEST FOR YOUR HOLIDAY THE PENNINE LINE OFFERS JUST THAT!

First of all may I thank all the people who have written to me with names for our second and third boats. I hope they will accept this as an acknowledgement and thank you for the suggestions. I now have about twenty to choose from and have decided to have a vote on them at the AGM; more of an opinion pole than a mandate, the final choice will be decided by the council.

Stan was stripped of all moveable fittings, including the motor, and moored at Marsden for the winter. Well wrapped up in her normal canvas cover and a large polythene sheet, the sheet was stolen and she was broken into. Remoored and with the canvas replaced just before Christmas the police reported that she was sunk at her moorings. Over the holidays we managed to pump her out — with the pump from the lock restoration — and secured her again. She has now been moved to a mooring under the road bridge where she is now out of the worst of the weather and ungetatable, except with waders. It is hoped to refit her (wasn't I glad the motor had been removed — it has been overhauled and painted) in March ready for running trips again at Easter.

No.2 Again due to weather and being outside, little work has been done; apart from a second coat of paint.

No.3 The Christmas raffle raised approx. £330 which has been put into the boat-fund but as yet no firm decision has been made as to when a boat will be purchased.

Many thanks go to Mr Sagar of Sagar Marine for all the work he has given us to date designing boat No.3 for us.

John Maynard

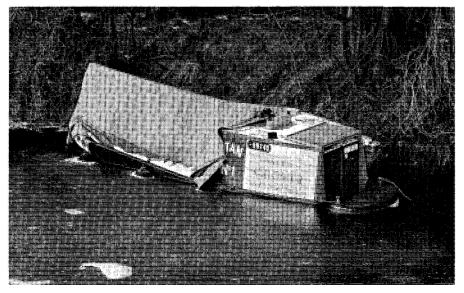


Photo: Sunken Stan by Robert Carter

in the beginning

Margaret Sinfield, Chairman of the West Riding branch of IWA in the early 1970's through the branch magazine 'Towpath' put out feelers to see if there were any others like herself interested in seeing the Huddersfield Narrow Canal restored. A reply did come. A newly recruited IWA member named Bob Dewey rang her and agreed to attend a meeting to discuss the then almost crazy idea of restoration.

Margaret asked a fellow IWA branch committee member John Maynard what his views were on restoring the Huddersfield Narrow. John thought the idea interesting and came along to the meeting which was held on board 'Elizabeth B' (a Yorkshire keel moored at Aspley Basin, done out as a club room by the then operators of the then thriving marina). The meeting was quite well attended, ideas were exchanged and the evening made complete by Bob Dewey spreading out 6" to the mile maps across the boat floor.

Shortly later another meeting was held on 'Elizabeth B'. This time with a smaller number attending. It was here that the formation of a Society was discussed and officers decided upon. With Ralph Kirkham already the secretary of the Calder Navigation Society and Margaret Sinfield, the Chairman of the West Rising branch of IWA it was agreed that John Maynard would take on the job of Chairman and Bob Dewey, General Secretary. It was decided membership to the Society would be £1. With Ralph Kirkham being the first to put £1 upon the table and the others following suit, the Huddersfield Canal Society was now in business.

The Zetland Hotel in Huddersfield on April 19th 1974 at 8 p.m. was the place and time of the first official meeting of the Society. It was recorded in the minutes that 52 people attended, thereby making it necessary for adjournment to a larger room upstairs.

John Maynard and Bob Dewey both gave a short talk before a general discussion took place. A set of rules was adopted, a treasurer — Bob Wilkinson — was chosen and membership recruitment began with roughly 40 members joining the Society that evening.

In June 1974 a newsletter was printed — Alan Jervis being the acting editor — Bulletin No.1, its aim to keep members informed and welcoming them to the new Society. Below is reproduced a letter from the then Chairman: John Maynard from that first bulletin.

31st May 1974

Dear Fellow Members,

Welcome to the Society and to this, our first bulletin. I have been astounded by the enthusiasm and support which has greeted the formation of the Society.

Your committee has met once so far, and a lot of basic 'once off' decisions taken. We are hard at work contacting amenity societies along the route of the cut with a view to enlisting support of conversion as the case may be — we must not delude ourselves into thinking that we are going to have it all our own way — opposition is inevitable in some guarters.



Some people are still asking what we intend to do, so here, briefly are our main objectives:

- 1. Lobby the appropriate authorities and obtain support to preserve and improve the canal.
- 2. Physically help to clean up and improve the canal where we are able.
- Keep a watch and object to any further official vandalism or development that will hinder the eventual reopening of the canal to through navigation.
- 4. Set up a study group to look seriously into the feasibility and costs of reopening.

There is a great deal of work to be done, both physical and mental. Can **you** help? If so, let us know. Can you find new members? New members mean increased income and more help. Our present resources are already stretched with the initial expenses of setting up the Society.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank Bob Dewey, our Secretary for doing a full-time job in his spare time.

Yours sincerely, J. K. Maynard (Chairman)

WANTED — two hours of your time to make TCF '83 a real hit.

pennine link advertising rates

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	per issue	6 issues
¼ page	£2.00	£10.00
½ page	£3.50	£17.50
Full page	£6.50	£32.50
Classified ads 5p per word		

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CRUISING WATERWAY NETWORK EXTENDED

9th February

The network of Cruising Waterways owned or managed by the British Waterways Board is extended today, following Royal Assent to the Board's Private Bill.

"My Board have been pressing successive Governments since 1974 to promote some 80 miles of restored waterways to the Cruising network. In the end we decided, with Consent of the Secretary of State, to promote a Private Bill. Its approval by Parliament is a major step forward" said Sir Frank Price, D.L., Board Chairman, today.

Sir Frank went on "The Transport Act 1968 gave a new charter for the waterways under the Board's control. One of my first tasks on becoming Chairman was to persuade local authorities to finance the restoration of canals in inner urban areas so that the public could benefit from the amenities which waterways can provide. The local authorities were enthusiastic, and from today we have a considerable additional mileage of waterway with a secure future. This will encourage the private sector to invest in facilities alongside. Future generations will be grateful to the British Waterways Board and the local authorities concerned for their determination to improve the quality of the environment and preserve part of our national heritage".

The waterways concerned are: --

The Ashton Canal (Ducie Street Junction, Manchester to Dukinfield Junction, Ashton)

Lower Peak Forest Canal (Dukinfield Junction to Marple)

Caldon Canal (Etruria to Froghall)

Caldon Canal (Leek branch)

Erewash Canal (Long Eaton to Langley Mill)

Monmouthshire and Brecon Canal (Brecon to Pontypool)

Grand Union Canal (Slough Arm).

Diggles — all in pieces — urgently require Diggle-makers. Contact Judy Weston on 061-303 7881.

and what of tcf '82?

On Valentine's Day I did not receive any cards but what I did get more than made up for the disappointment. It was the final account for TCF '82 (what did you expect)? So just for the record the net profit on TCF '82 was £4,948!

This is well above my original forecast and is a credit to all of those who helped in the organization of this event.

Of course this also poses a stiff challenge to TCF '83. There are still many ways to improve this event, particularly if we get more volunteers. Even ex-Chairmen are excempt!

Laurence Sullivan

Members will be pleased to hear that our publicity is off to a flying start in 1983 with many articles in the papers (including the 'nationals') three interviews on local radio and one interview on television.

It was a cold winter's morning when the Yorkshire Television camera crew arrived at Tunnel End, Marsden, to film our General Secretary, Bob Dewey and the Chairman of West Yorkshire County Council's Recreation & Arts Committee Chairman, Cty. Cllr. John Sully about the proposed restoration of the Marsden to Slaithwaite section of the canal and the refurbishing project currently being undertaken on Tunnel End Cottages in Marsden.

Although this was not the first time we have managed to obtain TV coverage it is pleasing to think our campaign still merits this type of coverage even when there is no practical restoration of the canal taking place in Yorkshire.

The programme has been video-taped and it is hoped that it will be shown at the AGM in April — which you all will be attending!

Looking ahead at the number of projects we already have on the books and the possibility of others in the near future it is becoming clearer every day that additional help will be needed to ensure that we achieve the most from our publicity. It is with this in mind that I feel it is time to form a group to coordinate our publicity activities as it is becoming too much to be handled by one person.

I envisage the group, when formed, meeting monthly to discuss/formulate all aspects of our publicity campaign and would like to hear from anyone interested in forming the group, or anyone with ideas for maximising our publicity potential. Please let me know whether Y O U are interested in order that I can arrange a meeting before the A.G.M.

David L. Finnis

Fancy a pint? Join an HCS pub-crawl for an evenings frivolity.

classified ads

The Witters of Chester support restoration of the Huddersfield Canal - and would like all Diggles to know that at their canalside factories they make very good canoes, paddles, helmets and trailer towing brackets.

FRANK BENNETT

MARINE ENGINEER AND SURVEYOR Tel. 061-303 0466

"Lynwood" 81 Lodge Lane, Dukinfield, Cheshire SK16 5JF

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CONTACT: John Mildenhall on READING (0734) 345439

Resume of the Council Meeting held on 5th January 1983 at the Diggle Hotel, Diggle

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: Ashton—Stalybridge report being prepared. West Side have set up a sub group to prepare a report on Mottram Road—Wellihole.

PROJECT REPORT: Job Report and Marsden—Slaithwaite reports circulated. TAMESIDE FESTIVAL: Generally things going well. Retiring President: Sir George Kenyon sent £200 donation.

UPPERMILL PROJECT: Gate Castings made. Lime Kiln gate recesses now nearly cleaned, ready for measuring.

BOATS: Stan sunk but has now been raised. Venues needed for Stan's operation.

TUNNEL END COTTAGES: Work still progressing well.

PUBLICITY: Examining possibility of HCS Flag Day.



Resume of the Council Meeting held on 2nd February 1983 at the Diggle Hotel, Diggle

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: Meeting recently with BWB, W.Yorks, and Kirklees Councils. Further meeting in March/April. Tom Rushton was introduced. Tom has had previous experience in fund-raising and is prepared to act as fundraiser for the Society.

EXHIBITIONS: Sub group meeting help but poorly attended. Epidioscope needed for display artwork.

PROJECTS REPORT: Letters of support received on the Marsden— Slaithwaite report. Ashton—Stalybridge report circulated. Mottram Road— Wellihole sub-group progressing well with report.

UPPERMILL PROJECT: Measurements taken for Lime Kiln lock gates. Concrete to be drilled out at Dungebooth Lock—March 5th/6th. Patterns of lock gate castings shown.

TUNNEL END COTTAGES: Cottages progressing well. First meeting of Tunnel End Festival held.

PUBLICITY: Yorkshire TV interview taken place at Tunnel End. HCS Flag Day to be on December 3rd.

GENERAL SECRETARY: Agreed to purchase a new audio visual system.

Dear Editor,

I feel I must write and admit that I am rapidly drifting towards the ranks of the 'It can't be done' brigade.

Having worked on the restoration site at Uppermill most weekends for the past 18 months I find it not only embarassing but shameful when talking to passersby about the work, to have to tell them that there are now well over 600 members in the society. You may ask why I am embarrassed by this.

The simple answer is that there are usually only half a dozen members there actually working! Admittedly we do often see more members there, but they are only there to take photos and generally pass the time of day!

I obviously realise that not every member of the Society can come and physically help to restore this unique waterway but surely we can manage better than less than 1% of the membership, if only to take some of the strain off the **same** five or six people who turn up whatever the weather to try and get something done.

At the present rate of progress, rough calculations estimate it will take approx. 150 years to re-open this canal! Need I say more?

I look forward to hearing other members comments. (If any of them can be bothered to write!)

DAVE IRVING, 416 Blackmoorfoot Road, Crosland Moor, Huddersfield.



tameside canals festival '83

Last year's Tameside Canals Festival was a resounding success. 20,000 people turned up.

The planning of the 1983 festival has been going on since last summer. We need only one ingredient to make it an even bigger success this year — your support.

Please make a note in your diary — Friday 15th to Sunday 17th July. Despite the invaluable help of the local Army Cadet Force we are entirely dependent on our own members for dozens of different tasks, from selling Diggles to giving out leaflets on a pub crawl. (And we are still accepting applications for the ducking stool.)

If you think you might possibly spare a couple of hours sometime over the weekend then we'd love to hear from you. Contact either Vince Willey or Hazel Maskell — (see inside front cover).

And don't forget - it's tremendous fun.

Bob Hindley

Friday night at the Festival.....for a finger-lickin' chicken barbecue and 21 flavours of real ale from the barrel.

ancient tcf customs. no.1 "the pub crawl"

The image of an HCS pub-crawl may be one of staggering along on a beerswilling marathon which finally ends with either you or your guts falling into the gutter. But the real thing is much more enjoyable and far less precarious. The normal course for an evening is five or six pubs, though it is by no means obligatory to down a drink, in each. The real keenies come sporting full canal costume but this isn't essential. The aim is to make friends, sell raffle tickets, give out leaflets and leave everyone in the pub covered in HCS stickers. If at all possible you should pick a night when Des Diggle is going. Piccadilly Radio's Susie Mathis still hasn't recovered from his chasing her all around Uppermill. More than one crawl a week is not recommended but if you are interested to hear whether anything is planned in your local area, phone Dave Weston on 061-303 7881.

If you can whittle, crochet, carve or knit a little something for the HCS Craft stall at the festival then phone Hazel Maskell on Mossley 3992.

the huddersfield narrow canal – a unique waterway **PENNINE LINK** 26-31 LINTHWAITE **SLAITHWAITE** MARSDEN MILNSBRIDGE н GOLCAR HUDDERSFIELD MARSDEN-SLAITHWAITE EAST SIDE **RESTORATION PROPOSAL** LOCKS NUMBERED 1-42E The Huddersfield Narrow Canal - built 1793-1811. Engineer: B. Outram. Closed: G.... Morley Lane 1944. Last recorded passage across R.....Royal George Aqueduct H..... Golcar Aqueduct Summit: 1948. Restoration began 1981. S.... Eamont Street I..... Golcar Swing Bridge Length: 197/8 miles. Summit pound: 645 T..... Scout Tunnel J.... Britannia Road ft. above sea level through Standedge K..... Warehouse Hill U.... Grove Road Tunnel - 3 miles 418 yards long. V..... Hartshead Power Station L.....Station Road W..... Mottram Road H.B.C.... Huddersfield Broad Canal M..... Tunnel End Cottages N..... Standedge Tunnel X..... Bayley Street A.C.... Ashton Canal Y..... Stalybridge Aqueduct O..... Wool Road Warehouse and A.... Wakefield Road Z..... Whitelands "Tunnel" **Brownhill Visitor Centre** B....Queen Street South *..... Infilled sections C.... Manchester Road P..... Saddleworth Aqueduct +..... Culverted or lowered bridges D..... Paddock Foot Aqueduct (old Sag) E.... Stoney Battery Q..... Uppermill Museum F.... Market Street 32-24 DIGGLE UPPERMILL STALYBRIDGE GREENFIELD MOSSLEY



UPPERMILL

RESTORATION

PROJECT

17

ASHTON-

UNDER-

LYNE

ASHTON-STALYBRIDGE

RESTORATION PROPOSAL

PROPOSALS FOR THE RESTORATION OF THE HUDDERSFIELD NARROW CANAL FROM MARSDEN TO SLAITHWAITE

The Society is proposing that the section of the canal from the mouth of the Standedge Tunnel at Marsden to Slaithwaite be restored, using a Manpower Services Commission job creation scheme.

An illustrated report has been written about the scheme which is being studied by the Kirklees and West Yorkshire Councils. Exploratory talks have already been held between officers of the two Councils, senior staff of the British Waterways Board attended by David Sumner and Trevor Ellis.

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The report has been prepared in association with the Colne Valley Society, the Marsden Community Association, the Slaithwaite and District Angling Club and Pennine Heritage Ltd. Our thanks are due to these organisations for their help at the draft stage of the report and especially to Howard Bamforth, Tom Lonsdale, Bob Wade and David Ellis. Thanks are also due to Dave Finnis and Trevor Ellis in their help in preparing the report and to Richard Boyes & Co. Ltd., for understanding my instructions and printing the report to a farly tight deadline.

This is a particularly important section of the canal which stands on its own as being worthy of restoration to navigable standards irrespective of when the rest of the canal is restored. It is the highest canal in the country where it emerges from the Standedge Tunnel, nationally known as one of the Wonders of the Waterways.

The canal passes through superb Pennine countryside, from the centre of Slaithwaite (a Conservation Area), through beautiful wooded and open countryside, rising by a series of locks to Marsden. It passes through a flight of locks alongside the Marsden town centre Conservation Area, where it is now particularly unsightly, and the section concerned ends at Marsden Tunnel End also designated as a Conservation Area.

Restoration would create an attractive linear park in an area where the Local Authorities wish to attract recreational and tourist development. Already parts of this park are being created. The Kirklees Council is now responsible for the maintenance of the canal towpath and is providing picnic sites at Marsden and Rotcher, Slaithwaite and a car park and picnic site at Tunnel End. The West Yorkshire County Council is restoring the former waterways cottages at the mouth of the Standedge Tunnel for use jointly by the Countryside Ranger Service and our Society. Kirklees has also recently erected information boards at various significant places along the towpath.

The report suggests that the work could be carried out by the use of a Community Programme scheme mounted jointly by the Kirklees and West Yorkshire Councils and financed largely by the Manpower Services Commission. During the period of construction a large number of temporary jobs would be created which would provide some relief to the high unemployment level in the upper Colne Valley. Other Local Authorities are involved in similar projects including ones near to home where a considerable



Part of the Marsden flight of locks when the canal was in use.

amount of restoration work is being carried out on the Huddersfield Narrow Canal's northern neighbour the Rochdale Canal by similar schemes in the Rochdale area and on a long and impressive section between Todmorden and Hebden Bridge which is being restored by the Calderdale and West Yorkshire Councils.

The Narrow Canal is a Remainder Waterway and as such the 1968 Transport Act requires the British Waterways Board to deal with it "in the most economical manner consistent with the requirements of public health and the preservation of amenity and safety". The additional costs of maintenance of a restored canal would therefore fall on the Local Authorities. Although there would be no direct return to them for these costs there would be substantial compensations in the benefits to the community. Few recreational facilities are able to vield a commercial rate of return to Local Authorities because of the public nature of their benefits. If these benefits could be costed, the environmental and social advantages in this case, in terms of improvements to the landscape for locals and visitors alike and in terms of the jobs created, would far outweigh the costs. Other Local Authorities are making annual payments to the British Waterways Board for the additional maintenance costs of restored Remainder Waterways. In particular it is significant that the Greater Manchester Council have agreed to underwrite the additional costs of our Society's Uppermill restoration project. A trip boat operating on this section of canal would be likely to be a very popular attraction.

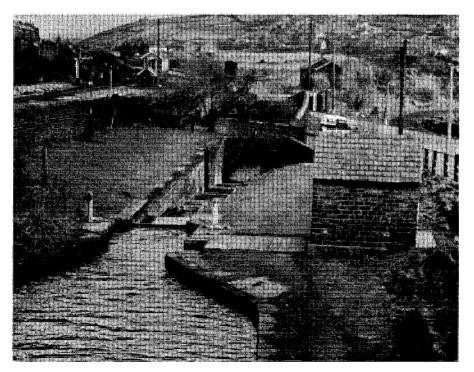
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The impact of restoration would be likely to be particularly significant in Marsden which is becoming a very depressed town. It has seen a significant decline in the traditional textile industry and appears to be too remote to attract new industry. Additional jobs created to serve visitors attracted by a restored canal would therefore be welcome.

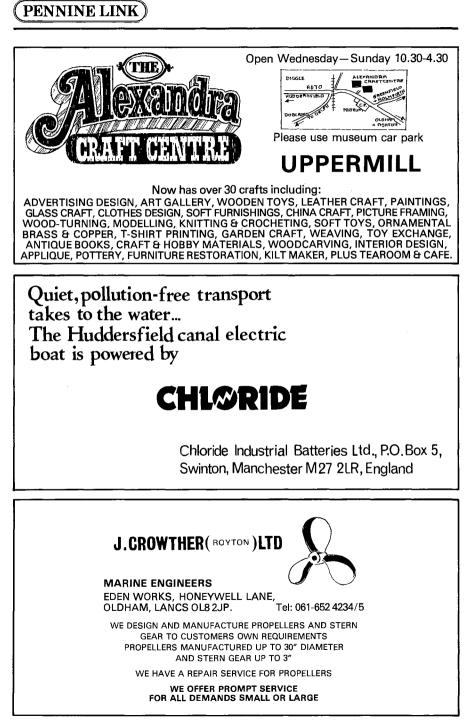
We have already been given the support of Richard Wainwright M.P. (a long standing member of our Society), Barry Sheerman M.P., and Geoffrey Dickens M.P. for which I am extremely grateful. Tom Megahy M.E.P. has offered his support should the Local Authorities turn to the European Community for financial support for the canal. It is to be hoped that after due consideration the Kirklees and West Yorkshire Councils accept the validity of the claims made in the report for the proposal and agree to carry out the scheme. It would have tremendous environmental and economic benefits for the upper Colne Valley.

Copies of the report "A Proposal for the Restoration of the Huddersfield Narrow Canal from Marsden to Slaithwaite" are available from the sales officer — address on inside front cover — price £1.50 including postage. 'Pennine Link' will keep you posted of progress.

Keith Gibson



The top lock (42E) at Marsden showing the cascaded treatment and the part demolished masonry of the lock chamber. Photo: A. Jervis



mikron message

By the time you read this we shall be well into our preparations for our 12th Waterways Tour. We shall (we hope!) have researched, written and be rehearsing our new show.

We're going back to the canals for our theme. We shall be telling the story of a narrowboat. You may have heard of her — she's called 'Tyseley'. We are hoping to trace her history from the day she was built at Yarwoods in Northwich in 1936, through her Grand Union Canal Carrying Co. days, her joining British Waterways after nationalisation in 1948, and her more recent years as a restaurant boat and a home and excellent means of transport for a certain theatre company! Most of the people involved in 'Tyseley's' story are still alive, and we hope they have some good tales to tell.

We shall also be presenting "Over the Top" for another season — a musical journey over and through the Pennines showing how transport developments from Roman Roads to the M62 affected people's lives.

There are three new members of the Company this year — Kate Duchêne from Brighton, Sarah Parks from Halifax and Mark Williams from Bromsgrove. Sam, although now eleven, has still not agreed to join the Company, so you'll be seeing me again, folks!

Closed tunnels, unrepaired reservoirs and other as yet to be discovered hazards make Sarah's task of compiling an itinerary as difficult as any year. But we hope to be at the Wigan National Rally, even though this could involve a journey along the Manchester Ship Canal.

For full details of our tour, send a large stamped addressed envelope to: *31 Warehouse Hill, Marsden, Huddersfield HD7 6AB.* See you at the shows. *Mike Lucas*

Could you sew a Diggle to sell at TCF? Contact Judy Weston on 061-303 7881.

uppermill project

- Thanks to all who have contributed to the Society's funds. However, we still require more help especially as the coming twelve months will be critical in the Society's future. So please send your donations direct to the Treasurer or pay direct to the National Westminster Bank, Uppermill Branch (Code 01-08-99) for the credit of 'Huddersfield Canal Society Ltd., Uppermill Project', Account No. 84219262.

Deeds of Covenant

These can be completed at any time without having to wait for a renewal notice. Please either send for or phone me for a form, or more details.

Les Winnard, Treasurer

(PENNINE LINK) **Wa**

APRIL

Huddersfield Narrow Canal

- Fri 8 Brownhill Information Centre, Dobcross. 7.45 p.m.** For tickets telephone: 061-303 7881.
- Sat 9 The Railway, Station Road, Marsden. 8.00 p.m.**

Peak Forest Canal

Tue 12 Navigation Hotel, Stockport Road, Marple. 8.00 p.m.**

Wed 13 Jodrell Arms, Market Street, Whaley Bridge. 8.00 p.m.*

Thu 14 The Crossings, Furness Vale, Nr New Mills. 8.00 p.m.**

Macclesfield Canal

Sun 17 Fools Nook Inn, Sutton, Nr Macclesfield. 7.30 p.m.**

Mon 18 The Railway, Biddulph Road, Congleton. 8.00 p.m.*

Trent and Mersey Canal

Tue 19 Packhorse Inn, Station Road, Longport, Stoke. 8.00 p.m.**

Wed 20 Rising Sun, Newcastle Road, Stone. 8.00 p.m.*

Thu 21 Saracen's Head, Weston, Nr Stafford. 7.30 p.m.**

Fri 22 The Swan, Fradley Canal Junction, Nr Alrewas. 7.30 p.m.*

Birmingham and Fazeley

Sat 23 Three Tuns, Watling Street, Fazeley, Nr Tamworth. 8.00 p.m.** Coventry Canal

Mon 25 Boot Inn, Bullring, Coton, Nuneaton. 8.00 p.m.*

Ashby Canal

Tue 26 White Swan, Stoke Golding, Nr Nuneaton. 8.00 p.m.**

Coventry Canal

Wed 27 Polesworth School, Dordon, Nr Tamworth. 7.30 p.m.**

Ashby Canal

Thu 28 Lime Kilns Inn, Watling Street, Hinckley. 7.30 p.m.*

Coventry Canal

Fri 29 Greyhound Inn, Sutton Stop, Longford, Coventry. 7.30 p.m.*

KEY: *"Over the Top" looks at the development of transport over and through the Pennines and its impact on the landscape and the local communities.

** This traces the history of a narrowboat from the day she was built at Yarwoods in 1936, through her Grand Union Canal Carrying Co. days, her joining British Waterways after nationalisation in 1948, and her more recent years as a restaurant boat and a home and excellent means of transport for our theatre company (as yet, untitled).

membership competition

Again there is a chance to take part in the membership competition. All you have to do is enrol a new member to the Society and on the form where it says 'I heard about the Society from....' they must fill in your name to be eligible to enter the competition. Please remember the membership is now £2.50 both for an individual or a family membership. The lucky winner receives £5. This issue's lucky winner is A. Parker.

RESTORATION OF THE CANAL BETWEEN ASHTON AND STALYBRIDGE

Waterway Recovery Group (W.R.G.) and Huddersfield Canal Society have jointly published a report proposing that the Huddersfield Narrow Canal be restored to navigable standard from Ashton-under-Lyne to Stalybridge by means of a Community Programme job creation scheme financed largely by the Manpower Services Commission.

The length of the canal covered by this report consists of an arm of the Ashton Canal from Portland Basin (the site of the Society's annual Tameside Canals Festival) to Whitelands Road Bridge and the section of the Huddersfield Narrow Canal from its end on junction with the Ashton Canal to Bayley Street, Stalybridge. The section contains three locks which have been variously weired, capped and filled. It is a particularly significant stretch of the canal in that it links the Huddersfield Narrow Canal directly to the navigable water of the Cheshire Ring of canals (itself restored to through navigation in 1974) and would bring boats close to the centre of Stalybridge again. With environmental works alongside the canal and the possibilities restoration brings for economic regeneration (as described in the Society's report on the job creation potential of the canal if restored, copies of which are now available from the Sales Officer) the area stands to gain a great deal from a navigable canal.

For some time David Sumner the Chairman of the Society has been discussing this project with the local authorities and been attending the regular meetings of the Tame Valley Officers Working Party — a meeting of the Council Officers who report to the Tame Valley Joint Committee, a committee of members of the Authorities concerned with the Tame Valley. The canal being a central feature of the valley has frequently been a topic of discussion. Officers of the Councils concerned have reacted favourably to the Society and particularly to our restoration scheme in Uppermill. The restoration of this important first section of the canal from Ashton to Stalybridge has been on the agenda for discussion since 1981 when it was first proposed that it be restored.

The possibilities of using the Government financed Urban Aid scheme combined with job creation labour were first looked into. This proved to be unsuccessful at the time and the Society then brought W.R.G. into the discussions to see whether restoration by volunteers was feasible. W.R.G. is a subsidiary group of the Inland Waterways Association which has great expertise in the field of restoration by volunteers and often acts as consultant to other groups as well as undertaking projects in it's own right. ð

After an initial appraisal of the situation W.R.G. felt that the site might be possible for a "Big Dig" in the spring of this year, such as earlier ones they organised in this area on the Ashton Canal ("Operation Ashton" in Droylsden in 1968 and "Ashtac" in Ashton in 1972). A "Big Dig" consists of a single weekend when up to 1,000 volunteers from all over the country descend on the canal and, with as much mechanical assistance as can be afforded, clear a section of canal.

A programme of works based on this approach was accepted by the Tame Valley Joint Committee in April last year with environmental works and dredging to be carried out by Greater Manchester Council and the Society completing the restoration of the three locks after the "Big Dig". An undertaking was given that Greater Manchester Council would meet the additional maintenance costs of a navigable waterway compared to a disused Remainder Waterway.

Following a study of the technical problems of restoration W.R.G. reported to the Society's Council of Management in October last year that it was impractical to hold a "Big Dig" here. The channel is so weedy and the arrangements for draining so limited that to drain the whole section, as would be necessary for a "Big Dig", would take several weeks and, by cutting off the water supply, would close the Ashton and Peak Forest Canals for that period. Instead a technical report to the Society was prepared describing how volunteers could restore this section of canal over several years. Your Council felt that although volunteers could if necessary carry out this project the Society was not ready to tackle it until the Uppermill project was more advanced, this scheme would take a considerable time to carry out and voluntary effort, unless aided by the impetus of the "Big Dig" was probably better used on smaller schemes.

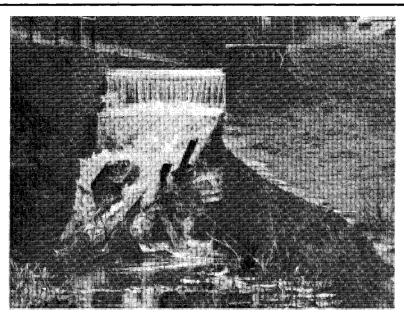


Lock 74 (1W) showing infilled lock chamber.

photo: A Jervis

contd from P.25

PENNINE LINK



Lock 72 (3W) showing concrete cascade.

photo: A Jervis

The intention to restore this section of canal has been declared, however, and an alternative method is available. In today's economic climate with a high rate of unemployment a restoration project managed by the Local Authorities which would create temporary jobs would be extremely beneficial. The obvious way to carry out such a project would be by the use of a Manpower Services Commission job creation scheme such as the Community Programme.

The report now published is of a technical nature. It puts forward the reasons why the project is worthwhile, discusses the benefits of restoration and describes the scheme in detail. The specification of works to be carried out has been produced by W.R.G. and the report has been produced in conjunction with Alan Jervis, the Chairman of W.R.G. to whom our thanks are due for his efforts on our behalf, and his numerous trips to Ashton and Stalybridge and even to Slaithwaite. Thanks must also go to Bob Dewey for drawing the map and David Sumner for helping with the editing and arranging printing, and Sue McBride for the cover drawing.

The report proposes that the Greater Manchester and Tameside Councils should look into restoring the section of canal concerned by means of a Community Programme scheme. It is now being studied by the two Councils and it is hoped that we receive a favourable reaction to our proposals.

Copies of the report "Proposed Restoration of the Huddersfield Narrow Canal from Ashton to Stalybridge" are available from the Sales Officer (address inside front cover) price £1.50 including postage.

hcs treasure hunt 1983

As last year's winners we have the enviable task of organising this year's Treasure Hunt. It will be on Sunday 24th April beginning at 9.30 a.m., starting from the Brownhill — Visitor Centre car park, Uppermill — the one by the canal opposite Woolroad Warehouse, not the small one alongside the Visitor Centre — (on the A670), and finishing at a hostelry on the other side of the Pennines, also alongside the canal, where food will be available and kids will be welcome. The course shouldn't be too difficult (although we could be wrong — we haven't decided where you are going yet!) and you don't need a Rally Car to do well. The winner will be decided on your success at finding the treasure en route (if you are on the right route that is!).

Previous years events have been popular, so it's important that you enter early, because by law only 12 cars can take part. To enter all you have to do is write to us at Keith's home (Northcote House, Nields Road, Slaithwaite, Huddersfield HD7 5HT), or phone him (Huddersfield 844596) — but he's elusive. Always out! It may be better to write!

Marion Stiles & Keith Gibson

Apologies to Kirklees M.B.C. and Robert Carter for not crediting their photos in the last issue.



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Your support is needed now. The more members we have, the more effective is our voice. Help to re-open the Huddersfield Narrow with your pen, your spade, your moral support or in any other way you have to offer.

To: The Membership Secretary, Huddersfield Canal Society, 38 Paris Road, Scholes, Holmfirth. Telephone' Holmfirth (048 489) 5022

I/We wish to join the Huddersfield Canal Society.

Name/s
Address
Postcode Telephone:
Occupation
Amount enclosed £ Cheque/PO/Cash
I heard about the Society from
MEMBERSHIP RATES Family membership £2.50. Junior (under 18) £1.00 Associate £5.00 (voluntary societies) Corporate £10.00 (minimum) Life £50.00

Members receive free copies of 'Pennine Link', the society's bi-monthly magazine. 28

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NEW HCS PUBLICATIONS

A report on the job creation potential of the Huddersfield Narrow Canal as a restored Waterway. £1.00 inc. p&p A proposal to restore the Huddersfield Narrow Canal from Marsden to Slaithwaite. £1.50 inc. p&p Proposed restoration of the Huddersfield Narrow Canal from Ashton to Stalybridge. £1.50 inc. p&p 29



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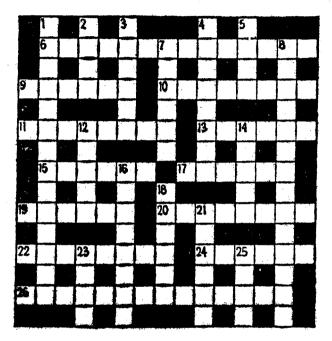
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crossword no.11



ACROSS

- 6 Canal societies aim. (9 & 5)
- 9 Lock gate part. (6)
- 10 Esteems. (8)
- 11 Worships. (8)
- 13 Cattle ranch events (6)
- 15 Take for granted. (6)
- 17 Musically slow. (6)
- 19 Relates to earthquakes. (6)
- 20 Art of oratory. (8)
- 22 Nazi emblem. (8)
- 24 Say again. (6)
- 26 Relating to water maps. (14)

DOWN

- 1 The Huddersfield Narrow for instance. (6 & 8)
- 2 Keen. (4)
- 3 Concurs. (6)
- 4 Took dimensions. (8)
- 5 Package. (4)
- 7 Minimal. (6)
- 8 Heavenly enormous (14)
- 12 Does not win. (5)
- 14 Laying low. (5)
- 16 Tying up spots. (8)
- 18 Spanish fleet. (6)
- 21 Unrefined. (6)
- 23 Certain. (4)
- 25 Step. (4)

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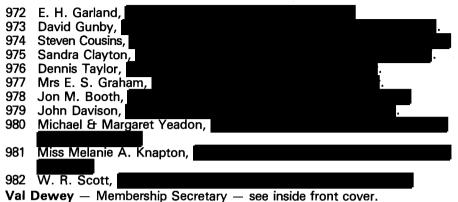
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membership

I am pleased to welcome the following new members:



stamp collection

Again many thanks for the stamps. I have recently received stamps from Mrs Stiles, Margaret Smith, Robin Witter, David Finnis, Roger Glister, John Roebuck, Derek Walker, Graham Maskell, S. Calcutt, Blue Dart Freight Services Ltd., and Ian McNab as well as various anonymous donations. Remember any stamps can be accepted. If you have access to stamps do leave roughly ¼" of envelope bordering the stamp so as not to damage it (unless of course you'd like to soak them off!)

Sue Gibson christmas draw

Many thanks indeed to all of you who purchased raffle tickets for the Robert Littleford painting. The £330 raised has now gone into the trip boat fund. Many thanks again to Robert Littleford for the donation of the painting and the lucky winners were:

- 1 V. Blakeley, 16 Foster Cres, Morley, Leeds
- 2 Miss A. Crippa, 80 Raleigh Close, Coldhurst, Oldham.
- 3 S. Shrigley, 11 Edgemoor Rd, Honley, Hudds.
- 4 Mrs Samuels, 22 Rose Hill, Delph.
- 5 G. Birchell, 91 Sherwood Way, High Crompton, Oldham.
- 6 Mr Burton, 23 Tern Ave, Whitehill, Kidsgrove
- 7 Peter (Yorkshire Bank) c/o Diggle Hotel
- 8 Mr D. M. Turner, 4 Bickerstaffe Close, Shaw, Oldham OL2 7DS
- 9 Mr I. Clark, 7 North Park Grove, Leeds LS8 1JJ
- 10 Mr J. Walsh, c/o Matthias Spencer & Sons Ltd, P.O.Box No.7, Arley Street, Sheffield.

Picture "Saddleworth by Night" donated by R. Littleford Shell Guide to Inland Waterways Travelling Case Bottle of Whisky

Boots Gift Voucher HCS Towpath Guide HCS Towpath Guide

HCS Towpath Guide HCS Towpath Guide

HCS Towpath Guide

diary

9th March 8.00pm	Meeting at the King William, Chew Valley Rd, Greenfield
13th March 10am	Towpath Walk. Uppermill-Diggle. Lunch at the Diggle Hotel. Setting off from the Uppermill Museum car park.
17th March 8.00pm	Old Waterway Films presented by Chris Potter at the Cross Keys, Uppermill.
19th/20th March	Uppermill Working Party. Mossley 3992 for more details.
23rd March 8.00pm	Sheffield Meeting. 'Early Years of HCS' film show by John Maynard an ex-Chairman of the Society at the Grapes, Trippet Lane, Sheffield.
23rd March 7.45pm	Open Forum on Tunnel End Cottages/canal in Colne Valley chaired by Trevor Ellis and Keith Gibson. Your chance to air your views. Diggle Hotel, Diggle.
26th March	Pennine Heritage Swap Shop, Birchcliffe Centre, Hebden Bridge, W. Yorks. For further details telephone Bill Breakall on Hebden Bridge 844804.
26th March-17th April	HCS Exhibition and Slide Show at the Colne Valley Museum, Cliff Ash, Golcar, Huddersfield. The Slide Show will run at weekends 2 p.m5 p.m. and Good Friday and Easter Monday.
1st April	Diggle Barrel-Rolling competition 11.30 a.m. Diggle Hotel, Diggle.
7th April 8.00pm	Meeting at the Shoulder of Mutton, Slaithwaite, Huddersfield.
8th April 8.00pm	Cheese, Wine and Mikron Evening. Preview of Mikron's New Show and a Cheese and Wine Evening at Brownhill Information Centre, Dobcross, Uppermill. Limited number of seats so before arriving please phone Dave Weston on 061-303 7881 for tickets and more details.
13th April 8.00pm	Meeting at the Old Hunters Tavern, Acres Lane, Stalybridge.
16th/17th April	Uppermill Working Party. Mossley 3992 for more details.
21st April 8.00pm	Brian Holden talks about the continuing saga of the Rochdale Canal at the Cross Keys, Uppermill.
24th April 9.30am	Motorised Treasure Hunt. Starting from Brownhill Information Centre car park. For your entry please phone Keith Gibson on Huddersfield 844596.
27th April 8.00pm	Sheffield Meeting at the Grapes, Trippet Lane, Sheffield.
27th April 7.45pm	Open Forum on HCS Promotion, chaired by D. Finnis. Your chance to air your views. Diggle Hotel, Diggle.
29th April 8.00pm	AGM followed by slides and films of last years HCS progress, disco and pie and pea supper. Coach and Horses, Standedge, Marsden.
1st May 11.30am	Fancy Dress Pub Crawl, starting from the Railway, Marsden. Social Evening at the Junction, Tunnel End, Marsden from 8 p.m. For further details telephone Roy Meakin on Huddersfield 845434.
3rd May 7.30pm	Colne Valley Society Meeting. Dave Finnis talks on Restoration of the Huddersfield Narrow Canal at Council Chambers, Town Hall, Slaithwaite.
Month of May	Brownhill Information Centre, Uppermill, are putting on an exhibition about canals.
Forthcoming Events	
	entioned to be announced later:
15/16/17th July	Tameside Canals Festival, Portland Basin, Ashton-u-Lyne.

10/11th September Tunnel End Festival '83.

eside Canais Festival, Po nel End Festival '83

EDITOR. The editor holds the right to edit or withold articles and letters or to retain them for publication at a later date.

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