

Many apologies to those of you who had noticed that Pennine Link hadn't arrived, the explanation is simple, the printer once again - for the last time I might add, has let me down despite promises and receiving the draft copy from me in good time.

In order to keep you up to date with the latest news I am putting out this bulletin and I'm busy seeking another printer for the July/August issue. With this bulletin you'll find some raffle tickets for the Tameside Canals Festival. If you object to raffle tickets just throw them away or return to a member of the Society. It is hoped though that you will support the raffle as the proceeds of the Tameside Canals Festival ultimately end up in the ECS purse. As well as the raffle tickets you'll find a sponsorship form for the Piccadilly Marathon taking place on the 12th June. This year's Tameside Festival Chairman, Laurence Sullivan, is taking part in the marathon which is over 26 miles and has kindly offered to be sponsored and all monies raised to be donated to Tameside Festival Funds. Please show your support and sponsor Laurence in this gallant attempt, and let's hope he recovers in time for the Festival!

CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

It was very pleasing to meet so many members at the AGM on April 23rd. The combination of the formal business, film show, disco and the relaxed atmosphere of the Coach and Horses may yet set a precedent for future AGMs. I had been to a Tame Valley Joint Committee meeting at lunchtime the same day and had heard some good news. The members unanimously approved an excellent report prepared by GMC on the proposed restoration of the Ashton/Stalybridge section. This report combines a plan by GMC to improve the canalside environment in the Tame Valley with the intentions of the Waterways Recovery Group to undertake a Big Dig in the Spring of 1983 to clear locks 1,2,3, and the rubbish in the canal up to Bayley Street, Stalybridge.

Should this scheme be approved by the full GMC Council and by BWB in 1984/5 subject to satisfactory financial arrangements being made, boats would be able to navigate the Ruddersfield Narrow from the main canal network.

On Saturday April 24th Dave Firnis, Graham Maskell and myself attended a Waterways Recovery Group seminar in Wolverhampton. The seminar was chaired by Harry Arnold, a WRG director, and the new editor of Canal and Riverboat Monthly. We wish him well in his new role. This well attended meeting included papers on the structure of WRG, plant management, insurance for plant and personnel and safety at working parties. We shall be reproducing the safety recommendations in future issues of Pennine Link.

A great deal of preparations will have to be undertaken before the proposed Big Dig is finally given official blessing. The exercise will be very costly and it would involve longer term commitments for the Society. We are now investigating means for substantial fund-raising for our schemes on both sides of the Pennines.

Meanwhile Spring is here and Stan is now plying the Cut at Uppermill. We need crews to ensure manpower isn't diverted from the dig at Dungebooth. Volunteers please contact Admiral Maynard.

DAVID SUMNER CHAIRMAN

EDITORIAL

There always seems to be so much to do and look forward to at this time of the year on the waterways scene. The Tameside Canals Festival as you know in July, the Summer Work camp at Line Kiln Lock, Uppermill in August and the National Rally at Titford to name a few. Many of you I know will be taking canal holidays, if you return with any tales or experiences you feel you'd like to share with the rest of us perhaps you'd write, I always like to hear from you - it lets me know you care!

Mikron seems to have come up with another winner in their new show 'Over the Top' which I saw in Slaithwaite and thoroughly enjoyed. May I take this opportunity in wishing them a very successful tour.

TAMESIDE CANALS FESTIVAL 1982.

You may recall in the last issue of Pennine Link that we are running our own stalls this year selling Diggles, Crafts, Preserves and secondhand books. We've had some excellent contributions so far, but more are required so please contact Joyce and Phil Calverley, Chesterfield 432140 if you can help. Jean Buckley who is looking after the HCS Sales Stand is also running a White Elephant Stall, so please let her have your unwanted or unloved treasures. We are running our traditional raffle and should be receiving your raffle tickets herewith. We usually get a very good response from Pennine Link readers and your support is very much appreciated. Counterfoils, money and any unsold tickets should be sent to Margaret Sumner, 19, Micklehurst Road, Mossley, Lancs.

We need lots of volunteers over the weekend 16th/18th July, especially for manning the entrances. This need only take up an hour of your time and as a volunteer you get FREE admission. If you would like to help in any way over the weekend please phone Hazel Maskell, the Festival Secretary on Mossley 3992.

Finally, if you are coming to the Festival don't forget our Friday night special with local singer/comedian, Bernard Wrigley. We hope you enjoy the Festival and look forward to seeing you there.

LAURENCE SULLIVANFESTIVAL CHAIRMAN

<u>DIARY</u>	<u>DIARY</u>	<u>DIARY</u>	<u>DIARY</u>	<u>DIARY</u>	<u>DIARY</u>	<u>DIARY</u>
1st July	8pm	East Meeting.	Illustrated talk on the Birmingham Canal Navigations by Alan Jervis, Chairman of Waterways Recovery Group at the Commercial Hotel, Slaithwaite. Short towpath walk 7pm.			
4th July	1pm	Pennine Show.	Harden Hill Farm, Greenfield Road, Holmfirth.			
7th July	8pm	Sheffield Meeting.	The Grapes, Trippet Lane, Sheffield.			
14th July	8pm	West Meeting	Illustrated talk on the 'Yorkshire Waterways' by Chris Potter at the Wagon Inn, Uppermill. Short towpath walk at 7pm.			
16th/17th/18th July			TAMESIDE FESTIVAL, Portland Basin, Ashton under Lyne.			
31st July/1st August			Weekend walk along the Huddersfield Narrow. Contact Janet Eastwood on Sheffield 683700.			

WORKING PARTIES HELD AT DUNGEBOOTH LOCK, UPPERMILL EVERY SUNDAY FROM 10.00am.