

PENNINE LINK

No. 46

July/August 1982



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Cover Photograph: Mikron Theatre Co. standing by the River Colne at Marsden.

Left—Right: Sarah Wilson, Mike and Sarah Lucas, Eluned Owen, Robert Edmunds.

THE JOURNAL OF THE HUDDERSFIELD CANAL SOCIETY LTD.

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Sue Gibson

652 4792

newark
702861

Dave
Milson

editorial

Sincere apologies for the 'Missing Link'. A bulletin was sent out to members during June, but for those of you not knowing the situation, the problems I was having with the printer escalated and we have now gone our separate ways.

The good news is that I have now found a new printer, who, I'm sure will be able to get 'Pennine Link' back to a normal time.

In this issue I've tried to include articles omitted from the May/June issue, so I apologize for their antiquity.

Sue Gibson

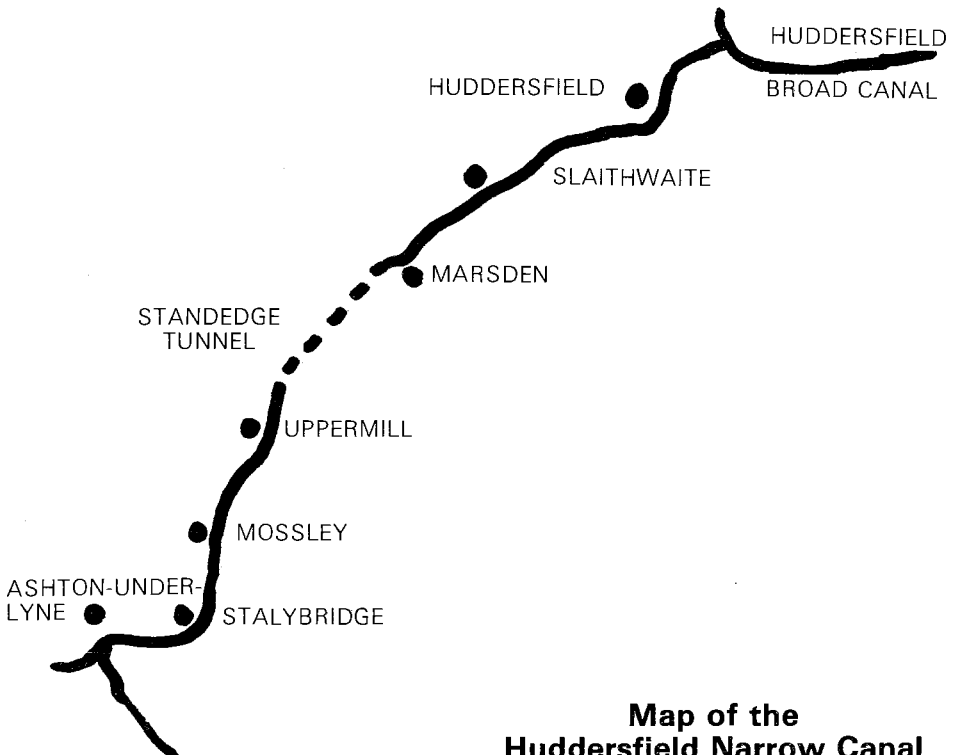
Dungebooth Lock was finally cleared of infill on Sunday 4th July. The Chairman of Unicon Marine Ltd., NW Mr Hugh Wainwright was present to supervise the measuring of the chamber for the lock gates being donated by his company.

The timing of this event coincided with the official opening of Greater Manchester Council's Brownhill Information Centre on Monday 5th July. This centre which will house a permanent display on the Huddersfield Narrow Canal is adjacent to the next lock due for excavation — Lime Kiln also known incorrectly as Aqueduct Lock.

At the Council Meeting on the 7th July we discussed the sketch plans for the proposed new trip boat. These plans presented by Sagar Marine, Brighouse, outline what would be required for a narrow boat for the Uppermill section and, who knows even for the Tunnel!

We are well on the way to a complete scheme for the Uppermill stretch having had support from local councils and other organisations. Until the British Waterways Board approves our explorations we cannot explore financial sources of help from official bodies.

We hope we shall receive British Waterways Board's official blessing soon.



**Map of the
Huddersfield Narrow Canal**

Annual Report and Accounts 1981 — 24th June 1982

In their Annual Report and Accounts for 1981, published today, the British Waterways Board describe how they are seeking to fulfill the responsibilities under the Transport Act 1968 by developing for appropriate uses the nearly 2,000 miles of inland waterways under their control.

In the sensitive and flexible promotion and implementation of the Board's established policies, the foundations are being laid for the industry for the next 40/50 years. The Board's strategy in planning both the use of the waterways and the financial support needed for maintenance is long-term. Short-term options are not appropriate.

The Accounts show that the funds generated by the use of the waterways and their related assets produced a turnover of nearly £16 million. However, these financial benefits and the substantial grant from government funds towards waterway maintenance expenditure proved barely sufficient to meet the costs of repairing a growing number of tunnels, reservoirs and other structures which required priority attention during the year.

The Board were pleased, therefore, to learn from Ministers in December that the grant-in-aid was to be specially raised by £7 million to a total figure of £37.7 million for the fiscal year 1982/83. This announcement enabled the Board to plan expenditure on major structures on the waterways.

The Commercial Waterways would cost the community more to maintain without freight traffic. It is in the public interest for the Board to continue to pioneer and develop the further use of these waterways for the carriage of freight while at the same time providing a supportive role for the private sector. This is particularly necessary as the £16 million improvement scheme on the Sheffield and South Yorkshire Navigation progresses on target towards completion in 1983 and the Board must now seek the income to finance that expenditure.

The Board's Freight Services Division, which is responsible for the promotion of freight traffic and facilities on the Commercial Waterways and for the management of the Board's warehouses and inland terminals, docks and carrying fleets, contributed £288,700 towards the general expenditure of the Board in 1981.

The Board's waterways are now an important national resource for leisure and recreation but they are still an under-developed asset which could generate more wealth for local communities, for local authorities and for the nation — while attracting overseas visitors. The Board continue to seek the active co-operation of private enterprise, local authorities, and voluntary bodies in the successful development of their waterways for recreation. Revenue from fee and charges totalled £1,927,600 — a welcome contribution towards waterway maintenance costs.

The cost of operating, dredging and maintaining the waterways in 1981 was £27,029,100. Major projects completed in 1981 included the new Stanley Ferry Aqueduct, on the Wakefield Branch of the Aire & Calder Navigation, and the relining of a section of Wast Hill Tunnel, on the Worcester and Birmingham Canal.

The income from the management of the Board's estate grew to a figure of £4.6 million in 1981. This growth is essential to the financial well-being of the organisation in the years ahead.

exhibition award for HCS

It's always customary for HCS to take the main Exhibition to Shelley High School (in Huddersfield) when the Denby Dale and Kirkburton Adult Education and Sports Council (Phew) hold an exhibition of exhibitions. Kath Brookes who usually takes it to the High School got quite a pleasant surprise this year when Ashley Jackson the artist awarded the HCS exhibition the Exhibition Award. Not a common or garden plastic affair — no — as the six sticky labels attached confirm it's made of 'Fine Marble' coming complete with a miniature statue of liberty on the top!

HCS float 1982

The new improved HCS Superfloat has once again taken to the local roads providing a PR function to the general public. This year it has been jointly entered in the carnivals with Calder Cruisers who have provided the facilities to assemble and store the float.

The float consists of narrowboat 'Lazy Days' entering the Standedge Tunnel (which for the purposes of fitting on the back of a wagon has been shortened by some 3 miles odd to 18"). There is of course music by Mikron and others (very loud) and a running ad-lib commentary by guest DJ's.

The float has so far been to the Mayor's Parade in Huddersfield and has won first prize at Slaithwaite Carnival.

Brian Badminton

pennine link advertising rates

	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.

Box No. 50p

East Meeting — March 4th

It was a great pleasure to hold this meeting in conjunction with our friends from the Calder and Hebble Navigation Society. Approximately 80 people were squeezed into the meeting room at the White Cross Inn at Bradley and enjoyed an illustrated talk by Mike and Sarah Lucas of Mikron, re-counting their events over the years. This was a welcome return by Mike and Sarah who had previously given a talk last year. Although never having given a talk before, they gave a ver professional account of their exploits despite an early technical hitch with the equipment.

We were also delighted to hear at the meeting that the May East meeting would comprise of their new show 'Over the Top' to be held at the Four Horseshoes, Milnsbridge. I am sure that I speak for everyone when I wish them all the best for the forthcoming season.

Following the meeting a raffle for a Mikron Cassette raised approximately £10 for the Society's funds.

East Meeting — May 6th + New East Side Chairman

After 2 years of East Side Chairmanship what better way to round off a pleasurable term of office than by hosting at my last meeting the Mikron Theatre Co. with their latest show 'Over the Top'.

Unfortunately Dave Irving as Chairman elect could not take up the post due to other commitments so the honour passed to Keith Parker who I am sure will do a good job.

May I take this opportunity of thanking everyone for their support over the last 2 years and wish Keith every success for the future.

Brian Badminton

West Meeting — March 10th

Our speaker for the March Meeting was John Greenway one-time editor of Norwester, the North-West IWA regional magazine. To say that all who attended his talk enjoyed the evening would be an understatement, John's recall of events and his ability to convey the funny side kept his audience enthralled.

He showed slides of the French canals, the canals in Scotland and our local used and disused canals and many slides with apparently no connection with canals at all but John linked them all with either constructive comment or dry wit.

Many thanks John for a most entertaining evening.

West Meeting — May 12th

At the Cross Keys, Uppermill, John Freeman the British Waterways Board Area Engineer for the Wigan area talked to us about the restoration of the Ashton Canal in the late 60's and 70's. John described the many problems both practical and political which existed to hinder the restoration but against this John paid tribute to volunteer organisations whose efforts, misguided in some instances in his opinion, contributed greatly to the ultimate goal. John

PENNINE LINK

was also able to reveal the tremendous behind the scenes efforts of BWB officers who, although having to work within budget and policy constraints showed the desire to get the canal reopened.

John recollected the part which Sir Frank Price played in the events and believed that without his active interest and help in the project things could have been very different. Finally to the question everyone wanted to ask, what advise would he give to HCS, John was very clear in that we should maintain close lines of communication and co-operation with the officers in BWB, and to campaign for restoration by piecemeal schemes rather than an immediate commitment to total restoration and to get the co-operation of local authorities behind us. For a most enjoyable evening thank you very much John.

Colin Chadwick

Work at Dungebooth thwarted by vandals

Following a three month search for a suitable pump for Dungebooth Lock the working party was rewarded by vandals pushing it into the lock. The day was saved by Mossley Firemen and their equipment recovering it, which was certainly no mean task as it weighs nearly 9 cwts.

The pump which had been left near the lock overnight luckily didn't sustain too much damage and seems to work as well as before its ducking. It appears equipment cannot be left on site, albeit overnight, without the possibility of being 'removed' or damaged.

Work at the lock has also been hampered on occasions by vandals pushing or throwing rocks back into the lock, and even demolishing the recently rebuilt towpath stone-wall.

What a pity that so many volunteers work so hard to try and improve the area and seemingly an equal number are intent on undoing their good work.

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Progress has been so rapid recently that it's hard to keep pace with it. We have since the end of February, had our attendance on working parties boosted by the involvement of Oldham Community Services, and would like to thank them for their efforts.

The towpath has now been completely relaid courtesy of the Tame Valley Wardens and Oldham M.B.C., and it should not present problems now to towpath walkers even in the wet weather.

After having had a noisy time using compressor and pneumatic drill to clear some of the concrete covering the ground paddle holes, Bob 'The Mole' Dewey reports one is clean whilst the other has some loose rock and debris in it.

The lock chamber has now been cleared of infill and the measurements have been taken for both top and bottom gates. The lock now requires pointing, the paddle gear needs sorting out and as soon as the gates are made they will need fitting.

WRG (Waterways Recovery Group) Summer Work Camp on Lime Kiln Lock (Lock 23W) will be from the 7th-21st August. Any volunteers please contact me as soon as possible.

On the evening of Saturday 21st August we are holding a disco for members on the work camp, all HCS members friends and helpers and Tameside Canals Festival Committee. It is intended as a 'grand-old-get-together'. Tickets are £1.50 and include a pie and pea supper and are available from me. The action starts at 8.00 p.m.

One last thing, if anyone could donate or put me in touch with someone who has a 21ft, two or three section extension ladder it would be more than welcome, for safety reasons we need one urgently.

Graham Maskell

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Held on Friday 23rd April 1982 at the Coach & Horses, Standedge

It was good to see so many of you, old members and new, at the AGM. For those of you not attending, a quick resume:

Beginning with the Chairman's Report and going through the Society's money matters, auditors, etc., Phil Calverley, David Sumner, Graham Maskell, Les Winnard and Keith Gibson were all re-elected onto the Council of Management with no new nominations received.

Probably the thing affecting most people is the change in membership rates. The rates, unchanged since May 1976, despite high rising costs, have been changed to: Ordinary Membership — including all members of a family at one address £2.50, Junior Membership £1, Associate Membership £5 and Corporate at £10, which still makes us one of the low cost membership canal societies.

All the business matters finished with, the evening then took off as a social occasion, starting with a John Maynard film of HCS progress over the last 12 months at Dungebooth Lock followed by a collection of slides also of the progress at Dungebooth Lock. This was then splendidly followed by a pie and pea supper and disco taking the AGM into the early hours of the morning.

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**Resume of the Council Meeting held on 3rd March 1982
at the Diggle Hotel, Diggle**

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: GMC have now ratified Uppermill maintenance agreement. GMC dredging canal at Woolroad. Micklehurst Rd. Bridge being rebuilt.

EXHIBITIONS OFFICER: All stands in use at the moment.

Proposals for new stands.

UPPERMILL: Problems with the pump. Help still from Community Service.

BOAT: Hull now painted, controller ordered. Launch date 1st May.

EDITOR: Delay in printing. Price to be put on cover.

SALES: HCS Ties — more ordered. T-shirts now available.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Noted.

Treasurer presented the draft annual accounts. Agreed three HCS branches have £50 float.

TUNNEL END: Work has now started on the roof.

PUBLICATIONS: Uppermill bulletin for lockside.

**Resume of the Council Meeting held on 7th April 1982
at the Diggle Hotel, Diggle**

GENERAL SECRETARY'S REPORT: Micklehurst Rd. Bridge — headroom o.k.

EXHIBITIONS OFFICER: Stands at Halifax & Millbrook Library.

PROJECT CO-ORDINATOR: Report being produced to find out number of jobs created by a restored canal.

UPPERMILL: Pump to be purchased. Thanks to be expressed to Mossley Firemen for retrieving pump from lock.

Purchase of sheet piling is in hand.

BOAT REPORT: New batteries now arrived. New control gear.

PUBLICITY: New membership form awaiting wording. Sponsored walk — first meeting held. West Side press cuttings needed.

PUBLICATIONS: Work progressing on the Ashton/Stalybridge report.

MEMBERSHIP DRAW: Winner — Sarah Wilson. £5 prize.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS: TCF — Barbara Castle to attend.

Trevor Ellis to investigate awards from Dulux Paint.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Noted.

**Resume of the Council Meeting held on 5th May 1982
at the Diggle Hotel, Diggle**

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: Chairman, Graham Maskell and Dave Finnis attended WRG Conference.

Proposed and seconded that David Sumner be re-elected. chairman for 1982/3 and all other officers re-appointed.

EXHIBITIONS OFFICER: Exhibition at Brownhill Information Centre which is soon to be open.

PROJECT CO-ORDINATOR: Report on the number of jobs arising from restoration completed. Suggestion of seminar with Councils etc.

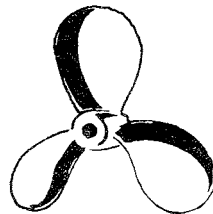
UPPERMILL: New battery bought for van. Sheet piling still being sought. Agreed to get 3 quotes for infilled section.

BOAT: Boat re-launched 1st May. Outside charging socket to be bought.
EDITOR: Pennine Link held until after the AGM. Ready to go to the printers.
TREASURER'S REPORT: Noted.
TUNNEL END COTTAGES: Work started. Lease still not yet signed.
PUBLICITY: 'Toepath' walk to be arranged later. More car stickers ordered.

**Resume of the Council Meeting held on the 2nd June 1982
at the Diggle Hotel, Diggle**

CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS: Tameside have contacted us re 75% grant for projects — to apply by October. Winding hole required at Bayley Street.
GENERAL SECRETARY: Planning permission now received for infilled section.
PROJECT CO-ORDINATOR: Seminar to be held with Councils etc. in either September or October.
UPPERMILL: BWB happy about a temporary dam at lock provided water continues to flow. WRG to lend compressor and dumpers for summer camp. More stop planks needed. Duncan McIlroy arranging tip site next to lock.
BOAT: Boat now operating o.k. Discussion re a 60-70' trip boat.
EDITOR: Serious problems encountered with printer. Agreed to reclaim articles and produce an emergency bulletin.
SALES: Brass 'Huddersfield Narrow Canal' plaques in stock.
TREASURER'S REPORT: Noted.

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Tich, Bodicea & Napoleon Diggle T-shirt 20" - 30" 32" - 40"	£1.95 £2.50	25p p&p 25p p&p
Diggle Badges	40p	S.A.E.
'I've Been on Stan' Badges	30p	S.A.E.
Wide selection of hand-painted canalware Pennine Link	Various prices	
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HCS Ties — Maroon, Brown and Blue	9p each	S.A.E.
HCS Brass Plaques	£2.95 £7.25	25p p&p £1.00 p&p

BOOKS AND MAPS

Short History of HNC	30p	15p p&p
Filled t' top wi' rubble (Mossley Report)	75p	15p p&p
The HNC (Green Report)	50p	15p p&p
Through Stalybridge by Boat	60p	15p p&p
The Rochdale Canal	95p	15p p&p
Good Beer Guide	£1.00	25p p&p
Nicholson's Guides: N. & Midlands: new edition	£1.95	25p p&p
Stanford's Map	£1.25	15p p&p
Cheshire Ring Map	80p	15p p&p
Imray's Map	85p	15p p&p
Waterways Quest: a super little book for spotting items seen along canals, similar to 'I SPY' book	75p	15p p&p
Spier Book of Knots	95p	15p p&p
Yorkshire Waterways	£1.60	25p p&p
Lancashire Waterways	£1.75	25p p&p
Green Roads through the Pennines	£2.75	25p p&p
Countryside in Winter	£1.20	15p p&p
Countryside in Spring	£1.20	15p p&p
Countryside in Summer	£1.20	15p p&p
Countryside in Autumn	£1.20	15p p&p
Birds of Hedgerows...Mountains...		
Inland Water and Gardens each	85p	15p p&p
Wild Flowers of Waterways	85p	15p p&p
Ladybird Book of Canals	50p	15p p&p
Old Lancashire Recipes	90p	15p p&p
More Old Lancashire Recipes	90p	15p p&p
Yorkshire Recipes	90p	15p p&p
The Ashton Canal	90p	15p p&p
Huddersfield Canals Towpath Guide	£2.50	40p p&p

**HUDDERSFIELD CANAL SOCIETY LIMITED
AND SUBSIDIARY COMPANY**

**Consolidated Income and Expenditure Account
for the year ended 31st December 1981**

	1981			5 months to 31.12.80	
	£	£	£	£	£
S A L E S			3,441		557
COST OF SALES					
Opening stock		700		600	
Add: Purchases		<u>6,610</u>		<u>420</u>	
		7,310		1,020	
Deduct: Closing stock		<u>4,596</u>	<u>2,714</u>	<u>700</u>	<u>320</u>
GROSS PROFIT			727		237
OTHER INCOME					
Subscriptions			1,282		330
Donations			192		50
Shell award			1,100		—
Canal festivals			2,853		—
Profit on social events			68		—
Profit on disposal of fixed assets			—		15
Interest on deposit accounts			245		49
Uppermill donations and sponsored events		2,442		—	
Interest on Uppermill account		55		—	
		<u>2,497</u>		—	
Deduct: Expenses	381				
Depreciation of equipment	126	507	1,990		—
			<u>8,457</u>		<u>681</u>
DEDUCT: EXPENSES					
Pennine Link	759			187	
Deduct: Income from advertisements	45	714		(20)	
Motor van expenses		14		—	
Printing, stationery and postages		680		105	
Donations		—		10	
Insurances		30		10	
Publicity costs		229		38	
Depreciation		254		89	
Audit and accountancy		115		92	
Sundry expenses		219		29	
Formation expenses		—		179	
Formation expenses Loxvend Limited		122		—	
Boat expenses:					
Boat insurance		20		7	
Boat depreciation		106		44	
Repairs		177		36	
Trailer hire		20		21	
		<u>323</u>		—	
Deduct: Income from boat trips	218	105	2,482	(71)	756
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR		<u>£5,975</u>		<u>£ (75)</u>	

Consolidated Balance Sheet at 31st December 1981

	1981		1980	
	£	£	£	£
ASSETS EMPLOYED:				
FIXED ASSETS		1,244		788
CURRENT ASSETS				
Stocks		4,596		900
Canal festival loans		—		280
Debtors and prepaid expenses		1,095		124
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>5,441</u>		<u>1,232</u>
		<u>11,132</u>		<u>2,536</u>
CURRENT LIABILITIES				
Short term loan		1,500		—
Creditors and accrued expenses		204		127
		<u>1,704</u>		<u>127</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>9,428</u>		<u>2,409</u>
		<u>£10,672</u>		<u>£3,197</u>
FINANCED BY:				
RESERVES				
Capital reserve		3,072		3,072
Profit and loss account		2,910		(75)
Towpath signs		200		200
Uppermill project		1,990		—
Tunnel End cottages		<u>1,000</u>		—
		<u>9,172</u>		<u>3,197</u>
SHORT TERM LOAN		1,500		—
		<u>£10,672</u>		<u>£3,197</u>

New members start here: — — — —

In 1979 the society bought a miniature narrow boat from the Grantham Canal Society.

It was brought back to Yorkshire and refurbished during the winter months and renamed 'Stan' (a diminutive of Standedge for a diminutive boat — 18' x 4' - 7" .)

Investigation of the engine revealed that it was beyond repair and it was decided to convert to electric drive, powered by batteries kindly loaned by Chloride.

During the summer of 1980 trips were given (sold) to the public at Marsden and Uppermill. The following winter was spent on further improvements of the drive, hull and cabin.

Trips were again run during the summer of 1981 at Uppermill and Marsden and also at our festival at Ashton.

Back in winter quarters at Tom Longbottom's mill at Slaithwaite further extensive work was undertaken during last winter. A working party organised in February was a bit of a fiasco as only one person turned up (thank you Howard). I would like to thank the following for exceptional enthusiasm beyond the call of duty by lying under Stan and getting covered in rust, zinc-phosphate and bitumen: Bob Dewey, Marion Stiles, Craig Watson, David Finnis.

An anti-cavitation plate, new hatch, new seats and a lot of other work has been done. We have four new 6 volt traction batteries given us (thank you Crompton) and a new electronic control.

Stan was launched at Uppermill again on May 1st; and is now running trips most Saturdays and Sundays. This is very good publicity for the Society and the canal and our work at Dungebooth but we are desperately short of crew, so if you can possibly spare an afternoon at the week-end **please** get in touch with me.

We are moving Stan to Ashton on Sunday 11th July and will be giving trips over the week-end of the Festival.

John Maynard

membership competition

Again there is a chance to take part in the membership competition. All you have to do is to 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 for you 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. The May/June issue winner was Sarah Wilson of Mikron, member No. 675. This issue's winner is Brian Badminton, ex-East Side Chairman member No. 512.

Summer Tour 1982 * Keep Yer 'Ands Off ** Over The Top

August

Stainforth & Keadby	3 Tue	Friendship Inn, Station Rd, Keadby 7.30*
	4 Wed	New Inn, Stainforth, Nr Doncaster 7.30**
Calder & Hebble	5 Thu	Jolly Sailor, Thornes Lane Wharf, Wakefield 8.00**
	6 Fri	The Navigation, Broad Cut Rd, Calder Grove, Nr Wakefield 7.30*
Aire & Calder	8 Sun	Adelphi Hotel, Hunslet Rd, Leeds 8.00*
Leeds & Liverpool	9 Mon	Railway Hotel, Calverley Bridge, Rodley 7.30**
	10 Tue	Marquis of Granby, Riddlesden, Nr Keighley 7.30*
	11 Wed	Royal Shepherd, Canal Street, Skipton 8.00*
	12 Thu	Anchor Inn, Salterforth, Nr Barnoldswick 7.30**
	13 Fri	Navigation Inn, Mill Hill, Blackburn 7.30**
	14 Sat	The Bridge, Park Road, Adlington, Nr Chorley 7.30*
River Soar	17 Tue	The Boat, Meadow Lane, Loughborough 7.30*
	18 Wed	The Navigation, Barrow-on-Soar 7.30**
Grand Union	19 Thu	Union Inn, Middleton Street, Aylestone, Leicester 7.30**
	20 Fri	'Bridge 61' Bar, Bottom Lock, Foxton 7.30*
	22 Sun	Narrow Boat, Stowe Hill, Weedon 7.30*
	24 Tue	Admiral Nelson, Braunston 7.30**
	25 Wed	Boat Inn, Stockton, Nr Southam 7.30*
	26 Thu	Cape of Good Hope, Cape Locks, Warwick 7.30*
	28 Sat	'Titford Two', National Waterways
	29 Sun	Rally, Titford Pools, Langley, Warley, West Midlands.
	30 Mon	
		September
Birmingham Main Line	1 Wed	Old Bush, Factory Road, Tipton 8.00*
Dudley No. 1	2 Thu	7.30* Black Country Museum, Tipton Road, Dudley
	3 Fri	7.30** For details tel: 021-557 9643
Staffs & Worcs	4 Sat	Round Oak Inn, Ounsdale Road, Wombourne 7.30**
	5 Sun	Kinver Lock Marina, Kinver 7.30*

On Sunday 30th May at the Pack Horse Inn, Longport, Stoke-on-Trent, Mikron celebrated it's 10th Anniversary. Ten years before that to the day, we had given our first performance of STILL WATERS at the Kings Head, Islington, London. It was nice to see ex-Mikron members — Alan Bridger (1974-5), Joe Fitzgerald (1978), Mark Strickson (1980-1) and Julie Brennon (1980) — turning out for our anniversary show.

Little did we realise when we were performing in that rather grotty little pub-theatre in London ten years ago that in 1982 we would be embarking on our 11th Waterways Tour and worrying about which bit of the canal system was going to crack up on us this year.

After our week's experiment at the King's Head, we were invited to a rally at Little Venice in London and then to our first National at Lymm to pressure for the repair of the beach on the Bridgewater Canal. Then we were booked for a week's tour in Hemel Hemstead and, as a result, decided to organise a month's tour on the Grand Union. We started to arrange venues without having any idea from where we were going to get a boat. Finally we heard about a couple who had a pair of boats and were looking for something useful to do with them — carrying coal was probably the sort of thing they had in mind but carrying actors is what Rod Atkin and Jocelyn Thompson did for two seasons on their boats 'Hood' and 'Fazeley'.

On our first tour we were supposed to travel from Rickmansworth to Stoke Bruerne on the Grand Union Main Line but we arrived in Berkhamsted to discover that the lock-keepers and maintenance men had gone on strike for the first time in their history. They had good cause, mind you, as they were trying to raise their wage from £18 to £21 per week! Water levels were lowered and we were trapped in Berko for two weeks and had to travel to our venues by road!

Still, the response from our audiences had been good enough to encourage us to attempt a four month tour in 1973.

From those early years we have built up a regular following all over the country. Last year some mad person came to see us 38 times. We have heard rumours that an equally mad member of the Huddersfield Canal Society is attempting to break the record! He has already see 22 performances! If you meet somebody who knows the scripts of our shows better than us, you'll know who we mean!

Mike Lucas

micklehurst road bridge

Grateful thanks to three members who read the Guardian and took the trouble to contact me about the advert relating to the proposed rebuilding of the canal bridge at Mossley.

The Greater Manchester County Engineer has written saying that the bridge will in fact be slightly higher than existing so all seems well. He also points out that there may be a need to divert the 'toe' path during the reconstruction!

Bob Dewey

Thanks go to IWA West Riding who have made a £100 donation to the Society — thanks too, 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: A total of 113 Deeds of Covenant have now been received. These can be completed at any time without having to wait for a renewal notice. Please either send for or phone me for form, or more details.

Les Winnard, Treasurer

Press Date

Press date for the inclusion of articles in the September/October issue of Pennine Link is 10th August. Articles must be received by the editor by this date please.

DESIGN & ARTWORK

JOHN WEST



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After several months of delay, the renovation of the cottages has finally started. The project is now being run by West Yorkshire County Council, the Society becoming sub-tenants, but this should not affect the outcome.

Progress on site to date is that the roof repairs were completed in about a week by a contractor. The end wall nearest the tunnel has been cement-rendered to cure the damp-penetration and boxes for meters have been installed in both cottages. (An early stage of the programme is the provision of services — electricity, water, gas and phone — which will be useful as the work goes on).

A small group of members met recently to consider our use of the building when the scheme is complete. Proposals for the use of space were discussed and ideas put forward for the content of displays etc. Further meetings will be held as necessary.

Trevor Ellis

hcs treasure hunt 1982

Sunday 28th March was the date of the 2nd Annual HCS Treasure Hunt. Seven cars took part out of a possible field of twelve, starting at Marsden Tunnel End and following (well, some did at least) a route which went via Standedge, down to Diggle and the western end of the tunnel, on through Uppermill where quite a lot of the competitors took the wrong left turn (sorry! poor directions here). They seemed to have enjoyed the Morris Men's practising though somewhere in the heights of the Pennines. The true course then went on to Greenfield, up and along the Holmfirth road, calling at Dovestones reservoir, along again to the Isle of Skye through Meltham, Meltham Mills, back down to Slaithwaite, West Slaithwaite, Marsden, back past Tunnel End and round again to the Railway at Marsden.

It is to be admitted that some fell by the wayside. These being the ones who voted to lynch me. I think though that all competitors enjoyed themselves, especially after a pint and pie and peas.

The final order was: Winner—Car 5—Driver: K. Gibson. 2nd—Car 2—Driver: D. Finnis. 3rd—Car 6—Driver: E. Crosland. 4th—Car 1—Driver: P. Burton. 5th—Car 3—Driver: B. Badminton. 6th—Car 4—Driver: I. Hollier. 7th—Car 7—Driver: M. Stiles.

The winner received the magnificent HCS Trophy and the job of organising next year's event. The last team won a bottle of bubbly (foam bath). No prize was awarded to Brian Badminton for his answer to a question on a good place to grow spaghetti!

Thanks to all those who competed. I can't wait for next year's event, especially as I don't have to organise it.

David Milsom

canal society's marathon runner



Photo shows Laurence at his home before the Marathon

Laurence Sullivan who volunteered to run (?) the Piccadilly Marathon to raise money for the Canal Society took 4 hours 15 minutes to complete the 26 mile 385 yard race. With number 2063 (there were 10,000 runners) fastened to his HCS T-shirt and concerned that his knee hurt (could that have been a tactic for sympathy?) Laurence drank his pint of milk, being careful not to eat any lunch. He didn't seem too perturbed when I told him the forecast was rain, 'It helps to keep you cool', he said eyeing the black clouds and as he left he was confident he could beat John Maynard's record of 2 days 3 hours and 25 minutes.

If you sponsored Laurence or would like to send a donation towards his marathon run I would ask that you please do so as soon as possible. So far he's raised about £200. Well done Laurence.

tameside canals festival 1981

Holiday Winner



Photo shows Josephine and David McKinnon and Rocket just about to set off on their week's holiday being seen off by Laurence Sullivan — the 1982 Chairman and Jean Buckley.

Josephine Mander was the lucky winner of last year's Tameside Canals Festival raffle, winning the week's boating holiday. The holiday donated by Russwell Boats of Portland Basin, was on the boat Russwell VIII.

Josephine who has been on narrow boat holidays for the past ten years was keeping her eye on Rocket her little Jack Russell dog who had already fallen in before the holiday began. Her aim was to make it to the Trent and Mersey but not to rush if the weather and beer were favourable.

Laurence Sullivan arrived to see them off bringing along a bottle of bubbly and a T-shirt for both Josephine and David.

canal restoration in huddersfield

Myself and Trevor Ellis have attended a meeting with Kirklees and West Yorkshire planners to discuss the section of canal between the Polytechnic and Queen Street South near to the centre of Huddersfield. This is the first part of the canal leading off the Huddersfield Broad Canal and includes two semi-derelict locks — locks 1 & 2 East. It is blocked at each end by Wakefield Road preventing access into Aspley Basin, and by the extension to Bates' factory preventing access up the valley.

Kirklees and West Yorkshire have agreed to investigate the possibility of carrying out a restoration (or partial restoration) scheme as part of Kirklees' Industrial Regeneration Area proposals for the surrounding industrial area, and as part of the County Council's Environmental Action Programme.

Keith Gibson

stamp collection

Again many thanks to all of you who have sent me stamps for the HCS Stamp Collection. Recently stamps have been received from Mrs W. Gibson, Mrs F. Lees, Ron & Jean Buckley, Misses M. Freeman, Dave and Judith Weston, Sarah and Mike Lucas, Jill and Tony Budd, Les and Christine Winnard, Ruth Horrocks, Hazel and Graham Maskell, John Maynard, M. S. Joy, Dave Finnis, Roy Meakin, Sarah Wilson, Mrs George, Mrs Parker and Robin Witter.

Sue Gibson

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“BASINGSTOKE!” said Mr Finnis. “Do you want to have a look at the Basingstoke Canal?” Well, it seemed like a good idea, so Dave Irving, Dave Finnis and myself set off at some unearthly hour on Saturday 27th March, in Finnis’ flying greenhouse.

After quite an eventful journey (watching a car coming directly towards you on **your** side of the M1 is a bit unnerving), we arrived at about 9.30 at the present site of the Surrey and Hants Canal Society — The St. John’s flight. Mike Fellows had agreed to give us a guided tour of the Canal, but wasn’t expecting us until mid-day. Not to worry, the energetic Keith Parish, of Kent and East Sussex IWA, soon found us something to do. The scale of the Basingstoke working parties is impressive, there weren’t just two Kango hammers, there were about 15. Dumper truck seem to breed there and pumps, well eat your heart out Graham! There was also an abundance of something else rare at Uppermill — **NAVVIES**.

Mike forced us into going to the pub for a pint or two(ish) before investigating this fascinating Canal any further; but after lunch we viewed the “impossible to restore” 14 lock deep cut flight now rebuilt and regated. The Cowshot bridge was also complete, this is a brick built overbridge which has been expertly rebuilt from scratch by SHCS. The next point of interest was the canal workshop. This ex-army building was a swimming pool but is now a fully-equipped factory with an overhead crane and all necessary facilities for almost any job from giant lockgates (the Basingstoke is a broad canal) to complex paddle gear.

The SHCS has some peculiar problems, one of which is the complete remoteness of some sections, great for relaxing cruising but you try getting a Hymac into a forest. Glad to say they solved that problem in fine style with a superb pre-war **steam** dredger called Perseverance. This fantastic machine was a memorable sight (and sound), dragging out huge quantities of silt and depositing it into lighters being towed away by a tug.

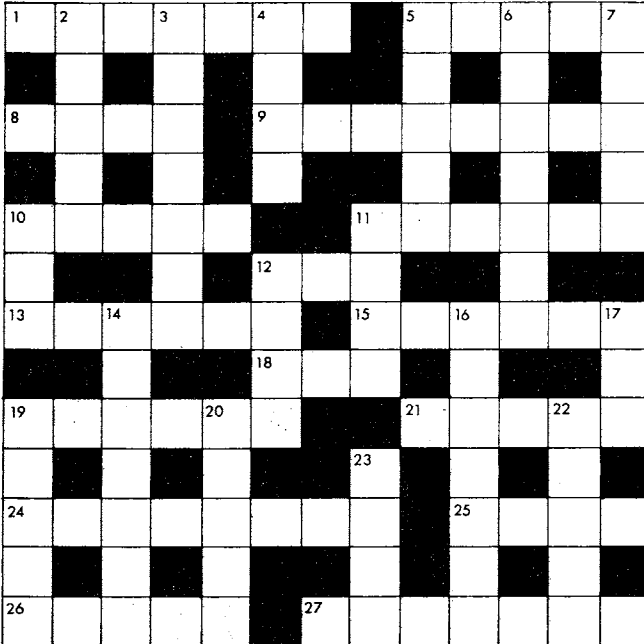
You can’t possibly see the whole canal in an afternoon, so as time pressed on we had to head back to the accommodation (not supplied by the GPO Mike!), where we ate an excellently cooked meal and adjourned to the pub. (70p a pint for mediocre bitter!!). Having suffered Dave Finnis’s advertising slides of the HNC we finally got some sleep.

Sunday found us visiting a rather different canal, the Wey and Arun Canal. This rather unhappy waterway is being restored by the Wey and Arun Canal Trust, and WACT’s equivalent of your lovely editor (got to please Sue somehow), Sally Butcher showed us around. WACT are excellent at political battles and raising money — £6,000 from a sponsored walk! which they are spending wisely on impressive liftbridges and excellently restored locks, like the one we visited, Rowner Lock. They do have problems however, large lengths of channel and a good number of locks have been swallowed by the march of nature; but where there’s a will there’s a way and WACT are making good headway.

On the journey north we reflected on comparisons between SHCS, WACT and HCS. It seems we are about four years behind the latter and about ten behind the former but **we will get there**. Next Sunday we were back at Dungebooth, 9 HCS members turned up. No comment! *by Ian Mitchell*

Answers to Crossword No. 6

ACROSS: 3 Standedge, 7 Oath, 8 Dipper, 9 Leakage, 12 Lido, 14 S.O.S., 15 Rota, 16 Passive, 18 Oral, 19 Log, 20 Anti, 22 Channel, 24 Floods, 25 Keen, 26 Transport. DOWN: 1 Collision, 2 Straps, 4 Tang, 5 Explore, 6 Glen, 10 Area, 11 Elastic, 13 Gangplank, 16 Platoon, 17 Visa, 19 Linger, 21 Slur, 23 Hour.



ACROSS

- 1 Swing bed (7)
- 5 Natural waterway (5)
- 8 Fiasco (4)
- 9 Holiday makers (8)
- 10 Concede (5)
- 11 Behind (6)
- 12 Boat equipment (3)
- 13 At our tunnel West End (6)
- 15 Lives (6)
- 18 Finish (3)
- 19 Fully crewed (6)
- 21 Almost (5)
- 24 Skirt the canals (8)
- 25 Craft (4)
- 26 Manner (5)
- 27 Descriptive of mass (7)

DOWN

- 2 Was ill (5)
- 3 Swabbing (7)
- 4 Canals — our way (4)
- 5 Much used afloat (5)
- 6 Goggle-boxers (7)
- 7 The water was higher (5)
- 10 Also (3)
- 11 Not very young (4)
- 12 Water plant (4)
- 14 From boat to shore (7)
- 16 Has a pint or so (7)
- 17 No. 6 down will have this (3)
- 19 All pals together (5)
- 20 Dodge (5)
- 22 Not suitable (5)
- 23 Water girl land (4)

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I am pleased to welcome the following new members:

- 870 John Greenway,
871 William L. Nicholson,
872 Mr R. K. Walton,
873 Eddie & Pat Milius & Family,
874 Kevin & Hazel Day,
875 Glenn Knight,
876 Keith Mayall,
877 Rob & Denise Kersey,
878 Ron & Marlene Churchill,

879 Stephen, Hilary & Paul Daly,
880 John Scott, Edge Farm,
881 Phil, Judy & John Fletcher,
882 Sue Goss,
883 Andrew Willis,
884 Mr & Mrs I. Burgoyne,
885 Ronald & Millicent North,
886 Tony Young,
887 Mr R. J. Hackenhull,
888 Jeremy D. W. Hodgson,

889 Ian Edgar,
890 Brian E. Holden,
891 Anne, Ken, Simon & Sarah Wright,
892 Ian R. Thompson,
893 Trevor & Vicky Harris,
894 Drs. S. P. & A. M. Rothery,
895 Mr R. L. Brydon,
896 Duncan A. C. Murray,

897 Margaret Hutchcroft,
898 John Crankshaw, Joyce, Dawn & Richard,

899 John Hobson,
900 Anthony, Valerie, Karen, Michael & Diane Lockwood,

901 Robert Edmunds,
902 Kathryn Augarde,
903 Eluned Owen,
904 Ian Wild,
905 John & Marion Dally,
906 Steve White,

907 Jonathan P. Hull,
908 Brian & Wendy Grant,
909 Drs. Steve & Ann Rothery,
910 Roger D. Spence,
911 Raymond N. Agacy,

Val Dewey — Membership Secretary. Address inside front cover.

- 16-18th July Tameside Canals Festival, Portland Basin, Ashton-under-Lyne.
- 31st July—
1st August Walk along the length of the Huddersfield Canals. For further details contact Janet Eastwood on Sheffield 683700.
- 5th August 8 p.m. Meeting at the Railway Hotel, Marsden. Meet at 7 p.m. for short towpath walk.
- 11th August 8 p.m. West Meeting at the Tollemache Arms, Manchester Road, Mossley.
- 7th—21st
August Waterway Recovery Group 'Summer Work Camp' on the Huddersfield Narrow in Uppermill. Further details Graham Maskell on Mossley 3992.
- 21st August 8 p.m. TCF/Summer Work Camp Disco at the Friezland Hall, Greenfield. Tickets and further details from Hazel Maskell on Mossley 3992.
- 26th August 8 p.m. Sheffield Meeting at the Grapes, Trippet Lane, Sheffield.
- 28/29/30th
August National Rally at Titford Pools.
- 2nd Sept. 8 p.m. Illustrated Talk entitled 'Narrowboats are alive and kicking' by Ian Mitchell, White Cross, Bradley, Huddersfield. Meet at 7 p.m. for short towpath walk.
- 8th Sept. 8 p.m. 'History of our local Canals' by John Cassidy at the Fox Tavern, Ridge Hill Lane, Stalybridge.
- 23rd Sept. 8 p.m. Meeting at the Grapes, Trippet Lane, Sheffield.
- 3rd October 'Toepath '82'. A sponsored walk along the canal towpath in the Colne Valley. Further details from Paul Burton on Cleckheaton 875619.

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

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