

Friends of PRESIDENT



195

February 2013

'Friends of President' is a support group working for the Black Country Living Museum, Tipton Road, Dudley, DY1 4SQ

(Registered Charity No: 504481)

Committee 2012/3

President - David Powell email: friendsofpresident@ntlworld.com tel: 01799 523855
1 Reddings Close, Saffron Walden, CB11 4AZ

Chairman - Nick Haynes email: nickhaynes195@hotmail.co.uk tel: 01527 517475
42 Tredington Close, Redditch, B98 7UR

Treasurer - Simon Nuttall email: simon@stationhouse.me tel: 01249 720978
Station House, Meadow Lane, Little Somerford, Chippenham, SN15 5JJ

Secretary - Carole Atkinson email: geordiecarole@gmail.com

Chief Engineer - David Stott email: dw.stott@ntlworld.com tel: 01782 259363
13 Longfields Road, Hartshill, Stoke on Trent, ST4 6QN

Membership/Crewing Secretary - Malcolm Dunlop tel: 01606 781793
2 Solvay Road, Northwich, CW8 4DR email: malcolm.dunlop@dsl.pipex.com

Editor - Neil Ratcliffe email: neil@bison93.freemove.co.uk tel: 01564 785845
Briar Cottage, Old Warwick Road, Lapworth, Solihull, B94 6JU

Work Party Organiser - Richard Prince tel: 01763 271252
email: c.pike252@btinternet.com

Archivist - Richard Thomas email: thrifthouse@ntlworld.com tel: 01992466180
42 Admirals Walk, Hoddesdon, EN11 8AG

Sales Stand - David Goode email: djgoode1980@gmail.com tel: 01455 844687
3 Castle Close, Earl Shilton, Leicester, LE9 7ES

Committee - Chris Walker email: walker.417@btinternet.com tel: 0114 230 5757
385a Fulwood Road, Sheffield, S10 3GA

David Speer email: nutdip@gmail.com tel: 0161 787 7456
30 Salteye Road, Eccles, Manchester, M30 7PJ

Steve Kirk tel: 07855 041089

All items for inclusion in the newsletter to be sent to the editor, contact details above.

Help raise funds for Friends of President

By searching the internet using <http://fop.easyssearch.org.uk/>

Current total : £14.18p from 2,834 searches

By shopping online via <http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/fop>

Current total : £164.71p from 19 registered supporters

Website : <http://nb-president.org.uk/>

Editorial

Thank you to all those who have emailed me with comments about the last newsletter, it proves that some of you are reading it. I have discovered though that if you have opted to only receive plain text emails then you didn't receive anything of the html version, I thought some text got through. So we will try a different method with this issue. I will be sending the pdf to Nick, who will then send it out to everybody.

Also with this newsletter is the first issue of the crewing list. The horse boating trips have filled up very quickly, but there are still plenty of other vacancies, especially weekends at the museum. More volunteers will also be needed on the sales stand at events, there will definitely be a raffle this year with, I believe, the largest prize that we have ever offered. It is still being finalised, so more details next month.

Some more sad news for those of you who have been a member for a long time, ex-member Trevor Hale died suddenly at the end of December. If you have ever travelled from the museum to Factory Junction you will have passed his boat, Double Vision, moored on the left at the Malthouse Stables where he lived with his partner Ann.

Event reports

Coventry Steam Boat Rally - The following report on the event appeared in the September 2012 issue of Old Glory. The article and photographs are reproduced courtesy of Malcolm Ranieri, the author, and Old Glory magazine, who hold the copyright.

Over the weekend of the 15th to 17th June 2012, possibly the largest gathering in recent times of steam-driven canal narrow boats was held. This event was based at the Swan Lane Boatyard on the Coventry Canal. The Swan Lane Boatyard, home for the weekend for the organisers Philip Martino, owner of steam tunnel tug 'Adamant', and Keith Ward, owner of new-build steam canal tunnel tug 'Hasty', is an original yard which in its heyday loaded coal on to the working boats. The boatyard is now home to pleasure craft especially 'nb Coventrian' which is used as a floating classroom for local children as well as special events and charters.

The Coventry Canal, built initially to provide transport of coal from the North Warwickshire coalfields, was opened from the terminus, Bishop Street Basin in the town centre, to Bedworth in 1769, eventually reaching Fradley Junction to join the Trent & Mersey Canal a quarter century



or so later. The section from the Bishop Street Basin to Hawkesbury Junction on the Oxford Canal, a distance of 5.5 miles, saw the steam boats in action over the weekend, this stretch having no locks to navigate, and running through the domestic and industrial heartland of north Coventry.

The steam boats all steamed in to Coventry the week beforehand, from the north via the Birmingham Navigation and the Trent & Mersey, and from the

south via the Grand Union and the Oxford Canal. The nine steam boats were lead by the famous and only surviving original steam canal narrow boat, the 1909-built 'President' and her butty 'Kildare'. The Fellows, Morton & Clayton boats 'President' and 'Kildare' are owned and reside at the Dudley Black Country Living Museum, and had just returned from taking part in the Queen's Jubilee Thames Parade. The President's engine and boiler are not original, the engine is a 1950s W.Sisson & Co Single and boiler the recent N.E.I. internal combustion RT Scotch type.



Even older in her original form as a horse-drawn narrow boat was 'Laplander', from the 1830s, owned by Sean Neil, which worked for Birmingham Navigation as an icebreaker, and was converted to steam some thirty years ago with a c1900 Bailey Single and boiler a 1960s Clarkson V-thimble tube type.

With her original hull dating back to around 1897 the canal tunnel tug 'Adamant', owned by Philip Martino, is next oldest, and is fitted with a c1895 Cochrane & Co Ltd 2-crank compound engine, whereas the boiler was built by Abels Shipyard in 1988.

Co-organiser, Keith Ward's new-build replica Braunston Canal Steam Tunnel Tug 'Hasty', faithfully following the original design, is almost complete, requiring some internal fittings, the hull was built by Brinklow Boat Services, the engine is a 1965 Sissons of Gloucester repatriated from South Africa, and the boiler a 1992 Classic Steam.



The other five boats were all new-builds of various vintages and designs over the past two decades; Sam Lees's 'Radnor', the Hutchinson family's 1991-built 'Emily Anne of Stroud', the Catell family's 1986-built 'Tixall', Geof and Sue Laycock's 'Whistle Down the Wind' in maroon livery, and finally the smaller sized boat owned by Ted Stedman, the 2006-built 'Trevor'.

Saturday 16th saw a cruise in convoy to Hawkesbury Junction, or the alternative local name of Sutton Stop, apparently the names of the toll clerks in the 1800s, to explore this interesting area which includes the disused engine house, the Newcomen-type atmospheric steam engine which was called 'Lady Godiva' (what else) which was installed in 1821, previously Griff Colliery, now is preserved at Dartmouth Museum.

On Sunday 17th the convoy departed Swan Lane Boatyard for Bishop Street Basin, passing the ex-Royal Navy Ordnance Factory on the west-side of the canal, which apparently in its heyday was the longest factory building in the country. The Basin, now much-modernised in the 1980s, still retains the facade and fabric of the 1914 wooden canal warehouses, themselves built on the site of the original eighteenth century warehouses, and the old Weighbridge Office which is now a shop and information centre, in the central area is a statue of the famous canal engineer James Brindley.

I certainly enjoyed my weekend in Coventry with the steam canal boats, especially organiser Keith Ward who made me most welcome. The sounds of the steam engines, the whistles, the wisps of steam escaping, all bouncing off the bridges and canalside cuttings, and amazingly within a stone's throw of the busy Coventry town centre, will live with me for a long time. The good news is that there may be a repeat in 2013, with all sorts of new ideas to make this an even better event.

Malcolm Ranieri

Fundraising

Nice to see two more people have signed up to raising funds using Easyfundraising. Donations received from this and Easysearch have totalled nearly £9 in January. Keep searching and shopping.

Membership Matters

2013 started off well. Membership renewals started arriving from mid December 2012 and standing orders were due to be paid. Until I see the bank statement I won't be able to work out how many have paid by this means.

Unfortunately we have lost some members but, this year some have, at least, let me know that they will not be continuing. It's a pity to lose them but we also have new members joining. In fact there were three over the Christmas period, so welcome to Janet Ramsay, Alison Shaw and Paul Rimmer.

A number of members not only pay their membership but are kind enough to give a donation. On behalf of the committee I would like to thank anyone who has helped that little bit extra. By mid January we had received some £80 in donations along with the memberships renewal.

I would finish on a plea. Memberships are due for renewal in January each year unless you are a new member who joined after the August Bank Holiday of the previous year. Can I plead with you all to pay early as this helps funding to a very great extent. And don't forget you can now use PayPal in addition to a Standing Order, cheque, cash or money order.

Malcolm Dunlop

Website News

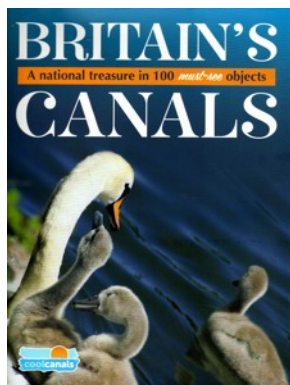
Good news - early in January the website was up and running again but the facility where you could comment on blog posts has been removed. This was how the inappropriate links and content were inserted.

Our Chairman, Nick, has been slaving over a hot computer and adding all the old 195s and Steaming Ups that he has soft copies of. Richard Thomas has sent me all of the missing editions from his archive, and I have started scanning them and sending them to Nick to upload.

I have also been reading the old issues whilst scanning and it does make interesting reading. Some may not want to be reminded of how long they have been members but in 1985 a certain Dave Stott was on the committee, and in a list of new members in Oct 1986 there is David Powell, Richard Thomas and myself.

On the subject of the member's area it has been requested that every member visits this section to alter their password to something more personal and secure. When logging in, your username is your email address and the default password is a well known boat name, email me if you can't guess what it is.

New Publications



The latest book from the people who produce the 'Cool Canals' guides is 'Britain's Canals', with a sub heading of 'A national treasure of 100 must see objects'.

All the usual places are listed, such as Pontcysyllte, Foxton, Ellesmere Port, Gloucester, Anderton, Braunston, Dudley Tunnel etc. The Black Country Living Museum does not get an entry, but 'President' does.

Other boats that get a mention are 'Saturn', 'Raymond' and 'Mendip'.

ISBN: 9780956069948. Price £19.99p

Diary Dates

February 7th - Alison Smedley from the Historic Narrow Boat Club is giving an illustrated talk at the London Canal Museum at 7.30pm on 'Our Historic Narrowboat Fleet'. Ticket information on 020 7713 0836, or visit www.canalmuseum.org.uk

February 12th - Steve Miles gives a talk on 'Friends of Raymond update on Restoration' at 8pm at The Walnut Tree PH, Blisworth. Contact Athina Beckett on 01908 661217.

Crewing 2013

Crewing 2013 Issue1.doc

Each time this list is issued, the Issue number and date will change. However, the additions and alterations will only be highlighted for that issue. Unless you are on the FoP Committee, **you will only normally receive a copy if there are changes to the trip you are on. A copy of the current list will be in the members section of the website**
This first list is being sent to all members, so that those of you who have not volunteered can fill in the spaces!!
If you wish to change your trip or add your name to other trips now is the time to let me know

Contact me by email on malcolm.dunlop@dsl.pipex.com or 01606 781793 mobile 07905247504

Please note: *If there are sufficient crews for the BCLM demonstration weekends the boats will be taken out overnight to either Birmingham, Wolverhampton, or possibly Windmill End.*

The horse tow of Kildare will be accompanied by the motor *Ling* belonging to Dave Goode. Crew will work with both boats. *Ling* will tow Kildare through Braunston and Blisworth tunnels on both journeys

For crew contact information see the list at the end

Training weekend 4th - 6th May

Captain	Nick Haynes
Driver	
Crew	Malcolm Dunlop Rod Fox
Trainees	Janet Ramsay Daniel Hutchinson (4th & 5th) Darren Hall Norman Prior VACANT VACANT VACANT

BCLM to Crick 18th - 24th May

Captain	VACANT
Driver	VACANT
Crew	Rod Fox Chris Walker Colin Wilks VACANT

Crick show 25th - 27th May

Captain	VACANT	
Driver	Malcolm Dunlop	(join boat at Braunston)
Crew	Tony Tibbins Colin Wilks	(join boat at Braunston)

FoP Sales stand 25th May

Dave Goode
Colin Wilks

FoP Sales stand 26th May

Dave Goode
Colin Wilks

FoP Sales stand 27th May

Dave Goode

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Crick to Sawley 28th May - 1st June

Captain	Nick Haynes
Driver	Dave Powell
Crew	Richard Burke Tony Tibbins Malcolm Dunlop Mike Palfrey

Sawley to Braunston 2nd - 6th June

Captain	Nick Haynes
Driver	Malcolm Dunlop
Crew	Richard Burke Alan Claridge VACANT VACANT

Braunston to Stoke Bruerne 13th - 14th June

(KILDARE ONLY BY HORSE)

Captain	Nick Haynes
Horse Handler	Sue Day
Crew	John Goldrick Dave Goode Harry Stoopman Penny Clover

Stoke Bruerne show 15th - 16th June

Captain	Nick Haynes
Horse Handler	Sue Day
Crew	John Goldrick (Sat only) Dave Goode Harry Stoopman Penney Clover

Stoke Bruerne to Braunston 17th - 18th June

Captain	Nick Haynes
Horse Handler	Sue Day
Crew	Dave Goode Harry Stoopman Penny Clover Alan Claridge

Braunston Show 29th 30th June

Captain	Nick Haynes
Driver	Simon Nuttall
Crew	VACANT VACANT VACANT

FoP Sales stand 29th June

Dave Goode
Simon Nuttall

FoP Sales stand 30th June

Dave Goode
Simon Nuttall

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Braunston to BCLM 1st - 7th July

Captain	VACANT
Driver	Simon Nuttall
Crew	Tony Greenwood
	Alan Claridge
	VACANT
	VACANT

BCLM demonstration 27th - 28th July

Captain	VACANT
Driver	VACANT
Crew	Mike Palfrey
	VACANT
	VACANT

BCLM demonstration 3rd - 4th August

Captain	VACANT
Driver	VACANT
Crew	Mike Palfrey
	Chris Walker
	VACANT
	VACANT

BCLM demonstration 10- 11th August

Captain	VACANT
Driver	VACANT
Crew	VACANT
	VACANT
	VACANT

BCLM demonstration 17th - 18th August

Captain	VACANT
Driver	VACANT
Crew	VACANT
	VACANT
	VACANT

BCLM demonstration (Bank Holiday) 24th - 26th August

Captain	VACANT
Driver	VACANT
Crew	VACANT
	VACANT
	VACANT

Windmill End show *** (provisional) 13t - 16th September

Captain	VACANT
Driver	VACANT
Crew	VACANT
	VACANT
	VACANT

Crewing 2013

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Tipton show (**President only**) 21st - 22nd September

Captain	VACANT
Driver	Malcolm Dunlop
Crew	Rod Fox
	VACANT

Boaters gathering BCLM 28th - 29th Sept

Captain	VACANT
Driver	VACANT
Crew	VACANT
	VACANT

CONTACT DETAILS

Captains

Neil Ratcliffe	01564 785845	07549 149166	neil@canalshop.co.uk
Nick Haynes	01527 517475	07564248542	nickhaynes195@hotmail.co.uk
David Powell	01799 523855	07736 424740	friendsofpresident@ntlworld.com
David Stott	01782 259363	07981 882705	dw.stott@ntlworld.com
Bob Crompton		07779 157165	bargeebob@yahoo.co.uk
Vic Fagence	01223 894248		viclinda@btinternet.com
Richard Thomas	01992 466180	0780 1144007	thrifthouse@ntlworld.com
Nigel Wood	07970 229519		naptonnigel@hotmail.com

Drivers

David Stott	01782 259363	07981 882705	dw.stott@ntlworld.com
Bob Crompton		07779 157165	bargeebob@yahoo.co.uk
David Powell	01799 523855	07736 424740	friendsofpresident@ntlworld.com
Simon Nuttall	01249 720978	07773 455780	station_house@btinternet.com
Keith Rogers	02476 257987		38 Abbots Lane, Coventry, CV1 4AZ
Andy Holbrook	0115 917 9405	07913 502655	andrewholbrook240@btinternet.com
Malcolm Dunlop	01606 781793	07905 247504	malcolm.dunlop@dsl.pipex.com
Dave Speer	0161 787 7456	07802 750758	nutdip@googlemail.com

Crew

Richard Burke	0121 329 3856		patricia.burke07@btinternet.com
Alan Claridge	01480 839090		AlanClaridge@hotmail.com
Penny Clover	01235 550419	07766 711260	springroad@talktalk.net
Harry Stoopman	01235 550419	07766 711260	springroad@talktalk.net
John Goldrick	01684541348		ledburystation@railticket.co.uk
Rod Fox	01562 777559	07973 737765	rod.fox@virgin.net
Chris Smyth	01565 651241		chris@smythc.fslife.co.uk
Tony Tibbins	0121 749 1535		tonytibbins@ttlock62.freemove.co.uk
Brian and Pat Empsall	0154 3264968		brian.empsall@btinternet.com
Tony Greenwood	01732 761114	07785 220956	senorgreenwood@yahoo.co.uk
Martin Burke		07973144940	martin
David Goode			dj-goode@tiscali.co.uk
Roy Hinchliff	01733 253192	07933294017	roy@rhinchliff.plus.com
Steve Kirk		07855 041089	nicansteve@hotmail.co.uk
Richard Shipman	01974 261403	07725 656499	richard@theshipmans.co.uk
Paul Piercy-Hughes	01832 733557	07858 046158	paulpiercyhughes@gmail.com
Colin Wilks		07836 730696	colinwilks@gmail.com
Chris Smyth	01565 651241		smyth_chris@sky.com
Carol Day	01945 774238	0752 5070 362	carole1910@hotmail.com
Ian Mansell	01945 774238	07776 136 745	carole1910@hotmail.com
Mike Palfrey	0208 3910850		mpalfrey@esherhigh.surrey.sch.uk
Paul Piercy-Hughes	01832 270980		paulpiercyhughes@gmail.com
Roger Prior	01922 452000	07773768890	aldridgeprior@blueyonder.co.uk
Malcolm Nixon	01738 587961	07766 333515	mal@mg-nixon.me-uk
Sue Day	01457 834863	07711 121056	sueday_horse@yahoo.co.uk