

Friends of PRESIDENT



195

December 2017

'Friends of President' is a support group working for the Black Country Living Museum, Tipton Road, Dudley,
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(Registered Charity No: 504481)

Committee 2017/8

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Find us on Facebook at President, Steam Narrowboat

Help raise funds for Friends of President

By searching the internet using <http://fop.easyssearch.org.uk/>
Current total: £93.90 from 10,392 searches

By shopping online via <http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/fop>
Current total : £671.92 from 33 registered supporters

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

Editorial

This month's really good news is of course that Friends of President won the Marsh Award. The photograph from the ceremony and the press release from National Historic Ships are included later in this edition.

It seems strange wishing everyone 'Happy Christmas' when I am writing this before the start of Advent but Christmas will be behind us by the time you receive the next edition of 195. The January edition of 195 will not be landing in your inbox on 1 January as being a Scot, the only things you are allowed to do in our house on New Year's Day are eat, drink and be merry!

You will find my attempt at a Christmas card to send season's greetings at the bottom of the page and in the Photo Gallery you will find the greeting from the December edition of 195 published in 1987. I wonder if anyone knows the location of the sketch in the 1987 Christmas card as I am unable to name it. There are no prizes for working it out but it would be interesting to see where people think it is. There are certainly no prizes for guessing the location of this year's Christmas greetings!

My thanks go to Irene de Boo for all her efforts at trying to locate last year's BCLM Christmas card which featured the boat dock. Irene didn't find the card but she did find a rather unusual view of the boat dock which I have included in the Photo Gallery.

It has been a quiet month as the boiler is still being re-tubed but Nick Haynes and David Stott have been what progress has been made and have provided a report and some photographs. There was also a Committee meeting and information from this is included in this edition.



The Marsh Award



National Historic Ships UK's annual awards ceremony is a celebration of maritime heritage around the UK coasts, lakes, and rivers, encouraging people of all ages and backgrounds to engage with historic vessels through photography, volunteering, or by operating them and encouraging the public to go on board at festivals and events

National Historic Ships UK 2017 award winners were announced on 1 November in the presence of HRH The Princess Royal

Now in its seventh year, the Marsh Volunteer Awards recognise outstanding volunteers in the conservation or operation of historic vessels in the UK.

The Marsh Team Volunteer Award was presented to the Friends of President for their efforts in operating and maintaining President and Kildare. The team received a prize of £1,000.



Irene de Boo, Head of Collections at the Black Country Living Museum and Nick Haynes, Chairman of FOP receiving the Marsh Award from HRH The Princess Royal, Princess Anne.

Nick our Chairman commented:

"It was an honour to receive this award, from The Princess Royal, on behalf of all the volunteers that keep the Friends of President going and are ensuring the continual survival of this unique pair of boats. A special thanks to Irene de Boo, of the Black Country Living Museum, for recognising our contribution, submitting the nomination and attending the ceremony with me. Focus is now on completing work on President's boiler and getting the pair back out on the network next spring"

I thought you may also be interested in the winner of the photography competition as it was a photograph of a canal boat. The photograph is below along with an extract from the press release:

"The accolade of overall winner of the 2017 photography competition was awarded to Teresa Fuller after her image, 'Butty boat Ilford breaks the September Dawn', was chosen from hundreds of entries to scoop the £1,000 prize awarded by National Historic Ships UK. The prize will go to a vessel of Teresa's choice on the National Register of Historic Vessels.



The competition was strong this year with outstanding entries from a wide range of entrants. Commenting on Teresa's winning image, judge Paul Atterbury said: "As someone long familiar with canals and canal boating, I can say with authority that this photograph really does it - glorious light and landscape, early morning autumn mist and a great sense of adventure, while at the same time reminding us of a vital but often overlooked part of our boating history. For decades, so much of our ordinary trading life depended upon pairs of narrow boats making their way slowly through the landscape. This scene, exceptional and romantic today, would have been commonplace eighty years ago."

In the Press

The presentation of the Marsh Award was reported in Towpath Talk and the article can be found at:

<https://www.towpathtalk.co.uk/friends-of-president-win-marsh-team-volunteer-award/>

From the Committee Meeting November 2017

Boat maintenance for both Kildare and President was discussed and the recent safety report for Kildare means that some work will need to be done.

The boating programme for 2018 was also discussed as were the website, Facebook and the Sales stand. Irene provided an update from the Museum and explained that an application is being made to the Heritage Lottery Fund and the Museum is also applying NPO funding (funding by Arts Council England). This covers a four year period. Boat dock area improvements are planned for 2019. Tim Shields who is new curator for industry and transport was also at the meeting and there will be more about Tim in the next edition of 195.

The current membership is:

Category	Number
Corporate	2
Family	42
Individual	71
Honorary	8
Total	123

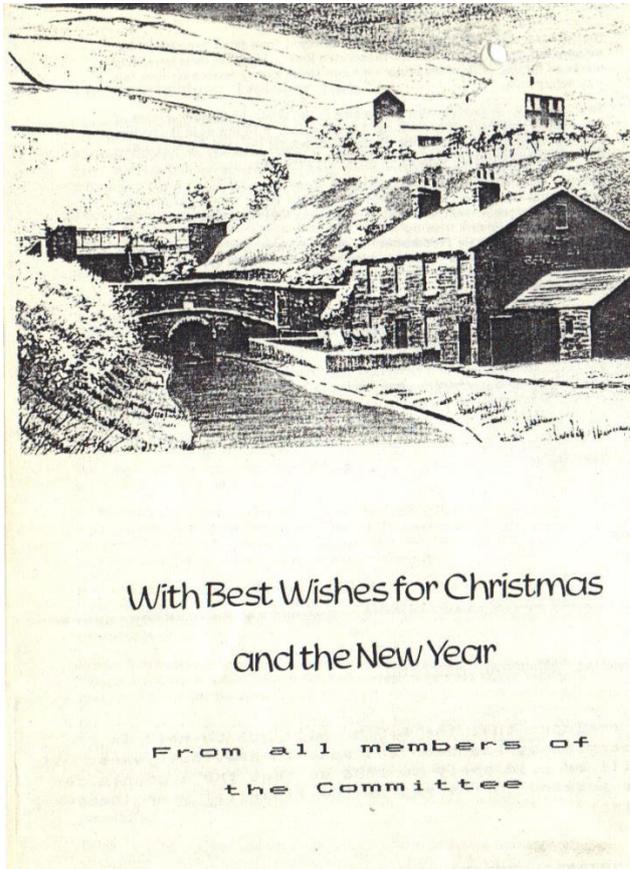
Boiler Update - Dave Stott and Nick Haynes

We visited Steam Hire Ltd on 30th November to find out the progress on the boiler. The following photos show the boiler with its cladding removed, as well as the smoke box which is very corroded and will need a lot of patching. There is still a lot of work to be done.



Photo Gallery

Season's Greetings 1987



Do you know where this is?



President and Kildare in the boat dock at the Black Country Living Museum