

Friends of PRESIDENT

Steaming Up

The newsletter of Friends of President
Spring 2005

Our 2005 season has started.....



Dave Stott steers President through Birmingham en route to Leamington, our first trip this year

STOP PRESS - CREW REQUIRED FOR NEW TRIP

We have been invited to attend the IWA event at Tardebigge top lock when there will be a re-enactment of the first meeting of Aickman and Rolt on nb Cressy in 1945. This meeting led to the formation of the IWA. There will also be a re-unveiling of the plaque which marks the meeting.

The date of the event is 13th August. We would need to leave the museum at noon on 11th August with a four person crew. (There are only 3 locks). We would leave Tardebigge at midday on Sunday 14th and return to the Museum by evening on Monday 16th, ready to leave for Northwich the next morning.

"Steaming Up" is edited by Nigel Wood. nigel-wood@ntlworld.com 07970 229519

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Annual general meeting, Black Country Living Museum

Dear Friends

On the weekend of April 16th/17th we held our AGM at the museum, this was very well attended. There have been a few changes to the committee as Ron & Judy Spencer have decided to take a break from the admin side of FoP. For many years they have served our society, Judy has been a great secretary producing the minutes and keeping your chairman in order, a hard job.



"Thank you Judy"

Ron has organised the working parties, a very important part of our reason for being here. I know he has spent many hours phoning us persuading, begging (and I am sure other ways) to get us out on a cold winters Saturday to fix this, shift that and paint the other. In addition the have both been regular crew members and for health reasons are to take a break this season, a message from us all is get fit soon so we can join you boating again. I am sure you would like to join me in thanking them both.

At the AGM it gave me great pleasure to award Dave Goodman with an Honorary Membership of FoP. Dave is one of the few members who have been with the society from the start and he has put a great deal into the boats. I have had the privilege to boat with many times over the years and have always come home a lot wiser. Dave's knowledge of the steam plant, the boat, the canal system is very deep (unlike some of the canals) and he is always willing to pass on this to those willing to learn. I hope we see him in the engine room for many years to come.



Following the AGM we held a crewing conference where we tried to look at the Health & Safety factors in running our boats. I thought this was a very successful afternoon and I would like to thank all those took part and to the new members who attended the Crew familiarisation day on Sunday. We had a very big turn out and we look forward to seeing you on the crew soon.



Richard Thomas explains

Over the years we have been thinking of holding some sort of social event and this year the museum kindly opened the Bottle & Glass exclusively for us. About 40 members had a very enjoyable evening with a 'Fagot and Peas' super and a short quiz, a great evening and a great weekend. We will try something again in the future so if you have any ideas let us know.



*A picture is worth a thousand words.....why?
Messers Crompton, Rodgers and Ratcliffe*

As I write this note in the middle of May the boats have already completed one trip down to Leamington Spa and back. With the boating season well under way have a great season and I look forward to seeing you on the cut.

*Dave Powell
Chairman*



Engineering Report by Bob Compton

This is a condensed version of the report that first appeared on our website

On Saturday 12th, some of the working party spent time on important jobs ready for the AGM weekend. Prime job was to collect the mattresses from Brook St, fit their covers and install on Kildare's bunks. Other jobs included a bit of TLC – brasses and cushion covers in back cabin etc. Also part drain the water tanks. (plus of course the superb BCLM fish 'n' chip lunch - like no-one else can provide!)

The other half of the working party towed President round to Caggy's yard in Tipton, courtesy of one of the BCLM horses. President was then quickly put into the dry dock so that Ian Kemp could do work on the bow and replace some of the tingling (shoeing) which ripped off last season.



A stripped down President emerges from Factory locks - one horse powered.

The demands on the dry dock are such that we had to book this time back in October, so it was important we used the time we had well.

On Wednesday 16th, around eight of us met up at the yard to do a quick hull blacking with two-part epoxy. This went really well and with a combination of rollers and brushes, plus plenty of willing hands, we had two coats on easily in the day.



A not so dry dock. Dave Stott at Caggy's.

In the latter half of the day, the Engineering department got busy preparing for another heavy day on the Thursday. The morning saw David Stott and me charging round the Black Country acquiring various bits of small and large plumbing and some threading equipment. The afternoon saw the first casualty in the shape of the auxiliary steam feed pipe which needed cutting and threading to take a new valve. So out it came, threads cut and then put back in, with the injector controls now to be at a much more manageable height, rather than groveling on the plates.



Newly sited injector controls.

The next smaller job was to thread some pipe to allow the Weir pump outlet to be re-directed under water, rather than dramatically soaking people on the tow path. Ian had cut the outlet in the hull the day before so the race was on to re-seal the hull before the dock was flooded in the afternoon.

I have to say threading 1" BSP malleable iron pipe (which is about 1.5") diameter with a manual threader, not only kept me (very) warm, but provided a few achy arm muscles the following day.

Finally, the arrangements for fitting the two main bearing lubricators at the top of the cylinder were completed and although we ran out of time to do the (small bore) pipe bending required, it was very close to complete.

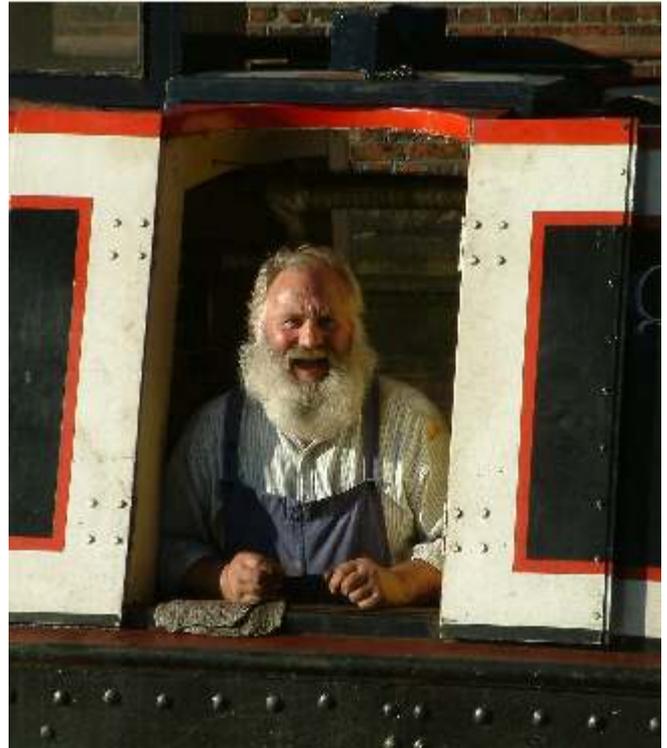


Meanwhile Richard Prince was giving the cabin roof and sides a good clean down and George Hopkins was fitting some new (??) Southern Railway chain to the whistle and then cleared the dock of tools, chocks and other bits and pieces.

Eventually we were ready to go and Ralph and Gordon of the yard flooded the dock and President floated free. However the drama was not all over as the boat refused to come out of the dock. The skeg was stuck on the cill of the dock and in the end we had to load about half a ton of coal on the bow of the boat to bring the stern up and get her out!

As we cleared the dock, the tug Bittell hove into view and we were soon at Factory Locks, albeit having touched the bottom a few times with an empty boat and no boiler water in !!!

A bit of bow hauling up the locks, more tugging by Bittell and we were back at the Museum. It was very late so we did not have time to sheet President up, so we ended up doing it on Friday morning before wending our respective ways home.



*"The old girls been fixed up a treat!"
George Hopkins in his favourite place.*

A follow-up Engineering Department two days on April 5/6th saw :-

- A Boiler inspector visit to do the "cold" inspection of the inside and outside of the boiler
- The Injector re-fitted, together with the modified auxiliary steam pipe feed
- The "manhole" cover in the top of the boiler re-inserted (heavy)
- The safety valve re-fitted, having been sent away to be re-calibrated
- New pipework completed for the re-mounted main bearing lubricators
- The cylinder drain pipework re-routed (avoids a nasty burn when reaching round to oil the eccentrics)
- New high level injector controls completed
- The regulator handle re-mounted with an improved fixing to the regulator valve
- The big end and main bearings inspected and re-fitted New gauge glass drain pipes fitted
- Engine hold down bolts tightened
- Removal of the rear casting of the engine and insertion of a fourth engine hold down bolt (never fitted for some reason) These last two to help stop some engine "rocking" that was evident last season.

Thanks again to all who helped along the way, it really doesn't work unless the members find the time to give before the season starts – a great effort.

Bob Crompton



President and Kildare approach Birmingham on their way to Leamington.

How to build a butty rudder Part II - Bob Crompton

In my last report I appealed for sources of green oak for a new rudder post for Kildare. A number of people made suggestions and most were followed up –thank you. BW at Bradley couldn't help with a lockgate offcut and a log from a tree that they were felling on the site of the Foxton incline did not come to fruition either.

So, with time running out, it was decided to buy a piece, which was obtained from the timber yard on the left of the North Stratford canal as you come down lock 3.

It was (and is) a sizeable lump of timber, which requires two people to lift on its own. When we add the blade we may well need the Museum crane.



Timber for new rudder stock alongside old rudder showing mending plates after cracking last season

The first job (other than to fit a truss for the impending hernia) was to plane the sides of the lump to a continuous taper. This was achieved on a thickness planer which usually produces perfectly parallel sides. However some long thin wooden wedges were attached to the underside of the lump to produce long thin tapers on the top. Then it was turned over to do the other side with a double thickness wedge.



Planing the tapers on the sides, makes sawdust BIG time

Next job was to cut the blank to profile, in this picture the curve to fit the stern of Kildare has been shaped, the angle of the top has been cut together with the taper to take the 'ellum.



One of the more difficult jobs was to cut the square hole for the ellum. This not only has to be right for size (large square tapered hole – tricky) but it has to be spot on for angle, otherwise the ellum will hit the cabin top or be so high we will need a step ladder to steer the butty !! If anyone can invent a drill to make square tapered holes, I am very interested !!



In this shot, the hole for the top hook has been drilled, and the top of the stock rounded over, ready for fitting the piece of aluminium to protect the end grain. Here the chamfers on the curved portion of the stock make sure the rudder does not foul Kildare's stern when on full lock. The preliminary shaping for the bottom hook and the bottom blade supports (floats ??) is also shown.

Marking out and fitting of the top floats at the right angle is not trivial, particularly as the resulting gap between them has to be an exact fit to the blade thickness. Also the rebating for the bottom hook has been accomplished allowing a trial fit.

In this shot most of the major woodworking has been finished, with the exception of the rebating for the bottom floats. The top hook has been trial fitted, while the top floats will be cut to length during the fitting of the blade.

As I write (end April) the boats are away on their first trip of the season with the old rudder. While they are away as much of the painting of the new stock as possible will be done.

On their return, the old rudder will come north to Yorkshire, again, the hooks and the blade stripped off and fitted to the new stock and the whole assembly finish painted and bitumened as appropriate.

In summary, the job has been quite challenging, particularly as the wood is too big for many of my machine tools, but the experience of working in green oak is a definite plus. It gives of an aroma, when being cut, not dissimilar to Scotch Whisky, so at the end of the night, I need to check that my smell and taste senses are not out of kilter!



STOP PRESS

Here it is! The rudder as at Sunday 15.5.05. The final assembly of the wooden parts has been made with all of the metal parts ready to go on next. A final coat of gloss followed by all the decorative fiddly bits is this weeks work before it is transported to the BCLM next weekend ready for the trip to Crick.

The reason for the clamp is that it gets a bit windy opp' ere in Yorkshire and the blade makes an excellent sail. Not popular if it fell all over the missus' car !!!



Crewing matters

There are several changes to the crew-list since the last issue, resulting in new opportunities for you to crew this year. In particular are the new trips to Worcester and Tardebigge in August.

We are currently a Captain and Crew member short for the return trip from the National Waterways festival to BCLM in September. This vacancy has occurred because Nigel Wood and Louise Clarke will be getting married in Las Vegas rather than steaming along the Shropshire Union.

Stoke Bruerne

An appeal for crew (just one) to be on the boat during the 3 days static at Stoke Bruerne. David Goodman is steaming the boats and we need someone else to chat to the public. They can either come daily to the boat (as David is doing), or stay on Kildare if they prefer.

The Crewing List

In steam at Crick Boat Show 28th to 30th May (static)

| | | | | |
|-------------|------------------------------|--------------|---------------|-------------------------------|
| Captain | Neil Ratcliffe | 01564 785845 | no mobile no. | neil@canalshop.co.uk |
| Driver | George Hopkins | 01403 242223 | 07851 410899 | loadsa.steam@virgin.net |
| Crew | Martin Buckland (sales std) | 01235 204115 | | martin.buckland1@ntlworld.com |
| 29/30 | Nigel Wood | 01530 460798 | 07970 229519 | nigel-wood@ntlworld.com |
| 29/30 | Louise Clark | 01530 460798 | 07970 229519 | nigel-wood@ntlworld.com |
| | Andre Layzell | 01444 248584 | 07733 367815 | dajefferies@vodafone.net |
| Shore based | Richard Thomas (sales stand) | 01992 466180 | 07801 144007 | thrifthouse@ntlworld.com |
| | John Byham (sales stand) | 01438 354136 | | j-c-byham@supanet.com |
| | Celia Byham (sales stand) | 01992 466180 | | celia.byham@ntlworld.com |

To London, 30th May to 4th June (Changeover point to be decided)

| | | | | |
|---------|-----------------|---------------|--------------|-------------------------------|
| Captain | Nick Haynes | 01527 517475 | 07710 981397 | nick_haynes@uk.ibm.com |
| Driver | Bob Crompton | 01535 601684 | 07779 157165 | rob@cromptonsboat.fsnet.co.uk |
| Crew | Richard Burke | 0121 321 2237 | | |
| | Richard Prince | 01763 271252 | 07788 454483 | choircyn@aol.com |
| | Martin Buckland | 01235 204115 | | martin.buckland1@ntlworld.com |
| | Martin Burke | | 07973 144940 | |

To London Canal Museum via Greenland Dock for delivery of castings 4th June to 8th June

| | | | | |
|-------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|-------------------------------------|
| Captain | Nick Haynes | 01527 517475 | 07710 981397 | nick_haynes@uk.ibm.com |
| Driver 5/6 | Bob Crompton | 01535 601684 | 07779 157165 | rob@cromptonsboat.fsnet.co.uk |
| Driver 7 on | David Powell | 01799 523855 | 07831 220528* | friendsofpresident@ntlworld.com |
| Crew | Harry Stoopman | 01865 452982 | 07814 198616 | harry@ciderspace.org.uk |
| | Tony Tibbins | 0121 749 1535 | | tonytibbins@ttlock62.freemove.co.uk |
| 7-10 | Colin Grantham | 01799 550684 | | |
| | Penny Clover | 01235 520404 | 07766 711260 | penny.clover@ntlworld |

In steam at London Canal Museum, 11th to 12th June (static)

| | | | | |
|--------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|---------------------------------|
| Captain 11/6 | David Powell | 01799 523855 | 07831 220528* | friendsofpresident@ntlworld.com |
| 12/6 | VACANT | | | |
| Driver | George Hopkins | 01403 242223 | 07851 410899 | loadsa.steam@virgin.net |
| Crew | David Speer | 0161 787 7456 | 07802 750758 | nutdip@ntlworld.com |
| | Andre Layzell | 01444 248584 | 07733 367815 | |
| | Dave Jefferies | 01444 254823: | 07780 684121 | dajefferies@vodafone.net |
| 11/6 | Colin Grantham | 01799 550684 | | |

Fly Run from City Road Basin to Stoke Bruerne, 16th to 18th June

| | | | | |
|-----------|----------------|---------------|---------------|---------------------------------|
| Captain A | David Powell | 01799 523855 | 07831 220528* | friendsofpresident@ntlworld.com |
| Driver A | David Stott | 01782 259363 | 07981 882705 | dw.stott@ntlworld.com |
| Crew A | Nick Haynes | 01527 517475 | 07710 981397 | nick_haynes@uk.ibm.com |
| | Vic Fageance | 01223 894248 | | viclinda@freeola.com |
| | Roger Prior | 01922 863117 | | aldridgeprior@blueyonder.co.uk |
| | Malcolm Nixon | 01764 684790 | 07766 333515 | malcolm@mg-nixon.org.uk |
| Captain B | Simon Nuttall | 01249 720978 | 07773 455780 | simon.nuttall@ntlworld.com |
| Driver B | Bob Crompton | 01535 601684 | 07779 157165 | rob@cromptonsboat.fsnet.co.uk |
| Crew B | Neil Ratcliffe | 01564 785845 | 07932 314842 | neil@canalshop.co.uk |
| | David Speer | 0161 787 7456 | 07802 750758 | nutdip@ntlworld.com |
| | Nigel Wood | 01530 460798 | 07970 229519 | nigel-wood@ntlworld.com |

Blisworth Tunnel 200, Stoke Bruerne, 18th to 19th June

| | | | | |
|-------------|------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------------------------|
| Captain | David Powell | 01799 523855 | 07831 220528* | friendsofpresident@ntlworld.com |
| Driver | Bob Crompton | 01535 601684 | 07779 157165 | rob@cromptonsboat.fsnet.co.uk |
| Crew | Nick Haynes | 01527 517475 | 07710 981397 | withdrawn |
| | David Speer | 0161 787 7456 | 07802 750758 | nutdip@ntlworld.com |
| | Nigel Wood | 01530 460798 | 07970 229519 | nigel-wood@ntlworld.com |
| | Louise Clark | 01530 460798 | 07970 229519 | nigel-wood@ntlworld.com |
| Shore based | John Byham (sales stand) | 01438 354136 | | j-c-byham@supanet.com |
| | Richard Thomas (sales stand) | 01992 466180 | 07801 144007 | thrifthouse@ntlworld.com |
| | Celia Byham (sales stand) | 01992 466180 | | celia.byham@ntlworld.com |

In steam at Stoke Bruerne, by Waterways Museum 20th to 24th June (static)

| | | | | |
|---------|---------------|--------------|--|--|
| Captain | VACANT | | | |
| Driver | David Goodman | 01789 298261 | | |
| Crew | VACANT | | | |

To Braunston Boat Show, 24th June

| | | | | |
|---------|----------------|---------------|--------------|----------------------------|
| Captain | Nigel Wood | 01530 460798 | 07970 229519 | nigel-wood@ntlworld.com |
| Driver | David Goodman | 01789 298261 | | |
| Crew | Richard Prince | 01763 271252 | 07788 454483 | choircyn@aol.com |
| | David Moore | 0115 966 4938 | 07718 077584 | david@lowdhamstation.me.uk |
| | VACANT | | | |

At Braunston Boat Show, 25th to 26th June

| | | | | |
|----------------|----------------|---------------|--------------|----------------------------|
| Captain | Nigel Wood | 01530 460798 | 07970 229519 | nigel-wood@ntlworld.com |
| Driver 25-26/6 | George Hopkins | 01403 242223 | 07851 410899 | loadsa.steam@virgin.net |
| Crew | Louise Clark | 01530 460798 | 07970 229519 | nigel-wood@ntlworld.com |
| | Andre Layzell | 01444 248584 | 07733 367815 | dajefferies@vodafone.net |
| | Dave Jefferies | 01444 254823: | 07780 684121 | dajefferies@vodafone.net |
| | David Moore | 0115 966 4938 | 07718 077584 | david@lowdhamstation.me.uk |
| | Frances Moore | 0115 966 4938 | 07718 077584 | david@lowdhamstation.me.uk |

Return to BCLM, 27th June to 1st July

| | | | | |
|---------|----------------|--------------|---------------|---------------------------------|
| Captain | David Powell | 01799 523855 | 07831 220528* | friendsofpresident@ntlworld.com |
| Driver | George Hopkins | 01403 242223 | | loadsa.steam@virgin.net |
| Crew | Martin Burke | | 07973 144940 | |
| | Vic Fageance | 01223 894248 | | viclinda@freeola.com |
| | Colin Grantham | 01799 550684 | | |
| | VACANT | | | |

To Worcester (via Tardebigge!), 25th July to 28th July

| | | | | |
|---------|--------------|---------------|---------------|---------------------------------|
| Captain | David Powell | 01799 523855 | 07831 220528* | friendsofpresident@ntlworld.com |
| Driver | David Stott | 01782 259363 | 07981 882705 | dw.stott@ntlworld.com |
| Crew | David Speer | 0161 787 7456 | 07802 750758 | nutdip@ntlworld.com |
| | Babs Parkin | | 07702 326997 | |
| | VACANT | | | |
| | VACANT | | | |

At Severn Boat Festival, Worcester, 29th to 31st July

| | | | | |
|---------|--------------|--------------|---------------|---------------------------------|
| Captain | David Powell | 01799 523855 | 07831 220528* | friendsofpresident@ntlworld.com |
| Driver | David Stott | 01782 259363 | 07981 882705 | dw.stott@ntlworld.com |
| Crew | Babs Parkin | | 07702 326997 | |
| | VACANT | | | |
| | VACANT | | | |
| | VACANT | | | |

Return to BCLM (via Tardebigge) 1st to 4th August

| | | | | |
|---------|-------------|--------------|--------------|------------------------|
| Captain | Nick Haynes | 01527 517475 | 07710 981397 | nick_haynes@uk.ibm.com |
| Driver | VACANT | | | |
| Crew | Babs Parkin | | 07702 326997 | |
| | VACANT | | | |
| | VACANT | | | |
| | VACANT | | | |

To Northwich (via Anderton Lift), 16th August to 22nd August

| | | | | |
|-----------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|-----------------------------------|
| Captain 16-21/8 | Simon Nuttall | 01249 720978 | 07773 455780 | simon.nuttall@ntlworld.com |
| Driver | Bob Crompton | 01535 601684 | 07779 157165 | rob@cromptonsboat.fsnet.co.uk |
| Crew | David Speer | 0161 787 7456 | 07802 750758 | nutdip@ntlworld.com |
| | Brian Empsall | 01543 264968 | | PatandorBrian@Empsall.fsnet.co.uk |
| | Pat Empsall | 01543 264968 | | PatandorBrian@Empsall.fsnet.co.uk |
| | Roger Prior | 01922 863117 | | aldridgeprior@blueyonder.co.uk |

In steam at Northwich, 22nd to 23rd August (static)

| | | | | | |
|---------|---------|----------------|---------------|--------------|-------------------------------|
| Captain | 21-23/8 | Neil Ratcliffe | 01564 785845 | 07932 314842 | neil@canalshop.co.uk |
| Driver | | Bob Crompton | 01535 601684 | 07779 157165 | rob@cromptonsboat.fsnet.co.uk |
| Crew | | David Speer | 0161 787 7456 | 07802 750758 | nutdip@ntlworld.com |
| | | Susie Empsall | 01785 253071 | 07733 175602 | sempsall@staffordbc.gov.uk |

To Preston Brook (via R. Weaver and Anderton Lift), 23rd to 25th August

| | | | | | |
|---------|--|----------------|---------------|--------------|-----------------------------------|
| Captain | | Neil Ratcliffe | 01564 785845 | 07932 314842 | neil@canalshop.co.uk |
| Driver | | Bob Crompton | 01535 601684 | 07779 157165 | rob@cromptonsboat.fsnet.co.uk |
| Crew | | David Speer | 0161 787 7456 | 07802 750758 | nutdip@ntlworld.com |
| | | Susie Empsall | 01785 253071 | 07733 175602 | sempsall@staffordbc.gov.uk |
| | | Eddie Oades | 01323 643865 | 07890 137135 | eddie.oades@edfenergy.com |
| | | Ron Spencer | 0161 980 3539 | 07802 949785 | william@ronspencer.freemove.co.uk |

In steam at National Waterways Festival, Runcorn, 26th to 29th August

| | | | | | |
|-------------|---------|-----------------------------|--------------|--------------|-------------------------------|
| Captain | | Neil Ratcliffe | 01564 785845 | 07932 314842 | neil@canalshop.co.uk |
| Driver | 26-27/8 | David Stott | 01782 259363 | 07981 882705 | dw.stott@ntlworld.com |
| Crew | | Richard Thomas (sales std) | 01992 466180 | 07801 144007 | thrifthouse@ntlworld.com |
| | | Celia Byham (sales stand) | 01992 466180 | | celia.byham@ntlworld.com |
| | 28-29/8 | Martin Buckland (sales std) | 01235 204115 | | martin.buckland1@ntlworld.com |
| | 28-29/8 | Penny Clover (sales stand) | 01235 520404 | 07766 711260 | penny.clover@ntlworld.com |
| Shore based | | John Byham (sales stand) | 01438 354136 | | j-c-byham@supanet.com |

Return to BCLM, 30th August to 7th September

| | | | | | |
|---------|----------|-----------------|---------------|--------------|-------------------------------------|
| Captain | | VACANT | | | |
| Driver | | George Hopkins | 01403 242223 | 07851 410899 | loadsa.steam@virgin.net |
| | | Malcolm Nixon | 01764 684790 | 07766 333515 | malcolm@mg-nixon.org.uk |
| | | VACANT | | | |
| | | Tony Tibbins | 0121 749 1535 | | tonytibbins@ttlock62.freemove.co.uk |
| | 30/8-2/9 | Martin Buckland | 01235 204115 | | martin.buckland1@ntlworld.com |
| | 3-7/9 | Penny Clover | 01235 520404 | 07766 711260 | penny.clover@ntlworld.com |

Boaters Gathering at BCLM, 24th to 25th September

| | | | | | |
|---------|--|----------------|--------------|--------------|-------------------------------|
| Captain | | Eddie Oades | 01323 643865 | 07890137135 | eddie.oades@edfenergy.com |
| Driver | | Bob Crompton | 01535 601684 | 07779 157165 | rob@cromptonsboat.fsnet.co.uk |
| Crew | | John Goldrick | 01684 541348 | | john@goldrick.co.uk |
| | | Andre Layzell | 01444 248584 | 07733 367815 | dajefferies@vodafone.net |
| | | Dave Jefferies | 01444 254823 | 07780 684121 | dajefferies@vodafone.net |

*David Powell's mobile number when crewing is 07736 424740

Planned your trip?

Got your gear?

John Byham will be pleased to sell you official President wear; Union shirts and neckerchiefs

See John and his crew on the sales stand at various events

or contact him on

01438 354136,
j-c-byham@supanet.com



MEMBERSHIP QUESTIONNAIRE

Every few years we produce a questionnaire for all members so that we can assess who is willing to be approached (badgered!) into either crewing or taking part in working parties. It also enables us to update our files with those who have joined the electronic revolution. If you received this by post, we have no record of your email address.

If you are now available for contact by email, and even if you are not responding to the questions below, **please send me an email with just your name as the message.** If we can email information and newsletters to you, we can save 4/2½d (sorry, 21p) each time!

If you are happy to continue to receive our mailings and sustain us each year with your subscription but would prefer not to take an active part with the boats, that is fine and we value your support. You need not return this questionnaire.

If you wish to go further, please complete the following and send it back to me as soon as possible.

Name.....

Address.....

Telephone Number.....Mobile.....

Yes, I am available for crewing.....

Yes, I am available for working parties.....

I have the following skills which may be of help (e.g. plumber, engineer, electrician, carpenter, painter, DIY, etc.)

.....

Don't worry if your availability is limited, we can discuss this with you when we make contact.

Please return this to Richard Thomas, 42 Admirals Walk, Hoddesdon, Herts EN11 8AG or if you prefer, fax it to 01992 414664 or just email it back to me!

