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#### BOTTOM LOCK

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A set of winding gear for the left hand set of lock gates (facing upstream) has been made by Neville Foundry and it is hoped to fit the gear soon and also plan and construct an extension to the winding gear to enable boaters to operate the gear from the lock side. One of our members boated up to bottom lock last May and found the top guillotine gate padlocked, the key to open the lock is the BWB Sanitary Station key which all boaters on inland waters carry, we may put a notice to this effect on the gate.

#### FOOTBRIDGE & PIPE

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The County Council has lifted the footbridge making a very neat job, the EMEB removed the obstructing electricity pipe in mid March. The waterway has now no major obstruction to headroom up to Cobblers Lock although a couple of bridges could be tight depending on water level. Pat Taylor was planning to bring Wigford through South Kyme on Sunday 27 March but unfortunately Anglian Water had water levels well down, even below the normal winter retention level and she stuck below Bottom Lock. Pat intends to take Wigford up to South Kyme on the weekend of April 16-17 to have another attempt. Wigford's air draught is about 5' 7" the lowest bridge is approximately 6' at high water levels. Narrow boat style craft will therefore be able to cruise up to Cobblers Lock. (But where will they turn??)

#### WINDING HOLE

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Mr Lamyman came to our Social Evening at the end of November and kindly agreed to consider a winding hole alongside his land. He has asked to deal with the NKDC engineer and we understand a meeting will take place straight after Easter.

Whilst some dredging was done at the outflow of the bi-pass weir at Cobblers Lock it is apparent that more is required before boats can turn there. Lionel Rudkin went up in an inflatable with outboard and found it difficult to manouvre in that area. There is after all nearly 100 years of silt built up there.

Once we have a clear idea what is required in South Kyme we can hopefully get a digger into both sites.

#### COBBLERS LOCK

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Martin Chapman prepared a report giving an outline of the proposals to restore Cobblers Lock, with a costing which came to £27,000. This was sent to County and District Councils plus other organisations. The NKDC have, we believe, allocated a further £4,000 on top of the £5,000 which is held on our behalf. The latter will be used for winding holes, pipe and footbridge, depending on final bills.

We have contacted CEA in Grantham to see if they will build gates and carry out brickwork in the lock chamber. We are also considering asking Waterways Recovery Group to initiate the project and prepare the chamber i.e. damming off, removing copings and bricks etc. Allenbys of Anwick have once again shown willingness to help in obtaining timber for the gates. This time of course, we need two pairs of gates.

A meeting was held at Cobblers lock with Anglian Water and it was agreed we need to establish depths above the lock so that weir and

cill levels can be set before the gates can be designed. Unfortunately Anglian Water have not the personnel available to assist with this but have put us in contact with a retired surveyor who does consultancy work.

We obviously need to move into Cobblers Lock as soon as possible but must be sure of our funding before allowing work to go too far. Fund raising is going to be important both for the money and for the publicity it can create. Member assistance would be very welcome. Pam Flint at the Simon De Kyme will always take a message if you cannot contact a committee member direct.

#### BOAT RALLY

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The rally is over Whit Bank Holiday May 28-30th. There are 18 firm bookings for boats and at least another 10 potential entries. Mr Kenneth Goodwin, National Chairman of the Inland Waterways Association is attending as is Mr John Bayliss, Regional Chairman of IWA and Regional Organiser of WRG. You will see the interest and support that the waterways movement is showing in the society and we hope members will come along and meet the visitors. The events planned are as follows

#### SATURDAY 28 MAY

##### MORNING

The last of the boats will be arriving at South Kyme.

##### AFTERNOON

Boat Boot Sale (Boat Jumble in car boot type sale) : South Kyme Village Hall.

Craft Stalls : Garden Simon De Kyme, South Kyme.

##### EVENING

Disco : South Kyme Village Hall 8.00pm - 12.00pm (entrance by ticket only)

#### SUNDAY 29 MAY

9.00 AM JUDGING OF BOATS AT RALLY By Mr F. C. Johnson CY. President of the Boston Motor Yacht Club.

10.00 - 11.00 COFFEE MORNING AT THE SIMON DE KYME PUB (SOUTH KYME)

The award for the boat judged to be the best at the rally will be awarded, other presentations may be made to the Society, it is intended to invite the press and members of local government to the event.

##### 11.30 BOATMANS SERVICE

It is intended to hold the service out of doors (weather permitting) Mr John Bayliss will be giving a reading.

##### AFTERNOON

The local Scout Troop will be putting on a display.

#### MONDAY 30 MAY

Most boats will be leaving.

Anyone interested in attending the rally in a boat should contact Mrs Pat Taylor, Clovelly, Park Lane, Heighington, LINCOLN LN4 1RF. The entry fee is £6.00 and will include an unique brass plaque.

CHRISTOPHER POWER AWARD

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The Society has been given the Christopher Power Award for services to the waterways restoration movement on connected waterways. Being a relatively small society, we are delighted to receive this award. The presentation ceremony will be held on the Sunday of the Boat Rally.

SLEAFORD CARNIVAL

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The Society will be having a stall at the Carnival on Sunday July 3rd in association with IWA who are attending with their fund raising Bevi-Bola stall, the Society stall will mainly be for membership and information. If any Members want to have a float in the procession we have a vehicle available, please contact the Committee at the AGM if you want to help organise a float.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

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Our AGM takes place at the Simon De Kyme, South Kyme on Tuesday 3rd of May. We hope to have a speaker from the IWA on the restoration battle on the River Derwent where there is conflict between conservation and boating interests.

Please try to attend the AGM, it starts at 8.00pm and as always it is free.

Please note that the AGM is the date for membership renewal.

SLEAFORD NAVIGATION SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP FORM

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To : Bob Portlock, Clerk, Sleaford Navigation Society, Red Gables Farm, Pointon Fen, NR SLEAFORD, Lincs NG34 0LF (Sleaford 240501)

I/We would like to renew membership of the Society and enclose £.....

I/We would like to make a donation to the Society and enclose £.....

NAME: _____	Annual Membership	£2.50	<input type="checkbox"/>
ADDRESS: _____	Joint Annual Membership	£3.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
_____	Junior Annual Membership	£0.50	<input type="checkbox"/>
_____	Life Membership	£40.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
_____	Joint Life Membership	£50.00	<input type="checkbox"/>

Date ..... (please tick)

The Society would be most interested if any potential members have skills which may be of use to the Society in their restoration aims, anything from muscle to mind may be useful. Any old photographs of the navigation are also very useful historical documents, we would of course copy such material and return the original.

Skill/documents.....