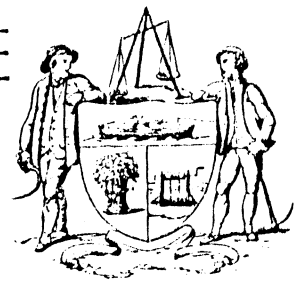


# COMPANY OF PROPRIETORS OF THE SLEAFORD NAVIGATION SOCIETY



## SLEAFORD NAVIGATION SOCIETY NEWSLETTER MARCH 1992

### SOCIAL EVENING FRIDAY 27 MARCH 8 PM

There will be a social evening at the Anwick Sports & Social Club, River Lane, Anwick. Excellent jacket potatoes with an assortment of fillings will be available at a modest fee. A private bar and a chance to meet friends and get an update on the restoration of the navigation with a raffle make this an evening not to be missed. Bring your family and friends.

### SPONSORED SHAVE

One of the more hirsute Committee Members of the Navigation Society is one Neil Evans, he has bravely volunteered to have his beard and hair cut at the social evening to be held on Friday 27 March. Neil wants sponsors for this event, any money raised will be shared equally between the Navigation Society and a Charity that funds research into cot deaths. Phone Neil on 0529 61049 to sponsor him to help these charities.

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The AGM of the Sleaford navigation Society will be held on Tuesday 5th May at the same venue as the social, the meeting starts at 8pm and for those who attended last years meeting our canine friends will not be sharing the hall with us!!! We are having a guest speaker from the Waterways Recovery Group, Mr Alan Jervis who is giving an illustrated talk on the restoration of the Montgomery Canal.

### COBBLERS LOCK

The South wall of the lock is now largely complete with the coping stones replaced and the wall infilled. The North wall which at one time was thought to be in reasonable condition has been found to be in need of complete rebuilding, the wall was demolished in the autumn down to sound brick. This was below the potential winter flood level and some rapid action to prevent potential damage had to be taken. The Navigation Society and Waterways Recovery Group provided work parties to remove the rubble and make good the wall ready for rebuilding, Michael Golds and his team from Langley Mill with Navigation Society members rebuilt the wall to safe level. The team from Langley Mill hope to return in the Spring to complete the job.

Cobblers lock is a Scheduled Ancient Monument, this has lead to the District Council requiring the Navigation Society to re-use the original 1792 bricks where possible, unfortunately a large percentage of the bricks disintegrate when cleaned, in spite of this it is hoped to have enough bricks for the wing walls of the lock, only using modern engineering bricks in the lock chamber where their superior strength and frost hardness is needed.

### COUNTRYSIDE COMMISSION

The Navigation Society has been awarded £1000 from the Countryside Commission to fund a promotional video which the society will distribute to local councils, water authorities and grant awarding bodies to enable the Society to get funds for surveys of the navigation above Cobblers Lock. It is estimated that the cost of the surveys will be in the order of £20,000. The Navigation Society is also producing a promotional brochure funded by our good friends and supporters the Lincs and South Humberside IWA, it is hoped the brochure will be available for the AGM.

### GATHERING OF BOATS

There will be a gathering of boats over the weekend of May 2nd, an informal barbeque at Cobblers Lock will be held early on the Saturday evening where the barbeque used by work camps will be available for members with food but who can't transport their barbeque to the lock. It is hoped to hold a Church service in South Kyme on the Sunday. As the IWA National Rally is to be held in Wakefield in August some boats from further afield may attend the gathering. If you would like further details of the boat gathering contact Pat Taylor (0522-790652). As in previous years there will be a cruise on the Witham Navigable Drains on the weekend of May 23rd, again for details contact Pat Taylor.

### GUIDED WALK AROUND SLEAFORD 28 MAY 1992

There will be a guided walk around Sleaford by Mrs J Collinge, organised by the Lincolnshire and South Humberside IWA, Sleaford Navigation Society Members are welcome, meet at Carre St Car Park at 7.45pm.

### SLEAFORD LIBRARY

Members living in the Sleaford area may well have seen a window display in the Sleaford Library by the Sleaford Navigation Society. The display had an interesting mix of photos with plant and canalware, it concentrated on the restoration aspect of the Society, membership forms were available in the Library and a few new members were recruited. Neil Evans was responsible for installing and collecting the material for the display and the local firm Karraplant kindly loaned a cement mixer which made an unusual centrepiece for the display. Shortly after the display the Clerk received a phonecall from the Library asking if they could use the Seal of the Navigation Society on the cover of the new Sleaford Library Leaflet.

### COGGLESFORD MILL

At the top of the Navigation the District Council is restoring the building of Cogglesford Mill. It is also hoped to restore the machinery and mill wheel. Large quantities of silt need to be removed from the head of the mill. If sufficient water is provided to allow milling, it can only help the aim of the Navigation Society, to restore the whole navigation and allow boats to return to Sleaford. The District Council hope to open the mill as an Interpretative Centre.

### WORK PARTIES AT COBBLERS LOCK

The Society will be holding regular work parties at Cobblers Lock, for further details contact Dave Carnell on 0469-30138, the dates arranged so far are Sundays on March 9th, April 5th, May 3rd (the same weekend as the boat gathering), further dates will be advised as soon as they are arranged.

The Waterways Recovery Group are holding a week long CANAL CAMP from the 1st to the 8th of August volunteers must be over sixteen to attend, for the cost of £28 one can help the restoration by working with an enthusiastic group of like minded navvies!! Accommodation is provided at the Anwick Social Club, all meals are included. For further details contact, Neil Edwards, WRG Canal Camps, 24A Avenue Road, WITHAM, Essex, CM8 2DT.

The North East WRG are holding a weekend canal camp on 25 and 26 April, the group leader is Martin Johnson. The BITM WRG are having a weekend work camp on 20 and 21 June.

### MEMBERSHIP

A Membership renewal form has been inserted with this newsletter, members who have not renewed their 1991-92 membership will find a note to this effect on the form. As usual membership is due for renewal at the AGM to be held on MAY 5th in Anwick. If you are unsure of your membership status please contact the Membership Secretary, Pat Portlock on 0529-240501.

### IWA CANALS CLEAN-UP WEEKEND

The Erewash Canal Preservation & Development Association Clean-up will be on 21/22 March. They are planning a Clean-up using boats from Langley Mill to Trent Lock, probably breaking at Gallows Inn Lock on Saturday evening. For details contact Mick Golds, telephone 0602 328042.

**DON'T FORGET THE SOCIAL FRIDAY 27 MARCH 8.00PM**