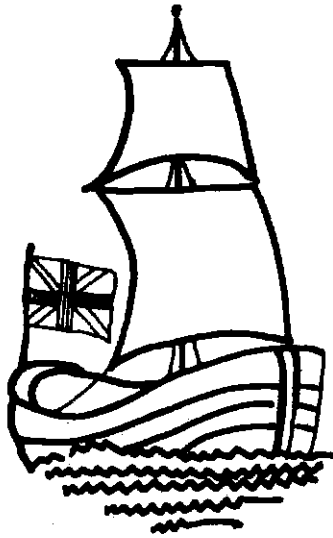




THE TROW



NO 9 MARCH 1975



STROUDWATER



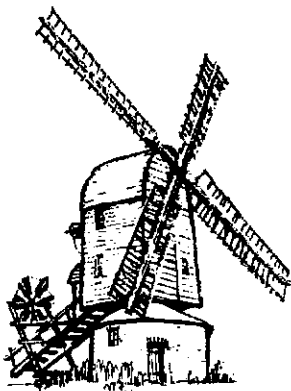
CANAL SOCIETY

EDITORIAL

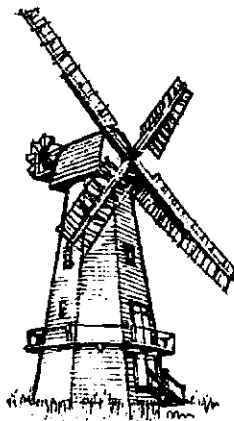
Many of you may have probably wondered what has happened to the February Trow - well it was found that the old dates of Feb-May-Aug & March had several drawbacks and so it was decided by the Committee to publish in March-June-Sept & December.

It seems general practice in the Trow to appeal for help and this page is now no exception. This is to be my last Trow and so the Society is eagerly looking for a replacement Editor, this job does entail a little more than just editing articles. Typing and laying out for printing, taking and collecting from the printers and collating, stapling, putting in envelopes and finally posting also are part of the job. Naturally I will be prepared to assist who ever takes over the job with any advise they require.

Finally thankyou to all those that have helped over the last two years with the various tasks of collating, stapling and addressing envelopes etc.



Post mill



Smock mill

Trow Editor:

M.J. Powell, "Lamorna", Nympsfield Road, Nailsworth,
Stroud, Glos.

Tel: Nails.2416.

Chairman's Report

Energy sense is common sense "Save it" at least that's what the government are trying to get us to do especially when it comes to fuel saving yet our own authority are still intent on a Cadillac era road building scheme which include large roundabout and bypass for Stroud. This road will have to be constructed on the Thames & Severn Canal at Walbridge. Once this scheme is started I would like to predict the problems of stableising the road bed along the section will be so high all estimates will be shattered beyond ratepayers wildest dreams. Every waterway that has been built upon has proved my point and I am greatly concerned that once started upon the cost to finishing the work will just escalate up and up plunging ever deeper into debt.

The recent storms has proven the value of the canal in this area and if the Walbridge section had not been lowered serious flooding would have occurred. What will happen when the road is there ... water 3 steps up the buses. No come come engineers a little more thought to the scheme please without something like a bottling plant at Bowbridge this water has to be taken care of without simply dumping in the River Frome for another authority to look after. The Stroudwater Canal Society has persistantly advocated a narrower deeper channel along the line of the canal there is space for the road as well, common sense and PLANNING must be exercised.

Firstly in our programme is the Cirencester meeting to be held on 22nd March, 1975. It is imperative you make every effort to attend. We have invited John Humphries chairman of Water Space Amenity Council and Hugh McKnight editor of the magazine Water Space and who gives us an exceptionally frequent mention in Yachting and Boating Weekly. In fact this magazine is often the best guide to this Society's activities in its Calender. Please make every effort to attend this meeting. The Cirencester branch already have a committee and we hope we are able to support them fully on 22nd March.

Secondly May 4th is the date for our 3rd Annual Sponsored Walk and this year we need to double last years figure so please try and double your efforts I know this is difficult for those who were heavily sponsored last year but many people did not bother at all. This event is our major fund raising exercise and if we are able to raise the figure we are talking about then we would be able to implement a complete new approach to restoration which if embarked upon would guarantee a much greater rate of progress. This scheme only needs money so please make the effort if only you do two things for the society this year let them be the endorsement of the Cirencester Branch in March and the Sponsored Walk on May 4th.

As always we need more and more help two people closely connected with the Society are leaving us due to the pressures from their outside employ Mike Powell is giving up editorship of the Trow a job he has done well from the concept of the magazine and Chris Rolands is giving up his gallant task as plant engineer. Replacements who are willing to give us large amounts (all) their spare time are always welcome. We need people to work without supervision using initiative in any task connected with restoration"Are you hiding your light under a bushel?"

BASINGSTOKE VISIT

On January 26th we were kindly invited to view the Basingstoke Canal and discuss the restoration of the waterway with what has now become our good friends at the Surrey and Hampshire Canal Society. Their problems are no where near so serious as ours although for seven years no work was touched on the canal they have been fortunate in getting Hampshire County Council to purchase the canal and very shortly it is thought Surrey County Council will follow - Gloucestershire County Council could learn a thing or two here. Much of the canal (35 miles in length) is heavily silted and they like us could use a purpose built silt remover so come on all you engineers put your thinking caps on for a machine which operates on the crawl and eats mud discharging it onto the bank - it must operate from the bed of the canal.

BI-CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS

For the weekend of 30th May - 1st June, 1975 is 200 years from work starting on the canal link at Framilode - Big Celebrations are planned to coincide with this anniversary including officially opening Bowbridge. You must be there and if you have a boat bring it along as well, the greatest in canal one upmanship - "We have cruised the Thames & Severn Canal".

Please volunteer to help. Organise something - canoes - raft races - greasy pole - skittles - this is the day Stroudwater Canal Society has the weekend off to enjoy the canal. Please be there.

Boat owners please send details to Bob Paget, 2 'Kantara', Bridge St., Cainscross, Stroud, Glos. Craneage will be available at reasonable rates - in and out.

If you have a row boat, sail boat, narrow boat, pontoon, nobby boat, battle cruiser bring it along.

Mike Ayland

COACH TRIP Sponsored by Stroud Rail & Travel Club for March 31st, Easter Monday. This Coach trip will be visiting Loughborough Main Line Steam Trust on the Great Central Railway. The line covers about $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles and there is also some very interesting Motive Power. The same visit will be going to Leicester and the Abbey Industrial Museum where it is promised a steam Beam Engine will be in operation for us. Coach seats are by ticket only - write to "Stroud Rail & Travel Club" Mr J. Dunning, 51 The Beagles, Cashes Green, Stroud.
Adults £1.80 Children £1.20 Deposit 50p

MEMBERSHIP

The Membership is now well over 700 and, I am pleased to report that, several of our newest members are from the Cirencester/Swindon Area. Can we now increase this number to 1000 by the end of this year? We can if each one of us recruits just one more member. Membership Forms always available from me upon request.

It is now certain that we are to face substantial increases in postage, and as we do not wish to increase membership subscriptions or reduce the number of Trows issued, we have decided to save money on postage costs by the following ways:-

1. Renewal notices will be sent with the May Trows to all members whose subscriptions fall due at the end of May and June. July renewal notices will be sent separately and August and September will be sent with August Trows. By continuing in this manner I estimate that we can save considerable postage.
2. New Membership Cards will be sent with the next Trow due after renewal of your subscriptions. If any Member particularly wants his card sooner, then would he please enclose a stamped addressed envelope and the Membership Card will be promptly sent.

Memberships maybe renewed a month before they are due, if this is easier for you to do when you receive your Renewal Notices, and the new year will run from the original expiry date.

There are still a number of Members whose subscriptions were due at the end of December, who have not yet renewed. This evidently has been overlooked, therefore we would very much appreciate your prompt renewal.

Pat Clutterbuck.

Working Party News

With the object of flooding the Bowbridge pound before the Walk (on May 4th this year) the programme of work (shown below) has been drawn up indicating that flooding will start on April 20th. Whether we achieve this date depends entirely on the amount of physical support we get on the towpath. At the moment (end Jan) the dragline is about one week behind schedule due entirely to the very muddy working conditions, but most other jobs are proceeding more or less on time. Next week work will start on Griffin Mill lock clearance to be followed by brickwork repairs.

	JANUARY				FEBRUARY				MARCH					APRIL		
	5	12	19	26	2	9	16	23	2	9	16	23	30	6	13	20
DRAGLINE	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/			
CLEAR LOCK							/	/	/	/	/	/				
BRICKWORK								/	/	/	/	/	/			
REBUILD WEIR			/	/	/	/	/									
REPAIR PADDLES		/	/	/	/	/	/									
BUILD DAM									/	/						
DRAGLINE OUT															/	
FLOOD																/

Those that have walked the towpath lately will have seen work proceeding on the circular weir, but will not have seen work, off site, on new paddle frames in hand at Chalford. Also proceeding well are the lock gates for Griffin now

taking shape in John Bonds garage.

Since the last Trow valuable support has come from Robin Finn of Bownham Park who has made himself responsible for the repair and installation of the paddle gear at Bowbridge. Also, the mysteries of bricklaying have been shattered by Julian Usborne of Chalford who in one day rebuilt the damaged culvert in the circular weir. With support like this we stand some chance of having Bowbridge in water in time for the Walk, but - at the risk of repeating myself yet again - we need more people on the towpath.

During the past few months we have been supported by members of the Cirencester branch who are, at the moment, without their own site. In addition to helping us at Bowbridge the Cirencester gang lead by Pete Boyce have also tidied up Golden Valley Lock and will shortly replace the coping stones at Ryeford Double Lock to complete Phase I of that operation. The Cam House School with us each Sunday morning, now, landscaping without complaint the masses of spoil which the dragline has dumped on the bank.

We also have fairly long term plans - indicating that if all goes well we should finish the Stroud to Brimscombe section by early 76 and will then move on to pastures new.

Whilst, in recent Trows Chris Rowland our Plant Engineer has kept us up to date on our latest plant acquisitions, he modestly omitted to mention that he overhauls and maintains this plant entirely single handed. In a way we are now victims - or at least Chris is - of our own success, having now so much plant that one person can no longer be expected to cope with it. Anyone who fancies tinkering with plant will therefore be welcomed with open arms. It is all basically simple stuff - no previous experience is needed.

Dave Elliott

FUND RAISING

Past Events.

After being booked for more than a year the Caerphilly Male Voice Choir at last came to Stroud on November, 23rd. The waiting proved to be well worth while, as any of the 300 people who attended the concert would agree. Supported by soloists Contralto Marcia Garrett: Tenor David Leyshon Williams: Accompanist Nesta Leyshon Williams: the choir - 76 strong - gave an excellent performance with a programme chosen to suit all tastes. A return visit is planned for the future when we are convinced that they will be singing to a capacity audience.

Exhibition and Sale of Art.

Our second Exhibition - held this year in the more spacious Youth Centre at Minchinhampton - again incorporated the popular Chesse & Wine Party in the evening, but this year included, also, an afternoon session which was very well attended. The Exhibits were of an exceptionally high standard and included this year an even wider range of crafts. The level of sales were much improved over last year, the commission received from these sales, together with other forms of income raised our financial reserves by £80.

Coming Events.

Rummage Sale (date to be arranged) Your rummage welcomed. Contact me or ring Audrey Rogerson on Amberley 2412 for collection.

Dog Show - March 9th, Nailsworth Town Hall,
Schedules from Mrs Roe Brimscombe 2997 or The Retreat.

Sponsored Walk. - This year, Sunday May 4th.
Booklets available from Audrey Rogerson (Amberley 2412) or The Retreat after April 1st.

Waste Paper.

In spite of a recession in the industry (temporary we hope) our Waste Paper business continues to expand to a point where we needed a Committee Member to co-ordinate all aspects of this service. Fortunately Howard Rogerson volunteered for this job - and now finds himself very involved in a job fraught with difficulties but nevertheless financially rewarding. We still need additional support on the waste paper team particularly since our part time driver resigned and we now make our own collections. If you are able to lend a hand - if only occasionally - ring Howard on Amberley 2412.

100 Club.

This type of Club has been very successful with other Societies and we hope to be no exception. Eventually we hope to become, at least, a 200 club but for the time being we are prepared to stick at 100 whilst we sound the market

An application is enclosed with this edition of The Trow, the Subscription being £5. The Club is open to all Stroudwater Canal Society Members.

There will be six draws, one held each month at the Natter & Noggin (first tuesday of each month, The Union Inn, Stroud) starting in May. Each draw will have one prize of £20 and one £10 except the last draw in October when the prize will be £100.

With better odds than a fruit machine, why not have a flutter and raise a bob or two for the funds.

Kites.

We now have for sale amazing acrobatic Kites made locally, and shown several times recently on T.V. These are more than toys and must be seen to be believed. Our price including strings and (70ft) tail £3.40 plus p.p. 20p.

Anne Elliott

STROUDWATER CANAL SOCIETY

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31ST OCTOBER 1974

1973

INCOME

227	Donations		356
1360	Proceeds of Fund Raising		3266
-	Interest received		50
<u>394</u>	Membership Subscriptions	555	<u>3672</u>
	<u>LESS: GENERAL EXPENDITURE</u>		
126	Printing and Distribution of the Trow	224	
90	Postages, Stationery and Membership Forms	81	
9	Subscription	3	
8	Insurance	10	
39	Advertising and Exhibition Costs	47	
7	Hire of Rooms for meetings	-	
-	Bank Charges	<u>2</u>	
<u>279</u>			<u>367</u>
<u>115</u>			<u>188</u>
<u>1702</u>			<u>3860</u>

RESTORATION

113	Materials for work on canal and plant running costs	876	
30	Professional surveys and maps	27	
99	Feasibility Report	-	
-	Depreciation of Plant and Machinery	<u>1377</u>	
<u>242</u>			<u>2280</u>
<u>£1460</u>	Excess of Income over Expenditure for the year		<u>£1580</u>

PTO

STROUDWATER CANAL SOCIETY
BALANCE SHEET 31ST OCTOBER 1974

<u>1973</u>	<u>FIXED ASSETS</u>	<u>COST</u>	
	Plant:-		
400	Priestman Dragline Excavator	400	
	Monorail	440	
	Dumper Truck	99	
	Jones Crane	121	
	Baler	70	
30	Winches	55	
	'Sheen' Powerscythe	92	
	<u>Motor Vehicle:-</u> Austin Van	28	
43	<u>General:-</u> Display Stands	43	
	Typewriter	30	
473		<u>1378</u>	
	Depreciation	<u>1377</u>	1
	 <u>CURRENT ASSETS</u>		
	<u>Cash</u> In Hand	10	
	At Bank - current account	248	
	- deposit account	1807	
	At Stroud Building Society	<u>289</u>	
1056			2354
4	Sundry Debtors		518
34	Stocks at cost		<u>306</u>
<u>1094</u>			<u>3178</u>
	 <u>LESS: CURRENT LIABILITIES</u>		
3	Bank Overdraft		-
<u>104</u>	Sundry Creditors		<u>139</u>
987			3039
<u>£1460</u>	<u>NET ASSETS</u>		<u>£3040</u>
	Represented by General Fund		
	Balance 31st October 1973		1460
	Excess of Income over Expenditure for the year		<u>1580</u>
			<u>£3040</u>

I have examined the foregoing accounts with the books and vouchers of the Society and in my opinion they correctly disclose the true state of affairs.

Quinton Cottage,
Kitesnest Lane,
Whiteshill,
Stroud, Glos.

A.G. SLINGSBY
Chartered Accountant

3rd December, 1974

STROUDWATER - THAMES AND SEVERN CROSSWORD NO.1

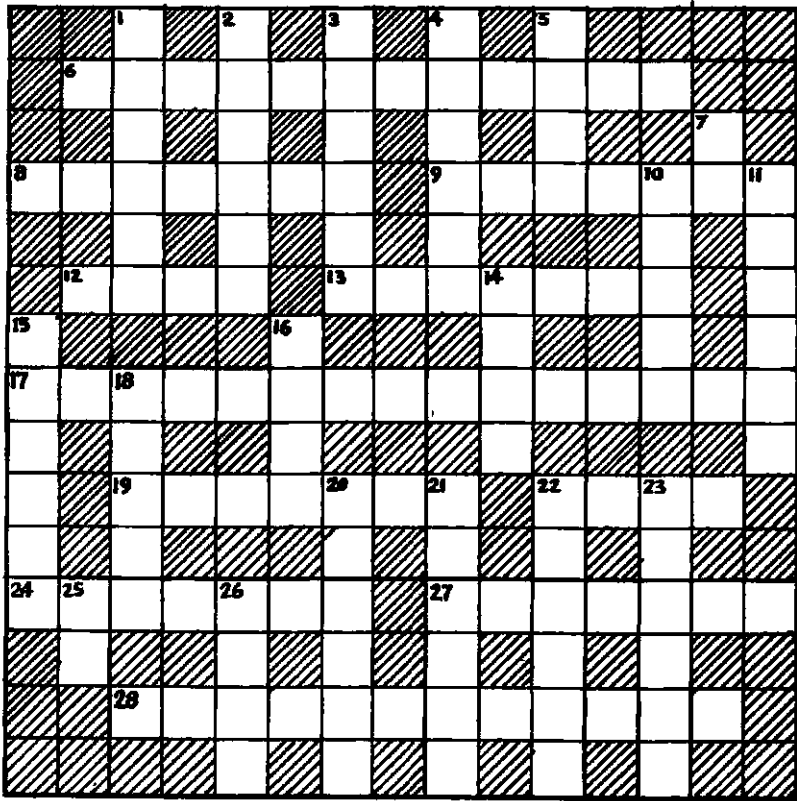
Clues - Across

6. Brimming with Gaelic talk, round-tabler nearly gave one a squeeze in the dark. (7.5)
8. Route follows judo expert (oriental)? Could be the end of one! (7)
9. East Midlands newsmen donate 24. (7)
12. Article the French supplied to pour down canals?(7)
13. Right, you - the president's here! At the double!(7)
17. Cut the "Sandman" verse. (6,3,6)
19. To spot a "sitter", go quietly on horseback. (7)
22. Spirits on ice will put one through the mill. (4)
24. Doctor by the bank has the right to perform extractions. (7)
27. Found on lock in gaol? No, the exact opposite!(3,4)
28. Glove found beside the Lyn, in the dale. (6,6)

Clues - Down

1. Let nun go underground. (6)
2. Novice in regatta causes appearance of engineer.(6)
3. At No.23 he settles the bill, and right too. (6)
4. Hard for a river to change direction. (6)
5. Use a small screw for support. (4)
7. Return of holy man (only seventeen, initially).(1,1)
10. Supply directions - then receive the toll. (5)
11. Helps to cover the bed, though inside it. (6)
14. Pilot for Hitler's elite? One way to the summit!(4)
15. Go to town on a canal with no water. (6)
16. We show M.J.P. what a canal should be! (4)
18. Help paddles rise inside - in Orchard Lock? (5)
20. Land near the canal is in this state because of half the Thames and B.R., we hear. (6)
21. Ring placed in wood to hold planks. (6)
22. Water retains water. (6)
23. The Spanish fellow redesigns a lock. (6)
25. Painter for boat? (2)
26. Aim for "The Archers", but find part of one of "The Dales" (4)

Stroudwater, Thames & Severn Canal Crossword No~ 1



Compiled by "PHRED" of Wells, Somerset.
(Solution in next edition)

Cirencester Branch — — Now Launched

Since the issue of the last "Trow" the Cirencester Branch Sub-Committee has come into operation and is now under the chairmanship of Mr. P. Boyce. This Branch has been instigated in order that the Society can make a concentrated effort at both ends of the canal (or both sides of the tunnel) without the need for constant travel over long journeys. For those members who live East of the Sapperton Tunnel, there is now a locally organised work team whose main aim, at the moment, is set out in the "survey" below. The Branch Committee has had several meetings during the last month or two and hope to really get to grips with the planned projects starting with a Public Meeting to be held in Cirencester Market Hall on Saturday evening March 22nd.

For the time being the Cirencester Working Party has done valuable work at Ryeford Double Lock near Stonehouse. The job in hand entails the re-positioning of some Lock coping stones. Useful work has also been done by the same working party, on landscaping the "dredged" spoil at Bowbridge.

The Noggin and Natter sessions for the Branch are held on the Third Tuesday in each month at the "Plough Inn" on the Gloucester Road out of Cirencester.

SURVEY As mentioned earlier the Cirencester Branch has, as it's main aim, to compile a list of all existing structures, equipment and obstacles along the line of the Thames & Severn Canal from Sapperton Tunnel to Inglesham, so that the present state of the navigation may be assessed and its assets listed. - All the individual forms will be collected together, cross checked and compiled to produce a final list. To obtain your form - write to - Mr C. Povey, 31 London Rd, Tetbury enclosing a return stamped & addressed envelope or 5p in stamps.

Cirencester Contact - Pete Boyce - Swindon 693731

Stroudwater Chat

Gloucestershire County Council has donated to the society the large gates at Walbridge No. 2 Lock. They will need repair but should fit into Griffins Mill.

---00---

Stolen.....A fine collection of Lace Edge plates belonging to a member were stolen from his boat in Gloucester Docks. Anyone being offered any from a suspicious source should let the Society know. This is part of several thefts from boats in the area so remember to take valuables home and lock up your motors.

---00---

Lost at BowbridgeTreasurer - last seen burying himself under a scoop full of mud - believed to be valuable his pockets are usually full of money collected from various sources!!

---00---

Bristol Harbour Regatta & Rally of boats will be held again this year on June 28-29, 1975. Further details from F.C. Blampied, Asst. Publicity Officer, 192 Wellsway, Keynsham, Bristol. BS18 1JC. Tel:Keynsham 2229

---00---

The Society should soon take on the status of a Trust as all the details are nearly complete.

---00---

BATTERIES....BATTERIES...BATTERIES.....
Old car batteries still wanted - contact - A.Elliott,
The Retreat, Amberley, Stroud, Glos.

---00---

PUBLICITY

This Section is now letting itself down because of one fact. Sadly it is once again that the same old faces are putting in the most effort, and once again we are crying out for new blood, working in this section is not time consuming or hard, it is sheer numbers we need to make it easier for everyone concerned.

If you would like to help in anyway and there are lots of ways i.e. Manning Show Stands, News Bulletin Distribution, just putting the name of the Stroudwater Canal Society into the eye of the general public. Then come along to the Black Horse, Amberley on Thursday March 20th for a general chat about how YOU can help.

If you are keen to help and cannot make this date then contact either John Stephens, Stonehouse 2101, or Reg Beagley Cheltenham 33837. REG BEAGLEY

--000--

Collectors Corner

Browsing through some old newspaper clippings the other day, looking for information about the Stroud Workhouse, I came across an interesting snippet of information dated 9.3.1973, regarding two sisters who lived locally and were well known for thier artistic paintings. The sisters, Rose and Mabel Smith painted many pictures of our local canal but more surprisingly painted pictures of every single hump back bridge between Saul and the Sapperton Tunnel. What a collection that little lot would make. Doubtless very few will still remain within the district, but as a matter of general interest we should like to hear from anybody who may know of the whereabouts of any of these pictures.

- 'phone John Stephens - Stonehouse 2101.

(For the above information I am indebted to Bill Fowler and his "Friday Column" in the Citizen.

JOHN STEPHENS

Canal Tales

by Frank Gardiner of Cainscross

My father was one of the last boatmen to use the Stroudwater and Thames & Severn Canal delivering steam coal to Stroud Brewery in 1933 - 1934 before the first world war. As a lad of 12 years he went to work on the longboats with his father sometimes taking a load of stone from Framilode to Lechlade, the boat being drawn by two donkeys. Upon reaching Sapperton Tunnel my father's job was to take the donkeys from the tunnel entrance at Daneweay overland through Hailey Wood to the other end of the canal tunnel at Tunnel House near the village of Coates. He would then wait the arrival of the boat emerging from the tunnel, having been "legged" through by his father and mate. They then proceeded through Ewen, Siddington and South Cerney to Lechlade. Bringing back with them a return load of gravel or timber. After the 1914-18 war he returned to Chalford and the canal boats again, working for J.H. Smart and Sons boat merchants at Chalford. This time fetching house coal from Cannock Chase in the Midlands via Berkeley and Sharpness canal, river Severn and Worcester and Staffordshire canals, each journey taking approx 3 weeks.

His next employer was E.T. Ward and Son of Stroud with whom he stayed until about 1933 when coal hauling was more or less taken over by road and very little left for canal work. The years spent with E.T. Ward consisted of trips to Sharpness, loading with 36-38 tons of steam coal for the numerous factories between Ebley and Brimscombe Basin. Every so often a trip to Stourport-on-Severn for a load of red sand for Wallers Foundry was undertaken leaving Stroud (Walbridge) and arriving at the Saul Junction off the Berkeley Canal where a toll had to be paid before proceeding to Gloucester Docks where the mule was stabled until the return journey next morning entering through the main lock into the river Severn and joining the queue of boats waiting to be towed up river by the tug boats Victor or Active to Worcester and Stourport. The boat was then bow-hauled up the Stourport canal for 2 miles to a quarry of red sand where the boat was loaded by dram. Then return by reverse procedure to Gloucester where the mule was fetched from the

stable and the journey back to Ham Mill where the sand was unloaded into carts and delivered to Wallers Foundary. It was the usual practice when unloading to employ two men usually from the Labour exchange to help in the unloading and these were known as hoblors and were paid by my father and his mate from their wages.

Very often in my school holidays I would sail with my father on some of his trips as he called them sometimes steering the boat and sometimes walking behind the mule or donkeys. I remember one trip my father rode me on the bar of his bicycle from our home at Chalford to Stroud. We collected the mule from the stables in Swan Lane and took him down to the canal at Walbridge where the boat was moored. We hitched the tow line to the mule and set off down the canal on our voyage to Sharpness for a load of steam coal for Baileys Paint Factory. I was steering the boat and my father was on the towing path driving the mule. When we had got as far as Ebley my father went on ahead to open a swing bridge whereupon the mule took it into his head that he had decided he did not want to work that morning and turned tail and galloped back the way he had come, all the way to Walbridge and up through the town centre back to the stables with about 60 foot of tow line behind him. So my father had to leave me and the boat tied to the trees on the canal bank whilst he went all the way back to Stroud to collect our only means of propulsion.

A gang of 6-8 men were employed permanently on canal maintenance. My uncle being one of them and he lived in one of the company's round houses i.e.(lock keepers cottage) at Chalford. Their job was to keep the canal free of weeds etc and maintenance of lock gates and swing bridges. To cut the weeds a kind of scythe was used with a rope at each end and a man on each bank of the canal and with a see-sawing motion cut the weeds as they moved along the stretch of canal. Following behind were 2 more men with wooden rakes attached to a length of rope who were raking the loose weeds on to the bank. They also cut the grass along the canal tow-path destroying numerous wasp nests at the same time.

Book Review

BOOK REVIEW Another book from our good friend John Poole of Saul Adam fame this time instead of being historical is a current factual account of his venturing about the canals on the narrow boats "Barrhead" and "Venus". This is a delightful book and has all the intricacy and accuracy that made Saul Adam so well worth reading. Of course for Stroudwater Canal Society Members there is a section devoted to an exploration of the Thames & Severn last year when the tow path to Daneway was being restored.

This book is well worth the price which by today's standards is a cheap £1.50 - NARROWBOAT VENTURE - by John Pool published by Thornhill Press. The book will be published in March, 1975.

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Stroud Library which are constantly interested in our activities have very nicely gone to the trouble of letting us know that two new canal books are in stock these are:- "Narrow Boat Painting" - Lewery
"Waterways Restored". - Ranson.

Many thanks Stroud Library.

CANAL HISTORY EXHIBITION

A large exhibition of canal relics, photographs, maps and other items will be on display in the Mortimer Room at the Nailsworth Public Library some time during the month of March. Items will be from the Society Archives and some objects from the Teachers Centre Stroud. This is a follow up to our display which has been on show in the "Hastings & Thanet Building Society" window in King Street, Stroud. ---Anyone who has any items which they consider would be of use to this display at Nailsworth should contact - The Nailsworth Library Staff as soon as possible.

Sales Items

BOOKS:

- The Thames & Severn Canal - by Humphrey Household
price £3.25
A Short History of the Narrow Boat by Tom Chaplin
price 50p
Canals & Canal Architecture by John Vince
price 30p

BALL-POINT PENS: Stroudwater Canal Society stamped
3 for 10p

THAMES & SEVERN MAPS: Reproduced from Old Map
60p & 17 p.p.

GLASS TANKARD $\frac{1}{2}$ PT: Stroudwater Canal Society Emblem
engraved. £2.50 inc. p.p.

PHOTOGRAPHS:

The Society has now produced a set of Picture
postcards, the titles of which are set out below:-

1. Ryeford Double Lock L.H. View.
2. Chalford Bell Lock.
3. Ryeford Double Lock R.H. View.
4. "Windsor" at Brimscombe. 1888
5. Brimscombe Port Buildings.
6. "Nellie" at Eastington Wharf.
7. "Gloster" trcw at Saul Junction.
8. Tunnel Portal, Sapperton End.
9. Tunnel Portal, Coates End.
10. The Canal at Ebley.

The complete set of ten is available from the
Sales department - Mr. G.Pegler, Bourne Nurseries,
Brimscombe, Stroud. Price 75p per set. Pictures
are available individually at 8 pence each.

There are only a limited amount of sets avail-
able with the wording "Stroudwater Canal Society"
on them as the wording will soon be changed to
"Stroudwater, Thames and Severn Canal Trust Ltd".

ACROBATIC KITES: See Fund Raising Page.
Price £3.40 & 20p p.p.

Stroudwater

Whilst browsing through some dusty old books in the Stroud Library the other day, I chanced to come upon a few lines of verse, suitable for the Trow or worse!

The Poem or Monologue was penned by W. Lawrence in 1824 and printed by J.P. Brisley at the Stroudwater Steam Printing Works, High Street, Stroud. Five selected verses tell of placid days on our revered waterway when the canal was still a young transport route.

A smooth canal runs through the level plain,
Whose limpid waters divers fish sustain,
The sun's warm beams contented they receive,
And sportive play from morn till dusky eve.

From rapid Severn to the town of Stroud,
Laden with goods, the vessels daily crowd;
The hardy Trowmen, vigorous, stout, and strong,
Bend with the rope and haul the barge along.

But when they are favour'd with a western gale,
They quit the rope, and briskly hoist the sail;
Releas'd from toil, well pleas'd they march behind,
And view the streamer shiv'ring in the wind.

From Wallbridge Wharf, thro' rocks, a new land
Was cut, that Stroud in commerce might excel;
But it's rude progress I shall only trace,
To Chalford, now a noted place.

But turning now from this romantic glen,
Where horses drag the Trows instead of men,
I merely take a glance at Brimscombe Port,
A mart for coals and goods of every sort.

John Stephens.

Events

MARCH 4th - NOGGIN AND NATTER - COTSWOLD BAR,
UNION INN, STROUD. (Informal evening
where members and committee can drink
and chat)

MARCH 9th - DOG SHOW - NAILSWORTH TOWN HALL - see
page 10 for details.

MARCH 17th, 21st, 24th & 28th
MARKET STALL - The Society display
stand will occupy a space in Ciren-
cester market before and after the
public meeting. Volunteers are needed
to man it a.m. & p.m. - contact P.Boyce

MARCH 18th - SOCIAL EVENING - PLOUGH INN, GLOUCESTER
ROAD, CIRENCESTER (Come along and
catch up with the news etc) 8.00pm.

MARCH 22nd - PUBLIC MEETING - CIRENCESTER MARKET
HALL 8PM

MARCH 31st - COACH TRIP - Stroud Rail & Travel Club
- see page 6 for details.

APRIL 1st - NOGGIN AND NATTER - UNION INN, STROUD.

APRIL 15th - SOCIAL EVENING - PLOUGH INN, CIRENCESTER

MAY 4th - ANNUAL SPONSORED WALK - see page 10.

MAY 6th - NOGGIN AND NATTER again. UNION INN, STROUD

MAY 20th - SOCIAL EVENING - PLOUGH INN, CIRENCESTER.

JUNE 28th - BOAT TRIP - Afternoon boat trip from
Gloucester - further details from
Tony Bradford - Brimscombe 3786.