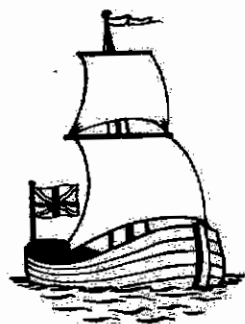


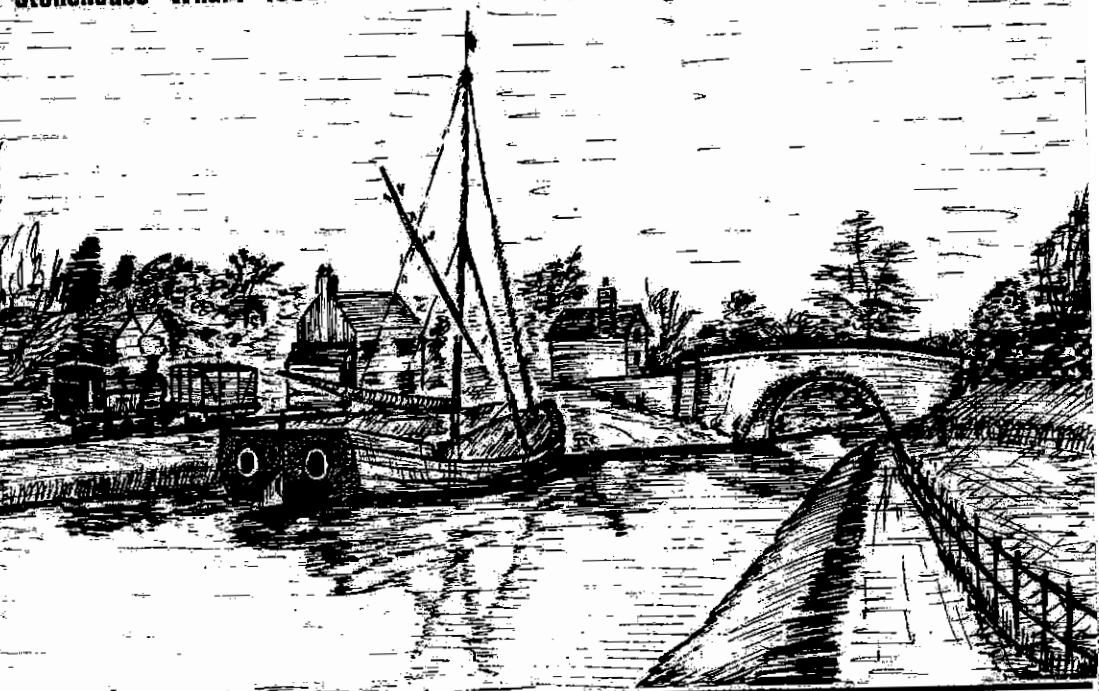
THE TROW



The Official Magazine for members of
the Canal Trust.

Stonehouse Wharf 1900

J. H. Stephens



DECEMBER 1979 No. 28

*Stroudwater, Thames & Severn
Canal Trust Limited*

10p.

THE TROW

The Official Magazine for members of
the Canal Trust.



No.28 December 1979.

Editorial

Sometimes, when reading editorials in other magazines, I am struck by the enormous amount of space they are allowed in which to put over their views on every subject under the sun. I read one the other day (not a canal or water-ways magazine, I hasten to add), in which the erudite gentleman concerned filled $3\frac{1}{2}$ pages out of a 12-page magazine with his pontifications, and even managed to mention the subject of the magazine for about two lines. To be fair, the rest of the publication was very uninteresting, and he was probably suffering from lack of contributions from the membership. I am sure the same thing will not happen to us, but just in case, please keep sending in your party pieces, whether general articles, letters, complaints or whatever, which will save me having to fill this page with waffle. You will notice I don't mention praise or thanks - this is unthinkable of course - people only write to complain, and on the odd occasion when the Trust does come up with some results the silence is deafening!

A reminder that the last Members' Evening at The Railway Hotel, Stroud, for this year is on Wednesday 12th December. Why not come along and find out the latest news on the Trust? The meetings are held in the Dining Room, so any members who may not be too keen on licensed premises need have no fears. Similarly, anyone who fancies the odd half-pint will not have far to walk.

The other usual reminder - contributions for the next Trow must be in my hands by 10th February next to ensure publication. With the exception of the Plant Engineer, who is always first with his piece (Voice from the rear: "Creep!"), the contributions are getting later and later, and I find it increasingly difficult to plan the layout unless I have everything by the due date. In the next issue I shall leave blank spaces showing the names of the offenders!

And a Merry Christmas to you all.

Ron Nott.

REQUIRED Mechanically-minded persons to put into roadworthy condition:

1. Ford Transit 35cwt van for sales and light haulage duties.
2. BMC 70FG flatbed lorry with petrol engine for heavier haulage.

Please lend a hand if you can by contacting Alan Jones (Stroud 78656) or David Boakes (Gloucester 740525) or any other council member.

WE NEED YOUR HELP

Secretary's Report

Since my last report there has been a period of extensive activity within the Trust, both directed towards restoration and social activities, some of which have been heartening, whilst others have caused disappointment to their organisers.

Things started off very well with the Gloucester Packet trip, when a full boat load of members and friends had a very pleasant afternoon trip down to Sharpness and back under the guidance of Captain Balderstone and his mother. Already it has been suggested that a trip from Saul Junction to Gloucester Docks and back be organised for next season. Details later.

The fourth Annual General Meeting, which was attended by approximately 40 members, was held at Stroud Subscription Rooms on Saturday 29th September, when the Trust activities and its present and future plans were explained and discussed. The successful operation with the Stroudwater Proprietors and its implications were explained, together with a long discussion on the implications of the proposed County Council's plans for the lowering of Daneway Bridge, together with the Trust's involvement. From the discussions it became obvious that the Trust's future was dependent on the greater involvement of the membership in both on and off the Canal activities. A presentation was made to Bill Evill of a commemorative horse brass to mark his unflinching devotion to duty on the Canals.

The new slimline Council for the coming year will comprise:

David Boakes, Ken Burgin, Alan Jones,
David Pillinger, Michael Reynolds, John Stephens,
Richard Veevers, Jon Willis

The planned Olde Fashioned Saturday Afternoon failed to attract sufficient interest, despite Mr. Michael Glenn's kind offer of his ground at Ryeford for the venue, and had to be cancelled.

The annual Minchinhampton Arts & Craft Exhibition, despite the considerable involvement and work of the organisers, together with the excellent range of goods by the exhibitors, was poorly supported. The most disappointing aspect being the lack of membership attendance, although it was widely advertised - see the back page of the September Trow. Luckily a small profit was made but the exhibitors' confidence in the Trust's strength was somewhat undermined. Our thanks, however, to all those who attended and assisted.

Daneway Bridge

Both those resident locally and subscribers to the National Waterways Journals should be aware of the threat to the Daneway Causeway and Bridge. Briefly, there has been a failure of the Causeway due to a combination of water seepage and vehicular loading, which has led Gloucestershire County Council to propose demolishing and lowering both the Causeway and Canal Bridge, effectively blocking the canal to full restoration in this fascinating area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

The Trust has been co-operating with the local Parish Councils and Amenity Groups to persuade the County Council to rethink their plans and retain the present status of the Bridge and Causeway. This combined action has culminated in the "Spot Listing" of the Bridge as a Grade II Building of Architectural or Historic Interest, which cannot now be altered without the approval of the Secretary of State for the Environment. This is the present situation, which will be continuously monitored by the Trust and its colleagues as events come to their notice.

At the time of the publication of the September Trow whilst discussions were taking place the situation was so fluid that information was rapidly out of date, but a current picture was given at the Trust Annual General Meeting.

Calling those East of the Tunnel

A steering committee has been formed to investigate the setting up of a Group based on Fairford. Anyone interested in its activities should contact Mrs. Sue Hilton of Church Road, Meysey Hampton, telephone Poulton 256, who will give you full details.

The Coming Year

May I ask you on behalf of the Trust Council, that we might see or hear from you during the coming year, and that you make an effort to assist the Trust in some way to achieve its objectives. At present we need help both physically in plant and canal restoration, and also urgently with raising funds to ensure our work progresses at an economic rate.

If you feel you can help in any way please contact initially any Council Member, who will be happy to guide you.



T R U S T G R A N D D R A W

With your last TROW all of you received four books of tickets for the Grand Draw, and the following winners' tickets were drawn from a mini concrete mixer kindly loaned by Freeway Plant Sales at the Arts and Crafts Exhibition on 10th November.

<u>Ticket No.</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Prize</u>
O05394	P. Holden, c/o Bryce Berger	£100
O09457	Robinson, Bidmead, Bisley, Stroud	£ 50
O00848	G. R. Wood, 124 Winton Road, Reading, Berks.	£ 25
O09239	P. Clifford Fulmer Cottage, Hyde, Stroud	£ 5
O03512	Mrs. Chater, Mavie, Moor Street, Saul, Glos.	£ 5
O01755	Mrs. Pugh, 10 Vanner Road, Witney, Oxon.	£ 5
O12685	D. Mann, Milton, Chalford Hill	£ 5
O23156	J. Cross, 59 Slad Road, Stroud	£ 5
O10945	Lord Greenwood of Rossendale	3 wooden egg cups ex Bill Benton

The profit of approximately £285 is being utilised to purchase and refurbish a suction pump which will be used for lock drainage, initially at Newtown Lock.

Our thanks to all those members who participated in this fund raising scheme, which was the most widely supported venture ever known by the Trust. The response, especially of those formerly unknown members who kept requesting more and more tickets, was very heartening, and we hope you all enjoyed selling tickets.

To those of you who unfortunately didn't win, how about taking another chance next year.



Working Party Reports

COATES. The major event of the last few months at Coates has been the working weekend in September when we managed to complete the repairs to the Round House Stop Groove area, and to start to tidy up the area covered by our Licence. Many thanks to those who worked or volunteered and it was good to see a few different faces - but where were the rest of you active enthusiasts?

For the future, it has now been agreed with the Bathurst Estate as to the placement of a concrete dam below the Round House, which should be near completion by the time that you read this article. The one remaining major item will then be the fixing of a grille inside the tunnel entrance, but this awaits the availability of Trust funds before progress beyond the design stage is made, as the cost is estimated at about £400.

I hope that early in the New Year we will be talking to the Bathurst Estate about the terms and conditions for future care and maintenance of the site which will always be needed, as with all other parts of the waterway. The task will not be too onerous as work parties will be organised to deal with any major problems that occur. I hope that someone somewhere will be prepared to keep Coates looking in good shape, especially the area immediately round the Tunnel Portal. This job does not, I anticipate, require the full-time service of any one person, and might well suit someone living at a distance but who would wish to pay the occasional visit.

I should be very pleased to hear from anyone who is interested in Coates future in this respect and will be pleased to answer any questions. Tools will be available from Trust stocks as required, of course.

Note to all our would-be Volunteers:- Transport is often available from many parts of the area to our work sites along the canal - please enquire from one of the Organisers if you are interested.

MONTGOMERY CANAL Several of our intrepid Navvies are hoping to arrange a working weekend over the border on 'the Welsh Canal' sometime early next year in conjunction with other Canal Groups - if you are interested in coming along then please contact your local working party organiser for more details.

DAVID PILLINGER
8 Churchward Avenue,
Swindon, Wilts.
Tel: Swindon 32524

A Resolution for the New Year? "I may not be able to give much active support to the Trust, but I will try to recruit at least one new member during 1980"

* * * * *

CERNEY WICK. The walls at the head of Cerney Wick Lock should be complete with coping stones by early December. The dead elms felled during last winter are now out of the way. An impressive notice describing the canal and towpath has now been erected at the Spine Road Tourist Information lay-by by the Wiltshire County Council. This lay-by has toilets and is located next to the canal. It makes an ideal base for exploring the South Cerney -

Working Party Reports - continued

Cerney Wick sections of canal by boat. The Trust is hoping to expand its activities in the Thames to Waterpark length of canal not only in terms of worksites but also in fund-raising, publicity, etc. It seems likely that a branch committee will be set up to dissipate the work load and to get more people involved. More news of this in the next edition of the 'Trow'. If, however, you cannot wait that long, drop me a s.a.e. and I will forward you the latest news.

There will be a working party at Cerney Wick on Saturday December 8th (10 am till dark) and on Sunday December 9th (1 pm till dark). This will probably exhaust the work suitable for winter, so further working parties during January and February will depend on a new section of canal becoming available. Contact me for details nearer the time.

It is with sadness that I have to report the death of George of 'The Crown' at Cerney Wick. George had lived in the area for a very long time and remembered boats on the eastern part of the Thames & Severn up until the early 1920's. We all enjoyed listening to his tales of days gone by, and he enjoyed listening to our ideas on canal restoration. He will be missed by all who knew him.

KEN BURGIN
3 Gas Lane,
Cricklade, Wilts
SN6 6BY

* * * * *

STROUD The summer months have seen definite progress but not without the usual problems.

The summer camp in July/August was on the whole successful but the progress hoped for was unfortunately not achieved due to a variety of problems. The major advance was one of recognising these problems and making provisions to overcome them. We now have on site the monorail (its first working role) and the Priestman Wolf, with the cam shell grab fitted, in a state of readiness for clearing Newtown Lock.

Since the work camp steady progress has been made with such jobs as bricklaying, tree stump clearance and of course the continuing undergrowth clearance, which was tackled by parties from London W.R.G., Wycliffe College and Bristol University. Now that winter is with us once more the main task, from now until Spring, will be one of undergrowth clearance on the Eastington section of the Stroudwater. Up to press we are still on target for completion of our original commitment by next Spring, that is if the next 6 months are as successful as the last 12.

I have in past 'Trows' appealed for help and this edition is to be no exception, but on this occasion I have listed below the jobs we are hoping to tackle in the near future, given sufficient labour, in order of priority:-

1. Clearing far bank between Newtown and Blunder Lock.
2. Trees and undergrowth from around the Roving Bridge.
3. Finish clearing towpath between Newtown Lock and Bridge.
4. Lopping overhanging branches upstream from the Bridge.
5. Lock clearance with the crane and monorail.

Working Party Reports - continued

If you are interested in helping shorten this list please come along to Eastington on any of the following dates:-

9th December	6th January	3rd February	2nd March
23rd December	20th January	17th February	16th March
			30th March

JON WILLIS
Tel: Gloucester 416694

PLANT REPORT

Since the dredger was paraded at Stroud Show this year, reasonable progress has been made towards its completion. Only the interior of the cab remains to be repainted, rewiring is nearly complete and the majority of the remaining work is refitting of hydraulic hoses and units. The winches have been completely rebuilt and re-sited on the machine - these will be used to position the dredger laterally in the canal and possibly also to remove small trees etc. which have overgrown the canal banks.

Some of you may have noticed the hydraulic monorail in use on the canal at Eastington. The matching towed skip unit may be moved to that site to help in silt removal from Newtown Lock when room is available in the shed - damage by vandalism has already put our other power unit out of use, necessitating minor repairs, so all small plant will be kept under cover in future.

We have three other pressing jobs on plant which are taking second place in order to complete the dredger. Our 3-ton flatbed lorry requires making roadworthy. This is basically a sound vehicle and will be used in place of the blue boxvan we now use. Our 35cwt. Ford Transit requires a short engine fitting and a few minor repairs - this will be used for Sales work when required and light haulage at other times. Lastly, our 6" capacity centrifugal water pump on a chassis requires overhauling.

We are therefore seeking members with a mechanical interest to put these items into good order - if you will help on Sundays, or Thursday evenings, or any other agreeable time, please ring me or another council member - we need your help!

ALAN JONES
Tel: Stroud 78656

LOST at the Trust A.G.M. One pair of black kid gloves.
Small reward and postage paid if returned to Mrs. Davidson,
8 Ingram Street, Malmesbury, Wiltshire.

NEW EASTERN BRANCH

Prompted by good attendances at the now quarterly meetings at The Spotted Cow Inn, and increased activity at the Thames end of the Thames & Severn, a local branch with a small steering committee has been formed, to encourage local membership and interest in the area. Future activities will include local fund-raising (first event being the Christmas Bazaar at Fairford on December 15th), public meetings including up-to-date information and slide shows, plus of course new restoration projects.

The next Spotted Cow meeting will be held on 14th January, when the first few minutes will be taken up with the election of a full branch committee, followed by a talk on the history of the Thames & severn Canal, illustrated with slides, given by the Curator of the Cirencester Museum, Mr. David Viner.

The lunatics on the Steering Committee are as follows:-

Chairman & Working Party Organiser - Ken Burgin, 3 Gas Lane, Cricklade

Secretary/Fund Raiser - Sue Hilton, Nettledown, Church Street, Meysey Hampton, Cirencester. Tel: Poulton 256.

Treasurer - Chris Hall.

Other members include Mr. A. Barlow and Mr. P. May.

Any members in the area who would like to get tangled up with the above activities, please contact any of the above.

SUE HILTON.

* * * * *

NOTICE TO ALL MEMBERS BETWEEN CIRENCESTER AND LECHLADE:-

Help is urgently required in all fields of work from manual labour to displaying the odd poster now and again.

Please don't be put off by the cold weather - I can find many things to be done while sitting by the fire in the evenings. Could you perhaps make us something for our white elephant stall at the Christmas Bazaar in Fairford on December 15th, or even man a stall - but at least come and support us.

Contact Sue Hilton on Poulton 256 if you can help in any capacity.

SITUATION VACANT

Our member, Barry Balderstone, would like to hear from someone interested in bicycles and cycling, as well as canals and boats, in connection with a possible project in the Cirencester area which could benefit Trust funds. Write to him at 18 Meysey Close, Meysey Hampton, Cirencester GL7 5LL, or telephone Poulton 529.



Readers' Letters

Letters to the editor are welcome, but they should be as brief as possible. We reserve the right to shorten letters for reasons of space. Where possible, please give a day-time telephone number.

Dear Sir,

Having just read the September 'Trow' I would like to point out what appears to be an error on page 5. Surely the 'Passing Thought' should read:- "With perseverance and faith any obstacle can be locked over, circumnavigated or tunneled through"?

7 Southview,
Foxmoor Lane,
Ebley, Stroud, Glos

Yours sincerely,
J.M.Barnard

Dear Mr.Nott,

You ask for comments on the inclusion of cartoons etc to fill up odd spaces in the 'Trow'. Obviously, hard news and comment must take precedence, but these can make dull reading and the inclusion of lighter material will help to make the whole thing more interesting. I say this, of course, as one whose contact with the Trust's activities is almost entirely through the pages of your magazine owing to distance and general decrepitude.

Having made my plea for a bit of fun in the approach to restoration, I'm still not sure whether I dare send you some verses I started concocting. They began:-

There was a girl of Framilode,
And she was very pigeon-toed,
She left strange footprints when it snowed
In Sapperton or Stroud.

It is perhaps as well that I have forgotten how it continued!

126 Shenley Fields Road,
Selly Oak,
Birmingham B29

Best wishes,
Stanley G.Holland

Dear Mr.Nott,

If you will permit me to add my 'fourpenn'orth' to the recent controversy over whether humorous drawings etc should be a regular part of 'Trow' presentation; I should hate to think that the initials of our Trust must also stand for 'Strictly Technical And Suppress Cheerful Themes'. Your first-class results as Editor stem from the widest range of items at your disposal, always having an underlying waterways theme, but with accent on Trust waters, which is how it should be. Perhaps the following will adequately sum up for me:-

To the path of restoration it is difficult to keep,
For the cost in time and money we all know is never cheap.
Strive to utilise each asset, for the project is worthwhile,
But retain a sense of humour; it costs nothing when we smile.

58 Sinclair Avenue,
Banbury, Oxon

Yours sincerely,
Clive F.Drew

Readers' Letters continued

Sir,

As the Director of the Water Space Amenity Commission has gone to the rather surprising trouble of recommending in your columns a certain document concerned with the distant Derwent, I think your readers should be informed that the document in question emanates from a very small group named Consyder, which, it is fair to say, is primarily preoccupied with restricting all boating on our river, and, in particular, all power craft. More specifically: if the views of Consyder prevail (which is unlikely), there will be no further restoration. Upon the principle involved, it is doubtful whether there need be any serious conflict between boating and the interests of naturalists; on the Derwent, on the Thames and Severn, or anywhere else.

Yours very truly,

Robert Aickman
Chairman, The Yorkshire Derwent
Trust Ltd., 12 Gledhow Gardens,
London, S.W.5.

Dear Mr. Nott,

As some Trust readers will already be aware I am thinking of producing a photographic history of the Stroudwater, Thames & Severn Canals in about 1981, both to complement David Viner's excellent booklet and also to make some recently discovered photographs available to the public.

Could I ask anyone who has any good photographs of either canal - ancient or modern - to get in touch with me? Similarly, I would be glad to hear from anyone who knows where I might locate such photographs if they do not have them themselves.

Studio Flat,
52 Park Street,
Bristol BS1 5JN

Kind regards,
Mike Handford

Dear Ron,

I was astonished that the last issue of the Trow contained not a single reference to Daneway Bridge. At the time of going to press, this must surely have been the most serious threat on the whole Canal, but the Trow would have us believe that the Council are unaware of the problem or, at least, are not prepared to tell the membership of the situation.

I sincerely hope that not only is the Trust in serious consultation with Gloucestershire County Council but that its Consultant Engineers, Freeman Fox Braine & Partners, are preparing alternative schemes and costs as a matter of urgency.

(Continued at foot of next page)

Book Review

BRITAIN'S LOST WATERWAYS - VOL.2 Michael E.Ware.
Moorland Publishing Co Ltd. 137 b & w illustrations, 137pp.
£5.95 nett.

Michael Ware has established himself as the collator of first class collections of canal photographs and this volume is to his high standard. The term photographs is advisedly used, as the percentage of postcards is low and Mr.Ware has unearthed many previously unknown prints, notably those showing a little-recorded facet of canals, early restoration and maintenance.

The book is of particular interest to those interested in the Severn-Thames link as the River Severn, Kennet & Avon and the Stroudwater, Thames & Severn Navigations feature prominently. The well-written and researched commentary to each photograph makes this volume compulsory reading for the canal enthusiast.

Obtainable from the Trust Sales Section (see inside back cover of 'The Trow') at £6.45 which includes postage and packing.

Addendum

HEREFORD & GLOUCESTER CANAL - reviewed in the last "Trow". The author regrets that due to production difficulties only the hard-back edition has been produced. This is currently available from the Trust Sales Section at £4.25 including postage and packing.

DHB

Readers' letters, continued from previous page.

In the absence of any information at all, I feel that the Council would do well to remember an unwritten law that each of the early Committee members - in those days - understood, i.e. that the Society (or Trust, now) should accept that preservation takes priority over restoration. What is the point of digging mud at Eastington when Daneway Bridge is threatened?

Whilst we wait for the Trust to take positive action, may I suggest that the membership supports the Oakridge Society, the Daneway residents, and the Gloucester Branch of the I.W.A. in their attempts to save Daneway Bridge.

The Retreat,
Amberley,
Stroud, Glos.

Yours sincerely,

David Elliott

P L A N T D E P O T

The Trust's plant depot at Aston Down has been placed on the market by the owner, and the Trust has been given formal notice to quit on 31st March 1980.

Whether this Notice will be enforced will be dependent on the new owner's requirements for the site, but we must be prepared to move our extensive stock of equipment by this date, at the latest.

Your help is needed urgently to find an alternative site, preferably near the Canals, with a storage yard for plant and an enclosed building for a workshop. The Trust will be willing to adapt and maintain suitable buildings.

If you think you know of a suitable site please contact the Secretary or Alan Jones.

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*      U R G E N T L Y   N E E D E D      *
/
*      (by MARCH 1980)                    *
/
*      Buildings and Yard Storage Accommodation *
/      for plant maintenance and storage   /
*      of the Trust's Equipment.           /
/
*      Location preferably in the Stroud/Stonehouse /
*      area within convenient reach of the Canals *
/
*      LEASE OR RENT BY NEGOTIATION        /
/
*      CONTACT:          DAVID BOAKES - Gloucester *
*                               740525            *
/
*                               ALAN JONES   - Stroud 78656 /
*                               * / * / * / * / * / * / * / *
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BY CANAL FROM GLOUCESTER TO HEREFORD

Begun in 1791, only shortly after the Thames & Severn Canal opened, the Hereford & Gloucester Canal is nowadays hardly remembered, although thanks to preservation schemes its neighbour is better known than ever.

The waterway was launched in the years of the canal mania, principally to convey agricultural produce and merchandise, but the promise of a coalfield developing near Newent persuaded the promoters to take its course in that direction instead of an easier route along the Leadon Valley. The decision proved a great blunder, for it required a long tunnel at Oxenhall, the cost of which is said to have amounted to £40,000 - more than half the estimate for the whole canal. Many shafts were sunk and the grassy spoil-heaps, like prehistoric burial mounds, can still be seen striding across the hills between Newent and Dymock. Steam engines had to be installed for pumping out the water, and on completion, due to errors in surveying, it was found impossible to see daylight from one end to the other. As to the collieries, they were almost a complete failure.

Having reached Ledbury in 1798, the Company was exhausted and thoughts of gaining Hereford did not revive until some 30 years later, when a young man from Malvern named Stephen Ballard was appointed manager. His enthusiasm provided the driving force for raising new capital, and the city was at last reached in 1845. Sadly, a worse time could not have been envisaged, for the whole country was now 'railway mad', waterways being considered altogether a thing of the past.

Even so, by unstinted efforts, the Hereford & Gloucester Canal achieved a measure of success, and provided a useful service to the towns and villages along its route. The Great Western Railway gained control in 1870 and agreed to distribute £5000 annually amongst the shareholders, a benefit which lasted until Nationalisation in 1948, long after the canal closed in 1881.

The Price family, timber merchants of Gloucester, were associated with the venture throughout the whole of its independent career, and W. P. Price of Tibberton Court was its chairman for many years.

After closure, a railway was built upon much of the route from Gloucester to Newent and Ledbury, but eventually succumbed to progress in the form of the juggernaut lorry.

However, the course of the old canal was undisturbed in the vicinity of Oxenhall, and between Ledbury and Hereford. In these areas are still to be found long stretches of water, as well as three tunnels and numerous bridges have not echoed a bargee's voice for nearly a hundred years. All of these remnants are worth exploring, and form their own memorial to a 34 mile ribbon of clear water that once formed the Hereford & Gloucester Canal.

As to the future, I have drawn attention to possible developments in my book, and distinctly encouraging signs have arisen even as the pages are going through the press.

At Newent there is a lake in ornamental grounds, now sadly run-down, and about 1/4 mile of the canal formation runs adjacent to it. The area has great potential for amenity purposes, and a few weeks ago I made a preliminary study of the possibility of restoring this part of the canal. Newent Town Council requested these ideas to be put forward, together with the proposals of other amenity groups, and it is now almost certain that the whole area will be developed. The canal restoration will depend to some extent upon whether sufficient voluntary help and funds are forthcoming, but the cost should be relatively little. Eventually, there might even be a case for formation of a Hereford & Gloucester Canal Amenity Group, for there are several long stretches that could again witness the passage of a boat, even though a reopening of the whole distance is out of the question.

I should be pleased to receive comments, or offers of support.

David E. Bick
Pound House
Newent
Glos

Trust Member Tony Jones (Ex-Stroudwater Carriers) offers the following services:-

Tenders re-covered with 1½ - 2" circumference tarred sisal. Give overall length and maximum circumference of fender for quotation.

Quotations given for complete sets of bow and stern fenders tailored to suit boat.

Orders taken for 1980 season. 25% of cost will be donated to the Trust.

Ornamental ropework also undertaken (turk's heads, droppers, cabin strings, etc.

Contact Tony Jones at 7 Stringers Close, Rodborough, Stroud, Glos.
Telephone Stroud 2915.

There has been a resurgence of sales of the Trust Commemorative Horse Brass recently, and we are currently well into the 100's of this limited issue of 200. A second issue is under consideration, but this will not take effect until the first issue is fully subscribed. If you have not already done so why not purchase one of these unique brasses now - or better still, get someone to buy you one for Christmas. Available from the Sales Section, price £5 plus postage.

Attention bottle collectors - we have recently been given a rather rare beer bottle from the now extinct Castletown Brewery, Isle of Man, complete with rubber stopper - but no beer in it! Best offer over £1.50 will secure - but it must be collected from the Sales Section - we are not prepared to trust it to the care of the postal authorities.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

DECEMBER:

- Wed 12th Members' Evening at the Railway Hotel, Russell Street, Stroud, from 7.45pm. NOTE - this is NOT the third Wednesday.
- Sat 15th Christmas Bazaar/White Elephant Sale at Palmer Hall, Fairford, from 2.00pm.

JANUARY:

- Tue 8th 16mm Films on shipping at The Royal Hotel, Station Road, Gloucester, from 7.30pm. (World Ship Society - details Chris Witts, tel Gloucester 26202).
- Mon 14th Open Meeting at The Spotted Cow, Marston Meysey, at 7.45pm. The future of the Trust's Lechlade & Cricklade Group will be discussed. (details Sue Hilton, tel Poulton 256).
- Wed 16th Members' Evening at the Railway Hotel, Russell Street, Stroud, from 7.45pm. Slides on restoration progress.

FEBRUARY:

- Fri 8th Gloucester Docks Slides - Mr. A.H. Conway-Jones, at College of Art, Lansdown, Stroud, at 7.30pm. (One of a series of lectures on I.A. subjects run by Bristol University and Gloucestershire Society for Industrial Archaeology. We have negotiated facilities to attend just this meeting and the one on the 22nd. Numbers are limited; advance booking, tel Poulton 529, advisable; 40p fee payable).
- Tue 12th Royal Navy Evening, at The Royal Hotel, Station Road, Gloucester, from 7.30pm. (World Ship Society - details above).
- Wed 20th Members' Evening at the Railway Hotel, Russell Street, Stroud, from 7.45pm.
- Fri 22nd Gloucester and Sharpness Canal - Mr. N. Crawford, at College of Art, Lansdown, Stroud, at 7.30pm. (Univ. of Bristol/G.S.I.A. - details above).

MARCH:

- Tue 11th Wimpey Maritime films - Mr. H. Spong, at The Royal Hotel, Station Road, Gloucester, from 7.30pm. (World Ship Society - details above).
- Wed 19th Members' Evening at Railway Hotel, Stroud, from 7.45pm.

DATES TO BE ANNOUNCED:

It is hoped to obtain the services of two guest speakers in 1980, one in January or February and one in March. Please advise Barry Balderstone, tel Poulton 529, if you would like to learn the details when known.

Meetings and Outings of interest to Trust members are also run by a number of other local societies. Details of these and the above (unless otherwise shown) can be obtained by telephoning Barry Balderstone, Poulton 529.

TROW ADVERTISING RATES:-

Personal Sales & Wants: 5p per word (Box Numbers 25p extra).
Block Adverts: Quarter page £2.50
Half-page £5.00
Full-page £10.00

A 10% discount will be given to all paid-up Trust Members. Please note all adverts must be prepaid to secure inclusion.

Sales

The Sales Stand at Coates closed in mid-October with the onset of the colder weather. A fairly successful season was enjoyed here, although the rather cold and wet spring was not helpful to us. My usual thanks to all who helped during the season, with particular thanks to Dinah and Dave Davidson.

A very successful stand was mounted at the Model Railway Exhibition at Rodborough Endowed School in September. Apart from the interest in canal items, we had fortunately just invested in a small amount of railway material in the shape of books, posters, etc., and these proved to be very popular. While not intending to 'tread on the toes' of local railway societies, we have decided to keep a small stock of railwayana for general sale, and if anyone has anything of this nature for disposal, either new, nearly-new or second-hand we shall be pleased to receive it for sale on behalf of the Trust.

On the same day as the above exhibition, the Trust A.G.M. was held in the evening, and further good sales were made there in spite of the rather small attendance.

The other successful venue was of course the Craft Exhibition at Minchinhampton in November. We were fortunate in having quite a number of items given to us to augment our normal sales stock and this resulted in a welcome boost to our funds. In fact, in spite of the Secretary's rather gloomy review of the Exhibition, the Trust Stall more than doubled its previous best total for this particular event, so at least I have no complaints!

Postal sales are on the increase, thanks mainly to the publication of Mike Handford's new book on the Stroudwater, David Bick's Gloucester & Hereford and Michael Ware's second volume of Lost Waterways, which features our two canals. All of these are currently in stock and prices are mentioned elsewhere in this issue. If anyone is interested to know what books or other items we have on offer please drop me a stamped addressed envelope or ring me on Stroud 3381 (business hours) or Stroud 3014 (home). There is a possibility we can solve your Christmas or birthday present problems and help the Trust at the same time.

Finally, no apologies for making yet another appeal for anything which we can convert into cash - practically anything can be sold somewhere, somehow, viz., Stamps (English or Foreign), postcards, matchboxes, coins, books, magazines, model railway items, gramophone records, unwanted gifts of any sort, even the mother-in-law or (to avoid contravening the Sex Discrimination Acts) the father-in-law.

I look forward to seeing some of you at the Bazaar at Fairford on December 15th - and don't forget to bring your wallets.

RON NOTT.

* * * * *

P.S. Thanks again to Miss Canter, of Stroud, for the continuing supply of stamps. Also to Mr. James of Oxford for more stamps, and to Mrs West of Middle Spillmans, Stroud, who presented us with two magnificent hand-knitted stuffed toy animals which have already found eager buyers. Also thanks and humble apologies to Mr & Mrs ? ? , two of our faithful members who presented me with various items for sale at Minchinhampton, whose names I wrote down somewhere and promptly lost the piece of paper!

Sales Section

Items available from Mr.R.G.Nott,
Lynfield, Frome Park Road, Stroud,
Glos. GL5 3LF. (Tel: Stroud 3014).
Please add postage at 30p per order
for any value under £7.50. Orders
over £7.50 post free. Cheques/PO's
payable to "Stroudwater Thames &
Severn Canal Trust Ltd"

TRUST TEA TOWELS (These have now been obtained in the original design but printed on linen, and of a better quality than the previous towels). Printed in blue or green on white background	£1.25
SHIPS COOK & BOTTLE WASHER TEA TOWELS, a very popular design	£1.25
SHIPS COOK & BOTTLE WASHER APRONS	£2.75
THE HEREFORD & GLOUCESTER CANAL by David Bick. PLAN & SECTION MAP OF THE STROUDWATER, THAMES & SEVERN CANALS	£3.95
PACK OF 6 NOTELETS of SOUTH CERNEY LOCK	£0.70
THAMES & SEVERN CANAL TOKEN PENDANTS in Blue, Green or Brown on Leather Thong	£0.25
TRUST ENGINEERING FEASIBILITY REPORT Reduced to. POCKET GUIDE TO THE TRUST..... 40p (plus 10p postage)	£0.60
SET OF 4 TRUST COLOURED POSTCARDS (Tunnel House, Daneway Inn, Kings Reach, Chalford Roundhouse)....	£2.50
TRUST BADGES	£0.28
BACK ISSUES OF THE "TROW" (Currently available: Nos. 1, 3, 4, 5 and Nos. 9 to 27 inclusive) Price each	£0.08
CANAL BOAT GAME (Ideal Christmas Present)	£0.10
	£0.90

We have a few dozen white T-Shirts printed with the Trust Motif which have become a little shop-soiled. Sizes available are Small & Medium (Adults) and 20", 22", 24", 26", 28" and 30" (Childs). Prices reduced to £1.25 (Adults) and 90p (childs), order now while stocks remain.

THE THAMES & SEVERN CANAL (Household) and THE THAMES & SEVERN in pictures (Viner) are both now out of print.

VISIT THE 'VIC'

The Tyrol Restaurant now has a wide and varied Menu - superb snacks, succulent steaks and other supporting dishes always available Monday to Saturday

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