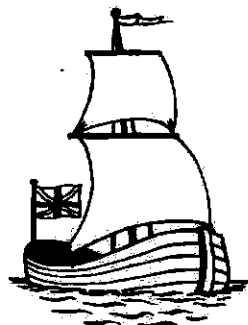


THE TROW

The Official Magazine for members of
the Canal Trust.



WILMOREWAY LOWER LOCK, SOUTH CERNEY

CIRCA 1908

*Stroudwater, Thames & Severn
Canal Trust Limited*

20p

No. 35

September 1981

1981 SPONSORED WALK AWARDSPRIZE WINNERS

To be presented on Saturday, 26th September 1981 at 3 p.m. at the Stroud Subscription Rooms (immediately prior to the Trust A.G.M)

1. Adult Group
R & I Tours London £ 298.55
(also many thanks to runners-up in this category - National Childbirth Trust
Glos. Branch £ 159.77)
2. Senior (Youth) Group - Waller Trophy
Arlingham Youth Club £ 80.59
3. Junior Group - Elliot Trophy
1st France Lynch Brownies £ 90.00
4. Adult
Sam Haddon, R & I Tours London £ 220.00
(Sam tells us that he obtained £75 of his sponsorship from Subaru Car Company - many thanks to them!)
5. Under 16
Yvonne Warman, Ebley £ 44.25
6. Under 12
Charlotte Allen, Evesham £ 8.00
7. Family
The Heaney Family, Leonard Stanley £ 14.45
8. Dog - Woofer Trophy
'Chester' Hollands
Stretton-under-Fosse £ 240.00

This has been our best sponsored walk for many years with over £2700 raised. Congratulations! particularly to those listed above and many thanks to all our supporters, both walkers and sponsors.

Can you do even better next year please? How about joining us on the Stroudwater Walk on October 11th, (details with this Trow).

Cover Illustration: One of set of eight of Reproduction 1900's Canal Postcard sets available from Framilode Productions, 1 Riveredge, Framilode, Glos. for £1 including postage and packing.

STROUD DISTRICT PLAN

EAST/WEST BYPASS

Enclosed with this copy of your Trow is a leaflet produced by the Gloucestershire County Council Surveyors Department indicating three possible routes for the proposed Stroud East/West Bypass. This document was distributed at the recent Public Participation Exhibitions held in the Stroud Area in conjunction with the Stroud Valleys District Plan Policy Options. The exhibition was in two parts comprising future Policy Options for the Stroud Area and a display of suggested routes for the M5 Stroud Link Road (A419) and Stroud East/West Bypass.

Whilst it has been stressed that no route has yet been fixed for the East/West Bypass, emphasis was placed on the advantages of Route A which could involve the destruction of the Wallbridge section of the Thames & Severn Canal at the only point where there is no viable alternative route. Should this take place it could result in the fragmentation of the Trust into two sections, a Stroudwater Restoration Scheme and an Upper Thames/Cotswold Water Park Link.

The loss of the possible through link between the Thames & Severn could lead to the loss of finance, future employment and future tourist income far beyond the £650,000 difference quoted between, for example, projected Route A on the Canal line and projected Route C which leaves the canal and future restoration viable.

At present, although sadly neglected by its owners, Gloucestershire County Council, who have persistently refused the Trust access to this section, it is a heavily used amenity by both walkers and anglers in the centre of Stroud and, in more enlightened ownership, could still be developed into an attractive recreational area at low cost.

Now we come to the important part - the public, which means our readers, can make written comment on these proposals to Stewart Cypher Esq., Chief Planning Officer, Stroud District Council, Kingshill House, Dursley, Gloucestershire by 24th September 1981.

We know that 1500 people attended the exhibitions, approximately 3% of the population of Stroud. We have 700 members and we need you all to immediately write to Mr. Cypher expressing your views on these proposals in the light of our long term restoration project - make it your number one priority.

Remember - your letter can help the ultimate survival of both the Thames & Severn Canal and the Trust.

DAVID H. BOAKES
SECRETARY TO THE TRUST

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

It seems only a few moments ago that I was writing the last report, but nonetheless, since then progress has certainly been made in one critical area. Agreement has been reached with Gloucester County Council to utilise a 90 yd. section of the disused A.419 at Eastington for the creation of a plant compound, now completed, and planning permission obtained for both this and a concrete panelled workshop adjacent to Blunder Lock, the latter presently being erected following the laying of the concrete base. Electricity will not be available at the outset, but hopefully will be laid on shortly.

A tribute must be paid to the dedicated few who have spent many hours, both in the evenings and at weekends, on procuring the necessary permissions and carrying out the work.

The October Walk on the Stroudwater will take you past both this area and the dredging equipment, so please take this opportunity to inspect our progress and raise some more funds.

Work on the two barges has continued, but the Plant Site has taken precedence over the remaining repairs. The tug required to move the barges has been a problem for some months, but our Secretary located the original purpose-built tug, which we have now purchased at nominal cost from the Wessex Water Authority, and this should shortly be on site.

A working trip to the Basingstoke Canal was made in July by a few people with both Job Creation Schemes and lock rebuilding in mind. It was most interesting to see what can be achieved with Government and Local Authority finance, and full time organisation. Before too long we hope to be in a similar position on our canals.

We have made the following applications to the Shell/IWA Award Scheme:

- Purchase of two Barges
- Construction of two concrete dams
- Overhaul of Priestman Cub
- Paddle Gear building for Wilmoreway
- Purchase of Tug

and it is hoped that we will receive a useful contribution from this source.

Special thanks to the intrepid few who made the long trip from Canterbury to spend an August weekend with us. Your efforts were much appreciated and we hope to see you again shortly.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU -

To Ron Nott, who has decided that it is time for someone else to take over production of 'The Trow'.

Readers may not be aware that Ron has recently taken over the position of Secretary to the Company of Proprietors of the Stroudwater Navigation and he intends to continue to organise the Trust sales, so he is unlikely to be less involved in our activities.

Over the years 'The Trow' has matured into a magazine of quality, respected in the Waterways world, and for this we owe him a tremendous debt. Despite the frequent provocation by Council members by the late appearance of reports, Ron has continued to soldier on (threatening all of us in turn, I think) and we shall all miss his impartial comments.

Thank you very much Ron, from us all, for your fine efforts in this department.

David Pillinger

* * * * *
*
* GRAND CHRISTMAS BAZAAR *
*
* at *
*
* STROUD SUBSCRIPTION ROOMS *
*
* from *
*
* 11.30 a.m. on SATURDAY, 7th NOVEMBER 1981 *
*
* COME AND BUY YOUR CHRISTMAS PRESENTS *
*
* BEFORE THE RUSH STARTS *
*
* Refreshments available *
*
* Volunteers required to help run stalls *
*
* Donations of produce, cakes etc., also gratefully accepted *
*
* Please contact: Margaret Boakes on Gloucester 740525 *
* * * * *

THAMES END BRANCH WORKING PARTY REPORT

It is now just over a year since work started on the Wilmoreway Site. The bed clearance work is nearly complete to Boxwell Spring and may allow us to re-water about a mile of the canal this winter provided this work can be finished off and repairs are carried out to Wilmoreway Upper Lock's ground paddles and dam.

Once the above is finished clearance parties will clear the bed in between the Wilmoreway and Cerney Wick sites, turning the two sites into one over 2 miles long.

The branch is now looking ahead to the restoration of the locks and other structures. There are now only a few tasks remaining on the crane at Cerney Wick and the clam-shell grab is now on site.

During the next quarter work may take place anywhere between Cerney Wick and Boxwell so an advance phone call would be advisable.

Next dates: September 19th - 20th
 October 17th - 18th
 November 7th - 8th

Further working parties, and accommodation, can be arranged on request from any organisations or groups, given sufficient notice.

Telephone: Swindon 750895

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

STROUDWATER, THAMES & SEVERN CANAL TRUST LTD.

PROPOSAL FOR ELECTION TO COUNCIL

I,
being a member of the Stroudwater, Thames & Severn Canal Trust Ltd., wish to propose
to stand for election to the Council at the Annual General Meeting to be held on Saturday 26th September 1981.

Signed

I,
being a member of the Stroudwater, Thames & Severn Canal Trust Ltd., am willing to stand for election to the Council at the Annual General Meeting to be held on Saturday 26th September 1981

Signed

SECRETARY'S REPORT

The Trust is now approaching the most critical time in its existence with the threat of the Stroud East/West Bypass being laid along the Thames & Severn Canal at Wallbridge. It is vital to the long term objectives of the Trust that all the public support every individual member can muster is brought to bear to defeat this proposal, and call for the retention of a Canal Route in this area. The indications are that an East/West Bypass is required for Stroud but not at the cost of the destruction of a heavily used angling and walking amenity so near Stroud Town Centre.

Other towns with canals so near their centres have utilized them as part of their visual and recreational facilities, whereas both Stroud District Council and Gloucestershire County Council - the 'owners' - have not only left this area to rot but have actively dissuaded any attempt to reverse this decay.

Now the County Council's Officers are claiming that their 'ownership', conveniently forgetting that they hold it in trust for the County's ratepayers, is a prime reason for its destruction.

I appeal to all of you who read this, no matter where you live to WRITE to: STEWART CYPHER ESQ., CHIEF PLANNING OFFICER, KINGSHILL HOUSE, DURSLEY BY SEPTEMBER 24th 1981 giving your views on the schemes outlined in the leaflet, or, if you have local knowledge, alternative proposals you may consider to be better, as this is the only means of comment that will be accepted.

Remember - failure to write could result in the destruction of the only section of the canal for which we cannot find a satisfactory alternative route, thus finally severing all hope of a Severn/Thames Link.

With the Trust's 6th Annual General Meeting drawing near, I have been indulging in various thoughts regarding both our progress and that of our fellow Restoration Societies.

We have been criticized for our apparent lack of progress by those outside the Waterways movement, but when one considers our achievements on our self-generated funding, we are building a very stable foundation. Our main failing has been our inability to obtain local government financing and participation in our restoration programme, particularly as certain key sections of the canals are in the County Council's care.

In other areas we have the examples of the Basingstoke Canal purchased, and the restoration heavily subsidized, by Surrey & Hampshire County Councils, the Droitwich Canal receiving both financial and physical assistance from Wychavon District Council, the Grand Western Canal taken over by Devon County Council in 1971 and now re-opened, complete with horse-drawn trip boat and even in Ireland, Naas U.D.C. is contributing £2,000 towards lock gates on the Royal Canal. We have not received any financial or physical assistance from any local government source and, in fact, pay a County Council Lease to restore their property between Bowbridge and Hope Mill locks.

Perhaps by this time next year we may have made the big breakthrough and be able to report that our County and District Council machinery and labour has been seen working to restore sections of the canals and not filling the Wallbridge section prior to building the East/West Bypass.

Elsewhere you will note the thanks for Ron Nott who has had to step down as Trow Editor. I would like to thank 'The Queen Mum', Shirley, Laura, Stephanie and Andrew - his family, for calming him down every time he has threatened to do both himself and me an injury when I have held up the 'Trow' long beyond his final closing date.

Finally, may I thank all those members and friends who have sent their regards and best wishes during my current bout of ill health. I was most surprised and cheered by your many messages. I am apparently on the mend but it will be a long haul before I will be fully fit again. For the present, I have to take things carefully.

David de G. [Signature]

* * * * *
*
*
* COME AND JOIN US *
*
* at the *
*
* STROUDWATER SPONSORED WALK *
*
* on SUNDAY, 11th OCTOBER 1981 *
*
* See the enclosed leaflet for full details *
*
* Volunteers required for Marshalling and Catering *
*
* Please contact: Margaret Boakes on Gloucester 740525 *
*
* * * * *

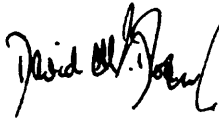
NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given of the Sixth Annual General Meeting of the Stroudwater, Thames & Severn Canal Trust Limited to be held in The George Room, Stroud Subscription Rooms, Stroud, Gloucestershire at 3.30 p.m. on Saturday 26th September 1981.

The business to be transacted at the meeting shall be as follows:

1. To receive the Minutes of the Fifth Annual General Meeting
2. To receive the report of the Council
3. To receive the Accounts and Auditors' Report
4. To fix the remuneration of the Auditors
5. To discuss the implications of the proposed East/West ByPass routes at Stroud on the Trust's future activities
6. To elect the members of Council
7. Any Other Business

DAVID H. BOAKES CEng, MIMechE,
SECRETARY TO THE TRUST



NOTES

1. In accordance with Para.42 of the Trust Articles of Association, the following members of Council retire in rotation:

K.N.Burgin	D.R.Pillinger	R.H.Veevers
------------	---------------	-------------

 They have indicated they wish to offer themselves for re-election. In addition, D.R.Lewis, who was co-opted to the Trust Council, also offers himself for election in accordance with Para.38 of the Trust Articles of Association.
2. Notice of intending proposals for membership of Council shall be given not less than, in this instance, two days before the date of the meeting, together with the written agreement of the person proposed, preferably using the printed form in this edition of The Trow, to the Secretary to the Trust, 1 Riveredge, Framilode, Gloucestershire.
3. Voting Rights. All classes of membership, except Junior Membership, confer one vote. Junior membership has no voting right since such members cannot be held liable under the Trust's guarantee.
4. Any member entitled to be present and to vote at the Meeting may appoint a proxy, who must be a member of the Trust. The instrument appointing a proxy shall be in writing and shall be deposited at the Registered Office of the Trust, 1 Riveredge Framilode, Gloucestershire, not less than 48 hours before the time of the Meeting.
5. Proxy forms may be obtained from the Secretary on receipt of a stamped addressed envelope.

STROUDWATER, THAMES & SEVERN CANAL TRUST LTD.

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 1981

1980

1474	Membership Subscriptions	1500
191	Tax refunded from covenants	400
1156	Donations and Lecture Fees	1303
3029	Proceeds of Fund Raising	3149
<u>90</u>	Interest received	<u>135</u>
5940		6487

DEDUCT

643	Trow Expenses	741
620	Postages Stationery Telephone Insurance	596
193	Rents	320
95	Audit Fee	118
479	Motor Lorry expenses	434
1297	Working parties on canals	1108
1199	Plant running & rebuilding - dredger	379
292	- other	81
291	Workshop equipment and materials	176
---	Haulage and craneage of plant	1094
1233	Depreciation of fixed assets	1897
<u>137</u>	Legal expenses	<u>---</u>
<u>6479</u>		<u>6944</u>
<u>£540</u>	Excess of expenditure over income	<u>£457</u>

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

1. Depreciation

Fixed assets of plant and machinery are fully depreciated in the year of acquisition. Sales stock is valued at lower of cost or Council's valuation.

2. Liability of Members

The liability of members is limited by guarantee - such amount as may be required in the event of a winding-up, not exceeding £1 per member.

STROUDWATER, THAMES & SEVERN CANAL TRUST LTD.

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31st MARCH 1981

1980

FIXED ASSETS

250	Land and buildings at cost		250
2462	Machinery and equipment at cost to 31st March 1980	3695	
1233	Additions during the year at cost	1897	
3695		5592	
---	3695 Less accumulated depreciation	5592	---

CURRENT ASSETS

164	Cash in hand	122	
883	Cash at Bank - Current Accounts	856	
752	- Deposit Accounts	335	
104	Debtors and prepayments	71	
1102	Stocks	1189	
3005		2573	

Less

CURRENT LIABILITIES

296	Creditors	321	
-----	-----------	-----	--

2709

2252

£ 2959

NET ASSETS

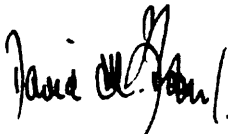
£ 2502

REPRESENTED BY

3483	General Fund	2959
524	Less excess of expenditure over income	457

£ 2959

£ 2502



DAVID H. HOAKES
SECRETARY



MICHAEL R. REYNOLDS
TREASURER

STROUDWATER, THAMES & SEVERN CANAL TRUST LTD.,

Council Members' Report for the year ended 31st March 1981

The Council submitted their Sixth Annual Report to the members of the Stroudwater, Thames & Severn Canal Trust. The following have served as members of the Council during the past financial year:

J. Barlow	Mrs. S. Hilton	M.R. Reynolds
D. H. Boakes	A. Jones	R.H. Veevers
K. Burgin	D.R. Pillinger	J. Willis

The Registered Office of the Trust remains at 1 Riveredge, Framilode, Gloucestershire. The principle activity of the Trust has continued to be the restoration of the Stroudwater Navigation and Thames & Severn Canal. There have been no contracts in which any council member had a personal interest, neither has the Trust employed any person during the financial year under review. There are no charges outstanding over assets of the Trust such as would require registration under the Companies Act. The year has been one of slow but steady progress for the Trust in many areas within our financial constraints. We have continued our links with active restoration societies with our continued membership of the Southern Canals Association. Our mechanisation programme has continued with the launching of the restored Weri-Combi dredger in the Stonehouse Pound followed by the purchase of two hopper barges, this progress being offset however, by the failure to secure a firm replacement plant site and workshop.

A new maintenance lease has been negotiated with the Bathurst Estate for the existing Coates site. Work has continued along the Stroudwater following the completion of the initial section at Eastington in co-operation and with continued financial assistance from the Company of Proprietors of the Stroudwater Navigation.

During the year initial site clearance has taken place on new sites at Daneway and Wilmoreway on the Thames & Severn Canal and licences are being negotiated with the landowners for these sites, indicating our increasing commitment to the restoration scheme. The pounds at Ham Mills and Griffins Mill have been re-watered following the construction of mass dams at the head of the lock chambers.

The Sponsored Walk was again the main source of revenue ably supplemented by the proceeds of our sales stands. The Thames End Branch has continued to thrive holding both regular working parties and social events.

Meetings with local authorities and landowners have continued to take place at various levels seeking to secure both increasing credibility and a firmer basis for the Trust's future. It is pleasing to know that our efforts seem to be gradually gaining wider respect and support both locally and nationally. A source of disappointment has been the small membership participation on the ground but it is hoped that with the increasing commitment to restoration more voluntary assistance will result.

D.R. Pillinger
Chairman of Council

D.H. Boakes
Secretary to the Trust

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 daytime telephone number.

Dear Mr Nott,

It was depressing to read in the last issue of The Trow that there is yet another threat to the canal and I enclose a copy of a letter that I have written to the Chairman of the County Council. I do this to show that those of us who live too far away to be of much use (and are not wealthy enough to write out cheques for substantial sums!) are nevertheless deeply interested in your fortunes and are prepared to do what we can.

On a lighter side, I was interested to see the re-emergence in The Trow of the old story of the man who was found chiselling a groove on the underside of the canal bridge over the towpath. I first heard this story many years ago as a Black Country tale and passed it on as such to Navvies - see issue No.76. Having just looked at it again I've remembered that the Editor omitted that particular story, so I can't complain that your contributor pinched it from me! But it's interesting to see how these old stories get re-cycled.

With best wishes,

126 Shenley Fields Road,
Selly Oak,
Birmingham B29 5BU

Stanley A Holland

Dear Dillon,

Your recent letter has been shown to me, since I'm the dog with the nerve to advertise! All I can say is it's a pity you didn't come on the Committee run the previous week; you could have helped us decide which trees to cut down to give Chester a clear run, and your assistance in pulling the walkers over some of the obstacles would have been invaluable. Just remember, us dogs have to stick together or there wouldn't be a walk, and although I didn't raise much money I did make sure Chester and his team had it easy.

The Editor says you can always advertise next year - rates from him on application.

Kind regards,

Skipper

P.S. Hope to see your documentary soon.

1, Middle Spring
Ruscombe

Dear Mr. Nott,

Mr. McBean's article in the June 'Trow' raises many questions. A Stroud East/West By-Pass along the canal bed will have some problems and may not give good service.

Assuming filling in for 880 yds. the distance he says he requires, the depth from towpath to the bed of the canal will be 9 ft. more if the filling is to be compacted. The number of tons of back fill will be $\approx 880 \times 10 \times 3 \times 1\frac{1}{2}$ @ £3 per ton = £118,000.

Dredging will also be necessary, as the canal is silted up between Middle Wharf and Beard's Wharf, in order to locate the culverts feeding the canal, which will probably be near the bottom, like the one just below Wallbridge Upper Lock. The excessive silt drop in this area points to a large feeder. It is reasonable to assume a dredging and silt removal cost of £120,000.

The stopping off of feeders could be a cause of flooding in the town, leading to compensation claims.

Further, if the canal is filled with boulders without dredging the road will probably float and the surface crack up; the road will be continually under repair. This means that the true cost of land for the road will be about £300,000, plus possible compensation to the British Transport Commission for water rights which they hold on this pound.

The cost of land for a road $\frac{1}{2}$ mile long by 30 ft. wide would, I estimate, not be more than £40,000 @ £20,000 per acre, less still if the route went by the Rodborough Fields owned by British Rail, which could then be developed for industrial use along with their land on the North of the river which already has a good road connection.

This route would pass through a different arch from the one used by the canal to pass under the railway. No bridge need have a span of more than 20 ft. so standard bridge sections can be fabricated cheaply and locally.

These times of stringent economy should make it more necessary for our County Engineers to use their inventive ingenuity to design better and cheaper roads and bridges. This will save money well into a future in which the wealth-producing classes will be a much smaller proportion of the population, causing the Exchequer to be reduced.

Yours sincerely,

W. BENTON

THAMES END BRANCH - SECRETARY'S REPORT

Over the past few months the number of public events held by us has diminished, largely due to the number of other projects being undertaken by the Branch to restore and promote the canal. Most of these are discussed at our monthly meetings at The Crown, Cerney Wick. We have a regular attendance of 12-15 people, so if you would like to find out the latest news both at Branch and Trust level, then please come along.

JIM & SUE HILTON

It is with regret that I report that Jim and Sue Hilton have moved from the area and consequently resigned from the Branch committee. We all wish them success in their new venture at The Butcher's Arms, Farnborough, near Banbury, and that their hopes are realised.

BARBECUE & CEILIDH

Besides restoration work, the major recent undertaking has been the annual Barbecue and Ceilidh held at Wilmoreway at the beginning of July. Although not a great financial success, it seems that most people had an enjoyable evening. Our grateful thanks go to all who helped in any way. It is worth noting that in excess of 150 man hours were spent over the weekend in arranging and clearing the site, and that the expenditure for the event was over £350. It is probable that we shall organise a similar occasion next year and let us hope that we shall achieve the attendance necessary to ensure a reasonable return for the effort involved.

SOCIAL EVENING

Please make a note that we are recommencing our quarterly meetings on October 26th at 7.45 pm in the Town Hall, Cricklade, with an evening of waterways films. At the time of writing details of the programme are still to be finalised, but we shall be including the Shell film 'The Water Highway'

CHARITY AUCTION

Following the success of the 50/50 Auction in Fairford in February, we shall be holding another auction at the Phoenix Centre, Cirencester, on December 5th. If you wish to raise cash for that unwanted item as well as helping us to fund our restoration work then this is your chance! Delivery can be arranged for large items. Fuller details will appear in the press nearer the date.

GRAND DRAW

Finally, I would like to thank the many members who have obviously gone to great lengths to sell the Trust Draw Tickets. For those who have not as yet returned tickets I mention the prizes:-

1st	Portable Colour TV
2nd	Food Processor
3rd	Digital Alarm Clock Radio

Plus many others

Please try to sell your tickets. They can be returned to any Council or Branch Committee member, but preferably direct to myself. The draw will take place at the Trust A.G.M. on September 26th so there is only a few weeks left!

Tel: Swindon 693952

DAVID LEWIS
4 Blackmore Close,
Lyncroft, Swindon

Probably of much more influence on Denny was an inviting letter written 3 months later (5 June 1858) by his father, at Stonehouse, near Stroud:-

"My dear William.....

"We are getting on much after the old jog and trot fashion. I wish (you) were here to join me in a lucrative concern in a Quarry in the Forest (of Dean); one that I have purchased and paid for. I know there is a hundred pounds to be cleared nett every week without any risk but I want about £400 to lay down an Incline plain (Railway) to the Locomotive Road of the South Wales Railway 125 yards below it the Stone would be let down by a Break. The down trucks drawing the Empty Trucks up. The Break is erected and was used when the Over Bridge at Gloster was erected and the Quarry has not been worked since. The left of Stone is about 120ft high and 725ft frontage and can be worked back to any extent consequently there is an unlimited quantity of Stone to be procured. Blocks of 12 tons weight can easily be got and only one foot of Soil etc on the surface. The Stone is approved of at the South Wales Terminus at Milford and likewise at the Docks at Cardiff, at each place the demand for it will be for years to come. In London an immense quantity will be required."

Within about 4 months of receiving this - and with much of his Miner's Right still unexpired - Denny ships aboard the "David McIver" of Liverpool, 868 Tons, bound for England, captain Robert Baillis. Denny never struck it rich: he signs on as Able Seaman, no higher rank, on 20 January 1859 to work his passage back. They sail from Sydney, and on 29 May 1859 Captain Baillis discharges Denny at London.

I don't think Denny ever sailed again. But nor is there any record that the stone quarry ever succeeded. A letter to Denny from a - rather distant - maiden aunt shows that about March 1860 he is still trying to raise money to go into partnership with his father in the quarry. The aunt, certainly, did not wish to lend money. Probably they never got the £400 they needed, and perhaps for this reason the quarry failed.

And then, on 3 January 1862 at Rodborough Tabernacle (near Stroud) William Denyer George marries Anne Horsey. Denny had known Anne ever since his return to England - possibly even before then - because Anne wrote a letter to him dated exactly two years before they were married. On the outside of the envelope Denny has written "A very precious treasure more precious every day"; and within it reads:

"My dearest friend,

Having received a delightful letter from your most worthy brother on the first day of this year, I sincerely trust its contents will be fully realized both spiritually and temporally. He also expressed that you were still very anxious about me. Oh dear! can it really be so allow me deeply to blend those sentiments in one.

The time is fast fleeting and D.V. I shall again soon see and converse with you better than my pen can enforce an impress on the mind. My time is at present so occupied that I must beg you will forgive this brevity.

Please kindly remember me to dear Mrs and Mr George, and I conclude by wishing you every happiness this transitory world can afford is the sincere wish my dear friend of

Annie Horsey"

(To be continued)

Sales Section

Items available from Mr.R.O.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"

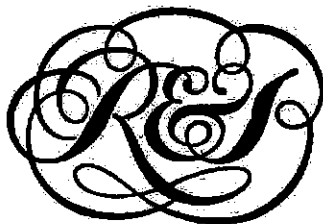
THE THAMES & SEVERN CANAL IN PICTURES by David Viner (Now back in print)	£2.30
TRUST TEA TOWELS Printed in blue or green on white background. 1 dozen only left, slightly shop-soiled. reduced to	£1.10
PACK of 8 STROUDWATER/THAMES & SEVERN NOTELETS, incl.envelopes, 4 different scenes .	£0.40
PACK OF 6 SOUTH CERNEY LOCK NOTELETS Including envelopes	£0.30
TRUST ENGINEERING FEASIBILITY REPORT Now reduced to	£2.50
BACK ISSUES OF "THE TROW" (Nos.1, 3, 4, 5, 9, 10, 11, 12, and Nos.14 to 34)	£0.10
BLACK & WHITE DRAWING OF TUNNEL HOUSE Suitable for framing - approx 8" x 6"	£0.25
SET of 4 TRUST COLOURED POSTCARDS (Tunnel House, Daneway Inn, Kings Reach, Chalford Roundhouse	£0.28
BOOK OF CANAL TUNNELS by John Gagg	£0.50
TRUST BADGES	£0.15
TRUST CAR STICKERS	£0.20
COMMEMORATIVE BRASSES (Limited issue)	£5.00



The ex Grand Union Buttyboat 'Bodmin' is moored as a camping boat in the beautiful Limpley Stoke Valley at Bathampton on the Kennet and Avon Canal. Easy access to Bath — Weekly and/or weekend bookings. Motor launch 'Mallard' takes lunchtime and supper cruises for small private parties between Bathampton and Bath or Dundas Aqueduct. For booking details in both cases contact:-

JOHN KNILL AND SONS

HAMPTON WHARF BATHAMPTON BATH BA2 6TW Telephone BATH 63603



R & I Tours Limited 138A Piccadilly, London W1V 9FH Telephone 01-491 4272 Telex 24609 Director, Ian Haddon

LUXURY 12 & 20 SEATERS
29, 45, 53 SEATERS ALSO AVAILABLE
MINI-COACHES FOR TOURS
WITH QUALIFIED GUIDES
BUSINESS, PRIVATE
AND
CONTRACT HIRE

