

*Stroudwater, Thames & Severn
Canal Trust Limited*

THE TROW

*The Official Magazine for Members and Friends
working to restore the Cotswold Canals.*

Number 50

Summer 1985



20 p

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TYPEWRITER APPEAL

You may have noticed that the typeface of this edition of
the Trow is different to that of the last edition. This
is because we are now using an older electric typewriter
which is beginning to show signs of its old age.

If you have an electric or electronic typewriter which
gives a better quality result than this, and which you
may wish to donate to the Trust, or offer on semi-permanent
loan, then please contact David Jowett (Stroud 4832), who
would be very grateful to hear from you.

FRONT COVER: On the home straight of Raft Race '85.

EDITORIAL

This is the third editorial prepared for this issue of the Trow, which was originally held back so that we could bring our members news of some particularly exciting developments in the saga of the Stroud East - West Bypass. Unfortunately fate and Murphy then took a hand, so that we have a summer edition appearing when the autumn leaves have not only fallen but also been largely swept up. All we can do is to crave our readers' forgiveness for letting our schedules fall apart in this way, and try not to let ourselves be caught out in this way ever again.

The town of Stroud has needed an East - West Bypass for many years, and it is not so long ago that one of our major anxieties was that the easiest way to construct it was to fill in a significant length of the canal. It is greatly to the credit of the City Fathers that they chose a different option which not only kept the canal in business, but will also provide a valuable amenity as well as a Bypass.

As well as the Town and County Councils, and the Trust, the scheme affects British Rail and several private landowners. It is therefore a significant landmark that we are now at the stage where Planning Applications can be prepared, and anyone who has ever built a garage can imagine what is involved in rearranging a canal. When he has done the work we are hoping that the Trust Secretary/Manager will find time to tell us about the exercise in more detail, but for the present we can enjoy the boost to our morale while pressing on with the other restoration activities which are in progress.

The other piece of good news is that the Western Branch has come about and is briskly in business. There are already signs of that special blend of friendly rivalry and mutual support between the Western and Thames End Branches which is appropriate when your task is thirty miles long and ten yards wide.

Every silver lining has a cloud, and we are sorry to announce that Harry Anderson has had to lay down the Office of Joint Editor. His professional and artistic skills will be greatly missed and we take this opportunity of thanking him for his efforts.

By a fortunate coincidence we have had an offer of help from a newish member, David Jowett, who lives in Stroud but is seen at the Thames End quite often. Among our aims is to bring out Issue 51 in about two months time, and we are permanently in the market for good black and white photographs of the Trust's activities, and also letters - preferably civil.

DERYCK WATKINSON

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Firstly may I express to all the Trust's members and friends your Council's apologies for the delay in this issue of The Trow.

One can make a variety of excuses, all of which would partly explain its late appearance, but really it comes down to too few people doing too much. Luckily David Jowett has come forward to help and he and Deryck Watkinson have buckled down and produced this edition, No. 50, a notable number, and a convenient point to look towards the Trust's future, because in many respects the future is looking brighter every day.

We have now established a Western Branch of the Trust which has already made its impact and encouraged both new members and old friends to come forward once again. Their raft race really brought the attention of the public to the Thames and Severn Canal in Stroud, but more importantly, they have carried out a steady work programme.

The East/West bypass saga has continued and may at last be reaching a planning submission. Like many major projects, last minute problems, in this case the siting of the road bridge, has delayed completion of our plans, but this problem now appears to be solved and positive moves will now hopefully take place.

Whilst you may not have received a magazine, Trust activities have not diminished. We have been represented and had displays at Gloucester Docks '85, the Greater London Council's Thames Day, and the Black Country Museum's Boaters' Day. The Trust and Gloucestershire Branch of the I.W.A. jointly promoted Gloucester Docks '85 and Trust volunteers worked hard in the preparation and actual running of the Event, which attracted an estimated 10,000 visitors. The Thames Day was probably the largest event at which the Trust has ever been represented, an estimated 250,000 people attended and much interest was created by the Trust's displays. A more traditional event was the Black Country Museum's Boater's Event, to which we were invited by our old friend Alan Smith - a truly Midlands traditional boating event. A highlight of the Event was a visit into the Dudley Tunnel and Caves. It made our representatives realise that with money, Sapperton Tunnel's problems could quite quickly be overcome.

In addition, Ron Nott and his sales stand have had another busy Summer promoting the Trust and garnering funds. That man pops up in the most unlikely places!

The Trust combined with the Youth Hostels Association to promote another Gloucestershire Canals Weekend. When the next one comes around remember, it is not only for Youth Hostellers, but for all those interested in the waterways - you don't have to be a member of the Y.H.A. The Slimbridge Centre is ideal as a base with its first class accommodation and facilities.

We have also continued our extensive programme of talks. Bookings are already being made for 1987, and we are changing the form of the talk from the history of our canals to the future. If you belong to another organisation, why not book us? We guarantee an interesting hour or so. Distance no object if the money is right!

Our close links with the Southern Canals Association continued with a meeting on the Neath & Tennant Canals in South Wales, where many of the key restoration enthusiasts met to exchange their views and to see another group's project. Next time our Secretary/Manager is going to demand transport - has anyone a second hand Batricar?

We have now completed the second year of our M.S.C. scheme and reached well into Ryeford Basin. The third scheme has commenced, but after two years' hard work a full strip down of the plant has become necessary. We have also found some unforeseen problems with canal structures, which may impede apparent progress.

Work funded by the Company of Proprietors, has continued steadily at Blunder Lock, and the magnitude of our task became apparent when two full lorry loads of concrete were used in preparation for the lower sill. Now you see it, now you don't!

Cerney Wick Lock appears to have a voracious appetite for bricks. Do Nicholas's volunteers eat the damn things?

Bruce Hall of Springers, Watledge, Nailsworth, has become the Trust's Publicity Officer, and has display boards available for placing in suitable areas. If you have any space in the public eye, please contact Bruce.

As you can see from all the above, in many ways no news has been good news, as the Trust has continued in its progress, but the progress could have been greatly enhanced with more physical and financial assistance. We need the maximum support our members and friends can give us. Currently we are operating, except for the Manpower Services input to the Community Project, mainly wages, from our self generated funds. We ask everyone who receives the Trow to consider if they can assist us in any way whatsoever. Our project is one of the biggest amenity schemes in the South of England, with enormous tourist potential. Already the canals are being used by an increasing number of ordinary people for their leisure pursuits and relaxation.

We know that much remains to be done, but with your aid and support we can move confidently forward towards achieving our stated aims of an inland waterway link, connecting the Rivers Severn and Thames, as a benefit for the public at large.

Finally, may I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a prosperous and Happy New Year.

WESTERN BRANCH NEWS

FORMATION OF WESTERN BRANCH COMMITTEE

Following the announcement in the Spring issue of the Trow and publicity in the local press, the meeting at the Stonehouse Community Centre on 10th May gained a good attendance. It was encouraging that besides Trust members, there were a fair number of new faces in the audience as the Trust Chairman and Secretary outlined the aims of the new Branch with a show of slides.

Historic scenes on the canal made a vivid contrast with more recent views, but the 'before and after' views of the various worksites gave an excellent impression of progress made. Just as impressive were the facts and figures quoted by the Secretary. The increased involvement of the local authorities, the M.S.C. work, and the commitment and assistance from the Stroudwater Navigation Proprietors indicate that the Trust is gaining in credibility. That the Trust is now receiving income from numerous sources and engaged in expenditure unthought of in its early days shows the hard work done behind the scenes by the dedicated few.

That the facts presented were not lost on the audience became clear in the subsequent questions and the lively discussion that followed, and little difficulty was found in raising volunteers for the proposed committee. The first meeting was arranged for Monday 3rd June.

The inaugural meeting of the Western Branch Committee was very well attended. Branch Officers have been elected and our terms of reference outlined with the guidance of the Trust Secretary. While leaning heavily on the Trust's Articles of Association, the Branch has the same degree of autonomy as the Thames End Branch, our basic aims being publicity, public relations, fund raising and work parties.

The Committee meets on the first Monday of each month in the Lounge Bar of the Bell Inn, Wallbridge, in Stroud. The meetings are open to the public from 7.30pm, so please come along with your ideas. We want maximum involvement, and we hope to make all our activities enjoyable. To quote the Trust Secretary, 'anything legal considered!'

TONY JONES

WALLBRIDGE / BOWBRIDGE WORKPARTY

Following on from the work undertaken on the Wallbridge pound by the party from the British School, well publicised in the local press, it was decided to establish regular working parties to consolidate their work and to continue clearance to Bowbridge.

The first job performed was in fact before the first organised working party when a small gang from the Eastington depot cleared the feeder at Bowbridge and performed a temporary repair of a bank leak at the Frome Aqueduct. The increased flow achieved made a rapid improvement to the general clarity of the water and there is now a permanent cascade at Wallbridge Upper Lock and the pound below is no longer a near stagnant swamp.

So far, the working parties have been well supported and progress has been most satisfactory. Overhanging trees have been thinned out to give the maximum possible clear surface width. Fortunately the resident waterfowl hatched their broods before our bank clearance could cause disturbance.

The self propelled weed cutter proves to be a great success provided that labour is available to remove cut weed. Sadly we have had no assistance from the local anglers who have been direct beneficiaries of the weed clearance.

Work is now concentrated on the last few hundred yards to Bowbridge with a lot of heavy timber being moved and a channel being cut through the solid bank to bank reed mat. The most effective method of dealing with the mat has been to literally saw it into cubes which when removed leave a channel which can be carved out to a depth of about two feet by the screw propellers of the reed cutter boat.

Spectacular progress was made on 10th November when a mixed party of students from Wycliffe College turned out in force to lend a hand. They were split into five teams which were led by supervisors from the regular Trust volunteers. What looked like a jungle at the start of the day was transformed by dusk. We should like to extend our apologies to Wycliffe College laundry who probably have more mud in their machines than we have in our canal!

Remember, we always welcome new volunteers, skilled or unskilled. If you are doubtful about turning up for work why not come and see our operations first? Information is available from Tony Jones (Stroud 2915) or Clint Taylor (Stonehouse 3485).

OPPOSITE: Too busy to pose - Wycliffe students get stuck in.





RAFT RACE '85

It is most gratifying to report that the first major fund raising event organised by the Western Branch was also the first waterborne event to be held on the Thames & Severn Canal since the Trust was formed. The Raft Race held on the Wallbridge/Bowbridge pound on August Bank Holiday Monday proved a great success. Twelve rafts were entered, starting at timed intervals from Wallbridge Lock to the millpond and then returning. For the organisers, participants and spectators the day was most enjoyable and entertaining. The Bell Inn at Wallbridge laid on a barbecue, and both the Bell and the Clothiers Arms did a roaring trade. The Branch sales stand did a brisk trade, additional funds were raised by a bucket collection, program sales and a raffle at the Clothiers Arms in the evening.

In financial terms, the net proceeds of the day were some £230, which is satisfying, but the benefits of such an event, in publicity, public relations and goodwill cannot be underestimated. We received excellent coverage in the local press, both the 'Stroud News & Journal' and 'Citizen' giving good reports

A brisk trade in Trust membership application forms and publicity material was evident and the subsequent increase in towpath walkers who take an appreciative interest in our progress, and drop money into our site collecting boxes, has been marked. We now have two local publicans who are supporters of canal restoration. We have the use of the Lounge Bar at the Bell Inn for Branch meetings and also the new 'Noggin & Natter' evenings.

At least two donations recently received can be directly attributed to the Raft Race publicity

A big 'Thank You' is due to Gloucestershire County Council and Stroud District Anglers Club for their co-operation. Thanks to all those who helped to make the Raft Race such a success - let's have an even bigger and better one next year!

TONY JONES

OPPOSITE ABOVE:
Doug Blake adds his final touch
to the new sill at Blunder Lock

THE WESTERN BRANCH

WISH TO THANK

THE BELL INN

&

THE CLOTHIERS ARMS,

OPPOSITE BELOW:
Did you see Blunder's bottom? - We did!

FOR THEIR SUPPORT OF THE TRUST

EASTINGTON WORKPARTY

Lock chamber restoration has continued steadily since the last edition of the Trow. Francis Turner's intrepid roving volunteers have visited twice since then to assist renovation of underwater brickwork and the lower concrete sill, and also relaying stones above water level.

Remaining coping stones have been repositioned and the wall cleaned and pointed. Dredging will now be carried out above and below the lock chamber using the Trust's Priestman Cub Dragline - this has been transported from Cerney Wick Lock in exchange for our smaller yard crane. The larger machine underwent a minor overhaul and repaint at Eastington before being put to work.

Our next task is to dam off the upper pound, remove silt behind the dam and demolish and rebuild the upper wing walls to retain upstream water pressure. Before removal of the upper dam we need to modify timber lock gates - any assistance with large scale joinery would be greatly appreciated.

Next comes the relaying of the upper sill and the provision of a new launching ramp for work and pleasure craft. Ground paddle gear and mooring bollards will also be required.

There is much to be done - all volunteers will be put to good use, skilled or unskilled. Please offer your services or tell a friend.

For those unaware, we work every Tuesday evening right through the year, and at least every other Sunday, full Bank Holidays and many Saturday mornings. The back - up facilities - cooking, toilets etc. - are very good. Come and see for yourself: - We look forward to meeting you.

Contact; ALAN JONES on Stroud 78656
 JON WILLIS on Gloucester 416694

WESTERN BRANCH

Every third Thursday of the month
we hold a social evening called

NOGGIN & NATTER.

AT THE BELL INN AT WALLBRIDGE IN
STROUD FROM 7.30pm ONWARDS. -

ALL WELCOME -- FOOD AVAILABLE

Details from Clint Taylor.....
.....Stonehouse 3485.

THAMES END BRANCH NEWS

The Branch has been suffering lately from a slight shortage of active local members. Fortunately we have some good support from people who come from a considerable distance to do physical restoration, but it tends to keep our Branch Meetings bogged down in the problems of publicity instead of organising work. We had a display, albeit modest, in one of the Cirencester branches of the Cheltenham & Gloucester Building Society, and although a regular flow of enquiries was reported we have yet to notice any new faces at meetings or worksites. Undismayed, we are redesigning our publicity material and trying to spread it around even further. We are also keeping our Sales Stand in the public eye, and could probably do more if a few extra people would offer their help.

Funds continue to be a source of anxiety, particularly as we were not able to mount a major event this year. However, we are extending the collection of waste clean newsprint, (not magazines), and a Jumble Sale is being organised.

Our Officers and members have also been active in various joint groups aimed at furthering the cause of navigation up the Thames to Cricklade, following the success of the 'Token Ton' last year.

Work Party arrangements remain unchanged, with a few extra ones thrown in, but our meetings are now held at the 'Red Lion', Cricklade, by courtesy of the licensee. We would like to see more of our local supporters, but in view of the problems with bad weather last winter, please check before turning up if you are not a regular.

SPECIAL APPEAL

The Thames End Branch is having a 'Back-End Blitz' to clear up one or two particular jobs before winter really arrives. We would like to hear from those of our supporters who think they are too busy to join in actual restoration work. Please think again. Special work parties are being arranged to suit available help. Offers please to Nicholas Melchoir (Swindon 762510), or to any Branch Officer.

THAMES END WORK PARTY

Work parties have been held regularly on the last weekend of each month and we were also able to hold a Summer Work Camp again this year. This had an average attendance of nine people each day over the ten day period. Only about twenty feet of the east wall of the lock remain to be rebuilt and we are aiming to get as much done as possible before winter arrives.

We have also had an additional work weekend on the 2nd/3rd November, with former students of Bristol University, who had helped us before, but who are now scattered about the country.

Our concentration on lock rebuilding caused the towpaths to deteriorate, but this has been redeemed by parties from the Common Weal School and the Girls' Venture Corps, both from Swindon. We can therefore report that the towpath is clear from the Spine Road to Latton Basin and from Tunnel House Inn to Coates Round House.

Our other big project is of course the proposed Plant Site next to the Information Centre on the Spine Road. This was scraped clear of vegetation and flattened for us by our landlord, Roger Constant, who turned loose on it a fierce machine and a skilled operator. The Branch had been wondering how to clear the site, and while coolie methods may be impressive in history books, they compare unfavourably with a big diesel engine festooned with crafty hydraulics. We are now preparing a Planning Application after some helpful advice from the Cotswold Planners.

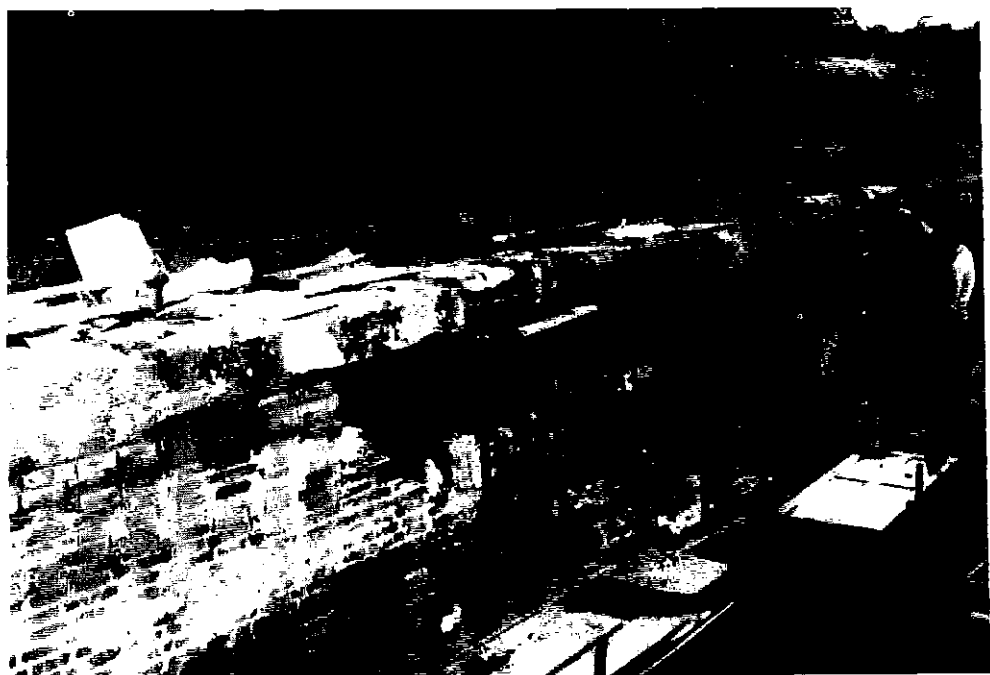
A small party has even managed to resume work on the lock gates which have been undisturbed for too long. Most of the large bolts and rivets securing the metal strapping have now been removed from the two smaller gates and actual woodworking should take place shortly.

Work parties, it should be emphasised, take place alongside fund raising and publicity activities. Progress would be quicker if the same little band of stalwarts were not having to attempt all three. If some of our sleeping partners would just come to a Branch Meeting, they might well discover that they are not as useless as they seem to think.

DERYCK WATKINSON



Progress on the East wall at Cerney Wick.





ABOVE: Clearing up after the August Work Camp
BELOW: One of our special parties from Common Weal School, Swindon



GLOUCESTER DOCKS '85

Approximately 9000 people and 69 boats visited the historic Gloucester Docks on July 6th and 7th for the National Waterways Summer event. It was organised jointly by the Gloucestershire Branch of the Inland Waterways Association and the Stroudwater, Thames & Severn Canal Trust, and was held by courtesy of British Waterways Board in the docks complex.

The Reynolds and Vinings warehouses were filled with trade, craft and charity stalls and every possible space outside was filled too; in fact over 100 different organisations took part in the event. Traction engines, steam railways, bouncing castles, static engines, a junior Austin 40 Club, vintage fire engines, boat trips and a live farm animal display were some of the points of interest. Live entertainment was provided by some of Susan Tomlins dancers doing the 'Hornpipe', Lithuanian folk dancers, Berkeley Majorettes Jazz Band and some performers of the Martial Arts.

The event was opened by the immediate past Mayor of Gloucester, Councillor Terry Wathan and attended by Dr. Alan Robertson, Vice-Chairman of the Inland Waterways Amenity Advisory Council, Ken Goodwin, Chairman of the Inland Waterways Association, Captain Boyack, Harbourmaster of the Port of Gloucester and other representatives. They arrived on the tug 'Speedwell', had a guided tour of the event, lunch at the 'City Barge' and returned to the show on the 'Gloster Packet'.

Following the success of Gloucester Docks '85, it's organisers have been advised by National Chairman Ken Goodwin that the approval of British Waterways Board has been formally requested for the holding of the prestigious National Rally in Gloucester in 1987, the year of the opening of the National Waterways Museum in Llanthony Warehouse.

The profit from the event amounts to approximately £1000 and after the provision of two interpretive plaques in the docks for the benefit of visitors, the balance will be split as follows:

- 75% - Stroudwater Thames & Severn Canal Trust
- 20% - Severn Sound Money Mountain (local charities)
- 5% - Gloucestershire Branch, Inland Waterways Ass.

The organisers of Gloucester Docks '85 would like to take this opportunity to thank the members of the Canal Trust who helped to make the event such a success and in particular the newly formed West End branch who turned out in force.

BARRY BALDERSTONE
MARILYN SLINN

WHERE ARE YOU NOW?

The Trust at present has a membership of about 600. Only a few of these members are actively engaged in helping towards the restoration of the Canals, those of us who serve on the Trust Council and the members who work with or organise the working parties.

To the remainder, the missing ones, I would like to say this:

You are obviously interested in the Canals and their restoration, or you would not have become Trust members or committed yourselves to 4, 7 or 10 years of paying money over to the Trust; but apart from receiving a copy of The Trow when it comes out, what are you getting from (or giving to) the Trust?

I am not saying this as any form of criticism, but merely because I am interested to find out what you want from your membership. Do you feel that you would like to help more? Although you do not want or are not able to help with the working parties, are you quite happy to know that your annual subscription is helping towards the running of the Trust?

If you feel that you want to help more, how about running some fundraising efforts of your own, even if only in a small way, such as coffee mornings, car boot sales, sponsored walks, swims, tiddleywinks or games - anything that you think would catch on for sponsorship - there are allsorts of things being sponsored these days, even being buried alive! Not that I am suggesting that anyone goes that far in our cause!

I am sure that there must be many of our members who would like to help, but maybe feel that in view of the amount of work and money involved, the few pounds that can be raised by a single individual are insignificant. Believe me, they are not! Every penny counts, and pennies can quite rapidly turn into pounds.

Please let us hear from all you "missing numbers". Tell us what you want to get out of being a member, what you would like to see the Trust Council doing for you, and how you would like to help.

ANNE BARNARD

PAPER MONEY

Now that a new branch of the Trust has been established based on Stroud, funds are needed to swell the coffers and to finance the day to day activities of the Trust in the area.

One of the ways of achieving this, and a way in which our local members can help, is simply to make fewer trips to the dustbin!

Arrangements have been made with Carfax Ltd., a local waste paper company, to collect waste paper from the Trust's plant site at Eastington.

We are asking all of our local members to collect Newspapers and Magazines and to co-opt their friends and relatives into doing the same, bundle them up (seperating the newspapers from the magazines), and then get them to the Plant Site. A lay-by has been incorporated in the new road for just this purpose!

We know all of our members and friends are eager to see what the valiant Stroudwater volunteers are up to at Blunder Lock, and now you have a very good excuse to come along and have a look.

Working parties meet at the site on Tuesday evenings and most weekends. There is always someone willing to explain progress on the lock restoration.

If you have no transport, or do not pass the site on your travels, then arrangements can probably be made to collect by 'phoning Clint Taylor on Stonehouse 3485. We can collect from Cheltenham to Bristol and points in between, but please remember that only large quantities canbe collected economically.

Our members at the Thames End may be interested to know that a similar wheeze is operated by the working party in that area, and details can be obtained from Nicholas Melchior on Swindon 762510.

Happy collecting!

JOHN GARFITT

SALES SECTION

Items available by post from our Sales Manager, R.O. Nott, Lynfield, Frame Park Road, Stroud, Gloucestershire GL5 3LF (Tel. Stroud 3014). Prices quoted include a contribution towards postage and packing. Orders over £15.00 in total qualify for a 5% discount. Cheques and postal orders should be made payable to "Stroudwater, Thames and Severn Canal Trust".

A Canal Walk through Stroud (Roberts)	£ 1.45
Stroudwater and Thames & Severn Towpath Guide (Viner and Handford)	£ 6.50
British Canals (New Edition) (Hadfield)	£13.25
Old Thames Valley Recipes (Poulson)	£ 0.90
Cheltenham as it was (Beacham)	£ 2.95
Canal Boat Cookery (Bryce)	£ 0.90
Observer's Book of Canals (Gagg)	£ 2.75
Landscape with Canals (Rolt)	£ 5.50
Landscape with Machines (Rolt)	£ 5.50
Shipbuilding in Victorian Southampton	£ 1.85
Seaplanes and Flying Boats of the Solent	£ 1.95
Reprint of 1930's Souvenir of Southampton Docks	£ 1.65
The Itchen Navigation	£ 1.85
Southampton Transport	£ 1.65
Industrial Archaeology of Hampshire & I.O.W.	£ 3.00
The Canal Boatmen (Hanson)	£ 6.50
History of Gloucester Docks (Conway Jones)	£ 5.50
Stroud in Old Picture Postcards (Radway)	£ 7.50
Devizes in Old Picture Postcards	£ 7.50
Stourport in Old Picture Postcards	£ 7.50
Malvern in Old Picture Postcards	£ 7.50
Bristol in Old Picture Postcards	£ 8.50
The Leeds - Liverpool Canal in Old Picture Postcards	£ 7.50
Bread Upon the Waters (Blagrove)	£10.50
The Thames and Severn Canal (Household)	£10.75
Walking London's Waterways (Fairfax)	£ 8.50
Brewery Railways (Peaty)	£10.75
The Aeronauts (Rolt)	£ 6.50
Atmospheric Railways (Hadfield)	£ 6.50
The Severn Bore (Rowbotham)	£ 6.50
The Rise & Fall of The Severn Bridge Railway (Huxley)	£ 6.50
The Flower of Gloster (New Ill. Edition)	£12.75
Pack of 8 notelets and envelopes (Views of Stroudwater and Thames & Severn Canals)	£ 0.60

This list cancels all previous lists, but tea-towels, postcards, pens and car stickers are still available as previously advertised.

ADVERTISEMENT

FOR SALE: One Thames & Severn Canal Token in good condition
Offers to Paul Rigby, 5 Old Tarnwell, Stanton Drew, Avon.

SALES TALK

There is a Father Christmas after all! We have at last been promised a new issue of "THE TROW". In celebration of this momentous occasion, collectors of Canal literature may be interested in the following second-hand items in our sales stock. Lack of space, and time, permits me to list only a few, but I hope to include further offers in the next issue. Yes - I am told there will be another "TROW" before the end of the present decade! (Sorry, Editors, couldn't resist a little dig after all this time).

Ron Nott

Books subject to availability at time of ordering. Prices include post and packing. Remittances to me at address shown on "Sales Section" page.

Bonthron - My Holidays on Inland Waterways 3rd Ed. 1919 186pp, many illustrations, including Thames and Severn Canal	£10.00
Water Rallies by David E Owen. Dent, 1969. 144pp incl. plates. D/W	£ 4.50
Rare Copy of CANAL ADVENTURES BY MOONLIGHT by George Smith. 1881, Hodder and Stoughton. 250pp and plates	£28.50
Victoria's Inferno (Songs of the Old Mills, Mines, Manufactories, Canals and Railways edited by Jan Raven. P/B 192pp 1st edition 1978 by Broadside, Wolverhampton.	£ 1.25
English Rivers and Canals by Frank Eyre and Charles Hadfield. Collins. Complete with col. plates. Cover marked - clean inside	£ 5.00
Inland Waterways of Great Britain and Ireland by L A Edwards. Inray, 2nd Edn. 1962. Ex-library copy but clean	£10.00

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Sir,

I would like to thank very sincerely all those members of the Trust who gave up so much of their time to make our Canal Weekend at Slimbridge (July 26-28), so interesting and enjoyable. Our worthy Secretary who was the mainstay of it all, coped magnificently.

I still have the minutes of the meeting held in Stroud on 1st December 1973 when I joined, living then temporarily in Painswick. I am now rereading Humphrey Household's Classic and back numbers of the Trow.

Too much of our National Heritage has been left to rot already. This enterprise, posing such a challenge to our own generation of Civil Engineers as it does, deserves all the encouragement it can get.

B. Kirner
Wolverhampton.

DIARY DATES

- 30 November 1985 Stroudwater Thames & Severn Canal Trust Ltd. A.G.M. including presentation of the 1985 Canal Trust Sponsored Walk Awards. Stroud Leisure Centre, Stratford Park, Stroud. 2.30pm.
- EVERY SATURDAY IN DECEMBER Inland Waterways Association, Gloucestershire Branch Sales Stand Promenade, Cheltenham.
- 28 January 1986 Talk at Gloucester Yacht Club by Roger Beckett on the role of the Architect/Planners office in BWB with particular reference to Gloucester Docks. (IWA event) 7.30pm.
- 25 February 1986 Video Evening - a selection of waterways programmes at Tewkesbury Marina Yacht Club. (IWA event) 7.30pm.
- 14 March 1986 Gloucestershire Branch IWA A.G.M. Wheatstone Hall, Brunswick Road, Gloucester. followed by a talk by John Gagg, 'Odd Waterways Corners' 7.30pm.

IWA event details from Marilyn Slinn on Gloucester 411040

NEW MEMBERS

We are pleased to welcome the following new members: -

Mr. W. P. Arman	Stratford-on-Avon
Mr. D. Blake	Gloucester
Mr. R. Brunstron	Seaford, Sussex
Mrs. A. G. Dobson	Barnes, London
Mr. C. F. Fletcher	Sunbury on Thames
Mr. T. L. Jones	Trowbridge, Wilts
Mrs. J. Lane	Wirral
Mr. D. Mauler	Stroud
Mr. & Mrs. E. D. May	Littlebourne, Canterbury
Mr. C. L. Mercer	Prestbury, Cheltenham
Mr. J. G. Owen	Gaerphilly, Mid Glamorgan
Mr. D. J. Plant	Wolverhampton
Pat L. Ruther	Stroud
Mr. J. R. Seagrave	Downend, Bristol
Marilyn Slinn	Tuffley, Gloucester
Mr. C. J. Taylor	Stonehouse, Glos
Mr. D. Trickner	Ipswich, Suffolk
Mr. R. K. Turner	London N19
Mr. T. B. Wathen	Gloucester
Mr. C. Wells	Reading, Berks
Mr. & Mrs. W. A. Whitehouse	Stonehouse, Glos

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

It is a fact, that if every member of this Trust enrolled just one new member each, then the membership would double.

DEPARTMENTAL HEADS

Archivist	D J Viner, BA, AMA, 8 Tower Street, Cirencester, Gos.
Events Organiser	Vacant
Maintenance Organisers	Vacancies (restored sections)
Membership Secretary	David Jordan, 6 Hazelton Road, Marlbrook, Bromsgrove, Worcs.
Asst. Membership Sec.	Geoff Garraway, 29 Mill Farm Drive, Paganhill, Stroud, Gos.
Press & Publicity Officer	Bruce Hall, Springers, Watledge, Nailsworth. (Tel:Nailsworth 2384)
Sales Manager	R O Nott, FILC, Lynfield, Frome Park Road, Stroud. (Tel:Stroud 3014)
Thames End Branch Chairman	Robin P. Twining, 285 The Cullerns, Highworth, Swindon. (Tel:Swin763243)
Thames End Branch Secretary	Deryck Watkinson, 12 Hampton Grove, Meysey Hampton, Cirencester. (Tel:Poultton 661)
Western Branch Chairman	A E Jones, 7 Stringers Close, Rodborough, Stroud. (Tel:Stroud 2915)
Western Branch Vice-Chairman	D Blake, 19 Stratton Road, Gloucester. (Tel:Gloucester 415843)
Western Branch Secretary	C J Taylor, 43 Regent Street, Stonehouse, Gos. (Tel:Stonehouse 3485)
Western Branch Treasurer	W A Whitehouse, 37 Cotswold Green, Stonehouse, Gos. (Tel:Stonehouse 2284)
Trow Editorial Team	Deryck Watkinson (as above) David Jowett, 1 Oxford Terrace, Springfield Road, Uplands, Stroud. (Tel:Stroud 4832)
Trow Material to	David Jowett, (as above)
Trow Distribution Team	P A T Griffiths, 10 Smythe House, The Waterloo, Cirencester. Tel:Ciren.4160) D C Pinnock, 7 Vicarage Close, Churchdown, Gos. (Tel:Churchdown856233)
Working Party Co-ordinator	Alan Jones, 2 Wyclift Villas, Uplands Road, Stroud. (Tel:Stroud 78656)
Working Party Organisers	Nicholas Melchior, (Thames End) 28 Grove Hill, Highworth, Swindon. (Tel;Swindon 762510) Jon Willis, (Western) 82 Chatsworth Avenue, Tuffley, Gloucester. (Tel:Gloucester 416694)

Vacant posts can be filled by individuals or small groups, assistance always being available from Council Members and other Officers. Those interested may obtain details from the Secretary (see inside front cover).

