Forth & Clyde Canal Society

CANAL NEWS

Autumn/Winter 2019 £1.50 FREE to Members ISSUE 171

Our fortieth successful year



Forty years of campaigning and cruising. Quite an achievement. Come and celebrate at our AGM and Cruise – Saturday 23rd November

Check out our renewed, interactive website

visit us online at **www.forthandclyde.org.uk**

EDITORIAL



Time to celebrate 40 years of campaigning and innovating

OUR AGM and Cruise on Saturday 23rd November gives us all the chance to celebrate a very successful year for the Society, and to strengthen the committee so that we can be at least as successful next year. Next year in fact sees us reach our 40th birthday, 40 years of campaigning, cruising, organising, partnering, innovating, and everything else needed to get the canals open again, and then keep them open.

News in Brief, pages 4 to 6, shows a great level of activity on the canals, by Scottish Canals, canal side communities and canal societies including ourselves. It is this day in day out, year in year out activity, that keeps the canals alive and popular.

Elena Koumpouzi's article on our CanalCraft project, pages 8 to 9, brings us all up to date with a successful Society project which has reached out to communities along the Western half of the Forth and Clyde, and demonstrated the value of their canal.

Christine Hammell tells the epic tale of sailing Maryhill down the canal and up the Clyde to Riverside Museum to take part in the Clydebuilt Festival. Maryhill was moored beside Clyde

Ferry No 8, rescued by us back in the early 1980's for a new life on the canal as 'Ferry Queen' before returning to her original home.

Canal history is well covered in this issue, with an In Focus piece on canal volunteering before our society was formed, Guthrie Hutton's series 'Pictures from an Exhibition', and our regular 'Splashback' piece – soon to have a Forty Years Ago section.

Finally we come to Society News and upcoming Events, including the all important AGM and Cruise on Saturday 23rd November. This is your chance to celebrate a busy year, hear detailed reports of our activities, elect a new committee, and enjoy a cruise with refreshments.

Welcome aboard.



Front cover: Charter cruise on Voyager

CANAL NEWS CONTENTS

Issue 171 Autumn/Winter 2019


News p04


Features p8


In Focus p12


Society p19


Events p24

NEWS IN BRIEF


Charter cruise on Voyager

Busy Boating Year

The Society's boats Voyager, Gipsy Princess and Maryhill are having a busy year cruising the canal. Choir outings, wine tasting cruises, Rotary trips, school cruises and many more have added to a busy charter season. Maryhill was filmed at The Falkirk Wheel as part of a major arts project – on your TV next year. Voyager and Gipsy Princess were busy all week at Kirkintilloch's popular Canal Festival in August, see article below.

Maryhill headed down the canal and up the Clyde to join Ferry No 8 (once our Ferry Queen - remember?) at the Riverside Museum for the Clydebuilt Festival. The boats need crewing, maintaining, cleaning and much more to keep them cruising. Please join us and join in the fun.

Historic Airship Crossing Celebrated

A giant 643 foot outline of airship R34 was cut into the grass at The Falkirk Wheel this summer to celebrate the centenary of the first double crossing of the Atlantic by air. Airship R34 was built by William Beardmore in Glasgow and made the record crossing between 2nd & 13th July 1919.

With a largely Scottish crew, and Wopsie the stowaway tabby cat, the journey from East Lothian to New York took 108 hours against prevailing westerlies. The crew used the Forth and Clyde Canal as their navigation guide across Scotland. The return trip took just 75 hours, landing in Norfolk.

Kirky Canal Festival

East Dunbartonshire Council's ever popular Canal Festival at the end of August drew in the crowds despite some torrential downpours at times. Our Society boats Voyager and Gipsy Princess were active with themed cruises throughout the week and public trips on festival weekend. See 'In Focus' for further report.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Egg Shed Opens

Ardrishaig harbour on the Crinan Canal has gained a new attraction, with the opening of the £1.5 million Egg Shed heritage and community centre. The historic disused building has been transformed and extended with bespoke interpretation, alongside the Steamer Terminal café.


Egg Shed heritage centre

CanalCraft Boat Launch

Our CanalCraft project launched its third community-built rowing boat on Saturday 31 August, at a ceremony at the Seagull Trust Kirkintilloch boathouse. This boat joined the two other community-built boats at the Clydebuilt Festival in September.
The launch had a surprise visit from local historian and Society member Don Martin who photographed the last launch from Hay's old slipway.
See article inside for more project details.

Kingfishers Back

These beautiful bright blue birds are being seen along the canal again after taking a beating last year from the "Beast from the East" when thick ice froze them out of their food supply.

Caledonian Repairs

Banavie swing bridge is fully operational following testing by Network Rail, and Fort Augustus Lock Flight is fully operational following diving operations for emergency lock gate repairs. All our canals need constant care and maintenance, keep an eye on Scottish Canals website for temporary closure details.

Roman Roaming

Bar Hill roman fort on the Antonine Wall was the (literally) high point of a walk taking in the canal between Auchinstarry and Twechar in August. The heritage walk was organised by Friends of Kelvin Valley and led by your Canal News editor as part of North Lanarkshire's Walking Festival.

Leamington Lift Bridge Reopens

Leamington Lift Bridge over the Union Canal in Edinburgh has reopened after extensive works. The bridge closed in 2018 but a £350.00 grant via Sustrans has got the bridge working again.


Leamington Lift Bridge

Scottish Waterways for all

A new organisation has been formed to bring together Scottish Canals, canal societies, boat owners and voluntary groups to achieve more "joined up thinking" activity and action on our canals, with Ronnie Rusack as chair.

NEWS IN BRIEF



Councillor Susan Murray, left, with the cast abouard the Maryhill Puffer

Para Handy

On 27th July No Nonsense Productions brought their nautical tale, 'Para Handy: A Radio Play On Stage' to the recently refurbished Kirkintilloch Town Hall. For one night only, the cast of three and an accordionist brought new life to Neil Munro's classic comedy tales in a 1950's Radio Broadcast style. As a promotion for this performance actors were joined by council officers and Councillor Susan Murray on board our two thirds replica Clyde puffer 'Maryhill' – see photo. The photo, and an article by reporter Liz Gallagher, appeared in the Kirkintilloch Herald on Wednesday 17th July.

Garnethill Green Spaces

Friends of Garnethill Green Spaces in Glasgow started a water themed project in Garnethill Park on Saturday 14th September. Using craft works to express water pollution issues, they are making a water themed tapestry with donated and gathered materials. They also did a litter pick around the canal at Speirs Wharf.

Restoration Roundup

Our members have spotted work on a number of canal projects recently, especially round the western end of the canal. These include work starting on the new Garscube opening footbridge over the Glasgow Branch which will connect local communities; rebuilding and repointing of the offside canal wall between the Clay Pits and Applecross Basin, and new decking being installed for Phase 2 of Bowling old railway bridge refurbishment, which will reopen as a cycleway.

Forty Years Old

Our Society will soon be forty years old. Who would have thought it all those years ago? And so much achieved. Following a year's worth of preparatory meetings, a public meeting to launch the Society was held on Wednesday 5th December 1979. It was chaired by David Wane, chair of the Inland Waterways Advisory Committee, in Strathclyde University Centre. Films and discussions were held. After more organisation the first General Meeting was held in Glasgow City Chambers on May 30th 1980 and elected a committee. The rest, as they say, is history. But what happened before we had a Forth and Clyde Canal Society? See inside for one part of the story.

Society AGM

Remember, remember, the 23rd of November. This is the date of our Society's all-important AGM and cruise. The AGM will be held at 11:00am in the Society Office at Southbank Marina, Kirkintilloch, followed by snacks and (weather permitting) a sail on Voyager.

Charter a Society Boat

The Canal Society has a fleet of three boats available for charter. Each boat comes fully crewed. Our boats are an ideal way to enjoy a family celebration or enjoy a cruise for your organisation. Each boat has a galley to organise your own catering.







VOYAGER

Up to 45 passengers or maybe 40 if you are catering. Hourly rate of £135 first hour.

GIPSY PRINCESS

up to 25 passengers or maybe 20 if you are catering. Hourly rate of £110 for first hour.

MARYHILL

up to 6 passengers. Each charter is considered on its merits and the lowest figure would be £80.

Charges are reduced for second and subsequent hours at progressively reducing rates and a full day charter may enjoy a discount. Charities, youth groups and other eligible organisations may be considered for a reduction on the final figure calculated.

The boats are generally based at the Stables Restaurant, Kirkintilloch G66 1RH. Cruises can also start at Southbank Marina in Kirkintilloch, Spiers Wharf in Glasgow and Auchinstarry Basin, Kilsyth, by special arrangement. One way trips are also sometimes available to Glasgow, Auchinstarry and the Falkirk Wheel, and are advertised on our website.

Telephone bookings to Robert Irvine 01236 735533
Further information www.forthandclyde.org.uk

FEATURES

Helena Koumbouzis reports on successful Forth & Clyde project

Inaugural CanalCraft event helping communities connect





CANALCRAFT'S first celebratory event took place in The Engine Works, in Maryhill, part of the local industrial heritage and adjacent to the Forth and Clyde canal. The event was supported by the Scottish Refugee Festival. This offered us the opportunity to host dancing demonstrations by dancers based in the Maryhill Integration Network (MIN) and performances by the SheBoom drummers, based at the Women's Centre (WC). Both MIN and WC participated in CanalCraft.

Participants from the groups received certificates for their contributions to the project, both in boatbuilding and citizen

journalism. One of the participants from the Women's Centre, an 81 year-old, admitted that the certificate was the only one she has ever received. This shows how the project managed to reach communities in Glasgow and that the canal can connect people with the place they live in a positive way. During the event, visitors had a chance to meet and talk to participants and listen to their views on the project and how it has impacted on their lives. Everyone shared food from the Middle East, saw our boats and it was a night of proper integration.

In July, the project moved to East Dunbartonshire, with citizen journalism workshops in Hillhead and Auchinairn community Centres, in Kirkintilloch and Bishopbriggs. We worked with the group GRACE, which provides activities for people who have overcome mental hardship. The workshops, led by Dr. Jen Jones, triggered discussions about the canal and FCCS's role and their activities to date, different methods of campaigning, past and present, and the power of social networks. The groups created a series of short films about the canal by using their filming and interviewing skills against the clock. We rounded up the workshops with a cruise on Voyager, where participants had another chance to film the canal and experience life on water, with many of the participants never having been on a boat before. We received an incredible letter from GRACE after the cruise, which again made us realise the potential mutual benefits that come from collaborations. We hope that we will have opportunities to work with this amazing group again.



Photos © CanalCraft and RefugeeFestivalScotland2019.

CanalCraft took part at the Glasgow Canal Festival, with the boat builders from MIN, the two boats and a photography exhibition at the Civic House. Our boats proved to be very popular, with families and young children on the water and on shore. The CanalCraft team distributed leaflets and met the visitors. With the sun shining, we got another great day of public engagement.

In August, the last boat was built along with its oars, this time by young people from community groups in and around Kirkintilloch. Seven young adults built the boat, guided by Ben Wilde of Archipelago Folkschool, in the Seagull Trust's boathouse. This was a significant occasion, as the location of the boathouse is the old Hay's repair boatyard, where the very last boat building activity took place in Kirkintilloch almost 60 years ago. The young people painted their boat in vibrant colours and named it WAWHFL (What Are We Having For Lunch). The Seagull Trust's volunteers also let them try navigating the canal boat. The young participants enjoyed the intergenerational experience. Everybody has been impressed with the new boat builders' achievements and fine woodwork.

The culmination of the activity came at the Kirkintilloch Canal Festival, where Depute Provost, Cllr Andrew Polson, launched the boat from the boathouse with local historian Don Martin giving a short talk to the young people about him witnessing the last boat being repaired and launched from the same location, in November 1961.

FEATURES

Christine Hammell tells the epic tale of sailing Maryhill down the canal and up the Clyde to Riverside Museum to take part in the Clydebuilt Festival.



In pictures: Maryhill on her voyage to the Clyde



THE journey from Glasgow Road bridge Kirkintilloch to Bowling Basin took nine hours. There were five volunteer crew onboard and a team of Scottish Canals lock keepers working the locks and bridges.

It was great to see lots of people using the towpath and they were also happy to see us using the Canal. A much improved atmosphere to the last time I was on this part of the Canal when it was virtually closed.

Bowling Sea Lock and onto the River Clyde to join the Tall ship Glen Lee at the Riverside Museum. There will be an opportunity to have a look round MV Maryhill and watch about 70 rowing boats racing on the River Clyde. Canalcraft project hope to participate with the boats they have built. Today





was so exciting as we left the lock and joined the Clyde behind a bulk carrier ship with two tugs. Maryhill and her crew managed fine as we cruised along behind her in the glorious sunshine.

It was great to see people on the bank waving and filming our progress along the River.

We arrived at the Riverside Museum and moored alongside Clyde Ferry Boat Number 8, rescued by us back in the early 1980's for a new life on the canal as 'Ferry Queen' before returning to her original home.



IN FOCUS

Paul Carter takes a trip down memory lane with this history of canal actvities in the 1970s



Whatever happened before Forth & Clyde Canal Society?

ACTUALLY; a lot was happening on the canals before FCCS got started nearly 40 years ago. The Forth and Clyde Canal was closed on January 1st 1963, and it was less than a decade before increasing dereliction prompted a number of local voluntary initiatives.

The Scottish Inland Waterways Association was formed in Edinburgh in 1971 and led many activities along the canal throughout the 1970's. Also in 1971, the Scottish Civic Trust launched 'Facelift Glasgow' which led to several years of canal clean ups by students and other volunteers. Local societies were formed in Falkirk, Linlithgow and Edinburgh. And the Strathkelvin Canal Park Group started campaigning in 1972.

With a bit of luck this brief introduction will prompt several veterans (Guthrie, Richard, Tommy, Ronnie... please) to send in articles giving their memories of these early years, maybe we can run a series? Just to get things started;

Strathkelvin Canal Park Group

With members in Cumbernauld, Kilsyth and Kirkintilloch the ultimate aim of this group was creation of a Canal Park stretching from Wyndford near Cumbernauld through to Bishopbriggs. They produced a detailed Plan in 1973 which called for improvements to the canal & towpath, boat houses & slipways, boat trips, publicity, canal side parks & picnic

areas. Their Plan also called for improved car parking, clearing up industrial dereliction, and links to Antonine Wall, Colzium Estate & Luggie Water. Much of this has actually happened, although not a formal Country Park as such.

The Group worked with Polmont Borstal boys and Endeavour Training apprentices to build a slipway and landing stage at Wyndford, used by the Edinburgh University ladies rowing club and the newly formed Cumbernauld Rowing Club. They also built a small landing stage & slipway at Auchinstarry, when this was still just a muddy marsh, and started the colourful Canal Safaris held as part of the Kilsyth Civic Week. Cumbernauld school students were organised to repaint Craigmarloch drawbridge, many canal clean ups were held.

Campaigns were run, both for the canal and against the proposed M80 Kelvin Valley route. Exhibitions & meetings were held in Kirkintilloch, Kilsyth & Cumbernauld. A folder of information leaflets was produced together with Strathclyde Regional Council. Meetings with Councillors helped towards the official Forth & Clyde Local Plan produced in 1979. Press, TV and radio gave useful publicity.

During the 1970's the Auchinstarry to Wyndford stretch of the canal saw several major rowing regattas with up to 270 competitors from across Scotland, the Scottish Canoe Association Championships, and over 500 anglers at the West of Scotland Coarse Fishing Association competition. Auchinstarry Quarry park was created, Jubilee Youth Centre established and the Kilsyth Local Plan featured the canal very positively.

In 1979 the Group joined a committee to set up the Forth and Clyde Canal Society and merged into the new Society when it got under way in 1980.



Edinburgh University Ladies Rowing Club who still use the canal to this day

IN FOCUS

Pictures from an Exhibition

Part two of an occasional series where Guthrie Hutton reports on lost archive canal images



Port Dundas

CONTINUING the occasional series looking at pictures that came into the possession of the Canal News editor, the selection this time is of two images of Port Dundas, both the work of artists rather than photographers.

One is a painting, which shows on the left a number of masted vessels lying alongside South Spiers Wharf. Opposite is a swift passage boat beside North Spiers Wharf and the Canal Offices, built about 1812. The picture dates from the 1840s, about twenty years before the building of the mills and other industrial buildings that characterise the wharf as it is today.

That makes this a fascinating image, as does the representation of the sleek fast passenger boat that two galloping horses hauled between Glasgow and Falkirk in greater comfort than stagecoaches could offer, and before railways superseded canal travel.

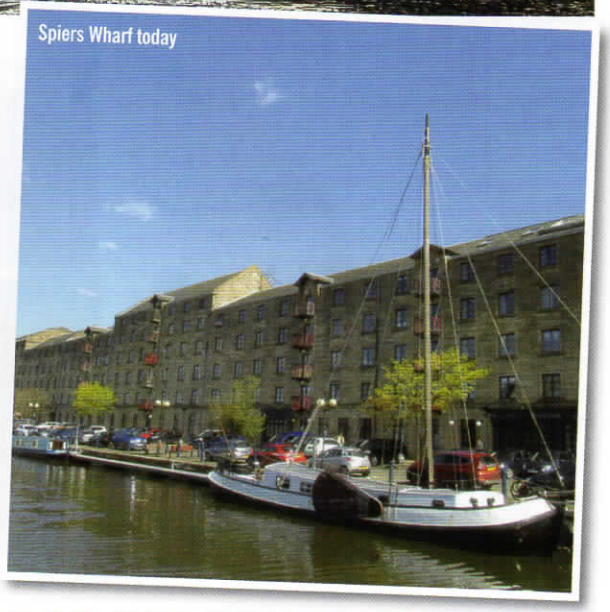
The other drawing shows the Port Dundas Distillery in the mid 1880's and comes from a series of articles on the 'Whisky Distilleries of the United Kingdom' compiled for Harper's



Weekly Gazette by an Alfred Barnard.

Many people, including my old mate and former society stalwart, Donald Mackinnon, would have envied his job. He had to visit every distillery of note writing about the layout and processes, supplies of water, fuel and grain, and of course sampling the product.

The puffer in the foreground is significant; the distilleries relied on puffers to deliver supplies and move barrels. The neighbouring Dundashill Distillery was owned by John Harvey whose son William opened a new distillery at Bruichladdich on Islay in 1881, so the puffers provided a link between city and island distilleries, and bonded warehouses.



Spiers Wharf today

IN FOCUS



Kirky Canal Festival Fun

IT WAS all action at Kirkintilloch's popular canal festival. There were themed cruises running all week in the lead up to the festival weekend. Storytelling, whisky tasting, bubbles & breakfast, fish teas were all on offer. Voyager did most of the cruises with the Seagull Trust's Wooden Spoon also taking part.

Get Active Saturday on the 31st August had something for everyone. Live performances, archery, canoeing, laser tag, climbing wall, pirates, roller skating, funfair, gin & whisky festival and water rollerz were all on offer. Our Gipsy Princess, along with the Marjorie Seagull and the Yarrow Seagull ran short public cruises. The day was rounded off with a concert and fireworks spectacular.

Gala Sunday included 1950's style jump 'n' jive, stalls, army assault course, model planes, Coppers on the Canal, Silent Disco as well as many of Saturdays events. Voyager and Gipsy Princess, along with the two Seagull boats ran short public cruises.





Canalside Collieries

MANY collieries opened along the Forth and Clyde canal, taking advantage of cheap transport from pithead to market.

Two of these were Meiklehill and Braes-'o'-Yetts on the east side of Kirkintilloch.

On Tuesday 3rd September Cumbernauld & Kilsyth Ramblers met beside the canal at Barleybank in Kirkintilloch for a walk through Luggie Park and Merkland Local Nature Reserve. The nature reserve, now wooded with ponds and small hills, was once the site of Meiklehill colliery and busy with industry.

Meiklehill was in production for fifty years before closing in 1926, the year of the General Strike. Coal from Meiklehill was taken in locomotive hauled wagons to a "couper" on the canal at Whitehill, now Harestanes. The coal was then transported on the Jeanie Nelson, one of the last coal boats on the canal.

Neighbouring Braes-'o'-Yetts sent its coal





along a short railway in "two tubs on a trolley" to the canal at Tintock, now a sleepy canal side clachan. Back then the tubs were lifted by crane and tilted into the waiting barge, gently so as not to damage the soft coal.

Changed days.

See 'The Story of Kirkintilloch' and other books by local historian and FCCS member Don Martin. There are several Ramblers groups along the canal, see www.ramblers.org.uk

THE
STABLES
Country Pub and Dining

Traditionally a place for boatmen and passengers to rest and eat, we look forward to welcoming you soon.

Serving great food. fine wines and premium lagers all day

Glasgow Bridge,
Glasgow Road,
Kirkintilloch.
G66 1RH
0141 777 6088



SPLASHBACK

SplashBack From The Canal News Archives

Thirty Years Ago

A whole host of activities were dealt with in our AGM report. Preparations for the Glasgow City of Culture, rallies for small canal boats & public trips, Ferry Queen sailings, Gipsy Princess construction fund reaching £25,000 target, national trail boat rally, and campaigns were all described.

Twenty Years Ago

"It's All Systems Go" was our lead story describing a vast array of construction projects for the Millennium Link. Also covered, Gipsy's successful cruising season, wildlife – damsels and dragons, history – Hugh Baird canal engineer, more wildlife – Banton Loch Birdwatch and a host of Society activities.

Ten Years Ago

"The Big Man To Be" was our cover story, featuring a twenty five feet high metal model by Andy Scott. The real thing was due to be built at Maryhill.

However, the Big Man was not to be, see Canal News last issue for the 100 feet high Stockingfield Bridge tower which is due to go up instead.

Other articles dealt with the winding up of SIWA – Scottish Inland Waterways Association, our Society cruise on the Manchester Ship Canal (see below), canal builders Burke and Hare, and a memorial to Donald MacKinnon, Society president, stalwart, character and great teller of tales.

From the Archives

Mersey ferry on the Manchester Ship Canal



SOCIETY NEWS


Heritage walk along the canal

Annual General Meeting

Come and enjoy our AGM and cruise. We meet at our Society office at Southbank Marina, Kirkintilloch, at 11:00am on Saturday 23rd November. Come along to hear all about our busy year of boat sailings, maintenance and crewing, CanalCraft project, finances, campaigning and more.

This is also your chance to elect the Society office bearers for the year ahead, including especially a new Chair. Members will find an AGM notice enclosed with this issue. Following the meeting we will enjoy snacks and a cruise, weather permitting.

Busy Cruising Year

We will hear a full report at the AGM. Our three boats, Voyager, Gipsy Princess and Maryhill have been busy with a wide variety of cruises including canal festivals, open doors days, school trips, birthday outings, wine tasting, community groups, and many more. In December we have a month full of Santa Cruises for Nonna's Kitchen.
See 'Scottish Local History' Issue 104 Autumn 2019 for full picture report on history cruise.

CanalCraft

Our heritage lottery funded CanalCraft project is now drawing to a successful conclusion. Community groups along the canal from Maryhill to Kirkintilloch have benefited, especially women's groups and youth groups. See this issue and previous issues for more details.

Next Year

We get 2020 off to a great start with our Annual Gathering cruise on Thursday 2nd January and Society lunch on Saturday 18th January at the Glazertbank Hotel,

SOCIETY NEWS

Lennoxtown. And please save the dates Thursday 27th February and Thursday 26th March (yes, it's a leap year) for our indoor meetings.

Subscriptions

The committee will discuss at the last meeting before the AGM whether there should be a change to the subscriptions for 2020 onwards, and any change will be recommended at the AGM and the decision will be included in the Spring 2020 issue of Canal News, along with the 2020 membership renewal notices.

Gift Aid

Some more members signed up to Gift Aid throughout the year and the 2018 submission made to HMRC contributed £652 to the Society coffers. The submission for 2019 will be made in late October / early November.

Lifejackets

We suggest that crew members bring their lifejackets along to the Annual Gathering and/or the Society lunch in January so they can be sent for servicing before the sailing season for 2020 begins.

Society Winch

Our winch, based next to the slipway at Glasgow Road Bridge, has had a busy year and serviced a fair number of private boats as well as the Society fleet. It has also received a complete professional overhaul.

New Website

Thanks to CanalCraft our website has had a major makeover and is now interactive – we have already had the first charter booking enquiries via the website. Check it out at www.forthandclyde.org.uk

Doors Open Day

We offered short cruises and a tour of the Society's office and exhibition for East Dunbartonshire Council's Doors Open Day to a very appreciative audience.

Maryhill Certificate

Maryhill has obtained her new Boat Safety Scheme Certificate for the next four years. Come along to the AGM to hear a full report on our boats and boating year.

Crews Needed

We are beginning to struggle for crews. Many have been through our first-rate training course, but fewer are responding to calls to crew specific charters.

Remember, this is your chance to enjoy a cruise and help the Society, both at the same time. What's not to like?

Please respond to Stewart's emails, with a 'yes' if possible, but even a 'no' is better than no response at all.



In Memoriam: Sandy LePla



It is with great sadness to announce the passing of one of the Societies early members Sandy Le Pla, a close family friend after a short Illness. Sandy was a committee member for some years and was Minute Secretary, Canal News editor, and assisted in going to talks assisting myself and Donald Mackinnon at different venues and groups all over the west of Scotland and eventually did quite a few on her own.

As a military nurse Sandy spent many years traveling the world to hot spots to carry out her duties and moved up the ranks, was Nursing Officer in a few hospitals until she retired. Sandy and her husband were pioneers on the canal by launching the first Restaurant vessel The Lady Margaret in 1985 which they operated for many years. An upmarket cruise and dinner venue which was popular and before its time but had a limited sailing route.

She was an amazing embroiderer with many exhibits on show at exhibitions and won awards for her efforts, Sandy will be missed by many.

Tommy Lawton

Commercial & Colour Printers & Office Suppliers

Cowan print

Cowan Print, Unit 18, Burnside Industrial Estate, Garrell Road, Kilsyth Glasgow G65 9JX
Tel: 01236 821177 Fax: 01236 821177 email: craig@cowanprint.co.uk

www.cowanprint.net

ABOUT US

Canal News

Canal News has been published since 1980 by the Forth and Clyde Canal Society. It contains news, articles and events, and is circulated three times a year to society members, libraries and public representatives. We welcome news items and short articles, with pictures if possible. Please get in touch by phone, post or e-mail. We look forward to hearing from you.

Many thanks to all who contributed articles, news, typing, computing and pictures for this issue. We do not normally attribute pictures, but if you would like an attribution, or we have used one without permission, please contact us and we will fully acknowledge in the next issue. Also please get in touch if you feel we have got facts wrong or you wish to challenge any opinions.

Contact Points

Editor	**Paul Carter, Woodlinn, High Banton, Kilsyth G65 0RA** Tel: **01236 822437** e-mail: **paulcarter1943@live.com**
Printer:	e-mail: **cowanprint@btconnect.com**
Distribution:	**Rachel Forbes**
Final Copy Date:	Next issue: **December 30th, 2019**
Head Office:	**Forth & Clyde Canal Society, Boat Users Block, Unit 4, Strathkelvin Place, Southbank Marina, Kirkintilloch, G66 1XT**

JOIN US AND HELP SAVE THE CANAL

- Campaigning
- Boats
- Socials
- Walks
- Volunteering

Come and enjoy our many activities from boat crewing and maintenance to talks and walks.

Forth & Clyde Canal Society

Annual subs

Family £25
Ordinary Member £20
Student or Pensioner £12

Contact

The Membership Secretary
83 Glenacre Road
Cumbernauld G67 2NT

Telephone 01236 735533
Email:
robert.irvine@talktalk.net

Forth & Clyde Canal Society Executive

Chairman
Vacant

Vice Chair / Training
Jim McLachlan 0141 956 3579

Secretary / Company Secretary
Christine Hammell 0141 561 1953

Treasurer / Membership / Bookings
Robert Irvine 01236 735533

President
Guthrie Hutton

Enjoy our Canal Informatrix

Keep in touch with us in a variety of ways:-

WEB SITE Visit our website www.forthandclyde.org.uk for latest news, events, and background information. Contact our webmaster if you wish to help, at our email address.

E-MAIL ALERTS keep up with the latest events etc. Join our email circulation list by contacting our webmaster on forthandclydecanalsociety@hotmail.co.uk

make friends with us on **Facebook**

Join us on **Twitter**

CANAL SOCIETY BRANDED CLOTHING

We now have a new supplier of branded clothing – see below for items and prices

Premium T-Shirt	White only	**£9.00**
Classic Polo Shirt	Navy or White	**£12.00**
Classic Sweatshirt	Navy	**£14.50**
Classic Fleece	Navy	**£19.50**
Selkirk Softshell Jacket	Navy	**£30.00**
Regatta Microfleece, ¼ zip	Navy or Royal Blue	**£18.00**
Baseball Cap	Navy	**£6.50**
Beanie Hat	Navy	**£6.50**

All shirts, sweatshirts and jackets come with two logos, left chest and right arm. Cap and hat with one logo.
All logos are embroidered with the exception of the T-shirt and Baseball Cap which are heat sealed logos.
Contact Membership Secretary, details previous page.

Autumn/Winter Events 2019/20

OCTOBER

Saturday 26th CanalCraft Celebratory Event
This is the final event of a successful project year. Kirkintilloch Town Hall. 11:00am.

NOVEMBER

Saturday 23rd Society AGM and Cruise
Society Office, Southbank Marina, Kirkintilloch. 11:00am.
Followed by snacks and a sail on Voyager.
See enclosed notification for Society members.

DECEMBER

Santa Cruises 7th, 8th, 14th, 15th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd & 24th December
No less than 32 trips throughout December weekends.
Contact Nonna's Kitchen on 0141 776 277 for details and bookings, or check their website.

JANUARY 2020

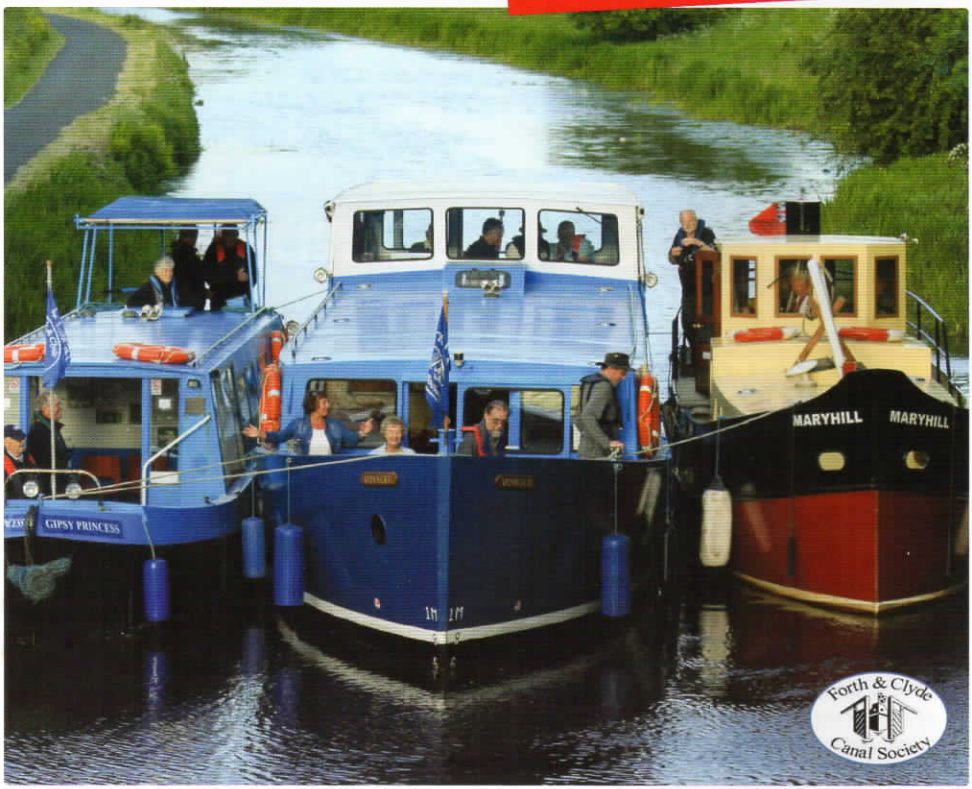
Thursday 2nd Members Annual Gathering
Society Office, Southbank Marina, Kirkintilloch at noon for 12:30 cruise on Voyager, or gathering in office if ice or storm bound.

Saturday 18th Members Annual Lunch
Glazertbank Hotel, Lennoxtown.
12:30 for 1:00pm.
Book with Maie Semple on 0141 776 7325.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Members Meetings
Thursday 27th February and Thursday 26th March
Speakers to be announced. Save the dates.

REMEMBER
AGM & Cruise Saturday 23rd November



KEEP UP TO DATE: For updates and further information see our 'Canal Informatrix' on p23

Design & Print by Cowan Print, Kilsyth 01236 821177