



SLEAFORD NAVIGATION NEWS



NOSTALGIA NIGHT

Our next social evening is on Friday, 27th November at Anwick Sports and Social Club. Freshly gleaned potatoes from the fens around Ruskington, rinsed in spring water and gently heated in a process passed from Spud U Like to Spud U Like by a quaint fen farmer's wife will grace the palate. But, there is more. As some of our newer members will not be aware of the antics we got up to in the earlier days, we are bringing in some of the archive photos, newsletters, letters, bric-a-brac, etc. to browse through. If you have anything, then bring it along. We hope to use some of the material for display boards on our stall at the Peterborough Waterways Festival next year and in the Cogglesford Mill display. In particular we would like to trace photographs of the Slea when it carried commercial craft.

All are welcome, why not bring a friend or a bus load? If the latter, then let Pat Taylor know as the jacket tates will need stretching.

PHONE (H) 0522 790652

ANWICK POUND

At the time of writing, October, we are trying to arrange a site meeting with Mr Davy-Thornhill, the owner of the Haverholme Estate. He is nervous about the effect of increased public access to his land and we want to show him that the proposed bank work will not be detrimental. Indeed, the work will improve his land by reducing the risk of flooding. There will be far greater controls over the water levels than currently exist.

SUMMER WORK CAMP

Work was carried out at both Cobblers Lock and Cogglesford Lock. This was the first time we had put a team onto the waterway in Sleaford and the object was to clean out the lock chamber, removing the trees and scrub which are causing the walls to crumble. Unfortunately, due to various problems, we did not get all the work completed but we are very keen to run some weekend work parties through the winter to finish what we have started. One problem that we have not been used to for some time is that of water! With the recent rain we can't get into the chamber. In the meantime, Lionel Rudkin is liaising with NKDC in order to plan further work parties. If you would like to know when these are, do contact Lionel. PHONE (H) 0529 60111

SWIMMING THE SLEA?

Well, perhaps not quite but we are going to attempt a 13 mile sponsored swim in Sleaford swimming pool. That's 832 lengths! The event is being brought together by Lincoln and District Life Saving and Lifeguard Club and friends from North Kesteven District Council, some of whom, we understand, can swim 1 mile or 64 lengths. But don't be daunted. Come along individually or as a group and see what you can do. To any non-swimmers, please encourage some sponsors and come along to support. The swim is on Saturday, December 12th at 9am (yes, 9am). The society really needs the funds to keep going with all the projects we have under way and your support by getting sponsors can make an enormous difference. A sponsor form is enclosed and further ones can be obtained from Bob Portlock on Sleaford 240501.

Money should be returned to our Treasurer, Dave Turner, at Brownlow House, Brownlow Hills, Coddington, Newark, NG24 2QA. Cheques please, not coinage, along with your sponsor form.

PETERBOROUGH WATERWAYS FESTIVAL, AUGUST '93

The Society has decided to take a stall at the Inland Waterways Association's National Waterways Festival over the August Bank Holiday weekend next year. It was felt this would be an excellent opportunity to promote the Slea and Lincolnshire waterways to what has become a massive gathering of boaters, traders and other interested parties. It will be the closest the Festival will come to us for several years and leads nicely into our campaign to celebrate the following year, 1994, as the two hundredth anniversary of the opening of the Sleaford Navigation. We will have our stall alongside the Lincs IWA and discussions are in hand to share some facility with North Kesteven District Council.

We would welcome help over that weekend so that not too much falls on too few. Dave Pullen and his Slea'94 committee seem to have initially picked up the baton for this.

SLEAFORD '94

The committee has met on several occasions now to look at the options available to celebrate the bi-centenary of the opening of the waterway. Boat and caravan gatherings are being discussed along with events to try and involve the whole community over a week of activities. Steve Hayes' wordprocessor is starting to turn out some smart leaflets and he and Chris are looking at providing the local schools with an education pack. We are delighted to have the active involvement of Arthur Higgs with his wealth of experience. We have chosen the logo "Lets Restore for '94" to lead the campaign.

NEWSFLASH

Car stickers are being produced, get yours at the social evening.

The society was featured in Waterways World in November.

We've found a source of clay. Anybody got some lorries?

Granite cobbles have been given to the society.

We have a Derelict Land Grant application in for funding the work on the Anwick pound.

There is a lot of water in the Slea. Get your camera out.

