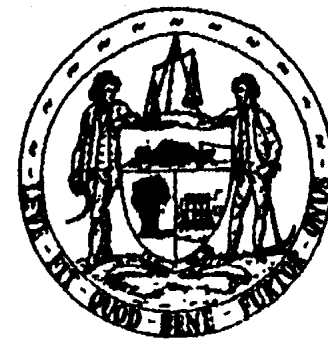


SLEAFORD NAVIGATION NEWS

SUMMER 1993



EDITORIAL

Following our Annual General Meeting in May, several members have come forward with offers of help on the work parties and with general back-up assistance i.e. envelope stuffing, poster placing etc. Their offers of assistance are very much appreciated. We are still looking for more and, for those who were not at the AGM, may I take this opportunity of asking for any other potential helpers to come forward. To remind you, we are looking for volunteers who might be able to give a few hours in the year to back up some of our committee members. An example might be a member, or members, who might ring round a list of people who have shown interest in the monthly work parties as a reminder of the date of the next one, and to check if they are attending. This then leaves the organiser, Neil, free to concentrate on equipment and materials, etc., yet doesn't put too much responsibility on the helper. Alternatively, someone might be able to help with enveloping newsletters and mailshots. A few hours of your help could make all the difference to those on the committee. If you feel that you could help, please contact our (new) secretary Steve Hayes, on 0522 689460.

COMMITTEE CHANGES

We are sorry to lose Hugh Scotney and Stuart Martin from the committee, and really appreciate the help and support that they have given the Society over the years. Hugh, initially came to the committee as a representative of the Boston Motor Yacht Club, whilst Stuart looked at the flora and fauna aspects for us. Neil Evans has also stepped down from a formal committee position but will still be looking after our work party organisation, and hopefully attending our meetings when able. Bob Portlock has stepped down as Clerk due to pending job changes but, along with Pat, retains the job of membership secretary. Bob, however, still remains on the committee, after twelve years habits die hard. Bob's input and support over the years have been very much appreciated. Steve Hayes has taken up the Clerk's role and Chris Hayes has agreed to take responsibility for publicity.

LIST OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Martin Chapman	Chairman	0636 812572
Steve Hayes	Clerk	0522 689460
Dave Turner	Treasurer	0636 708781
Lionel Rudkin	Engineer	0529 60111
Pat Taylor	Sales	0522 790652
Chris Hayes	Publicity	0522 689460
Dave Pullen	Slea '94	0673 862278
Bob Portlock	Membership	0529 240501
Sue Sowerby	The rest!!	0522 793149

Non Committee positions.

Neil Evans	Work parties	0529 61049
Alan Woodhouse	Boat rally '94	0526 22438

MEMBERSHIP

This is the time of year to renew membership. Fees have been kept down this year but, an increase has been agreed for May 1994. The current membership fees are:- Single £3.00, Joint £5.00, and Junior £0.50. Do renew and, if possible, round up your payment as a small donation. Please contact Bob Portlock, Red Gables, Pointon Fen, Pointon, Billingborough, Sleaford, NG34 0LF.

RAFFLE

OH NO! Not raffle books. Well, yes, we're sorry but the Society desperately needs funds and this was felt a good way of raising money without committing too much of the committee's time. We are enclosing five books with the newsletter to each member, and hope we do not offend if we ask you to sell them on our behalf. The first prize is £50, other prizes include a Sunday lunch for two and a year's subscription to Waterways World. The tickets have been on sale for a short while now, they were on sale at the Erewash Rally and will also be on sale at Peterborough, and will remain on sale until the November social evening when the raffle will be drawn. Please try and sell your tickets, more are available on request, and send the counterfoils and money to Bob Portlock.

THE NEXT TWELVE MONTHS

The next twelve months are going to be a very busy time for the society. We have two Derelict Land Grant applications on the go, one for the water supply feasibility study and one for the Anwick Pound. There is much work on the go to finalise the details for our stall at the National Waterways Festival in Peterborough over the August Bank Holiday weekend plus the preparation for the bi-centenary week of celebration next May. There are also Waterways Recovery Group work party visits to the Slea to organise as well as the monthly work parties. Not to mention negotiations with land owners over access to land. Ah.... and we also feel it is time to move the Society to being a company limited by guarantee, and considering trust status. And then.... in our spare time...!

GRANTS AND DERELICT LAND GRANTS

Our DLG application for the feasibility study of Haverholme to Sleaford seems close to fruition. We also currently have grant applications in to the County Council for £10000 and the Rural Development Commission for £7500, and are keeping everything crossed. The National Rivers Authority have promised £1500 towards the study.

The DLG application for the Anwick Pound has gone through the survey and we now await a decision from the DOE on that. Having the Slea reopened into Haverholme Park would be a major boost for the area.

WATER!!

Yes, we still have some. There is a good flow in the Slea with 2-3 inches flowing over the stopboards at Cobblers Lock. It is a pleasure to see the Navigation looking so healthy, even if it does create problems when organising the work we can carry out.

WEEDCUTTING

With the hoped for increase in visiting boats next year we have approached the NRA to bring forward their weedcutting programme. Dare we also hope for some dredging as well?

SLEAFORD '94

Plans are moving ahead for the bicentenary celebrations which seem to have picked up the name "SLEA '94". Some of the ideas being considered being a reenactment of the opening ceremony, a civic reception, a boat and caravan rally, a schools pack, and a visit by the Mikron Theatre group, a touring waterways theatre company. The final programme is still to be finalised but, put the week into your diaries, 30th April to 6th May 1994.

WORK PARTIES

Visiting work groups from BITM and WRG North East came to Cobblers Lock over the weekend of 19th June to help with work on the by-pass weir. The work will repair the structure to prevent further erosion of the channel. It was good to see two new members take part as well as the visitors.

PETERBOROUGH - NATIONAL WATERWAYS FESTIVAL

For the first time, the society will have a stall at the IWA National Festival. With the festival so near to home, at least by car, we felt that it would be an excellent opportunity to promote the Sleas and Lincolnshire waterways in general.

We have taken a covered pitch and North Kesteven District Council have worked with us to put together a display of nine boards on various aspects of the waterway. In addition, on the stand there will be an area for children to make badges and a sales table.

CHARITY BANK

The IWA, in the past, have been active supporters of the society, with much of this coming through the enthusiasm of Michael Handford, who is Chairman of the Restoration Committee.

Amongst other things he runs the charity bank for IWA & WRG, collecting vouchers, tokens, foil, etc. to raise funds. Particularly needed are the following:- old and new Green Shield stamps, Co-op, Blue Chip, Pink, Look, Cash, Premier Gold, Supersave, Nationwide, and all other types of trading stamps. Also needed are Texaco, Gulf, Mobil, Shell, BP, Esso, Fina, Elf, Heron, Total, Burmah, and all other types of petrol vouchers as well as Air Miles, Cigarette coupons, silver foil, aluminium can ring pulls and all denominations of used postage stamps. Please save these items and send them to Michael at:- WRG/IWA Charity Bank, 6 Spa Lane, Hinckley, Leicestershire, LE10 1JB

STOP PRESS!!!!

Just as this news letter is going to press, the Department of the Environment have written to confirm provisional approval for the DLG for the feasibility study. That puts £14,700 into our hands. We must now hope that the County Council and the Rural Development Commission can assist with the balance.

MERCHANDISE

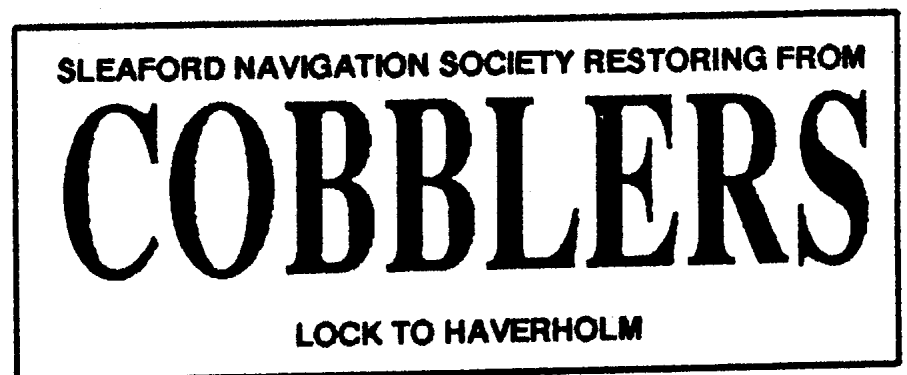
We now have for sale a range of quality goods to help raise society funds.

MUGS The Slea '94 committee has designed a bicentenary mug which is available, price £2.50, from either Pat Taylor or Steve Hayes. A definite collector's item.

CLOTHING The 'famous' Cobblers sweatshirts now have a rival. A new design has been created especially for the bicentenary celebrations, the new design comes in an elegant bottle green with gold lettering and the company crest. Don't be left out of the fashion hit for 93/94, order now. The Cobblers design will also be still available, and both designs may be ordered from Pat Taylor.



CAR STICKERS Over the next year we want to raise the profile of the restoration of the Slea. This means getting as many people as possible to know about the project and to hear about it from as many different directions as possible. One way you can help is to carry a car sticker in your car or boat. The stickers continue the Cobblers theme and only cost a modest 50p, again available from Pat Taylor.



ORDER FORM

NAME

ADDRESS

.....

.....

POSTCODE

Please send me the following items:-

..... No. Cobblers T-Shirts	size	At £6.50 each.
..... No. Cobblers Sweat Shirts	size	At £15.00 each.
..... No. Slea' 94 T-Shirts	size	At £6.50 each.
..... No. Slea' 94 Sweat Shirts	size	At £15.00 each.
..... No. Bicentenary Mugs.		At £2.50 each.
..... No. Car Stickers.		At £0.50 each.