



Neath and Tennant Canals Trust

Quarterly Newsletter

June 2010 – No. 132



Neath Canal - the new access to launching ramp at Ynysbwlllog

News.

Thomas Dadford

As stated in the last Newsletter, our trip boat, 'Thomas Dadford' is in Starline's boatyard in Upton-upon-Severn having a complete overhaul. Latest news from Starline is that they are experiencing a few problems with the new windows because the original openings were rusty so they had to cut away the rust to get to sound metal, hence making the openings larger. New windows are being made to size and will not be delivered until the end of June. Starline are suggesting a completion date of about the 12th July so hopefully we will be up and running in time for the school holidays. A new engine will be sourced and fitted locally.

Grants and Donations.

As mentioned in the last Newsletter, a number of grants and donations had been received which enabled us to complete the planned refurbishment of the 'Thomas Dadford'. Our thanks go to the following organisations for their very generous help –

Y Gronfa Wledig – £8,000 - a scheme partly funded by the European Union through the Rural Development Plan for Wales; Welsh Churches Act Fund - £2,000; Western Power Distribution plc - £1,000; Skewen Congregational Church - £1,000.

Crew Training.

As soon as 'Thomas Dadford' is back in the water crew training will commence. Members who are already on the crew list will be contacted about this but if there are any other members out there who would like to crew, please contact out Hon Sec, Ian Milne, as soon as possible.

Work Parties.

One Work Party was held recently – at Aberdulais Basin to cut down a tree which was leaning over the canal. The area around the Skew Bridge was also cleaned up.

Tennant Canal.

A new footbridge has been installed over the Tennant Canal near Jersey Marine village to replace the one removed by the Tennant Canal Company some time ago for Health and Safety reasons. This will enable walkers to again walk from Jersey Marine to Neath Abbey.

Neath Canal – Towpath Closure.

The towpath on the Neath Canal between B&Q and Bridge Street in Neath Town Centre will be closed for approx. 17 weeks due to work being carried out on the railway bridge which crosses the canal at this point.

Family History Day.

The Trust had a stall at the Family History Day which was held at the Waterfront Museum, Swansea on Saturday 22nd May. A number of people showed an interest in the canal and the work that the Trust is doing. Many thanks to Mike Jones and Ian Milne for manning the stall all day.

More News.

Congratulations.

Belated congratulations to Veronica and Derrick Warren on their Diamond Wedding Anniversary. They were married on the 1st April 1950 and a photo of the happy couple appeared in the Evening Post.

National Trailboat Festival 2010.

If you have access to the Internet, have a look at the Mon & Brec Canal Trust site where there are lots of photos of this years event which took place at the end of May. You can also watch video footage on YouTube. This will give you some idea of what to expect at next years event on the Neath Canal.

National Trailboat Festival 2011.

As mentioned in the last Newsletter, organising an event on this scale will require a lot of help. Volunteers will be required to do a variety of jobs such as crewing the trip boat, manning stalls in the marquee, car park control, security, general marshalling duties etc etc. Come along to our AGM in July (see notice elsewhere in this Newsletter) to find out more about this important event.

Publicity Officer.

The post of Publicity Officer is vacant at the moment so the Trust is seeking an enthusiastic member to fill this post as soon as possible – especially with the Trailboat Festival being held on our patch next year. If you are interested, please contact the General Secretary, Ian Milne.



Repainting work being carried out on bridge across Neath Canal at Bridge Street

Important Notice.

Notice of Annual General Meeting

to be held at

Lock House (British Legion), Aberdulais
on

Wednesday 28th. July 2010.

at 8.00 p.m.

AGENDA.

1. Apologies.
2. Minutes of A.G.M. of 22nd. July 2009.
3. Matters Arising.
4. Chairman's Report.
5. Presentation of Accounts.
6. Election of President.
7. Election of Council of Management Members – Messrs Peter Ricketts, Malcolm Smith, Edward Porter and Mrs. Jean Morgan retire on rotation. Please send any nominations to the General Secretary, Mr. Ian Milne, 16, Gower Road, Sketty, Swansea, SA2 9BY to arrive at least 21 days before the date of the AGM.
8. Socialisation and informal discussion on National Trailboat Festival 2011
To be held on the Neath Canal over the weekend 29th – 31st May.



Work in progress at Clyne Lock (April 2010) – building new layby.



Clyne Lock – building new bridges across the lock and bypass weir.



The Neath Canal alongside the site of the 2011 National Trailboat Festival



The site of the 2011 National Trailboat Festival

**Some photographs of the National Trailboat Festival –
Mon & Brec Canal, Newport - 2010**



Photographs taken by Peter Ricketts.

Have a look at the following websites for more photos and information on this event –

www.mon-brec-canal-trust.org.uk

There is a link from this site to a video on YouTube.

Interesting reading on the following site - a diary of the weekend written by a member of the Wilderness Boat Owners Club –

www.wilderness.org.uk

**Neath and Tennant Canals Trust.
Council of Management 2009 – 2010.**

Chairman: Peter Ricketts MBE Tel: 01792 360688

Vice-Chairman and Work Party Organiser: Malcolm Smith Tel: 01792 774991

General Secretary: Ian Milne Tel: 01792 547902

Company Secretary – Huw James.

Treasurer: Trevor Morgan.

Membership Secretary: Trevor Morgan.

Social Secretary: Vacant.

Publicity Officer: Vacant

Newsletter Editor: Ted Porter.

Other Directors:

Edwin Farrar Jean Morgan
Mike Jones.

Articles, letters, photographs etc. are always needed to keep your newsletters interesting. All contributions should be sent to the Editor:

Ted Porter,
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Rhyddings, Neath,
SA10 8EF

Email: edward.porter.eurfryn@ntlworld.com

- by the first week of the month of publication i.e. March,
June, September and December.