

TSCC



Norfolk Broads May 2016

In this issue: Fitting Out Supper; AAA; Norfolk Broads; Basingstoke Canal; Return to Mexico



Thames Scout Cruising Club Newsletter No. 102
July 2016

Chairman's Log



Hello Everyone.

It has been a very sad time for TSCC firstly, we lost Vic Lundberg, he fought such a courageous battle with his cancer, we will be sorry not to see him again at our club events. His wife Joyce has been suffering with ill health so let our thoughts and prayers be with her.

We were all so sad to hear about the about the passing of Jim Potheary, one of our original members. Jim was a great asset to our club; he always had a big smile and a positive attitude. Jim was always an avid supporter of the TSCC, joining in with as many events as he possible could. Myownie will be greatly missed at Hurley this year. Despite this sad news we will carry on with the rest of our excellent program and I look forward to seeing you either on your boats or at the fun day at Hurley.

I will finish this log with my best wishes to those TSCC members and their families who are coping with ill health. I am sure that the lovely cards that Rita sends to our members both at difficult and happy times are welcomed by those who receive them.

Elaina

Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm

In our last Newsletter there was an article about free (for men over 65) ultrasound scans to detect AAA. That article was suggested by Mark Marriott who had already undergone the scan (which was clear).

TSCC Member, Graham Bucknell, has provided the following news of his experience:

“Until reading the article about Abdominal Aortic Aneurysms (AAA) I had not realised any male over 65 could request a scan. As two of my friends, by a rare and unhappy coincidence husband and wife, both died from AAA - one on the operating table and one in the ambulance - I decided to request a scan.

The procedure could not have been more easy, it was done at a local health centre and the result was given straight away (I am clear). In discussion with the clinician he said that with the ultra sound scan they measure the width of the aorta and if it is normal, as it is in the vast majority of cases, no further action is needed. If it is enlarged you will be called back from time to time for monitoring, if it is dangerously enlarged you will be referred to a Consultant.

It would seem that this is one of those (free) services that is available on the NHS but not publicised. Since having my scan I have mentioned it to my walking group and Iris's Parkinson group, nobody had heard of it but many have now had a scan and know they are all clear.

Well done TSCC.”

Graham

Fitting Out Supper



This years' supper took place at the Anglers, Walton-on-Thames.

This is always a popular event and this year was no exception with 53 guests attending.

Not surprisingly, it was a noisy and jolly occasion and everyone seemed to have a

great time enjoying the meal and the company. Phyllis Bunce added to the table decorations a chick (one for each guest) enclosing a chocolate egg – all her own work. Janet Barber gave us an excellent table quiz.



The event produced a modest surplus which will go into our fund to support scouts/guides.

Our thanks to Mark Marriott for his excellent organisation.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR SCOUTS/GUIDES

TSSC is always looking for Scouting/Guiding projects which need financial support. If your local Group is in need of funds for specific projects ask them to write a letter to our Secretary giving full details. (David Sowter Honorary Secretary Thames Scout Cruising Club Thursday Cottage, 21 Ember Lane, Esher, Surrey KT10 8EA or email: David.sowter@nahs.org.uk) Our Committee will be pleased to consider all requests.

TSCC Norfolk Broads Cruise 15-22 May 2016

The combined reminiscences of Sally Holdaway and Judy Bowles



The holiday started with everybody arriving at Herbert Woods Boat Yard at Potter Heigham. **There were 12 boats and 37 people taking part.** Our first destination was approx 1½ hour cruise to **Acle** where we moored for the night. We were all treated to a marvellous BBQ supplied and cooked by **Mark, Jackie and their crew**, with the help of many willing hands of members, We had an excellent meal of steak, chicken, sausages, various salads, new potatoes, French bread and delicious desserts of raspberry pavlova, lemon mousse, pears in red wine and chocolate gateaux, **all homemade!** We also had complimentary sparkling wine! **It was absolutely outstanding bearing in mind all the food had to be brought to Acle by cars and boats.**

On Monday morning several boats had a rude awakening when they were asked to move at 8am by the owner of the small marina who was expecting some hire boats to return! We set off at midday for our cruise to Somerleyton. To get there we had to pass between the River Bure and Breydon Water which can have very strong currents and is tidal. It was a 4½ hour cruise and all went very well for all the boats. We have been lucky with the weather so far today as it is mild and bright! We all moored up together on public mooring and Mark and his crew were waiting to take our ropes. In the evening we all went to the **Duke's Head Pub** which had been pre-booked for all of us for an evening meal which was very good. **We took over the whole restaurant!**

Tuesday: we all woke up to a beautiful blue sky and sunshine. Today we are going to see **Somerleyton Hall and gardens.** Mark booked a mini bus to take us in two trips. We all thoroughly enjoyed the guided tour of the house; we had two guides, both very informative. The house is still lived-in today. Very interesting history and some beautiful paintings, furniture and china. Also, two huge stuffed polar bears, a smaller

brown bear, tiger skins and various other trophies from hunting expeditions! Then we had a lovely tour of the gardens by the head gardener. She was very informative and explained that they were gradually trying to get the gardens replanted and designed as they had been neglected. They are beginning to look very nice with a vegetable garden and flowers which they use in the house and cafe and the local pubs which the estate owns. In fact Somerleyton Estate owns 500,000 acres! Then some of us went into the Maze. It was a-maze-ing and apparently is ¼ mile to the middle and ¼mile to get out, not taking into account getting lost! It was good fun and in the middle is a unique wooden building up some steps, very surprising. There is a lovely sunken water garden which is very pretty and has been planted to be all white flowers to flower at different times of the year. We returned to our boats and set-off for **Beccles Yacht Station** where we had mooring booked. It was a very nice 3 hour cruise. The evening was free for people to relax in their own way.

Wednesday: After a full day on Tuesday it was lovely to have a slow start to the day. Clive & Judy, being very much the non-boaters of the flotilla, yet again appreciated the advice and knowledge of seasoned pros. Everything was nearby for all the important things like water. Useful tips about clearing the horrible sticky mud off the mud weights by dunking them in the water before putting on deck! By lunchtime boats started to gradually leave Beccles for our moorings at **Oulton Broad**. The next stage was drizzle all the way, but going into Oulton Broad - beautiful scenery. TSCC took up virtually all the moorings outside the **Wherry Hotel**. A carvery dinner had been booked at the Hotel which was very much enjoyed. A quiz also took place which had been devised by Janet Barber. Lots of laughter and discussion. **Lovely to see special guests Iris and Graham who joined us for dinner.**

Thursday morning: after all the drizzle of the day before, a lovely start to the day with brilliant sunshine. The moorings outside the Wherry became 'conversation alley' with everyone having a leisurely start to the day. We also had our own personal Herbert Woods' mechanic, Wayne. He was so helpful and accommodating, answering lots of questions apart from the original call out. Oulton Broad was a lovely village with shops and a park accessed over Mutford Lock leading to Lowestoft. Looking back it gave us a picturesque view as we left for our onward journey.



This was one of the longer trips and everyone had different plans en route. Sally & Les stopped at **Reedham** for lunch. They found the mooring a little hair-raising as the weather was beginning to change and the tide was very strong at the same time. "Thought we were doing quite well until we

got tangled up in another boat's fenders. Even expert help on hand thought we were on the back foot as our boat did not have a very strong an engine!"

Following Mark's very informative itinerary people started to go to different moorings. Some to **Brammerton Common** which was found to be very peaceful with lots of rabbits running around and also nearer to Norwich for the next day.

Sally & Les and others moored outside the **Ferry House** which Mark had pre- booked. The meal at the Ferry House was really excellent and everybody had a very enjoyable evening.

Clive & Judy, together with Pauline & Peter, and Barbara & John investigated The New Inn, **Rockland St Mary**. "The map said that Rockland Broad was shallow with navigation channels. They were not kidding; although very narrow it was like a chapter out of Swallows and Amazons until we reached the moorings at the end. We were so pleased as we managed an almost first-time stern-on mooring! An idyllic spot to walk Bryn the dog on a nature reserve where we saw pheasants and herons to work up an appetite for dinner. A great meal, very different as the chef was Polish and we had to ask for a translation of some of the dishes, but delicious."

Friday morning: as some people decided to go to Norwich Les & Sally, with Lesley & John decided to go for a walk to see our next mooring at **Coldham Hall Tavern**, Surlingham, about a 5 mile round trip. A very nice walk and decided to begin making our way on to the next moorings together with five other boats. A very pleasant spot with good moorings and bookings were made to eat at Coldham Hall in the evening. The sun is shining again, we have been so lucky with the weather.

Clive & Judy's group travelled up to Brundell where "we had to do an emergency pump out! Even though the cost was apparently a little excessive, we were just so pleased that the Broom Marina accommodated us! Relief!"



"After our 'emergency' we travelled up to **Whitlingham Country**

Park. Such a pretty stretch of the Broads. The park had amazing facilities for children over 8 years, very well attended with lessons for sailing and canoeing, climbing and archery. Following TSCC's involvement with scouts I could imagine they would very

much enjoy all the activities. As well as this there were beautiful walks through the grounds with families of ducks on the water. All this led to an informative visitor centre.”

During the evening everyone converged on the Coldham Hall. There was lots of laughter at the mooring prowess, or lack of it, in the strong winds. We were certainly very glad we were not alone in going the wrong way. Yet again, glad all the other members were so helpful and had very strong arms.

Outside the pub was a sculpture of a Wherryman and on turning the handle you could hear a potted history of their craft. Everyone met in the pub for either food or drinks. As always, very friendly. During the day there were some mishaps but glad to report that everyone survived.

Saturday: another long run and after pit stops for essentials like water all the boats left for the journey back to a meeting point at the Berney Arms for the crossing of **Breydon Water** on the tide. Again, one of the more challenging moorings with the tide and Clive & Judy were so pleased to do a perfect moor, everyone else was speechless, “at least we managed one as complete novices!” We all left at the allotted time and our flotilla travelled through with everyone keeping an eye on everyone else. Thankfully the water was not as high as it could have been and it was great fun seeing all our boats together. It was a bit scary after turning left at the yellow marker post. For those

nearer the front there was a Broom hire boat coming towards us with the tide going very fast. Having gone almost broadside towards our boats he managed to, thankfully, avoid everyone. Once he got further down the line the driver went from scared and white to petrified and grey! We on the other hand seemed to be going backwards even at full speed ahead. A great adventure.



Photo competition winner “My Cousin”
by Rosie

After all the excitement the rest of the journey to **Stacey Arms Windmill** was very peaceful and once safely moored were welcomed by donkeys and Thelwell ponies from the Windmill grounds. Because of the sailing regatta to be held at Acle the following day Mark and Jackie did a splendid job to find this alternative mooring. This

allowed plenty of time to prepare for the Gala Dinner at **the Waterside, Rollesby.**

Coaches took us to The Waterside. Beautiful location set on Rollesby Broad a modern light timber framed restaurant. The table decorations in club colours were splendid, that they could be eaten - even better! Once the meal began it was punctuated by Mark 'taking wine' for various topics and people to reflect our week on the Broads. There were also the results and prizes for the photographic and quiz competitions which highlighted what a super time had been had by everyone full of fun and laughter.

Sunday morning was a little sad as it meant we were nearing the end of our trip but after a good run back to Potter Heigham everyone managed to arrive back in time to hand over the boats. After lots of goodbyes and wishes of safe journeys we all drifted back home to look forward to our next get-together.

As a closing note, we are sure everyone agrees that all the time and effort from Mark and Jackie were greatly appreciated and led to a fantastic adventure on the Broads.



A delightful day in the sun for TSCC on Basingstoke Canal

Forty- odd of us assembled at Colt Hill Wharf Odiam, for what was a very delightful trip on the Basingstoke Canal.



The Basingstoke Canal was built in 1794 at nearly twice its estimated cost. The overall distance was 37 miles with 29 locks. It was totally restored after years of neglect in 1990. The ownership was transferred from the then owner to the two County Councils, who funded a programme of restoration, leading to the official re-opening in 1991 by the Duke of Kent in May 1991. The Basingstoke Canal Society have been pivotal in leading a programme of improvements, including water management, this is monitored by CRT at their Devizes base and helps to control levels and back-pumping. The society also runs the John Pinkerton 11, which replaced the original boat a few years ago.



John Pinkerton was the contractor who built the canal and worked in conjunction William Jessop who designed the canal. John Pinkerton was a bit of a colourful character, having been dismissed from various building schemes, ending up in jail at one point!

The trip was from the Wharf to King John's Castle just over an hour away. Unfortunately, he wasn't at home, but we had a nice look round at the ruined castle. This is very near the end of navigation and, with the entrance of a small river, the water was very clear and fish could be seen swimming around.

On the way there we were given Afternoon Tea from small hampers, beautifully prepared and decorated by Elaina, Janet and their considerable team. Tea was served and the Bar was open for drinks. While we were looking at the Castle the boat was winded (turned around) and we were ready for the return trip. On both the outward and return trips we were entertained by a lady playing music which helped to set a very pleasant atmosphere.

No one fell in, so the return was uneventful but very relaxing and enjoyable, as we were given delicious cakes. A **big thank you** to all who organised the trip. Nothing was left to chance and we all departed home after a group photo and a very restful afternoon.

Dusty Miller

New Bridge over the Thames

A new pedestrian bridge opened in Reading on 30th September 2015.

The bridge is 400 ft long with a river span of 223ft.

The mast sits 128 ft above the river.

There are 234 LED lights along the walkway, 39 of which are colour changing.

The local authority held a competition to name the bridge which is now Christchurch Bridge. This relates to its landing point in Christchurch Meadows.



Return to Mexico

In February it was my 2nd visit to Mexico with the **Trefoil Guild**. We stayed for 3 nights in Mexico City but we were pleased to leave as the pollution was so bad.

We then travelled to the World Centre - Our Cabana in Cuernavaca. We spent Thinking Day with the Guides, Brownies and Rainbows from Cuernavaca. The next day we entertained local orphans with craft and games.

We then travelled to Valle de Bravo up in the hills. We stayed at the Centro Vacacional Valle de Bravo. It was a half a mile walk uphill from the coach but we only had hand luggage. We were given a talk on what to do if there was an earthquake or a volcano erupted. We were told what to do and where to go if the alarm sounded.

Next day we travelled to the Butterfly Sanctuary. We were taken by coach and when we arrived we visited the worst toilets I have ever seen, no running water and it cost us 50 pesos. We were told the butterflies were a one and half hour climb away. We were taking a paramedic with us. A lot of us decided to take a horse up. I have never felt so frightened, no proper reins only rope and a pummel to hold on to. It wasn't on a proper track but on dusty paths with lots of rocks. We eventually arrived at a plateau. We then had a 30 minute climb through bushes. It was worth it, the Monarch butterflies were everywhere. We then had to take the journey back down. It was worse - the horse kept stumbling. I couldn't take photos, I held on so tight. I had large blisters on the palms of my hands. It was such a relief to get down and sit in the sun, waiting nearly 2 hours for the last of the walkers to get down. It was an experience I will never forget.

Betty Gosling

River Thames volunteer assistant lock keepers

The EA is still recruiting volunteers to help their staff on the River Thames. The EA is responsible for 45 lock sites on the river. As a River Thames volunteer assistant lock keeper, you will help with the safe passage of boats through the locks.

Working with an experienced lock and weir keeper, you will help in the day-to-day management of a lock site and give information, guidance and advice to river users as they pass through. Full training and a uniform will be provided to successful applicants.

If you would like to find out more about volunteering on the Thames, please contact the River Thames volunteer team on 01491 828360 or email: thames.volunteers@environment-agency.gov.uk.

Vic Lundberg 14 June 1929- 21 April 2016



Vic joined TSCC in April 2013. He had been Secretary and twice Commodore of Weybridge Mariners Club.

His funeral service was brought to a close by a rendition of The Last Post, played by a Royal Marine bugler, an honour afforded to Vic because of his time in the Marines.

You will all be pleased to know that his wife Joyce was able to attend the funeral, despite the trauma of her recent surgery.

James Edwin Potheary d. 26 June 2016

Jim was a dedicated scouter who received the Silver Acorn in recognition of specially distinguished service in 2014. He was Group Treasurer of the 3rd Hanworth Scouts.



He was one of the very early members of TSCC and served as a Committee Member from 1999 to 2002. He and his late wife Sylvia seemed to attend every TSCC event and for several years they allowed us to use their riverside plot to moor-up and have a BBQ prior to watching the Sunbury fireworks – great fun and fond memories.

He was also a member of Weybridge Mariner's Club and was their Commodore at the time of his death.

Jim was unique within the club in that he built his own boat "Myonie". This had to be craned out of his back garden and, in subsequent years, he used it extensively on the canals as well as on the Thames.

Andy and Sue Hayward speak for us all in saying "he was such a lovely, intelligent and resourceful man. We loved to meet-up with him and Sylvia on the River when they would join us for a cuppa. He will be greatly missed."



For Sale: Aquafibre Opal 28 Commissioned 1999 with 2+2 berths

Ideal for a **Live Aboard Boat**. Brand New Boat Safety Certificate to 2020.
28ft Long by 11ft Beam with 2ft 3ins Draft;
Nanni 4.30hp inboard diesel.

Warm Air Heating

Pressurised water

Stereo Radio/CD

Built in Battery Charger

Full Oven & Grill

Pump Out Toilet

2 Sliding Canopies

Shore Power

Shower

Fridge

Nav' lights

Copper Bottom

£34,000 OVNO. Contact Bob Breeze on 01932 660 489 or 07872 451 835

Unlicensed anglers beware!

Two anglers caught fishing on the Thames without licences has resulted in fines totalling more than £1400. Money raised from rod licence sales is used to protect and improve fish stocks and fisheries, benefitting all anglers.

Treasures by the Thames

During the 18th Century, Arcadia, an idyllic pastoral landscape was created along the Thames between **Hampton and Kew**. Magnificent royal and aristocratic palaces, gardens and parks were constructed linked by a series of avenues, set within a framework of meadows, woodland and bustling historic waterside villages. Today this short stretch of the Thames is recognised as one of the world's great river landscapes and although less than 10 miles from London provides a real countryside in the city – a place to discover and to escape the hustle and bustle of modern city life.

The Thames Landscape Strategy Treasures by the Thames invites you to explore 45 of the most interesting places along the river that have been selected by members of the public, local people, and those who work on the Thames. Attractions range from the mighty royal palaces to intimate riverside pubs, a bat super highway to jaw dropping views. Whatever your passion, Treasures by the Thames will help you find out more about the Arcadian Thames and the people who have helped shape this most special of landscapes. See:

<http://thames-landscape-strategy.org.uk/visitor-guide/treasures-by-the-thames>

The 2016 Annual Rally will be held once again at West India Docks, London E14

Dates & Costs

Rally Core Period;
Friday 26th August through to
Monday 29th August 2016

Core Period Charge
£80-00 per boat

Boats will be able to arrive from
Wednesday 24th August and
stay until Tuesday 30th August,
as they wish at a cost of £15
per extra night.

Look at the charges at other fa-
cilities in Central London

Locking in and out times will
be arranged to suit boat
travelling both upstream and
down stream. Full details
with booking package.

What else?

Water activities for young and
old, kayaking, canoeing and
dinghy sailing.

By popular request we will be
running "Ladies" boat handling
sessions over the weekend.
A London Tour will be on
offer, details to follow.

What do we have arranged?

Saturday evening; Quiz, BBQ
and Disco on the lockside.—
We hope to have the Pearly
Kings and Queens along as in
2014.

Dress—"As you like"
Cost £18-00 pp

Sunday Evening; The Rally
dinner will again be held in the
Marquee with a three course
meal provided by external
caterers

Dress—Smart casual
Cost £29-00 pp

Licensed Bar in the Marquee at
club prices. Not London ones

The formal boat handling
competition is returning this
year and details have already
been sent out to clubs.

To book your place please
email David Sowter

david.sowter@nahs.org.uk

TSCC Programme for 2016

All dates and events are subject to change

August 13 Sat	Sunbury Regatta Firework Display
August 25-30 Thurs-Tues	ATYC Rally West India Dock
September 16 Fri	Tangmere Aviation Museum & Woolbeding Gdns.
October 5 Wed	TSCC Committee
October 15 Sat	Royal Marine's Band at G-Live Guildford
November 10 Thur	TSCC Annual Dinner - Glenmore House
November 30 Wed	TSCC Committee
Dec. 11-12 Sun-Mon	Christmas at Potters and Thursford



John Pinkerton

Photos from Clive



Newsletter edited by Peter Simpson – simpson.p@ntlworld.com
Visit our Website: Thamesscoutcruisingclub.org.uk

Printed by NJM (Guildford) Ltd
www.njmstationery.com