



# News & Views from the Marina

Spring 2000

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## Spring...into Summer

I knew that winter was behind us and that Spring had rolled gently over the landscape as soon as I noticed the intensity of the birdsong, the gentle buzz of the angle grinder, the rasping call of the power sander. Trees came into leaf and the bins became full almost overnight. Early flowers and boats burst forth in their new colours and all those mammals who spent winter in hibernation emerged from

their hides to frolic on board their boats. Grand, isn't it?

Of course, after a few weeks of mild temperatures and a good deal of sunshine, we passed into early summer. Coal and gas sales rocketed as temperatures plunged. I deeply regret not obtaining a stockpile of umbrellas, we could have sold out as the rain fell endlessly for the first two weeks in 'Flaming' June. Undaunted though, I have



noticed the subtle aroma of barbecues breaking out round the marina, and very enjoyable they have been, despite the poor weather. Never mind, autumn can't be too far away!

## Refurbishment underway

Many of you will have noticed the changes taking place (if a little slowly) in the main building. Ultimately there will be a reception & social area, a shop from where we intend to sell captain's hats and flags, ice cream and cold canned drinks, a selection of chandlery items, books and magazines and probably a small stock of essential

supplies. An area has also been designated for storage and laundry facilities. When the main structural work has been completed within the 'shop' area, we also intend to make the offices more open-plan and user friendly. The room which is presently used for the laundry and book exchange is earmarked for other purposes (more about that when the plans

are finalised). A certain amount of refurbishment of the 'Gent's toilet' has taken place already and the Ladies toilet is due for repainting in the near future. No major alterations will take place in the toilet block this season but watch this space for news of a major refurbishment there for next season.

## Boat Club Meeting Scheduled

**BOAT CLUB CHEESE AND WINE July 15th**  
After much in the way of promises, here it is. The new Reception & Social room inside the main building will be the venue. To ensure sufficient refreshment, please bring along a bottle of wine and a chair if you can. We will provide a fine

range of cheese & biscuits etc. I am hoping to entice as many of you as possible to attend. The intention is to get the club off the ground. Your voice matters and this is a good way of expressing it. We need to elect some officers, a Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer and Membership Secretary. If

you fancy having a crack at it or being involved in any way, please make sure that your name is put forward. Otherwise, just come along and support it. There is no end to what the club can organise and achieve but it does need as much support as it can get in order to be successful.

### SHORE LINE

#### HOOKUPS (240V)

The supply of electrical hookup points on the mill side of the marina has been substantially increased and the work on those is nearing completion. The supply on the slipway and lagoon side of the marina will be similarly increased in the very near future. Hopefully, most of you who want to use 240V hookups will be able to do so. The workforce is small so please be patient with us!

### STEM TO STERN

**Canalboat** magazine have produced a book of the series "Stem to Stern". It's packed full of interesting sections covering every aspect of boats from electrical systems, toilets, gas installations to equipment and painting your own boat. It is available now from the marina office.

### ROSES AND CASTLES

#### PAINTING COURSE

Anne Luard will be again holding her very successful painting course here at the marina. Places are £50 plus a £5 deposit (includes lunch). The course will take place on 22 & 23 July, and 30 Sept & 1 Oct. See poster for details.

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# Eating Out

Should you wish to, there are some very good places in and around the town and not too far from the canal, where you can be assured of good food in pleasant surroundings at reasonable prices.

## The Robin Hood Inn

(nearby to bridge 61 half an hour below Bosley bottom lock).

We know from recent experience that you will receive a very warm welcome, excellent food & ale, supported by a terrific wine list.

**La Cantina**, Mill Ln. A Spanish style Tapas Bar offers a wonderful choice of authentic Spanish food & wines - but do book ahead. It

has been tremendously busy since it opened about 6 weeks ago.

**The Poachers'**, Ingersley Rd. Bollington. Offers excellent food and a wide choice of real ales at very reasonable prices.

*Heard on the 'Grapevine'* - **The Cock & Pheasant** at Bollington, recent visitors from the marina are very complimentary about this pub.

**The Puss in Boots** is currently undergoing its long awaited refurbishment. Work is expected to be completed in a very short time. Won't that be nice? I believe that they're changing the menu too.

# English Nature & Danes Moss

Did you know that the woodland and land that adjoins the canal at Danes Moss forms part of the largest raised mire in Cheshire? This is a rare type of bog habitat and the landowners, together with English Nature are working hard to restore it to its former glory as a bog. The area has been designated as a "Site of Special Scientific Interest" and the birch trees that have invaded the area are being cleared prior to the water levels being raised. Some of the trees have been cut into logs of a uniform size and these have

been placed in strategic areas to encourage the formation of habitats for wildlife. The logs are of a very attractive size but please resist the temptation to load up with them for the fire, you'll only have the Police looking for you at the marina if you do.

There are no signs displayed yet, nor has this restoration been publicised. This is deliberate and intended to prevent the area being damaged at this early stage, by unauthorised persons. If anyone is unsure of the location of this site, we have a map in the office.

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# Middlewich Folk Festival

Peter (*Sundance*) organised a minibus trip to the Folk Festival for a group of moorers. This dedicated band of 'Folkies' was determined to savour every last drop of the festival. The coach departed at 2pm and on arrival, tickets were obtained for evening concerts. With that out of the way, the group split up and



explored the festival. Most pubs in the town had some musicians entertaining the customers and there

were side stalls of all kinds, dancing troupes and lots of interesting boats to look at. The sun blazed down all day. The group finally departed for home a little after midnight, tired but happy, having enjoyed a great day out. Just think of all the other events that the Boat Club could organize.....over to you!

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# Beer, Boats & Folk

Yes, it's on again at the marina on **Saturday 26 August**. We all had a great time last year and I hope to make it even more enjoyable this year. Outline



plans are for a mini-Beer Festival, probably with the help of a local licensee and an Occasional Licence and I'm sure

that bar prices will be very reasonable. As well as having the support of our friends from Bollington Folk Club, we also hope to provide some professional & semi-professional singers. The format will be much as last year, bring a chair, a picnic and yourselves, hopefully you can leave the broly behind!

**Thanks** for your support in licensing boats through the marina, we have been able to fund a number of gazebos to keep you cool if the sun ever shines and there will soon be two new hoses on reels to make watering up a bit easier.

## Cheshire Ring

The Ashton flight and the Rochdale Nine will be open to navigation at 8am, Saturday 1st July  
**(Official!)**

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# Spring Clean



We now have one of those fantastic Dyson vacuum cleaners available for hire at £2 per session.

It's small, neat and very powerful. Just the job for that big clean up after a cruise. Just enquire at the office if you wish to use it.

# Keep Cool This Summer

You don't need to go too far to quench your thirst. Choose from our selection of chilled soft drinks.....Coke, Diet Coke, Lilt, Fanta and Pepsi, mineral water and orange juice all kept in the chiller cabinet. Coming Soon.....Ice Cream!