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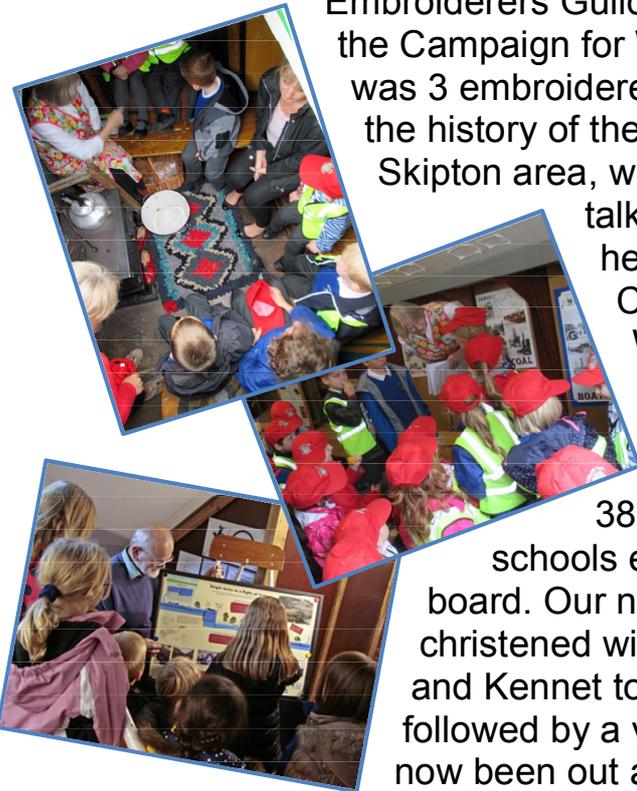


Friends of Kennet Newsletter

March 2014 Number 13

End of the 2013 season

Kennet was winterised after the end of last year's very successful season ending with our visit to the Skipton Puppet Festival and our Craven Schools Weeks. At the Puppet Festival Kennet was used as a venue by the Embroiderers Guild in conjunction with the Campaign for Wool. The Storycloth was 3 embroidered panels depicting the history of the Asian families in the Skipton area, with the embroiderers talking about their heritage on board.



Craven Area Schools Weeks saw Kennet hosting local schools in the Craven Area for specific visits. Some 380 children from six schools enjoyed their visits on board. Our new Digital Projector was christened with a talk about the canal and Kennet to the Grindleton WI on board Kennet, followed by a visit to the boatman's cabin. The projector has now been out and about to boat clubs for similar talks.



Winter Period

Over the winter much work has been done behind the scenes to refresh Kennet's hold and further develop the displays and learning material. This included re-arranging the moveable units to increase the open floor space and adding to the material on display. A floor map of the canal is being produced with moveable symbols/pictures to identify the movement of cargos and the development of the canal. This will be used by schools & organisations along with the possibility of use on the bank when weather and space permit. We are also producing "story book(s)" based around life on the canal to extend our learning facilities both in schools and on Kennet. We have also obtained "household items" to enrich the front cabin. In addition we have been carrying out the routine maintenance along with improving the facilities for handling Kennet on the move and making the opening/closing easier.

Looking Forwards

Plans for the 2014 season are now well under way with the main emphasis on the western side of the canal. Here are the dates for your diary –

- ❖ 13th March – Working Group Meeting at ELWY Boat Club. 7.00pm
- ❖ 15th March – Preparing Kennet's Hold for the coming season at Greenberfield
- ❖ 29th March – De-wintering Kennet
- ❖ 5th/6th April – Final Preparation for the season
- ❖ 19th/20th April – Kennet visits the ELWY Boat Club Rally at Bank Newton
- ❖ 3rd to 5th May – Kennet open at Skipton Waterways Festival in the canal basin
- ❖ 5th/6th June – Visits from Hyndburn Schools
- ❖ 7th June - Kennet open at the Hyndburn Heritage Day
- ❖ 9th June - Visit from West End School (2 crew members old primary school)
- ❖ W/c 16th June – Burscough Schools Week
- ❖ 21st to 22nd June – Burscough Heritage Weekend at Burscough Wharf
- ❖ W/c 14th July – CRT Sefton Explorers Schools Week at Litherland Wharf
- ❖ Other visits are being finalised and Kennet will be going into dry dock for Survey, Boat Safety Certificate and bottom Blacking. More information to follow and keep updated on the web for Kennet's movements –

http://www.llcs.org.uk/html/kennet_project.html#calendar

All the above wouldn't be possible without our volunteers who continue to contribute so much.

Life for our volunteers would be so much better with more volunteers to spread the load.

There are always plenty of opportunities to help both moving and staffing Kennet along with helping the "backroom volunteers" – if you are interested in helping then please contact us:-

Email: friendsofkennet@gmail.com Tel: Harold Bond on 01535 630597

Join us in helping to promote Kennet by spreading the word

- PLEASE FORWARD THE NEWSLETTER TO ANYONE YOU THINK MAY BE INTERESTED

Would you like to Donate or Sponsor Kennet?

Please send a donation or contact Friends of Kennet -

Address: c/o 2 Cross Lane Mill, Bradley, Keighley, BD20 9QB.

Email: friendsofkennet@gmail.com

Tel: Harold Bond on **01535 630597**

To keep abreast of our activities don't forget our online calendar at - http://www.llcs.org.uk/html/kennet_project.html#calendar