



Friends of Kennet Newsletter

September 2010
Number 3

Keep these dates
in your diary –
more info
to follow

Radio Lancs. – Canal Special

Thanks to contacts which have been made through Gaye Gerrard the Leeds & Liverpool Canal Society / Friends of Kennet are to partner BBC Radio Lancs. in the production of a “Canal Special” during October.

This will take place at Radio Lancs. in Blackburn and consist of –

- **The Sally Naden Show** – lunchtime live chat radio show with audience of interested parties who may or may not contribute to the chat. The atmosphere is informal and is both serious and good fun. Members of FofK are warmly invited to attend and support Gaye & Mike – **18th October**
- **Talk by Mike Clark** – evening event to launch the exhibition – **18th October**
- **Exhibition** – Leeds & Liverpool Canal & Kennet – **for two weeks from- 18th October**
- **Kennet End of Season Reception** – evening event for Friends of Kennet, Sponsors & friends – **19th October**
- This will be followed by other features through the winter period

The Summer Season

After the successful Skipton Waterways Festival (reported in our last newsletter) Kennet has travelled a total of 193 miles through 108 locks and countless swing bridges over the summer, fortunately beating the Leeds & Liverpool Canal closure, but not without some problems.

- **Skipton Transport Festival** – Kennet attended this annual festival in the Coach Street Car Park which adjoins the canal basin after staying in Skipton on the Springs Branch courtesy of Ian & Pam Clarke of Pennine Cruisers for about a month.
- **200th Anniversary of opening of canal in Blackburn/Clayton** - Kennet was moved from Skipton to Barden Mill over 2 days in preparation for the 200th Anniversary in the Clayton le Moors area in mid June. This saw Kennet travelling from Church to Blackburn before returning late in the afternoon to Clayton-le-Moors after stopping at Rishton & Church on route.
- **School Visits** – on Kennet’s journey to the Leeds Waterways Festival she stopped off in Gargrave and Bradley for visits by Gargrave Primary School and Bradleys Both Primary School as trials to gauge the reaction of both teachers and pupils. These were very successful and gave us a great insight into the requirements for this type of visit.
- **Leeds Waterfront Festival** – the journey to Leeds proved to be slightly more eventful with a couple of hick ups. Getting stuck in the top gates of Hirst Wood Lock and waiting for water to arrive below Spring Gardens Lock.



- **100th anniversary of the keel Sobriety** - after Leeds Kennet was moved in one day to the Yorkshire Waterways Museum at Goole with a guest appearance by Geoff Wheat along with his portable VHF set, which proved very useful.
- **Buck Wood, Shipley** – on leaving the Yorkshire Waterways Museum Kennet returned to Shipley in 2 days ready for a successful open afternoon at Buck Wood. The first day was marred by an emergency stoppage at a lock on the Aire & Calder while BW sorted out leaks on the hydraulics controlling the sluices. This held us up for 4.5 hours and meant a very late evening run into Leeds. Kennet once again got stuck going out of Hirst Wood lock!!!
- **Back to Skipton** - Kennet has now returned to Skipton and is moored on the Springs Branch prior to visiting the Bradley Family Fun Day which takes place on the Bradley Cricket Field adjacent to the Canal on Sunday September 5th.
- **The return to Greenberfield** – due to the canal closure Kennet will be remaining on the Springs Branch in Skipton until the canal reopens and she can return to her moorings at Greenberfield after a long successful season.



Thank You

This summer season has all been made possible with the help of a small but dedicated band of volunteers who are well trained in moving the boat and includes some new faces this year. Many thanks to one and all.

If you would like to volunteer to help move the boat (training will be given) or man it at events please do let me know

- email : friendsofkennet@btinternet.com
- Tel : Cris Shave on 01535 631975

Sponsorship/Donations

We appreciate that summer is a busy period for us all and therefore not much progress has been made in this area - so can we take this opportunity to remind you we are still looking for sponsors/donations. So please spread the word.

Please contact us if you would like any further sponsorship sheets for distribution or help in approaching suitable companies.

- email : friendsofkennet@btinternet.com
- Tel : Harold Bond on 01535630597
- Donations : *please send a cheque to – Friends of Kennet, c/o 2 Cross Lane Mill, Bradley, Keighley, BD20 9QB*

Lottery Heritage Grant

A meeting took place in July on Kennet with Steve from BW and Rebecca from the Heritage Lottery Funding to discuss our application. This proved very useful in clarifying the requirements for our application. We also now have a direct line for any further queries we may have.

As a result of the meeting it was decided to aim for submitting our application early in Jan/Feb 2011 with answer approx 12 weeks later.

Working Parties

These are to continue on the “**3rd Saturday of the month**” and take place in Skipton until further notice.

Please contact us if you would like us to keep you posted and would like to help

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