The devastation that hit the Calder Valley on Boxing Day has far reaching consequences for the local businesses as well as the boat owning community. The CNS, Nigel Stevens (Shire Cruisers) and the IWA have all been doing their bit to help Canal and River Trust in their efforts to reopen the navigation and make the tow paths usable again.
Welcome to the new E-NEWS of the CNS kindly created and prepared by Stuart Atkinson. This is only meant as an occasional update to keep our members informed of any news and is by no way intended to be a replacement for the ‘Moving Road’ magazine, which is still without an editor after Peter Davies who has produced our publication for quite a number of years with regret had to step down. So if there are any budding editors out there that would love to volunteer and give it a go then please feel free to contact us.

Well what a shock start to 2016 we encountered. After the Boxing Day floods left its deluge and devastation it soon became apparent that the year was certainly not going to be plain sailing at all. We started the year by holding an emergency meeting and agreeing that CNS should contact C&RT offering any support we could give, which led to us along with other waterway organisations together to survey the navigation from all aspects. Thanks to Nigel Stevens offer of the use of one of their boats along with C&RT and IWA we were able to carry out a survey from Sowerby Bridge to Elland Bridge. This was later deemed very useful indeed to C&RT and helped them greatly in prioritising the essential work required. Other areas were surveyed both by car and on foot by various people including the Wakefield Venture Scouts, which again received much appreciation and proved to be of great help.

At that point no one knew or could envisage when the navigation would be fully accessible. But we concentrated on getting Savile ship shape and had her in dry-dock for her start of the year maintenance and painting. Thank you to all the volunteers that assisted in helping us out ready for her first public trip out on the 10th May. We are all now looking forward to the next big event which will be the Brighouse 1940’s weekend on the 4th & 5th June....so all cross your fingers for good weather and if you are in Brighouse over that weekend please come down and say hello, we will be running our trips as always from the back of Sainsbury’s.

Chairman Al
One of CNS annual walks, on the Calder and Hebble Navigation, from Salterhebble to Sowerby Bridge. Thirty one members and friends turned out to be entertained by Richard Stead who conducted the walk and treated the assembly to explanations of the various features we passed along the way.

It’s not just about running boat trips

CNS members along with Lucy Dockray from the Canal & River Trust on NB Savile after a mornings hard work cleaning up the canal in Mirfield
How has the society been helping, in January there was a very productive meeting with C&RT, CNS, Nigel Stevens (Shire Cruisers) and the IWA. We offered help in surveying the stretch from Sowerby Bridge to Elland road bridge. Nigel very kindly offered one of his boats for us to crew and Tom Wright was there to represent C&RT. The idea was to check the operation of the locks and view the water levels. This information was reported back to C&RT with any problems we found, this allowed their engineers to prioritise any work that needed to be done.

We also have had teams out walking the tow paths at Brighouse, Dewsbury, Figure of three, Horbury, Thorns lock and Wakefield. The information was collated and fed back to C&RT along with photographs of the affected area’s. I am happy to report that the low water levels at Mirfield due to the weir being breached have now been fixed, but there is still a problem at the Battyeford weir which does not look like it will be sorted out anytime soon. The devastation in the Calder Valley has been an event of biblical proportions, but it has demonstrated the relevance of an organisation like the CNS, it indeed took CNS back to it’s roots and the ethic of keeping the waterway open.

The CNS Mission Statement

The Calder Navigation Society (CNS) was formed in 1969 as an association of Boaters, Ramblers and others who are interested in promoting the use and sympathetic development of the waterways in the Calder Valley.

The aims of the Society are:

To stimulate public interest and appreciation of the waterway's of the Calder Valley.

To promote and encourage the use of all such waterways for the benefit of the public.

In furtherance of the above, but not otherwise:

To encourage boat owners and hirers from other parts of the waterways system to cruise along the length of the Calder & Hebble Navigation and the Huddersfield Broad Canal.

To promote the use of waterways for commercial carrying, leisure boating, angling, rambling and other compatible activities.
Some Results of the Flood

Crowther Bridge Elland
Social News

In an effort to come up with a water related social event Pauline and Alan have negotiated coach trip for later in the year.

1. **September 10th The Lune Aqueduct cruise with Lancashire Hotpot. Cost £32**

Our cruise takes us over one of the Wonders of the Waterways, the amazing Lune Aqueduct. Five arches span the River Lune, carrying the Lancaster Canal almost seven hundred feet across the river. Relax and take in the glorious view whilst enjoying a delicious Hot Pot. Places are limited so you are advised to book early.

Book your seat now by contacting Avril at social@calderns.org.uk

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**TAKE A DAY TRIP WITH C.N.S to THE LUNE AQUEDUCT**

**SATURDAY 10th SEPTEMBER - COST:- £32 PER PERSON**

**ENJOY A JOURNEY ABOARD THE KINGFISHER**

*Kingfisher* is an Award Winning Luxury Wide Beam Canal Boat with a unique range of facilities. On-board you will find a fully licensed bar, dance floor, toilet, multi-media facilities and central heating.

We will also have free time at Barton Grange prior to & after our cruise for you to look around.

Coach will depart from outside the Pear Tree Inn WF14 9DL
Timings nearer the event

**CRUISE ON THE LANCASTER CANAL FOR approx 2 HOURS & ENJOY A TASTY LANCASHIRE HOTPOT**

Our cruise takes us over one of the Wonders of the Waterways, the amazing Lune Aqueduct. Five arches span the River Lune, carrying the Lancaster Canal almost seven hundred feet across the river. Relax and take in the glorious views whilst enjoying a delicious Hot Pot.

If you would like to go, places are limited so you are advised to book early.

Ensure your seat is reserved now by contacting Avril at social@calderns.org.uk
Savile normally starts her year in March but unfortunately due to the floods of Boxing Day her first booking this year was on the 10th May where 12 passengers enjoyed a trip to Dewsbury and back to celebrate a gentleman’s 65th Birthday.

We are looking forward to the June Brighouse 1940’s Weekend again and also the Canal, Music & Beer Festival in August. If you get chance to visit these attractions then please come down to the canal behind Sainsbury’s where we will be running our trips from and say hello.

Last year saw our crew bring out their wartime apparel out of storage for the annual event in June. They did not disappoint either entering into the spirit of the event donning 1940’s themed costumes to entertain and delight our travellers. They turned out over the weekend in Dads army, Land Army and Air force uniforms and tea dresses (ladies only!) over the two days. Hopefully we will also dress up in traditional boat attire again in August, enabling everybody both crew and passengers to enjoy the really pleasurable weekend event.

One attraction which became a hit with the smaller members of our passengers was to practice steering Savile - under supervision of course and while securely moored up while waiting for people to board. Well who are we to discourage possible future skippers for C.N.S! We managed 28 trips on Savile over the 40’s weekend last year carrying 220 adults and 93 juniors, and 26 trips carrying 194 adults and 95 children at the Canal Festival.

Now for some more facts and figures:-

Last year we completed 15 actual trip days and 19 days out in total including moving Savile to and from events. Her total hours out from base (not running hours) for the 19 days came to 109hrs 49mins and this was carried out by 131 crew bodies = 77 trips in total carrying 527 adults and 251 children.

We have 7 event days booked in the Savile Diary to date for this year, which when you look at how dismal the year started is encouraging. So may I take this opportunity once again to thank those members who have given their time and helped with Savile and CNS in whatever way possible to make this achievable and keep Savile on the water for all to enjoy!

Savile signing off for now
NEAR DISASTER

Watched 6 "professionals" trying to re-float the beached boat at Park Nook and just how close they came to sinking her!

Peter

Do you have a friend with the an interested in the waterways, be that walking, cycling, or fishing then why not introduce them to the Calder Navigation Society? Contact Avril for more details and a membership form.

Membership Secretary
Avril Davies E-mail; membership@ calderns.org.uk
Moving Road Editor

We have a vacancy for the editor of the CNS magazine ‘Moving Road’ you don’t need to have had previous experience as there will be plenty of help on hand. However, if you do have any skills in writing and producing a booklet in a format that can be sent to the printers about two to three times per year, please contact the Secretary. You do not need to be on the CNS Committee, but you will be welcome to attend our meetings each month to report on progress of each issue.