

# THE TUB BOAT

Newsletter of the Bude Canal & Harbour Society

No. 64

Summer 2013



---

# THE TUB BOAT

## Newsletter of the Bude Canal & Harbour Society

---

### Forthcoming Events:

Saturday 7th July Navigation event - awaiting confirmation from Cornwall Council.

Saturday 20th July Annual Coach Trip to Plymouth and Morwellam Quay. Fully booked but ring 01288 352298 to check for cancellations.

Saturday 27th July Consultation event re: beaches at the Parkhouse centre.

Sunday 28th July Stall at Bude Stratton Heritage Day from 10am.

Tuesday 6th Aug Cream Tea at Tregea, Lower Upton from 3pm to 5pm.

Saturday 17th Aug Stall at Bude Carnival from 10am.

Saturday 24th Aug Stall at RNLI weekend in the marquee from 10am to 4pm.

Saturday 15th Sept Deadline for articles for inclusion in Tub Boat No 65 to reach the editor Clive Horton on [cshorton23@btinternet.com](mailto:cshorton23@btinternet.com)

---

Contributions for the next edition of the Tub Boat should be sent as an e-mail attachment to [cshorton23@btinternet.com](mailto:cshorton23@btinternet.com) or copied onto a USB memory stick or CD and send to Mike Moore (Tel: 01288 361878) to reach him by 15th September 2013.

---

<b>Trustees:</b>	Acting Chairman	Anne Longley	
	Vice-Chairman	Ralph Daniel	
	Secretary	<i>Vacant</i>	
	Treasurer	Chris Jewell	
	Events Secretary	Betty Moore	
	Minuting Secretary	Pam Daniel	
	Other trustees	Audrey Wheatley	
		David Phillips	I
	Membership Secretary	Mike Moore ( <i>non-trustee</i> )	
	The Tub Boat Editor	Clive Horton ( <i>non-trustee</i> )	

---

The views expressed by the contributors to this newsletter are not necessarily those of the Bude Canal & Harbour Society which does not accept responsibility for them.

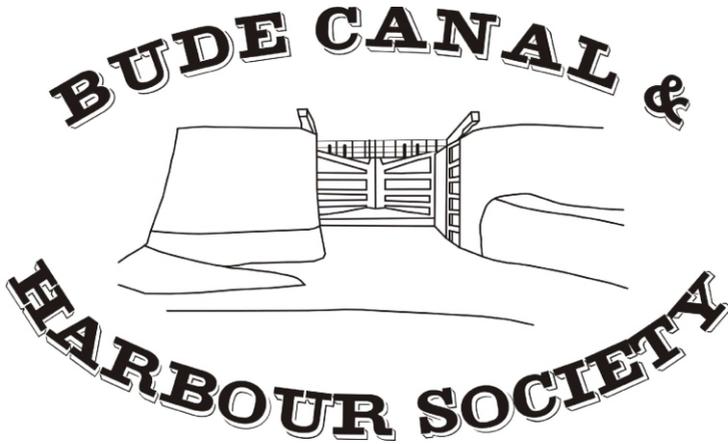
---

Corporate Member of



Supported by





# THE TUB BOAT

Newsletter of the Bude Canal & Harbour Society

No. 64

Summer 2013

## CONTENTS

Bude Canal Trust Report. . . . .	2
Bude Stratton Town Council archives . . . . .	5
Box's Foundry, Marhamchurch. . . . .	6
Can you help?. . . . .	9
Joseph and Thomas . . . . .	11
Can you help part 2? . . . . .	11
Cream tea at Tregea, Lower Upton, Bude. . . . .	13
View from the north . . . . .	13

Cover: Repair work at Virworthy Wharf building  
Photos: Mike Degnan

# Bude Canal Trust Report

March.

Long awaited breaks in the weather enabled us to fit in the tree management work that had been re-planned for 20th March at the two most critical culverts. A small group of volunteers assisted in clearing the felled branches and stacking logs being produced by the two extremely competent and efficient Certified Arborists as they firstly removed and cut two very large trees down to their stumps at the inlet end of the Cape Horn culvert. The challenge at the outlet end of the Aldercott Valley culvert was to remove an even larger tree which had already blown down across the stream and collecting debris on the occasions of excessive rain fall.

A lot of hard work but job completed.



**Photos 3 @ Cape Horn plus 2 @ Aldercott Valley**

A follow up site visit to Cape Horn from Richard Rainbow of Devon Area Flood risk Management provided some information regarding the required action on the course of the stream approaching the culvert which is continuing to create severe erosion. This now has to be discussed with the adjacent land owner

to provide the best practical methods of achieving a remedial result.

Other work needed to create or control water levels in the canal profile during bad weather conditions has still to be investigated as it seems altering the levels by partially blocking overflow pipes installed in the past may be felt by some adjacent land users to have a negative effect on surrounding fields.

In the area of Virworthy Wharf the water levels have fluctuated from overflowing to almost drained out whilst working to repair the erosion damage mentioned in the last report, however the work done does, at last seem to have cured the leak, a small amount of backfilling will thankfully complete this job.



Photo Sluice repair

June

Work to solve the drainage problem at the rear of the Wharf building previously set back by heavy rainfall has this week been completed with the much appreciated assistance of materials by Bridgemans of Kilkhampton and equipment use donated by M&J Builders of Bude plus time volunteered by an employee on the digger.



Photos 3 @ Virworthy Wharf

Several unforeseen setbacks have occurred with the work at Veland Bridge but with good luck, fair wind and a dry day next week two capping stones will be repositioned enabling the rest of the work to be completed.

Trimming back of the overhanging hedge growth and top of the canal bank between Brendon Bridge and Dunsdon Nature Reserve followed a mower cut of the footpath along the full length.

Please visit our web site [www.bude-canal-trust.co.uk](http://www.bude-canal-trust.co.uk) to keep up to date with interesting information. We also now have an email address, [budecanaltrust@gmail.com](mailto:budecanaltrust@gmail.com) should you wish to contact any of the committee with enquiries, suggestions or report problems encountered along the footpath.

Text & Photos Mike Degnan

## Bude Stratton Town Council Archives

As some of you will know, Bude Stratton Town Council maintains an archive of heritage items, documents and images. The documents/images are kept mainly at the Archive Centre in the Castle Heritage Centre, in Bude.

In the past, BCHS have acquired images from this collection which form the basis of images in our display presentations and our slide show/talks.

Recently, I have been looking at a handwritten book from the 1840's. It is a record of the Bude Harbour and Canal Company's waste land, i.e., land adjacent to the canal from Bude to the terminus at Blagdon Moor Wharf, Holsworthy. The book records suitability of this land for 'tillage' and if so, who rents it and also interesting notes about well known sites i.e. Helebridge, Hobbacott Incline, Red Post, as well as sites along



*A plan of the top of the Hobbacott Inclined Plane (otherwise known as Thurlibeer) in the 1840's book of the canal company's waste land"*

the canal from Burmsdon to Tamar Lake. With each entry, there is a line drawing of land referred to in the entry. It is not known who wrote the entries, or drew the plan drawings, but it is likely to be the company Secretary or Engineer. There are some pencilled entries with initials 'G.C'. This is likely to be George Caseborne, the canal Engineer from 1832 to 1876. I have transcribed almost all of these notes and

the drawings are good enough to be photographed. Subject to consent from BSTC, it is our intention to pick selected notes and drawings and use them in future presentations and displays.

I am currently looking at a small note book 5" x 3" which again is handwritten by an official of the Bude Harbour and Canal Company in the mid 1830's. The book has no cover, so the description/title of its contents is not known. However, it contains a wealth of miscellaneous information about all aspects of the Company's business and facts about the canal, from details of goods carried and quantities to conversion tables for changing chains to ropes i.e. diameter of the links of chains to diameter of rope, to ensure the safe use of rope if/when substituted for use of chain. This interesting note book was purchased by BSTC about 18 months ago to add to the documents about Bude Canal and having looked at the note book, it is a very good acquisition. My intention in the coming weeks is to peruse the contents and record various items of interest and again, with consent from BSTC to use this information to inform and educate the public further about the use and operation of the Canal. In due course, I hope to present some of these interesting items in the Tub Boat. I am sure you will also find them of interest.

Chris Jewell

### **Box's Foundry, Marhamchurch**

A planning application has recently been submitted to Cornwall Council for the conversion of an outbuilding at Box's Foundry for residential use, part for letting and part for permanent occupation. As you can see from the photos this Grade II Listed Building is in poor condition particularly the corner of the gable end therefore any renovation would be welcome otherwise the building would be in danger of collapse. The proposals involve complete renovation internally but retaining the general appearance of the existing



Overview



End view

building. The planning application was considered by Marhamchurch Parish Council in May and it was approved in general but there was concern about the proposed access which was from the top of Helebridge Road, Marhamchurch down Foundry Lane which was narrow and a designated cycle route. They felt that the bridge over the river should be upgraded to give access from Helebridge and that full consideration should be given to the heritage of the building by recording the original internal details and recovering any historical artefacts which may be found. These comments were also supported by Bude Stratton Town Council.



Corner



Close up

Comments from other departments in Cornwall Council are as follows: Highway Development Management feel that access to the site from Helebridge Road is completely unsuitable and that

access should be via Helebridge; Environmental Health are concerned about possible contamination as a foundry had previously been on the site; Historic Environment Service were not happy about the implications of the internal alterations and the effect on the external appearance of the installation of roof lights

Alternative  
Access



and solar panels. They felt that too much accommodation was being crammed into the building and that the building should not be divided into two units. They preferred the option of retaining the ground floor as a workshop and the conversion of the first floor for residential use. They thought that the balcony and circular addition on the east side were completely at odds with the historical character of the building which should be retained. They therefore recommend refusal of the present application.

The BCHS trustees discussed this application at their May meeting and expressed concern but unfortunately they did not give a formal response to the Planning Application.

Anyone interested in following the progress of this application can contact Cornwall Council or look at their planning website reference PA13/02141 & PA13/02142 otherwise I will give a update in the next edition of The Tub Boat.

Photos & Text Mike Moore

## Can you help?

### To the Bude Canal and Harbour Society

I am hoping that the Bude Canal and Harbour Society, and possibly some of your members and readers, might be able to help me in researching my Bude/Cornish family roots.



Jessica Petherick Cope (nee Shazell)  
with granddaughter  
Caroline Shazell Cope

I am, in fact, the granddaughter of Jessica Petherick Cope (nee Shazell) (1876–1954), and great granddaughter of Barnabas Stanlake Shazell (1843–1899) and his wife, Elizabeth Ann Shazell (nee Petherick) (1844–1928). Barnabas and Elizabeth lived, as far as I am aware, all their lives in Bude and they had four daughters – Annie b. 1864, Amy b. 1872, Carry b. 1874, and lastly Jessica (Jessie) b. 1876. I am currently trying to find out all I can about the Shazell and Petherick families in Bude (other Cornish surnames of Walter and Burgoyne also have connections going further back) My husband, Will, and I will be visiting Bude in June (our first visit).

To give you a brief background : On 10<sup>th</sup> April 1901, in Bude, Jessica Petherick Shazell married a soldier, Edwin Ruffell Cope (1868-1932) (Army Medical Corp – final rank Major), and they had 3 sons (who were all career soldiers in the British Army – being a Cope family tradition) - (Edward Arthur Shazell Cope (Teddy) (1902-1945), Selby Burgoyne Cope (Bill) (1905-1963), and their youngest son, Peter Russell Stanlake Cope (Tusky) (1913-1968), my father - who married my mother, Jill Labey, a Jersey girl, in India on 18<sup>th</sup> November 1946, just after the war ended in the Far East.

Jessica was very proud of her Cornish roots and when she and her husband, Edwin, eventually retired to Jersey in the Channel Islands

(where my family are still based), and after she was widowed and moved house, she named her new home "Petherick Cottage" – where I and my husband (Will) now live (the cottage was renamed by my father to Cock Robin Cottage). Also the Cope family gravestone in Jersey (St. Brelade's Church) is made with Cornish granite, I believe.

My sister, Liz, managed to do a bit of ancestor research when she visited Bude a few years ago and she found, in St. Michael & All Angels Church, Bude Haven, the splendid granite headstone of Barnabas Stanlake Shazell – complete with anchor carving (see pic below) and the following inscription : "... Barnabas Stanlake Shazell who was drowned off Saunton April 7th 1899, aged 56 years, whose body the sea gave up on June 13th 1899 and was interred here. So he bringeth them unto their haven where they would be".



Also my sister found an archive newspaper report – entitled "A Terrible Experience ... The Captain's Goodbye" (please see following article) about Barnabas' extremely dramatic drowning at sea - when his boat, the "Joseph and Thomas", got into dire trouble and was hit by several huge waves and went down very quickly. The cook (F. Davis) was also drowned. Fortunately the young mate, John Couch, (the only survivor) was washed up on the shore unconscious but survived to tell the tale ! I often wonder what became of John Couch – hopefully he lived a long and happy life and, no doubt, often regaled people with stories of his dramatic survival of the wreck !

### **Editor's Note**

If you are able to help then please e-mail the information to [cshorton23@btinternet.com](mailto:cshorton23@btinternet.com) and I will make sure it gets to the lady.

## Joseph and Thomas

The following is an excerpt from the local Bude newspaper recording the event: "On Friday, the 7<sup>th</sup> inst (*April 1899*), a telegram arrived at Bude saying that the "Joseph and Thomas" had been wrecked on Saunton Sands and only one hand was saved. The following account of the disaster was kindly given by Mr. W.W. Petherick (Bude) and the survivor, J. Couch, to our reporter. .... No sail being left, the vessel was absolutely unmanageable, and was quickly turned broadside on and lay rolling in the trough of the seas, with the waves continually breaking over her. The captain and the mate, each having a life buoy, took to the rigging, the captain to the fore and the mate to the mizzen. They had been there, but a short time, when two tremendous seas were seen coming to in succession. The captain then called out to the mate "look out, Jack, it is all up with us, Goodbye and God help us". The first of these seas, on striking the vessel, threw her on her beam end and the second sea completely capsized her, when she foundered. The time was then about 2.00 p.m. on Friday (7<sup>th</sup> April 1899).

## Can you help part 2

I have also just found the link to the very lengthy official wreckage report (http://www.plimsoll.org/resources/SCCLibraries/WreckReports/17579.asp ) and it makes very sad reading. The other very tragic part of this story, is that, according to the official wreckage report, all the crew could possibly have been saved if there had been a better life-boat system operating at the time. Another question is whether the widowed Mrs Shazell and her daughters were made somewhat impoverished as a result of Barnabas' death, as it would seem that his boat was only partially insured, but I see that he was a "Forester" and maybe the Forester Society was of help to his family.

It is possible that amongst your past publications and your archives that you may have further information about the wreck of the "Joseph and Thomas" that you could let me have. I would love to find a photo of Barnabas and his boat and also of his family – that would be incredible! Hopefully there may be some present day Pethericks and Shazells still living in Bude, or thereabouts, who might

like to get in touch with me.

Although my grandmother, Jessica Petherick Shazell, died when I was about 6, I remember her well and she was a wonderful grandmother. We called her "Bubble Granny" as she often made up a bubbly mixture on her stove so that my sister and I could blow bubbles! Jessica's three sons all passed away at a relatively young age and so perhaps that is why we have so little family information and, until very recently, we were totally ignorant of the Petherick and Shazell families of Bude, except for finding names and dates on certificates. I have recently found an amazing boat blog by Bill Whateley – quite by chance when I entered "Captain Barnabas Shazell" on google! It transpires that he is also a member of the P e t h e r i c k f a m i l y (<http://billwhateley.wordpress.com/category/maritime-history/page/10/>) and so, as a result of reading this blog, we now know all about the famous vessel "Ceres", amongst other very interesting information!

On another note, I recently acquired, at the National Archives in Kew, a Japanese POW index card, written partly in Japanese, regarding my Dad's POW details, and, interestingly, Jessica's wartime address in Bude is given as Surge Cottage, (she had left Jersey just before the German Army occupation – approx 4 years). The war years would have been a very worrying time for Jessica as, apart from my Dad being a FEPOW, her son Teddy was in India, and middle son, Bill, was in the SOE behind the lines in Yugoslavia and Italy (though probably Jessica was not aware of the full facts). I would love to know where **Surge Cottage** was, and "**Hazel Cottage**" which was the address of Barnabas when his boat sunk, and **Canal Cottages**, where I believe Jessica lived as a girl.

Hopefully your Society may be able to help us or point us in the direction of other sources which may be of help. So far, I have only contacted the Revd David Barnes at St. Michael's Church - Bude

I look forward to hearing back from you.

Kind regards – Caroline Kennedy

## **Cream Tea at Tregea, Lower Upton, Bude**

We invite you to join us for a cream tea at Tregea on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> August. The event is from 3pm to 5pm in the garden at the home of Audrey and Lawrence Wheatley. Unfortunately parking is very limited so we suggest that you take a walk along the canal from Bude or Helebridge to Rodds Bridge and then take the lane up towards Upton. Tregea is on the left hand side just after the point where the road turns to the right. The price is £3.50.

We look forward to seeing you and thank you for your support.

Betty Moore, Events Secretary

## **View from the North**

It's been a strange season weather wise up here. Normally the Kye(cows) are put out into the fields after their winter indoors in the byres (barns) starting from March onwards but due to the lack of grass on the fields for them to graze on it wasn't until late May that the last of them emerged. No sooner were they out than the lyrics of a pop song from the 90's by Vanessa Williams came true with that improbable line "Sometimes the snow comes down in June", only a light dusting mind you but definitely not what we were expecting! Now the cruise liner season is in full swing and by September, 72 of them will have visited Orkney making it the most popular cruise ship destination in the UK. At 3500 passengers Caribbean Princess with 1000 crew makes Orkney (population 21 400) seem very crowded particularly at popular attractions like Skara Brae, but it keeps me busy since as well as running Appie's Tea room this season I'm also doing coach guiding for a number of the ships. Who said retirement was peaceful?

Caribbean  
Princess  
berthed at  
Kirkwall,  
Orkney.

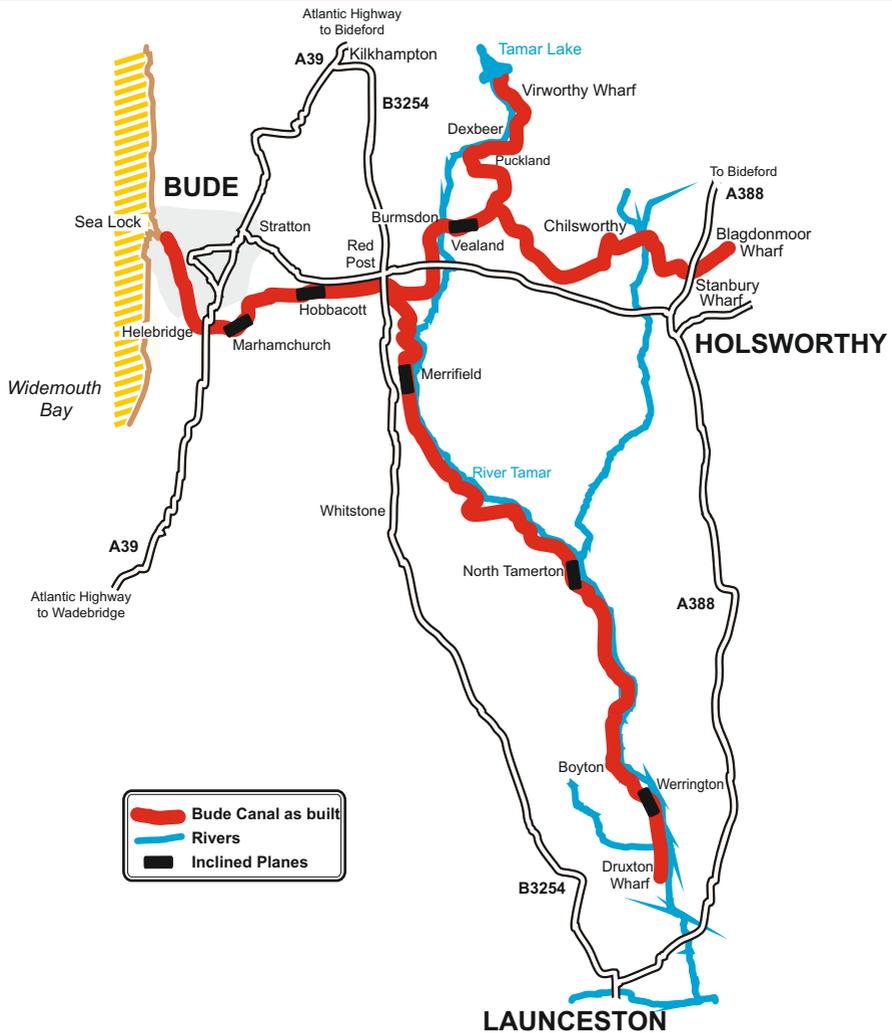


---

# THE TUB BOAT

Newsletter of the Bude Canal & Harbour Society

---



---

Published by **BUDE CANAL & HARBOUR SOCIETY**

Printed by Parish Magazine Printing 01288 341617

Enquiries to the Hon. Treasurer (Tel 01288 352298) 4A The Crescent Bude, Cornwall EX23 8LEt,

[www.bude-canal.co.uk](http://www.bude-canal.co.uk) · [info@bude-canal.co.uk](mailto:info@bude-canal.co.uk)

Registered Charity Number 1086646

---