

# AUSTRALIAN CANAL SOCIETY

Devoted to the world's inland waterways

10th August, 2015

*Hello Inland Waterway Friends!*

*We Aussies are on the move again this year. So many of us seem to have been away now or are going to far-flung places such as the UK (of course!) Europe, Canada, Panama, Galapagos, New Zealand etc. Most of these trips have involved water travel of some sort, even canals!*

*For me, I've only been to Tasmania so far. What a delightful state it is! Steve & Lynne Brompton and Stan & Su Brown started the year by attending the wonderful Australian Wooden Boat Festival in Hobart. In May I wandered among the great variety of water craft in the picturesque harbour there - sailing, fishing and trip boats, the square rigged 'Lady Nelson', darting water taxis. I caught the state of the art catamaran ferry for the 30 minute journey along the Derwent River to the hugely successful art gallery, MONA..... Wow!*



*Egg Island canal, Tasmania*

*The Wooden Boat Centre at Franklin on the scenic Huon River is not only a discovery centre but is a busy boat building school. This and the small local history museum, housed in a white-timbered old church building, uncover an earlier age of settlements well known for apple orchards and boat building.*

*My Tassie friends, knowing how interested I was in the tiny Egg Island Canal, hired a small boat and we rowed to the middle of the Huon River and through the narrow gum tree-fringed canal which bisects the south Egg Island. It was an inauspicious but useful cut which provided a shortcut to the farming settlements on each side of the river.*

**SEPTEMBER MEETING .....** *Come! Bring a friend!*

**Date:** MONDAY, 7th SEPTEMBER, 2015

**Time:** 7.30 - 9.30 pm + Supper

**Place:** Marsden Rd Uniting Church hall,

Marsden Rd, Carlisleford

(parking at rear of church if weather is fine).

Features:

**\*\* "ADVENTURES IN SMALL BOATS"**

**THE DARING ADVENTURES OF BASS & FLINDERS.**

- their coastal and river exploration in Australia. New insights into a familiar story.

- Ron Ray, enthusiastic member Australian National Maritime Museum and B&F expert

**\*\* DVD: Great footage of the ROCHDALE CANAL, which crosses**

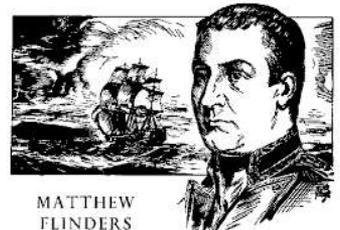
**the rugged heights of the Pennines from Manchester to Sowerby Bridge, West Yorks. The route is scenic, reflects its industrial history .... and the navigation is challenging.**

**Enjoy the experience vicariously.**

**\*\* WHICH WATERWAY? - Guess! You may see a favourite one.**



GEORGE  
BASS



MATTHEW  
FLINDERS



The Rochdale  
Canal

*Executive for 2015 - 2017 elected in June.*

*President ..... Jan Roden, Vice President ..... Lynne Brompton*

*Membership Secretary ..... John Colville, Minute Secretary ..... Susan Belshaw*

*Correspondence Secretary ..... Yvonne Clarke, Treasurer ..... Peter Lucas*

*Supper Convenor ..... Len Gould, Committee ..... Christopher Cooper, John Mitchell*

### **GOODBYE BERNIE NORINGTON**

*I am very sad to tell you of the death of Bernie, who with Kate have been enthusiastic members of the ACS for about 15 years. Bernie sometimes chaired meetings, and he and Kate spoke of their long enjoyable cruises in Britain and France. They loved canals and shared this love with us. Bernie was a member and volunteer with the Sydney Heritage Fleet and held positions of Executive Chief Engineer of the Steamship Waratah and Engineering Superintendent. He had great knowledge and experience as a marine engineer, qualified in steam. He was made an Honorary Life Member in 2008. We are missing him. Our thoughts are with Kate at this difficult time.*



### **CANALTIME COFFEE**

*Across the Harbour to MANLY and the place chosen for our second informal gathering. It was a beautiful sunny July day and we were able to eat, drink and be merry on the broad verandah, an extension of the Manly wharf itself.*

### **\*\* ACS GATHERING AT THE 'BLUE LIAS, ENGLAND, 6th SEPTEMBER 2015.**

*I am delighted that Les Etheridge, the National Chairman of the IWA has agreed to be our Speaker and I am looking forward to meeting him. In an email to me he wrote "I recall seeing your protest against the cuts to BW funding in the waterways press, and have always been impressed by the long distance support for our inland waterways. Indeed, your protest in Sydney Harbour back in November 2006 against the BW funding cuts was one of the highlights of the campaign for me".*

### **"BRITAIN'S CANALS ARE MORE POPULAR THAN EVER"** (A recent British Press article).

*A record-breaking number of visits were made to Britain's canals last year. Figures released by the Canal & River Trust show a huge surge in interest in historic waterways. Over the past 12 months, 19.5 m visitors made 400 m trips to their nearest canal or river, up from 351 m visits the previous year. The C&R Trust, which cares for 2,000 miles of rivers in England & Wales, was established in 2012 as the successor to British Waterways. More than 100 community groups have now "adopted" their local stretch of canal, working alongside the charity to maintain their local waterway. The charity has seen a 14 per cent rise in volunteering, which exceeded 400,000 hrs for the first time. Volunteers assist in various ways, from conservation to lock keeping. Richard Parry, chief executive of the C&R Trust, said there was 'more interest in canals now than since the heyday of the Industrial Revolution ..... the creation of the charity provided the opportunity to secure the waterways' long-term future and to make them central to public life..... the progress we have made shows what is possible.' Tony Hales, chairman of the Trust said 'I am particularly pleased that this past year has seen so many new people getting involved with our work either as volunteers or partners'.*

**Next Meeting: Monday 7th December - "Steaming Towards Christmas"**

Sincerely Yours

President

