



## The Beverley Barge Preservation Society

Registered Charity No 1091733  
www.syntanbarge.org.uk Tel: 01482 872805/878629

### JULY 2010 NEWSLETTER

This month has really been dominated by the vessel's visit to the lovely city of York, a trip that most crews would relish during the heydays of barge transport, when they would deliver cocoa beans to the Rowntree factory up the Foss.

After travelling to York with *Syntan* I can understand why they would want to take this trip. I boarded at the Admiralty steps in Hull on what was a glorious day of bright sunshine although a somewhat strong breeze accompanied us as far as Trent Falls which made for a slightly choppy cruise, but once into the Ouse the river began to calm and we had a smooth journey the rest of the way.

Although a long day it was made to feel shorter by the good company and light-hearted banter of the passengers and crew. During her stay of about two weeks in the city, moored at Kings Staithes just outside the Kings Arms, *Syntan* paid host to a variety of functions from story-telling for children during the day, to a blues band for the more mature in the evening.

However the highlight of the visit must have been picking up the Archbishop of York from his palace at Bishopgate and taking him along the river to the York Millennium Bridge for a service to bless the plaque that commemorates the bridge's tenth anniversary. It was an experience that the Archbishop thoroughly enjoyed - taking the helm for most of the journey.

Photographs of the day can be seen on our website.

The vessel also undertook trips on the Foss which included a presentation to the Foss Society concerning the history of *Syntan* and the work of the Society.

A huge thank you from the Society to Tony, Pat, Stuart and Jenny for their hard work during the stay in York and also thanks to any other members who helped to man the vessel or to crew on the voyage to York and the return to Beverley. **We are always looking for members to help with the work of the barge and you will be very welcome if you can manage to help, in any capacity you wish.**

Back at home the restoration/conversion of *Sun* continues, albeit at a slower pace than we would have liked, whilst efforts continue to try and secure funds to allow us to look to the more complex issues of fitting out the vessel.

We look forward to hearing from any members who may have ideas to help the Society and also welcome any new faces at our monthly members' meetings, the next meeting being on 12th August aboard the barge at 7-30pm. Hope to see you then.

Best Regards

*Bill Gillyon.*