

BOOKINGS AND CHARTERS
MEMBERSHIP AND VOLUNTEERS
CONTACT INFORMATION

BOOKINGS: SYNTAN

Syntan is available for hire as a static venue for meetings, parties and other functions. She is fully equipped with presentation facilities for both formal and informal meetings.

We welcome parties of schoolchildren free of charge allowing them to gain an insight into the work carried out during Beverley's industrial past.



CHARTERS: MERMAID

Mermaid carries up to 8 passengers at a time and will take you from its berth at Cranehill Wharf down Beverley Beck to the lock and back again. On request we can also take you further afield onto the River Hull.

CHARTERS: SUN

Sun is designed as a trip boat carrying a maximum of 12 passengers. She takes trips up the River Hull close to Driffeld Navigation.

MEMBERSHIP

Why not join us as a member, allowing you to have a say in the running of the Society. Fees are as shown in the Membership Form and paid annually in April.

Why not become a volunteer. You will also be able to take part in the Society's work, looking after the vessels and helping at social and money making functions.

CONTACT DETAILS

Phone: 07811 270712

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THE BEVERLEY BARGE PRESERVATION SOCIETY

CHARITY NUMBER: 1091733

WEBSITE: www.syntanbarge.org.uk

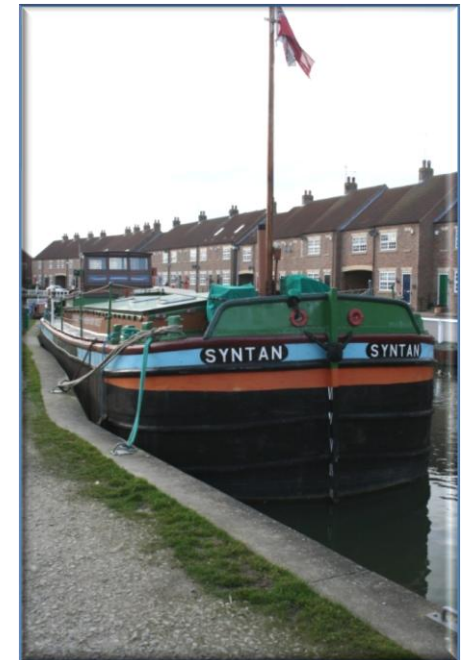
HOME OF THE WORLD BARGE PULLING CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Beverley Barge Preservation Society was formed in 2002 as a registered charity with the original aim of rescuing and renovating the ex-Richard Hodgson's barge *Syntan*. It was discovered at Doncaster Power Station after being laid up for 20 years, desperately in need of a complete overhaul.

Syntan was built for Hodgsons Tannery in 1949 and was part of a fleet of 16 based on Beverley Beck. She was brought to Beverley Shipyard and after 3 years hard work became what you see today – a fully operational reminder of times past and a living museum of life on the barges and the Beverley Beck.

In 2007 an additional vessel was acquired; an ex-British Waterways powered mud-hopper, *Sun*. The existing structure is restored to close to its original condition and is available to take passengers up the River Hull towards Driffeld Navigation.

A further vessel was then acquired, *Mermaid*; donated to the Society in 2011 and, being much smaller than *Syntan* or *Sun*, takes visitors mainly for short trips on Beverley Beck though she can go further afield on request.



SYNTAN – a brief history

OPEN DAYS

***Syntan* will be open for visitors every Sunday from the beginning of April until September – 11am to 3pm.**

When open please come along and see a piece of Beverley's history.

The fleet of Hodgsons' barges was used to carry coal and hides into the Tannery and transhipped vegetable raw supplies used for tanning materials from India, South Africa and Paraguay. They also carried general cargoes such as grain, flour, paper and nuts to South and West Yorkshire.

Syntan is 'Sheffield' size – 61'6" x 15'6" – and she could carry a cargo up to 110 tons.



On purchase by the Society the paintwork was faded and peeling. There was no wheelhouse and all the external fitting had gone apart from the winch. The hold was full of water. After 3 years of hard work *Syntan* was completely restored to its old glory and painted in the Hodgson colours. Mast lights, engine room vents and the wheelhouse were found and fitted to their original pattern. The galley and office were created, and the hold converted into a meeting room, and living museum.

In the forecastle is the accommodation, lovingly recreated by Norman Hardy who spent much of his life as a shipwright repairing Hodgsons' fleet of barges.



Syntan now acts as a museum, heritage centre and community resource for meetings, functions and so on.

SUN AND MERMAID – the facts

SUN

Syntan, though built to fit Beverley Beck, is too big for the Driffield navigation system. In addition, though disabled access is possible when she is moored, she is far from ideal when away from her normal berth on the Beck. She is therefore now functioning as a museum and community resource, moored at Cranehill Wharf.



Sun solves these problems.

She is designed to allow up to 12 passengers a view outside while retaining her original design – due to her smaller and lower profile.

She operates as a trip boat on Beverley Beck and the River Hull/Driffield Navigation.

MERMAID

Mermaid is the latest addition to our fleet. Kindly donated by Gardline she was originally a lifeboat tender to the Trinity House vessel, Mermaid. She was used to take crew members to lighthouses, buoys and other navigational equipment.

She is used by the Society as a trip boat on Beverley Beck, carrying up to 8 passengers - as well as some trips further afield on the River Hull.

She was built by Hyundai in Korea in 1986, is 30 ft long by 9 ft wide and powered by a Perkins 4236 diesel engine. Due to her size and manoeuvrability she is also ideal to use as a training boat.

