

# BECKSIDE NEWS

Autumn 2012

**The Newsletter of the Beverley Barge Preservation Society Charity Reg 1091733**



Welcome to the first edition of the new style Beverley Barge Preservation Society Newsletter, which will be published every three months. The Newsletter will be available in electronic form in e-mails sent to members providing e-mail addresses, from the website, and in printed form on the Barge Syntan for those members without an e-mail address and expressing a specific wish to receive it. It will contain a brief outline of the activities over the previous three months, along with opportunities to be involved with the Society for the following three months and beyond. It will also contain the contact details for members of the Society. We hope you enjoy, but please provide feedback via our e-mail on [info@syntanbarge.co.uk](mailto:info@syntanbarge.co.uk)

## **Activities 2012.**

The Summer Season started with the Queen's Jubilee Celebrations on the Beck at the beginning of June . Notwithstanding the appalling weather on the day a large number of people turned out and the Beck was filled with boats of all shapes and sizes. Our thanks go to the main promoters of the event, the Beverley Beck Boat Owners



Association, and to those who attended from both the Hull Bridge and Bethel's Bridge Boat Club.

Our Annual visits to festivals continued with the Leeds Waterfront Festival at the end of June, the opportunity being taken to take the vessels to Goole prior to moving on to York for the Festivals of the Rivers in July. Problems were experienced with Mermaid losing drive on arrival at Goole due to sheared bolts on the propeller shaft and problems

with the toilet on Syntan during the trip to Leeds. We were grateful to Tony Hardwidge and Stuart Pinchbeck for resolving these problems during the layup at Goole the following week, ready for Syntan, Sun and Mermaid to travel up the Ouse in convoy. In time for the York 800 procession on the following Saturday. The water levels on the river had started to rise, by Friday night the Pageant and Dragon Boat Race had been cancelled, and by Saturday morning it was impossible to get ashore from the boats. The water continued to rise throughout the week-end, meaning that we had to use the dinghy for getting ashore. This situation continued until the Monday when we were once again moored against a relatively dry bankside. Over the next two weeks we were able to entertain a number of schools on board and take trips up the River Foss using Mermaid. We thank York City Council, the Inland Waterways Association and the Foss Society for the support given to us during our time in York.



In August our next event was taking Mermaid and Syntan to the newly established Hull Folk Festival, successor to the Shanty Festival. After some further negotiations we were able to follow our original intentions to open Syntan to the public, having almost 800 people on board during the Saturday.

Alongside the trips on Syntan, we started to run trips on Mermaid up the River Hull. Three of these trips have been undertaken to date, a trip to Frodingham Beck and return lasting about 6 hours. We have also used Mermaid as a trip boat on the Beck, the trip taking just under half an hour.

Syntan finished the season with two further trips to the Humber and we are now planning our use of the vessels next year and to program works for the winter period.

#### **Donations.**



The Society is always pleased to receive donations large and small. Mostly these are used for Tombola prizes or are used to add to the equipment used by the Society. We were particularly pleased therefore to be offered by Allam Marine a new high specification diesel generator. This was built specifically for the Society and is based around a Lister Diesel engine developing some 11kVA.

The generator was presented on a Friday, the generator was installed by volunteers on the following Sunday and was fully commissioned by the end of that week prior to leaving for the Leeds Festival.

We anticipate that the generator will have a long life and we are extremely grateful to Dr Allam and his staff at Allam Marine Ltd for their generous support.

### **Events for 2013**

Throughout the Winter we will be preparing the Society's vessels for next year. We will also try to pre-plan the use of the vessels in order that we can involve more members of the society in the running of the boats. Three strands of this planning process are envisaged.

- Shore Crew Training. - We would like to have Syntan open on berth more often, possibly each Sunday when on station during the season. In order to do this we know that we need to carry out familiarisation training so that we have sufficient volunteers involved so that this does not become too much of a chore, and that they have the knowledge to operate the generator or heating system. We will therefore be attempting to write an instruction book for each vessel, and undertake training to allow specific knowledge to be gained.
- Event Planning – The Society is aiming to plan visits to Festivals at the earliest opportunity to ensure that we are able to provide ample qualified crews, without unreasonable expectations on members time. This will be done by the completion of Year Planners and a centrally held diary on Syntan.
- Creation of a Volunteer Register. This would be held centrally on Syntan, but would enable Officers, particularly skippers of vessels to access information about members showing anything they would like to be considered as a volunteer for. This would also ensure that we had up to date contact information for our members (telephone and e-mail as appropriate)

We are also looking to revamp our website in the period up to Christmas. If you have particular knowledge, suggestions or would like to be involved in this please let us know.

### **BBPS in the news.**

Barry Freeman our press Officer does his best to keep the profile of the Society high. Over the Summer we have featured in the following publications.

Hull Daily Mail- Mermaid, Becksid Jubilee Festival, Generator Donation

Yorkshire Post -

Towpath Talk. Flooding at York and Foss Society trips.

Sunday Telegraph – Picture of vessels at flooded York

### **Mayors Charity Appeal.**

During his Mayoral Year, up to May 2012 a number of events were held by Peter Astell, a founder of the Society, to raise funds for his nominated charities, one of which was the Society's vessel Sun. As a result of this a cheque for £1270 was



presented to the Society. Our thanks to the former mayor and to the Town Council for their efforts on our behalf.

### **Society Secretary.**

Unfortunately we received the resignation of Jon Mager the Society secretary recently. If you would like to become more involved in the Society and would like to consider the role, please contact Iain Campbell the Society Chair to discuss what the duties would be. He can be contacted on 01482 871282

### **Other Contacts**

The Society's registered office is MV Syntan, Crane Hill Wharf, Scaife Mews, Beverley HU17 0GG

The Telephone Number is

e-mail on [info@beverleybarge.org.uk](mailto:info@beverleybarge.org.uk)

website [www.syntanbarge.org.uk](http://www.syntanbarge.org.uk)

Chair Iain Campbell

Deputy Chair Tony Hardwidge

Treasurer Brian Holmes

### **Contributions**

If you wish to provide an article for inclusion in the newsletter, please submit it (preferably in Word .doc format) to the editor by e-mail at [info@syntanbarge.org.uk](mailto:info@syntanbarge.org.uk) along with contact details or in written form to the Syntan postbox on Crane Hill Wharf or by post to Beverley Barge Preservation Society, MV Syntan, Crane Hill Wharf, Scaife Mews, Beverley HU17 0GG.

Please note that the views contained in this newsletter are those of the contributor and may not be the same as those of the Society. The Society also retains the right to edit, expand or otherwise change the content of any article



submitted prior to publication.