

STAFFORD RIVERWAY LINK

NEWSLETTER number 3, JULY 2007

Since our last newsletter, firstly, no response to the letter I sent to the presidential person – there will have to be a re-think on this me thinks.

Bad news I am afraid to report is that British Waterways Marinas, whose Managing Director Derek Newton met with Bob & Patricia Bowden and David Jones wrote to Bob as they could not find the Land owner, Bob found out who the Land owner was and passed the information on. He was then advised that British Waterways Marinas would go to Baswich & survey the site. A letter just received by Bob states that British Waterways Marinas will not be proceeding owing to the Flood plain and road access problems. (mind you, they did the Survey during the week or so of torrential rain that **you** all had – Bob & I were in the South of France on the Canal du Midi, boy, was it hot and dry)

As mentioned in the last Newsletter (Number 2) I did manage to organise a flight over the SRL but the weather caused problems as these Microlights are subject to winds etc. and in the end had to go up in a closed cockpit version on a showery day, but still I managed to get some photo's and video and have arranged to go up again in August/September/October in order to get better pictures.

I was asked in May if someone from the SRL would give a 30min talk on the SRL to the Stafford Tourism Bureau on the 3rd July @ 2.30pm at Stafford Boat Club and I accepted spending a couple of hours each day putting together a PowerPoint presentation upon my return from France using photographs provided by myself (including a few shots from the air)

Bob Bowden, David Necklen, Dave Jones and Alan Smith O.B.E and on the appointed hour, Bob & I proceeded with the SRL's very first presentation. I would like to add that this would not have been possible without the help of John Mountford who spent some hours doing the technical bit of getting my Sony Laptop (John has a similar one) to talk to the TV or Overhead projector resident at Stafford Boat Club. I am informed that the presentation was very good and quite a lot of useful information was gleamed from the assembly during Question time. John Mountford asked for a copy of the presentation and went home for a memory stick. I have decided to slightly amend this presentation so that it is automatic in operation in order that it can be used for display purposes (it runs for about 30mins with music) as well keeping a manual version for further presentations. Bob & I would like to do the Staffs & Worcs Canal Society, Wolverhampton Boat Club & Stafford Boat Club during 2008. **Continued**

Ivor Hind has asked me to provide him with a CD containing the artwork to produce some more leaflets as he has been in touch with a printer and a deal is going down. Bob produced the artwork using what turns out to be a rare program on floppy disc (the printer has them all except this program) but fortunately I own a copy on CD and trust this has solved the problem.

As I write this newsletter what could possibly be a most exciting promotion of our cause is in the embryo stage and for reasons of not disappointing you all in case it comes to nothing I will not divulge at this moment the detail except to say "They contacted us" What I can say, is that as I write this (Friday 6th July) Ivor Hind has just telephoned me to say that there is a well presented piece in tonight's Express & Star with large headlines on the sandwich boards outside newsagents. Watch this space.

Again I would also like to remind ALL Members that have not renewed their Membership for 2007/8 which is due in July that their continued support would be greatly appreciated. A slip is enclosed to assist you with payment if you have not done so already.

As a Member, if you have any suggestions or ideas that you consider to be of value to the SRL please do not hesitate to put them forward to the Committee.

These Newsletters hopefully will appear in the Spring and the Autumn (or when necessary) to inform Members of progress in our aims and objectives

Norman Cooper
E-mail shadow76@talktalk.net
Or 01902 842464