



# Gazette

April 2019

No 251

Every year we have our AGM's, during which we hear reports about the past year as well as plans for the year to come.

This year it is on Saturday **May 18<sup>th</sup>** in the clubhouse promptly at 8pm. It is hoped that members will have marked this date in their diaries and will try to attend.

Are your fees going up, or down!!! The treasurer will tell you about the club's finances.

Have you ever thought about standing for the committees? Ask one of the present members what is required, it is not too daunting.

For financial reasons we have two agm's, the Lee & Stort Cruising Club and the LSCC (Social), A paid up member of the LSCC is also a member of the LSCC (Social), no extra fee being necessary. A Social membership only is not available under our Articles.

By the time you read this Gazette, the boats will already have been craned in, or just about to be so. Did you get all your jobs done?

What are your cruising plans this year? Inside this Gazette you will also see details of three local events, including the Waterways Festival at Waltham Abbey in late August. Entry forms or where to find them are on our club website.

**Lee & Stort Cruising Club  
Ltd.**

*The Committee meet each  
month.*

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**In this issue.**

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*If you have an item you wish  
to bring to the Committee,  
please send a letter or e-mail  
to the Secretary.*

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## Commodore's Spring Signal.

**H**ello again fellow boaters.

At the time of writing this signal the boats will be ready to crane in. An enormous amount of work has been undertaken with cleaning, painting, polishing and servicing, in some cases complete replacement of nearly all moving parts.



This time of year is always beset with bad weather and this year has been no exception. Although not as cold as previous years, the winds have been very high, but the sheeting and coverings withstood all.

You will have noticed the second and final phase of the clubhouse window replacement is now complete.

As always there will be much to do at our work weekend, Sat 13-Sun 14 April, but more of that nearer the time.

Although a quieter time of the year, recovering from Xmas and the New Year, we still enjoyed social functions.

The renewal lunch, thanks to Elaine and Julia was a success As was the Valentines Dinner/Dance, our thanks to Karen Carse and Karen Sharman.

Fletcher arranged the Pike fishing competition with 28 potential anglers. Thanks to him for arranging, and to Andy for the shepherds pie

I had the pleasure of awarding the trophy for the heaviest pike to Alec Babbs. (27lbs) at the aforementioned Dinner/Dance. The entertainment was provided by Perry and Rebecca.

Our race night again was hugely entertaining with some winners and some losers. Here we must thank Sue O'Neill for arranging, supplying and cooking the jacket potatoes, together with her assistants!!!.

Some cruises have already been arranged for Easter and May Bank Holiday, with more to follow. Please see notice board and website for further details.

I will be arranging the Clubs visit to the Ware Boat Festival this year so please let me know if you are interested. (See Page 5)

Now I must remind you of the correct procedure to be observed at the rail crossing.

- Phone to obtain permission to cross with a vehicle.
- When authorised to do so, unlock padlocks, open gates and cross.
- Close gates, shut padlocks and PHONE BACK to announce crossing is complete and the crossing is clear.

Security is still something we are all responsible for so please keep the club gates closed and locked unless there is a constant flow of members in and out.

The clubhouse door, if shut, can only be opened from the outside with the key. (*We are attempting to rectify this*) New keys are available from the bar. 1 per boat,. Most have already been issued

The defibrillator, fortunately remains unused ( and long may it remain so) but please familiarise yourself with its location and opening code. This is on the front of the box.

On the horizon are our Annual General Meetings, Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> of May 8pm. If any member wishes to join the committee or has a particular skill that will benefit the club, please contact me in confidence. 07768 981379 is my number.

I hope we will be blessed with another outstanding summer, your cruises will be incident free and your barbeques exceptional. I look forward to seeing you all at some time during the summer.

Mike Adams.

**O**ur local Rivers Lee & Stort are hosting three waterways events this year, two are held each year but it has been quite a while since we have had a major festival at Waltham Abbey.

**1. Saturday June 15<sup>th</sup>, Bishops Stortford** carnival and boat gathering. Arrive a day or so before. Enjoy the carnival and then, if you wish, join with boaters for a Saturday evening restaurant meal. Apart from the meal this event is FREE. Ample reserved mooring.

**2. Friday July 5<sup>th</sup>-Sunday 7<sup>th</sup>, the Ware Festival** by invitation of the Ware council and IWA. Booking form in clubhouse, and on LSCC and IWA websites. BBQ Friday evening about 6.30pm Boat procession Sat 12 ish. Quiz Sat evening 7.30pm.



**3. Saturday August 24<sup>th</sup>-Sunday 26<sup>th</sup>, Festival of Water** at Waltham Abbey. It only comes to us occasionally. Boat entry fee. No extra admission charge to pay to join in the fun.

Book now for 2019, Waltham Abbey, <https://www.waterways.org.uk>

Contact Bob Langley for Bishop's Stortford.

Booking form for Ware on LSCC website or contact Mike Adams.

### **Other events.**

**London Yacht Show** in St Katharine Dock (by Tower Bridge) Tower Hill underground or Tower Gateway DLR Wed-Sun May 8<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>.

**Crick Inland Boat Show** May 25<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup>. 15 mins from Watford Gap services on M1. Celebrating 20 years this year.

## News from the Waterways.

British Waterways Marinas Ltd (BWML) has been sold by the Canal & River Trust to a consortium which includes Lloyds Bank. Their intention is to build on and expand the present operation.



Income from the sale will be invested in assets which are intended to increase rental income, thereby allowing more money to be put into the many demands of the waterways, both canals and rivers. The sale has included Limehouse Basin moorings.

BWML was put up for sale in March 2018. The subsidiary was set up in 2004 and operates 18 marinas across England – three coastal and 15 inland, with 2,520 berths in total, including 699 residential.

**Carbon Monoxide alarms** are now mandatory from April 1<sup>st</sup> 2019 You will need one to pass your 4 yearly BSS. Most sold until recently have been for home use. For a boat

it needs to be .../2. Many current models are designed for both uses and are marked both .../1 and .../2. Install a certified CO alarm (BS EN 50291-2), and test it routinely. Although a few models have user replaceable batteries, most are sealed for a 5 or 10 year life.

## Sources of CO2

- Gas appliances.
- Fumes from an adjacent boat, which includes both engine and solid fuel stoves.
- Beware of fumes 'blowing back' from your own exhaust, particularly from petrol engines.

Don't take chances. For extra safety, unless you have a gas fridge, turn off at the bottle overnight.

Remember you can affect others if close mooring.

## Why type../2 ?

Home units are designed for normal home temperatures. Boat units are designed for much lower temperatures and dampness that you might expect on an all year boat. Freestanding types ok.

**Do I need one** if I have no heating or cooking facilities? The test examiners say YES, as fumes may enter your space from a nearby moored boat running their engine or, particularly on a cool evening from an heating exhaust.

### **Staff changes.**

Over the last few months the Canal & River Trust have had a number of staff changes. One in the London & South-East team is Rick Jones, the operations supervisor for the upper Lee and Stort, who has left for a new life in Canada.

### **Tottenham Lock delays.**

Hale Wharf Bridge Contractor will be installing 2 New Bridges, north of Tottenham Lock, to connect the new development up to the Tottenham community.

The Towpath will need to be closed from Br 24 extending 500m North, to facilitate these works a floating walkway will be installed within the navigation to divert pedestrians onto.

125m of mooring will be suspended North of Br 24.

Lifting in of the main bridge over the Lee Navigation will be planned during August-September 2019 and may cause delays of up to 30 minutes during a 5 day period. Exact dates for this will follow when confirmed by the Contractor.

*See also next page.*

### **Thames Tide Tables for Brentford/Teddington**

Available on club website under heading, Canal & River Trust.

Take off 1 hour for Limehouse/London Bridge.

#### STANSTEAD ABBOTTS

#### TIDE TIMES

Week 1<sup>st</sup> April 2019

Tide	Time	Height
Low	6.53	2' 11"
High	11.26	2' 11"
Low	19.08	2' 11"
High	22.14	2' 11"

Approach Stanstead road bridge with caution, as air draft may change up to 1" when Stanstead auto weir is open.

**The Stort Boat Club** celebrated their 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary in February by meeting for lunch at Fanham's Hall, Ware. Over 45 members attended to enjoy the three course meal. A slight irritation was that the service was slow.

During the courses, a compilation of their activities over the years was shown on the large screen, having been put together by their Commodore Mike Newman.

Our own **LSCC** has a video CD of cruises and regattas which took place in the 1960's. It includes the digging out of moorings and the building of the clubhouse in 1963. Also on CD is 'the sail past' of both our 40<sup>th</sup> and 50<sup>th</sup>. They all make interesting viewing.

The **Beale Park Boat Show** on the R Thames has been losing visitors in recent years, so the organisers have decided to cancel this year's show. They have also stated that they have no plans to hold further shows at this venue.

Their efforts will now be put into the **Thames Traditional Boat Festival** held as usual at Fawley Meadow, Henley on Thames. The date for this year being July 19<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup>. <https://www.tradboatfestival.com/>

Another casualty this year is the **Beaulieu Boat Jumble** at Lord Montagu's estate in Hampshire. There is hope it will take place next year.

The vacant plot of land alongside **Tottenham Lock** is to have a new 21 storey, 500 flat residential building. Work has already begun on what used to be called Hale Wharf. The riverside frontage will have access for walkers. A new bridge will also span the Lea.



**Green Diesel.**

The Emerald Isle has always coloured their diesel green for commercial use. Under the EU ruling of October 2018 which stated that the Republic was not complying, white diesel only will be legal in leisure craft from 2020.

**Red Diesel.**

This is the same directive that has been given to the UK government re red diesel, but so far nothing has been said from Westminster.

Like our own boating organisations, the Irish have also raised concerns regarding the availability from the waterside, with only a handful of suppliers saying they would keep both coloured and white diesel.

At the moment white diesel from a garage is bio-diesel which many claim damages the rubber seals in an engine, whilst most red diesel/gas oil sold on the waterways in the UK is non-bio.

**Club WiFi warning.** An article in the recent RYA magazine highlights the risk of criminals, such as drug dealers, hacking into club systems, particularly at night.

The main reasons are that clubs often have very simple passwords, some even put them on their notice boards, also many club premises are remote and have no one around at night and often during parts of the week. Clubs on the east coast have had problems to date. LSCC is secured.

A reminder that sensitive work should never be done on a public WiFi network, and especially if using g-mail, yahoo etc.

Does your phone/tablet have a good anti-virus or internet security programme? If not, you are open to problems.

**New members**

Our first new members for 2019 are:

Joseph and Mariesa Howlett. The name of their boat is Marshmallow.

Do get to know them and make them welcome.

**Members not renewing membership.**

Nick & Philippa Gent who sold their boat last year. Joined 2013  
Martin & Caroline McBride. Kracken. Joined 2008.

Paul McKenna. Long term member. Lives in Southampton.

Lynne Timlett. Long term member who has decided to leave.

Janet Stevens. Joined 2010. with late husband Alan.

Colin & Desna Everitt. sold Honey last year. Joined 2011.

**Boat changes.**

Paul & Wendy Jell-Riches have sold COMPASS ROSE II

Steven & Sarah Lakey have sold DORIS and bought COMPASS ROSE II.

## **WANTED**

### **Your hints and tips for cruising on the River Thames.**

I want to create an information booklet for club members sharing any useful information we have gathered over the years, including where to moor, shop, eat, drink, swim, access to public transport etc..... anything you think would help others.

Please contact me via email

[maryschmid55@gmail.com](mailto:maryschmid55@gmail.com) or text 07790 315695

Thanks - Mary

## Website items.

Under the C&RT heading you will find the Long & Short term **licence tables**.

Please note that although dated 2018-2019 they are valid until March 2020, as C&RT have made no increase this year, apart from the early payment discount.

From April 1<sup>st</sup> 2019 this is reduced from 10% to 5%, so a small recalculation will be needed.

Also (under the C&RT heading) is their latest **Boater's Report** which makes interesting reading.



The IWA '**Vision for London**' **paper** (under notice board heading) should also be read as it gives some insight into the current problems and what may

be some possible solutions.

## LIMEHOUSE PONTOONS REFUSED.

The owner of Limehouse Basin Marina has been refused planning permission for its scheme to build an extra five pontoon moorings in the basin. This proposal has been strenuously objected to by various parties.

The proposal, for new mooring pontoons along the southern edge of Limehouse Basin which would have reduced the number of available visitor moorings, received over 150 objections. Limehouse Basin is the only safe haven, off the Thames Tideway accessible over much of the tidal range.

It is understood that the owners of the marina have advised that they will not make any further planning applications in relation to these moorings, a move welcomed by the local IWA branch, which regards the availability of a clear area of water space essential for the muster of a fleet of craft off the tideway, especially in emergency situations.

## Wilks.

This well known private company based in Tollesbury, Essex,(1973) who manufacture teak effect decking, marine fendering and rubber/pvc extrusions, etc, has been bought by Flexiteek, with whom they have worked for a number of years. The existing facility at Tollesbury will continue, as will all the employees.

Flexiteek supply their products to many international builders of new craft among which are Princess Yachts and Sunseeker International who are based in Poole, Dorset.

## Pike Fishing Competition

On Saturday the 9th February twenty two of our members and friends took part in our fishing competition. The day started with having to set your rods up in the strongest of winds, which for me being a novice, was pretty stressful, to say the least.

Within no time little Tel caught the first pike weighing in at 4.7lb which was a fantastic start, moments later, I want to say little Toby, but big Toby caught a 3.8lb followed by a 9.2lb pike. Things then went a little quiet which was good timing as myself and Andy Hollis had cooked shepherds pie for everyone's lunch. This was very nice.

Then Alec AKA Jeremy Wade from river monsters hooked a pike like I have never seen before, weighing in at 27.4lb. The day finished with Colin Baker catching a 5.8lb pike so all in all a great days fishing.

Well done to all who took part and a massive well done to Alec who took the prize for the heaviest fish.

*Moe pictures on the website.*

Fletch



## Pike.

**Appearance:** They have large bony heads with prominent forward/upward looking eyes, a broad flattened snout and a large mouth. The mouth contains a fierce arsenal of teeth, with rows of backward pointing, razor sharp teeth in the top jaw and larger needle-like teeth in the lower jaw. The head is mounted on a long, torpedo shaped body with fins being primarily rear positioned for fast acceleration. Individual marking patterns are unique to each pike, like fingerprints to humans. This olive and cream colouration helps the pike to camouflage itself, while it lies in wait for its prey.

**British record:** 46lb 13oz (British record committee 2015)

**Lifespan:** Up to 25 years but 10 to 15 years is more typical.

### **How to catch a pike:**

Pike prefer to hunt by sight and so thrive in the less heavily boated canals. Waters that are clear and weedy suit the hunting style of the pike. A very popular method of fishing for pike is to use a spinner, plug or lure. It's very simple and requires minimal tackle and suits the angler that likes to roam rather than sit in one place.

Pike can grow large so your tackle needs to be strong. Due to the pike's sharp teeth, a wire trace is required between the lure and your main line and a large pair of forceps to remove the hook. Large pike are nearly always caught using dead bait.

While fierce looking, the pike is a very fragile fish and the upmost of care must be taken when handling these fish on the bank and when returning them back to the water.

**Bass.** Did you know that it is illegal for recreational fishermen or women to keep any Bass they may catch? That is to change from April 1<sup>st</sup> when a limit of one fish per day may be kept.

## Past Gazette items.

Looking back in previous copies, I found the following which you may find interesting from December 2006.

*“Paul Thurgood after 21 years of helping at crane outs/Ins, feels it is time for someone else to head up the pontoon team. It remains to be seen whether he stays away from the next craning, in March”.*

In the July 2006 edition, it was reported that at an EGM held on the 22<sup>nd</sup> April, by 45 votes to 12, it was agreed to purchase a crane for a sum of up to £15k.

Perhaps Mary Schmid will remember this quiz that she set for December 2002, Here are most of them. **Answers bottom page 15.**

### 1 When in need of rest & relaxation.

do you...

- *Send the kids off to a holiday camp?*
- *Book a package holiday?*
- *Go on a boating holiday?*

### 2 In response to the shout ‘duck’

do you...

- *Crouch down -there’s a low bridge?*
- *Order-Peking style?*
- *Look at the nice birdies? (No low bridges at sea).*

### 3 When washing down your boat

do you...

- *Close all windows first?*
- *Ask crew to close all windows?*
- *Give bedding a good wash whilst your at it?*

### 4 In response to the shout ‘wash’

do you...

- *Say, “no chance I’m on holiday”?*
- *Have a shower?*
- *Hold on tight (sea cat is just going past?)*

**5 When tasting war rations at Chatham’s Historic Boatyard do you...**

- *Taste cautiously?*
- *Politely refuse?*
- *Eat the largest portion on offer?*

**6 When asked for your position on the VHF do you...**

- *Use the GPS?*
- *Use the stars?*
- *Say, “I’m on the boat”?*

**7 When following a course do you...**

- *Trust your compass?*
- *Trust God?*
- *Shout at wife?*

**8 When storms are forecast do you...**

- *Eat in?*
- *Take umbrella to restaurant?*
- *Eat ‘Al Fresco’ and get wet?*

**9 On a boating holiday do you...**

- *Enjoy sounds of nature whilst snuggled in your bed?*
- *Sleep until mid-day?*
- *Get up at 4am to catch the tide?*



If first answer was most frequent. Go to top of the class.  
If second answer was most frequent. You should choose another hobby.  
If last answer was most frequent. You have without doubt been on holiday with Renato.

**Douglas Arthur Colcombe.**  
**Nov 18<sup>th</sup> 1934- March 7<sup>th</sup> 2019.**



March 7<sup>th</sup> was a sad day for the LSCC when it received the news that Doug, a gentleman of the club, had died. With Pam, his wife, they both joined in many of the club activities, and in particular if it included cruising somewhere. Looking back at past Gazettes, their boat *Cygnus Olor*, a Viking 28 cruiser, was usually on the list for the next club cruise on the local rivers. Above Feake's Lock was a favourite, as well as visits to other clubs or our own 'cheese & wine'. For many years Doug kept the club awards boards up to date.

There crowning cruising moment began on Wednesday June 7<sup>th</sup> 1995 when they set off down the R Lea for Limehouse. Leaving early on Friday they had a rough passage on the tideway to Teddington. Onwards to Oxford and the Duke's Cut taking them on to the South Oxford Canal.

Reaching Cropredy they had an enforced stay for 6 days as both had food poisoning and had a doctor attend. At last on to Braunston and the Leicester arm of the Grand Union, and so to the Trent & Mersey canal. Turning left at Fradley junction it was then straight down the Coventry and Grand Union canals to London, and so back to the club which they reached on July 27<sup>th</sup>. If you look at a map, they had done a figure of eight.

They wrote, "A lovely holiday, no engine problems, covered 550 miles, 307 locks and 9 tunnels".

As getting on and off their boat was becoming difficult, they reluctantly sold it in 2007, but have still continued their club membership. Their previous boats were 'Mallard' and a self built, named 'Pintail'.

Our thoughts are with Pam, son Keith and daughter Jacquie Baker. (Sandpiper X)

*The mute swan (Cygnus olor) is a species of swan and a member of the waterfowl family Anatidae. It is native to much of Eurasia.*

The funeral on March 28th was well attended by both present and past LSCC members. We heard how he was a much loved family man who could put his hand to most things. *Job to be done, Doug will fix it.* Much of his work was as a stonemason, which at one point involved working on the Houses of Parliament, “marvellous views over the river”.

At the end of the service we were invited to stay sitting and remember our contact with Doug. over the years, whilst listening to some music. What else but, 'Messing about on the River'—Josh MacRae.

## DATA

As stated in our Privacy Policy, full details are limited to certain members for administration purposes. At the moment communication is by post, text, e-mail or view the website.

A new **Mail Chimp** is soon to be running. This will come in on your PC, phone or tablet. The advantage is that you can use a reply button to say you are coming to an event, ***without moving from your armchair!!!*** Some club forms can also be filled in and returned electronically.

Mail Chimp is used by many organisations and is free to the club. Your replies go back to a club address only. Steve Lakey will administer, having set it up with the data officer.

### Facebook.

Please be careful when identifying the LSCC. No item must go on Facebook that implies it is an official communication. from the club.

### From latest RYA Bulletin.

On 21 January 2019 the largest sanction to date was imposed under the GDPR by the French authorities. A fine of 50 million euros was imposed against Google LLC for lack of transparency, inadequate information and lack of valid consent regarding personalisation of advertisements.

- “Whilst the level of the fine Google LLC received is unlikely to be replicated in an action in the UK against a club for a breach of data protection, ***it is nevertheless a reminder of the importance of ensuring your club’s continued compliance with the GDPR***”.

## More local C&RT improvement news.



On the Lee Navigation, improvements will be taking place at a number of sites.

- A new water tap is being installed at **Bow Lock**.
- At **Feildes Weir**, at the confluence of the River Lea and the River Stort, new refuse facilities have been asked to be reinstated. A new bin store is now being installed there to complement the Elsan disposal and water point.

At **Stonebridge Lock** near Tottenham, boater facilities are being improved as part of our ongoing project to make Stonebridge a better place for boaters and local communities to enjoy. We will be installing a new fob-access vehicle gate at the entrance to the site to prevent illegal parking and ensure boaters' bins can be collected on time, as well as maintaining access for tanker lorries to service the holding tank for the sanitation station. The bin store will have new fencing installed to provide more secure access, and the Trust will be providing recycling facilities as a replacement for the Haringey Council recycling bins.

*(see website re Stonebridge development)*

At long last in April boaters will soon see the re-instatement of a complete set of facilities at **Hazlemere Marina** at Waltham Cross. After a long delay due to difficult site conditions encountered by the Trust's site development partner, boaters will be getting a brand new facilities building This will incorporate a new water point, Elsan, pump-out and refuse facilities, all helping to fill the long term gap in facilities at this location on the Lee Navigation.



The **AWCC annual outing** taking place in a few weeks time on April 13<sup>th</sup>, is a four hour cruise on the Grand Union, including a buffet lunch. Nine LSCC members have booked their places. Fine weather will make the cruise even better..

## Rules.

All companies and organisations, large and small, have a rule book and the LSCC is no exception. With the AGM's in May, now would be a good time for all members to read their copy. If you haven't read it for some while, it is not as boring as may be thought.

All members have been given the Club's yellow cover Rule Book. (If you have mislaid, please ask our secretary for a copy or download from the LSCC Website).

## Insurance

If you moor your boat at the club, you must have insurance for minimum 3<sup>rd</sup> party, even if boat is little/not used. If requested, valid proof must be shown to the mooring master. Yellow rule book. 1.4 & 1.5 page 20 refers.



Blue

£18.00

Red

£17.25



Same type empty to be returned

## Does sound travel faster in water or air?

*Answer below.*

### Useful numbers.

Canal and River Trust

0303 040 4040

Canal and River Trust Emergency Number

0800 47 999 47

24 hr E A Pollution Incident Line

0800 80 70 60

Swan Sanctuary (Southern England)

01932 240790

RSPCA Emergency

0300 1234 999

Dumped Trolley Hot Line

01923 201120

Report a crime in progress in London

Dial 999 or 101 ask for .....

"Operation Kraken".

Water almost 5 times faster. 1.435m/sec

# Programme

## April

Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> & Sunday 14<sup>th</sup>  
Workdays



## May

Saturday 4<sup>th</sup>  
Club cruise to Roydon

**Saturday 18<sup>th</sup>**  
**Club AGM's 8pm sharp**  
*please sign in*

## June

Saturday 8<sup>th</sup>  
Fun Auction evening  
bring good items/ buy anything



Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> & Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup>  
Commodore's cheese & wine cruise invitation



## July

Friday 6<sup>th</sup>- Sunday 7<sup>th</sup>  
Ware Festival & Boat Rally



*Note: April 19<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> Easter, May 6<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> Bank  
Holidays*