



**Newsletter of The Friends of The Canal
Museum, Stoke Bruerne**

Chairman's Jottings

Lynda Payton

Well, who would have thought it. Here we are, still very much in the grips of a global pandemic with no signs of a return to normality. Indeed, Northampton although not in lockdown, is currently in special measures with a spike in cases of COVID-19. Many waterway businesses are only just about hanging in there, yet hire-boating, now it can resume, is seeing a boom such as never seen before, as people take to the water to seek staycations with a naturally built-in degree of social distancing and guaranteed isolation. Hopefully we shall see some permanent converts to the peace and tranquillity of our waterways coupled with a new upsurge of interest in its rich heritage and history. Certainly, lots of local people have chosen to visit Stoke Bruerne to take exercise and enjoy watching life on the water during and once lockdown had eased. Our resident swans and their three cygnets have proved quite a draw, and sometimes a bit of a commotion, when wanting to join boats locking down to the next pound below Lock 14. Our two trip boats, *Charlie* and *Indian Chief* are operating once again, albeit with reduced numbers aboard and the businesses are

now open again with reduced capacity.

In May we took the difficult but inevitable decision to cancel our main fundraiser, the Village at War Weekend. Not only could we not be certain about when it might be possible to hold large events again, but most of our volunteers are, how can I put this politely, are of advancing years, and many of them had sensibly decided to self-isolate. Booking fees have been refunded, or rolled over to next year, when we hope the suspension in hostilities can be lifted and battle can recommence.

Sadly it has proved necessary for the Museum to remain closed, but some staff have returned from leave or furlough and the cafe has re-opened between 11am and 3pm on Friday to Sunday for take-aways and limited shop sales with a one-way system in place. Volunteering is also cautiously restarting with careful and well rehearsed measures in place to ensure the safety of both our volunteers and visitors. From mid-August onwards volunteers have assisted with a very successful Pop-up Museum, open at the same time as the café, which has enabled artefacts to be taken out of the museum to meet visitors on the towpath. Those participating tell us they are getting plenty of interest from casual passers by and it is very enjoyable chatting to visitors about the stories behind the artefacts on display. As I write, *Sculptor*

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Cover picture: *Sculptor* outside the Canal Museum as the welcoming lights of the Boat Inn show clearly in the summer evening (Photo: KD)

team members are getting ready to give scheduled 5 minute talks to visitors about museum boat *Sculptor* alongside volunteers manning the pop-up museum and plans and risk assessments are being drawn up to allow a limited return to regular volunteering to allow for the continued care and maintenance of *Sculptor* and to assist with relocating exhibits ready for building work within the Museum later this year.

In July we got the good news that the Trust's redevelopment plans for the Museum has received planning consent from South Northants Council. With Trust staff on furlough, progress on the project has been understandably slow, but it is hoped now that staff are returning that Stage 1 work to put in a kitchen, extend the cafe and implement other improvement works can start this winter subject to finance being resecured for the project from within the Trust. Meanwhile, an HLF bid for funding for Stage 2, which includes a lift, new museum interpretation and development of the wider site, is being worked up. So, everything is going to take a little longer than first envisaged, but The Friends still look forward to supporting the Trust with a generous match funding package which should see the Museum transformed into a thriving visitor destination.

The Friends Trustees have been holding meetings on-line and due to the ongoing situation we envisage it will not be possible to hold an in-person AGM this year. Instead, we will revert as many other organisations have done, to holding our

AGM on Zoom. Please put Thursday 26th November at 7.30pm in your diaries. An AGM Notice which includes an agenda is elsewhere in this edition of Museum Matters. We sincerely hope some of you will want to join us on-line, even without the usual refreshments. You could sit comfortably at home with a glass of something that cheers in your hand though. Please let us know if you intend to be there by contacting myself or one of the other Trustees so we can send you a link to the meeting in advance. It goes without saying that we would welcome some new blood on the Friends Council. If you would like to become a Trustee and help run the Charity please do let me know in plenty of time before the AGM. It really isn't onerous. Just a few hours a month, honestly, and I would be delighted to have the opportunity to tell you more about what is involved.

All that remains, is for me to extend grateful thanks to one of our volunteers, Kathryn Dodington, who throughout lockdown became the resident ears and eyes of the Trust in watching out for the closed Museum and all things Stoke Bruerne, from taking in the post, opening up for alarm engineers, alerting the Trust to contractor no shows for bin emptying, opening up and ventilating *Sculptor*, pumping it out, and so much much much more. All this whilst, getting up at the crack of dawn to see wide beam boats safely through Blisworth Tunnel, and not to mention, keeping an eye on my own house while I was stuck in lockdown in the southernmost part of Spain. Kathryn you are truly a superstar!

Sculptor Update

Kathryn Dodington

As Lynda has said elsewhere it has been a very quiet time for *Sculptor* just sitting quietly on her mooring awaiting the love and care that the *Sculptor* team bring her. We have kept a fairly close eye on her, pumping her out as required and allowing her to breathe in the hotter weather.

There is going to be an article about *Sculptor* in the Tillergraph some time in October. The Trust have been most helpful in allowing me to talk to the Tillergraph and supply some of my images and some also from John Bannister and Rob Westlake. I have been promised that we may be able to see the written article before it goes for publication just ensure it says what I think I said to the journalist!

Work begins very soon on some of the maintenance that we wished to undertake but were prevented from doing by COVID-19. The requirements are very involved but we shall get on and do what we can within the guidelines set by the Trust.

Membership

Please remember to renew your membership if you haven't already done so. Your will make all the difference to our work as charity.

MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS

Individuals	£15
Joint members/families	£20
Joint members (over 60)	£15
Family membership	£20
Concessionary rate *	£10
Paper copy of Newsletter	£9
Life membership	£250
Corporate Membership	£50

* *Students and those over 60*

You can pay your subscription by way of BACS. The information you need is:

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Sculptor making her way towards Watford Locks in May-2019 (Photo: RW)

Finance

We have a commitment to support the changes being planned for the Canal Museum and to some of *Sculptor's* ongoing maintenance. However we made the decision to sadly postpone the 2020 Village at War event in good time so that no expenses were incurred before that event.

AGM 2020

The formal notice of our AGM is below. You will receive a link to our online AGM prior to the event. Please do join us for the AGM.

We always welcome new blood on to the FoCM Council; please do get in touch with Lynda Payton if you would like to help on the FoCM Council.

Paul Lynam, our treasurer has indicated that he wishes to stand down from all his

responsibilities at the AGM. We would like to thank Paul for his commitment to looking after our finances for the last 3 years and thank him very much for his professional approach to the role of Treasurer. Please do let Lynda Payton know if you would be interested in taking on the role of Treasurer.

Pop-up Museum

We have started running a Pop-up Museum (see photos elsewhere in the Newsletter) as it has not been possible for Canal & River Trust to reopen the Museum safely. We would be very happy for members to come along and either support the Pop-up Museum or help us run it. At the moment it is running on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays between 11:00 and 15:00 which matches the hours the Museum Café is open. Do join us if you can.

THE FRIENDS OF THE CANAL MUSEUM ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

to be held on Thursday 26th November 2020 via Zoom commencing at 19:30 (7.30pm)

AGENDA

- Apologies for absence
- Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting of The Friends of The Canal Museum held on Thursday, 21st November, 2019 at the Canal Museum, Stoke Bruerne
- Matters Arising
- Chairman's Report
- Treasurer's Report
- Election of Trustees of The Friends of The Canal Museum
- Any other business

All trustees now retire at each AGM and of the eight current trustees seven have indicated their willingness to continue. There is also one ex-officio seat held by the Manager of The Canal Museum at Stoke Bruerne. Please contact Lynda Payton if you are interested in joining the Council. Nominations for Council must be received by the Chairman, Lynda Payton, The Canal Museum, Bridge Road, Stoke Bruerne, NN12 SE.

All those voting must be fully paid up members of The Friends of The Canal Museum at Stoke Bruerne.

SIGNED: Lynda Payton, Chairman, The Friends of The Canal Museum at Stoke Bruerne.

Events

This page is usually populated with the events both The Friends and the Museum are planning to run in the next few months. Of course we cannot, at the moment, run anything other than the Pop-up Museum whilst the restrictions made necessary by COVID-19 are in place.

We are, however, planning Village at War 2021 and will run other events as soon as the situation allows us to do so.

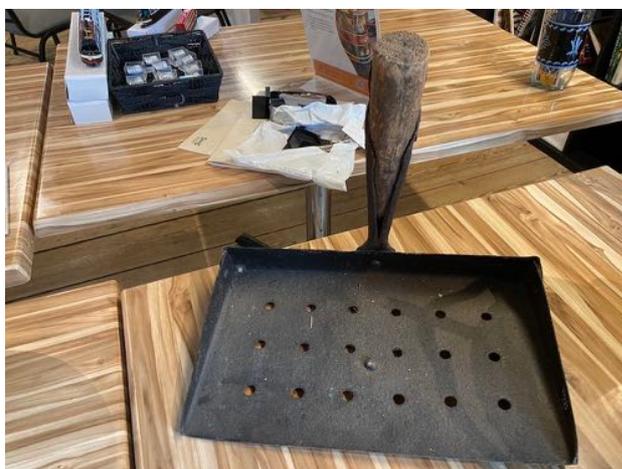
In the meantime you can support the Museum by visiting their café which is open Friday, Saturday, Sunday between 11:00 and 15:00 until the end of September.



The images on this page depict some of the items we have displayed on the Pop-up Museum. Children enjoy looking at them but they also have an understandable need to handle the items!

Canal & River Trust have provided all the supplies we need to remain COVID-19 compliant.

(Photos: KD)



When the Curatorial Team have been doing their best to sort out the basement of the Museum over the years, we uncovered a rather large Tilley floodlamp which we knew very little about. It is black in colour and painted with Roses and Castles which suggested a canal-related history and we think it may have been used to light any maintenance work when being undertaken in Blisworth Tunnel.

When the idea of a Pop-up Museum was suggested the Tilley lamp was offered as an exhibit that could

be used as it had just lain in the basement, unloved but certainly cared for; this was agreed by Steve Bagley.

We've been showing this item, along with others, but it bothered me that in reality we knew nothing about it, so I decided to make some investigations.



The Museum's Tilley Floodlight Projector as it arrived from the basement (Photo: KD)

As with everything there are knowledgeable people around, you just have to find them. I was lucky enough to stumble upon a website called classicpressurelamps.com. I posted a question about the floodlight with an image of it that I had and in the first 12 hours was inundated with information.

The Museum's Tilley Floodlight

Kathryn Dodginton

TILLEY FLOODLIGHT PROJECTOR

CONTRACTORS, ENGINEERS, etc. find the Tilley Floodlight Projector invaluable for various their outdoor lighting projects. Efficient when used with light and night work, it is generally regarded as being the best. Its lamp is powerful, its light is adjustable, it combines with the other features described in this notice, the Tilley Floodlight Projector is a comprehensive and efficient unit, which is very satisfactory when throughout the world. It is perfect for use in any position, and from the fact it gives also maximum illumination and portability, it is the best of its kind. It is the only one of its kind that is so compact and efficient when throughout the world.

THE TILLEY FLOODLIGHT PROJECTOR is perfect for use in any position, and from the fact it gives also maximum illumination and portability, it is the best of its kind. It is the only one of its kind that is so compact and efficient when throughout the world.

THE TILLEY FLOODLIGHT PROJECTOR is very strongly constructed, and one of the best features are its features —

- Heavily constructed rugged Reflector protected by glass Seal Cap.
- Accurate glass Front in glass sections.
- Seal Oil Container, which could not be broken, complete with built-in Pump, Oil Level Indicator and Pressure Gauge.
- Very strong flexible support legs and means to adjust long life.

The Projector may be mounted on any of three stands —

THE TRIPOD STAND S.1 carries the Projector at its point of balance and enables it to be tilted upwards or downwards giving a 90° variation in direction of beam. The Stand is carried by 18° when above the ground and the Stand will be tilted back when below ground.

THE TURNABLE MODEL S.2, in addition to the above being flexible, is provided with a Turntable which allows the Projector to be swung completely round. The lamp and its support giving a maximum height of 9 feet from ground which may be raised or lowered in 10° increments. The lamp and its support giving a maximum height of 9 feet from ground which may be raised or lowered in 10° increments. The lamp and its support giving a maximum height of 9 feet from ground which may be raised or lowered in 10° increments.

THE TRIPOD STAND S.3 is the most compact and is in most cases preferred for use in the field. It is carried by 18° when above the ground and the Stand will be tilted back when below ground. It is the most compact and is in most cases preferred for use in the field. It is carried by 18° when above the ground and the Stand will be tilted back when below ground.

The Projector is made in two different sizes to meet the requirements of the various users. The top of the Tripod Stand telescopes and extends, making it easy to pack in cases.

CHEAPER, SAFER & CLEANER THAN ACETYLENE & NAPHTHA FLARES

TURNTABLE MODEL
for
**BARGES, CRANES,
FIRE ENGINES, etc.**

It is sometimes necessary to fix the Tilley Floodlight Projector to some movable apparatus such as a crane, wippen, barge or fire engine, but at the same time it is essential for it to be free to tilt and swing round in the same way as when mounted on Tripod Stand S.2 or Tripod Stand S.3.

To meet such requirements, the Turntable T.1 is provided which allows the Projector to be tilted upwards or downwards through 90°, and to swing completely round. The Turntable is provided with a substantial base plate suitably drilled for fixing in position.

For specifications and prices, please refer to page 1.

WHILE used across the world of the leading Public Works Contractors; the best made in the British Empire; Foreign Railways; Fire Brigades, etc.

It is the only one of its kind that is so compact and efficient when throughout the world.

SPECIFICATION:

Weight of Projector without oil	35 lbs.	Overall dimensions of Projector—	
Weight of Projector with oil	38 lbs.	Width (A) in Depth (B) in Height (C)	14 in. x 14 in. x 14 in.
Weight of Tripod Stand S.1	15 lbs.	Weight of Reflector above ground	14 lbs.
Weight of Tripod Stand S.2	20 lbs.	Weight of Tripod Stand S.3	18 lbs.
Weight of Tripod Stand S.3	25 lbs.	Weight of Turntable T.1	7 lbs.
Weight of Turntable T.1	7 lbs.	Oil Capacity	8 pints
Oil Capacity	8 pints		

PRICES:

F.L.S. Floodlight Projector fitted with Turntable for mounting on any of the above stands on the Turntable	40/-
Tripod Stand S.1	15/-
Tripod Stand S.2	20/-
Tripod Stand S.3	25/-
Turntable T.1	7/-

For list of Spare Parts, please see page 10.

ALL TILLEY LAMPS BURN ORDINARY PARAFFIN AND ARE THEREFORE

From a catalogue dated 1937 (Courtesy of Anthony on classicpressurelamps.com)

For the record it is a Tilley FL6 Projector Floodlamp from sometime between 1936 and 1945 and much sought after. I have even had offers to get it going at no cost and to accompany one gentleman to the Boat Inn for lunch! I am not sure of Steve's view of that offer!

There are clearly differing models of the FL6 - I suspect we have the most basic but we will keep our eyes open for a stand as the basement is cleared prior to the planned work being undertaken in the museum.

Some of the comments from the website are as follows:

- Do a search on FL6 and you will be flooded with information. The flowers are not original but still very nice.
- The age depends on the size of the pump but older than you think. FL6 was first on the market 1936.
- A nice find. With the additional artwork it may have been used as a headlight for a barge or canal boat. With a little work it could be brought back to full working order, possibly just needing a new set of seals.
- Another clue to its age is the soldered-on brass tag, later models had a glued on transfer.



LIGHTING INSTRUCTIONS FOR YOUR

TILLEY FLOODLIGHT MODEL FL6

The correct fuel for this Projector is Paraffin (Kerosene)
DO NOT USE PETROL (Gasoline)

To be read before lighting your Tilley Floodlight

It is necessary first to understand that TILLEY Lamps operate on Vapourised Paraffin. The purpose of the pre-heating is to heat the Burner and Vapouriser, so that when you release the flow of paraffin it changes from a liquid to a vapour and burns as a gas inside the Mantle.

Consequently, if you turn on the flow of paraffin too soon, it will be a liquid and burn with a flame, so if this happens you need only close the Cock again and the flow of paraffin will cease.

Also, if you pump too violently at the beginning, there will be more paraffin forced up than can be vapourised when the Lamp has not had time to warm up very much, and this will also cause a flame, which can be easily stopped by turning the Control Knob back to "OFF".

In either case release all air by unscrewing the Pump and pre-heat a second time.

You will soon get the knack of lighting the Lamp easily with the first pre-heating.

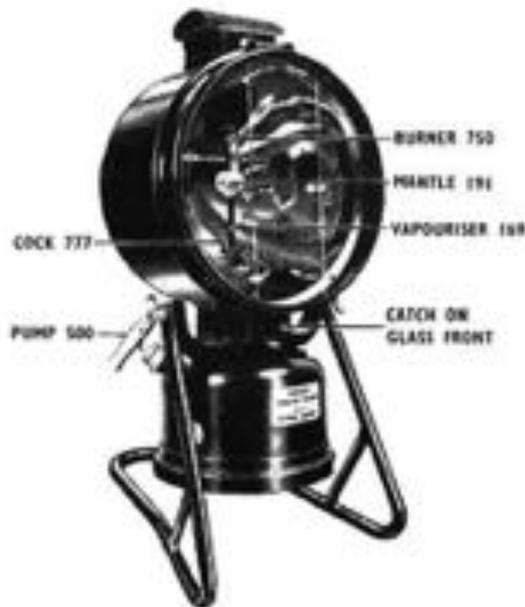
After removing packing materials, see that Control Cock and Vapouriser are tight.

See that the Reflector and Toughened Glass front are free from packing dust, clean with soft rag.

Arrange Mantle evenly.

To light the Projector

- (1) Check that Control Knob is "OFF".
- (2) Remove the Pump, insert Funnel and pour about 6 pints of Paraffin (Kerosene) into Container (2/3rds full); Oil Level Indicator will then read "FULL". Replace the Pump and tighten securely by hand. Do NOT Pump at this Stage.
- (3) Release Catch on Glass Front by unscrewing Sleeve until the Catch hinges downwards.
- (4) Take Torch Clip provided, and either:
 - (a) soak in Methylated Spirit
 - or (b) remove wicks from clip and fill with "Owlite".
- (5) Open Glass Front of the Projector, clip Torch to Vapouriser about 2 inches below the Mantle. Apply a match to the Torch.
- (6) Keep Glass Front of Projector closed while Torch is burning, but when the flame begins to burn low (after about 2 minutes), turn the Knob on the Control Cock (which may be reached through aperture at the back of casing) to "ON".
- (7) Pump GENTLY until the Projector lights with a "pop".
- (8) When the Projector is alight, continue pumping until the centre of the Indicator on the Container is level with the outer rim. DO NOT OVERPUMP.
- (9) To extinguish the Lamp, simply turn the Control Knob to "OFF". It is not necessary to release pressure, but pressure should be released before re-lighting.



IMPORTANT—No Oil Burning apparatus of any kind whatever should be used in a room without ventilation. However, an open fireplace or a slightly opened window will give sufficient ventilation.

TYPE 2660

Printed in England

SMQ.65/CN&Co.

From a catalogue dated 1937 (Courtesy of Anthony on classicpressurelamps.com)

The Museum's Tilley Floodlight

Kathryn Dodington



The manual suggests a manufacture date of 1936 (Courtesy of Ebay)

Yes, the brass plate suggests, I think, 1938-39, unless it has the long, thin pump which would make it one of the very earliest from around 1937. I've never been a big fan of canal art (rosemaling?) on Tilley products but on, for example, watering cans, buckets and anything else, I quite like it...

- Kathryn. Nice old Tilley and it looks to be in fair shape. If you fancy a bit of a drive we can have a try to make it live. Likely just an afternoons work to fettle it. Neil



The brass nameplate which suggests an older model - later models had transfers (Photo: KD)

It just goes to show that somewhere, someone will know the answer to your question. I must admit I was



A Tilley FL6 in use (Courtesy of YouTube)

quite surprised how quick and how helpful the knowledgeable members of Classicpressurelamps.com were to a complete novice in their area of expertise. That to my mind is one of the benefits of the Internet - yes, I know it has its bad side but there are benefits too. With any luck the floodlight may just get a better place in the redesigned Museum next year now we know a bit more about it. A little bit of further research indicates they were used at prison

camp in Switzerland - pleasant and warming in the winter!



Denise and Phil getting ready to explain the artefacts on display at the Pop-up Museum

(Photo: KD)



Rob Westlake applying a protective covering to *Sculptor's* gunnels

(Photo: KD)

Chairman - Lynda Payton (chairman@friendsofcanalmuseum.org.uk)

Vice-Chairman - Lorna York

Treasurer - Paul Lynam (treasurer@friendsofcanalmuseum.org.uk)

Membership Secretary Chris Durham (membership@friendsofcanalmuseum.org.uk)

Publicity, Grant Funding & Awards - Lynda Payton

Website - Trevor Allum

Minutes Secretary - Vacant

Village at War - Mick Butler (vaw@friendsofcanalmuseum.org.uk)

Newsletter - Kathryn Dodington(editor@friendsofcanalmuseum.org.uk)

Governance - Laura Sturrock

Other - Museum Manager (ex-officio seat)

Curatorial Group

Steve Bagley (CRT), Louise Stockwin (CRT), Rodney Hardwick, Brian Mayland, Lorna York, Lynda Payton, Olive Minney and Kathryn Dodington



Photographic Credits

KD	Kathryn Dodington	FoCM
RW	Rob Westlake	FoCM
LS	Louise Stockwin	CRT



A family looking at the artefacts on display before opening the Pop-up Museum
(Photo: LP)