



THE UMPIRE'S LAUNCH

The Consuta Trust

The advancement of education in the history of steam launches, by preservation, maintenance and exhibition of the steam launch **Consuta**

Website: www.consuta.org.uk

News Letter No. 47 — Christmas 2011

Consuta Social Luncheon – 2012

The Consuta Trust have arranged for the annual Winter Social Luncheon to be held at the Henley River and Rowing Museum on Saturday 3rd March 2012.

This museum is in a lovely location near the Thames close to Henley town centre, and has a splendid exhibition of all things covering the Thames Rowing Regattas, and the River Thames waterway itself. An added attraction for us is that the Victorian steam launch Eva is on display here at the Museum as well. The museum is near the Henley railway station, and postcode for navigation is Mill Meadows, Henley on Thames, Oxfordshire RG9 1BF. The Museum has an extensive free car park, and it has a well stocked shop of Thames memorabilia.

Henley is a pretty Thames riverside town with much on offer for the visitor. The town is the base for the world famous Henley Royal Regatta and only a short walk away from the museum if you want to have a look around or perhaps take stroll over Henley Bridge. Henley of course was also the birthplace of the world famed company of Stuart Turner.

Consuta was specifically built for umpire service at the Henley Royal Regatta over 114 years ago and she still performs this duty each year when working as an umpire launch for the Henley Women's Regatta using the same course as the Henley Royal Regatta.

The Consuta Trustees used to have regular trustee meetings at the museum when Consuta was being restored at Henwood and Dean's boatyard at Hambledon.

Our lunch is to be a buffet style lunch arranged for around 1:00pm, the cost will be about £20 per person – details to be confirmed. If you would like to join us please let me know either by email, telephone or by post using the form below and I will send you the booking details when prepared.

Please make a note of the date in your diary Saturday 3rd of March 2012 at the Henley River and Rowing Museum.

Enquiry by email to:- brian.smith@consuta.org.uk or telephone:- 01488 658795

Or post coupon below to Brian Smith, 19 Mill Bank, Kintbury, Hungerford, Berkshire, RG17 9UW



Please send me details of the Consuta Social luncheon at the Henley River and Rowing Museum
Name

Address

Telephone

email:-

What's new about Consuta

It's been fairly quiet since Consuta was lifted out mid October. She is now safely tucked away in the Cowshed together with Cygnet. Consuta's boiler was removed during the boat lift and is on a trailer with an all weather cover stored nearby.

There haven't been any work parties since the craning operation, except three of us separated the funnel outer from the inner ready to have a couple of dents which had been sustained some time during last winter (culprit unknown), the funnel will then be repainted. We are intending that work parties will commence shortly in the new year, details circulated by email.

There have been some interesting rumours/chatter about a possible base for Consuta, unfortunately nothing material to date however the Trustees are resolved that we must concert our efforts on this score during 2012, 11 years without a suitable home is just too long.

Thank you to all who have supported us in so many ways to help keep Consuta in service, ie crews, work party helpers, and financial donations. Thames boat owners will know that licences are due to rise by 2% above the RPI over the next three years, so this is an increase of 6.8% next year; commercial licences however have been frozen until 2015. So Consuta's licence next year will be over £600, sadly no concessions for Consuta even though registered as part of the UK's Historic Fleet.

Training and crewing

This work has gone reasonably well, in fact several people have asked for additional information to be included in the Consuta Engineers handbook. However we need more hands-on help with the crewing, don't hold back just because the request has been sent by email or because you think you are not needed.

Some key mid River Thames event dates for 2012

Beale Park Boat Show	8th – 10th June	Friday to Sunday
Henley Women's Regatta	15th – 17th June	Friday to Sunday
Henley Royal Regatta	27th June – 1st July	
Henley Festival	4th – 8th July	
Trad boat Rally	14th – 15th July	Saturday to Sunday
Goring and Streatley Regatta	21st July	Saturday

Eva on Windermere 1989 (photo by Lyn Smith) - now on display at the Henley River and Rowing Museum

