



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**

Patron: The Rt. Hon. Lord Strathcona & Mount Royal

News update No. 21 December 2004

Dear Supporter, a brief news update.

Consuta was successfully lifted out of the water mid November and is now enjoying a respite under cover and out of the winter weather in the cowshed at Beale Park. We picked a lovely day (some said we should have been steaming). The boiler was lifted out first then the boat, using a 35 ton hired crane. The boiler needs to be removed to access some of the washout holes; and besides, who wants a torrent of dirty washout water into the boat interior?

Work parties will be in operation through the winter months usually on Wednesday/Saturday. Geoff Newton is asking for a new lighter boiler design so that he can get this costed; we will need to raise funds for this! The Trust are also looking for a suitable road trailer to move things such as the boiler (in the winter) and the odd ton of coal (in the summer); if you know of anything suitable do let me know.

The Consuta Trust Social Luncheon

on Saturday 29th January 12:00 for 1:00pm
in **The Crown, Lower Basildon.**

Social including meal, cost is £12 per person. Please mark your meal choice below:-

The menu choice:-	Number required
• Chicken Breast in Prawn & Asparagus sauce with Chef's potatoes & vegetables	
• Home made beef madras with basmati rice & nanbread	
• Baked salmon with dill & lemon sauce, chef's potatoes & vegetables	
• Pot roast lamb shank in a rich mint gravy, chef's potatoes & vegetables	
• Home made vegetable pie with puff pastry	
• French apple tart with chantilly cream	
• Homemade chocolate fudge cake with hot fudge sauce & ice cream	
• Homemade run & raisin cheese cake with whipped cream	
• Homemade rhubarb & orange crumble with custard	
• Coffee	

Total number meals required – tickets will be issued for each meal choice

Cheque made payable to the Consuta Trust

£

Send this booking form and your payment to Brian Smith **no later than 15th January 2005.**

Address is 19 Mill Bank, Kintbury, Hungerford, RG17 9UW please. Space limited to 36 persons.

Our social is in the non smoking restaurant at the Crown and reserved for the Trust. Please bring any photos, memorabilia, or video of Consuta which could be of interest to others. I am hoping to provide a DVD showing Consuta activities at our Social.

If anyone wishes to come and have a look at Consuta before the meal, I will be in the Cowshed (200 yards down the lane next to the Tithe Barn) at 11:00am

Winter work needed is fairly minimal, also there are a few original restoration problems that we are hoping to rectify in due course. We were concerned to discover that the stainless steel ashpan had overheated and there is a slight singed patch on the hog. So who forgot to put water in the ashpan before lighting up? I think we've all forgotten this vital requirement on some occasions. So Engineers please note the two vital checks before lighting up are:- **make sure that there is water in the boiler, and that there water in the ashpan.**

Lots of outings have been suggested for our 2005 Calendar. The first event is a possibility to umpire the 50th anniversary re-enactment of the Oxford and Cambridge boat race held at Henley in 1945. Great, but why on earth in February? – if it's on then it will seriously curtail our winter work schedule.

If you are presently receiving the newsletter through the post (this one excepted) but could take the newsletter as an email attachment, please send me an email to confirm this. The attachment is pdf format and is limited to no more than 600 kbytes; it even has the pictures in colour. This will save postage costs. My email address:- brianws@ukonline.co.uk

By the way if you have ideas how you would like Consuta to be used next year please do let us know. We are still looking for additional crew and skippers, training will be given.

Change of plan – the Social meal will now be held at The Crown, Lower Basildon on Saturday 29th January; 12:00 for 1:00. Please use the booking form on this newsletter and return to me with your meal selection before 15th January, places are limited to about 36.

I'm presently making a DVD video of Consuta's recent exploits. Gordon Chesterman has already provided a delightful video of our excursion to Ely, this and other DVD video material will probably be shown at the social. If anyone is interested in copies just let me know – a small donation to funds would be appreciated.

Many thanks to everyone for your continuing support, so essential to keep Consuta operational. Wishing you all a happy Christmas and the very best for the New Year.

Boiler workers in the barn at Beale Park