

BEALE PARK FESTIVAL TIMES

June 2010 (only 11 weeks to opening day)



The story so far

With over 450 visiting boats booked — a lovely riverside campsite — and exciting exhibitors — IWA's 2010 Beale Park Festival is promising to be an event to remember.

On arriving you will see the **Heritage Wharf** in the distance — recreating the cargo carrying and loading days of yesteryear. With over 15 historic narrow boats berthed alongside the wharf, in the Beale Lake, and boat horse harnessing demonstrations, this will be a great centrepiece for the Festival.

At the front of the lake will be the glamorous, floating exhibition boats and nearby will be the fabulous visiting Dutch Barges, colourful bunting fluttering in the breeze, creating another great spectacle for visitors.



The lake will also host amazing events during the weekend with Adventure Dolphin offering “Come and try it” canoeing sessions (bring a towel !!), steam launches will be on show and clever demonstrations of how to launch and recover a ‘Sea Otter’ aluminium narrowboat.

On Saturday there will be displays by the Model Hovercraft Association, whilst on Sunday a great “sea battle” will be fought by the Portsmouth Model Boat Display Team (with pyrotechnics and sinkings!). Monday brings two much larger models in the form of a warship and a nuclear submarine. Youngsters of all ages will also be able to “have a go” courtesy of the Oxford Model Boat Club.

If you had ever wished you could ‘walk on water’ - well now you can. Climb inside a large floating ball on the lake and see how a hamster feels while you ‘water zorb’. Great entertainment for you — and all the spectators !

Have you booked yet? Don't miss

- * Tom Kitchin — playing at the Folk Club guest night on Friday evening.
- * “The Worst Summer Ever?” and “A Long Weekend” : Day Star Theatre perform on Saturday & Sunday afternoon
- * The BBO Big Band sound on Saturday night
- * Over 40 Classic cars and steam engines
- * Medieval village and falconry
- * “So you want to live on a boat?” presentations and others
- * The Trends—originally formed in the 60's, they have appeared with Jet Harris, Johnny Kidd, Joe Brown and a host of other famous names. Rock the night away — on Monday night.



And that's just a small sample of all the great entertainment that's been lined up for our 2010 Festival.

PS Don't forget the live music, dancing, tasty catering and Real Ale Bar plus all the retail therapy opportunities !
PPS Great Savings with advance ticket purchases: <https://www.iwashop.com/ecommerce/products.asp?cat=241>

Thanks to our supporters:

Including Waterways World, of course, UK Boat Hire, River Canal Rescue, the Environment Agency, West Berkshire Council, **The Swan at Stratley**, Mastervolt, Calor, Didcot Steam Railway

IWA National Festival & Boat Show

28 — 30 August, 2010, Beale Park, Lower Basildon, RG8 9NH

Advance tickets, Boat and Campsite booking forms are all available from our website: www.waterways.org.uk

**Be “crafty” - and
learn a new skill during the Festival weekend ...**

Workshops teaching all kinds of traditional crafts will be running during the Festival weekend so book your place now.

Ever thought about making your own fenders? Come and meet Dave Walker and he will show you how! If fenders aren't quite your thing, try making your own unique Christmas decorations or sign write your own boat. Everything is possible once you have “*done the course*” !! Most courses last 3 hours to give participants the maximum practice time and materials needed are included in the price. Ring 01494 783453 to reserve your place or visit our website and book online.

Trade bookings are going well too — and a “flurry” of exhibition space bookings was reported at the last public meeting.

For trade information contact Jerry Sanders on 0844 800 6552 and remember: our show is unique being possibly the biggest inland waterways show in Europe which is totally organised by dedicated volunteers who also pay the full rally fees to come and work their socks off !!

**Come early and stay for the week
at our lovely riverside campsite!**

Arrive on Monday, 23 August and for only £8 per night, on our lovely campsite, you can stay at a premium location, with London, Henley and other great visitor destinations within easy reach. For those who need it, electrical hook-up is also available at only £2.50 per night for those extra days. (*Please add these to your form when booking*)

Another bonus is the discounted entry for campers to Beale Park animal centre — normally £8.50, the adult entrance fee will be discounted by £3 —see details below.

You would also have time to use your discounted entry vouchers to the Didcot Railway Centre and have 10% off a lovely meal at **The Swan at Streatley** !! Surely an offer you can't refuse.

Don't forget, all day and evening entertainments are included in your Festival site fees.

To book your campsite either book on line at www.waterways.org.uk, events, or download your form and send it to the Entries Officer, 38 Waterside Court, Gnosall, Staffs, ST20 0AR.

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF ALL THOSE GREAT OFFERS FOR FESTIVAL VISITORS

Imagine beautiful food, served in a lovely location overlooking the River Thames at Streatley? Does that sound appealing? I hope so because **The Swan at Streatley** is offering all Festival visitors **10% off all food** purchased in the hotel from the 23rd — 30th August. In addition — if you would like to stay at this lovely hotel — you will also get **10% off your accommodation** costs. See the details on our Festival website, www.waterways.org.uk.

PLUS: Don't forget the **UK Boat Hire** offer for the waterways holiday Prize Draw and 5% discount off all their products and services. Those booking in with us will also receive vouchers worth 10% off entry to **Didcot Steam Railway**, just a short drive away from the site. Knowing Tom Rolt's involvement with the Tallylyn Steam Railway, organisers knew we had to get the steam railways involved somehow. Didcot is a great attraction and well worth a visit.

Further great offers have come in from **Beale Park** themselves who are offering £3 off their adult gate price to all our boaters and campers. As mentioned above, those booking in for early camping will get two vouchers so invite the family over and go for a pre-Festival visit.

RCR (River Canal Rescue) have also made a great offer for boaters who are not currently members — offering 2 months free cover so get in touch. More information is on our website www.waterways.org.uk

Celebrating the Rolt Years

However, the 2010 Festival is no ordinary event. It also celebrates the centenary of one of IWA's founder members, Tom Rolt, author of the iconic book “Narrow Boat” which chronicled his trip around the inland waterways in 1939 and which led to the formation of the Inland Waterways Association.

With classic cars and steam engines ‘chuffing’ away the Festival will really celebrate the three main passions of Tom Rolt's life: working boats, vintage cars and steam trains. Tom was a prolific author on many topics and a range of his books have been re-printed for this Centenary year. In particular the IWA marquee will be having a special Rolt book display and Tom's wife, Sonia, will be signing them during the Festival weekend.

Other Rolt focussed activities include a showing of the 1945 film “Painted Boats” (on Thursday night) on which Tom was the technical advisor, a presentation called “LTC Rolt — a Portrait of his Life” by Tony Hirst on Saturday afternoon and the Illuminated Boat Parade with the theme of “The Rolt Years” on Sunday evening.

THE FESTIVAL ORGANISERS NEED YOU!

The whole Festival is planned and run by volunteers and **your** help is needed. There are jobs for everyone, however much time you have: giving out programmes to waiting visitors, stewarding, working in the information areas, working with the site teams, helping to keep the site clean and tidy for all the visitors and more: If you can spare an hour or two, please contact the hotline 0844 800 6583 or email sandy.jones@waterways.org.uk The next Public Team Meeting is on Tuesday, 29 June at Pangbourne Village Hall so come along and sign up!