



## Ashby Canal Association Social Meeting March 9th



The 2 boats stopping off at Gopsall Wharf - in memory of the last loading wharf to be used on the Ashby Canal, a wharf Glyn loaded from when it was still a working wharf under Ashby Canal Transport Ltd in late 1960s and 1970s. )

Teresa and Roger Fuller and Glyn and Rosemary Philips - owners of *Ilford* and *Aquarius* will present a talk about their experiences accompanied by video footage including 'long-lining' up Audlem locks. They have many years of working boat experience between them and have toured the waterways of England during 2014 with nearly 40 tons of coal off the Ashby Canal from the adjacent surface mine. The event is to be held at:

**DMs Donisthorpe Woodland Centre, Church Street, Donisthorpe, DE12 7PY,  
at 7.30 pm on Monday March 9th. All welcome.**

### Boat News

Pete Boyce updates us:

In September *Renfrew* spent a week on the Bridgewater Canal, chartered to the Dog Kennel Theatre Group's modern dance and performance project TUG. This year it was part of the Sale Waterside Arts anniversary celebrations. We carried our floating stage between Sale and Stretford, with performers and audience, some on the boat and some walking along the towpath with an audio soundtrack in earphones. Artists performed on and off the boat, and it was a great success. See this link for web coverage of the event: <http://tinyurl.com/m9esbpb>

After the show we brought *Renfrew* and *BCN 108* back to Braunston, picking up three 25ft long kelson and engine bearer oak timbers at Market Drayton on the way. The timbers are destined for the restoration of the *Clent*, FMC's last wooden motor completed at Uxbridge in 1948. *Renfrew* is now receiving new cabin handrails and back end beam, of more substantial dimensions than before.

*Lucy* is about to get her centre kelson section and new bottoms fitted, having a further 20ft section of tarpaulin work shelter put up to protect the new timbers.

*James Loader* has completed under-counter repairs and is in preparation for a new starboard side top plank.

*Betelgeuse* has been sold to two young HNBC members.

*BCN 108* will receive a new cabin outer skin this winter, and will then be offered for sale.