

# The Story of Calderdale's Canals



**An illustrated talk at Halifax Town Hall  
by KEITH NOBLE  
7.30pm on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2015**

Calderdale has not one, but two canals. The Calder and Hebble Navigation runs for 21 miles from Wakefield to Sowerby Bridge, and boats encounter 27 locks along the route. It was opened as far as Brighouse by 1764, and to Sowerby Bridge by 1770. At Sowerby Bridge basin, the Calder and Hebble joins the Rochdale Canal for the 32 mile journey - and 91 locks - to Manchester and beyond. The Rochdale Canal opened in stages up to 1804, and in 1828 a spur - the Halifax branch - was constructed to connect the Calder and Hebble from Salterhebble to Halifax town centre. This steep and difficult canal closed in 1942, but remnants can still be seen along the route of today's Hebble Trail.

Keith Noble is a member of both the Calder Navigation Society and the Rochdale Canal Society, and is Deputy Chairman of the Inland Waterways Association's Restoration Committee.

**FREE ENTRY - DONATIONS WELCOME**

*An event organised by*

**Halifax Civic Trust**

President: Sir Ernest Hall

