

THE WENDOVER ARM TRUST WORKING PARTY NEWS

ISSUE 98

August 2013

July Working Party

Thanks to good weather the target of another 20 metres of lining was completed, very repetitive work until we reach Bridge 4A and the next bund.

July KESCRG Working Party

In July KESCRG continued their good work at Whitehouses, rebuilding the brickwork that had the wrong lime mortar and continuing with the construction of the footpath/nature trail from Bridge 4 to Whitehouses.



KESCRG RESTORING THE WALLS OF THE OLD SETTLING TANK WITH WEIR THAT IS GOING TO BE BROUGHT BACK INTO USE AFTER RE-WATERING

Vaughan Welch, the Chairman of the IWA Restoration Committee, pointed out to me that Roy Sutton is still an honorary consulting civil engineer to the IWA – I said in my last newsletter 'former'! My apologies to Roy. Also the Trust's thanks to Roy who has been a tremendous help with the work at Whitehouses, including the proper use of lime mortar.

August Working Party

There was a problem with this working party as, at first, it seemed as if there would not be enough

volunteers to staff what has been our annual nine-day working party.

It was decided to start on the Sunday rather than the Saturday as KESCRG were with us at Whitehouses for the weekend and needed Ray's assistance for relaying the coping stones on the old wharf wall that had been repaired by KESCRG after the coping stones had been removed. Ray knew the correct location of the stones and was operating our hydraulic grab for lifting and placing the stones.

The exact location of the coping stones longitudinally was fixed by the stone that had the fixing bolts for the paddle that used to control draining the canal into Wilstone Reservoir via the old pumping shaft. This paddle was relocated on the 18" pipeline carrying the water from Wendover as shown in the photograph. Remarkably, after over 100 years, the holding down bolts complete with nuts for the paddle gear and hole through the stone for the paddle operating rod are still in place. As the paddle is to be returned to its former use, care had to be taken to locate the stone to line up with the groove in the wharf wall for the operating rod.



Roger Leishman

GETTING READY TO PLACE THE 'PADDLE GEAR' STONE

Whitehouses Restoration continued



Roger Leishman FIRST STONE IN PLACE, NEXT ONE

GOING DOWN



Roger Leishman
THE RESTORED WHARF WALL



AND THIS IS WHAT IT USED TO LOOK LIKE!

On the first Sunday work commenced on the relining of Stage 2 by the Trust's volunteers and by the end of the working party on the following Sunday, as you can see below, work was rapidly approaching the end of Stage 2 that is at the left hand end of the picture.



Roger Leishman

LINING NEARLY AT THE END OF STAGE 2

If you look carefully at the picture above you may see a fence post in front of the left hand tree at the top of the bank. This fence post marks the boundary between Stages 2 and 3. You may wonder why this is in the middle of nowhere? When planning Phase II, I split the length to be lined into six 350 metre long stages (for the pedantic stage 1 is only 321 metres long). This was to enable me to monitor progress and, more importantly, to provide a means of checking the cost of the work as it progressed.

On the last Saturday we welcomed assistance from RAF Halton who cut up 6 rolls of Bentomat and laid the blocks and coir rolls on the bank lining completed during the week.



Roger Leishman

RAF HALTON AT WORK

PRESENTATION TO SHEILA LEWIS



Peta Lewis

JOHN BROOMAN, ROGER LEISHMAN AND RAY ORTH PRESENTING THE RHODODENDRON TO SHEILA LEWIS

For several years Sheila Lewis, the widow of our former Chairman and Vice-President Roger Lewis, has provided a home for our VW Transporter and then Ford Transit tipper in her barn at Hastoe. Now that we have a home for the newly acquired Nissan Cabstar at Tringford Pumping Station the Trust presented Sheila with a rhododendron bush in recognition of her kindness. Not only this but Sheila gives the Trust caravan a home at Hastoe and allows the occasional use of it as overnight accommodation for one or two of our restoration volunteers who have a long distance to come. Sheila also provides an electrical supply to the caravan. Many, many thanks Sheila.

RON'S TOOLS

Enid Pittaway has very kindly donated more tools and equipment that belonged to her late husband Ron. It was Ron's wish that the tools were used by the Trust or sold to raise much needed funds for the Trust. In addition there are also a few tools left from the previous successful sale which realised over £140. As before, each tool has a suggested donation that you might like to make for it. (attracts Gift Aid)

All items are used but in good/useable condition and are listed below.

Wet and day veguin Device Devil Conell	£10	
Wet and dry vacuum Power Devil Small	£10	
With hose and attachments	C1.7	
Circular (Skill)saw Performance	£15	
Power.1200W, laser guidance and good		
tungsten carbide blade	£12	
Stanley LED tripod torch model 2.98.542		
single powerful LED on adjustable stand	£15	
Jigsaw Bosch PST54e with pendulum action		
and up to 45 degree cut. With spare blades.		
Triton Multistand . Tripod support of	£20	
wide/long materials when on bandsaw/drill		
/handsaw		
Compressor. Small. 80p.s.i. plus. Withcar tyre	£2	
attachment or use with airbrush/small spraygun		
Drain clearing rods 10 x Brand new in	£15	
unopened pack. Claw and rubber disc		
attachments		
Blowtorch Taymar Butane with soldering	£7	
attachment, half full gas canister and stand		
Blowtorch Camping Gaz Butane/propane with		
half full canister and stand		
Camping Gaz canister C206 unused		
Pipe cutter small to get into tight spaces		
suitable adjustable for 3 to 22mm copper pipe		
Blowtorch hand held with 2.5m hose and	£10	
Calor gas threaded gas pressure regulator		
Soldering iron old fashioned type copper	£3	
block tip heated in a gas flame		
Soldering iron large tip mains 65W made by		
Solon	£5	
Soldering iron medium mains 25 W with	£3	
spare tip		
Pipe bending springs Set of 5 measuring	£10	
14mm, 18mm, 24mm and 30mm O.D.	~10	
approximately		
approximatory		

To view and purchase please contact Tony Bardwell on 01296634973 or 07798640675 (Aston Clinton)

THEFT OF BENCH PLAQUES

All of us have been disgusted at the theft of the memorial plaques from the five bench seats installed along the towpath between Little Tring and Drayton Beauchamp. Our Restoration Committee are researching plaques that are less valuable than brass to thieve and that can be more securely fastened. The local press gave good coverage to the theft and the matter was, of course, reported to the police

General Notes

We operate as a self-supervising group under CRT and all volunteers receive and sign for the Trust's Restoration Handbook that includes full Health and Safety requirements for the restoration works.

The handbook is the property of the Trust; if you leave the working parties for any reason, please

return your Handbook to either Ray Orth or myself.

Hard hats for use at all times and high visibility jackets to be worn on sites with mobile plant in use are kept in the store at Tringford and must be drawn/returned there.

One first aid kit is kept in the store and one in the Nissan Cabstar and each qualified first-aider will have their own kit with him/her when on site.

Also available in the store at Tringford are ear defenders and goggles that must be worn when using strimmers, angle grinders, concrete breakers and the like. CRT will supply hard hats, gloves and footwear with reinforced toecaps on request. We normally work from 9am to 5pm (or dark if earlier!).

There are breaks for morning tea/coffee, packed lunch and afternoon tea/coffee. We take our own food and drink.

DATES FOR WORKING PARTIES

So you can plan your diary ahead, the following are the dates of future working parties in 2013/2014:

DATE	WORKING AT	WORK TO BE DONE
2013		
Friday 6 th September to Thursday 12 th September	Stage 2/3 lining	Bed and bank lining, another 20 metres?
Friday 4 th October to Thursday 10 th October	Stage 3 lining	Bed and bank lining, another 20 metres?
Friday 1 st November to Thursday 7 th November	Stage 3 lining	Bed and bank lining, another 20 metres?
Friday 6 th December to Thursday 12 th December	Stage 3 lining	Bed and bank lining, another 20 metres?
2014		
Friday 3 rd January to Thursday 9 th January	Stage 3 lining	Bed and bank lining, another 20 metres?
Friday 31 st January to Thursday 6 th February	Stage 3 lining	Bed and bank lining, another 20 metres?
Friday 28 th February to Thursday 6 th March	Stage 3 lining	If weather has not impeded progress this will be the concreting of the pipe capping and lining through Br.4A
Friday 4 th April to Thursday 10 th April	Stage 3 lining	If weather has not impeded progress this will be the construction of the bund in Bridge 4A
Friday 2 nd May to Thursday 8 th May	Stage 3 lining	If weather has not impeded progress this could be the target date for re-watering up to Bridge 4A, a bank holiday event?

Roger Leishman, Restoration Director. 7 Hall Park, Berkhamsted, Herts HP4 2NU. (Tel:01442 874536, e-mail rwleishman@gmail.com)