



# THE WENDOVER ARM TRUST WORKING PARTY NEWS

ISSUE 108

April 2015

## March and April Working Parties

The completion of the bund in Bridge 4A narrows at the March working party allowed us to cut a channel through the bund at the end of Stage 1 and, at 11am on Saturday April 11<sup>th</sup>, start the flow of water into the next 450 metres of restored canal, over a quarter of a mile.



Margaret Leishman

**RAY ORTH AND ROGER LEISHMAN 'PULL THE PLUG  
IN THE BUND AT THE END OF STAGE 1**

The re-watering was not an overnight event as it took about a week before the final Wendover water level was reached.



Roger Leishman

**THIS WAS THE SCENE FROM BRIDGE 4A ON 16<sup>th</sup> APRIL  
5 DAYS AFTER THE PLUG WAS PULLED, STILL SOME  
WAY TO GO TO THE WENDOVER WATER LEVEL**

The re-watering was not made a major event for various reasons including not knowing for certain whether there would be enough water flowing from Wendover during this rather dry period. It was mainly attended by restoration volunteers and a few invited guests including our President, David Fletcher.

In April the first length of pipe capping from the manhole east of the bund was cast and this work will proceed during the rest of the year.

During the April work party the new cabin to be erected at Whitehouses was delivered and Tony Bardwell will be in charge of laying a base and putting the flatpack hut together during the May working party.

If you cast your mind back to the June 2013 issue of this newsletter you will remember that Phill Cardy brought along several young trees that Margaret Leishman has been repotting and tending until they are now 4 to 6 feet tall.

At the April working party these were all planted on the Herts County Council land farmed by their tenant farmer, Keith Slade, where they have allowed us to tip surplus spoil and asked us to reinstate trees that we had to remove to facilitate the tipping.



Roger Leishman

**THE TREE PLANTING PARTY HARD AT WORK**

## **Restoration Handbook**

Ray Orth and I have been reviewing the restoration handbook and have decided to print a revised version that excludes the technical data on restoration specifications and procedures so as to avoid regular updates due to changes and new procedures. In future the specifications and procedures will be issued to team leaders on encapsulated sheets as and when required.

We are currently proof reading the manual and hope to have it ready for issue during the summer.

### **6-monthly physical/financial report (see page 3)**

Yet again the time has come round for this report. You will see that the Trust has now spent over ½ million pounds on Phase II. This is quite an achievement especially when you add the Phase I cost, a grand total of £909,360 in 18 (financial) years. Just over £50,000 a year!

What is also remarkable is that, bearing in mind the Trust has £400,000 still 'in the bank', £1,309,360 has been raised by the Trust since 1989 of which only about £310,000 has been in the form of grants and a bequest, i.e. the Trust has raised £1m to date plus the funds required for the non-restoration costs of running the Trust!.

The budgets in my report are still based on volunteers carrying out all the work but will need revising if it is decided to pay for contract assistance for some of the more arduous work such as earthwork and block laying. It is with this in mind that WAT/CRT as a partnership is applying for a grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund.

### **Work Party Supervision**

After the Open Day in June Ray Orth hopes to be off on a well-earned break cruising the waterways with his wife, Jo, and will not be back until the August working party. In Ray's absence Tony Bardwell will be running the work parties and I am sure that you will all give him your support.

## **Open Day June 7<sup>th</sup> 2015**

Margaret Leishman and her team of helpers are already organised to serve their usual drinks and cakes.

If there are any ardent cake makers among our readers they would be very grateful for any donations. Please ring Margaret on 01442 874536 and let her know in advance if you are able to 'bake-a-cake'.

### **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 trimmers, 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.

## WENDOVER ARM CANAL RESTORATION PHASE II PROGRESS REPORT AS AT 5<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2015

### CANAL LINING

Item	Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3	Stage 4	Stage 5	Stage 6	Stage 7	Total
<b>Total length</b>	<b>321m</b>	<b>350m</b>	<b>350m</b>	<b>350m</b>	<b>350m</b>	<b>337m</b>	<b>-</b>	
Complete to date:								
Bulk Excavation	321m	350m	140m					
Capping to pipe	321m	350m	130m					
Tipping to offside bank	321m	350m	110m					
Tipping to towpath bank	321m	350m	110m					
Profiling offside bank	321m	350m	110m					
Profiling towpath bank	321m	350m	110m					
Lining towpath bank	321m	350m	100m					
Lining offside bank	321m	350m	100m					
Level and line bed	321m	350m	98m					
Planting banks	60m	-----	-----					
Mooring wall length	50m	50m	-----	50m	50m	-----	237m	
Excavation	50m	50m	-----	50m		-----	10m	
Blinding	50m	50m	-----	50m		-----		
Wall base	50m	50m	-----	50m		-----		
Wall upright	50m	50m	-----	50m		-----		
Backfill	50m	50m	-----	50m		-----		
Estimated Cost	£128,272	£154,579	£175,000	£175,000	£166,250	£98,725	£53,725	£951,551
Cost to date/final	£128,272	£154,579	£77,543	£12,619	£571	£273	£633	374,490

### FOOTBRIDGES & VARIOUS OTHER WORKS

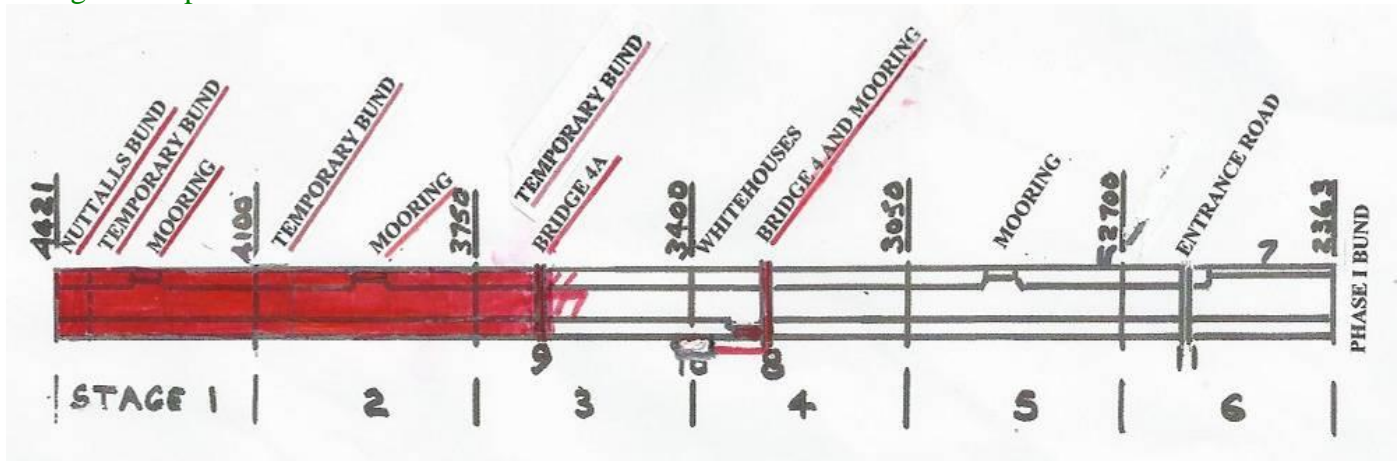
Item	Stage 8 Bridge 4	Stage 9 Bridge 4A	Stage 10 Whitehouses	Stage 11 Cart track Narrows	Stage 12 Removal of bunds	Stage 13 Winding Hole nose	Stage 14 Nuttalls Bund	Total
Footbridge	100%	100%	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	
Excavation	100%	100%	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	
Blinding	100%	100%	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	
Wall base	100%	100%	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	
Wall upright	100%	100%	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	
Backfill	100%	100%	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	
Heritage work	-----	-----	80%	-----	-----	-----	-----	
Other work	-----	-----	100%	-----	-----	-----	100%	
Estimated cost	£20,122	£20,031	£20,000	£20,000	£20,000	£10,000	3,501	£113,654
Cost to date/final	£20,122	£20,031	£16,721				3,501	£60,375

### SUMMARY INCLUDING OVERHEAD COSTS

	Lining	F/bridges & other works	Clear bed, & Temp'y Works	Environ't Reports	Materials In stock	Admin	Tools & Equip't	Vehicle	Unallocated contingency	TOTAL
Estimated cost	£951,551	£113,654	£22,000	£3,245	£0	£35,000	£6,000	£20,000	£45,000	£1,200,450
Cost to date/final	374,490	60,375	£20,258	£3,245	£3,660	£24,469	£8,128	£16,801		£513,851

A red figure indicates a final cost/physical progress.

A green figure indicates a revised budget figure, either to match a finished cost or to give a re-appraisal in the light of experience to date.



## WORKING PARTIES

So you can plan your diary ahead, the following are the dates of future working parties in 2015:

DATE	WORKING AT	WORK TO BE DONE
<b>2015</b>		
Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> May to Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> May	Stage 3	Stage 3 pipe capping.
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> June to Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> June Sunday 7 <sup>th</sup> will be a Restoration Open Day	Stage 3	Stage 3 pipe capping.
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> July to Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> July	Stage 3	Stage 3 pipe capping.
Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> July to Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> August	Stage 3	Stage 3 pipe capping.
Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> September to Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> September Sunday 6 <sup>th</sup> will be a Restoration Open Day	Stage 3	Stage 3 pipe capping.
Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> October to Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> October	Stage 3	Stage 3 pipe capping.
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> November to Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> November	Stage 3	Stage 3 pipe capping.
Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> December to Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> December	Stage 3	Stage 3 pipe capping.

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