



WENDOVER ARM NEWS

Newsletter of the Wendover Arm Trust



*Issue 2017/03
Autumn 2017*

*Price £1 where sold
Free to members*

Scenes from the 2017

WAT attended the Linslade Canal Festival with its gazebo as in previous years. This festival run by the local council concentrates on rural crafts. Boats are



moored along the canal by Tiddenfoot Waterside Park, while the stalls are situated under the trees around the lake. This adds to the countryside feel.



Johanna (in the bonnet) looks totally overwhelmed by the Town Crier but Jenny (right) takes it all in her stride



Eager young faces with the Town Crier at the WAT stand. By the look of the 'loot' in their hands, they've been lucky at other stalls and are just about to try their luck on the nail game

In the main arena various shows were performed keeping the visitors amused. Our stand had many visitors during the day, and sold a good number of Grand Draw tickets to assist with our fund raising.

A very successful day was enjoyed by all. Even the weather complied, as the rain waited until 5pm, the



Alec Holbrook, probably our oldest supporter at 103 years young. Alec is a keen narrow boater who bought his most recent boat when he was a mere 101!

The flotilla of boats moored on the canal alongside the park. In the foreground are Raymond and Nutfield facing south. Nutfield you may remember featured on the cover of the Spring Newsletter.



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Cover: Miss Junior Teen Dacorum 2107 helps our Tea ladies at the Pumping Station Open Day. Picture: Chris Sargeant

Copy deadline for the Winter edition 2017 is 15 November

Chairman's column

During the summer our dedicated volunteers have been busy profiling and lining from Bridge 4a in the direction of Whitehouses, which we would like to reach by June 2018. We have so far been blessed with good weather although the heat in June was somewhat daunting at times – well done one and all!

Our June Open day was a great success and a number of other events have been attended and well received – special thanks to our new 'trailer towers' Janet and Mike who have joined Jenny, John and our events team.

The first ever WAT event at Tringford Pumping Station attracted about 300 visitors of whom over 200 took advantage of guided tours below ground to see the wonders of this magnificent two-hundred-year-old year old establishment that manages water supplies to the summit level of the Grand Union. We were also pleased to welcome Miss Junior Teen Dacorum, Freya Clark, who came along and helped our tea ladies for the afternoon.

Historic Narrow Boat ROGER built



nearby in 1935/6 'came home' and was moored by Tringford and was another great centre of interest. Thank you to the many WAT volunteers and CRT staff who contributed to the day – not forgetting Dick Pilkinton and the shuttle bus.

As I write, work on our joint lottery bid continues – most environmental surveys are either done or in progress and CRT are getting cost estimates for works to be done. The outcome of these endeavors will be in our next newsletter.

Thank you all for your support for the Trust – it, and the Wendover Arm, would not exist without you.

Chris Sargeant

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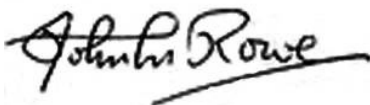
NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the twenty-eighth Annual General Meeting of the Wendover Arm Trust will be held in the Coach House at Green Park, Aston Clinton on Wednesday 18th October 2017 commencing at 7.30 pm.

AGENDA

1. Apologies for Absence.
2. Minutes of the 27th Annual General Meeting held on 19th October 2016.
3. Chairman's Report.
4. Individual Trustees' Reports.
5. Honorary Treasurer's Report.
6. To receive and, if thought fit, approve the report of the Council of Management.
7. To receive and, if thought fit, to approve the Income and Expenditure Account and Balance Sheet of the Trust for the Year ended on 5th April 2017, and the Report of the independent Examiner thereon.
8. To re-appoint Ashby's Chartered Accountants as the independent Examiner.
9. To elect Members to the Council. (See Note 1 below).

By Order of the Council



John. M. Rowe.
Secretary 20 July 2017

Registered Office:
Island house
Moor Road
Chesham
Bucks
HP5 1WA

NOTE 1. Under Article 39, nominations for election to the Council may be received by the Secretary up to seven clear days before the date of the meeting. Nominations must be in writing and signed by the proposer and by the person nominated, confirming their willingness to be elected. Only members qualified to vote at the meeting may make nominations or stand for election.

A list of Council Members standing for re-election and other members standing for election will be given at the meeting.

NOTE 2. Any person being a member of the Trust is entitled to appoint a proxy to attend and vote on his /her behalf at the Annual General Meeting. Such a proxy need not be a member of the Trust. A letter nominating the proxy, signed by the member, must be received by the Secretary before the start of the meeting.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING ARRANGEMENTS

The formal notice of the calling of the 2017 AGM and the agenda of business is on the previous page.

After the success of the catering arrangements in the previous two years at this year's AGM we intend once more to start with a sherry reception and have a sit-down meal after the AGM. Later Peter Walker from CRT will be our guest speaker.

EVENING'S TIMETABLE

7.00pm	Welcome and sherry reception
7.30pm	AGM
8.30pm	Dinner
9.30pm	Club 100 draw and raffle
9.45pm	Speaker – Peter Walker, Senior Project Engineer for CRT who has been looking after CRT's response to HS2 and its proposed routes
10.30pm	Finish

DINNER

£12.50 per head

Menu— see booking form enclosed to make your choices

Green Park is not licensed so you are welcome to BYO drinks (and glasses.)

All paid-up or Honorary Members of the Trust can attend the AGM but the dinner is by ticket only and must be booked in advance. You can book until 11 October. There are no meal tickets available on the night as Green Park needs to know the quantities in advance. You will need to choose your meal at the booking stage.

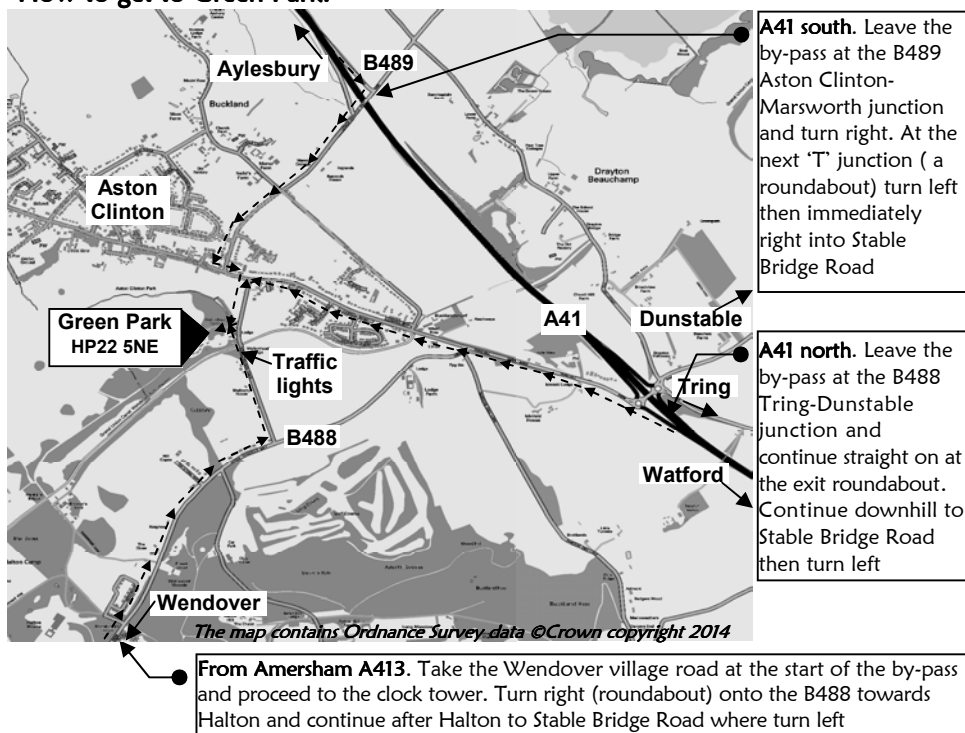
Booking can be done through Golden Giving (<https://www.goldengiving.com/event/agm>) or by completing and returning the form you will find loose in this issue. If you book by post you will need to send your remittance (payable to Wendover Arm Trust) to the address on the booking form.

All bookings will receive an acknowledgment by Email, text message or phone call so if you book by post please give a telephone or Email address so that we can do this. If you book on-line you will get an E-ticket. No need to print anything, we'll check you in at the door as you arrive. Bookings must be received by 11 October.

If you need overnight accommodation please see the options given overleaf.

Directions to Green Park are on the following page.

How to get to Green Park:



Green Park (HP22 5NE) lies just north of the hump-backed bridge over the canal. There are traffic lights at the bridge. Take the left-hand entrance of Green Park, the car park lies in front of you and the Coach House behind you to your left.

Accommodation

GREEN PARK offers a basic bunk-bed room not en-suite. Contact Nicole ☎ 03303030101 stating you are with WAT

THE BELL in Aston Clinton ☎ <http://www.thebellastonclinton.co.uk/accommodation/> or ☎ 01296 632777

TRING PREMIER INN on Tring Hill just off the A41 ☎ <http://www.premierinn.com/en/hotel/TRICRO/tring> or ☎ 0871 527 9104

RED LION, High Street, Wendover HP22 6DU ☎ 01296 622266

ROSE & CROWN, High Street, Tring HP23 5AH ☎ 01442 824071

THE ANGLERS RETREAT, Startops End, Marsworth HP23 4LJ ☎ 01442 822250

HOLIDAY INN, Aylesbury Road, Weston Turville HP22 5QT ☎ 0871 942 9002

THE HALF MOON, Tring Road, Wiltstone – see advert on back page

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

New Members

The Trust extends a warm welcome to the following new members:

Mr Colin and Mrs Pauline Wilkinson
from High Wycombe

Mr David Mercer
From Wendover

Mr Leslie Needham
from Aston Clinton

Mr Chris Beard
from Wendover

The Trust is now just short of 700 total memberships

Farewell to

Miss Peggy Bachelor-Clegg
member since 2004

Peggy will be remembered with fondness by the Festival Team for her feisty approach to selling Grand Draw tickets and blocks for BlockAid; she must have been in her 80's then and had a fund of anecdotes about her wartime exploits in ENSA which, latterly, she talked about as invited speaker at one of our AGMs.

Katherine recently has had to remind a number of members about overdue subscriptions and two of the 'overdues' have come back with an upgrade to Life Membership. If you are committed long-term to the objectives of the Trust, why not do likewise and save yourselves the hassle of having reminders and renewals annually? You get a Certificate of Life Membership, the whole lot can be gift-aided, and the Trust will be eternally grateful for your donation.

CLUB 100 Summer Draw

The **80th Draw** of **Club 100** took place at July's Council Meeting. There were 209 subscribers

The prizes winners were:

1st Graham Watts £250.80

2nd Rodney Evans £104.50

3rd Richard Lloyd-Hart £41.80

3rd prize winner Richard Lloyd-Hart has generously donated back his winnings and has topped it up to £100 with gift aid, making £125, a wonderful added bonus to Trust funds.

The next Draw will be at the AGM on 18 October

We must continue to raise funds over the next three years to be able to complete the restoration back to the A41. **Club 100** won't get the big sums we need but it's an easy way for you to help with regular small donations with the bonus that you could win prizes!

To remind you, **Club 100** is a **members only** draw. A £15 subscription buys you four chances to win in a given year. About 50% of the income is redistributed as prizes. All you have to do is to contact Katherine our Membership Secretary

✉ membership @wendoverarmtrust.co.uk

☎ 07547 18185

and she will send you the subscription form. Complete and return and, hey presto, you'll be in the next four draws.

RESTORATION NEWS

Adapted from Roger Leishman's restoration group's newsletters and other sources

June 2017

The month started with the work party demonstrating restoration techniques to visitors at the June Restoration Open Day and then for the rest of the week the work cracked-on to make everything ready for BITM to come the weekend after the work party; their task was to lay some 3000 high-density blocks and 37 coir rolls to line both banks on another 56m of canal. They must have worked with a fury for your editor walked along the canal on the Sunday afternoon intending to take pictures of the operation in progress only to be met by a disconsolate Peter Lockett, who had visited for just the same purpose, with the comment, 'They've finished!' However pictures you've got, thanks to others and the Trust's grateful thanks go to BITM for their sterling efforts, we bet that worked up a thirst or two!

July 2017

Having laid the blocks the task for the July and August was to lay the Bentomat® lining on the base of the canal, backfill on both sides and the base and get ready to resume lining in time for the visitors at September's Open Day.

After a dry spring and early summer the rains returned with a vengeance in July

Operation floodwatch

CRT has revived the idea of gradually raising stop planks at Drayton Beauchamp Bridge so as to monitor the effect of raised water level back to Wendover. As reported earlier the first

of the stop planks have been inserted, the second is due imminently and CRT has asked WAT if it can assist with manpower to help them.

WAT has agreed and are now looking for a volunteer to co-ordinate volunteers in assisting CRT. If you are willing to take this task on please get in touch with Roger Leishman, as soon as possible:

✉ restoration@wendoverarmtrust.co.uk

Super Service!

One of our excavators started to give problems on Saturday of the June work party. Still problematical on the Sunday morning Ray called SRBE the plant hire company. Initially promised a response early on Monday morning, the mechanic decided not to wait but come out immediately so we had fully-working equipment again by lunchtime.

Thank you very much SRBE for your brilliant response.

Whitehouses

CRT now have a design for the wall in front of the culverts. Apart from a couple of small issues to resolve it seems we may be close to agreement on the final design – and work can then begin.

HLF update

Bucks Archaeological Society is to survey the old swing-bridge abutments at Whitehouses prior to their being sympathetically removed. There is the potential for their reuse on a nearby interpretation panel

Samples of the infill at Little Tring compound (the 'tip') have been taken and sent for analysis to determine the disposal route for the material once it needs to be taken away as a precursor to restoration.

Ecological surveys continue: there are badger runs across the dry section and there may be the need to provide a badger tunnel – or adapt Bridge 4 – for their use.

It was noted that gabions and rock rolls between Drayton Beauchamp and the A41 have slipped.

Not HLF, but there are reports that Buckland Parish council has £28k of section 106 money and would like a timber bridge from the towpath to their land, it could provide a canoe launch point.

Working Parties

(all from a Friday through to the following Thursday)

6-12 October

3-9 November

1-7 December

subject to the weather as winter approaches the work will be to continue to profile and line Stage 3. If you'd like to volunteer for any or all of the work parties then contact Ray Orth:

✉ restoration2@wendoverarmtrust.co.uk

Tidy Fridays

The 'Tidy Friday' gang is a select group of people who are always on the look out for others to join them in a short work-out once a month on Friday mornings. They gang does vegetation and environmental management and improvement work.

The next few dates are:

8 September

13 October

10 November

8 December

If you can help on any of those dates, contact John Reynolds. His new contact point is:

✉ scubar4@gmail.com

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BLOCK AID RETURNS? BITM's* JAUNT ON THE WENDOVER ARM IN JUNE

* for those of you unfamiliar with the acronym,
BITM = 'Bit-in-the-Middle' a sub-group of the
Waterways Recovery Group



photo: Chris Sargeant

LEFT: laying blocks at a furious rate

BELOW: A pause for breath before the dumper goes off to collect the next load and a cheery wave to the photographer



photo: Chris Sargeant



ABOVE: the merry gang and van at Aston Clinton Village Hall, their overnight accommodation

RIGHT:

the finished job as seen from the canal



photo: Mark Gribble

BELOW: a panorama of the offside from Bridge 4 to Whitehouses seen from the towpath



Whitehouses

231metres

bridge 4a

photo: Ed



TRINGFORD PUMPING STATION OPEN DAY, 23 July

For the first time the Trust was able to run an Open Day at the Pumping Station. The Trust thanks Vicki Martin Canal and River Trust for its agreement and particularly to Keith Evans and his colleagues from CRT for being on hand throughout the day, conducting the tours and generally answering visitors' questions. Over 200 people were able to descend into the pumping chambers see the pumps and hear the history of the station and its vital function in supplying water from the reservoirs to the summit level of the mainline. . . not forgetting the ghost!



Our honoured guest for the Day, Freya Clark, *Miss Junior Teen Dacorum 2017* who came to help us with the teas and cakes

Freya wrote:

Dear Chris, Thank you for letting me attend the event on Sunday – it was very interesting finding out information about the canal and the community, you all made me feel very welcome. I hope to attend more open days of yours soon if you'd have me. Thank you ever so much for the photos - they resemble a very successful day! I actually have an official Miss Junior Teen Dacorum public Facebook page where I post updates, appearances and charity events to the page – including the Tring Open Day on Sunday!!

<https://www.facebook.com/missjuniorteendacorum/>

Star of the show was Roger—in two guises— Roger the last commercial wooden narrowboat to be built at Bushells Boat Yard, New Mill Tring and dating from 1936 and Roger our Restoration director who visited for the day.

photo: Chris Sargeant



'Roger' the narrowboat meets Roger Leishman the Restoration Director. Here seen with his wife Margaret and Trust Chairman Chris Sargeant



photo: Ed

That's a nice vintage Lister you have there! Apparently its not the original engine we were told. Fabian said that the original broke down at Braunston in a rather major way and the boatyard there offered what was described as a 'Lister prototype' that they 'just happened to have' as a replacement engine and this is it.



photo Ed



Roger with Freya and Chris

photo: Eric Rose

THANKS TO:

Fabian and 'Roger' the Narrowboat that attracted a great deal of interest; Fabian would like to join us on a future occasion.

Dick Pilkinton who ran the shuttle-bus service from Startops to the Pumping Station.

Freya for helping with teas – and not forgetting the regular tea-ladies whose picture appears on the front cover.

Keith Evans and his colleagues from CRT for conducting the tours of the pumps.

Herts and Middlesex Wildlife Trust for their Tringford ornithological tour and to John Reynolds and Eric Rose for their towpath walks.

The many other volunteers (36+) who made the day go with a swing



MORE PICTURES AND WORDS FROM OPEN DAY, 23 July



Our usual trio of Victorian suspects flogging their wares

photo Eric Rose

The organisation was all there but experience adds to the equation, then the visitors arrived. I was pleasantly surprised as the first visitor I met was the Tring Mayor that officiated at last year's Grand Draw. Mike Hicks. He was keeping to his promise. Although he had been to see the pumping station many years ago, he wanted to see the modernised version. He was suitably impressed.

Roger, the boat, was there too. The boat was on it's way to the Bulbourne dry dock for maintenance. A popular attraction for all ages. Then there was the attraction of the cake ladies. We were spoilt for choice and none left by closing time.

The weather was threatening but did not deter many and those that attended went away very impressed if they had seen and heard the pumps buried deep in the basement of the building.

Michael Wright

THE DAY'S RETURN

Although 'income' was not the prime objective of the exercise, the Day was very good in that respect and we took:

Grand Draw
£140

Teas and Cakes
£355

Nail Game
£16

Sales
£91

Thomas the Tortoise
£105

Donations
£37

TOTAL
£744

photo: Ed



Above: Brian explains the way the water flows to a couple of visitors and, below, a view down the shaft

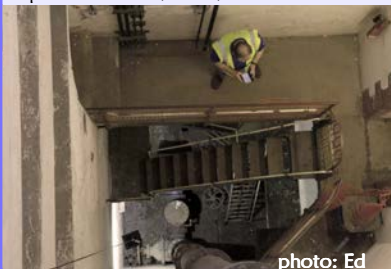


photo: Ed

Visitors in the entrance hall viewing CRT's display
photo: Ed



At the sales stand. . . 'I wonder if it'll fit?'
photo: Ed



Almost the right distance!



photo: Ed

Fund-Raising Update

♦ **MAJOR LEGACY** received.

The Trust is delighted to announce that it has received a bequest from one of the Trust's supporters who recently passed away; the Trust also hopes that it will benefit too from the residual estate. Apologies from Council as it has known about this for some time, but it seemed to it to be inappropriate to make the announcement before the bequest was received. The sum so far? £150,000.

What does this mean? Having had to ring-fence some £300k of our funds for the HLF matching sum, the Trust was looking anxiously at its reserves and its cash inflow in the context of completion of the works at least up to and including Whitehouses by the time the hoped-for HLF work commences. It now has sufficient to do this work plus some of the other things that we will need to do, or contribute to, in the future. As examples:

- as part of the HLF bid precursors, CRT/WAT commissioned an accessibility audit. The auditor very quickly produced a 76-page(!) report highlighting areas where we need to improve our response to disability discrimination legislation.
- HLF requires us to demonstrate our community involvement, not just until we receive a grant but a plan that goes forward years after the actual spending of the money on the restoration has happened.

This will not be without cost.

- part of the response to community involvement must be the provision of adequate facilities for visitors. Those of you who know the Arm will appreciate that there are no refreshment or toilet facilities near to it and car-parking is inadequate to say the least. You may ask whether this should be the responsibility of CRT once the Trust has achieved its goal of water all the way to Wendover but we urge you to remind yourselves of the Trust's objects (printed on p 22) and that the Trust works with CRT, not separately from it.
 - When there is a navigable channel through to the A41 a proper winding hole there has to be constructed – engineering works at a cost.
- ♦ **Easyfundraising:** As we go to press the number of WAT supporters is 62 and the total raised is £1422.20. The No1 supporter has now raised £283.96.

Psst...!
Raise **free** donations when you shop online!

- 1 Visit: www.easyfundraising.org.uk
- 2 Support: Wendover Arm Trust
- 3 Shop & raise with over 2,700 retailers including:

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easyfundraising
org.uk

Another Grand Day Out

Following the success of our first trip out along the Wendover Arm from Cow Roast we now have enough takers to justify for another trip on September 13.

This time we will be taking both of Paul's trip-boats in convoy through Tring Cutting to Bulbourne, along the Arm to the winding hole at Little Tring with lunch provided. If the weather is clement then we will take anyone who wants to to walk along the towpath to the restoration workings so that you can see the progress we are making.

As of the date of going to press there are still a couple of places left at £30 a head. Interested? Then give Katherine a call . We will gather at 0930-0945 to receive our briefing and the be off at around 10am. Back at Cow Roast by about 16.30

Even more Grand Days Out

We plan to repeat the trips in 2018 and are taking expressions of interest/ bookings for similar trips in 2018.

They will follow the same format, a maximum of eight people on each trip and you can invite your friends and family to come along.

Trips will be during the middle of the week (more chance of hiring a boat during the week and it's slightly cheaper too), a whole day to cruise the Tring Cutting and the Wendover Arm.

We would expect to run trips (depending on demand) in May and September.

To book a place/places for the September 13 trip or to put your name(s) down for 2018 ring the Trust's general phone number 07547 181857 or send Katherine an email: membership@wendoverarmtrust.co.uk

HELP WANTED

TRAILER MAINTENANCE

We have had a very successful year towing the trailer with our new volunteers.

To keep this in tip top condition, we need a volunteer to check the trailer at the beginning of the 2018 season and undertake to maintain or organise repairs when necessary. The trailer is parked at Wiggington. Is this a job that you could do? If so then please contact Jenny at

📧 jenny@johnbrice.co.uk

GOLDFIELD SCHOOL VISIT

As part of the 'Activity Plan' for the Heritage Lottery Fund bid, four volunteers arranged to spend a morning at Goldfield Primary School at Tring. The activity plan requires WAT to reach into the community and publicise the benefits of the canal. It especially focuses on young people as they are the future. Through a volunteer we heard that Goldfield School were concentrating on water and its many themes during the spring term. We felt this would be a good opportunity to spend time with the children.

We were allocated two classes of 5 and 6 year olds. We dressed in authentic canal wear for the 1900, with bonnets and aprons for the women and waistcoat and cap for the gent. We also covered the restoration, so John wore his hard hat and high-viz. jacket.

The morning started with a ten-minute Powerpoint presentation, showing a map of Tring with the closeness of the canal to the the school and the topography of the Tring summit with locks along the Grand Union Canal. We gave a quick history which included pictures of horse drawn barges, and colourful narrow boats with their small cabin quarters as an explanation for the following activities.

Each class of 30 children were split into three groups, where the following activities were tried in turn, brass rubbing, lace plate making and a fishing game with an environmental theme. All the children enjoyed these hands-on tasks. Beryl Hunter quizzed the children about their knowledge regarding the items found in the canal and reinforced the need for no

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litter as this affected the wildlife's survival.

The session ended with a short updated presentation showing the current restoration with its plant of diggers and dumpers, and we encouraged the children to bring their parents for a walk during the first weekend of the month, so they could watch the restoration in progress.

To end, we highlighted the SAFE campaign *Stay Away From the Edge*, covering the dangers from playing around next to waterways.

We asked the children what they understood by the word volunteer, one young man put up his hand and said, 'It is the first in the queue to try something'. Well yes, but it also covers many aspects of modern life in which the willing public gives its time for free.

As we went to leave the children presented us with bunches of daffodils, very appropriate from the GOLDfield School.

Some pictures appeared in our summer Newsletter but you can see more by using the link

http://www.goldfield.herts.sch.uk/gallery/yr1_water_day.html

Jenny Brice

A WENDOVER TIMELINE — PART 1: 1720-1800

An edited version of Barry Martin's archive notes on matters relating to the Wendover Arm

1720

1790: Oxford Canal, 230 miles in length with 100+ locks opens to provide a waterways route from Birmingham to London

1792 April: James Barnes of Banbury is commissioned by the 1st Marquis of Buckingham to do an initial survey to find this more direct route
1792 July: A public meeting in Stony Stratford examines Barnes' survey and approves it enthusiastically.

A Committee with William Praed MP as its chairman was set up with the remit to apply for an Act of Parliament. A subscription list was opened and large sums of money promised in support of the venture.

James Barnes draws up detailed plans, which were then examined by William Jessop

1794: Royal assent given to the Act enabling navigable cuts to Buckingham, Aylesbury and **Wendover**.

One of the proposed alternative routes for the (GJCC's) main line had been from the Oxford Canal via Aylesbury, Wendover then onwards to London. The GJCC came under pressure to have the Wendover feeder extended fully into Wendover; the Company rejects this scheme.

Sir John Dashwood, having agreed to a feeder stream now find himself with a fully navigable canal passing through his estates, Gerard Lake, Lord of the Manor of Aston Clinton found likewise which is why the towpath changes to the side away from the manor houses from Halton Bridge to the A41

1799: GJCC connects the canal between Brentford and Tring Summit.

Water mill at Gammel purchased and demolished to augment water supply in the Arm.

December: John Westcar took an ox by boat from Wendover Wharf to the first Smithfield show. The animal stood 6'7" tall and weighed 241 stone and fetched 100 guineas

1720: James Fermoy sells Halton House, the manor and a watermill to Sir Francis Dashwood (1st baronet) for £19,000

1791: The search begins to find a more direct route from Birmingham to London, the 'as-the-crow-flies' distance is only 105 miles

1793: Praed's Act received Royal Assent in April, the basic route of what was to be known as the Grand Junction Canal (GJCC) had been agreed. Four branches were authorised and also the building of feeder streams.

Work began at Brentford and Braunston in May.

A reliable source of water was needed to supply the canal summit near Tring. The River Wendover was a suitable source and with the help of the 1st Marquis of Buckingham the GJCC purchased the water rights. The plan in the original 1793 enabling act was to build a feeder along the 390ft contour from Wendover.

Construction of the feeder began in the autumn.

Additionally the GJCC purchased a mill in Wendover (Manor House Mill?), another mill owned by the Marquis of Buckingham at Weston Turville and a third mill at Halton owned by Sir John Dashwood - King (3d baronet); Sir John also consented to the water feeder passing through his garden and Halton Village

1796: The Arm is complete (allegedly)

1797 (15 March): the Company Minute Books report the Wendover Arm as finished

1797/8: Weston Turville reservoir constructed to supply 'compensation' water to mill owners in the Aylesbury area who had lost water when the River Wendover was rerouted

1800

The timeline is marked at approximately 10-year intervals

IWA Chiltern Branch—autumn weekend away

This year's trip will be to Staffordshire from Friday 29 September to Sunday 1 October and will include a tour of the Wedgwood factory at Barlaston, a visit to Burslem Port, the Froghall tunnel and the Uttoxeter Canal and a day out on the Churnet Valley Railway.

The cost will be £260pp with a £60 single room supplement and this includes travel, half-board, buffet lunches and the Churnet Valley railway rover ticket. If the branch can get more than

twenty participants then the cost could be reduced.

Chiltern Branch would be delighted if any WAT member wishes to join in then contact Colin Bird: ☎01932 248178 📧 ccbird@tiscali.co.uk for further details.

As Colin remarks in the autumn issue of the IWA magazine in a 2-page spread about IWA Chiltern Branch, 'We visit a hotel, have a few jars and supper together: its generally very convivial.'

Grub-up! - the Editor's cookery column

At last, for my fans (and, yes, I do have at least one) enough space in this issue to give you another of my tried-and-tested recipes.

This one is my take on an horrendously calorific unnamed dessert that's a favourite of the people of Meiringen in Switzerland (where meringues were invented and where Sherlock Holmes had his final battle with Moriarty). It's a wonder that eating this, the Swiss aren't all roly-poly but, then, they've got all those mountains to climb to work off any excess haven't they? Since it hasn't got a name let's call it

SHERLOCK'S REVENGE

Ingredients – for four

4 x meringue nests (*I cheat and buy mine; if you can get them from Meiringen, so much the better.*)

100g cream cheese (*Philadelphia type*) low fat if you wish.

1 x level teaspoon icing sugar, sieved

150g summer fruits: strawberries or raspberries or loganberries.

4 x scoops vanilla ice cream

Method

Beat the icing sugar and cream cheese together. Should the mix liquefy, let it stand for 20 minutes and it will have re-solidified. Spoon into the meringue nests and plate up..

Decorate the top of the filled nests with the fruit (if strawberries, cut into quarters)

Cook remaining fruit and sieve to make a purée, sweeten to taste and reduce if runny over a low heat.

Place a scoop of vanilla ice cream next to the filled nest, drizzle the purée artistically on the plate and serve with a fan wafer.

FROM THE ARCHIVES

From Issue 1 of the Wendover Arm News

The formation of the Trust

The former Wendover Arm Group (WAG) was wound up in March 1989 and its assets were donated to the new Trust. For those of you who have not been too involved with these events perhaps I should explain the difference between WAG and the Trust.

WAG was an informal gathering of representatives from other local organisations such as the Grand Union Society, the Aylesbury Canal Society, the Inland Waterways Association, the Chiltern Society, etc. At various times Local Authorities, British Waterways, The Nature Conservancy Council, local MP Robert Jones and others joined the Group's meetings in order to promote the restoration of the Wendover Arm.

Very early in WAG's existence it became apparent that there is a lot of local support for the restoration of the Wendover Arm with many individuals seeking to join the Group. Because WAG was not a conventional society in this sense, we were unable to accept these prospective members. Also very early on, WAG realised that it would have much more credibility with those Authorities who, once convinced of the value of restoring the Arm could really help to make it happen, if it was a formally constituted body.

For these reasons, steps were taken to form a Wendover Arm Trust and it was decided that if this was to be really effective it should be done with registration under the Companies Acts and with the Charity Commissioners. However, no-one on

WAG realised how long the process of achieving this status was going to take. All this is now in the past. On 28th February 1989 a Certificate of Incorporation was issued by Companies House followed on 20th March 1989 by the issue of a Certificate of Charitable Status from the Charity Commissioners.

The Trust exists for the purposes of promoting the restoration plan as vigorously as possible and to raise the finance to pay for it. It has already been demonstrated that it is much easier to get financial assistance from other sources if you can show that you have already raised significant sums by your own efforts.

Fund-raising becomes a priority with approaches being made to various grant making bodies, local companies, etc, and it is here that the accountability under the Companies Act will give the Trust a credibility that WAG could never achieve.

Ian Packe - Joint Secretary

Editor's commentary:

As the Trust approaches its 28th AGM it's interesting to look back to the beginning and recognise that much of what Ian wrote in 1989 is still true today. The Trust has achieved much over the years; it has re-built a bridge that should never have been demolished; provided a winding hole for full length boats; prevented the extinction of a navigable waterway with its representations over the Aston Clinton By-pass and has built, or has had built, over 2km of waterway. That we raised the money ourselves, mainly through the Festivals and legacies (with, interestingly, little coming from grant-making bodies) and have achieved this should make us all proud and we trust that it will have great weight when HLF comes to consider the details proposals to 'wet' the 'dry' bit. But. . .and there's always a 'but', we must not rest on our laurels, there's more to do and we need to continue to raise funds.

IWA Branch Meetings

Chiltern Branch

All meetings except * take place on Wednesdays at Little Chalfont Village Hall, Cokes Lane, Little Chalfont HP8 4UD, starting at 8pm

Autumn 2017 meetings

- 27 September Restoring the Lichfield & Hatherton Canals with David Dixon
- 25 October Treasures from the Thames with Malcolm Head
- 22 November Taking boats Uphill with Ivan Cane
- *14 December Branch Christmas Party
THURSDAY

Milton Keynes Branch

All meetings take place on Thursdays at Bletchley Royal British Legion, Melrose Avenue, Bletchley, MK3 6PU

Autumn 2017 meetings:

- 21 September Horse boating videos, and Noggin & Natter.
- 19 October The steam narrowboat *President*, with Richard Thomas.
- 16 November The Wendover Arm – history and update, with Ray Orth.
- 7 December Christmas social (Pre-booked ticket event)

VINTAGE FESTIVAL AT FOXTON LOCKS

A new CRT event on 16 and 17 September

Tickets are £12 per car (parking and festival entry) and can be purchased at.

www.canalrivertrust.org.uk/enjoy-the-waterways/events/2017-09-16-foxton-vintage-festival

From the Sales Director

Why do we do sell goods?

The briefest of glances at the annual sales record quickly shows that selling clothing, booklets, key rings, etc. does not produce a significant income for WAT.

The real benefit to WAT lies in the fact that all (well, most) of these products carry the WAT logo in a prominent place and thus have a publicity value to the Trust.

This means that anyone buying something from the WAT 'Shop' knows that others will see that they support WAT. There is of course also the satisfaction the buyer can get in knowing their money is not just buying an item, it is also benefitting the Restoration in however small a degree.

So, when considering the question 'Do I need a new Sweat Shirt' (for example), perhaps we should be asking ourselves 'Do I want to buy this to show my support?' as well as 'Do I need it?'

We have all the sizes, in all the colours (well, maroon or white) in Sun Caps, T-, Polo, and Sweat Shirts. We have pocket sized gifts for effectively pocket money prices. We have a select and excellent choice of very readable booklets. All of these are eminently suitable as original gifts – it's not that long before Christmas!

You can show your support, help the Trust, and get a useful gift or keepsake by choosing something from Trust Sales at:

- Restoration Open Day, 4 September
- AGM on 18 October
- Or anytime online from

www.wendoverarmtrust.co.uk

You won't be sorry you did!



WENDOVER ARM TRUST

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Wendover Arm Trust, A Company Limited by Guarantee. Registered Charity No.801190. Its **AIMS** are:

To promote the restoration and maintenance of the Wendover Arm of the Grand Union Canal, (including all waterways, buildings, and related structures), to good and navigable order and to promote the fullest use of the waterway by water-borne traffic (subject to the regulations of The Canal and River Trust) and for local amenity, recreational and water related activities for the benefit of the public.

To restore, preserve, maintain and to educate the public in the history, use and associated wildlife, of canals and inland waterways generally and the Wendover Arm in particular.

General telephone number: 07547 181857 **Website:** www.wendoverarmtrust.co.uk

Registered Office: Island House, Moor Road, Chesham, Bucks HP5 1WA

Advertising Enquiries:

Contact either the Publications Director or the Publicity Director, (Email addresses on p3)

Or speak to the Newsletter Editor on 01494 863176

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From the Editor

In this issue we start a series of articles that plots the timeline for the Wendover Arm Canal, it's relevance to the 'Main Line', its rise, decline, partial abandonment and the work of the Trust in promoting its renewal to navigable status. I've been grateful to Barry Martin for loan of his archive notes on the matter and what will be presented over quite several issues is a condensation of these notes. I must apologise to Barry for missing out much of what he has written but the whole text runs to fifty pages of closely-typed A4 and were I to print the whole lot you'd have nothing but a timeline in your Newsletter for the next year and a half!

You might like to know that Google Earth updated its view of the locality

on 25 March 2017 so you can go there and see the (almost) current state of the restoration. I would have printed pictures from Google Earth in the Newsletter but the resolution is too poor . . . amazing how good there are taken from a camera 100 miles away or so and through the earth's atmosphere but still not good enough to print.

We've news in this issue of a major legacy from a Trust supporter. Although this relieves Council of a lot of worries about funding it still doesn't provide enough for the future; look at the objects of the trust printed above and they are not just about returning the 'dry bit' to water and the rest will cost too!

David



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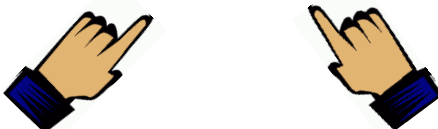
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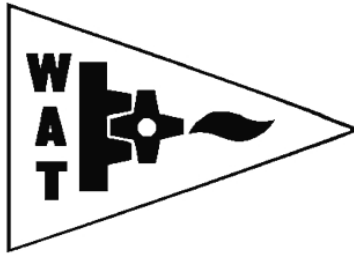
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Booking form for Wendover Arm Trust AGM Dinner

Wednesday 18 October 2017 at Green Park, Aston Clinton

I/We would like to buy tickets for the AGM dinner @ £12.50 per person

I/We enclose a cheque (payable to Wendover Arm Trust) for £

Name(s) of members attending:

1

2

DINNER MENU

As at the time of publication of the Newsletter we do not have a menu available. However, please book and we will contact you for your choices once the menu is known

I confirm that I/we are current members of the Wendover Arm Trust

Your booking will be confirmed by Email, phone call or text message

Mobile phone number

Landline phone number

Email address

Please send this form and payment to:

Marion Birch, Wendover Arm Trust, Island House, Moor Road, Chesham, Bucks HP5 1WA

Latest date for receipt of bookings 11 October

STOP PRESS

CHILTERN BRANCH IWA WEEKEND AWAY

The event detailed on p19 of the Autumn Newsletter has been cancelled