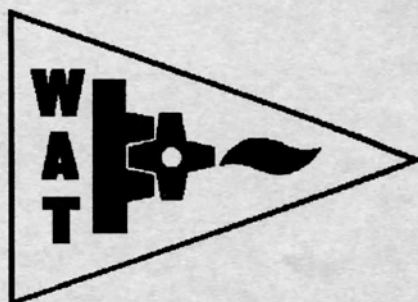


Wendover Arm News



The newsletter of the Wendover Arm Trust

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THE WENDOVER ARM TRUST

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Chairman's Report

You will no doubt have heard that we have been "Long-listed" with our bid to obtain money from the Millennium Commission. Most of the Trust Council Members stopped work on the preparation of the Festival site on the Friday afternoon before the Bank Holiday weekend to meet Ray Anderson, the Millennium Commission Case Office and Peter Rooney of W.S. Atkins who came to look at the Arm and assess the task which lays ahead as far as the restoration project is concerned and to advise us on the way forwards if we are to receive any money from the Millennium Funds.

The main criterion, as far as obtaining this grant is concerned, is that we must be able to raise a matching sum of £4,000,000 from other sources. A further condition which we must fulfil is that of obtaining overwhelming public support. I know that all of you who are members fully support the aims of the Trust, but there is, alas, a small but very vociferous group of people who live by the Arm who are very concerned about our plans.

Although we have spoken to many of these people to try and reassure them that there will not be hundreds of boats moored by their back gardens or that we will be encouraging millions of people to intrude upon their privacy they are still not convinced that restoration will benefit them or the community in general.

Several people from Wendover and Halton Village have been keeping the "Letters to the editor" columns of the local papers filled with their objections and advising people to write to the Millennium Commission with their objections. As the Commission are interested in any letters which are written on the subject I will be pleased if you will write to me (my address is on the inside cover of this newsletter) in support of our plans so that I can, in turn, show the Millennium Commission that we have overwhelming support for our aims.

As summer is now really with us I look back for a matter of only a very short time and wonder why the climate for this year's Festival was more like the type of weather

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which we expect to have in February than in late May! Nevertheless, in spite of the worst conditions that we have ever experienced for our Festivals (Saturday being the only day free from rain) I think that a good time was had by everyone who attended. We had an above average number of boaters present and a record turnout of caravanners and, in spite of the dismal climatic conditions, the members of the public did arrive in their hundreds - especially on the Bank Holiday Monday. The crowds were certainly not as vast as for last year's record attendance but, although I have't had the official figures for the profit I believe that there will be a very useful sum of money to help to swell the Trust coffers.

My thanks again go to all of you who helped with the event - the Festival Committee, W.R.G., the boaters, the North London Caravan Club and all of you members who helped to make this another very successful event. None of this would have been at all possible without the generosity of Mr and Mrs John Brown, of Wendover, the owners of the field on which the

Festival was held, who once again so kindly allowed us to hold the event on their land and again refused to accept any rent whatsoever. **We are all most grateful to them for their support and generosity.**

Yours sincerely



Post Script:

Since writing the above report the Trust have received the letter, which is printed in full on page 5, from the Millennium Commission. This letter, alas, means that our present bid to obtain funding from this source is no longer viable. We are now looking at other means of obtaining funds so that we can make a start on the restoration at Little Tring. Although it is still the Trust Council's intention to eventually complete a full restoration to Wendover, this will take a little longer now that the Millennium money is not forthcoming.

Watermarking the Millennium?

Mike Chessher brings the saga of the Millennium application upto date.

As I sat inside my boat's water tank, painting it, it was strange to reflect that, at that very moment, Virginia Bottomley was probably deciding how much boating I would be doing this summer!

It was late April and the Millennium Commission was meeting to consider our application. The answer arrived a couple of days later on 25th April.

"I am pleased to inform you that your project has been selected for further examination. I should remind you that passing this stage of the application process is no guarantee of the ultimate success of all or a part of your project - the competition is still strong."

So, we've been long listed ! Tie the boat securely to its moorings and stand by for a site visit.

About 10 days later, the Commission rang, proposing a site visit at 3 p.m. on Friday, 24th, May. "But that's the weekend of the Festival,"

I spluttered. "We'll all be putting up fencing and wiring - can't you possibly make it a few days earlier."

"We can't change the date but we can manage 9 am if that suits you better." "Oh no, 3 p.m. will be fine." I replied limply, thinking back to last year, when the riggers were still trying to get the tent pegs in at 9 am. "It will be quite nice for us to see all this activity", said the cheerful voice at the end of the phone.

And so, we were able to hold our initial meeting in a newly erected 200 ft marquee - a triumph of planning and foresight in view of the weather, marred only slightly by the late arrival of the 50 kW generator to power the tea urn.

The meeting and the brief visit along the canal went very well, in spite of the torrential rain as we approached Wendover and we now have much work to do, preparing for the DAR - Detailed Appraisal Review. Much of that work will fall on our partners in BW as we sift through a 12 point check list of information we have to supply to

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the Commission and its professional advisors.

We also have to begin formal discussions over that most difficult of problems - raising the balance of the funding. Whilst we can afford to give ourselves a quick pat on the back for reaching the long list - 80

out of 489 applications made it this time - the prospects of getting the rest of the money look distinctly patchy. Just like the inside of my water tank, really.

Mike Chessher

Some News Just In

I wrote the piece above at the beginning of June, but delay in publishing the Newsletter means that, rather like a Michael Dobbs novel, the story has moved on.

So that members are fully informed, the Trust Council has decided that the letter from Ray Anderson, Assistant Programme Manager at the Millennium Commission should be published in full (see facing page).

House of Cards

So failure followed success with alarming speed. Failure, you will note, to get our partnership funding. Failure to convince English Partnerships that the project would bring enough economic benefits - create jobs - provide a boost to the local economy through tourism.

Of course, *we always knew* we wanted the money to restore a quiet rural canal whose attraction was that it wasn't lined with housing developments, supermarkets and DIY warehouses. It's a sad fact that it would have been easier to get the money if it was.

To Play the Kingfisher

While we failed to convince EP, we do unfortunately appear to have convinced some of the local residents that the project meant "development". You could be forgiven for thinking we wanted to build a nuclear power station by the hostility of some of them.

Much play has been made of retaining the "shallow chalk stream" and while I have some sympathy with those who don't

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**From Ray Anderson,
Assistant Programme Manager**



"Thank you for arranging the site visit to your project on 24 May. I was pleased to meet your project team and found our discussion and tour of the site most informative. I hope you also benefited from the visit.

The Commission reviewed your project along with others on the long list at its meeting of 18 June. In view of the oversubscription for Millennium Commission funds, those projects with the most secure funding package, worked up in the most detail, will obviously be better placed to gain the Commissioners' approval, than those projects which lack this level of detail and security.

Based on the information you have provided I regret to tell you that the Commission has formed the view that your project is not capable of meeting our requirements within a realistic timescale. It is the intention of the Commission therefore, not to proceed with the detailed appraisal of your project.

As discussed, the main area of concern is the partnership funding being sought from English Partnerships. It is evident from correspondence both yourselves and the Commission have had with English Partnerships that this project would be of low priority for them. As this element of funding is quite significant, the projects' financial feasibility is in doubt.

Should you wish to resubmit your application in the third application round, the above issues must be addressed. However, given the Commission's concerns about your project, you may wish to consider whether you wish to dedicate further resources to it. If you would like an application pack for our third bidding round please contact me.

The Commission are grateful to all those on your team who have committed time and energy to the project. We do hope that the momentum you have built up will enable you progress at least some of your project even if Millennium funds are not available. If you require anything further please do not hesitate to ask."

Yours

Continued from page 4

want to see it changed, I remain convinced that Wendover could "have its cake and eat it". The restored canal would bring a greater variety of wildlife, with its deeper water areas and shallow margin. It would be easily sustainable long into the future with money guaranteed for its maintenance.

In truth, much of the objection seemed to be to more visitors and especially to boats and boaters.

The Final Cut

So where do we go from here? Restoration will obviously be a much slower business without Millennium money and as we have already indicated, we will seek other funding to start work at Little Tring, possibly backing this up later with a bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund. However, it is the *partnership* funding which has failed, so the scope for any future lottery bid may be limited.

It seems to me that there is much less opposition to getting the whole canal in water than to full restoration. It may be that the Trust will have to reconsider its attitude to the

Halton and Wendover end of the arm as a project such as this, requiring major funding, is only likely to succeed if it has overwhelming local support. Given the timescale we probably now face, it may be that the opposition, along with most of the present Trust committee, will have died out - quite literally - by the time this issue needs to be addressed! However it is essential to continue the consultation process we have so painfully established with local residents.

You may think that, given the attitude of some local residents, most of the committee wouldn't want to go to Wendover now anyway.

You may think that, I couldn't possibly comment!

Mike

AGM Date

The 1996 Annual General Meeting will be on Wednesday, November 13th. The Notice of the Meeting is on page 10

WENDOVER CANAL FESTIVAL at TRING 1996

GRAND DRAW WINNERS

- 1st CANAL HOLIDAY Donated by GREBE CANAL CRUISES
Ticket No: - 09537 Mr Downs
- 2nd BALLON TRIP FOR TWO Donated by UNIPART AND MR
Ticket No:-01532 Joan c/o Don Smith CHRIS DUNKLEY
- 3rd CHEQUE for £100 Donated by W.A.T.
Ticket No:- 01364 I.R.Bullock
- 4th LIMITED EDITION PRINTS OF WENDOVER Donated by
Ticket No:- 12851 Mrs F.Hearn DIANE HOUSE
- 5th £50 VOUCHER for any purchase at BROWN & MERRY'S
TRING MARKET AUCTIONS Donated by STEPHEN HEARN
Ticket No:- 14973 A Wilson
- 6th MOULINEX MASTER CHEF Donated by JOANNE WHEAL
Ticket No:- 10193 M Hewitt
- 7th WEDGEWOOD PLATE - LIMITED EDITION Donated by
Ticket No:- 13663 B Grey JENNIFER THOMAS
- 8th FOOD HAMPER Donated by SHEILA LEWIS
Ticket No:- 01808 K.Delderfield
- 9th DIMPLE BOTTLE OF WHISKEY Donated by PETA
Ticket No:- 08785 John Rowe MORTON
- 10th RADIO ALARM CLOCK Donated by YOKA WHEAL AND
Ticket No: - 10978 L.Stanford FRIENDS
- 11th TOASTER Donated by BERYL AND BARRY MARTIN
Ticket No:- 14027M. Clark
- 12th BOTTLE OF CONTREAU LIQUEUR Donated by JUDY
Ticket No:- 07719 K.Walsh STREATFIELD
- 13th 2 KILO BOX OF CHOCOLATES
Ticket No:-14971 Mrs S.Wilson

Membership Report

We warmly welcome all the new members who have joined the Trust since the last report.

Mr C. Browne	Marsworth
Mr R. Clarke & Ms J. Hazell	Halton
Mr & Mrs E.J. Davies	Cranfield
Mr M. Deverill & Mr L. Cook	Hemel Hempstead
Mr & Mrs S. Dodd.....	South Oxhey
Mr & Mrs P.G. Dumelow.....	Thame
Mr & Mrs Elwell.....	Reading
Mr J. Fortune	London
Mr R.W. Gazeley.....	Hendon
Mr & Mrs D. Hallam	Berkhamsted
Mr & Mrs B.J. Meldrum	Chesham
Mr & Mrs K. Pyott.....	Aylesbury
Mrs R. Rowbottom	Hyde
Mrs J.E. Smith	Tring
Mrs P.M. Whiting.....	Stoke Mandevill

The Wendover Arm Trust's membership now stands at 505.

Corporate Memberships

Corporate membership is open to any canal society, rambling club, school, local council, angling club, local history society or any other group interested in the Wendover Arm of the Grand Union Canal.

The Subscription - Minimum £ 10-00 - covers one year from the date of joining.

Corporate Members receive four copies of the Trust Newsletter and one copy of any Notice, or other communication, from the Trust.

Corporate Members are also entitled to one vote at General Meetings.

Application forms for Corporate Membership, and Individual and Family Memberships, are available from the Membership Secretary - address inside front cover.

Barry Martin,
Membership Secretary

In Memorium

Barbara Cork

It is with the deepest regret that I have to announce the sad death of our President's wife, Barbara, on July 23rd.

Mrs Cork had, for many years, maintained a relentless struggle in her efforts to overcome cancer. She had undergone no less than 14 operations in the surgeons efforts to cure her but throughout her entire illness she had not failed to maintain her cheerful disposition. She had supported our President in all of his numerous commitments including his unfailing presence at the opening of the Wendover Canal Festivals but her ill health had prevented her from attending last year because she was then in hospital and at this year's event she was too ill to attend. Although I had only met her on a few occasions I found her to be a lovely person with a very generous disposition and there is no doubt that her interest in the work of the Trust was of a very sincere nature.

The whole of the Trust Council join with me, as I'm sure all of the members will, in offering our most sincere sympathy to our President, Roger Cork, their son, Christopher and daughters Melissa and Georgina at this very sad time.

R.L.

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the Seventh Annual General Meeting of the Wendover Arm Trust will be held at the Aston Clinton Sports and Social Club, Aston Clinton, Buckinghamshire, on Wednesday 13th November 1996 at 8pm.

AGENDA

1. Apologies for Absence.
2. Minutes of the sixth Annual General Meeting held on 18th October 1995.
3. Chairman's Report.
4. Honorary Treasurer's Report.
5. To receive and, if thought fit, approve the report of the Committee (Council of Management).
6. 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 1996, and the Report of the Honorary Auditor thereon.
7. To re-appoint Mr F.W.P. Lea F.C.A. as Honorary Auditor.
8. To elect Members to the Committee. (See note 1 below)

By order of the Committee

19 June 1996

Note 1. Under Article 39, nominations for election to the Committee 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 his willingness to be elected. Only members qualified to vote at the meeting may make nominations or stand for election.

A list of Committee 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 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.

Lord Mayor's Show - November 9th

How would you like to be part of it?

WAT has a float in the world famous Lord Mayor's Show this November, and volunteers are needed to accompany the float in procession through the streets of London. The show is on the second Saturday in November, and is televised for an audience at home in excess of 3 million people, as well as more millions in Europe and Asia.

Our float is a novel one. It displays nb 'Dabchick', the dayboat from Grebe Canal Cruises on a flatbed trailer, waiting to enter a stretch of the canal which is being restored. The float will be flanked by 'Navvies' (i.e. you) walking alongside, suitably dressed to represent restoration workers.

This is a unique opportunity to take part in this historic and popular event, and not to be missed. You do not have to be a WAT member to take part, but members will be given priority if we have too many wanting to join in. We also don't (yet) have a limit on size of family groups. However, due to the nature of the float, children under 16 unfortunately cannot be included.

What's involved? You make your own way to the assembly point on Saturday morning, where balloons, etc. will be distributed. Your 'costume' is simply a blue or white overall, together with a hard hat (both provided). You accompany the WAT float, walking alongside it in procession from Guildhall via St Paul's to Fleet Street. Lunch is provided. In the afternoon, the procession returns to the Guildhall via the Embankment, past Mansion House and the Bank of England. Total route length is approximately 1½ miles each way.

We will hold a rehearsal meeting one evening during the preceding week at a venue in the Tring area.

If you want to help the Trust, and at the same time have a uniquely different day out taking part in a historic event, please telephone or write to me with names and addresses.

Bob Wheal, Vice Chairman

Wendover Arm Trust
467 Bideford Green
Linslade
Beds. LU7 7TZ
Tel. (evenings) 01525 381614

Committee Matters

(Meandering through the Minutes)

Some brief notes of matters which have been discussed by your Committee. Shortage of space in the March newsletter meant this feature was omitted. This report, therefore, starts with:-

December 1995

♦ Terry Kemp of BW attended the meeting in the absence of Chris Mitchell.

♦ The emerging signs of opposition to the Trust's restoration plans were discussed at length. It was agreed to prepare some fact sheets for general public availability, to hold a 'Roadshow' in Wendover and to develop a strategy to counter the problem

♦ The replacement Millennium application had been submitted and it was noted that the latest study showed that, once restored, the canal would be self financing in terms of its ongoing maintenance.

♦ RAF Halton had asked if BW had a project that would occupy the talents of 60 recruits for a weekend. Roger Leishman jumped at the chance to get some root pulling done.

February 1996

♦ Terry Kemp agreed to be co-opted to the Committee. His experience from assisting other restoration schemes will be very valuable.

♦ A presentation to Halton Parish on 19 February had, with hindsight, been too general and had failed to address the specific concerns of Halton. The disruption to the village during reconstruction was a particular worry for the residents.

♦ The Committee agreed that the Trust should help at the BW Bulbourne weekend by giving guided tours and running teas at the stop lock.

♦ Halton residents had approached the Chairman to see if the Trust could help solve the problem of motor cyclists abusing the towpath.

March

♦ More anti-restoration letters had been received and other signs of opposition to restoration were becoming increasingly reported in the local press. The Committee agreed to create a 'Community Forum' or a steering group sub-committee that could concentrate on trying to work with the local people to achieve the best solutions for all concerned.

♦ Roger Leishman estimated that over 400 man hours had been put in by work parties so far this year. 44 RAF recruits attended the March session.

♦ Confusion reigned as to whether the IWA Jubilee duck race was on or off! (see report on page 17).

♦ Ways of funding the Trust's float for the Lord Mayor's Show in November were considered. (Any members' suggestions gratefully received, answers on a post card to Roger Lewis)

April

♦ A presentation to Wendover Parish Council had revealed some strong opposition to restoration. The wildlife issue had caused particular worry since it was reported that 2 rare bird species were nesting between Halton and Wendover. A public meeting was arranged for Wendover residents in June.

♦ April Public Meetings were held in Buckland and Little Tring. Both revealed some strong opposition to the restoration.

♦ Dialogue with the Millennium Commission was continuing. The Trust's dependency on English Partnerships for most of the matching funding was looking problematical. Almost all of the 40 short listed projects currently being reviewed depended on English Partnerships and their funds were already limited.

May

♦ Mike Chessher reported that the Trust's application to the Millennium Commission had been long-listed and now entered the second, more detailed stage. A site visit was arranged for 24th May.

♦ It was reported that PR work by both the Trust and BW in the Wendover area was having a ben-

eficial effect. Wendover Council now seemed more generally in favour of the restoration.

♦ The Membership Secretary noted that over 40% of the Trust's members lived within 5 miles (walking distance) of the Arm.

♦ The year's work parties had now clocked up 863 man (and/or woman) hours. No more work parties now until the autumn.

June

♦ Information gathering for the Millennium Commission was proceeding well. Biggest single problem remained matching funding. It was agreed to apply to the Environmental Action Fund for some specific funding.

♦ Bucks Badger Group complained to Bob Wheal at the Festival that they had not been consulted. Terry Kemp agreed to meet them.

♦ The Community Forum proposal was gaining momentum, with some local groups expressing an interest in joining.

♦ Agreed to send donation to WRG for their van and excavator appeal.

♦ The siting of the new Trust's leaflet box and what should be in it were discussed. Hopefully, it will soon be placed on the main line opposite the dry dock and be openable with a BW key.

♦ Bob Wheal reported an offer to put WAT on the Internet for £80 per annum!!! (and I took up canals to get away from computers - Ed)

Memoirs of a Canal Boatbuilder

Miss Moira Hegarty's Interview with Mr Harry Fennimore. Autumn 1979

Looking through the Trust's Archives (the Editor's own 'deep litter' filing system) I came across a transcript of an interview, a copy of which was sent to the Trust some years ago.

I hope that you will find this glimpse into the history of boat building on the Wendover Arm as fascinating as I do. It is quite long so it will have to be serialised over several issues. Here is part one.

"When I was about 15 years old I worked in an office, but I hated it, so I left. Then, of course, I had no job at all. One day I was walking down the towpath kicking at the stones, when one of these flew up and hit a man on the shin! This man turned out to be old Mr Bushell - he was very cross with me and started to tell me off. He asked me where I worked, and when I told him that I had no job, he suggested that I should go and work for him, so that is how I became involved in canals and boat building.

I worked for Charlie and Joe

Bushell, the brothers, who were called by their first names, but the old man we had to call the "Boss" because he liked that. He had been the boss, and so we had to fuss round him a bit and keep him happy. On the whole they were pretty good to us. There was no such thing as strikes or trouble of that sort, we just did our work which we were paid to do, and didn't expect anything else. But they were good to us in many ways - they gave us blocks of wood for the fire and things like that.

Mr Joseph Bushell and his two sons Joseph and Charles had taken over a prosperous boat building business at Tring Wharf (New Mill), from the Mead family who had originally been in partnership with a Mr Grover of Aldbury who owned a windmill, a wharf and a lime kiln, all directly connected with the canal. The Meads, who had decided to go into the milling business, were really wharfingers. They became canal carriers and eventually barge builders on a large scale." (Bob Grace).

A typical day at Bushell's Boatyard would start at 6am and in the winter it was very dark then. We would go home to breakfast at 8am to a blazing fire, bacon and eggs, etc. and then we were reluctant to go back to work again, as we had to work in the snow and the ice with no protection whatever. We liked to get into the blacksmith's shop, it was hard work but we were warm in there because of the blacksmith's fire. Mostly though we were out in the open and it might be snowing or hailing and all we could do was work very hard to keep warm! Essentially building boats was an outdoor job, and the comfort of the workers was not a consideration in those days.

When the building of a boat was started it was built on a platform (the stocks), and we would have to move these big elm bottoms about, 3" thick and over 7ft long. They were laid so that the ends hung over longer than necessary and they were cut to shape afterwards. Carrying this wood around kept us warm, but it still was not very nice with rain and snow dripping down one's neck, and it was impossible to do the work in gloves.

Dinner-time was 12 until 1pm.

Although we had so much timber to move about, there was very little machinery to help us. We did have a bob-truck which was just two big cartwheels and an axle and a long beam of wood with a chain on the end of it. We hooked the chain around a piece of timber, pulled down on the long shaft to lift it clear of the ground, and then ran with it!

The worst time was in the winter when it got dark at about 4pm (there was no British Summer Time then). Then we used to have some nasty jobs to do - we had to straighten bent nails for use again (they were very expensive then). The problem was that we had to work two hours in darkness. One of the things we did was to make pegs to fill the holes left in the boats where the plates had been removed. We chopped wood to about the size of potato chips, then made a point at one end so that they could be driven into the holes in the boats.

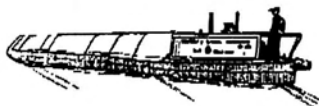
We did this work inside by candle-light and by the light of flare lamps. These were made of a round container, with a point running down from it and a burner on the end. We used to heat the end of the burner in the blacksmiths forge and

then turn the oil on and it used to flare up because it was coming down to a hot burner. We used to stick candles between three nails driven through a piece of wood about the size of a book. Another job we had to do on these dark evenings was to clean out the gas engine which drove the circular saw and the bandsaw.

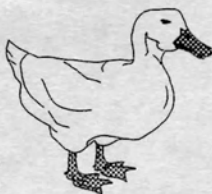
We just used to creep about with the candles doing all the boring jobs and it was very miserable. Sometimes we would go and do work in the boss's house, anything just to kill the time. We had to work until 12 noon on Saturdays, and we weren't paid for any holidays at all, not even Christmas day. I earned two pence (old money) more an hour than the other chaps because I painted castles and flowers on the boats. When I left I was earning Is.9d. per hour (our rises came in ha'pennies, never more, and sometimes I have even known of a farthing rise). So when I was married and left there I was earning about £3 a week, and that was for about 65 hours.

Metal plates were put on the fore (front) ends of the boats to protect them from knocks and, in the winter, ice. These plates were about

as thick as a piece of cardboard, about two feet long and about fifteen inches wide, and they were put on starting at the end nearest the stern (back), and then overlapping so that when they rubbed along they were not torn off. This meant nailing one edge, and then nailing through two where they overlapped. Underneath, to make it watertight, we used to put 'chalico'. This was a mixture of horse manure and tar boiled for hours in a large cauldron like a witch's cauldron. We spread it all over the part of the boat that was going to be covered with plates and then on top of that we put a sheet of felt. When we nailed the plates on, as we hit the nails with the hammer this chalico would squirt out all over our face and then we had to wash in paraffin!"



Part 2 of the story of working life in the 1920s and '30s will appear in the next issue of Wendover Arm News.



The IWA Jubilee Duck Race

The Duck Race was held, as published, on the Wendover Arm - between the launch site of Gammels Bridge and the finishing flat moored at the sewerage outfall! The flat was suitably draped with bunting much to the delight of the 4 young boys who fished off it and angled to use the flow from the outfall to flush the ducks, all 911 of them, over to the towpath side for reclamation - much to our delight.

At the 11th hour, WRG came to our rescue in the shape of Tess Hawkins - a canoe instructor in her spare time - to provide the vital waterborne 'sweeping' role!

The race took 35 minutes, folk in

their adjacent gardens made more noise than we did and the adult fishermen left more rubbish than we did and yes we did bow-haul the BW flat back to the junction as requested. Why? - because its awkward for them to get a tug up the arm to tow it out as it's so shallow. Their words not mine!

If the Trust is looking for another fund raiser, this site more than adequately accommodates a duck race, but you'll need a canoeist and 2 marshals on the bridge to control traffic at launch time - it's an incredibly busy road.

Jennifer Thomas

P.S. Selling the tickets really drove me "Quackers"!

Service of Thanksgiving

The Trust was represented at the Service of Thanksgiving for the life of Barbara Cork held at The Church of St John the Baptist, The Lee, Near Great Missenden on Monday 29th July by Roger and Sheila Lewis (Ed.)

Council for the Protection of Rural England

Are you a member of the CPRE as well as WAT? If you are, please would you contact Bernard Banfield on 01296 668265

Disclaimer

The views expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the Wendover Arm Trust

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