

Newsletter of the Wendover Arm Trust

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Issue No.31 Autumn 1999

Price 50p Free to members

From the Wendover Arm Trust Articles of Association:

T o promote the restoration of the Wendover Arm of the Grand Union Canal linking the town of Wendover in Buckinghamshire to the Grand Union Canal at Bulbourne Hertfordshire (hereinafter called 'The Waterway' which shall include all waterways, buildings, works and structures associated therewith) to good and navigable order and to maintain and improve The Waterway for the use and benefit of the public.

 T_{o} promote the fullest use of The Waterway by all forms of waterborne traffic and for all forms of local amenity, tourist and recreational and water-related activities for the benefit of the public

 $T \ o \ promote, \ and \ educate \ the \ public \ in, \ the \ history, \ use \ and \ associated wildlife \ of \ canals \ and \ inland \ waterways \ generally \ and \ of \ The \ Waterway \ in \ particular.$

To restore, reconstruct, preserve and maintain canals and inland waterways and works and buildings auxiliary thereto generally provided that such objects shall be carried out in a manner beneficial to the public and recognised by the law of England as charitable.

Contributions to Wendover Arm News

Contributions are welcome on any topic related to the Wendover Arm, its construction, history, wildlife, and of course any aspect of the restoration project.

Letters or articles can be in any format, and accompanied by photographs or sketches/drawings if possible. All material will be returned if requested.

Send any contributions ^c/_oWAT News Editor 467 Bideford Green Linslade, LU7 7TZ

Disclaimer

Views expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the Wendover Arm Trust.





Vice Chairman's Comment

It's that time of year again.

The long Summer evenings are a distant memory, along with all the activity of the Festival, holidays spent lazing in the sun, and the solar eclipse.

Everyone has their own experience of the eclipse, but there was something eerie and certainly unique in seeing the sun being slowly covered. The experience was enhanced by seeing it absolutely clearly (and safely) reflected in the still water of the Grand Union at Marsworth. Yes, the ducks decided it was time to roost, and a passing hire boat even stopped their headlong rush to take it all in ... Seeing the reflection of the eclipse in the Canal is a tip well worth remembering and passing on for the next time !

The AGM is fast approaching (see this issue) and Roger Leishman's update will now be able to concentrate on what has been achieved rather than what is hoped for. Indeed the achievements are clear for all to see. At the date of writing, the blinding (i.e. the 'foundation' work) for the towpath wall is complete on one side of the Arm, on the 'dry' side of Little Tring Bridge, and a start has already been made on the other. Several sections of the towpath wall base are complete, and the towpath wall sections are being cast on a regular basis. Meanwhile, scrub clearance (not so glamorous but just as necessary) continues in the dry section under the leadership of Pete Bowers.

All this work attracts well deserved praise, but we shouldn't forget the many and sustained efforts and ongoing support by 'ordinary' members of WAT. The Trust needs that visible support to be maintained, whether in active restoration work or by fundraising, administration, helping with the Festival, or simply by looking for additional members to join W.A.T.

▹ Bob Wheal

Membership Status (as at 9th August 1999)

Number of I	Memberships
Single	129
Family	167
Corporate	13
Honorary	2 (3 family)
Special*	1 (2 family)

'special memberships' are for a defined period for services rendered to the Trust

Derek Pearson, member since 1989, has decided to move away from Marsworth where he has sold boat fenders for many years. As he will be touring the canal system, and have no 'fixed address', Derek has decided to resign his membership.

Major Donation to Trust Funds

Twenty years of fundraising by the Inland Waterways Association (Herts. Branch), with help from Chiltern Branch.

culminated in a presentation at the Festival of a cheque for £21,000.

The donation was widely reported in the local press, and the donation prompted an article in Waterways World, effectively giving an update on the restoration project.



Mike Wright of Herts IWA (Right) presents the cheque to the WAT.

is re-watered.

The weather seemed keen to get started and fill the canal with water, as it rained quite hard just as the presentation was about to take place! However, a last-minute decision to hold both the presentation and the

> Festival official opening in the Marquee saved the dav. and helped the proceedings get off to a dry start. The donation will be spent on restoring the canal from the stop lock to Little Tring Bridge, a distance of some 70 vards. and Herts **IWA's** donation will be

Restoration Report

Excavation and blinding work for stage 1 is virtually complete, in fact excavation has now been started on stage 2 (Stage 1 is the North towpath wall on the West side of the Bridge, stage 2 is the South towpath).

The reinforced concrete towpath wall in stage 1 is about 20% finished (that's two wall sections and nine base sections).

Roger Leishman reports that during the building of the first two sections of the the Wall, more than a few lessons were learnt, both in setting up the formwork and in pouring the concrete. To pour one base and one wall section at the same time takes 6.25 cubic metres of ready-mix concrete. The delivery has to be to the nearest 0.5 cu mtr, so we have two options.

recorded on a plaque when the canal

We can order 6 cu mtr and make up the 0.25 cu mtr difference ourselves by hand, or order 6.5 cu mtr and use the extra with our own added ballast as blinding.

This suits the work arrangements for a two-day work party, and work has already begin on the canal side-wall on the other (South) side of the canal., near the future winding hole.

Wendover Arm News

Working At Twilight?

One of the deliveries of ready-mixed concrete for the towpath base and wall near Little Tring Bridge was due on August 11th at about 11.00am. One of the working party was heard to speculate whether the concrete pour

Cooking in the Cut!

About 40 or so members and friends enjoyed an unusual get together earlier this year.

To mark the tenth anniversary of the formation of the Wendover Arm Trust,

a barbecue was held on Sat 26th June.

The barbecue was like many similar cookouts: everyone iostling for position at the burners to swap stories and good-natured

banter. What made the event unusual was the venue.

To mark the tenth

birthday of the Trust, where better to hold a barbecue than in the dry bed of the Arm, at Little Tring? At the current rate of restoration, this may be one of the last chances to do so. as the venue will soon be 4 feet under water! Not many people will be able to see boats turning in the winding hole and

More Cooking in the Cut!

A special thank you to the wives who worked very hard over the Festival, raising \$475 selling cakes and drinks, prepared from a narrow boat in the Stop Lock.. Also thanks to Adrian Bell, John Brice and Douglas Nethercleft of IWA Chiltern Branch who not only sold hundreds of raffle tickets, but also raised £260 in donations on the spot. Adrian lost his voice as a result of explaining the restoration work and persuading visitors to part with their cash, but considers the ability to buy 320 bags of cement, or 7.5 metres of towpath wall a fair exchange !

chosen deliberately early to allow members with children to come, and the weather for Open-air cuisine at the Little once was kind, only

at the same spot.

along with

would have to be made using the delivery mixer's headlights to light the scene, as the solar eclipse was due at the same time....

know they have eaten hot sausage, etc.

Our President Sir Roger Cork joined

Roger Leishman, Restoration Director, many

work.

of the

to enjoy their meal

surrounded by the

evidence of recent

The start time was

to

Restoration

Trust

Team

be



Tring workings starting a gentle

shower to remind us all it was time to g0.

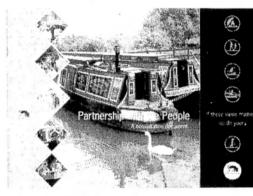
Thanks to Barry Martin and Renee Hopkins for organising the event, and to Renee for the excellent salad.

See you next year at the eleven-yearson birthday barbecue?

WAT and the BW Partnership

In with this issues of Wendover Arm News is a leaflet from British Waterways asking for your views on the BW 'Partnership with the People' proposals.

It is not the intention to explain here the proposals. in detail. Many £££ have already been spent by BW in producing glossy and colourful brochures and leaflets on the scheme, with a view to selling the proposals to Great British Public. the The proposals are broadly in two parts, one to set up a Charitable Trust, the other



to launch a BW Membership Scheme. The issue was discussed in WAT Council over two meetings, and a broad consensus reached, which you are invited to endorse or take issue with.

Waterways Trust (not strictly called that, but it's a convenient title):

The intention here seems to be that a Trust structure will allow BW to attract funds from sources not normally available to it. Council members felt on balance that the scheme could be beneficial to WAT in that BW could be freer legally to help with restoration, and possibly have greater funds to do so. However, concerns were expressed over future allocation policies for such funds, and whether WAT would have any real influence over when and where such funds would be spent.. Concerns also exist as to whether the 'siphoning off of available funds would detrimentally affect WAT's chances of obtaining it's own funding.

BW Membership:

BW seem very keen on having as wide a membership as possible, apparently

> to ensure maximum accountability for their policies and spending. In the way it has been presented, one could easily come to the conclusion that membership would not very attractive for non-boater. the nonfisherman, etc. It is also true that these groups already have a 'membership' interest via the licence fees they However. already pay. regardless of the membership

scheme uptake (which will depend on the perceived benefit), WAT Council members felt that the proposal was neutral to the aims of WAT, without any apparent benefit.

You will have an opportunity to express your views on this matter at the forthcoming AGM on Oct 27th. That's another reason to attend...

Disclaimer: The above views and statements do not necessarily reflect WAT opinion or policy.

A Restorative Walk

The late summer weather was at its best as John and I joined the Tring Charity Walk on Sunday 12 September.

Organised on behalf of the Dacorum Council for Voluntary Service, its aims were to fund repair work to the roof of the Red Cross Hall and to enable walkers to raise funds via sponsorship for a charity of their own choice.

Between forty and fifty people of all ages gathered at the Red Cross Hall and, after publicity photographs, set off towards the High Street. The itinerary was well described and we also had a sketch map of the route.

Through Bank Alley to Park Street. thence to the A41 footbridge; then we were in Tring Park.

"Make for the woods" was the next instruction, but not without pausing to admire the views all round and to draw breath!

We climbed among beech and oak trees, looking for late-flowering shrubs and ground cover; passed the obelisk and reached the temple - reminiscent of the follies at other country seats.

A gentle descent through the welcome dappled shade was very atmospheric; a world away from the bypass, or so one could imagine.

Before reaching the Ridgeway Path, we turned left on to a "permissive bridleway"; some strange suggestions as to its intended use were proposed!

We crossed the Wiggington road to reach the Ridgeway Path and enjoyed extensive views as we walked between

fields of crops and grazing horses. A short stretch of Grand Union towpath between Tring Station Bridge and the cutting turnover bridge followed. Our large party, although straggling over a hundred yards, caused something of an obstacle to cycling families and groups.

Crossing over the bridge we went along Marshcroft Lane, enjoying the fading

sunshine in the company of bees, butterflies and dragonflies.

Back to reality we walked through pleasant housing estates and after two hours and five and a half miles. returned to the Red

Cross Hall to share tea and biscuits with our fellow walkers.

The hope of the organisers that: "...you have enjoyed this walk and feel refreshed in body and spirit after seeing the beautiful Tring countryside whilst, at the same time, raising money for charity"- was well borne out.

As a result of the sponsorship, the Trust will benefit from a calculated 14 bags of cement !

Renee Hopkins



Could you sponsor the Trust?

Maybe a sponsored walk, like Renee, or (for the children) a sponsored silence - bet that'll be popular with parents !

Why not give it some thought and let us know. Ed.

1999 - A Festival of two halves

For some of us, it seems that the end of May comes around very quickly again each year- but perhaps that is just a sign of my advancing years. Once again the same small core of dedicated people started planning in September. with the pace building May up as approached far too fast. I took the boat up to site the weekend before the Festival. as for once I had some young and willing crew available. What difference to arrive early, and not exhausted before the start of the work. There are always so many Finding the fence little jobs to do during the week, it is useful to have a base (and a

store!) on site early. The weather was also terrific - I actually felt I was on holiday at times. I was amazed to see so many boats already in position; it seems that

our regulars are coming in earlier every year to make sure of their favourite mooring.

In the first half of the week, there is not much done, but the mobile phone bill is going through the roof, the back of the boat is full of all manner of odd items, and the main cabin has disappeared under a

blanket of paper. As the days go by however, the marking out of the site is done (finding last year's post holes is becoming quite a skill now!), the fencing

is brought round ready for erection, and the bridge and the marguees go up as if by magic.

> Now the real work starts. The site needs to be decorated, areas mowed especially this year when the grass was so tall that you could lose a good size dog in it with ease decisions and made about what traders. attractions. necessities etc. go where. Every few minutes. somebody is coming along with a "where is ...?" or "where should we ...?" or "will you ...?" or "who is responsible for ...?". The days

begin at 6 with a snatched slice of toast and a cuppa, and carry on well into the evening. Even in the pub for a late supper, the phone rings several times eventually I think of turning it off!

post holes ...

... great Cajun music ...

With help from all sorts of guarters, but

principally Roger Leishman's excellent team and the gang from BITM WRG, the site is as ready as it will ever be. and Saturday night has arrived. The bar has been going strong since the Lionhearts Cruising Club flotilla arrived on Friday (to run it, not drink it!), and now we wait for the evening's entertainment Flaky Jake and the

Steamin' Locos' - to start. Much supping of ale, great cajun music, and the ideal

Wendover Arm News

atmosphere is set for a record sale of raffle tickets. All go to bed happy, tired, and set for a lovely day on Sunday.

Oh dear - the lovely day turns out to be wet. After such beautiful sunny weather in the run-up to the event, it seems unfair that when we want it fine the rain starts. Hasty changes of plan - we can move most of the entertainment to the bar marquee (good for sales as well), but what about the official opening. and the cheque presentation from Herts IWA? We .. when we want it fine could do it in the the rain starts rain under umbrellas, but who

is going to stand around whilst we do? Decide it is better to cut our losses and do the whole thing from the bar. (Why is it that the bar figure seems to SO prominently?) Our principal guest, BW Chief Executive Dr Dave Fletcher, is happy with this arrangement, SO that's that. What we forgt of course is that the PA speakers are some way away, and so we can hear ourselves a second after we speak through the microphone. A very strange sensation, and it is incredibly difficult to concentrate on what you're about to say The PA Speakers are when you are listening to what you just said. Still, in the best traditions, we

muddle through.

A great moment is the presentation of the cheque for £21,000 from Herts IWA enough, as Jennifer says, to restore 70 vards of canal. That brings home to everybody the enormity of the task that the Trust has set itself, and just how

> important these Festivals are to the final target. In fact. we eniov the presentation so much that we decide to do it at least twice more over the weekend - after all publicity can only help. and not many people were able to see it this time. That was about the only high spot in the day unfortunately -

otherwise it just rained. From the point of view of the public who came

(and about 1200 did brave it), there was a terrific array of crafts, and some fine entertainment varying from Tring School Swing Band to the hugely popular clowns.

But for us, who had put in so much work. awful was it an disappointment to know that the money raised would be pretty meagre.

> Still. vou don't organise outdoor events in this country without knowing that every now and again the weather will get the better of you, and the forecast for Monday sounds better. So. we all decide to get on with the barbecue in the

some way away ...

evening, and enjoy ourselves with Mr Kite. making their traditional Sunday night appearance. Lighting the barbecues is

Autumn 1999

not so easy in the rain - until someone has the bright idea of moving the entrance tent down to cover them: 8 people uproot it, and down the hill it comes problem solved. Α great night follows - the bar is kept busy, the raffle takes a record amount again, and everybody has a good time. And the rain dies off in time for bed! Monday dawns clear and bright - perhaps today we shall get a decent crowd with those who staved away

yesterday. Early start, clearing up and setting up, and by 10 we're ready to receive the public. And they come. All day they come. streaming in steadily. The sun shines, and everything is terrific. We know it's going well - the radios are almost silent, except for regular calls from Dave at the gate wanting fresh money bags because they can hardly lift the others. By midafternoon there are bodies sprawled all over the field, eating strawberries and watching the dogs do their stuff the novelty event. in One disappointment has been that the

birds of prev we'd booked could not come, but then some sharp-eyed person spots a rare red kite circling overhead to compensate. This is the best time of all. Thanks to the weather and the crowds it all seems

to have come together. No-one has an accident despite the volunteers from St John's Ambulance waiting patiently to help. The Ice Cream van finally starts to serve a growing queue,

and the Bar does a steady trade.. The clowns have a tough time handing out foam quickly enough for the custard pie fight, and finally it is time to close the site, even though some visitors seem reluctant to leave.

And so Monday evening arrives, and we all sit down to a well earned rest. Lots of back-slapping and congratulating, and threats that nobody

must mention next

Monday dawns clear and bright ..

year! Thanks are given to John and Ann Brown for the use of their field once more – what would we do without them? And so to an early bed, and we all sleep the best we have for a week or more.

Tuesday of course follows Monday, and that means ... it all has to be taken down and put away. Fortunately much of the fencing has been taken down and rolled the previous night, and with the biggest team we have ever had we set to work. Everybody seems to find a job to do, and by a late lunchtime the big stuff is all back safely in the pump-house. The little bits are always time-consuming, but everybody stays cheerful (and also stays around which is even more important!). So by late afternoon there is no evidence

> of anything having happened there, other than some flattened areas of grass and a few items which are not being picked up

> > until

Wednesday.

a red kite circles overhead ...

Now there is just a long list of thank you letters to write, bills to pay, and accounts to prepare, then we can turn our thoughts to the words we'd banned on Monday night – 'next year'.

I must extend my thanks to everybody who helped in any way this year, but especially to the

between an even smaller number of

people. Everybody had to take on

more than one job, and we have got

to find a way round it for next year

- my employer for one needs to

occasionally in the first half of the

year. So, if you can give us some

working

Committee who took on even more than usual, what with changing the layout and other things,

me

have

'PLEASE come forward'

enough people involved, it need not be an onerous task for anybody, and you only need do what you can manage. The Trust needs the Festivals for ongoing finance, and

for ongoing finance, and without fresh blood they will not be possible on nt scale. The main

the present scale. The main responsibilities of the Festival Committee are listed below. Could you help with any of these jobs?

time - and I know we have asked before

- PLEASE come forward. If there are

I wait to hear from you – honestly it is a lot of fun, and very satisfying.

Richard House 🍺

Help is especially needed with the following tasks

for

him

In the months before the Festival:

m the months of	jore me resulta.
Crafts	Take Bookings. Get the Marquee ready.
Trades	Sell outside trade space. Position the traders
Advertising	Prepare, print and distribute flyers and posters. Prepare press releases and adverts. Negotiate advertising space in the local press.
Caravans	Organise caravan bookings.
Charities	Organise charity bookings.
Minutes	Attend monthly committee meetings, prepare and distribute minutes.
Entertainments	Find or follow up entertainment bookings Negotiate best price (free is best !)
Before, during, a	nd after the Festival:
Posters	Put up posters in the locality.
Road signs	Put up (and take down) road signs to the site.
Site work	Fetch and erect fencing
	Lay temporary water pipe

Cut grass in marquees and car park lanes.

Help collecting the money at the gate.

Decorate the footbridge.

Treasury

Help !

These are a selection of things that need doing. If you would like to help with next year's festival, why not tear out the reply coupon (we will send you another newsletter) or copy it and send to the Editor. You won't regret it, and you will be helping the Trust with it's restoration target.

I am interested in particular with:	
My name is:	
My address is:	

You can fax your completed form to	Or post to	The Editor, ^c / _o 467 Bideford Green	
Bob Wheal		Linslade	
01908 374218		Beds. LU7 7TZ	

Call for Coupons



Johanna Wheal collects cigarette coupons through the year, for exchange before the Festival for some of the prizes in the Grand Draw and Boater's Raffle.

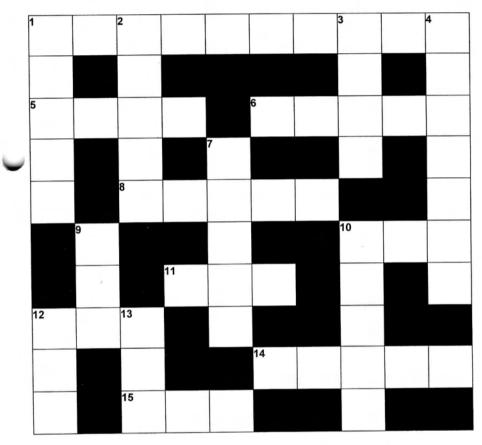
This year the raffle raised $\pounds436$, and the Grand Draw raised $\pounds727$, after cost of prizes,.

Anyone who has been on the receiving end of Johanna's selling skills with Raffle tickets will know how keen she is to swell the Trust's coffers. Johanna particularly asked for her thanks to be printed to everyone who donated coupons in 1998/9, and to let everyone know that she is already saving for Festival 2000.

Please send your coupons via the Editor by next April (the Editor doesn't smoke – one in the family is enough!)

Autumn 1999

Crossword with a watery theme (with thanks to John Hopkins).



Across

- 1 Original name of the canal between Norton and Foxton
- 5 There's one in the South, East, and North
- 6 BW operative
- 8 Northern extremity of the system
- 10 There are two in Birmingham and hundreds all over the system
- 11 It's for getting rubbish, windlasses and bodies out of locks
- 12 Winter hazard
- 14 'Waterways' is IWA's one
- 15 At one time you couldn't get from Stoke to Blisworth without one

Down

- 1 Canal-inspired port in the North
- 2 A pin to join two boats in nearly what you're looking for
- 3 Occasionally navigable river off the Trent
- 4 Junction of the Shropshire Union and the Newport Canals
- 7 If you have respect for the cut, you don't!
- 9 Initials of the canal with 58 locks in 13 miles
- 10 A narrowboat to a non-boater?
- 12 Watery character from the Erewash
- 13 It goes with pie on the Thames

Jim Powell has a vintage JCB

Find Our Digger a Friend !

which has been restored to a fine condition. The JCB has been putting in sterling service at the work parties, helping excavate the towpath profile, before the concrete is poured. Unfortunately, the JCB tends to get a bit lonely. Do you know of a suitable piece of plant which the Trust could borrow or even rescue? Ideally, a dumper, or a tracked digger, or forklift, or cement mixer, or even something simple like a hoist. Maybe it will need some tlc, or a bit of an overhaul. If you do, Roger Leishman would love to hear from you.

Roger can be reached on 01442 874536

Time is Money !

When a voluntary body applies for a grant, a factor which is often taken into account is the work which the applicant has already undertaken.

WAT Work Party

Equivalent values

£8.132

£7.980

£43.174

£59.286

1996

1997

1998

TOTAL

Often this is calculated at an effective cost SO that matching funds can be granted, or so that grants can tied to the be amount

In WAT's case, many hours of work

have gone into work parties, clearing scrub or in actual construction work. Thanks to an analysis of Trust records going back to 1996 by Joyce Smith, a financial value can now be put on members' volunteer labour.

Letters to WAT News

Here are your interesting, informative and even controversial letters to Wendover Arm News. 1996 is the earliest year for which volunteer labour can be evaluated as matching money for funding purposes.

The total value of Trust volunteer labour up to the end of 1998 adds to up an impressive £59.286. The current total will be much higher. thanks to recent concerted restoration effort at Little Tring.

Trust volunteer labour is costed for assessment purposes at £8 per hour for work parties, and £350 per day for professional work (e.g. surveying).

However, what isn't received can't be printed ... Try writing ! Ed.

advertisement

You've walked it ... You've talked about it ... **Why not cruise it ?**

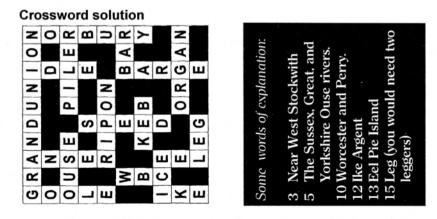


With a Canal Day Boat from **Grebe Canal Cruises**, the Wendover Arm is well within reach for a different day out for family and friends. Our boats can carry 8, 10, or 12 people, depending on which boat is chosen.

Our self-steer day hire craft are short narrow boat style, 28 ft in length, steering being by tiller from the stern. The boats are very easy to handle and can be turned anywhere and the two-cylinder diesel engines are very quiet to enable all to enjoy the tranquillity of the canal as well as it's beauty.

A day in the country, a picnic lunch on the Wendover (or pub lunch at Bulbourne or Marsworth), and a unique view of the Arm from the water. What more could you ask for ?

Phone 01296 661920 for details

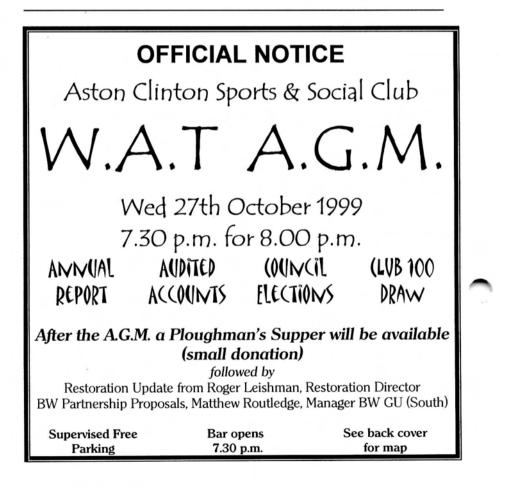


Crossword thanks to John Hopkins, who takes all the blame!

And the Winner Is...

The Grand Draw at the 1999 Festival winners were:

	Prize	Winner	Ticket
st	Canal Holiday	Mr M Brown	14964
2 nd	Gliding Course	Mr Manning	00195
3 rd	£75 Cash	Sara Poole	07306
1 th	Antiques Voucher	Roy Edlin	04898
5 th	Plaque	Ellen Clair	07216
3 th	Book	Mr Tilsley	11017
7 th	Famous Grouse Whisky	Christopher Hearn	02524



CLUB 100

DRAW RESULTS: Second year



Autumn 1998	1 st	Mr J E Long
Drawn October 28th	2nd	Mr P Bowers
52 CLUB 100 Members	3 rd	Mr R W Leishman
Winter 1998	1et	Mr S. I Bell

3rd

Drawn January 19th 57 CLUB 100 Members

Mr S J Bell
Mr J A Fortune
Mr M J Griffin

Spring 1999	1 st 2 nd	Mr D Payne Mr R Tomes	
Drawn April 20th 59 CLUB 100 Members	2 3 rd	Mr R D Harwick	CION S
Summer 1999	1 st	Mrs M Leishman	
Drawn July 13h	2 nd	Mr F J Vatcher	
70 CLUB 100 Members	3 rd	Mr R Leishman	

FINANCE REPORT

	'98/99	To Date	
Total subscribed	£892.50	£1,642.50	_
Less total prize money	£452.20	£832.20	
Expenses	Nil	Nil	
To WAT Restoration Funds	£440.30	£810.30	

If you are not a member, and want to be, your subscription must be received by October 9th to be included in the draw at the AGM.

Thanks have to be offered to Barry Martin, who has organised CLUB 100 without cost to the Trust since it's inception in 1997.

Barry is obviously a glutton for punishment as he would like to have even more CLUB 100 members to administer.

Why not call him on 01908 312239 to get a membership application.

Council Matters

January

➢ Gregg Bisgrove agreed to be the Trust's Grants Officer.

> Council discussed the Dacorum Plan which includes a section about the Grand Union Canal.

Little Tring Bridge will have a brick-faced soffit

February

➢ Herts Branch IWA have in excess of £21,000 to donate to WAT.

➢ The Inland Waterways Preservation Society will walk the Arm on Sunday October 3rd as part of their Chiltern Weekend.

➢ Trust members continue to give talks to interested parties. Next, by Roger Leishman is at Hatfield Cricket Club on March 16th

March

➢ The Trust will hold an informal barbecue in June in the dry bed of the canal at Little Tring

► IWA Herts will release their £21,000 donation whenever needed.

> A Volkswagen FWD Transporter (a 'pickup truck') has been purchased by a member and donated to the Trust.

April

> The Trust's pickup truck will be comprehensively insured.

➢ First towpath wall pour will take place in April, before the next Forum meeting with local councillors. > IWA Herts are happy to see their $\pounds 21,000$ donation used for the 75 metres of restoration between lock and bridge, with a suitable plaque as a permanent record.

May

Ron Pittaway has accepted honorary Trust membership for his materials procurement work.

➢ Restoration work on the towpath wall was delayed due to poor weather.

> A full week of work is planned in July, to include two weekends.

June

Barry Martin has produced an information pack suitable for the Trust Information Box at Bulbourne.

➤ The Rothschild Foundation has declined to offer a grant to the Trust.

July

> There was no Council meeting in July

Aug

Poor weather has hindered the 12day restoration working party.

> Council agreed to assist BW with funding an Environmental Impact Study.

➤ Council agreed the WAT should hold another Festival in Y2000



Wendover Arm Trust

Reg. Office: 3 Brampton Court, Bradville, Milton Keynes, MK13 7HR A non-profit distributing company limited by guarantee. Registered in England number 2353392 Incorporated 1989. Registered charity number 801190

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