

Wendover Arm News

Newsletter of the Wendover Arm Trust



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2009 Festival a Great Success

The terrible weather in 2007 and 2008 prompted the decision to make this year's Festival a three-day event. At least we were likely to have one decent day, weren't we?



Lifeboat Launching at Little Tring

As it turned out, we had three great days of sunshine, with the crowds of visitors we had been used to in earlier years.

Saturday was to be the 'unknown' in terms of visitor numbers, as we had not opened on a Saturday before. The opening time was set for midday to allow traders etc time to set up the same morning. At 11.45 a queue was already forming at the gate, and as the day wore on it was clear that the fine weather had attracted the sort of crowd we would have been happy with on a normal Sunday.

Sunday proved to be a similarly busy, so much so that the planned Steam Traction Engine procession had to be cancelled – there were simply too many people around for safety.

Monday was a bit slow in getting busy as the weather started overcast, but it soon brightened up and the crowds came, once more.

One great success (from the organiser's view) was the use of hired steel fencing around the site. The panels were delivered to site and collected from the field afterwards. That meant we did not have the backbreaking task of loading, fetching and unloading over a hundred rolls of chestnut paling, nor of planting the temporary posts needed to form the fence. In fact the whole site was fenced in under 2½ hours – a job that had previously taken a whole day.

James Griffin (owner of Wyvern Shipping Co Ltd) had the great idea of having sponsored launches of his model RLNI Lifeboat into the canal. He raised £144, and had great fun do so!



Can't we get any closer?

... there were 129 boats at the event

Another novel activity was the opportunity to see maggot racing (yes, maggots!) in the Bar Marquee during the Festival. Thanks!

Everything for the Festival was as expected – including the (by now) traditional lack of water in the canal. Boats arriving beforehand (and there were 129 boats at the event) found it more than usually difficult to get in to the side to moor safely. In fact whole sections of the Arm near the site could only support mooring along one side – there wasn't enough depth of water to allow boats to moor on both sides of the canal.

The situation did improve through the weekend by virtue of almost continual pumping from the pump station at Little Tring. In fact by Monday morning it seemed as though the tide had come in.

So how well did the Festival do, financially? Many contributions and some bills take a while to be sorted out after the event, and it is too soon for a precise figure to be given. However the unusual sight of our Treasurer with a wide grin on his face gives a clue to the fact that we did very well. Estimates range from £40,000 to £45,000 as the contribution to restoration funds. That goes some way towards making up for the losses of the last two years.

Judging by gate receipts, we didn't get additional visitors by opening Saturday. However, the extra day meant that all the various tasks could be finished with less stress, and the extra day meant we had a greater chance of good weather at least some of the time. Of course, our costs also rose with the extra day.

The clear up day Tuesday started wet, but not wet enough to dampen the spirits of all of us involved in the event. By 5.00 pm Tuesday the casual visitor would have been challenged to find any evidence that there had been an event there at all.

So what about next year? How about this for logic? Last year's two day event – result lousy. This year's three day event – result great.

Does that mean a 4 day event next year (only joking, honest!)

Photos were supplied by C Sargeant and are of this year's event.



Tring Canal Festival - the Feedback

Visitor's feed back on the festival, as measured by the feedback forms in each programme, was generally good. Of the 34 responses received (excluding traders), the spread was

Waste of	Reasonable	Could do	Great Day
Time	Value	Better	Out
1	1	13	23

Comments range from:

'Excellent, as usual', and 'Lovely Festival. Great weather and lots to do all round' and 'Fantastic – well worth the trip', through to the more critical 'Couldn't believe the extortionate prices to get in!!, and 'Not enough country crafts'.

The Trust Tea Tent came in for special mention in several of the responses, including 'Tea tent excellent value with good cakes, pastries' and 'The tea marquee was welcoming and reasonable prices'.

Some other suggestions for improvement include:

- More and better road signage 'Didn't know where the site was. Nearly went to Wendover'
- Better Web-based publicity 'Looking on the internet however, we only managed to find a poster online on What's On Dunstable Today'
- Better Programme distribution 'Program not accessible; should be issued on the gate or a big sign'
- Fewer fairground rides 'it is a canal festival not a fairground'
- Where was the trip boat?'
- · PA system could be improved disperse speakers over the site'
- 'Keep the arena free of vehicles and stalls preventing proper viewing'
- · 'Could do with a big banner at road entrance'
- 'It would be nice to go on some canal boats'

All in all the comments were complimentary. Criticisms which had more than two mentions included:

- Road signage needing improvement
- · Better pre-event publicity (excluding newspaper ads)
- · High admission price, especially considering many things were extra cost
- · Beer too expensive

· Improve programme distribution

You can see all the responses and the detailed comment on our website, www.wendoverarmtrust.co.uk

Most of the traders seemed to have had a successful time, too. Comments returned by them include:

- 'One-man band increased sales & atmosphere within tent'
- · 'Keep crafts tent for crafts'
- 'Excellent you thought of everything right down to suppliers coffee/teas'
- · 'Well organised by nice friendly people'
- 'There could have been more stalls in the marquee, but variation of the stalls was very good'
- · 'Best show we have done this year'
- · 'Road signs were very poor. Number of loos excellent and very clean'
- · 'I was in constant demand. My face painting was well appreciated'

If you visited the festival, and have a view which you want to share, you can also download the response form from the website and send it to us to be added to the survey.



BLOCKAID Status

Including the BLOCKAID donations made at the Festival, donations add up to £9,009. There have been 199 BLOCKAID donors, and if the trend continues, the total donated is likely to exceed £10,000 by the time the donations reach 250.

In fact, by factoring in the 28% Gift Aid, donations have already reached well over £10,000!

BLOCKAID leaflets have gone to Friends of Tring Reservoirs, and IWA North & East London for distribution with their newsletters, and more donations are already arriving. In addition to the printed version, our leaflet is also being circulated to other organisations as a downloadable pdf file, for those who get their newsletters electronically.

It is really heartening and gratifying to receive donations from people who are not members, who live some way away, and who are simply responding to an appeal. Some donations are quite generous, into the £hundreds. It also seems that the higher the donation, the more likely it is that the donor wants his or her name kept private.

If you belong to a club or organisation that you believe may be willing to distribute our leaflet, please let us know at fundraising@wendoverarmtrust.co.uk or by phone or surface post. We will do the rest.



Gift Aid

Gift Aid is claimed on any donation where the donor asks for it to be done. This includes simple donations, BLOCKAID donations, and some donations made when renewing membership.

Current GIFTAID status for the current year (as of Jun 6th):

Donations
Total Donated
Total suitable for Gift Aid
Total including Gift Aid

190 **£8,631**

£6,758 (at 28% = £1,892) £10.523

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Happy Birthday to Us

We are 20 this year! First there was the Wendover Arm Group. Then there was WAT – Wendover Arm Trust.

There are still a few non-members who think the Wendover Arm is a pub on the canal, and there may be some members who wish it were! However a glance at the list of just some of the Trust's achievements shows that a lot has happened over the years:

- · Scrub clearance from the early days onwards to reveal the towpath and then the canal bed.
- Building up funds to pay for Little Tring Bridge to be rebuilt.
- Construction of several hundred yards of canal, including a valuable winding hole, so that boats can now
 use the whole of the 'wet bit' properly at the Tring end.
- Raising (and spend!) some £400,000
- Recorded more than £500,000 in matched funding** hours all can be set against external grants.
- Working 'behind the scenes' with British Waterways on the successful Public Enquiry for the Aston Clinton Bypass canal crossing proposal.
- Gaining self-certification for Health and Safety practices from BW.

Now, here's the challenge:

Next year the Trust is 21 years old. We should not let the year pass without a suitable celebration of all the hard work put in and successes achieved in that time. What event or events should we plan to mark the anniversary?



Ideas could include a Party/Picnic (on the dry canal bed?), a Civic Reception, a new Trust Publication, a Sponsored Walk. We should start planning now if we are to put something together for next year. What is <u>your</u> suggestion? Do let us know – any idea is welcome.

You can send your idea to chairman@wendoverarmtrust.co.uk, or by writing to WAT Chairman, 467 Bideford Green, Linslade, Beds, LU7 2TZ.

* The nominal value in £'s of volunteer labour can be used as 'matched funding' for external grants etc. e.g. we get £1000 from a provider if we can show we have invested a similar amount in labour value.

Competition Time

We are looking for a picture to put on the front of our 2009 Christmas card which we sell to make money for our charity. The image, be it a photograph, painting, drawing, on any other artistic medium that can be turned into a .jpeg file, must be on the theme of 'The Wendover Arm Canal at Christmas time'.

Competition entries must be in by September 15th to allow for judging and printing.

The winner will be given 5 packs of 10 cards and will have their name and contact phone number or email address/web site (if wanted) printed on the reverse of each card.

The canal is a wonderful resource for our area and we know that there are beautiful pictures of the canal out there. We also know that there are photographers and artists who are inspired by the canal and can show a wider audience just how beautiful our canal and the wildlife around it can be.

Please submit entries, no later than 15th September to Jill Pearce, 15 Halton Village, Nr Aylesbury, HP22 5NS or as an email attachment to jill@brutonpearce.co.uk. For hard copy, please enclose a suitable stamped addressed envelope if you want the art work returned. By sending in an entry, you are stating that you own the copyright to the picture and that you are giving us permission to use the picture for the purposes as above.

If there are any questions, please contact Jill via the email address as above.

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2009 Festival Grand Draw Result

The Grand Draw at the 20th Tring Canal Festival raised £2,444 after expenses, all of which goes towards restoration.

	prize	donated by	won by	ticket no.
1 st	A week's Holiday on a Canal Boat	Wyvern Shipping Company	Wilkinson	9561
2 nd	Hot Air Balloon Flight	WAT, supported by Adventure Balloons	Hutchinson	3863
3 rd	One Day Hire of Canal Day Boat	Grebe Canal Cruise	Morris	8040
4 th	£50 Gift Voucher	Elegance Fashion Leighton Buzzard	Ager	2397
5 th	Picnic Set	Barry & Beryl Martin	Slade	9545
6 th	Egyptian Cotton Towel Bale	Johanna Wheal	Carl & Jen	3176
7 th	Teddy Bear & Perfume	Anon.	Chambers	8994
8 th	Bottle of Fine Wine	Anon.	Upton	5608
9 th	Men's Holdall with toiletries	Keefe & Gordon	Peter	8923
10 th	Men's aftershave selection	Keefe & Gordon	Daisy	9561

Many thanks to all our sponsors, and to all who bought and also encouraged others to buy tickets.

We are already on the lookout for suitable prizes for next year's Draw; if you have anything suitable, or have any suggestions, we would love to hear from you.

She knows it is early, but Johanna is also asking if you have any prizes suitable for our Raffle at the AGM in the Autumn (date t.b.a.), please contact her on 07789 853250. Here is your chance to donate your unwanted Birthday or Christmas presents, without all that ebay© hassle!

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WAT Membership (Jun 2009)

Total number of memberships 472

Total number of members 716

Nine memberships were deemed to have lapsed due to non-payment of subscriptions.



GIFT Aid

For the second half of the tax year ending 5th April 2009, the amount of Gift Aid claimable was £1971.01



CLUB 100 (April 2009)

The 47th CLUB 100 Prize Draw was held at the Council Meeting on 15th April 2009, with 86 eligible shares.

The winners were:

Prize	Winner	Amount	
First	J Brice	£103.20	
Second	Mr D Ager	£43.00	
Third	Mr S J Green	£17.20	

The next CLUB 100 Prize Draw will be in July 2009. Will you be part of it?



Significant Donors

Since the last newsletter there have been various generous donations towards the restoration. Some have been simple donations; others have been made in response to our BLOCKAID appeal. Most private donations are gift aided, meaning the Trust will get a further 28% from HMRC (tax authorities).

- A donor who wished to remain anonymous gave £700 towards BLOCKAID
- Northants IWA gave £200 in lieu of a plaque (bridge plaque)
- IWA North and East London made a donation of £500
- Another donor gave £400 as a donation
- Another donor who wished to remain anonymous gave £1,000, towards PCs and Projectors
- A members widow gave over £1,000 from her husband's estate, towards a new pickup truck
- A speaker to Aylesbury Canal Society donated his £100 fee to WAT
- An anonymous donor gave £200 to BLOCKAID



Bridge Plaques

By April, 142 Bridge Plaques (59 large and 83 small) have been sponsored. All but one are installed.



Restoration Update May Working Party

The Stage 1 mooring wall was backfilled and the bank leading to the wing walls blended in at each end.

The banks at each end of the mooring wall were blended in to the wing walls with concrete, one end over the weekend, the other at Pete Bowers' weekday working party.

The offside bank was graded to final profile so as to be able to line this length for the public to see work in progress over the Festival weekend.

On Saturday and Sunday KESCRG took on the task of laying the 50 metre blinding for the mooring wall that is an extension of the offside wing wall at Bridge 4. They made an excellent job of this using an excavator and our large mixer on site for concrete.

Many thanks to KESCRG, we do value your regular visits to our restoration site.

We also continued cutting Bentomat, both at the weekend and at Pete Bowers' weekday working party – the new cutting platform has vastly improved this operation.

Over the weekend we welcomed the visitors from Kingdom Tours of Aylesbury during which they were able to walk from Wendover to Buckland Wharf on Saturday and on Sunday going from Bulbourne to Little Tring by trip boat, a visit to Tringford Pumping Station and then walk from Little Tring to Buckland Wharf, seeing restoration in progress at first hand. This was the first organised trip boat visit to the Arm since the completion of Phase I that allowed a wide beam boat to 'wind' in the basin at Little Tring.

As restoration is so far behind due to weather conditions, it was decided to carry on with work at Drayton Beauchamp over the Festival as well as manning the restoration display stand in the Trust Marquee and running the mini-bus trips to Drayton Beauchamp.

- · Profiling was completed on the offside up to the east end of the mooring wall,
- · Bentomat was laid on the towpath bank together with blocks and coir rolls up to the mooring wall,
- A further 20 metres of bed lining was completed bringing lining almost up to the mooring wall,
- Bentomat was laid on the offside bank nearly up to the east end of the mooring wall and all bottom blocks laid and most of the blocking above completed as well as coir rolls until we ran out of rolls.

Roger Leishman



Completed works at Drayton Beauchamp after the Festival working party

At the Festival we were able to treat the weeds at Whitehouses to stop further growth and strim the front. We were not able to strim any further thanks to the thieves who raided our store at Tringford and stole the strimmer.

June weekday working party

Pete Bowers and his helpers bent reinforcement and rolled 4 metre lengths of Bentomat that they cut in May onto cores that were released during the Festival.

July Working Party

Ray Orth is hoping for enough volunteers to profile the 1 in 3 slope in front of the mooring wall and line it with the 3 metre wide strips of Bentomat covered with concrete blocks.

August Working Party

This is our 'working week' when we hope to make great inroads into the lining from the mooring wall to the end of Stage 1. Apart from profiling both banks, lining them with Bentomat, laying concrete blocks with coir rolls and spoil above, lining the bed and covering it with spoil, we will have to fence the towpath off from the mooring wall to the end of Stage 1.

If Ray can complete the lining of the slope in front of the mooring wall in July, the first operations will be to rough out and profile both banks and place the first Bentomat lining on the towpath bank next to the mooring wall. By Monday it is planned to use ready-mix concrete to fill the gap between the wall and the blocks, 'sculpt' the transition from bank to mooring wall at both ends plus a sleeping policeman and then to use as much spoil as possible to cover the Bentomat bed lining up to the end of the mooring wall as well as placing spoil above the coir rolls.

Once the end of the mooring wall has been reached, 20m of both banks that have been profiled will be lined with Bentomat, blocked and coir rolled and then the profiling/lining process repeated until we run out of days!

In with this issue

Buckinghamshire Life published this article for their Christmas edition. It sums up the whole restoration quite well, especially for anyone not familiar with the project.





Coir rolls

Coir rolls are used on the sides of the restored canal wall, above the concrete blocks and below the compacted earth infill, to give a stable base for the sloping sides.

The coir is placed roughly where the water level will be, and forms an ideal medium for vegetation growth. It is expected that by the time the coir naturally rots away (it takes some years), waterside plant root growth will stabilise the bank.

We need many hundreds of coir rolls, which would prove very costly if we buy them locally in the UK from a distributor. Our supplies manager Ron Pittaway sourced the supply of coir rolls direct from the original manufacturer in India at roughly two thirds the cost of buying them here. In fact a full load would have cost somewhat under £10,000 if sourced in the UK whereas our cost by importing direct from the manufacturer is less than £6,000.



Rolls unloaded and stacked

There is enough to complete one stage of restoration so this delivery will keep us in business until we are into Stage 2. The delivery arrived at the Little Tring site on the morning of 9th June, after a reshipment from Antwerp, and the usual Customs and VAT shenanigans.



Job Done!

Some 350 rolls needed unloading from the container, but thanks to an advance warning via the Restoration Newsletter, enough volunteers were on hand to unload and stack the rolls neatly ready for use. The occasion warranted a group photo of the usual suspects!. Ron is in the middle (white helmet).

The delivery was keenly anticipated, and our Indian suppliers had kept us well informed about the route the rolls had taken (re-routed via the Cape) and what to expect in terms of admin and paperwork.

In the event, the rolls were delivered without a hitch, and we were pleasantly surprised to find each roll separately wrapped to keep them safe.

WAT Wishes (4 to 6)

In the last newsletter we published the first three choices in our WAT Wishes list. This does not mean they are our favourites, only that they are the first on the list.

Within days of the list's publication WAT Member P Lea had donated the cost of a new water pump, and shortly afterwards another member R Hope donated money which was used to buy a second pump.

P & S Marine (who donate a boat lift to the boater's raffle at the Festival) saw our item on WAT Wishes and donated a useful generator.

Yet another donor has indicated that money coming to the Trust from her husband's estate should be earmarked towards the cost of a new utility vehicle.

Our thanks go to all the above.

Of course, if any one of the items listed became an absolute necessity, we would have to spend our funds to buy it. However we prefer to spend our money on restoration materials, and our restoration team is therefore asking you if you know where we can obtain the items on our list for low or no cost.

There are nine items currently listed, the second three are:

	Disc Cutter (Cutting Wheel)	Lap Top Computer (2 off)	Digital Projector (2 off)
Specification	2 Stroke Petrol Driven 12" or 14" disc size	Windows operating system Minimum memory/hard disk specs Good battery system	High power brightness for displaying to large groups of people
Supplier	Various, eg Partener, Makita	Any PC Store, Any make	Any PC Store, Any make
Use	Cutting reinforcing rods, steel shuttering, steel bolts, and concrete blocks to fit	Driving projection system for WAT Talks 2 needed to cover talks demand	Projection system for WAT Talks 2 needed to cover talks demand
Cost	£450 - £550	£350 + each	£500 + each
Sponsorship Possibility	Sponsor details on attached label Worksite sponsors display panel	Sponsor details on attached label Sponsor's display screen on slide show	Sponsor details on attached label Sponsor's display screen on slide show
Comment	Alternatively a used cutter in good condition	New, or serviceable used unit	Alternatively a used Projector in good condition

If you have any of the above items you want to donate, please contact Ray Orth on 01494 786868.

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Break-In at Little Tring

The Trust store at Tringford Pumping Station was broken into between Pete Bowers' working party on May 14th and Ray Orth visiting the store the following day. Items stolen included two poker vibrator engines, two new recently donated water pumps, a diesel driven hydraulic breaker, a strimmer and six disposable cameras left by Barry Martin for sale at the Festival.

At the same time the BW oil store (with a high security lock!) was broken into by destroying the staple. It appears that there was a local crime wave because a chemist in Tring was burgled, four or five cars parked above Little Tring Bridge and cars in the Wilstone Reservoir car park were also broken into.

The police were called but it is unlikely that anything will be recovered. We are now in the process of making an insurance claim.

All stolen items will be replaced as necessary, and it is not expected that the thefts will hold up the restoration work unduly.

Alternative arrangements are being made for storing valuable or specialised plant, in future.

One result from the theft was that it gained widespread publicity in the local Tring press. The thefts were covered in a front page article which went on to extol the Festival which was held later the same week.

This publicity certainly helped to swell the attendance at the Festival, so while a break-in is not welcome, it did have some positive outcome.



Christmas is a-Coming!

Sorry to spring this on you, but we are now closer to next Christmas than the last one.

Think of all the mass produced shop-bought cards you will be getting. Now think of the (probably many fewer) hand-made cards you will be sending. Why not get your individually hand made card from WAT, and help our funds at the same time?

Our Sales Manageress Jill Pearce is asking for any member who makes their own Christmas cards, or who knows someone who does, to donate a couple to the Trust for sale.

Donated cards will be on sale at our AGM in October, at the Wendover Winter Charity Market, on 5th Dec, or direct from her in Halton. Details will also be on the Trust website.

Hand-crafted cards can be very attractive, or very simple. By accepting cards from different Trust members, it is hoped that a wide variety of designs will be available.

Jill says

'Many people make Christmas Cards nowadays and if all members can source a couple or more each, either by personally making them or from friends who are into card making, then I will have a great range.

I was thinking that they could either post them to me (they will probably need a Large stamp) or hand them in at the AGM, then I will have a lovely selection to sell at the Christmas Market. Ideally they will be given to me in a glassine envelope as they are much better protected that way, but if this is not possible I will be pleased to accept them.'

Furthermore, apart from the satisfaction of seeing your design and handiwork on view for all to see, you will know that all the income from the sale of cards will go towards the Restoration.

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WANTED

Two positions are now, or soon will be, available in Trust Council.

Chairman

Candidate willing to:

- Chair Monthly Trust Meetings
- Represent the Trust at external functions and to external organisations
- · Be an ex-officio member of the Restoration, Fundraising, and Festival Committees
 - Lead the Trust in terms of new initiatives.

The post will become vacant at the next AGM. A new Chairman(woman) will be voted in by Council at the first available Council meeting after that.

Website Designer

The Trust is looking for an experienced website designer to undertake a comprehensive revision of the Trust's web presence. Much of the preparatory work has been completed, or is underway. At this stage it is not necessarily expected that the designer takes ongoing responsibility for maintaining the revised website(s)

A comprehensive website specification has been agreed by Trust Council.

Please contact webmaster@wendoverarmtrust.co.uk if you are able to fill either of these posts

Who's Who

Wendover Arm Trust Council

Chairman	Bob Wheal	01525 381614	.chairman@wendoverarmtrust.co.uk
Vice Chairman & Restoration Director	Roger Leishman	01442 874536	rleishman@ukgateway.net
Hon Sec	John Rowe	01442 862619	johnm.rowe@virgin.net
Treasurer	John Brooman	01296 623542	treasurer@wendoverarmtrust.co.uk
Restoration			
H&S Co-ordinator.	Ray Orth	01494 786868	ray.orth@btinternet.com (NEW!)
Fundraising Director	Bob Wheal	01525 381614	fundraising@wendoverarmtrust.co.uk
Publicity	Nigel Williams	01844 353927	publicity@wendoverarmtrust.co.uk
Newsletter Editor	vacant	could you fill this	space ?
Membership/Gift Aid	Katherine Deaney	01442 246 523	membership@wendoverarmtrust.co.uk
Trust Archivist	Barry Martin	01296 630599	BMartinTurner@aol.com
Festival Chairman	Graeme Lockhart	01525 374761	festival@wendoverarmtrust.co.uk
BW Nominee	John Kearsey	01908 302573	John.Kearsey@britishwaterways.co.uk
IWA Nominee	Peter Winter	01494 813338	tyke1946@hotmail.com
Minutes Secretary	Margaret Leishman	01442 874536	rleishman@ukgateway.net

Non-Council Officers

Trust Sales	Jill Pearce	01296 624472	sales@wendoverarmtrust
Trust Website	Robert Drury	01296 631121	robertjdrury@yahoo.co.uk

Festival Committee

Graeme Lockhart (Chair), Graham and Rosemary Bennett, John Brooman, Lesley Deverill, Max Deverill, Andy Januszewski, Keith Jones, Denise Laxton, Dave and Jo Leeson, David Page, Bob Wheal, Dot Zasadzka

Contact: festival@wendoverarmtrust.co.uk

Funding Committee

Bob Wheal (Chair), David Andrew, Rosemary Bennett, ,John Brooman, Peter Cleasby, James Clifton, Kevin Day, Robert Drury, Sue Hetherington, Roger Leishman, Ray Orth, John Rowe

Contact: fundingraising@wendoverarmtrust.co.uk

Restoration Committee

Roger Leishman (Chair), John Brooman, Eddie Evans, John Kearsey, Jon Kelly, Margaret Leishman, Ray Orth, Ron Pittaway, Bob Wheal,

Contact: via Roger Leishman (see above) or restoration@wendoveramtrust.co.uk

General Contact Info

Website: www.wendoverarmtrust.co.uk

Mail: c/o Fox Meadow, Water End Lane, Potten End, Berkhamsted HP4 2SH

Cover: Tring Canal Festival 2005 in full swing © H Matraves