

# Wendover Arm News

*Newsletter of the Wendover Arm Trust*



*Issue 2011/2  
Summer 2011*

*Price £1 where sold  
Free to members*



Front cover—decorated boats moored on the Grand Union at the Boxmoor Festival

## In This Issue

We revisit the very successful Boxmoor Festival, Graeme Lockhart and his team can be justifiably proud of all the hours of hard work they have put in organising this vital event to fund the restoration. We have a little look at how the wildlife is getting on in the areas where restoration is complete. We mention the lucky club 100 winners, give notice of the Christmas card image contest, John Brooman, Honorary Treasurer gives an account of where all this money we raise has gone. Formal notice of the forthcoming AGM is given, there will be a reminder in the next newsletter.

There is news of forthcoming mooring enforcements and further news of the progress of the restoration.

All letters please to...

The Editor,  
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HP20 1RW

Email and phone details on the back page.



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## Members show that every little counts...

Following Katherine's appeal in the previous edition, she was delighted with the response from Trust members who have signed up to the email service for membership communication. This has already made a big difference to the amount of money spent on postage. It is never too late to join, simply email Katherine at [membership@wendoverarmtrust.co.uk](mailto:membership@wendoverarmtrust.co.uk) and receive email reminders when your membership is due for renewal.

We have also seen a big increase in the number of members transferring to standing order payments. This is the only way to guarantee that your membership does not lapse, and saves us time and money running the Trust, so

more can be spent directly on restoration. If you would like to move to standing order payment, contact Katherine on the email above, or phone 01442 246523. If you have internet banking, simply set up a payment online and relax, it's all done. Alternatively, complete the mandate form and send to your bank.

Lastly, for those members who are not on email, thank you for sending self addressed envelopes with your renewal cheques. Although this may seem a small gesture, each one saves 40p! You can see that with everyone doing their bit, every little counts and it adds up to making a big difference to restoration funds!

## Club 100 Draw Winners — Spring 2011

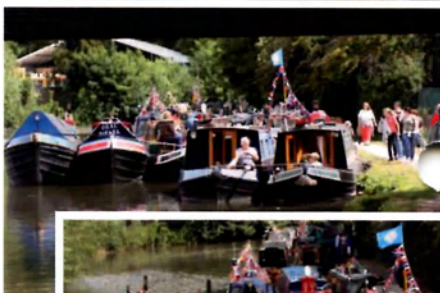
There were 135 subscribers in this draw—the prizes were...

1st	£162.00	Mrs P. Wheatcroft
2nd	£67.50	Mrs J. Wheal
3rd	£27.00	Mr R. Everet

## Gift Aid Updated

At the end of the second half of the financial year 2010/11, the total amount claimable was over £1200. At the start of the new financial year 2011/12, the total gift aid claimable so far is already over £1000.





## Boxmoor Canal Festival—A Triumph of Organisation!

The Boxmoor Canal Festival proved there was something for everyone to enjoy. There were bands, falconry, dog obedience displays, Punch and Judy, circus skills with clowns and jugglers, traction engines, fire engines, numerous stalls and last but not least the colourful narrow boats with their bunting.

A 'first timer' to the festival, said she thought it was a wonderful day out, with so much to see and do. There was a very friendly 'buzz' of excitement and of people enjoying themselves. An excellent day out for the family.

The traction engines in their magnificent poses were a great attraction for both young and old. The smell of hot oil and steam a great fascination.

The fire engines always an attraction for the children. But not so much in this case, the dogs appeared to be having a great time chasing in and out of the water spraying from the hoses.

Always a popular stall is the cake and produce stall. This was led by Margaret Leishman and her very willing helpers, who looked splendid in their 'boaters and aprons'. Thanks must not only go to all the

volunteers, but also to everyone who very kindly donated cakes and produce to sell. This stall certainly made a healthy profit—it looks like £639.10p this year!

The tea tent was constantly busy and partakers of tea were wonderfully entertained by a very accomplished 'one-man-band'. On a warm day the beer tent proved a good place to stop to try local real ales. Entertainment from singers was enjoyed.

The narrow boats looked splendid in their bunting and were moored up to 5 abreast. Rides on the trip boat were very popular. For those who were not so familiar with narrow boats, people could look around one or two and see just how they were kitted out. Always a fascination.

The clowns and jugglers proved a big hit with both children and adults as they showed their skills in the arena and walking through the crowds. A popular activity for children was face painting, so there were lots of 'lions and tigers' walking around the festival!!

A great deal of hard work was put into making this a very successful Festival, by so many people. Enormous thanks must go to Graeme

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Lockhart and his team. It will be a while before the Trust will know just how much money has been raised, but John Brooman, the

Trust Treasurer said there are indications that this event will definitely be in profit.

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## Last Chance to be in the Grand Draw

There's still time to take part in this year's Grand Draw! The Draw will take place at the Linslade Canal Festival, on 30th July, with the lucky winners will be phoned straight after the draw has taken place.

You can still buy tickets - if you have them still from the last newsletter mailing, simply send them to me before the end of July. If you don't have any tickets you can send me your cheque with an email address or just your name and a phone number, and I will allocate tickets to you and let you know the numbers. Either way don't forget to include your name and phone number!

Ticket stubs and monies to: WAT Grand Draw, c/o 467 Bideford Green, Linslade, Beds., LU7 2TZ.

Many Thanks, Bob

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## Wildlife Watch

During June I took some time out to visit phase 1 of the project to see how the wildlife is settling in.



Whilst sitting opposite the reed beds in the winding hole I was able to see all manner of birdlife in there. It was good to see the uneasy truce between moorhens

and mallards is constantly being tested and to watch the swallows swooping above together with little gulls and terns—ever watchful. Stage 1 of Phase 2 looks as if it



has been there for ever now, completely tranquil — only bird song to disturb the peace.

## Christmas Card Picture Comp

After the success of the competition in 2009, which attracted an extraordinarily high standard of photos and paintings, we are looking for an image to put on the front of our 2011 Christmas card which we sell to raise funds to restore the canal. The image, be it a photograph, painting, drawing, or 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'. It can be one individual image or a montage suitable for either portrait or landscape presentation.

Competition entries must be in by September 15<sup>th</sup> 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 it and can show a wider audience just how beautiful our canal, and the wildlife around it, can be.

Please submit entries, no later than 15<sup>th</sup> September to

Jill Pearce,  
15 Halton Village,  
Nr Aylesbury,  
HP22 5NS

or as an email attachment to  
[jill@brutonpearce.co.uk](mailto:jill@brutonpearce.co.uk).

For hard copy, please enclose a suitable stamped addressed envelope if you want the art work returned. By submitting an entry, you are stating that you own the copyright to the picture and that you are giving The Wendover Arm Trust full and unlimited permission to use the picture for the purposes as above and any other promotional efforts in the future.

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

## NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the twenty second Annual General Meeting of the Wendover Arm Trust will be held at the Aston Clinton Sports and Social Club, Aston Clinton, Buckinghamshire on Wednesday 27th. October 2011 commencing at 7.30 pm.

### AGENDA

1. Apologies for Absence.
2. Minutes of the 21st Annual General Meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup>. October 2010.
3. Chairman's Report.
4. Individual Trustees' Reports.
5. Honorary Treasurer's Report.
6. To receive and, if thought fit, approve the report of the Committee. (Council of Management).
7. To receive and, if thought fit, to approve the Income and Expenditure Account and Balance Sheet of the Trust for the Year ended on 5th April 2011, and the Report of the Independent Examiner thereon.
8. To appoint an Independent Examiner, as yet to be nominated.
9. To elect Members to the Council. (See Note 1 below).

By Order of the Council



John. M. Rowe.  
Secretary

Registered Office:  
66, Bryants Acre,  
WENDOVER.  
Bucks.  
HP22 6LA

1<sup>st</sup>. July 2011

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

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

Note 2. Any person being a member of the Trust is entitled to appoint a proxy to attend and vote on his 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.



## Cost of Restoration to the 5th April 2011

The Wendover Arm Trust has been actively restoring the un-watered section of the Wendover Arm for the last fourteen years since it was decided by the membership to spend the accumulated funds that had been built up since its conception.

The cost of yearly restoration has been published in the financial report of the Trust and distributed to the membership at the annual AGM, now perhaps it is time that a more detailed report of restoration costs is made known.

Funding for the restoration has been totally raised initially from the profits of the yearly Canal Festivals, from talks given by various members of the committee and through donations given to the Trust, by British Waterways and other canal orientated organisations as well as its own fund raising activities and individual private donations.

The Trust had been endeavouring to keep the scrub in the canal bed of the un-watered section down to a controllable level for many years along with making the tow-path accessible along its length. As this was undertaken by voluntary labour and required no expense to the Trust no figures were kept for this operation.

The Trust, under the leadership of its Restoration Director, Roger Leishman, started serious restoration in 1997 and in order to keep an exact track of the costs it was decided to allocate charge bases to specific sections of the restoration and budget and analyse the amounts spent. It was also agreed that any income generated directly as a result of restoration should be set to restoration. Furthermore it was agreed to split all indirect costs on a pro-rata basis to these charge bases.

As the Trust was applying for grants towards the restoration of the Arm not only was it essential to show the costs of the materials used but also the cost of the voluntary labour involved. Roger Leishman has collected together a band of volunteers whose hours spent on restoration have been religiously logged as part of the restoration's ongoing management control system, albeit on a calendar year basis. The rates used for volunteer labour are based upon the costs that would be charged on the open market. Restoration has also benefitted from the involvement of voluntary help from other canal restoration groups such as BITM, KESCRG and WRG

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Furthermore a Health and Safety manual has been written and is copied to all volunteers and is updated on a regular basis as and when new procedures require. As several of our volunteers have become extremely proficient in the use of the various forms of earth moving equipment there has been no need to hire in any outside labour.

## Phase 1

Phase 1 was made up of two parts, firstly the construction of Little Tring Bridge and secondly the reinstatements of the Canal from the stop lock to the newly formed winding hole.

The Bridge was designed and constructed under BWs watchful eye using outside contractors as this was beyond the scope of the restoration team.

The cost of the design and construction of Little Tring Bridge amounted to **£223,354.96** funded totally by the Trust.

The Trust applied for and was successful in obtaining a grant from the legacy left to the IWA by Tim Wilkinson of **£104,673.36**. This ensured that Phase 1 could be completed. Furthermore IWA branches had been raising money to help fund the re-watering of Phase 1 and over the course of many years raised the sum of **£35,051.22** towards Phase 1.

The total cost of Phase 1 to date, as there is ongoing remedial work to be done, was **£400,470.12**, the difference to be funded by the Trust.

## Phase 2

Certain amount of work on Phase 2 had been undertaken while completing Phase 1 but in the latter part of 2005 work commence in earnest only to find that the Trust had to reinstate two foot paths over the Canal. This involved the purchase and erection of two wooden structures as well as the necessary footings to accept these bridges. It was decided to offer plaques which could be mounted on either the bridge stanchions or on the bridge steps. The amount raised until the completion of the bridges along with grants from conservations groups was **£30,948.82**. The total cost of these two bridges including the ground work and concrete walls was **£46,665.37**, again the difference coming from Trust funds.

In 2005 BW agreed to allocate the money they had put aside for the replacing of the pipeline, which carried the water from the sump at Drayton Beauchamp, to the Trust on an annual basis. This money was to cover the cost of capping the pipeline and also to allow water to flow to the reservoir while restoration continued on Phase 2. To date this has amounted to **£183,509.03**.

Since the commencement of Phase 2, the Trust has received many donations specifically for restoration from the public, IWA branches, bridge plaques and many other sources and to date this has raised **£20,019.10**. Furthermore in 2008 the Blockaid scheme was launched and this has raised some **£16,589.35**.

To date the cost of Phase 2 is **£1,425.62..**

So what does this all mean. Well it means that the Trust has spent to date **£716,561.11** on re-watering Phase 1 and re-watering the two sections in Phase 2 and the continuing the bulk excavation and pipe capping to bridge 4A and that it has received through grants, donations specific to restoration and fund raising schemes **£360,809.14**

So how has this money been spent?

### Phase 1

	£
Tools & Equipment	4,692.38
Plant Hire and Fuel	56,751.74
Materials	314,509.80
Consumables	10,099.91
Administration	4,013.32
Publicity	976.24
Trust Vehicle	8,369.27
Environmental	<u>1,057.46</u>
Total	400,470.12

### Phase 2

	£
Tools & Equipment	4,861.18
Plant Hire and Fuel	135,020.33
Materials	146,606.13
Consumables	7,717.13
Administration	8,007.92
Publicity	3,126.51
Trust Vehicle	7,506.79
Environmental	<u>3,245.00</u>
Total	316,090.99

The Trust is indebted to its major suppliers, Morgan Plant Hire, Barton Petroleum, Harding Concrete, Hanson and many others, and to BW for all the help in arranging long term contracts with these and other suppliers.

As mentioned previously the other element of restoration is the labour to use all of this material as, other than the building of Little Tring Bridge, all the work has been carried out by the team of volunteers under the leadership of Roger Leishman and Ray Orth.

Joyce Smith, one of Roger's volunteers has undertaken the task of logging the total number of man hours spent on restoration and regularly updates, on a monthly basis, and to date this figure stands at **£572,000.00**

John Brooman

Hon Treasurer



## Mooring Restrictions to be Enforced on the Arm

There is a type of boater on the system who lives as cheaply as possible by mooring for long periods of time in one location then moving a short distance when challenged thus avoiding marina fees etc. Their boats tend to be in poor condition and their habits tend to be less than favourable.

added to the boat's account so that when the next licence is applied for the cost of overstaying the mooring will have to be paid. If the boat is unlicensed it is illegal and action can be taken to remove it.



With the opening of phase 1 an influx of these characters was seen on the Arm. In the past British Waterways (BW) has not been able to police them effectively and their nuisance value has increased to the point where action must be taken.

BW has now communicated their plans to your council via Ray Orth who has been working on this issue for a long period of time. Fundamentally mooring on the Arm will be restricted to 48 hours and if this restriction is exceeded then a cost of £25 per day will be

On arrival, the boat owner will be issued with a letter of welcome that includes places of local interest as well as reminding them of the time restrictions.

On the second day the owner will be given another letter that reminds them of the conditions of their stay.

If the boat is still there on the third day they will get a "red" letter advising them that they are now incurring a charge per day that will be added to their account.

## Restoration News

Our VW Transporter that was given to the Trust by Ron Pittaway in 1999 – first registered in 1991 – is now 20 years old. It recently underwent its annual service and MOT and only required a new windscreen washer pump to pass the MOT. However the garage warned us that two of the wheel bearings are showing signs of age and we are fearful that one day we will be without road transport, an absolute essential to our restoration work.

However there was a fairy god-mother in the form of British Waterways to hand. We have received from BW a “book expired” Ford

Transit tipper lorry with a seven man crew cab arising from their recent fleet renewals. The cab is in good order but the tipper body is in urgent need of attention and Eddy Evans suggested that this part of the vehicle should be grit blasted and re-painted. We are fortunate in that we had already received a donation towards a replacement for the VW and will be using this for the restoration of the tipper body. Ray Orth is going to organise Trust signs for the doors of the cab to replace the BW signs that were removed prior to our taking over the vehicle.



Roger Leishman, Restoration Director, proudly pilots our “new” wagon



## **New Volunteers are Always Needed**

Fancy getting your hands dirty? Contact Roger or Ray (details on the back page)

We are currently working 1 "weekend" per month. The weekends have been extended to 5 days so as to optimise use of hired plant and progress has been significant. Nobody is expected to work every day of the "weekend" and indeed the organisers insist that people have days off. It is generally the ones who are lucky enough to have retired that work the non Saturday and Sunday days of the "weekend" whilst those of us who still work full time try to turn out on the Sat/Sun. Having said that any time anyone can put in is much appreciated.

Being involved with a high quality project that you can see going forward and knowing that it is just a matter of time before significant milestones are achieved is very rewarding .

It is of vital necessity to the continued existence of the Grand Union Canal that a good supply of water is available at the Tring Summit and, as that is the prime purpose of the Arm, this project is not just to restore a beautiful section of canal so that it may be used for recreational cruising it is also an engineering must for the system.

## **Since the Spring Newsletter**

We last reported that pipe capping had almost reached the goal of the far side of bridge 4A. This has now been achieved allowing plant to access Stage 2 again.

Work has resumed on the mooring bay in stage 2, all but one of the base sections having been cast.

Bank profiling has commenced Stage 2 ready for lining operations to begin.

To back up this work, also in preparation for lining, sections of Bentomat have been cut and stored for when the lining activity can be started.

The mooring bay at bridge 4 has been completed and much of the spoil taken out from various other operations has been dumped behind it in anticipation of levelling the bank.

During May KESCRG (Kent and East Sussex Canal Restoration Group) continued with the work on Whitehouses exposing some new features of the underground archaeology. In addition to the previously exposed pumping shaft a new adit has been discovered however this has now been closed as it was rather dangerous.





Looking down the pumping shaft at Whitehouses



Phase 2 Stage 1 is looking well bedded in with the new spring growth



Phase 2 Stage 2 mooring bay base walls almost complete

# Wendover Arm Trust Council

<b>Chairman</b>	<b>Vacant</b>		
<b>Vice Chairman &amp; Restoration Director</b>	<b>Roger Leishman</b>	01442 874536	restoration@wendoverarmtrust.co.uk
<b>Hon Sec</b>	<b>John Rowe</b>	01442 862619	johnm.rowe@virgin.net
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>John Brooman</b>	01296 623542	treasurer@wendoverarmtrust.co.uk
<b>Assistant Restoration Director (Health &amp; Safety)</b>	<b>Ray Orth</b>	01494 786868	ray.orth@btinternet.com
<b>Fundraising Director</b>	<b>Bob Wheal</b>	01525 381614	funding@wendoverarmtrust.co.uk
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<b>Festival Chairman</b>	<b>Graeme Lockhart</b>	01525 374761	festival@wendoverarmtrust.co.uk
<b>Minutes Secretary</b>	<b>Margaret Leishman</b>	01442 874536	
<b>IWA Nominee</b>	<b>Jenny Brice</b>	01494 873298	jenny@johnbrice.co.uk
<b>Trust Website</b>	<b>Robert Drury</b>	01296 631121	webmaster@wendoverarmtrust.co.uk
<b>Co-opted member</b>	<b>John Reynolds</b>		scubajr@tiscali.co.uk

## Non-Council Officers

<b>Trust Sales</b>	<b>Jill Pearce</b>	01296 624472	sales@wendoverarmtrust
<b>Vice-President &amp; Trust Historian</b>	<b>Barry Martin</b>	0163544472	BMartinTurner@aol.com

## Festival Committee

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

Contact: festival@wendoverarmtrust.co.uk

## Funding Committee

Bob Wheal (Chairman), John Brooman, James Clifton, Robert Drury, Roger Leishman, Ray Orth, John Rowe, Philip Wareh

Contact: funding@wendoverarmtrust.co.uk

## Restoration Committee

Roger Leishman (Chairman), John Brooman, Eddy Evans, Jon Kelly, Margaret Leishman, Ray Orth, Ron Pittaway, Bob Wheal,

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

## General Contact Info

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