

## **Wendover Canal Trust – June 2023 Work Party Report**

The ten-day June work party started on 7<sup>th</sup> June. An extra Tidy-Friday day was arranged for 22<sup>nd</sup> June. WCT volunteers attended the Marsworth Steam Rally to run a 'Drive a digger' stand.

At the end of 11<sup>th</sup> May, our chairman received a request from Canal and River Trust which led to the following announcement:

Throughout our restoration we have always ensured that we adhere to relevant legislation, work closely with CRT, and have their approval for what we do and the methods used. CRT have asked us to pause work temporarily in order to carry out a joint review. The review is to ensure that current methods continue to meet latest environmental standards etc. This is being progressed as quickly as possible and we thank you for your patience and understanding meanwhile. We will keep you informed of progress.

Activities during the June work party were therefore very limited.

### **Health, Safety and Environment**

No accidents or near misses were reported during the work party. However, the extreme hot weather meant that work days were shortened and many 'comfort breaks' needed to be taken.

### **Canal lining.**

The green fencing along the towpath was taken down in sections and the towpath verge vegetation cut back.

The green fencing was put back with a gap at the bottom to allow CRT contractors the manage the towpath vegetation over the full width, i.e. 'hedge to edge'.



### **Green fence raised.**

### **Housekeeping jobs.**

A concrete base was cast for the new concrete mixer.

## Volunteer day with CRT

WCT volunteers spent a day carrying out work for CRT at Startops Reservoir. The gauge compound was cleared of vegetation. The vegetation around Lock 39 was cleared and the lock sides tidied.



**Startops Gauge**



**Lock 39**

## Tidy Friday Tasks.

A number of 'Tidy Friday' tasks were undertaken, including strimming around saplings and spreading wood mulch and mowing the paths at Whitehouses.

The additional day was spent mowing grass at Whitehouses.

## Training.

Hand tool training in the use of strimmers and the Hyundai mower was given.

## Visitors to site.

On Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> June the site was visited by Eoin Harris from CRT so that he could see the restoration work that WCT has been carrying out.

## Marsworth Steam Rally

6 volunteers from WCT attended the steam rally to run a drive a digger stand. The stand was very popular and allowed members of the public, both children and adults, to have a go at driving a mini-excavator.

## Outline plan for the July work party

A five-day work party will start on 10<sup>th</sup> July 2023. The work will be to continue with 'housekeeping' and 'Tidy Friday' tasks while the suspension from CRT remains in place.

M Bradley, 26<sup>th</sup> June 2023. V2

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