



THE WENDOVER ARM TRUST WORKING PARTY NEWS

ISSUE 102

April 2014



**PAUL LEECH
1942 - 2014**

Coming so soon after the death of our Treasurer, John Brooman, it was again with great sadness that we heard of the death of Paul Leech, our recently retired Chairman, in March. I had known Paul for many years as a fellow employee of British Rail and was delighted when he agreed to be Chairman of the Trust in 2012 albeit there were some concerns over his health. His illness caught up with him in late 2013 and he had no option but to resign. The Trust will miss his enthusiasm and extensive contacts in the waterways world. There will be a full obituary in the next edition of the Wendover Arm News.

March and April Working Parties

In March no work was possible on the relining but we were able to backfill the drainage ditch through Bridge 4A. It was at this point it was decided that the next step would be to lay the reinforced concrete pipe capping through the bridge narrows. The section through the bridge had been left out as the lining

through the bridge narrows is all concrete, no spoil. This is because the turbulence from propellers through narrow channels is likely to disturb spoil fill. As only 150mm(6") of concrete is required over the Bentomat against the 300mm (12") for spoil the pipe capping is cast 150mm(6") higher than normal and will overlap the capping already laid on either side of the bridge.

During March routine clearance of our storage site was undertaken including hiring a skip to get rid of rubbish. The hedge through the storage area was also trimmed back.

In April rough profiling of the banks was re-started and the first half of the pipe capping under Bridge 4A prepared ready for concreting as shown below.



Roger Leishman

Over the weekend of the April working party we were joined by KESCRG who continued their good work at Whitehouses as you can see below.



Roger Leishman

The picture of KESCRG at work was taken from the public viewing area that has been created at the end of the new footpath from Bridge 4. As you see below it is a very picturesque walk even though it is a dead end.



Roger Leishman

WENDING THROUGH WHITEHOUSES WOOD

May Working Party

Everything is ready to concrete the first half of the pipe capping under Bridge 4A on the Friday. Following this the second half of the pipe capping will be prepared for concreting on the Tuesday (no concrete on Monday as it is a Bank Holiday). The rest of the time will be taken up rough profiling both banks east of the bridge as it will be necessary to line about 20 metres past the bridge so as to be clear of the bund and finish at a join in the bed Bentomat.

KESCRG will be with us on the Saturday and Sunday continuing the good work at Whitehouses including clearing the site of rubbish and unusable materials.

June Working Party

Having completed the pipe capping through Bridge 4A we will now be in a position to re-commence lining work again and, when we reach Bridge 4A, will be able to line with Bentomat straight through without any delay.

Concrete blocks

It is very fortunate that we stocked up with enough solid concrete blocks to complete the next re-

watering as the present surge in house building has led to a dearth of blocks as they are in such great demand. Even Hanson, our normal suppliers, are not making any hollow concrete blocks at present as they are so busy producing solid blocks. We do need a few more hollow blocks but have been able to source these from our local supplier albeit at a higher cost.

6-monthly progress report

This seems to come around so quickly nowadays! The report is on page 4. I would draw your attention to the fact that although Stage 2 is to all intents complete there is a short length of bed lining to lay that cannot be completed until there is a full 20 metre stretch ready for laying a roll of Bentomat – a join and its sleeping policeman did not coincide with the junction of Stages 2 & 3.

General Notes

We operate as a self-supervising group under CRT and all volunteers receive and sign for the Trust's Restoration Handbook that includes full Health and Safety requirements for the restoration works. The handbook is the property of the Trust; if you leave the working parties for any reason, please return your Handbook to either Ray Orth or myself.

Hard hats for use at all times and high visibility jackets to be worn on sites with mobile plant in use are kept in the store at Tringford and must be drawn/returned there.

One first aid kit is kept in the store and one in the Nissan Cabstar and each qualified first-aider will have their own kit with him/her when on site.

Also available in the store at Tringford are ear defenders and goggles that must be worn when using trimmers, angle grinders, concrete breakers and the like. CRT will supply hard hats, gloves and footwear with reinforced toecaps on request.

We normally work from 9am to 5pm (or dark if earlier!). There are breaks for morning tea/coffee, packed lunch and afternoon tea/coffee. We take our own food and drink.

DATES FOR WORKING PARTIES

So you can plan your diary ahead, the following are the dates of future working parties in 2014:

DATE	WORKING AT	WORK TO BE DONE
2014		
Friday 2 nd May to Thursday 8 th May	Stage 3	Stage 3 lining; Pipe capping through Bridge 4A and rough profiling banks east of the bridge..
Saturday May 3 rd and Sunday May 4 th	Whitehouses	KESCRG weekend
Friday 6 th June to Thursday 12 th June	Stage 3	Stage 3 lining.
Friday 4 th July to Thursday 10 th July	Stage 3	Stage 3 lining.
Friday 1 st August to Thursday 8 th August	Stage 3	Stage 3 lining including concreting through Bridge 4A narrows.
Saturday 9 th August and Sunday 10 th August	Whitehouses	KESCRG weekend
Friday 5 th September to Thursday 11 th September	Stage 3	Stage 3 lining including concreting through Bridge 4A narrows. This was the target for the start of re-watering 450 more metres of canal but is now postponed to a later date.
Friday 3 rd October to Thursday 9 th October	Stage 3	Too early to say.
Friday 31 st October to Thursday 6 th November	Stage 3	Too early to say.
Friday 5 th December to Thursday 11 th December	Stage 3	Too early to say.

Roger Leishman, Restoration Director. 7 Hall Park, Berkhamsted, Herts HP4 2NU.
(Tel:01442 874536, e-mail rwleishman@gmail.com)

WENDOVER ARM CANAL RESTORATION PHASE II PROGRESS REPORT AS AT 5th APRIL 2014

CANAL LINING

Item	Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3	Stage 4	Stage 5	Stage 6	Stage 7	Total
Total length	321m	350m	350m	350m	350m	337m	-	
Complete to date:								
Bulk Excavation	321m	350m	128m				-----	
Capping to pipe	321m	350m	110m				-----	
Tipping to offside bank	321m	350m	110m				-----	
Tipping to towpath bank	321m	350m	110m				-----	
Profiling offside bank	321m	350m	15m				-----	
Profiling towpath bank	321m	350m	15m				-----	
Lining towpath bank	321m	350m	15m				-----	
Lining offside bank	321m	350m	15m				-----	
Level and line bed	321m	340m	15m				-----	
Planting banks	60m	-----	-----				-----	
Mooring wall length	50m	50m	-----	50m	50m	-----	237m	
Excavation	50m	50m	-----	50m		-----	10m	
Blinding	50m	50m	-----	50m		-----		
Wall base	50m	50m	-----	50m		-----		
Wall upright	50m	50m	-----	50m		-----		
Backfill	50m	50m	-----	50m		-----		
Estimated Cost	£128,272	£153,856	£175,000	£175,000	£166,250	£98,725	£53,725	£950,828
Cost to date/final	£128,272	£153,856	£44,256	£11,542	£571	£273	£633	£339,403

FOOTBRIDGES & VARIOUS OTHER WORKS

Item	Stage 8 Bridge 4	Stage 9 Bridge 4A	Stage 10 Whitehouses	Stage 11 Cart track Narrows	Stage 12 Removal of bunds	Stage 13 Winding Hole nose	Stage 14 Nuttalls Bund	Total
Footbridge	100%	100%	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	
Excavation	100%	100%	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	
Blinding	100%	100%	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	
Wall base	100%	100%	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	
Wall upright	100%	100%	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	
Backfill	100%	100%	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	
Heritage work	-----	-----	50%	-----	-----	-----	-----	
Other work	-----	-----	100%	-----	-----	-----	100%	
Estimated cost	£20,122	£20,031	£20,000	£20,000	£20,000	£10,000	3,501	£113,654
Cost to date/final	£20,122	£20,031	£14,666				3,501	£58,320

SUMMARY INCLUDING OVERHEAD COSTS

	Lining	F/bridges & other works	Clear bed, & Temp'y Works	Environ't Reports	Materials In stock	Admin	Tools & Equip't	Vehicle	Unallocated contingency	TOTAL
Estimated cost	£950,828	£113,654	£22,000	£3,245	£0	£35,000	£6,000	£20,000	£49,000	£1,199,727
Cost to date/final	£339,403	£58,320	£20,023	£3,245	£3,382	£24,165	£5,711	£15,309		£469,558

A red figure indicates a final cost/physical progress.

A green figure indicates a revised budget figure, either to match a finished cost or to give a re-appraisal in the light of experience to date.

