



THE WENDOVER ARM TRUST WORKING PARTY NEWS

ISSUE 114

April 2016

Apology

I apologise for being very late with this issue but I caught the bug that seems to be circulating at present and was more or less out of action for nearly five weeks. In addition I had to finalise the restoration costs for the financial year ending 5th April 2016 for my six-monthly report.

Southern Canals Group Spring Conference

On Sunday 24th April WAT hosted this conference at the Café in the Park at Aston Clinton that was attended by around thirty visitors from Canal Trusts and Societies over the South of England, as well as Les Etheridge, the IWA National Chairman. I welcomed the visitors over coffee and biscuits and then the conference moved to Little Tring to view Phase I of our restoration. Ray Orth, assisted by Clive Johnson, then took the main party on a tour of Phase II including visiting Whitehouses and the completed re-watering up to Bridge 4A. One or two older visitors who preferred not to have a long walk were taken by car to Drayton Beauchamp Bridge where they were able to walk to the County Boundary and back and view the completed works. The party then returned to the Café for an excellent lunch when we were joined by Richard Parry, the CRT Chief Executive. After lunch Ray Orth gave a short presentation on the history of the Wendover arm and he and I then fielded questions. The conference then continued with further talks and discussions and tea and biscuits before departing.



Roger Leishman

THE VISITORS AT TRINGFORD PUMPING STATION

March and April Working Parties

At the March working party the bench seat in memory of Stuart Bell was installed but the weather precluded any pipe capping so work concentrated on bulk excavation.

By the April working party the weather was looking up and we were able to complete the pipe capping up to about 8 metres from the Whitehouses manhole as well as continue with bulk excavation.

May and June Working Parties

Ray Orth is away for the May working party and Tony Bardwell will be in charge. Pipe capping and bulk excavation will now commence at the start of Stage 4 and continue towards Bridge 4 leaving a gap in front of the wharf wall at Whitehouses. Because of the shallow brickwork in front of the wharf wall, that is also the foundation under it, a special design for the lining will be needed at this site.

KESCRG will be on site Saturday and Sunday and carrying out more finishing work at Whitehouses including filling in with suitable material the underground structures recently found at the rear of the site.

In June pipe capping and bulk excavation will continue. We will also be taking delivery of our first load of Bentomat since 2008! This delivery will be the same as we already use but have a new type backing to give extra protection from chalky ground.

6-monthly progress report

My report is on page 3 but I must draw attention to the fact that we are awaiting the result of the CRT/Trust's application for a grant to finance the relining from Bridge 4 to the winding hole at Little Tring. If successful this will change the present estimates that are based on volunteer labour.

Open Day Sunday June 5th 2016

Margaret Leishman and her team of helpers are already organised to serve their usual drinks and cakes.

If there are any ardent cake makers among our readers they would be very grateful for any cake donations. Please ring Margaret on 01442 874536 and let her know in advance if you are able to 'bake-a-cake'.

Phase II vegetation maintenance

I made an appeal for help with vegetation maintenance and so far have had only two firm volunteers and, hopefully another one.

We do not want to use our restoration volunteers on this work as it would impede progress; if anyone can help or knows someone who could help please let me know.

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 strimmers, 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.

**WENDOVER ARM CANAL RESTORATION PHASE II
PROGRESS REPORT AS AT 5th APRIL 2016**

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	340m				-----	
Capping to pipe	321m	350m	332m				-----	
Tipping to offside bank	321m	350m	200m				-----	
Tipping to towpath bank	321m	350m	200m				-----	
Profiling offside bank	321m	350m	110m				-----	
Profiling towpath bank	321m	350m	110m				-----	
Lining towpath bank	321m	350m	100m				-----	
Lining offside bank	321m	350m	100m				-----	
Level and line bed	321m	350m	110m				-----	
Planting banks	60m	-----	-----				-----	
Mooring wall length	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	£154,579	£175,000	£175,000	£166,250	£98,725	£53,725	£951,551
Cost to date/final	£128,272	£154,579	£109,616	£13,093	£1,042	£304	£633	£407,539

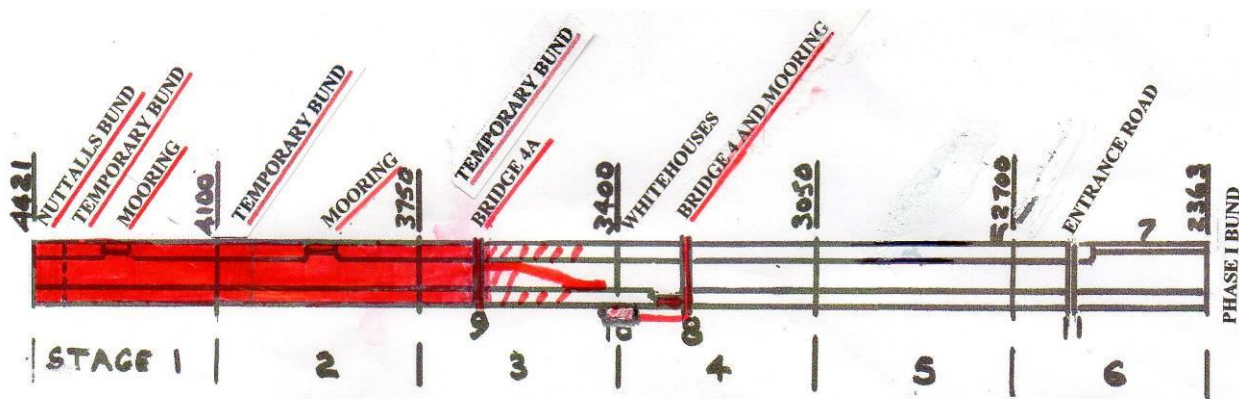
FOOTBRIDGES & VARIOUS OTHER WORKS

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	-----	-----	90%	-----	-----	-----	-----	
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	£16,887				3,501	£60,541

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	£951,551	£113,654	£22,000	£3,245	£0	£35,000	£10,000	£20,000	£45,000	£1,200,450
Cost to date/final	£407,539	£60,541	£21,223	£3,245	£3,464	£30,141	£9,374	£18,016		£553,543

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.



WORKING PARTIES

So you can plan your diary ahead, the following are the dates of future working parties in 2016. The work to be done is very much subject to the weather especially during the winter months.

DATE	WORKING AT	WORK TO BE DONE
2016		
Friday 6 th May to Thursday 12 th May KESCRG will be with us	Stages 3 & 4 Whitehouses	Stage 4 pipe capping and rough shaping both banks as pipe capping is completed.. Landscaping at Whitehouses
Friday 3 rd June to Thursday 9 th June Open Day Sunday 5 th June	Stages 3 & 4	Stage 4 pipe capping and rough shaping both banks as pipe capping is completed..
Friday 1 st July to Thursday 7 th July	Stages 3 & 4	Stage 3 profiling and lining. Stage 4 pipe capping and rough shaping both banks as pipe capping is completed..
Friday 5 th August to Thursday 11 th August	Stages 3 & 4	Stage 3 profiling and lining. Stage 4 pipe capping and rough shaping both banks as pipe capping is completed..
Friday 2 nd September to Thursday 8 th September Open Day Sunday 4 th Sept.	Stages 3 & 4	Stage 3 profiling and lining. Stage 4 pipe capping and rough shaping both banks as pipe capping is completed..
Friday 30 th September to Thursday 6 th October		
Friday 4 th November to Thursday 10 th November		
Friday 2 nd December to Thursday 8 th December		

Please note the correction to the October working party dates.

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