

£1.00 (Free to Members) Issue No 30 WINTER 2002

The Magazine of the Lichfield & Hatherton
Canals Restoration Trust



wrg Canal camp planting a new hedge at Lock 25 (Photo Jan Horton)

70's /80's NIGHT
Saturday 9th MARCH
Grangemoor Working Men's Club
Rugeley Road, Burntwood
Tickets £9.00
see page 5 for details

AGM 13th April see page 15

STREETHAY WHARF

LICHFIELD

Heart of the Coventry Canal

TEL:01543 414808 MOBILE:07860 729522

FAX:01543 414770

7-DAY CALL OUT SERVICE

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CORGI REG. CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE

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Boat Transport, England, Europe ● Cranage Arranged

● Site Surveys ● Complete Service for DIY ● Repairs

● Boat Hire ● Boat Fitting ● Diesel ● Pump Out

● Mooring ● Boat Sales ● Laundry

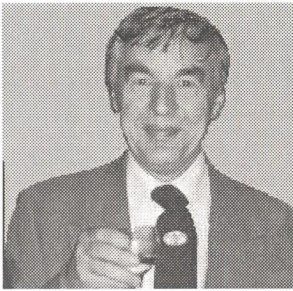
Trent & Mersey Canal

KINGS BROMLEY WHARF



V.A.T No. 203321527

CHAIRMAN'S NOTES



It comes as a shock for me to realise that I have now entered my third year as Chairman of the Trust. I know that time seems to move faster as we grow older but in this case I plead mitigating circumstances. I, and all Directors, hit the ground running at about that time as the challenges associated with the BNRR (now known as M6 Toll) crowded in on us. Despite all our best efforts we have been crisis-led throughout that time and even now the culverts at Churchbridge and the aqueduct

near Muckley Corner still loom large on the daily agenda. Lady Eden said, during the Suez Crisis of 1956, that she felt that the canal was flowing through her drawing room and I think many of us can see the rising waters of our canals lapping at our feet beneath the breakfast table. We do not ask for sympathy, only continuing support. We are all volunteers who cheerfully rise to the challenge.

Even so, we must look to the future on a wider horizon. After such a long period when we have been preoccupied with tactics the time has come to look at strategy as well. We need to recall the purpose for which the Trust was established and look again, in a measured way, at how we hope to achieve that purpose in the years ahead. With that in mind, we have embarked on a major consultation of how we work and how we hope to work in the future. We have a great deal to do to put basic building blocks in place so that we know both where we are going and how we hope to get there. We need policy documents and plans of many kinds and we need to be able to express our hopes and aspirations in a cogent way.

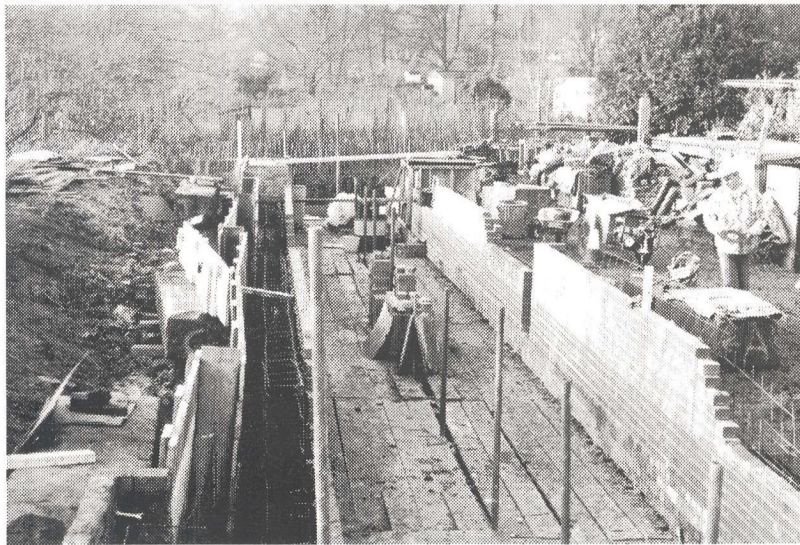
Over the years, inevitably the Trust has evolved and changed. We are now accepted as a having a serious and achievable purpose, both nationally and locally. Particularly in Lichfield, the restoration is seen as potentially valuable to the local community socially, economically and in the development of tourism. We are pleased that local people have begun to see this as "their" canal. This is welcome and to be encouraged. On the Hatherton we have a way to go to achieve this level of acceptance and support. We hope that the Forum to be held in Cannock in January will start to address this balance. (We look forward to meeting David Suchet again.) At the national level we are quoted as being a major restoration project likely to be realised in the medium term. We are excited that we are about to start discussing a formal partnership with British Waterways and The Waterways Trust - certainly a vital building block.

(continued over)

CHAIRMAN'S NOTES (continued)

However, let us not forget our roots. We were founded as the outcome of successful rallies held at Pelsall in the 1990s and were originally branded as "The Northern BCN Initiative". We were dedicated to the restoration of both canals as a potential through route from Huddlesford to Calf Heath but with the essential purpose of helping to regenerate the Wyrley and Essington corridor. We were as much about bringing new life to the Black Country as about bringing boats back to Cannock and Lichfield. Our enthusiasm for this is undiminished and we are delighted to have drawn other communities into this vision.

Our work is not done, it is hardly started. We need more support and more help. We are re-launching the David Suchet Appeal which has enabled us to deal with the culverts at Churchbridge but which will soon be needed to enable us to build the aqueduct on the Lichfield Canal and I do urge members to support this generously. We have just this one small window of opportunity to take the Lichfield canal across M6 Toll at a reasonable cost and we must stretch our resources to do this.

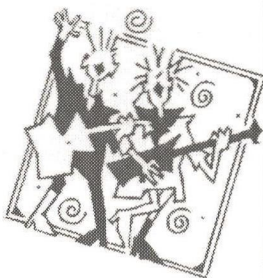
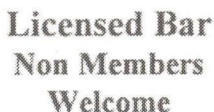


Rebuilding the walls on Lock 26 (photo by Phil Sharpe)

Finally, I commend to you two important events. The Cannock Forum will be held on Wednesday 30th January and we would like to fill the hall just as we did at Lichfield. The Canal Walk will be held on Sunday, 21st April from Fossey Lane to Huddlesford (we hope to see David Suchet on that day as well). Details appear elsewhere in this magazine. Please support both events if you can.

Brian Kingshott

70's/80's
NIGHT



START TIME 8.00 P.M.

TICKETS: £9.00 (Limited Numbers)
INCLUDING FISH AND CHIP SUPPER

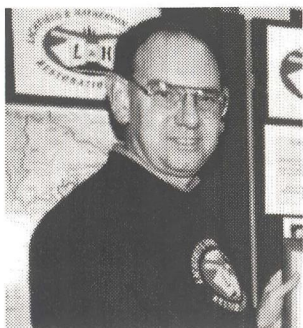
DANCING TO LIVE MUSIC BY 'PEDIGREE'

PRIZE FOR BEST CONTEMPORARY COSTUME
(But don't feel you HAVE to dress up!)

TO BOOK TICKETS RING DEREK BEARDSMORE
01889 803 923

**ALL FUNDS RAISED GO TO DAVID SUCHET APPEAL
(LHCRT)**

VICE-CHAIRMAN'S NOTES



REGISTERED OFFICE

The Trust has recently changed its registered office address. Since our formation we have used the offices of Shakespeares Solicitors in Birmingham, courtesy of Nick Grazebrook, and Shakespeares have been very helpful to the Trust with document storage, legal services and accounts, particularly in our earlier years. However, Nick's retirement and changes associated with Shakespeares' own move of office necessitated the Trust finding a new company

address. The Inland Waterways Association have generously agreed at short notice to our using their Head Office address in Rickmansworth and the formalities have now been completed. IWA already provide this service free to a number of other waterway groups and will forward any correspondence received. The registered address should not, however, be used for normal correspondence which should continue to be sent to the Chairman or other directors or officers as appropriate.

DIRECTORS

It is with regret that we record that Derek Beardsmore resigned as a Director in October after over 4 years on Council and nearly 3 years as Marketing Director. In that time Marketing has gone from strength to strength and is now a thriving group contributing significantly to the Trust's income and promotion. Derek and Margaret Beardsmore have together worked tirelessly for the Trust over many years, being the mainstay of our attendance at numerous events and organising several very successful social events. We are pleased that they will still be assisting as members of Marketing Group whilst taking a well earned rest from organisational responsibilities. That task now falls to Michael Brown as the new Chairman of Marketing Group and Michael will be attending Council meetings whenever possible.

In another change to responsibilities, Rob Davies has taken on the development of a Strategic Policy in conjunction with Mike Smith, as a follow up to the Patrick Harrison report, with a view to our adopting a longer term strategy once the 'fire-fighting' issue of the BNRR is resolved. This means that we now have no-one overseeing fund-raising, a vital role, although several directors are involved with different applications. Our forthcoming AGM provides an opportunity to increase the number of active directors or officers and if any member can offer us some assistance in this area, or in other ways, they would be most welcome.

(continued over)

VICE-CHAIRMAN'S NOTES (continued)

HATHERTON PROGRESS

For over a year now we have been waiting for news on the Hatherton Hedgerow Project (see CBW25) so we were relieved to hear in December that funding has finally been obtained. The original application by The Hedgerow Trust was resubmitted by British Waterways who have been granted £23,800 from the Heritage Lottery Fund to completely restore the canal hedgerow between the Roman Way and the M6. An important part of the bid was the voluntary assistance to be provided by the Trust and in fact we have already completed some substantial areas of clearance to allow the contractors access to the line of the hedge. With the late start this 'season' there is a need for extra working parties through to April to help clear and burn the 'brash' produced by the contractors, and more volunteers would be very welcome. See the Working Parties page for more details.

As part of our contribution to maintaining the towpath for access we had to urgently replace our wheeled strimmer earlier this year, the previous one having been worked to death, and we have now been granted £671 towards this from The Waterways Trust through their Small Grants Scheme.

(continued over)



Surfacing the towpath at Tamworth Road during the WRG Canal Camp
(photo by Phil Sharpe)

VICE-CHAIRMAN'S NOTES (continued)

IWAAC REPORT

The long-awaited second IWAAC report was published just before Christmas, although dated June 2001. Titled "A Second Waterway Age: Review of waterway restoration and development priorities" it is an updated version of the Waterway Restoration Priorities report of June 1998. Whilst one can still fault some details, it has to be said that it is greatly improved, both in content and presentation, not least because it has a picture of our Darnford Lift Bridge on the cover! More importantly, the Lichfield and Hatherton Canal (jointly) have been upgraded from Regional to National significance "to reflect their potential contribution to the regeneration of the northern stretches of the BCN". It is pleasing that this message, which did not come through in the first report, has now been recognised. We join a select band of 21 projects accorded National status out of the 104 listed. Showing an awareness of events since the questionnaires were submitted some 18 months ago, the report also comments "Resolution of BNRR crossings issue together with guidance to prevent highway projects severing restoration projects welcome" and "Its progress will be materially helped by the resolution of the crossings issue". Particularly helpful comments are "Partnership of LAs and BW needed if more rapid progress to be shown" and "Local authority support should make possible .. substantial progress on the Lichfield (and) Hatherton".

The categorisation used has been substantially altered from the first report and is now largely based on progress with preliminary work such as engineering, environmental and economic studies, summarised into 4 categories of Funding Stage reached: Advanced (1), Substantial Progress (2), Intermediate (3), and Early (4). The Hatherton is one of 18 schemes in category 3 but the Lichfield is in the select company of only 7 projects in category 2. Comparison with other schemes can be misleading without seeing the full report, but there is no doubt that ours have improved their ratings and come out very well in the assessment. It is now up to us to justify these rankings and take advantage of the favourable status accorded to our canals. A high priority must be completion of more of the preliminary studies and reports and the establishment of active Partnerships so that we are better placed to take advantage of available funding opportunities.

The report contains a lot more, summarising developments since 1998 and making numerous recommendations on main issues in restoration. The report is freely available to public bodies, voluntary organisations, students and other individuals from the IWAAC office, Tel. 020 7253 1745.

(continued over)

VICE-CHAIRMAN'S NOTES (continued)

M6 TOLL

The Government announced in November 2001 that the Birmingham Northern Relief Road was being re-named the M6 Toll, although I suspect it will take more than a name change to bury all the problems it has caused and it will continue to be called BNRR for some time yet.

CHURCHBRIDGE PROGRESS

After several programme dates had come and gone, construction finally started on our two culverts at Churchbridge in December, as shown in the picture below. Before Christmas, some of the concrete base slabs were being cast and reinforcement constructed for the sides. Members wanting to see progress can view the motorway Culvert 144 from the Wyrley Brook Industrial Estate road off Walkmill Lane, Cannock. However, the roundabout Culvert 155 at Churchbridge was hidden from the A5 Watling Street behind a mound of earth, although the end of it may become visible as it grows. All the funding for the enlargement of C155 to navigable depth has now been raised through the David Suchet Appeal and paid over to The Waterways Trust who are acting as guarantor and making the stage payments.



Culvert 144: The first base slab is cast and side reinforcements built 09/12/2001
(photo Phil Sharpe)

VICE-CHAIRMAN'S NOTES (continued)



M6 Toll works burying railway bridge over Hatherton Canal at Churchbridge
(photo Phil Sharpe)

Concern was expressed by the Environment Agency in October 2001 about the dimensions of C144 being sufficient to discharge floods without frequent overtopping of the canal section. Although CAMBBA agreed to reconsider the hydraulics, they had already started building the culvert before they told us that they had concluded that a full height separating wall was now considered necessary. Although this will prevent navigation being interrupted it will also preclude the towpath which was always part of our specification. This is very disappointing. Although there will be a public footpath from near the south end of the culvert to the new motorway bridge on Walkmill Lane, it will mean some inconvenience to future navigators. Of more concern, however, is the restricted canal width through the culvert now proposed of 2.4m (8ft) which will add to the problems of negotiating the bends into the culvert at either end. The northern end in particular is very tight against the industrial estate access road. All these are more problems for the future but at least we are getting a route under the motorway, even if it will be more like Dudley than Netherton tunnel! However, the dividing wall is not being constructed at this stage and we hope it may be possible to persuade EA to relax their drainage requirements in future, when there is more data on actual flows available, so that the canal can have a little more of the available width.

We have had less influence on the dimensions of Culvert 144 because we are not paying for that one, and BW have apparently agreed the revised design. The same restrictions should not apply to Culvert 155 where a canal width of 3m (10ft) was agreed with a towpath over the brook channel, easier here because of their relative levels.

VICE-CHAIRMAN'S NOTES (continued)

AQUEDUCT FUNDING

We have always expected that the Lichfield Canal aqueduct would cost at least twice the £250,000 that has been offered to us by the Manifold Trust, and once the more critical Hatherton culverts were secured we continued to seek further funding through the David Suchet Appeal and from other sources. When the design work on the aqueduct was completed for us by Maunsell we asked them to cost the main components. The estimate, received in November, allowing for all usual overheads was £508,000 for the cheaper Composite trough design and with the abutments limited to the supporting headwalls.

On that basis we have gone ahead with a re-launch of the Appeal to seek to raise a further £250,000 and full page adverts, generously funded by David Suchet himself, will appear in the February editions of the commercial waterways magazines. A revised Appeal leaflet has also been prepared. It is worth recalling that we have in effect already raised over £750,000 made up of £155,000 from the public appeal for the roundabout culvert, an estimated £345,000 from government for the motorway culvert, and the offer of £250,000 from the Manifold Trust towards the aqueduct. Given this success another £250,000 is not impossible, but it is still a lot of money and we do not expect to raise it all through the public appeal so a number of other funding bodies have been approached. Nevertheless the public response is vital and was undoubtedly the main influence in overcoming the Hatherton Canal crisis so we hope that the messages of "two down, one to go" and "help us bridge the gap" may inspire yet more generosity from our supporters.

Unfortunately, this strategy was thrown into confusion just before Christmas when we at last received the requested but much delayed estimate from CAMBBA of their price for constructing the aqueduct which was about three times the expected amount. Clearly the anticipated improved level of co-operation following the Hatherton agreements is still illusory and it appears they are determined to profiteer or to price us out. Urgent steps are being taken to bring together all relevant parties at a high level to sort something out, but with an artificial deadline of the end of January it will not be easy. We can only hope like Mr Micawber that something will turn up ! Whatever happens we will not give up trying to get the aqueduct built before the motorway is completed at the end of 2003. Your continuing support is vital not only for the funding but also for what may need to be a renewed political campaign to stop this motorway taking its "Toll" on the Lichfield Canal.

Philip Sharpe

MARKETING REPORT

At the end of the summer season, Derek Beardsmore stepped down as Chairman of the Marketing Group. I would like to thank him and his wife Margaret for all their hard work in the past. They are continuing as members of the Group but taking a less active role.

It now falls to me as the new Chairman to write the Marketing Report. There was a good response during November / December to the mail order products in Cut Both Ways. May and I were kept busy packing and dispatching over £700 worth of goods.

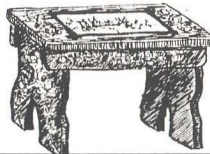
Once again we have a full programme for 2002 (see page 20).

A social evening, 70's 80's night with fish & chip supper will be held at Grangemoor Working Men's Club, Burntwood, Saturday 9th March.

The marketing group meetings are now held in the board room at Staffordshire University Lichfield Campus on the second Monday of the month, 7.15pm to 9.30pm.

We desperately need some new life blood in the group with an input of new ideas. We also need people to help at various shows, in particular the N E C Boat Show & the N I A Show in Birmingham. If you volunteer as a helper you will gain free access to these shows. Please contact me at any time on 01543 302908 or e-mail mike-may@ntlworld.com

Mike Brown. Chairman of Marketing Group



COFFEE MORNING /BRING & BUY /BOAT GATHERING

11 am Saturday 30th March (Easter Saturday)

To be held at the home of Eric and Doreen Wood, 6 Swan Cottages, Whittington, Lichfield. Boaters Welcome from Friday evening onwards. Whittington Wharf plaques will be available at a cost of £6.00.

"Walk the line of the Lichfield Canal"

Sunday 21st April 2002.

From Fossey Lane site (SK101 079) towards Huddlesford Junction including visit to Sandfields Pumping Station, restoration sites, etc. (Approx. 4 miles)

Starting from 10am onwards

(walk finishes at 4.30pm).

Guide sheets available at start.

Return journey by courtesy of Waterway Recovery Group minibus.

**Parking will be at Sandfields Pumping Station
Chesterfield Road (SK113 084)**

Further Details. Telephone/Fax : 01543 262466

Just a few notes:-

There is only limited parking at Fossey Lane site, and so we are directing cars to Sandfields Pumping Station (SK113 084) for parking. A minibus will be available to take people to the start. The walk will go on throughout the day until 4.30pm.

The walk will be as close to the line of the canal as possible, as some of the line is privately owned and needs to be purchased in due course. It is for one day only as some of it will be through privately owned property. Also the walk is not along the BNRR (M6Toll) section of the canal.

Trust members are invited to join wrg on Saturday night for a video Horse Racing Night at the Martin Heath Memorial Hall, Christchurch Lane, Lichfield with proceeds going towards the Trust.

If there is anything further that you would like to know, please contact me, Janette Horton, Lichfield Canal Publicity.

The views expressed in Cut Both Ways do not necessarily represent those of the Trust or the Editor. They are however published as being of interest to our readership.

"Follow the Towpath Trail"

A week of intense activity on the part of Waterway Recovery Group volunteers in October achieved completion of the towpath which was funded by a Local Heritage Initiative Grant awarded by the Countryside Agency.

It starts from Lock 25 at Tamworth Road and extends back as far as the site of Lock 24 (still buried). The party included Duke of Edinburgh's Award participants and a WRG volunteer from Germany and was led by Joanne Smith. With several days of glorious sunshine they were able to lay 4 lorry-loads of crushed stone on a geo-textile membrane, landscape the whole area and plant 20 metres of new hedge and a quantity of daffodils to complete the job on schedule.

The path only leads to Millennium lock 25 at present but is open to the general public and includes a bench kindly donated by the Darwin Walk Trust.

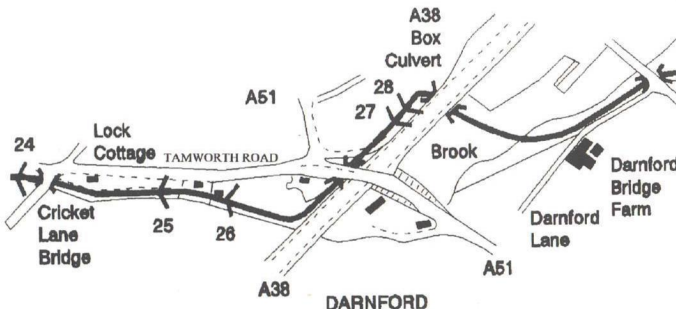
Lock 26

Our own regular team have continued to work hard, both on the first Sunday of each month and many other week-ends. Barry Parkes has now completed the paving below the offside wing-wall and the remaining reconstructed stones have been cast at the head of the lock. Mesh and shuttering are now in place for the full length of both sides of the main chamber ready for the main concrete to be poured and attention has transferred to the head of the lock where the wing-walls are being rebuilt.

A large contingent from BITM (stands for "Bit in the Middle") Waterway Recovery Group gave a significant boost in December.

Work will continue on the first Sunday of each month and on some Saturdays when all volunteers will be welcome. Please ring me on 01543 262466 for exact dates.

John Horton



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the 12th Annual General Meeting of Lichfield & Hatherton Canals Restoration Trust Limited will be held at

**Whittington Village Hall, Main Street,
Whittington, Staffordshire**

On Saturday 13th April 2002 at 2.00pm

AGENDA

1. Apologies
2. Minutes of the 11th Annual General Meeting
3. Matters Arising
4. Chairman's Report
5. Directors' Report
6. Treasurer's Report and Presentation of Accounts for the year ending 31st December 2001
7. Election of Directors:
Directors retiring by rotation and eligible for re-election:
Bob Williams
John Horton
Trevor Morris
Any other nominations received (see Note 3 below)
8. Appointment of Honorary Examiner:
West - Chartered Accountants
9. Any Other Business

Note 1: A member entitled to attend and vote is entitled to appoint a proxy. A Form of Proxy can be obtained from the Company Secretary. Such proxies are to be delivered to the registered office of the company at least 48 hours before the time appointed for the meeting.

Note 2: A summary of the 2001 Annual Accounts, subject to approval by the Examiner, is enclosed. Any member wanting a copy of the full accounts in advance of the meeting should contact the Treasurer Bob Williams.

Note 3: There are currently vacancies on the Trust's Council of Management and it is advisable that any member wishing to be considered for election as a Director of the Trust should contact the Chairman or Vice-Chairman as soon as possible to discuss the opportunities and for information on the nomination procedure to be followed.

CAMPAIGNING UPDATE

After the AGM there will be tea and biscuits followed by a 'Campaigning Update' audio-visual presentation by Bob Williams.

Please note: Non-members are welcome to attend but can not vote at the AGM

LICHFIELD & HATHERTON CANALS RESTORATION TRUST LIMITED

DRAFT BALANCE SHEET

As at 31st DECEMBER 2001

	31-Dec-2001		31-Dec-2000	
	£	£	£	£
FIXED ASSETS after depreciation				
Land and Improvements	16,772		17,781	
Plant (which cost over £1,000 per item)	0		500	
Investment in subsidiary company	<u>2</u>		<u>2</u>	
Total Fixed Assets		16,774		18,283
CURRENT ASSETS				
Donations allocated to Land Fund	10,110		2,250	
Donations for Paddle Gear (Lock 25)	2,187		2,187	
Manifold Trust aqueduct part grant balance	450		n/a	
Balance of funds on deposit for general use	<u>4,253</u>		<u>2,563</u>	
Trust funds on deposit	17,000		7,000	
David Suchet Appeal funds on deposit	<u>110,000</u>		<u>n/a</u>	
Total funds in Deposit a/cs		127,000		7,000
Bank of Scotland Trust current a/c	181			
Lloyds TSB Trust current a/c	1,903		3,253	
Lloyds TSB Marketing current a/c	248		264	
Cheques & cash in hand	<u>0</u>		<u>0</u>	
Total funds in Current a/cs		2,332		3,517
Due from Subsidiary Company: within 1 year	1,748		1,060	
after 1 year	<u>800</u>	2,548	<u>800</u>	1,860
Total assets before current liabilities		148,654		30,660
LIABILITIES:				
x		<u>0</u>		<u>0</u>
TOTAL NET RESOURCES		£148,654		£30,660
RESERVES:				
Income & Expenditure Account		<u>£148,654</u>		<u>£30,660</u>

This page and the following page are based on the Trust's accounts for 2001, subject to formal examination and presentation to the Annual General Meeting.

Any Member requiring a full set of the accounts can obtain one free of charge on application by phone or letter to the Finance Director listed on page 30.

LICHFIELD & HATHERTON CANALS RESTORATION TRUST LIMITED

DRAFT INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

For the year ended 31st December 2001

	2001		2000	
	£	£	£	£
INCOME				
Donations paid with subscriptions	2,455		1,459	
Donations, other (excl. Marketing collections - below)	3,728		368	
Donations specifically to the Land Fund	360		6,150	
Donation of profits from subsidiary company	2,181	8,724	1,392	9,369
Marketing Income:-				
Piling Appeal	1,131		1,655	
Membership subs.collected at shows, etc.	819		764	
Donations, Sponsorship, Advertisements, Interest	1,699		1,731	
Trust & Public events	4,363		2,051	
	8,012		6,201	
less related expenditure	-2,028	5,984	-1,111	5,090
Membership subscriptions (excl. Marketing above)		7,860		5,420
Income tax recovered on Gift Aid (excl. Suchet Appeal)		2,965		1,564
Grants for specific projects		23,673		8,400
Wayleave & Easement		509		8
Donations to David Suchet Appeal (+ int. + tax - costs)		110,156		
		159,871		29,851
Bank interest received		614		453
Retail Trading loan interest received		140		172
TOTAL INCOME		160,625		30,476
EXPENDITURE				
Rest.costs, L.C., Darnford	1,924		2,583	
Rest.costs, L.C., Tam. Rd. Locks 25 & 26	7,587		2,303	
Rest.costs, L.C., Tam. Rd. LHI project	7,378		9,620	
Restoration costs, Hatherton Canal	294		349	
Administration (excl. Suchet, AGM, Insurance below)	2,468		1,234	
Membership & Magazine administration	2,015		1,468	
Direct cost of running David Suchet Appeal	1,787		n/a	
Accommodation, etc. (wrg visits)	1,001		665	
Tools, Plant & Machinery	1,116		1,635	
Memberships (IWA; LDIA; PWG)	142		84	
Professional fees and costs	15,103		4,320	
Hire of hall for A.G.M.	20			
Insurance premium (IWA)	287		287	
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		-41,122		-24,548
NET MOVEMENT OF FUNDS ON TRUST ACTIVITIES		119,503		5,928
less Depreciation of canal improvements	1,009		1,009	
Depreciation of machinery	500	-1,509	500	-1,509
SURPLUS / DEFICIT FOR THE YEAR		117,994		4,419
Retained Surplus brought forward		30,660		26,241
Retained Surplus carried forward		£148,654		£30,660

(This detailed page does not form part of the formal accounts, only a summary of the totals)

DONATIONS TO THE TRUST

Amounts over £15 from 6 October 2001 to 5 January 2002.

Name (in order of receipt)	Trust & Marketing
Lichfield Conservative Assoc. (talk)	25.00
Nat. Assoc. Widows (talk)	25.00
Brian Kingshott (donated expenses)	149.13
Cannock Probus Club (talk)	25.00
Lichfield Methodist Church (talk)	25.00
Pat Barton (cash collection)	29.00
Dudley Canal Trust (talk)	25.00
Stafford Borough Heritage Group (talk)	75.00
Nat.Wat.Museum, Gloucester (Cooper talk)	25.00
David Suchet (consultancy fee)	640.00
N Wright (with sub.)	50.00
J West (with sub.)	30.00
D C Haywood (with sub.)	20.00
Peter Matthews (returned expenses)	150.00
David Stanistreet (land fund)	90.00
Aggregated donations of £15 or less	260.50
W A Dumelow (with sub.)	25.00
Dr T Hollingworth	237.55

David Suchet Appeal donations

Amounts over £15 from 6 October 2001 to 5 January 2002.

Phil Sharpe (donated expenses)
 anonymous (Give As You Earn scheme)
 John Derek Jones (additional)
 Cruising Association
 Streethay Wharf (auctioned show prize)
 I.W.A., Lichfield Branch
 D V H Wheeler (additional)
 Allen Gilbert (additional)
 David & Jan Foster
 Dick & Chris Mantle (additional)
 P T Smith (with sub.)
 M H L Farrant & Mrs. S E P Farrant
 Mrs. Marie Smith (for the late Mr. Smith)

M H Smith (additional)
Anonymous
 A G Fifer
 H Wootton
 C J Foster
 Gillean Paterson
 Kevin McNiff
 Ian Prentice
 Roy Andrew Bishop
 John C Rimmer
 R T White (additional)
 Mrs. A Nichols
 Nottingham Yacht Club

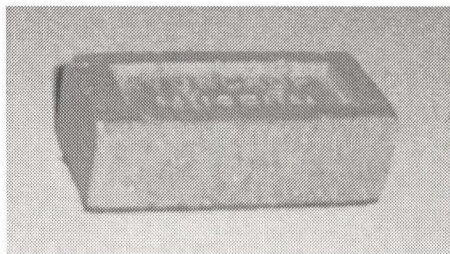
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and receive a model brick cast with “L & H CANALS”.

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tax equal to the amount of tax you reclaim on my donation (worth 28p per £1 donated).

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SIGNATURE: _____
(if a taxpayer)

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TELEPHONE: _____

Please make cheques payable to L. H. C. R. T. Ltd and send to:-

L & H Canals Brick Appeal, 3 Minors Hill, Borrowcop, Lichfield, Staffs. WS14 9DJ

Marketing Group

Events Calendar

Marketing will be taking the display stand to the following events and people are always needed to help. Any volunteers contact Mike Brown, Tel: 01543 302908.

15 th -24 th February	Boat, Caravan & Leisure Show, NEC, Birmingham. Major event; David Suchet attending on 17 th Feb.
9 th March	70's/80's Night, Grangemoor WMC, Burntwood. Social evening with Fish & Chip supper. see details on page 5
30 th March	Coffee Morning, Bring & Buy, Whittington Wharf. Boaters welcome from Friday Evening. see details page 12
20 th April	Spring Bazaar, Guildhall, Lichfield. Set up 8.00am; bazaar open 9.00am - 5.00pm.
21 st April	"Walk The Line" Lock 18, Fosseway Lane, Lichfield. see details page13

Carlton Television is screening the third series of Water World from 19th February for 6 weeks. It has a new director but is again narrated by waterways enthusiast Timothy West. The Lichfield and Hatherton is again featured prominently. Meanwhile, our own film-maker, Laurence Hogg has up-dated "The Missing Links", again voiced by our vice-president, David Suchet.



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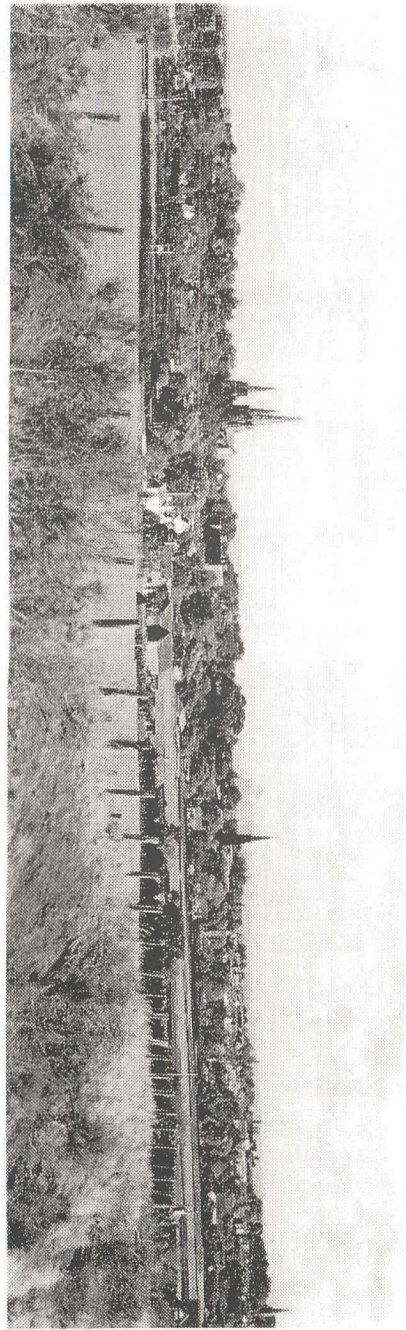
Glass gilding and gold leaf work, marbling and graining.

Portraits in oils. Clocks and weathervanes gilded.

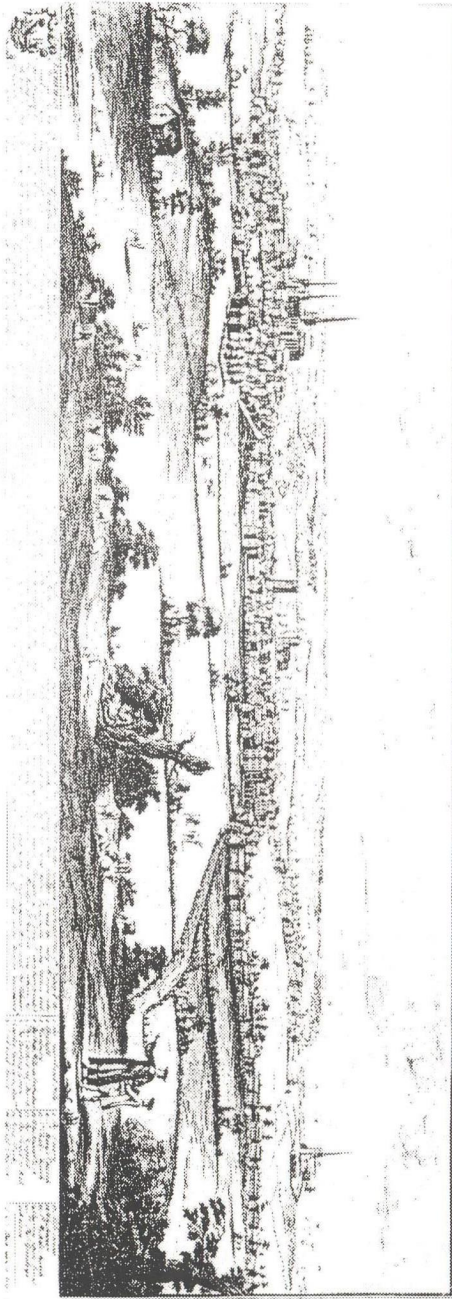
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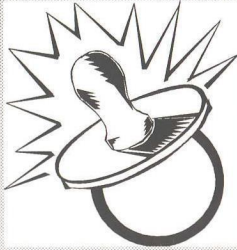
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THE SOUTH WEST PROSPECT OF THE CITY OF LICHFIELD.



Views from canal bed at Pipehill today and just before the canal was built.



Congratulations to Kathryn and Peter Matthews on the birth of their baby Alec Nathan at 7lb 9oz on 8th January 2002. Perhaps he will come down to supervise us when the weather gets warmer!

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PRESS & PUBLICITY

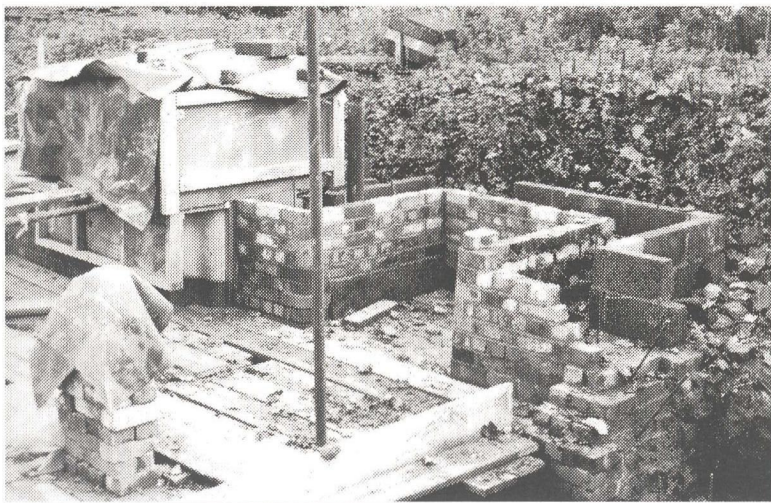
Press & publicity this time covers the period 13th October 2001 to 10th January 2002. The Canal Camp in October was well reported with several colour pictures of the WRG volunteers surfacing the towpath above Lock 25 to complete work on the Local Heritage Initiative funded project. The Express & Star's caption was "On the path to restoration" whilst the Lichfield Post had "Camp at heritage initiative" and the Lichfield Mercury reported "Waterway working". A later double article in the Post pictured the miniature steam roller used to level the path and also the bench donated by The Darwin Walk Trust under the headlines "Roll out the replica" and "Towpath trail restored". The full story of Camp 22 was revealed by an illustrated article in Navvies for December/January, summarised as "highly productive, fun and the weather was great!". Navvies also carried a thank-you letter from the Trust, publicity for the Lichfield Canal Walk and a request for help, and a brief report on wrg North West's weekend visit in November by "Mr Mac" (MBE !).

Meanwhile, the generous loan of an excavator and driver by Chasetown Civil Engineering was recognised by "Canal fans praise firm" in the Express & Star, and the cleared channel below Lock 26 was pictured in Waterways World for January titled "Progress on the Lichfield Canal".



The re-instated towpath at Tamworth Road (Photo Jan Horton)

PRESS & PUBLICITY (continued)



Rebuilding the paddle hole and casting a gate quoin at Lock 26 (photo Phil Sharpe)

The achievement of our 1,000th member had been recorded by *Waterways World* in November in "Trust membership grows". "Lichfield and Hatherton supporters honoured" was an editorial in December's *Canal Boat & Inland Waterways* referring to the Parliamentary Waterways Group reception held to celebrate the achievements of our campaign for provision of road crossings. The same magazine in January updated readers on the complexities of the Hatherton culverts, progress with the Lichfield aqueduct, funding bids and the planned Canal Forum in a news item "L&H gather pace as road works begin". The Canal Forum and progress with the BNRR crossings funding prompted "Canal trust hoped to seek out Poirot star" and "Report on canal progress" in the *Express & Star*, whilst the support of Michael Fabricant MP was acknowledged in *The Post* by "Support for aqueduct". "Fundraisers' canal boost" in the *Express & Star* recorded the £2,000 donated by IWA Lichfield Branch.

"The Missing Links" video about the L & H, produced by Laurence Hogg and narrated by David Suchet, was reviewed by *Waterways World* in November and by *Canal & Riverboat* in December. The February editions of the commercial waterway magazines will carry a full page re-launch of the David Suchet Appeal targeted at bridging the gap in funding for the Lichfield Canal aqueduct.

Finally, another plea for copies of any press coverage outside the Lichfield and Cannock areas to be sent to me for our album and these reports, thanks.

Phil Sharpe

Have you visited our website yet?

Originally designed for us by Ian Nelson of WRG, it is now managed by me, Sue Williams otherwise known as Spider Woman!

Information to be found there includes news items, forthcoming events, details and maps of the restoration routes, photographs of work parties etc., Trust shirts and other items on sale, the David Suchet Appeal, a list of Trust Directors and how to contact them and, for non-members, details of how to join and a few excerpts from this magnificent magazine.

According to the site counter, visitors to the site average between 30 and 50 per week and the total now stands at 1200+. How many of these are the same people coming back for another look I don't know, but pages are regularly updated so it's worth checking-in from time to time.

Click on to www.lhcrt.org.uk and pay us a visit, and when you do please sign our Guest Book! It's free and we like to know you're there.

Sue Williams



Casting new stone-work at Lock 26 in November
(photo Jan Horton)

Patrick Harrison

This is a name which will be unfamiliar to members who are not Directors. Patrick is a retired business consultant who has specialised in major fund-raising projects which have included finding finance for projects in schools and cathedrals country-wide. He has a great depth of knowledge in this specialised area and has a great enthusiasm for what he does.

We came to know Patrick through the good offices and generosity of our Vice-President, David Suchet. At the time that the Suchet Appeal was launched David offered to finance a fund-raiser to help the Trust (the sum involved is quite considerable). Consequently, we had private briefings with Patrick at his Thames-side home at Shepperton. He agreed to take on the Trust and subsequently spent more than three days in the Lichfield/Cannock area getting to know the project and the people. He attended a Trust Council Meeting and outlined what he hoped he could do for us.

Within a month we received what we now call "The Harrison Report". This has given us a great deal to think about concentrating, as it does, on our organisation and structure rather than on the details of fund-raising. We have already held one meeting to consider the report and will meet again in 2002 to take matters forward. It may be some time before members see the outcome of our deliberations but I am sure that, ultimately, the Trust will see great benefits both in organisational efficiency and in attracting new funds.

Brian Kingshott

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Mr R. Barnes-Watts	Dawlish	Mr. D. Cleverley	Norwich
Mr & Mrs M. R. Gripton	Lichfield	Mrs L. Bushell	Lichfield
Mr A. Wright	Leamington	Mrs T. B. Dudley	Cannock
Mr D. S. Carr	Birmingham	Mr L. M. Garner	Oxford
Mrs. S. M. Dumelow	Matlock	Mr D. Elliott	Walsall
Mr J. Flynn	Polesworth	Mr A. G. Eaden	Sheffield
Mr N. K. Upton	Sutton Coldfield	Mr I. Prentice	Lichfield
Mr D. Foster	Birmingham	Ms D. English	Lichfield
Mrs J. Foster	Birmingham	Mr R. A. Ell	Lichfield
Mr M. Murphy	Birmingham	Mrs. K. L. Belfitt	Amington
Mr T. Parker	Heath Hayes	Mr A. I. Stewart	Hardwicke
I.W.A. Lichfield Branch	c/o T. M. Burgin	Mr R. S. Houghton	Lichfield
Ms A. Green	Cannock Wood	Mr M. R. Partington	Cannock
Mr R. Wheatley	Great Wyrley	Mr G. Rowlands	Chasetown
Mrs J. Wheatley	Great Wyrley	Mr & Mrs N. Wright	Burntwood

GIFT AID DECLARATIONS

This is a good time to say a big "thank you" to all the Members who have provided a Gift Aid declaration covering their subscriptions and donations which enabled the Trust to receive £2,965 from the Inland Revenue for the year ending December 31st 2001

For those who wish to make a declaration, but cannot lay hands on the form sent out last year, another form of Gift Aid declaration will be available at the AGM or from the Treasurer (01543 671427).

Please note there is no need to have your signature witnessed, no Inland Revenue forms, and a Bankers Order is not essential, but that would help the Trust with subscription renewals.



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WORKING PARTIES

FEBRUARY - JUNE 2002

LICHFIELD CANAL

Regular Lichfield work parties are held on the first Sunday of each month from 10 am. working on rebuilding Lock 26 at Tamworth Road, Lichfield. Some additional Saturdays or Sundays are also worked and there are occasional week-end visits from WRG groups. Contact Peter Matthews on 01543-673127 or John Horton on 01543-262466 for further details.

For Tamworth Road Lock 26 (SK 130 083) take the A51 south out of Lichfield, the site is on the right past Cricket Lane. Park by Lock 25 and walk past The Cottage to the entrance track for Lock 26, but please note that the access is across private land and should not be used except on organised work parties.

Monthly work parties: Sundays: 3 February, 3 March, 7 April, 5 May, 2 June.

WRG weekends: 2-3 March (WRG NW), 20-21 April (incl. help with Walk on 21).

HATHERTON CANAL

Regular Hatherton Canal work parties are held on the third Sunday of each month from 10 am. working on towpath maintenance and now assisting with the Hedge-row Project. Some additional week-end or mid-week assistance is needed with hedgerow clearance work up to April. Contact Denis Cooper on 01543-374370 (work) if you can help at any time.

Monthly work parties: Sundays: 17 February, 17 March, 21 April, 19 May, 16 June.

ALL SITES: Bring old clothes, stout footwear, work gloves, and refreshment. Hard hats and basic working tools can be provided as necessary.

1998 DATA PROTECTION ACT

The Lichfield & Hatherton Canals Restoration Trust Ltd will hold your details for marketing purposes in accordance with the 1998 Data Protection Act. If you do not wish to receive updates from the Trust or any third party with whom we co-operate then please advise the Trust through Director Bob Williams on 01543 671427.

LICHFIELD & HATHERTON CANALS RESTORATION TRUST LIMITED.

Registered Office: 3 Norfolk Court, Norfolk Road, Rickmansworth. WD3 1LT
The Lichfield & Hatherton Canals Restoration Trust Limited was established in 1988 as a non-profit distributing company limited by guarantee (No. 2456172) and is registered as a Charity (No. 702429).

Principal Aims : To promote the restoration of the Wyrley and Essington Canal from Ogleby Junction to Huddlesford Junction (the "Lichfield Canal"), and the Hatherton Branch of the Staffordshire & Worcestershire Canal, and also the construction of a navigable link between the Hatherton Branch and the Cannock Extension Canal.

PRESIDENT Eric Wood **VICE-PRESIDENT** David Suchet

DIRECTORS

Chairman	Brian Kingshott	☎01547 530457
	Park Cottage, Hopton Castle, Craven Arms. SY7 0QF	
Vice-Chairman	Phil Sharpe	☎01889 583330
	34 Old Eaton Road, Rugeley, Staffs. WS15 2EZ	
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	Fax 01543 677687	
	Norfolk House, 29 Hall Lane, Hammerwich. WS7 0JP	
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Lichfield Projects	John Horton	☎/Fax 01543 262466
	32 London Road, Lichfield. WS14 9EJ	
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Strategic Policy	Rob Davies	☎/ Fax 01543 432079

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	Steps Cottage, Wolverley, Kidderminster. DY10 3RN	
Minutes Secretary	Helen Taylor	
Land Liaison	Mike Smith	☎01283 790543
Marketing Group	Michael Brown	☎01543 302908
Lichfield Publicity	Janette Horton	☎01543 262466
Lichfield Foreman	Peter Matthews	☎01543 673127
Web Master	Sue Williams	e-mail: info@lhcr.org.uk

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