

The Magazine of the Lichfield &
Hatherton Canals Restoration Trust

Issue 66 Winter 2010 - 2011



Every Little Alps!, 27-Nov-10

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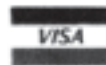
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CHAIRMAN'S COLUMN

I must start by congratulating our Vice-President, David Suchet on being awarded a CBE in the New Year Honours. We are all delighted for him.

I started my column last time by talking at length about the imminent changes to the structure and funding of British Waterways and I apologise to those who thought I was being unduly pessimistic. I hope this turns out to be so but we, like so many others, have to face the reality of the policies undertaken, for whatever reason, by the current government. Those of us who have done battle with BW for half a century have come to appreciate its strengths (not always apparent at the time) and may well live to regret the passing of this paternalistic, if often mysteriously frustrating, organisation. Bob Williams and I attended the slimmed-down AGM in Digbeth in early December which enabled us to sample the present climate. The addresses by Chairman and Chief Executive were upbeat but clearly showed that it is still not apparent how the new structure will develop, despite some impressive PowerPoint slides full of PR.-speak and presentational bluff. We were asked to suggest possible names for the new charity but one suspected that the working name – National Waterways Charity- will be chosen by default. It seems likely that users will be represented on the proposed managerial boards and this may have some relevance for restoration but it seemed clear to me that just resourcing the existing network will be the major challenge and focus. Just how a major national organisation trawling for voluntary funding will impact the efforts of much smaller structures such as L&H remains to be seen. We must avoid undue pessimism but the major questions are only now being asked with the answers still a long way off.

Meanwhile, we keep pressing on with the routine work, both on the ground and in the committee rooms. Inevitably, the severe weather has made work at Tamworth Road almost impossible in recent weeks but other news on this front has been very positive and encouraging. Months of patient work, led by Bob Williams, supported by an able and enthusiastic team, has laid the foundations for work to begin on rewatering Pound 26. The funding package is in place and the consents now given. Lichfield District Council, the planning authority, is content for the work to go ahead subject to some reasonable conditions while the Environment Agency has shown a welcome flexibility in allowing us to tap into the existing water sources without imposing stringent conditions. The re-routing of a troublesome land-drain can now proceed and contracts



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CHAIRMAN'S COLUMN

will soon be agreed with McPhillips, our chosen contractor, for work to begin with completion in the spring before the grants expire. It has taken 20 years to reach a point where the Trust can return water to one of the completed sections and is a significant moment in our history. For the first time since the late 1960s there will be a section of canal, close to the city centre, alive, in water and capable of floating a full-size boat. One small pound does not make a canal but it is a significant start.



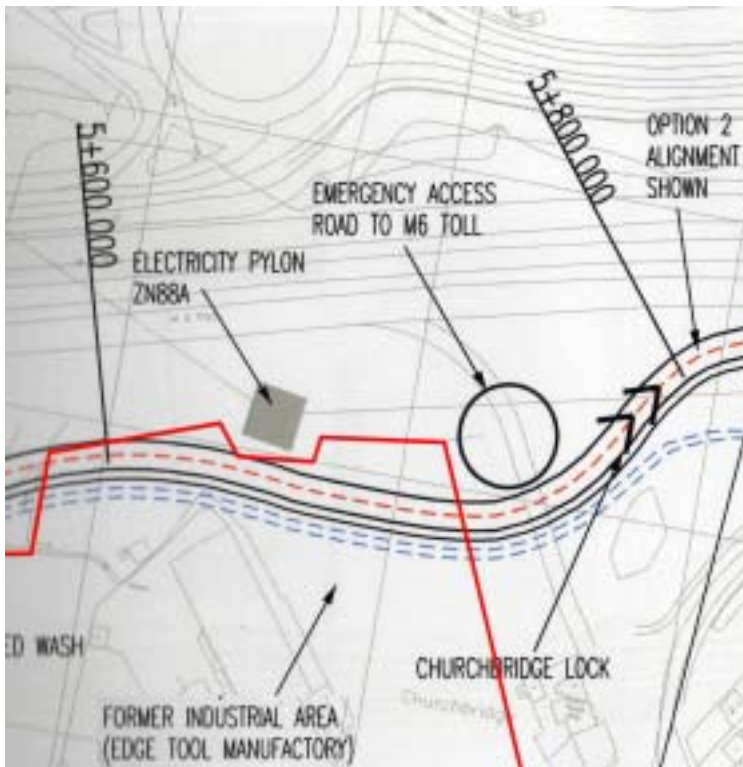
Although this may seem premature, our engineers have been giving serious thought to designing the crossings under both A51 and A38. Through the good offices of Peter Buck we now have a detailed programme which, if financed, would take the restoration to completion by 2026. Although we may be expecting too much of ourselves without such forward thinking there will be no chance of progressing the restoration in any serious way. The whole section from the A38 turn where our current “long wall” ends through to the south side of A38 must be designed as a whole to ensure the correct positioning of the new Lock 27 and that sight lines for boaters will be the best possible. These are major design and engineering tasks, but we must

CHAIRMAN'S COLUMN

not flinch from them. All this activity once again underlines the need to raise money on a large scale and the urgency of finding a funding officer who can build a team to tackle this issue. If the new "BW" is about to enter the voluntary funding world we will need a team of professionals every bit as skilled as our now strong panel of engineers.

Further on, towards Huddlesford we have now re-evaluated the impact of the proposed high speed railway. The latest version of the route shows a significant change to the crossing of the Lichfield Canal (see plan opposite). The original design showed it passing on a high viaduct close to Darnford Lane (blue line) and near the golf course buildings. The new version shows a similar viaduct exactly at Capper's Bridge (red line). Despite the visual intrusion and the disruption during the construction period the restoration should not be at risk with this section being so clearly in water and capable of full restoration. The Trust continues to monitor rather than oppose the new railway but is acutely aware that many of our members and neighbours could be seriously affected. Construction is not anticipated before 2016 and much could change before this stage is reached, if it is.

On the Hatherton we are continuing to work with South Staffordshire Council on an application from Redrow to build an estate of houses at Churchbridge (the area



bounded in red). Redrow continue to submit applications which the Trust is compelled to resist as the line of the canal is protected in the District Plan and the current developer's designs do not offer sufficient recognition of the needs of the canal through an area which even Arup recognised as difficult (see additional picture on page 6).

CHAIRMAN'S COLUMN

The Trust is very pleased that the boat rally at Pelsall is now back on for the weekend 11th/ 12th June 2011. This had to be put off in 2010 when the draining of Chasewater led to water-supply worries. We hope this rally will have widespread support as it will draw public interest to the restoration of both our canals and will be close to the Lords Hayes Branch which we are working towards reopening as the first stage in building a new route for the Hatherton. Previous events at Pelsall have enjoyed widespread support and been most enjoyable. Watch the waterways press and website for information. Our AGM will be held on the following Friday at The Park View Centre at Brownhills.

We enter 2011 in very good heart. We may worry about slipping completion dates and a lack of adequate funding but we have many positives to be stressed. We will have our first section of rewatered track and a strong team of engineers working on the details of full restoration. Support us as we march forward.



Wash Book under an electricity pylon at Churchbridge (possible line of canal)

Brian Kingshott(chairman)

Our Vision Statement

To restore the Lichfield Canal and the Hatherton Canal to re-open waterway links between Staffordshire and the West Midlands, for the benefit of the environment, amenity and prosperity of the people of the region and to enhance the nation's inland waterway system.

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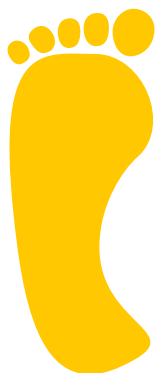
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Donations to the Trust

We gratefully acknowledge the following donations for amounts over £20 from 1st October to 31st December 2010.

Name (in order of receipt)	Trust & Marketing	Suchet Appeal	Restoration & Land Funds
Mr W R Carey		30.00	
Cllr I Jackson	40.00		
Mr J E Wood	81.00		
Rotary Club of Tamworth Anker (talk)	60.00		
Mrs M Bielby (private talk fee)	25.00		
Mr & Mrs M L Allsopp		30.00	
Lichfield Running Club (extra)	50.00		
anonymous	150.00		
Mr S Judge (with sub.)	25.00		
Mr C Gibson		100.00	
Mr David Stanistreet		240.00	90.00
Mr J Moody (returned property rent)	150.00		
Returned expenses by Trust officers:-			
Mr S Bowden	34.60		
Mr B Kingshott	288.80		
Mr R O Williams (Ogley Cottage work)	807.60		
Regular donors to appeals (inc. GA tax)		655.00	395.00
Aggregated donations up to £20 each	603.21		20.00

New Members 1st October to 31st December 2010.

Mr. J Mennear, Lichfield.

Mrs. L Salter, Whittington, Lichfield.

Mr. J Shakespeare, GreatBarr, Birmingham

We are very grateful to the following donors:-

David Suchet CBE for donating a special edition print to raise funds(see facing page)

Membership 1178 (Including 131 Life, 18 Joint Life, 11 Group, 12 Corporate)
 Plus 522 Family. Total 1700. Covenanted Members 64.
 Current Covenant and Gift Aid declarations 779

Membership rates are:

Adult £10; Family £15; Junior (under 18), Student, Retired or Unemployed £6;
 Group (Clubs & Societies) £25; Corporate £200; Life Membership £200.
 To join, please contact the Membership Secretary (see address page).

SUCHET BOOST TO FUNDS

The waterway press has been carrying articles to promote fund-raising to restore the historic narrowboat "Mendip" at the new Heritage Boatyard at Ellesmere Port Boat Museum. Waterways Guild artist Dusty Miller was commissioned to produce a painting from a photograph taken by Harry Arnold in 1962 showing British Waterways boats *Roach* and *Howard* being loaded at Sideway Colliery, Stoke-on-Trent for Seddons Saltworks at Middlewich. This was the last regular long-distance traffic on the Trent & Mersey Canal which ended in 1967. *Mendip* worked on this traffic, skippered by the well-known "Chocolate" Charlie Atkins.

From a limited edition of 250 prints, No.1 was presented to our Trust Vice President, David Suchet CBE. Adding his autograph to those of Dusty Miller and Harry Arnold MBE, he elected to donate this special edition to benefit the Lichfield & Hatherton Canals Restoration Trust.

During the Trust's Black Country Comedy evening in Whittington, Lichfield, on 23rd October 2010, in accepting the framed print from Harry Arnold, Eric Wood thanked those concerned. In a brief auction, a very substantial offer was soon reached by an appreciative buyer for this unique piece of historic art.



Viv Scragg receives the print from Eric Wood and Harry Arnold, 23-Oct-10

(advertisement)



Michael Fabricant MP
Member of Parliament for
the Constituency of Lichfield.

If you live in the Lichfield Parliamentary constituency, and you require assistance and think your MP can help, you can either write to Michael Fabricant at the House of Commons, Westminster, London SW1A 0AA; or you can email him by using the webform at **www.michael.fabricant.mp.co.uk/contact.html** or telephone his office at 01543 419650 where you can also make an appointment to see him at one of his regular surgeries.

(advertisement)

CAPTION COMPETITION

This issue's caption competition involves what men do best, looking down holes and offering advice. Any suggestions?



A funny thing happened on the way to look at a disused canal

Crowds gather to watch narrow boat rescue



Small text columns, likely a newspaper clipping, describing the incident.



Adventure waterway cruising is something few will have undertaken!

Chris Coburn and myself did over 2000 miles at sea visiting little used and endangered navigations.

We helped raise the profile of some of these waters ...

But not without a few mishaps!!

See this incident in "Operation Wash & Go!"

ADVENTURE CRUISING, THE BCN, WORKING BOATS, THE L&H STORY AND MORE
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GRAND PRIZE DRAW RESULTS FOR 2010

We were very grateful to Cllr Colin Greatorex, Sheriff of Lichfield, who made the Prize Draw for 2010 as our special guest at the Trust's Black Country Comedy evening in Whittington, Lichfield, on 23rd October. Thanks also go to those who sponsored some of the prizes and all the ticket buyers to produce a gross income of £3,533.

The winning tickets were:-

1. 08493 £500.00 cash,
Mr P Gardner, Weedon, Northants.
2. 14282 Spa Day at Hoar Cross Hall with luxury transport, sponsored by Fred Pritchard, Mr B Cartwright, Tamworth, Staffs.
3. 13165 One-day Boat Handling Course sponsored by Terry Robertson, Mr D Masters, Retford, Nottinghamshire.
4. 08955 £50 Marks & Spencer shopping voucher sponsored by a Trust member, Mr G Chapman, Lichfield.
5. 13167 "Sweet Memories" silver photo frame, Mrs K Ainsworth, Water Orton, Birmingham.
6. 00733 National Trust book "Town & Country Birds". Mr Randall, Lichfield.
7. 11624 "Mamma Mia" Abba book and pen set, Mrs P Gulvin, Chatham, Kent.
8. 01639 "Roses" addresses, notebook and pen set, Mr & Mrs Humphreys, Hammerwich, Staffs.
9. 01566 Choice of Laurence Hogg Productions DVD, Mr S Vickery, Lichfield.



Colin Greatorex draws the 2010 winning tickets.

You will soon be able to enter the Trust's Prize Draw for 2011!

Enticing prizes are in course of preparation for the draw tickets which will go on sale by the Spring. Can you sponsor the valuable top prize of £500.00 to promote your business from Spring to Autumn to thousands of potential customers all over the country? Please contact me to discuss this exceptional opportunity.

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"500 CLUB" Capital Fund

Become a member of our 500 Club for the chance to win prizes of up to £400 every three months!

50% of the 500 Club income will be retained for capital expenditure essential for restoration of our two canals... and

50% paid in prizes to its members.

The "500 Club" could contribute up to £3,000 a year - or even more - whilst, for just £12 a year, Club Members get four chances of winning prizes of up to £400 - or maybe more each time!

Since the last issue of Cut Both Ways, we have registered Member Number 306 of the 500 Club. However, the number of active subscriptions at the time of the December 2010 Draw was 208. The Trust would like to thank everyone for their support during the year. The 500 Club is open to everyone, so please tell your friends and relatives. The more subscriptions we have, the more money we raise for the Capital Fund and for prize money to be won.

The winners of the December draw are:

First prize	£162.24	No 272	Ian Bird, Lichfield
Second prize	£106.08	No 103	Derek Redwood, Sutton Coldfield
Third prize	£43.68	No 126	Jean Brown, Wheaton Aston

The "500 Club" Capital Fund has been established to raise funds for capital expenditure on land purchase and rebuilding structures on the Lichfield and Hatherton Canals. For an annual subscription of £12 Club Members are allocated 1 chance in each of 4 successive quarterly draws. Based on a membership of 500, the maximum prizes will be:

1 st Prize	£400	approx 26% income
2 nd Prize	£250	approx 17% income
3 rd Prize	£100	approx 7% income

If there are more or less than 500 members, the prizes will be proportionally increased or decreased. So the more 500 Club members we have, the higher the prizes. Remember, membership of the 500 Club is open to everyone, not just members of Lichfield & Hatherton Canals Restoration Trust.

So please spread the word. If you want to subscribe, you can download an application form from our website www.lhcr.org.uk, or write to Mavis Moore, 88 Spring Lane, Whittington, Lichfield WS14 9NA.



Birmingham Canal Navigations Society

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The BCN needs you in 2011!

Whether you are a local boater or you cruise from further afield, this is the year to join us on the BCN. With the proposed move of British Waterways into a charitable trust and the reduction in government funding, there is a real danger that the less popular waterways will be neglected. We must prove to local communities and politicians that this matters to us and show how local people can enjoy their canals. The following BCNS events are aimed at encouraging boats to cruise these canals so that people can enjoy seeing them and give their support.

Please consider joining in one or more of these events whilst planning your cruising for 2011 and get them in the diary now. Entries are already coming in fast so don't delay.

For entry forms for any of these events contact:
boundarypost@gmail.com



The Inland
Waterways
Association

Corporate Member

*Campaigning for the use, maintenance, and restoration of
Britain's inland waterways*

BCN Marathon Challenge 28th/29th May

The second year of the return of this popular event. Boaters plan their own routes getting additional points for the less used sections. Enjoy the event and cruise as much of the BCN as you wish. Further information from Roy Kenn, 01922 428644.

BCN Explorer Cruise 4th to 10th June

After the success of the cruises of the past four years, it will be held again this year to encourage boaters to explore the Birmingham Canal Navigations prior to the Canal Festival at Pelsall. We have found that many boaters prefer the additional security of cruising in company with others and enjoy the social side of informal gatherings at the designated mooring locations. For further information contact Marie (07709265073) or Stuart (07510167288) Sherratt.

Canal Festival- Pelsall 11th to 12th June

The BCNS main Summer event, supported by the IWA, Longwood Boat Club and Lichfield and Hatherton Canals Restoration Trust. All the usual activities stalls and entertainments on Pelsall Wood Common, with Saturday evening food and music for a good get together. We know that this will be well supported by the local community and it will be a great weekend for visitors by boat or car. Further information from Ivor Caplan 07778685764 email: ihcaplan@msn.com

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CAPTION COMPETITION



Notes from the Editor

I had four entries into the caption competition which are shown below:-

“Those Otter preservation people have gone too far this time!” - John Potts

“My bank’s new hole in the wall “. – John Bradshaw

“Harry?...**Harry!** Da-di-da, Di-da, Diiii dum” “Exuant left (with Zither accompaniment)”

for those too young to understand or have not seen the film, The Third Man is a 1949 British film Orson Welles, and Trevor Howard. Anton Karas wrote the score, which used only the zither; its title cut topped the international music charts in 1950.

Mike Battisson

The fourth entry was deemed the winner, and was submitted by Laurence Hogg.

His entry is reproduced opposite.



The Sunday HAMSTERWYCH TIMES

January 2011 edition

Water Vole Collider for Hitchfield canal!!

A major step towards sustainable restoration and
protecting, developing wildlife habitats & plants



The brainchild of
Rodger Handberry
CEO of the
Wasterways Trust!
Now brought to life
in Hitchfield. This
"revoelucidnary"
tunnel will help
scampering voles
meet up with a
bang!!
"Ratty-ho - here we go"

First section built at Borrocop locks

Yes here it is! The meeting or
mating chamber at Borrowcop
locks where voles will start off
in opposite directions build up
great speed and then collide.
Handberry predicts they will be
so happy to meet, they will certainly
then mate, have young and stay in
the collider.
Hanberry then predicts this will save
the H&L trust millions in repairing
vole damaged banks.



WHAT A DIFFERENCE A YEAR MAKES



Bywash 25 a year ago, 2-Jan-10



Bywash 25 today, 16-Jan-11

WHITE ELEPHANT OR VITAL LINK???

As you drive along the M6 Toll or make your way along the A5 near Brownhills you will see a bridge across the Motorway that does not appear to be connected to anything. This is an aqueduct to carry the yet to be restored Lichfield Canal from Brownhills to Huddlesford near Lichfield.

It was back in 1997 that plans for the M6 Toll flagged up the problem of how the canal would cross this new major road. Within 6 weeks of Labour coming to power John Prescott signed the contract for the new road under private concession and it quickly became apparent that no provision was being made for the canal itself other than the building of the bases for the aqueduct. As no plans were available at this stage it was not known what type of base was required because an engineering assessment had not been made as to length of the structure (154ft / 47Metres) or even the weight to be supported.

However, inclusion of foundations in the road-building contract meant that CAMBBA (who were building the Toll Road) had to design the aqueduct and construct the foundations which cost £65,000.

The fact that Government had agreed that routes of Canal Restoration projects should be protected somehow managed to slip away from CAMBBA and the Trust found itself having to fund this link. This was not covered in the Government's Planning Policy Guidelines (PPG13) which they agreed to change in 2001 and as it was not retrospective it still meant that CAMBBA was not obliged to fund the crossing.

With the design agreed, Rowecord Engineering in Newport, South Wales built the aqueduct trough and duly brought it to site on 2 lorries, craned it into place and bolted it together on August 16th. 2003. If this had taken place after the M6 Toll had opened, the cost of closing the motorway would have been prohibitive.

Luckily the Manifold Trust came to the aid of the Trust in the form of the late Sir John Smith and a donation of £250,000 was made. LHCRT duly launched the David Suchet appeal for the balance as the aqueduct in total would cost £451,000 including the pillars. The money was just raised in time, but not before many Trust members suffered from sleepless nights!!

When will it be connected? – well that is anyone's guess, just a few million pounds and the Lichfield Canal will once again be open to boaters, walkers, fishermen, cyclists etc. and bring a much needed tourist boost to the area, not only that but the jobs that go with it as well.

Mervyn Ainge (Publicity Officer)

For the latest pictures, news and on-line ordering of sales items,
don't forget to take a look at the web site.

www.lhcrt.org.uk



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In partnership with
The Lichfield & Hatherton Canals Restoration
Trust

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Saturday 5th March 2011

10.00 am to noon

Admission 30p

Tea and cakes available in our café

ENVIRONMENTAL NEWS

Cricket Lane Corner

At the western end of the Tamworth Road restoration site, where the Darwin walk exits to cross Cricket Lane there is a small corner of land facing the A51, Tamworth Road, that is understood to be unlisted in the National Land Registry. This corner area has been considered to be Canal land for many years and managed by Trust volunteers. They control rural growth and dispose of rubbish left by the public (often discarded beer and lager cans purchased locally). A new fence has now been constructed enclosing this area and clumps of daffodils planted to enhance the appearance. It might now be appropriate to consider claiming ownership by Adverse Possession. An application to this effect is now being studied. We will also be carrying out a bat survey later in the year in readiness to erect bat boxes as part of the environmental requirements of the Borrowcop Locks Canal Park planning permission.

Mike Battison, (Environmental Officer)



Trust volunteers clearing a small corner of land near Cricket Lane

FROM HERE AND THERE

Ogley Cottage

It is wonderful to be able to report excellent news on this front at last. Almost all the work we had to undertake in the autumn to get the cottage up to standard was done in the nick of time. Our new tenant was able to move in during the half term break, as planned, and is now settled in. There are still some matters to attend to especially with roofing and drainage, but we are confident that all can be done soon. We now have a property in good heart whose future can be reviewed when the property market improves and the two-year tenancy approaches its end.

Storage

Ogley Cottage has two garages, only one of which goes with the tenancy. The second was built as a workshop and has been used in recent years to warehouse the stock of collectables (bric-a-brac) which is brought out by the Trust and Lichfield IWA at public events for fundraising. Unfortunately, the building has proved less than waterproof and, although we hope to remedy this, the time has come to move on. We are looking for a suitable garage, shed or outhouse which someone could let us use, preferably close to Lichfield.

If anyone could help please contact David Moore (01543-432718).

Funding Officer

Bob Williams has been our most effective Finance Officer for many years. He has many other calls on his time and needs some support. The Trust needs a Funding Officer or, a team of supporters, who can concentrate on raising money. There are several ways in which funds can be sought from special events to trawling the many grant-giving bodies where their criteria and the needs of the Trust might be in step.

If anyone would like to know more please contact Bob Williams (01543-671427) or Brian Kingshott (01547-530457).

Marketing Team

We are still looking for help with our invaluable marketing team. This will be especially so this year with a rally at Pelsall and the IWA National at Burton on Trent. Ultimately. We need a new chairman and secretary as David and Mavis Moore stand aside after many years of hard work and service.

Please contact David Moore (01543-671427) or Brian Kingshott(01547-530457).

IWA National

The IWA National Festival which is one of the major events of the waterways year is returning to Burton on Trent this year. There has been a major change to the date from the recently traditional August Bank Holiday weekend to the last weekend in July. L&H will be well represented and we hope that extra volunteers will come forward to help with our stand.

FROM HERE AND THERE

Pelsall Rally

A special committee has been set up, chaired by Ivor Caplan, to run this event on Pelsall Common 11th/12th June 2011. This should encourage a high number of boats to use the northern BCN as well as bringing in the general public. It will focus attention on L&H and provide an opportunity for fundraising. Please give your full support.

For more information and further events provided by the BCNS see page 14

Lichfield District Council LDF

Trust officers have been in close touch with the Lichfield planners for many years and have had a very useful input to the Local Development Framework ensuring the Lichfield Canal is properly protected. We have chosen to go for "Site Allocation" rather than a full line protection as it is important that what we show is "deliverable" by 2026 which will be the LDF expiry date. Currently, "Shaping our District" is available to the public for consultation and comment and contains some useful references to the canal scheme. The planners are keen to hear from the residents of the District and will welcome comments and support. The document, which is easy to consult is available from Council offices and most local libraries. It is also accessible through the Council website, developmentplans@lichfielddc.gov.uk. We urge members to show their support and make their comments.

LDFs are also ongoing at Cannock Chase and South Staffordshire Councils who are equally keen to receive public comment.

Legal Advice and Support

The Trust often needs legal advice and also has to have the proper support when buying property. In recent years we have had the help of a solicitor in Lichfield who, sadly, is now retiring. We will be looking for a successor but if there is a member with a legal background who feels able to offer some help please contact either Brian Kingshott (01547-530457) or Bob Williams (01543-671427).

Anglers

With the prospect of Pound 26 being in water soon we will be looking for sources of income to help with maintenance cost. With the imminent changes to British Waterways we will have to look to every possible project to boost our income to finance restored sections. Pound 26 might be attractive to local anglers and we would like to hear from anyone with a possible interest.

Please contact Bob Williams (01543-671427).

MARKETING REPORT

There is little to report for the last three months of 2010. Our only events have been the Autumn entertainment at Whittington and the Chamber of Commerce Christmas Fair in Lichfield Market Place.

The Autumn event, with 'Dandy' providing the entertainment, was a great success. Our funds raised that evening were boosted by the sale of a canal print, donated by David Suchet. The Christmas Fair was not quite the success we hoped for. We had been told all year that the economy was in recession and I think that this event, as well as many others in 2010, bore out that fact.

Many of our events over the year did not bring the expected results and, as a consequence, our contribution to the Trust was some £2,000 down on previous years. One bright spot, the sale of "*Ramble through the Heart of England*" has raised over £200 for the Trust. We still have copies of the book available at £8.50 (including postage & packing) and they can be ordered through the L&H web site.

Still, we must hope for better trading in 2011, although all the economic forecasts are dim. We can, however, look forward to another IWA National Festival at Burton-on-Trent at the end of July and our own Huddlesford Gathering in September. We already have potentially twenty events booked for this year but we will need more assistance if we are going to mount a good showing at all of them. Our '500 Club' continues to provide a useful source of revenue for our Capital Fund, so don't forget to renew your subscription or take out a subscription if you don't already have one.

One final thing; we certainly need more people to boost the Marketing Team (and all our other teams). So make that your New Year resolution, to get out there and lend a hand.



Black Country Comedy Night, Whittington, 23-Oct-10

MONEY MATTERS

2010 Accounts preview

Draft figures for last year show the following outcome which may vary slightly when the accounts are fully examined for presentation to the AGM:-

Total income	£62,978
less expenditure	<u>(£49,847)</u>
Net gain in funds	£13,131
less asset depreciation	<u>(£9,261)</u>
Accounting surplus for the year	£3,870
plus resources brought forward	<u>£176,019</u>
Resulting resources carried forward	£179,889

Whilst this result shows we have “held our ground”, it also implies that we were not able to extend that ground despite extensive negotiations on several fronts. For example, plans had included some essential land acquisition, channel watering and sale of Ogley Cottage. However, on the ground our regular volunteer workforce put in countless hours throughout the year, assisted by occasional Waterway Recovery Group and Jaguar Land Rover visiting teams depicted in previous issues through last year.

The usual extract from the full accounts will be included in the next edition for presenting to the Annual General Meeting on 17th June 2011. see page 31

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Bank account changes

Readers may recall our announcement last year that the Trust, like everyone else, sought to reduce its administrative costs to make better use of charitable funds. Through careful research and gradual process, we are taking advantage of better terms with Unity Trust Bank plc at its Head Office in Birmingham. It is a specialist bank for social enterprises, charities and trade unions which delivers the right banking solutions for us such as free accounts and easy online facilities. Since they are not a “High Street” name, you might like to find out more about them on www.unity.co.uk.

At this time of the year, participants in the Trust’s “500 Club” are invited to renew their support. Those who make a single annual payment by Bankers Order are asked by personal letter to change the bank destination to our Marketing Account at Unity Trust Bank. 500 Club forms are at <http://www.lhcr.org.uk/500club.htm#500form>

Otherwise, annual Trust Membership Subscriptions and regular donations to appeals which are paid by Bankers Order at various times into the Trust’s main bank account will be dealt with by an internal process as they arise through the year.

MONEY MATTERS

Time for change? As cheques are to be phased out on a national basis later in this decade, now could be a good time to switch to making your payments by Bankers Order. For membership application forms go to :-
<http://www.lhcr.org.uk/member.htm#memberform>

Borrowcop Locks Canal Park - Pound 26 water project

As 2010 came to a close, the anticipated £30,000 Staffordshire County Council Aggregates Levy grant was confirmed towards watering the section in the Borrowcop Locks Canal Park between Locks 25 and 26 by the Tamworth Road, Lichfield. The complete funding package of £70,000 meant we could press on with the final formalities to enable the contractor to get on with the job. And there is no time to loose as the grant funds must be spent by March! McPhillips (Wellington) Limited are taking on the job – well-known to us for rebuilding Cappers Lane Bridge over the Lichfield Canal near Whittington as part of the European Regional Development Fund work in 2005-2006.



Pound 26 before the contractor moves in, December 2010

Would you like to receive a colour copy of Cut Both Ways
in an electronic PDF format?

Please email the editor (Stefan.Szulc@Gmail.com) and request a copy.

MONEY MATTERS

If all goes well, we hope to see Pound 26 of the Lichfield Canal fully restored to its former state. Well, not exactly, as this original section was about twice the width right up to the house which is now part of the Canal Cottage garden. There should be interesting new opportunities for enjoying this restored section of canal, both from the bank and on the water.

Bob Williams, Director (Finance)

For details about our Regular Giving Scheme
contact Bob Williams Tel 01543 671427
Norfolk House, 29 Hall Lane, Hammerwich, Burntwood, WS7 0JP



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*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*

LICHFIELD CANAL WORKING PARTY NEWS

“Global warming” was all the talk – until last December when our surprisingly cold winter weather largely dominated events, or you might say non-events. Since the thrusting progress reported in the last issue, we settled down to the more leisurely work of further brick-laying along the towpath wall in Pound 27. However, that stopped after November, but has again become possible as more “normal” conditions return. At least the workers had a welcome rest and we got some very attractive seasonal views “for the album”.



Borrowcop Locks Canal Park, 27-Nov-10

On a more positive note, the funding and contractor news reported in Money Matters brought urgency to preparatory work translating planning into reality for the Borrowcop Locks Canal Park Pound 26 water project. Our regular work party rose to the chilly New Year task of clearing the compound area for use by the contractor. Machines and materials were relocated, all helping to bring a fresh look and encouragement that things are about to change in a big way.

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 CANAL WORKING PARTY NEWS



Project group look into watering Lock 25, 3-Jan-11

A Project Group will monitor contract performance and Council Planning Permission stipulates certain environmental requirements which need to be put in place over the coming months. So there's plenty to do, and as ever, we need more of you out there to join our happy band to get on with it all.

Bob Williams (Work Party Co-ordinator)

Back Copies of Cut Both Ways available at £1.00 Each

Copies of issues 1 to 65 are available from Sue Williams

Norfolk House, 29 Hall Lane, Hammerwich, WS7 0JP

Cheques made payable to LHCRT Ltd

All Photos in this issue are by Bob Williams unless otherwise stated.

LICHFIELD & HATHERTON CANALS RESTORATION TRUST LIMITED.

Registered Office: Island House, Moor Road, Chesham, Bucks. HP5 1WA

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 Ogley 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 Birmingham Canal Navigations.

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

PATRONS Chris Coburn MBE, Dr David Fletcher CBE, Michael Fabricant MP.

DIRECTORS

Chairman	Brian Kingshott	☎/Fax 01547 530457
	<u>Park Cottage, Hopton Castle, Craven Arms. SY7 0QF</u>	
Vice-Chairman	Peter Magee	☎/Fax 01889 578289
& Plant	<u>The Spinney, Bellamour Way, Colton, Rugeley WS15 3LL</u>	
Finance	Bob Williams	☎ 01543 671427 Fax 01543 677687
	<u>Norfolk House, 29 Hall Lane, Hammerwich. WS7 0JP</u>	
Secretary	Sue Williams	☎ 01543 671427
& Web Master	Norfolk House, 29 Hall Lane, Hammerwich. WS7 0JP	
	e-mail: info@lhcr.org.uk	
Membership	Trevor Morris	☎ 0121 354 7952
Secretary	<u>163, Halton Road, Sutton Coldfield. B73 6NZ</u>	
Land & Property	David Dixon	☎ 01543 258512
	<u>78 Gaia Lane, Lichfield WS13 7LS</u>	
	David Moore	☎ 01543 432718
	<u>88, Spring Lane, Whittington, Lichfield. WS14 9NA</u>	
Project Planning	Mike Battison	☎ 01543 300090
	<u>3, Minors Hill, Lichfield, Staffs. WS14 9DJ</u>	
Health & Safety	Bob Mullarkey	☎ 01543 251408
	<u>220, Upper St John Street, Lichfield. WS14 9EF</u>	
I. W. A.	Vaughan Welch	☎ 0121 477 9782

Representative 3, Beach Close, Northfield, Birmingham. B31 3DB

OTHER OFFICERS

Magazine Editor	Stefan Szulc	☎ 01543 677156 Stefan.Szulc@Gmail.com
Lichfield Work Party	Bob Williams	☎ 01543 671427
Hatherton Work Party	Denis Cooper	☎ 01543 374370 (work)
Education	Andrew Williams	☎ 01543 250452
Environment	Geoff Crook	☎ 01543 254826
Marketing & Sales	Vacant	
Publicity	Mervyn Ainge	☎ 01543 307317
Membership Asst.	Pat Ainge	☎ 01543 492344
Strategy	Shaun Bowden	☎ 01543 419858

LICHFIELD & HATHERTON CANALS RETAIL TRADING LIMITED.

Company No 3686837 - Chairman: Brian Kingshott; Secretary: Rob Davies; Finance: Bob Williams

web site:

www.lhcr.org.uk

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the 21st Annual General Meeting of the Lichfield and Hatherton Canals Restoration Trust Ltd. will be held at Park View Centre, Chester Road North, Brownhills, Walsall WS8 7JB on Friday 17th June 2011 at 7.15 pm.

AGENDA

1. Apologies
2. Minutes of the 20th Annual General Meeting 18/06/10
3. Matters Arising
4. Directors' Report
5. Treasurer's Report and Presentation of Accounts for the year
ending 31st December 2010
6. Chairman's Report
7. Election of Directors:
 - (a) Directors retiring by rotation and eligible to stand for re-election:
Trevor Morris
Robert Williams
David Moore
 - (b) Any other nominations received
8. Appointment of Auditor / Examiner:
Dains - Chartered Accountants
9. Any Other Business
10. Close of formal business
11. Guest Speaker
Dean Davies, West Midlands Waterway Manager, British Waterways

After the AGM, tea and biscuits will be served with an opportunity to view displays and sales material.

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 (Sue Williams), to whom they should be returned at least 48 hours before the time appointed for the meeting.

Note 2: A summary of the 2010 Annual Accounts, subject to approval, is included in this magazine. Any member wanting a copy of the full accounts in advance of the meeting should contact the Treasurer, Bob Williams.

Note 3: Non-members are welcome to attend but cannot vote at the AGM.



**Braunston Marina
are proud to BACK
the campaign to save the
Lichfield & Hatherton Canals.**

keep digging the ground from under their feet!

**Braunston Marina
The Wharf, Braunston, Nr Daventry,
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Telephone: 01788 891373
Fax: 01788 891436
web site: www.braunstonmarina.co.uk
email: sales@braunstonmarina.co.uk**