

CUT
BOTH
WAYS



The Magazine of the Lichfield &
Hatherton Canals Restoration Trust

Issue 67 Spring 2011



The Realisation of a Dream, 06-Apr-11

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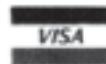
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CHAIRMAN'S COLUMN

It is wonderful to be able to start on a very positive note. If you have been to Tamworth Road over the last month you will have seen the great work which has been done there by our contractors, McPhillips. They completed operations on Pound 26 safely within the contract period and we now have a section of canal which is slowly filling with water. You can read the details and see the photographs further on but this is an exciting moment in the history of our project. We have worked for nearly a quarter of a century to restore our canals. We have many successes to point to but, for the general public; nothing will really count if it is not a canal with water in it and boats on it. For so many years we have had a work site at Tamworth Road which has impressed waterways aficionados but has not really impressed the passing public. Now that has changed. Our first section of restored canal is there for all to see.

I hope there will be plenty of opportunities to express our thanks to those who have driven forward the work at Tamworth Road. Bob Williams has supervised the operations and has ensured proper planning and financing. Peter Buck, supported by John Horton and other members of the engineering team, has been our project engineer and his technical expertise and knowledge have been invaluable. Our own work force, until recently led by Brian Davis, has done so much to prepare and build the infrastructure thus ensuring the work, and cost, required of contractors has been kept to a minimum. Now they are all fired up and ready to move on. I must also pay tribute to our MP and Patron, Michael Fabricant, who came so rapidly and effectively to our rescue when the whole project seemed threatened by bureaucracy and ill-informed obstruction. Our other, largely unsung, heroine is Sandra Attwood who has supported us throughout the work and made it all possible by agreeing to the transfer of the lease of the vital piece of land to the Trust and tolerating the long-term intrusion into her garden. We should also pay tribute to the professionalism of McPhillips who have done a splendid job, responded cheerfully and positively to the difficulties and have left the site in pristine condition.

We have financed operations from Section 106 money from Lichfield District Council, grants from the Staffordshire Aggregates Fund and the Lichfield Conduit Lands Trust. This left a shortfall which was made up from our own resources. Meanwhile we are poised to complete an important land purchase deal. These two expenditures, both vital, will see our cash reserves considerably reduced.



**Project Part-Financed
by the European Union**

**European Regional
Development Fund**

CHAIRMAN'S COLUMN

Fund-raising is an important part of what we do and we will need the fullest support from the membership to ensure that we have the reserves we need. We must always be ready to meet unexpected demands on our finances as we did with the building of the aqueduct and the enlarging of the culvert under the Birmingham Road in Lichfield.

We will be organising a proper event to celebrate the completion of Pound 26 and this will probably be on Friday, 17th June on the afternoon of our AGM. The AGM will be held, as in the last two years, at the Park View Centre, Brownhills and we really hope that a considerable number of members will be there to show their support. The meeting will include a talk by local BW waterways manager, Dean Davies, who will explain the serious implications for the canal restoration movement of the reorganisation of BW.

On the Hatherton, we have successfully concluded our discussions with Redrow and South Staffordshire District Council. We had been compelled to oppose Redrow plans for a development at Churchbridge because we could not be sure that the route of the restored canal was adequately protected. Although we do not expect to be able to work at this point for several years it was essential that we kept all the required engineering parameters open. After some unwillingness, Redrow has been able to re-jig its plans and we have withdrawn our objections. We have been most grateful to the honorary IWA consulting engineer, Roy Sutton, and our own Mike Smith, both of whom worked hard to give us answers to complex questions concerning levels and flood plains. It was fascinating to hear that when the M6 Toll was built, structures were not installed as indicated on the plans. The David Suchet Tunnel and at least one National Grid pylon may not be where they should be. We have no plans to contest this!

The Trust will be on show at two major events in the region this year. We have scaled down our representation at big events such as the Boat and Leisure show at NEC in February and the Crick Boat Show in June. It is expensive and time-consuming to maintain our presence and, without generous sponsorship, almost impossible to turn a profit. The IWA National is back in the Midlands this year, revisiting Shobnal Fields in Burton on Trent and we intend to put on a big display at this new timing of the end of July. We will also be supporting the joint BCNS/IWA festival at Pelsall in June as this is so clearly within an area of great interest to us. L&H was formed after a series of boat gatherings at Pelsall Common in the 1980s and 1990s and the site lies midway between the entrances of both our canals. Bringing the message back to Pelsall is surely timely. People easily forget what we are trying to do and whole new generations have sprung up which have never heard of us. We will need all the help we can get from local members so please put yourself forward if you can help in even the smallest way.

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

CHAIRMAN'S COLUMN

This has been an up-beat assessment of Trust activity in recent months and uplifting to write. Such progress puts new heart into the Trust. However, let us not be too carried away! Pound 26 is but a tiny section of the 7 miles or so of the Lichfield Canal and the similar length of the Hatherton. There is still an enormous way to go and we need ever more help to push us on our way. Come to the AGM and offer your support.

Brian Kingshott(chairman)

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.

UNDER THE FLAG

A History of the Early Years of Lichfield Cruising Club

After 12 months and a fair few pints in the Plough, Mr McMullen was persuaded to keep his eye on our boats in the event of us moving onto the Wyrley and Essington canal adjacent to his cottage garden. We finally agreed to move in, while at the afore-mentioned rally. The manoeuvre, however, did not take place until just over a year later beginning on the weekend of the 19th November 1960, when four boats belonging to myself (Alan Perry) in my first boat "Phoenix", the four Squires in their jointly owned boat "Wanderlust", Arthur Penn in his boat "Needwood", and Ray 'Lofty' Penn in "Calypso", all tying up in the canal entrance and gauging hole. At the time the entrance to the arm was nearly silted up solid and the arm itself completely choked with weeds. We were gradually joined by other boats until by the end of the year the "Fleet" had grown to seven or eight craft. Naturally in this part of the history of the moorings, several "firsts" were recorded - the first piece of maintenance equipment came our way on New Years Eve in the shape of an ex-Army pontoon acquired from the lock-keeper at Tame Valley canal bottom lock, no questions asked. The pontoon soon to be named "Son of Fred" was to be our future work boat, the "second first" being our first boat "break-ins", only kids stuff, nothing stolen but everything turned upside down. Another first was a trip up the arm to the bottom lock of the Wyrley and Essington, that is Ogley lock No 30 which is situated approximately 400 yards up-stream from Cappers Lane. The venture terminated inside the entrance to the lock and was achieved by punting and paddling the work pontoon through masses of rushes, overhanging bushes and various other types of vegetation.

Alan Perry (1960)

The Waterways Festival 2011

Festival Extravaganza Floats into Staffordshire

There will be so much to see and do on the banks of the Trent and Mersey Canal when Burton upon Trent hosts The Waterways Festival, previously known as the National Festival and Boat Show, from **Friday 29th to Sunday 31st July 2011**.

This new date is a change from the normal practice in recent years of holding it over the August Bank Holiday, and has come after significant consultation with exhibitors, attending public and IWA volunteers who are all vital to the staging of the event.

Nestled to the East of Staffordshire, the historic brewing town has been chosen for the second time to host the annual celebration, with up to 30,000 people expected to attend.

The three day festival is an exciting and colourful extravaganza packed with an array of attractions all aimed at providing an educational and fun day out for all the family.

Around 350 boats, many decorated, will line up along the water's edge. Heritage crafts will also feature strongly at the festival, with historic working boats on display.

The event is renowned for its high quality entertainment and history lovers will be drawn to the major Viking battle re-enactment and living camp being staged by the world famous Regia Anglorum.

With a reputation for vivid and dramatic entertainment, the Mikron Theatre Company will debut a new waterways show called Hell and High Water. There is much more to see, including live music, water activities and fairground rides.

The festival will also host up to 250 exhibitors so whether you're interested in boats and chandlery or just wish to browse the many speciality stalls, including clothing, arts and crafts, jewellery and speciality food and drink, the choice is extensive.

The event itself is organised entirely by a small army of volunteers gathered from canal enthusiasts and many from the local community of the host area. If you'd like to get involved and become a volunteer please contact Ann Mayall on 01488 682504.

Make sure you put the date of this national IWA event in your diary!

Advance tickets can be purchased online at

www.thewaterwaysfestival.co.uk

Ticket prices: Single Day Adults £8 (On Gate £10), Single Day Concessions £7 (On Gate £8) and Three Day (day time only) Ticket £15 (On Gate £19). Children under 16 GO FREE when accompanied by an adult.

"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!

Notification of "500 Club" renewals for 2011 was sent out with the last issue of Cut Both Ways and members who pay by Bankers Order were asked to change their payment destination to our new bank, Unity Trust Bank. There has been a slight increase in the number of active subscriptions during the last quarter. However, the more subscriptions we have, the more money we raise for the Capital Fund and for prize money to be won, so please spread the word.

The winners of the March draw are:

First prize	£165.36	No 266	Dan Shipman, Alsager
Second prize	£108.12	No 255	Dr Rod Brooks, Walsall
Third prize	£44.52	No 124	Ben & Jean Spencer, Queensland, Australia

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.

(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)

The Realisation of a Dream



Pound 26 before work started



Lock 25 before work started

In Civil Engineering terms the re-watering of Pound 26 does not rank among the most ambitious of projects, but in the words of the men from McPhilips “it was very enjoyable”.



Lock 25 shaft demolition



Pumping concrete into Lock 25



Laying concrete in Lock 25



Lock 25 head repaired



McPhillips clear Pound 26



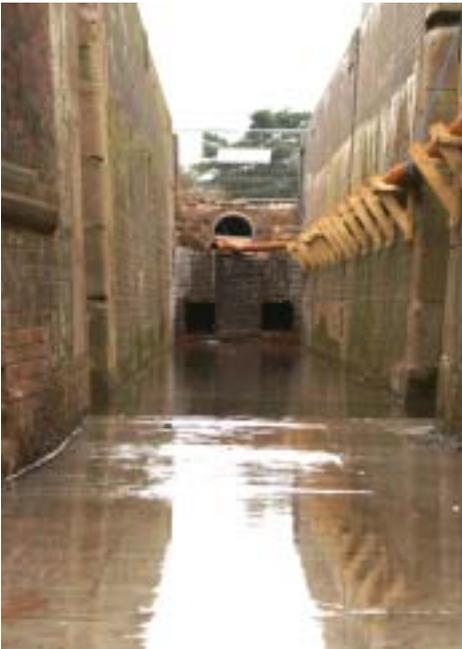
McPhillips levelling Pound 26 base



McPhillips laying bentonite waterproofing



Covering the bentonite waterproof matting



Lock 25 after work finished



Letting in the first water



Tributary pipeline diversion round Lock 26



Lock 26 tail before work started



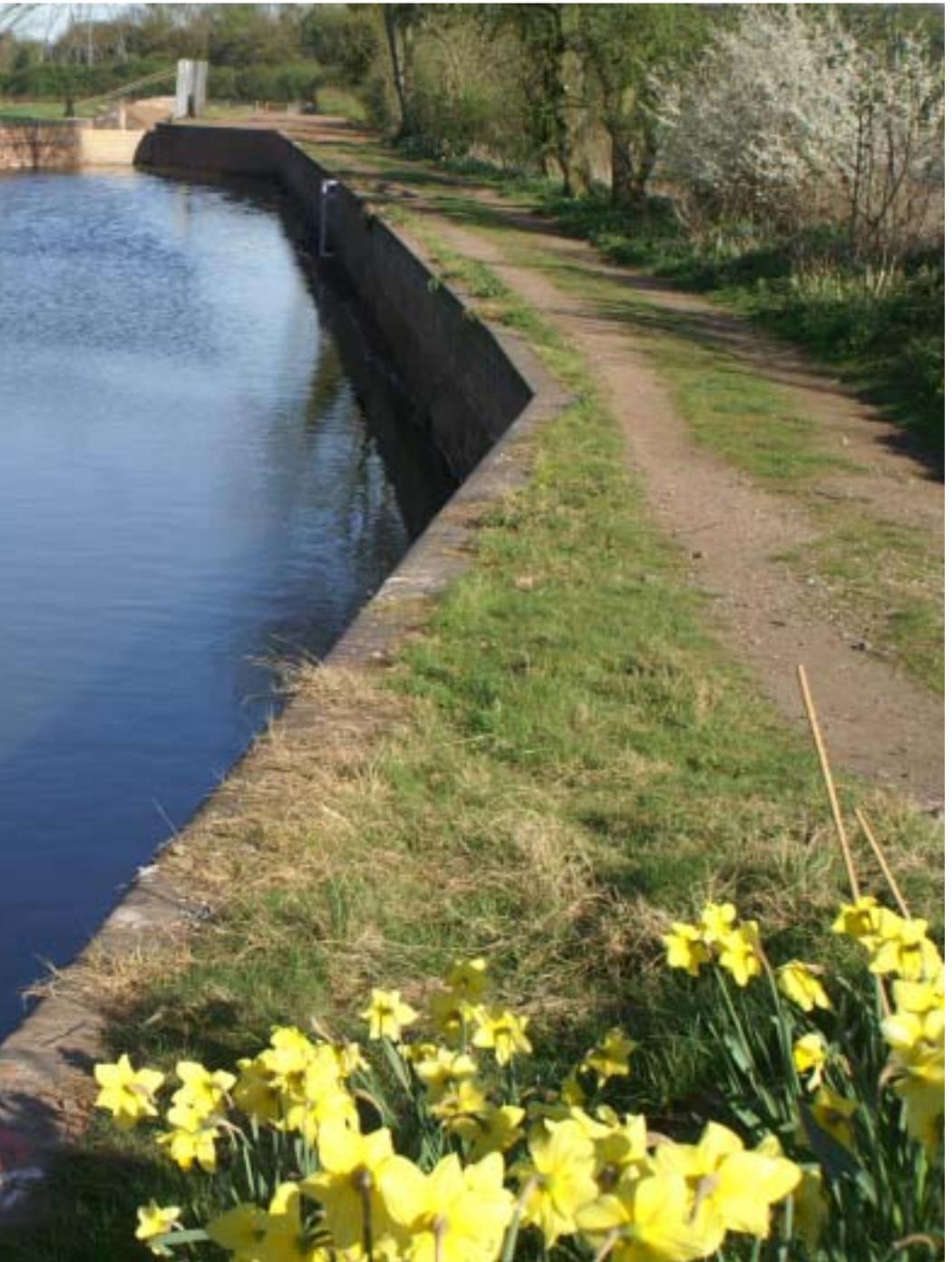
Lock 26 cleared



Work to do in Lock 26



After 14 years of hard graft



...t, a dream becomes a reality



Lock 26 tail after work finished



Pound 26 looking like a canal

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Donations to the Trust

We gratefully acknowledge the following donations for amounts
over £20 from 1st January to 31st March 2011.

Name (in order of receipt)	Trust & Marketing	Suchet Appeal	Restoration & Land Funds
Draw Prize given anonymously	50.00		
Mr J A Carr (with sub.)	50.00		
Mr P J Smith (with sub.)	44.00		
Mr & Mrs A F Myatt (with sub.)	25.00		
Mr & Mrs B R Humphreys (with sub.)	38.00		
Mr C R Jones (with sub.)	25.00		
Mr O F G Butler (with sub)			30.00
Mrs J Gregory in memory of her late brother, Robert Obrey (Brick Appeal)	1,000.00		
Mr & Mrs M P Shimell	50.00		
Mr E J D Swabey	40.00		
Longwood Boat Club			100.00
Mr D Parry		30.49	
Mr C E Ricketts (with sub.)	44.00		
Miss A Salter (with sub.)	50.00		
Mr M Smith (with sub.)	24.00		
Mr R K Clowsley (additional to pledge)		40.00	
IWA, Stoke on Trent Branch (talk)	100.00		
Lichfield & District Dolls House and Miniaturist Club (via Beverley Marshall)	50.00		
Mr M J Beare (Brick Appeal)	50.00		
IWA Lichfield Branch; Peter Freakley talk fee donation	40.00		
Mr M Cripps (with sub.)	35.00		
Mr C L Pattison in memory of his late Mother			55.00
Mr B W Davis (with sub.)	44.00		
Mr M K Wolyniec (with sub.)	35.00		
IWA Notts & Derby Branch (talk)	40.00		
Mr C R May (Brick & Suchet Appeals)	40.00	30.00	
Dr G T Whitfield			250.00
Memorials for the late Dr J.L. Bonsall	205.00		
Memorials for the late Ian Shakespeare	318.00		
Mr David Stanistreet			90.00
Mr J Moody (returned property rent)	150.00		
<i>Returned expenses by Trust officers:-</i>			
- Mr B Kingshott	690.20		
- Mr R O Williams	118.00		
Suchet Appeal pledge payments		280.00	
Regular donors to appeals (inc. GA tax)		680.98	476.43
Aggregated donations of £20 or less	648.44		40.00
Cut Both Ways	20		Spring 2011

New Members 1st January to 31st March 2011.

Mr K.L.Manners, Tamworth T2173
Mr K.L.Mannes, Glascoate, Tamworth
Mrs H.D.Hodgkins,Fazeley, Tamworth
Mrs L.J.Morgan-Harris, Lichfield
Mr S.Sampson, Lichfield
Mr and Mrs K.G.Scott, Cannock
Mr and Mrs C.R.May, Burcot, Abingdon
Mr M.J.Harper, Milton Keynes
Mr and Mrs D.C.Thorpe, Lichfield

We are very grateful to the following donors:-

Severn Trent Water plc for discounting contract charges by £860.00.

George Simonczyk for providing catering equipment.

Membership 1170 (Including 131 Life, 19 Joint Life, 11 Group, 6 Corporate)
Plus 522 Family. Total 1692. Covenanted Members 64.
Current Covenant and Gift Aid declarations 786

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).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We regret the loss of the following members:-

Dr J L Bonsall, Crick, died 20th February 2011.

Mr J E Rackham MBE, Lichfield, died 24th February 2011.

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.

LICHFIELD & HATHERTON CANALS RESTORATION TRUST LIMITED

DRAFT BALANCE SHEET

as at 31 December 2010

	31 December 2010		31 December 2009	
	£	£	£	£
FIXED ASSETS				
Freehold property (part depreciated)	319,336		325,106	
Plant & Machinery (over £1,000 per item, depreciated)	8,950		12,441	
Investment in subsidiary company shares	1,000	329,286	1,000	338,547
CURRENT ASSETS				
Debtors				
Net assets available from subsidiary company	1,946		2,563	
Net Group VAT recoverable	548		2,439	
Receipts due	-	2,494	6,400	11,402
Bank balances:				
Restricted funds:				
Lichfield Canal, Tamworth Rd separate match funding	1,629		1,613	
Brick Appeal funds, net of expenditure	815		715	
Land Fund donations, net of expenditure LF	22,690		20,617	
Restoration Fund - general, net of expenditure	2,295		4,941	
- Page legacy for L.25&26 paddle gear	2,756		2,756	
David Suchet 2009 £30 Appeal Fund	28,132		18,555	
Pound 26 Water Park grants	5,000		-	
Ogley Cottage rent deposit (see note below)	-		575	
500 Club prize reserve	245		158	
Designated funds:				
Land Fund reserve from cashflow LF	10,000		10,000	
500 Club Capital Fund	1,248		1,320	
Restoration budget balance	338		138	
Unrestricted funds:				
Trust funds for general purposes	9,852		6,612	
Total funds in deposit a/cs		85,000		68,000
Bank of Scotland, Trust current a/c	129		104	
Lloyds TSB, Trust current a/c	256		893	
Unity Trust Bank, Trust current a/c	100		-	
Lloyds TSB, Marketing current a/c	577		638	
Funds in hand or in course of collection	-		-	
Total funds in current a/cs & in hand		1,062		1,635
Total assets before liabilities		417,842		419,584
less LIABILITIES:				
Loan reduction falling due within one year				
The Charity Bank Ltd; Mortgage loan on Ogley Cottage	(5,958)		(5,612)	
Loan outstanding after one year				
The Charity Bank Ltd; Mortgage loan on Ogley Cottage	(231,995)	(237,953)	(237,953)	(243,565)
TOTAL NET RESOURCES		£179,889		£176,019
RESERVES:				
Income & Expenditure Account		£179,889		£176,019
NOTE:				
Ogley Cottage rent deposit lodged with Deposit Protection Service		575.00		

This page and the following page are taken from the Trust's accounts for 2010 which are subject to formal examination and presentation to the Annual General Meeting. Any member requiring a full set of the final accounts can obtain one free of charge on application to the Finance Director.

LICHFIELD & HATHERTON CANALS RESTORATION TRUST LIMITED

DRAFT INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

for the period from 1 January to 31 December 2010

	2010		2009	
	£	£	£	£
INCOME				
Subscriptions from members (excl. Marketing below) M		9,193		11,450
Donations				
Received with subscriptions		4,297		4,016
Land Fund (incl. Gift Aid tax)		2,073		2,345
Restoration Fund (incl. Gift Aid tax)		1,353		4,257
Other (excl. Marketing collections below)		8,101		11,941
		15,824		22,559
Income generated by Marketing and Retail Trading				
Trust & Public events		3,201		6,882
Membership subscriptions collected at shows, etc. M		653		608
Brick Appeal		100		415
500 Club Capital Fund (net of prizes paid out)		1,335		1,317
Grand Prize Draw		3,533		3,103
Donations, Sponsorship, Advertisements, Interest		2,782		3,942
Net profit from Retail Trading subsidiary company P		1,946		2,562
		13,550		18,829
Rent, tax, interest, etc.				
Ogley Cottage rent O		4,025		7,375
Gift Aid tax reclaim (other than specific Funds)		5,724		6,366
Credit interest		74		46
Wayleave for electricity line pole at Darnford		11		11
		9,834		13,798
SUB-TOTAL REGULAR INCOME		48,401		66,636
Specific Appeal, Grants and Settlements				
Suchet 2009 £30 Appeal from July 2009 (incl. GA tax)		9,577		19,691
Lichfield Condit Lands Trust		5,000		-
Others: (2009 IWA; LDC; LCC)		-		6,350
spare (2009 Excavator fund)		-		14,577
		14,577		34,151
TOTAL INCOME	<i>in</i>	62,978		100,787
less EXPENDITURE				
Restoration costs				
Lichfield Canal; Darnford and Fosseyway		-		-
Tamworth Road, Borrowcop L.C.Park		7,930		6,655
Hatherton Canal		-		203
Accommodation & welfare		1,353		1,249
Tools, Plant, Machinery, Training		517		922
		(9,800)		(9,029)
Administrative costs				
Professional fees and costs		5,954		2,075
Ogley Cottage costs (net of insurance claim) O		2,843		860
Membership and magazine administration M		3,535		4,764
Direct cost of Marketing activity (ex 500 Club prizes) P		3,666		5,441
Direct cost of Funding Appeals		-		1,959
General administration		3,830		5,539
Insurance premium (IWA policy)		1,082		1,222
IWA membership subscription		47		47
		(20,957)		(21,907)
Project costs				
Hatherton Canal - (2009 Supplementary Feasibility Study)		-		4,986
Lichfield Canal, Tamworth Rd. - (2009 Feasibility Study)		4,629		46,950
		(4,629)		(51,936)
Finance charge				
Interest paid on loan				(14,461)
				(14,787)
NET MOVEMENT ON TRUST ACTIVITIES	<i>out</i>	(49,847)	13,131	(97,659)
less Depreciation of property and plant			(9,261)	(8,488)
SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR			3,870	(5,360)
Retained Surplus brought forward			176,019	181,379
Retained Surplus carried forward			£179,889	£176,019

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

CAPTION COMPETITION



Notes from the Editor

The last issue's caption competition involves what men do best, looking down holes and offering advice. I had two entries into the caption competition which are shown below:-

"Under tight security measures the six, accused of their childhood crimes of throwing a bicycle into the canal, are brought to the scene. The water has gone, the bikes have gone - will their liberty be next to follow?"

Ian Bird of Lichfield

"See, I told you your "No Puddling Required" theory wouldn't hold water!"

Barry Kenn

Thanks to the two who contributed and I declare them joint winners.

Due to the large volume of pictures in this issue the caption competition will return next quarter.

Trent and Mersey Canal - Rugeley Work Party - Sunday, 22nd May

Meet at the bottom of the 'Bloody Steps', Brindley Bank, WS15 2HP by the aqueduct on the Trent and Mersey in Rugeley. 9.45 am for 10.00 am start - finish approx. 1.00 pm. We plan to paint the aqueduct railings, do more clearance work, clear Himalayan Balsam, remove litter. Further information please contact Margaret on 07581 794111 or margaret.beardsmore@waterways.org.uk

If you haven't been to one of our work parties before, please just turn up - we're a friendly lot and you get lots of tea, biscuits and home made cake!

Margaret Beardsmore

(Work Party Coordinator, IWA Lichfield Branch)

FROM HERE AND THERE

Friendship Boat Club Visit

We were delighted to entertain members of the Club which is based on the River Soar near Loughborough on Sunday, 10th April. We gathered at the Horse and Jockey on Tamworth Road and then undertook an informal walk, roughly following the route of our successful public walks. It was a good opportunity for Directors to cast an eye over our operations at Darnford Lane and then Tamworth Road. Our visitors were much impressed with our activities and were really the first outsiders to see the section which is being watered. We later moved back to the Horse and Jockey for a belated and enjoyable Sunday roast.

The Big Pipe

The “Big Pipe” has been to the forefront of our thoughts and plans for many years. It was installed in the 1960s when the canal was abandoned and carries largely surface water from Chesterfield Road to the Darnford Brook beyond A38. After much deliberation and negotiations we resolved to remove it between the head of Lock 25 and head of Lock 26. The water, which is a slow flow in normal weather, is used to fill the new section before being returned to the Pipe below Lock 26 and thus back to Darnford Brook as before. It is exciting to see the removed sections neatly stacked for future use. The invert of Lock 25 into which the Pipe was cut has now been restored. At Lock 26 it rested on the existing brickwork.

Easyfunding.org

We are suggesting that members might like to sign up to this internet browser and use it alongside the better known ones. The Trust will receive ½p for every search made and a percentage of the purchase price of goods bought on-line from a considerable number of well-known retailers. It is an easy way to help L&H.

Road Bridge Over Washbrook

The route of the Hatherton, as proposed by the Atkins report takes a cross-country direction from the A5 southwards towards Pelsall. We were advised that Staffordshire Highways is to rebuild a suspect road bridge close to our route in Little Wyrley. Our attempts to persuade the engineers to make provision for the canal at this early stage did not succeed.

Gift Aided Donations

Please remember that, subject to tax regulations, all donations to the Trust can be Gift Aided and we can help you with this if required. This can include donations made in memory of departed family and friends at funerals. Of course, in common with many organisations we would be very happy for members to leave a gift in their wills.

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

MARKETING REPORT

There's very little to report from the Marketing Team as this year's activities have barely started. At the beginning of March, an enjoyable Quiz Night & Supper at Hammerwich made a profit of just over £400. Earlier that day we had the annual jumble sale, held jointly with Lichfield IWA, and our share of the proceeds was £255.

Following the demise of OwnerShips, BCBM Boat Share held their own boat share show at Braunston Marina on 19 & 20 March. Sales amounted to £142, plus £30 donations to the David Suchet Appeal and two new members.

The programme for the year is rapidly filling up, so this is a suitable opportunity to let you know where and when we will be out with the stand. Hopefully, some of you may feel inclined to come and join the team at one of the following events. For further details, contact David / Mavis Moore on 01543 432718 or Bob / Sue Williams on 01543 671427.

Monday 30 May	Lichfield Greenhill Bower, Beacon Park, Lichfield
Sat 11 & Sun 12 June	Pelsall Canal Festival, Pelsall Wood Common
Sat 25 & Sun 26 June	Braunston Historic Narrowboat Rally & Canal Festival
Sunday 26 June	Brownhills Canal Festival, Silver Street, Brownhills
Sat 2 & Sun 3 July	Cars in the Park, Beacon Park, Lichfield
Saturday 9 July	Lichfield Festival Market, Cathedral Close, Lichfield
Fri 29 – Sun 31 July	The Waterways Festival, Shobnall Fields, Burton-on-Trent

MONEY MATTERS

Borrowcop Locks Canal Park - Pound 26 water project

Whilst this issue has many references to having a section of canal in water, it is worth noting that the contractors, McPhillips (Wellington) Limited completed the work both on time and for the fixed price of £86,105. Indeed, they voluntarily extended the scope of work greatly to our advantage and repeatedly said how much they had enjoyed this very different and challenging project. If only we had endless funds, they would have gladly carried on with much more!

Bank account changes – 500 CLUB

With reference to the last issue, I would like to thank subscribers to our "500 Club" who have made the bank account change specified in personal letters. However, for those who have not yet done so, please change the destination bank account for the annual payment to the "500 CLUB" into our new Marketing Account at Unity Trust Bank, sort code 08-60-01 account no. 20256326. Please note, this only applies to the "500 Club" and not to any other payments made into the main Trust Account which will be changed by the bank in due course.

MONEY MATTERS

Gift Aid declaration?

Most donors are now familiar with the practice of making a Gift Aid declaration for the beneficiary to claim back the equivalent amount of income or capital gains tax paid or payable for that year. If not already made, claims can be retrospective for up to four years. Members who are taxpayers but have not yet made a Gift Aid declaration can do so either through our website (www.lhcr.org.uk) or asking for a form to complete by calling 01543 671427.

On the other hand, anyone who has made a declaration in the past but their tax circumstances have changed such that there is no tax paid to claim against should please let us know to avoid us making any false claims.

Bob Williams, Director (Finance)



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LICHFIELD CANAL WORK [PARTY] REPORT

To allow contractors to have undisturbed possession of the Tamworth Road site, we suspended our volunteer work parties through February and March, with one exception. Two dead trees beside the Pound 26 towpath had to be felled before the nesting season and having the pound full of water. Clive Hensman put his chainsaw training to good use, assisted by Simon, Keith, John and Bob. Otherwise, the enforced rest was not unwelcome!

If we could order the right weather, we could not have done better than to have the driest March since 1923 for the contract work on Pound 26. With so much work to do on and in the ground, McPhillips were so lucky in not having to cope with any muddy conditions or flood flow through the “big pipe”. The only significant rain came at a week-end which helpfully facilitated the necessary water test for the new base cast in Lock 25!

Pictures in this issue tell a better tale than lots of words. In simple terms, the principal stages were:-

◆ Installing a small bore temporary pipeline to divert base flow water (measured at 1 litre/second) from the big pipe at the head of Lock 25, running beside the pound, discharging into the bywash of Lock 26 to maintain the Environment Agency’s condition for a continuing flow onwards into the Darnford Brook.

◆ Clearing the surface spoil and all growth from Pound 26, removing the big pipe, demolishing the drop shaft in Lock 25, casting a new concrete base and making good eroded brickwork up to low water level. Sub-contractors injected waterproofing grout to strengthen the new off-side pound wall.

◆ Reducing and levelling the ground in Pound 26, laying bentonite waterproof matting, covering it with about a foot of sandy material which fortunately could be excavated from another part of the site.

◆ Installing a “stop-plank wall” on a new concrete base at the head of Lock 26.

◆ Meeting stringent conditions imposed by Severn Trent Water to install four manholes and a new pipeline below the canal bed near the head of Lock 26 to extend surface drainage from nearby Wentworth Drive, through the towpath past Lock 26, reconnecting into the remaining big pipe in Pound 27.

◆ Dividing the normal water-flow above Lock 25 to both maintain the diversion volume and allow the new canal section to start filling up for gradual stages of testing water retention. This process will continue over many weeks until the pound is full so that in due course, the temporary diversion pipeline can be removed.

◆ As an added bonus, the big pipe and drop shaft in Lock 26 have also been removed to enable us to proceed with completing restoration of that lock now instead of puzzling over how to get the big pipe out of there!

LICHFIELD CANAL WORK [PARTY] REPORT

Easy when you know how! All this required heavy machinery in expert hands and a small team of very capable civil engineers; civil in every sense of the word. McPhillips enjoyed being with us and we certainly enjoyed having them undertake this difficult task for us. We are particularly grateful to Peter Buck, John Horton, Derek Lord and David Piggott for overseeing all this work for the Trust.

For now, it's back to the handful of volunteers to continue the basic work, but encouraged by several newcomers wanting to join in now they see we're getting somewhere. If this appeals to you, please give me a call on 01543 671427 to make arrangements.

Bob Williams, Project Co-ordinator

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.

Back Copies of Cut Both Ways available at £1.00 Each

Copies of issues 1 to 66 are available from Sue Williams
Norfolk House, 29 Hall Lane, Hammerwich, WS7 0JP
Cheques made payable to LHCRT Ltd

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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.

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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 ended 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!

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