

**CUT**  
**BOTH**  
**WAYS**



The Magazine of the Lichfield &  
Hatherton Canals Restoration Trust

**Issue 70 Winter 2011-12**



**Celebrate the Diamond Jubilee Year -- IN A SPECIAL WAY!**

**Details on Page 13**

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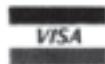
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**Trent & Mersey Canal**

# KINGS BROMLEY WHARF



V.A.T No. 203321527

## CHAIRMAN'S COLUMN

It was with somewhat mixed feelings that I recently attended a celebration close to home. Our nearest neighbour, in building terms, is the castle of Hopton Castle. As a supporter of the Restoration Trust I was invited to the official opening to the public of the restored ruins, financed by a large grant from Heritage Lottery and other smaller grants. The restoration turned into a very large project and took some two years for the contractors to complete. We now have a stabilised building, open to the public and with excellent interpretation boards. The Duke of Gloucester helicoptered in to be welcomed by the Lord Lieutenant, the Sheriff of Shropshire and our MP. The idea has germinated for over 20 years and the major steps forward have taken about 5 years. Full marks to all involved and congratulations to the Chairman on his MBE in the New Years Honours. It left me ruminating on our own glacial progress towards reopening our two canals and the importance of obtaining serious and major funding. I do not believe that we could have achieved more than we have over the past nearly quarter century and in many ways we have punched above our weight. However, if we do not "think big" and go forward with courage it will be a long time before that maroon helicopter hovers above Lichfield or Cannock.

Maybe a step in the right direction has been the recent move to establish the Staffordshire Waterways Group. The idea grew in the Staffordshire Marquee at the Burton National, which brought together the considerable number of waterways groups operating within the County. The result was a meeting in Stafford in November to discuss the parameters of such a group. It was chaired by Cllr Mike Maryon who has the transport portfolio and was also attended by Cllr Patrick Corfield who oversees Culture, Communities and Customers and whose ward includes part of the Hatherton. The outcome was the formation of a small steering group, to which I was appointed, to set out what the Group should try to achieve. The next full meeting will be in mid-January. It is vital that this avoids becoming yet another waterways talking shop and finds ways of progressing the waterways cause in Staffordshire. In L&H we have tried for a very long time to engage constructively with BW, local authorities and business to find ways of working together. Understandably, there is wariness, bordering on shyness, as these bodies fear becoming too involved with pressure groups and possibly financially committed.



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

**European Regional  
Development Fund**

## CHAIRMAN'S COLUMN

These issues are brought into even closer focus by the imminent transition of British Waterways to the Canal and River Trust. Discussion of the political and financial aspects of this properly belongs with IWA and other national waterways bodies but there are very clear implications for the restoration movement. We have always had an excellent relationship with BW whose senior staff have often come to our rescue in time of stress and many of our achievements would have been impossible without them. Practical help and advice have often been available. We have always understood that financial help was unlikely unless matters reach the point where BW became a major player in a restoration such as on the Rochdale, the Huddersfield Narrow and, to some extent, the Cotswolds. The transition to charity status has placed much emphasis on how the new charity will be adequately funded and has raised question marks over its ability to maintain the existing network. We are assured that CRT will concern itself with restoration but it is hard to see how this will be a priority, at least in the early years. More than ever, L&H with its fellow restoration bodies, must expect to plough its own furrow.

The world in general faces considerable uncertainties as we enter 2012 and this is certainly so in our waterways restoration community. L&H welcomes the new year with exciting challenges ahead. On the Lichfield the preparations for work in Darnford Park are going rapidly forward as the first planning application is submitted. Lichfield District Council is working with the Forestry Commission on a major landscaping and reforestation scheme to commemorate the Diamond Jubilee. This gives us a one-off chance to carry out major engineering works between A51 and A38 in preparation for the subsequent building of culverts under both these roads. Funding is a challenge for us and the whole scheme depends on LDC and the Forestry Commission obtaining their funding. As ever, we press forward with optimism and try to "think big". On the Hatherton, we maintain our "watching brief" and will always seize the opportunities as they arise.

The new political landscape of the waterways will have other implications for L&H and other restorers. It has always been assumed that a restored canal, built to BW specifications, could be incorporated into the national network but this is no longer the case. We have always realised that the more we restore the more we will have to maintain even if this is only mowing. Now we have to assume that the completed and restored canal must also be self-sustaining. Almost certainly, we shall have to set up a free-standing body to run and maintain the sections we open such as, hopefully, Huddlesford to Tamworth Road. We will need a business-like attitude towards riparian owners and potential commercial undertakings. We will have to charge for moorings and consider a toll system for those coming off the main network. These are important issues before we even think about the dreaded health and safety and public liability concerns. This is not to be alarmist but just realistic.

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

## CHAIRMAN'S COLUMN

I will not risk Churchillian prose but this is surely the time for great courage and determination as never before. We may not find ourselves on the beaches but there will be many fronts where we will be engaged in 2012. I pay tribute to all our many hard working supporters who do so much often unseen and unsung. Please add your support if you can.

*Brian Kingshott(chairman)*

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Cheques made payable to LHCRT Ltd

## Donations to the Trust

We gratefully acknowledge the following donations for amounts  
over £20 from from 1<sup>st</sup> October to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2011.

Name ( in order of receipt )	Trust & Marketing	Suchet Appeal	Restoration & Land Funds
Mr R T Willis (private talk fees)	75.00		
Mr J D Jones		100.00	
Mr & Mrs Szulc (with sub.)	25.00		
Cannock Chase Mining Historical Society, Hednesford (talk)	50.00		
Mr J E Wood	49.52		
Aldridge 41 Club (talk)	40.00		
Gailey Roundhouse collection	69.20		
Mr O F G Butler for C W Butler		30.00	
Molly's Group ramblers visit	95.50		
Mrs C Cox		25.00	
Mr J W Farren	150.00		
Boney Hay & Chase Terrace W.I. (talk)	40.00		
Mr P R Cousins			100.00
Mr & Mrs D H Phillips			200.00
anonymous			1,000.00
Brewood Leisure Club (talk)	40.00		
Lichfield History Group walkers visit	50.00		
Mr C D Gibson			100.00
Easy Fundraising Co. Ltd	24.31		
"Four Points Rambles" books	29.91		
Horse & Jockey, Lichfield collection	40.95		
anonymous	204.00		
The Pam & Robin Chase Trust Fund	100.00		
Mrs J E Davies (with sub.)	40.00	50.00	
Mr C M Newman (with sub.)	50.00		
Mr A P Hopkins		30.00	
The Bostock Foundation		200.00	
The Fundraising Co. Ltd	24.66		
Mr D A Tarrant	50.00		
Mr S Judge (with sub.)	25.00		
Mr J A Carr (with sub.)	50.00		
Mr T Myatt (with sub.)	30.00		
Mr P J Smith (with sub.)	44.00		
Mr David Stanistreet	90.00		
Mr J Moody (returned property rent)	150.00		
Returned expenses by Trust officers:-			
- Mr B Kingshott	336.13		
- Mr R O Williams	143.09		
Regular donors to appeals (inc. GA tax)		408.00	395.00
Aggregated donations below £20 each	613.59		

Cut Both Ways

\*\*\*\*\*

## New Members from 1<sup>st</sup> October to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2011.

Mr. M. J. Whitewood, Lichfield.  
Mrs. S. Whitewood, Lichfield.  
Ms. C. A. Aston, Lichfield.  
Mr. B. Fox, Lichfield.  
Mr. B. H. Cox, Erdington, Birmingham.  
Mrs. C. A. Cox, Erdington, Birmingham.  
Mr. P. Gillon, Dole, France.  
Mr. K. G. Schofield, Breadsall, Derby.  
Mrs. J. Schofield, Breadsall, Derby.  
Mr. P. A. Sylvester, Great Wyrley.  
Mrs. R. Hicks, Lichfield.  
Mr. K. Wainwright, Groby, Leicester.  
Mr. C. D. Gibson, Carnforth.

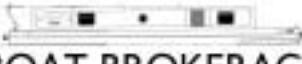
\*\*\*\*\*

Membership 1209 (Including 133 Life, 19 Joint Life, 11 Group, 7 Corporate)  
Plus 544 Family. Total 1753. Covenanted Members 64.  
Current Covenant and Gift Aid declarations 796

\*\*\*\*\*

### We are very grateful to the following donors:-

Ruttle Plant (Birmingham) Ltd, Lichfield, use of heavy lifting plant on site.  
Chase Plant Hire Ltd, assistance with site machines.  
Chasetown Civil Engineering Ltd, assistance with site work.

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## EVENTS CALENDAR 2012

Below is a list of shows, festivals and events that the Trust is expecting to attend over the next twelve months. We welcome all offers of help from members and supporters of the Trust. We have other opportunities to promote the work of L&HCRT during the year but to do this we do need more volunteers for our Support Team. If you feel that you can help in any way, even if it is just a couple of hours, please ring any of the contact numbers on page 30. Your assistance will be most welcome. N.B. Some of these dates are not yet confirmed

DATE	EVENT	VENUE
Saturday 10 March 10am - noon	Jumble Sale (joint event with Lichfield IWA)	Peace Hall, Pinfold Lane Penkridge
Friday 17 March 7.30pm	Quiz Night & Supper	Boley Park Community Hall Ryknild Street, Lichfield
Saturday 24 and Sunday 25 March	The Annual Braunston Boat Share Show	Braunston Marina, Northants Grand Union Canal (A45 north of Daventry)
Saturday 7 April 10am - 4pm	Eric & Doreen Wood's Easter Coffee Morning	6 Swan Cottages, Burton Road, Whittington
Saturday 21 April 10am to 4pm	Big Green Fair (Whittington & Fisherwick Environment Group)	Whittington Village Hall Langton Crescent Whittington
Fri 2 - Mon 5 June 10am - 6pm	Crick Boat Show	Crick Marina Grand Union Canal, Northants
Sunday 4 June	Lichfield Greenhill Bower	Beacon Park, Lichfield
Friday 15 June 7pm	LHCRT Annual General Meeting	Park View Centre, Brownhills
23 and 24 June 10am - 5pm	Historic Narrowboat Rally & Canal Festival	Braunston Marina Grand Union Canal, Northants
Sunday 24 June 10am - 4pm	Brownhills Canal Festival	Silver Street, Brownhills (opposite Tesco's)
30 June & 1 July 10am - 4pm	Cars in the Park (organised by The Rotary Club of Lichfield St Chad)	Beacon Park, Lichfield
Saturday 7 July 10am - 4pm	Lichfield Festival Market	Cathedral Close, Lichfield
Sunday 8 July Noon to 5pm	Fuse Arts Fair	Beacon Park. Lichfield
Sunday 19 August	Lupin Farm Classic Car & Vehicle Gathering	Lupin Farm, Orgreave Alrewas
To be arranged	Whittington Countryside Fair	Bit End Field, Whittington
To be arranged	Autumn Social Evening	Whittington Village Hall Langton Crescent, Whittington
Sunday 9 December 10am to 4pm	Lichfield Xmas Fayre	Market Square Lichfield

*(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](http://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)*

# "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!

December saw the last of the four draws for 2011. The number of subscriptions eligible for the draw was 222, compared with 212 active subscriptions at the beginning of the year. A rise in this number will mean an increase in the contribution to the Capital Fund and also the amount of prize money to be won. So please spread the word. Anyone can join the Club, you don't have to be and LHCRT member.

The winners of the December draw are:

First prize	£ 173.16	No 311	John Dodwell, London.
Second prize	£ 113.22	No 80	Pat & Adrian Gulvin, Chatham, Kent.
Third prize	£ 46.62	No 156	Mr. & Mrs. RA Smith, Bugbrooke, Northants.

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 <sup>st</sup> Prize	£400	approx 26% income
2 <sup>nd</sup> Prize	£250	approx 17% income
3 <sup>rd</sup> 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.lhcrt.org.uk](http://www.lhcrt.org.uk), or write to Mavis Moore, 88 Spring Lane, Whittington, Lichfield WS14 9NA.

## GRAND PRIZE DRAW RESULT - 2011

Winners in our Prize Draw for 2011 were selected by members of the audience at the Trust's Social Evening in Whittington, Lichfield, on 22nd October. Thanks go to those who sponsored some of the prizes and all the ticket sellers and buyers who produced a record-breaking gross income of £5,454.



The winning tickets were:-

*5,454 tickets ready for the Draw*

1. 05895 £500.00 cash.  
Mrs C Cox. Erdington, Birmingham.
2. 01709 Bespoke Masonry Garden Ornament by A Walker & Son, Cannock.  
Mr & Mrs J Smith, Sutton Coldfield, W. Mids.
3. 14332 £50 voucher by Midland Chandlers Limited.  
Mr P Sylvester, Little Haywood, Staffs.
4. 00394 £50 Marks & Spencer voucher sponsored by a Trust member.  
Mr B Smith, Lichfield.
5. 01826 £20 shopping voucher.  
Mr S Lay, Stafford.
6. 04535 Decorative glass photo frame.  
Mr J S Harrison, Lichfield.
7. 06696 "Cozy" leisure garment.  
Mr Perry, Lichfield.
8. 06542 DVD from Laurence Hogg Productions.  
Mr & Mrs C Nock, Lichfield.
9. 14604 MP3 player.  
Mr R H Attree, Brownhills, Walsall.

Tickets for the 2012 Prize Draw will be on sale by the Spring. Can you sponsor the valuable top prize of £500.00 to gain promotion to thousands of potential supporters? Please contact me to discuss this exceptional opportunity.

Promoter: Bob Williams - see page 30 for details.



The Inland  
Waterways  
Association

&



Registered Charity No. 702429

Lichfield Branch

# GRAND JUMBLE SALE

from 10am on

Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2012

at the

PEACE MEMORIAL HALL

Pinfold Lane, Penkridge

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CELEBRATE THE DIAMOND JUBILEE YEAR

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PARK PROJECT  
D



In association with Lichfield District Council's "Jubilee Woodland" scheme in Darnford Park, the Lichfield Canal diversion beside the A38 highway needs to be formed through the southern part of the Park this year.

The Trust's plans involve initial woodland management and pipeline diversion to enable the canal channel to be excavated during the summer months followed by landscape reinstatement and planting new trees. Installing canal culverts under the adjacent roads and constructing new staircase locks will be at a later stage.

Total cost of our work this year is estimated to be up to £100,000, towards which grants are being sought.

YOU CAN HELP BY CONTRIBUTING  
MATCH FUNDING TO OUR  
DIAMOND JUBILEE APPEAL

USING THE DONATION FORM WITH THIS ISSUE

or pay direct to LHCRT Ltd at 08-60-01, a/c no.20247607, with a name reference.



*The 2 Ds at Whittington Social Evening, 22-Oct-11*



*Bob Williams accepts a £550 cheque presented by Waitrose Customer Services from the October charity collection.*

*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*



*BCNS Treasurer Dave Dent presents £1,000 to the Trust from Pelsall Rally proceeds*



*One of the four trial holes dug in Darnford Park to test ground conditions*

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



An artistic impression of the

- Design Objectives**
1. To create an attractive and functional landscape for the canal and bridge.
  2. To provide a high quality landscape for the canal and bridge.
  3. To provide a high quality landscape for the canal and bridge.
  4. To provide a high quality landscape for the canal and bridge.
  5. To provide a high quality landscape for the canal and bridge.



**Litchfield & Highgate Canal**  
 Restoration Trust  
 LPTMS  
 Litchfield Canal to Dunbar Park  
 Landscape Concept Plan  
 1702-06

# the canal in Darnford Park





*Professional help to lay concrete base at A38 corner, 23-Nov-11*





*Pipes laid in the new towpath will connect with the weir outlet, Jan-12*



# LICHFIELD CANAL WORK REPORT

## **Pound 26 water**

Water easily takes advantage of hidden secrets behind historic canal structures, but is not so keen to share them! Lock 25 has some mystery minor outlets which we are eliminating to perfect its water retention. Temporary wooden dams have been fitted by Peter Buck and Bob Mullarkey to measure changing water levels which Rob Houghton does on a daily basis to establish a pattern. However, it's a bit like a game of "snakes and ladders" when heavy rain sends him back to square one to wait for the next dry spell to get his ladder out!"



## **Pound 27 construction**

The new diversion beside the A38 is the subject of detailed construction where we had the benefit of professional help to lay part of the concrete base for the weir.



Barry Parkes has made an excellent model of the structure needed to control base level and flood outflows through the existing pipeline under the A38 to the

Darnford Brook. This helps us visualise what Derek Lord's design should be like when completed.

## **Darnford Park project**

In line with comments and funding appeal elsewhere in this issue, Lichfield District Council permitted our volunteers to undertake specific woodland management in early January to facilitate site investigation. Planning Permission will allow for diverting a foul sewer which lies in the path of the future canal channel, but the work itself will not be cheap and needs to be funded through the Diamond Jubilee Appeal launched in this issue.



## **Plant maintenance**

Some effort and expense has gone into keeping our small range of machinery in working order during its winter break where we are grateful for the help received from several "in house" mechanics, and professional input elsewhere.

*Bob Williams, Project Co-ordinator*

## CAPTION COMPETITION

Last month's caption competition only attracted one entry from Mike Battisson, so he is declared the winner.



*"Now, now, Polly no fowl language in front of the children, thank you."*



*This white water rafting is not for the faint-hearted.!*

This magazine, although primarily to inform members of the latest "goings-on", should be a two-way conduit between members. If you have any snippets of info you wish to divulge with the membership please write or email me and I will endeavour to print your correspondence.



This month's caption competition features George, one of our intrepid volunteers.

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.

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](http://www.lhcrt.org.uk)**

*Lichfield & Hatherton Canals  
Restoration Trust*



# QUIZ NIGHT

## with Fish 'n' Chip Supper



(Sausages or vegetarian quiche also available)

**A General Knowledge QUIZ**  
with quizmaster Bob Williams

at Boley Park Community Hall  
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**Date: Saturday 17th March 2012**

. Bring your own drinks

**Start Time: 7.30**

. Non Members Welcome

**Tickets £8.00 INCLUDING SUPPER**

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Or book online at [www.lhcrt.org.uk](http://www.lhcrt.org.uk)

All proceeds to the Lichfield & Hatherton Canals Restoration Trust (Registered Charity No. 702429)

## A MONARCH IN TROUBLE

On May 16th 1862, the Birmingham Daily Post carried the following note:-

### **Pelsall**

A fortnight ago John Snape, who is known as the "King of Pelsall", got into some trouble in consequence of insisting upon his right to fish in an arm of the canal which runs up to a field in the occupation of Mr Joseph Cooper, farmer. The facts of the case were reported at the time, and they showed that on Easter Monday the "king", who supposed he could do as he liked, however obnoxious his conduct might be to his neighbours, went with some friends of his across Mr Cooper's field, broke down some of the fences, and when remonstrated with by Mr Cooper he asserted his right by an appeal to physical force. It transpired that at one time there was a towing path along the arm of the canal, but as it had not been in used for sixteen years, the complainant (Cooper) had placed a fence across it. The case came on for hearing on Tuesday, at Rushall, before Charles Bagnall, when Mr Ebsworth appeared for the complainant, and Mr Duignan appeared for the defence. The latter submitted that the question involved a dispute as to title, and therefore the Bench had no jurisdiction. This objection was however, overruled and the defendant was ordered to pay a fine of 1s, damages 2s, and cost. Mr Duignan said he should appeal, and as the money was not paid the "monarch" was taken into custody. Other cases connected with the same matter were adjourned.

This extract appears to relate to the Gilpins arm, then out of use, but likely was restored for a time later to serve subsequent colliery workings.

As a subscript, farmer and publican John Snape, was somewhat of a local character. I have found his name and son William mentioned in various court proceedings 1858-1865 which involved drunkenness, assault and damage to property (and also riding along the highway without the use of reins!). There was a clear dispute between him and Cooper that was long standing.

*Ray Shill*

### **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.

### **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.

## FROM HERE AND THERE

### **Easyfunding.org**

Please support the Trust by using Easyfunding as your search engine. 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. You will also receive some very useful special offers. It is an easy way to help L&H. With only a few supporters signed up so far we have already raised an appreciable sum by this route.

### **Bats**

In the restoration “business” we have to become knowledgeable on a wide number of sometimes obscure matters. Not least of these is the life-style of bats. When we submit planning applications we have to provide reports on many matters including ecological ones. At Tamworth Road, and again in Darnford Park, we were required to show that bat habitats would not be damaged in any way. We also had to guarantee that the routes used by commuting bats were not disturbed as removal of trees could result in bat disorientation. With the help of Geoff Crook, our own environmental adviser, we have been able to give the required reassurance. We can be sure that all bats can still find their way to their offices and places of employment. Seriously, we take our commitment to the natural environment very seriously and always ensure that our works result in enhancement not deterioration.

### **Water Extraction**

We know that at some point we will have to address the vital question of how we supply water to our restored canals. Potentially, this is a serious issue as there are very strict regulations around water supply and nothing can be taken for granted. Both our canals run downhill from the BCN but we cannot assume that we will easily be allowed access to this resource. In the shorter term we will have to supply the section of the Lichfield which runs up the hill from Huddlesford to Tamworth Road. This will be no simple matter as the Coventry Canal is itself short of water being one of the most heavily used of canals. We have tapped into the “big pipe” at Tamworth Road but are subject to strong regulation by the Environment Agency. We have an abstraction licence above Lock 30 but this too is subject to limitation and control.

### **Encroachment**

We have to monitor the whole length of our canals to identify any threats from potential development. We are fortunate that all “our” local authorities let us know of any such threats or proposals. There is also a potential threat from unauthorised developments. Two such have recently been identified on the Hatherton between Lock 2 and the “Straight Mile” close to M6. Householders have extended their properties without planning permission. Although this does not threaten the restoration of the canal it is an issue of planning enforcement. We are grateful to Lichfield IWA for their vigilance and bringing this to our attention. We are also monitoring, with growing concern, developments close to the Aqueduct on the Lichfield. Any information about this will be very welcome.

## FROM HERE AND THERE

### **Mrs Patricia Humphries**

Known to all as "Trish", she and her late husband Ian had been active members of the Trust's Marketing Group since 1998, always willing to contribute ideas and support fund-raising activities. As boat owners living alongside the canal at Penkridge, they were "hands-on" users who understood the benefits that could come from canal restoration in the Midlands. Teaching, music and church affairs were strong ideals which anchored Trish's interests in positive activity. As a debilitating illness took hold, she struggled bravely to keep in touch, leaving us with fond memories of happier times together. The Trust was well-represented at her funeral on 10<sup>th</sup> January.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

We regret the loss of the following members:-

Mrs Patricia Humphries, Penkridge, died 26th December 2011.

Mrs A M Stearman, Stockton-on-Tees, died late 2011.

*Phasetown  
Civil Engineering Ltd.*



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# Birmingham Canal Navigations Society

Company limited by guarantee no. 04306537

Registered Charity no. 1091760

## BCN 24 Hour Challenge 2012

The BCN Challenge will take place on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> and Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2012, starting at 8am on Saturday and finishing at 2pm on the Sunday. The event is open to everyone with a boat licensed for use on British Waterways canals. Historic working boats and pairs are welcome.

Boats may start at any point on the BCN but should finish at Walsall Town Arm.

Participants may navigate for as long as they like during the 30 hour period up to a maximum of 24 hours.

The winner will be the boat crew who amass the greatest number of points during the challenge. Additional points will be awarded for navigating lesser used waterways and there will be bonus points for correctly answered questions at certain places.

All boat entries will receive a commemorative plaque and the winning boat crew will also receive a shield.

The winners will be announced by post shortly after the event with presentations taking place at the Society AGM on 2<sup>nd</sup> November at the Bonfire Rally, Smethwick.

There will be an entry fee of £15 per boat which includes the commemorative plaque.

The entry fee for a working pair will also be £15.

**The entry fee will include 12 months membership of the BCNS for those entrants who have never been members of the Society.** (Applies to team leader only)

For an entry form apply to:

**Mr R Kenn, 14 Hollemeadow Avenue, Walsall, West Midlands, WS3 1JQ.**

**Telephone: 01922 428644**

**email [bcnschallenge@gmail.com](mailto:bcnschallenge@gmail.com)**

# BCN Explorer Cruises

11th - 18th May & 20th – 26th May 2012

After the success of the cruises of the past five years it is the intention of the Society to hold two cruises in 2012 to encourage boaters to explore the Birmingham Canal Navigations either side of the BCN Society's Summer Rally at Titford. We have found that many boaters prefer the additional security of cruising in company with other boaters and they enjoy the social side of informal gatherings and organised activities at the designated mooring locations.

Priority will be given to boaters who have not been on a BCNS Explorer Cruise before.

The Explorer Cruises will take different routes as listed below. We continue to encourage the use of the less travelled parts and to enjoy the little used pleasures of the northern BCN. This year we include walks and a conducted tour of BW's Bradley Workshops. Details of the route are given below.

The first cruise will commence from Curdworth, at Wiggins Hill Bridge, near The Kingsley on the morning of Saturday 12th May finishing at Titford Pump House on Friday 18th May ready for the BCNS Summer Rally. The second cruise will leave the Rally at Titford on Sunday 20th May finishing at Hawne Basin.

Applications forms and more info from:- Stuart & Marie Sherratt

Email: [bcns.explorercruise@gmail.com](mailto:bcns.explorercruise@gmail.com)

Phone: Marie 07709165073. Stuart 07510167288

\*\*\*\*\*  
The BCN Society formed in 1968, exists to conserve, improve and encourage a wide range of interests in the 100 mile network of Birmingham and Black Country waterways known as the Birmingham Canal Navigations.

The full objectives of the BCN 24 Hour Challenge are:-

1. To increase the profile of the northern Birmingham Canal Navigations (BCN) amongst local people and politicians.
2. To continue the 'Use it or Lose it' campaign by increasing the number of boats cruising the northern BCN.
3. To continue the support for the restoration of the Lichfield and Hatherton Canals as the best way to ensure the long term future of the BCN.
4. To campaign for adequate and sustained funding for the BCN in the light of the proposed move of the inland waterways under a charitable trust.

## MONEY MATTERS

### **2011 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 in June:-

Total income	£135,697
less expenditure	<u>(£135,089)</u>
Net gain in funds	£608
less asset depreciation	<u>(£9,261)</u>
Accounting deficit for the year	(£8,653)
plus resources brought forward	<u>£179,889</u>
Resulting resources carried forward	£171,236

Members will be aware of the expensive work undertaken last year to bring part of the Lichfield Canal back into water, thanks to substantial donations and grants from Lichfield District Council, Staffordshire Aggregates Levy Grant Scheme, and Lichfield Conduit Lands Trust. Whilst these helped to produce a positive result, as always our regular volunteer officers and workforce put in countless hours of unpaid work throughout the year, assisted by visiting teams from Waterway Recovery Group and Jaguar Land Rover. It is pleasing to report that they want to come to help us again this year!

### **Promotions**

2011 proved to be a very successful year for promoting the Trust by the Marketing Group. Several public shows in our vicinity returned substantial income and the Prize Draw reported elsewhere in this issue was the best ever. In 2012, our focus changes to the benefits that the country will derive from both the Queen's Diamond Jubilee and the Olympic Games. On a global basis, an event for narrowboats on British canals should ensure a home gold medal !

### **Diamond Jubilee Year**

What does this mean for us? Further to references on page 28 in both issues no.68 and 69, formation of the Lichfield Canal channel in Darnford Park must be done this year in association with Lichfield District Council's "Jubilee Woodland" scheme. Whilst there is ample scope for volunteer work, there will inevitably be essential costs estimated to be up to £100,000.

Supporting grants require match funding for which we are launching the DIAMOND JUBILEE APPEAL with a target of £50,000 needed this year. Please give generously towards this unique opportunity. Use the enclosed payment form to receive an acknowledgement, or online users can make a bank payment to LHCRT Ltd at Unity Trust Bank, Birmingham, code 08-60-01, account no. 20247607 with your name as reference. Thank you for your help.

*Bob Williams, Director (Finance)*

## WATERWAYS NEWS

Canal & River Trust is expected to take over from British Waterways the 200-year old network of canals, rivers and docks in England & Wales currently in its care, which attract over 13 million people each year for walking, cycling, angling, boating or simply the peace and quiet. The transfer is planned to take place in April 2012. Canal & River Trust will operate as Glandwr Cymru in Wales. This exciting new charitable Trust will attract new investment and give local people a greater role in how their waterways are run. [www.britishwaterways.co.uk](http://www.britishwaterways.co.uk)

\*\*\*\*\*

### 2012 REVISED TARIFF FOR ADVERTS IN "Cut Both Ways"

(previous revision published in CBW 61, Autumn 2009)

	from	to
1/8 page	£23	£25
1/4 inside page	£40	£42
1/2 inside page	£75	£79
full inside page	£115	£121
full inside cover (see note)	£125	£132
full outside back cover (see note)	£195	£205

These prices cover twelve months in four quarterly editions and are subject to VAT at the standard rate.

#### NOTES:

Inside front cover and outside back cover are regular insertions.

Single edition advert @ 50% annual rate.

Two edition advert @ 75% annual rate.

Special artwork can be provided on request.

### **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).

# 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
	Park Cottage, Hopton Castle, Craven Arms. SY7 0QF	
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	200c, Upper St. Johns Street, Lichfield, Staffs. WS14 9EF	
Project Planning	Mike Battison	☎ 01543 300090
	3, Minors Hill, Lichfield, Staffs. WS14 9DJ	
Health & Safety	Bob Mullarkey	☎ 01543 251408
	25, Cromwells Meadow, Lichfield, Staffs. WS14 9EW	
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Education	<i>Vacant</i>	
Environment	Geoff Crook	☎ 01543 254826
Marketing & Sales	<i>Vacant</i>	
Publicity	Mervyn Ainge	☎ 01889 801242
Membership Asst.	Pat Ainge	☎ 01889 801242

## **LICHFIELD & HATHERTON CANALS RETAIL TRADING LIMITED.**

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

**website: [www.lhcr.org.uk](http://www.lhcr.org.uk)**

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Please donate **any** unwanted jewellery towards this recycling appeal; gold, silver, costume jewellery, watches... Then all your unwanted items can be turned into a donation for us.

You can do a full "spring clean" of your jewellery box or just give items you no longer wear. **Even damaged, broken and incomplete items will help; so all the odd earrings and snapped chains are a great start!**

Parcel up your jewellery and post free of charge to:

**Lichfield & Hatherton Canals Restoration Trust Ltd,  
FREEPOST, CENTRAL, RECYCLING**

If you can, please ask your family, friends and colleagues to participate in this Jewellery Recycling Collection.

**Why should I recycle?** Recycling reduces the demand for raw materials. This means less mining or quarrying. Many parts of the world have been blighted by mining and quarrying, which destroy the natural environment and wildlife habitats and can cause environmental and health problems for local people. Recycling is one way in which our community can lessen their usage of resources and help protect the environment.

**Everything you give us is turned into cash for us, recycled and put to good use!**



**Thank you very much  
for your support**



**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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