

£1 free to members

Winter 2016–17

# The Wharfinger

HEREFORDSHIRE & GLOUCESTERSHIRE CANAL TRUST



130  
EDITION

REBUILDING A SUSTAINABLE CANAL BETWEEN HEREFORD & GLOUCESTER

Working together in the present to revive the past and secure a better future.®

## Who does what ...

To get in touch see "Contacts" inside the back cover.

### Vice Presidents:

R. E. Barnes TD, Richard Graham MP, Mark Harper MP, Duff Hart-Davis, James Hervey-Bathurst CBE DL, Sir John Lushington Bt, Jesse Norman MP, Diana Organ, Tim Parker, Bill Wiggin MP

### Council of Management:

Chairman: To be appointed

Vice Chairman/Treasurer: John Hammond

Company Secretary: Carolyn Pascall

Committee: Nigel Jefferies, Maggie Jones, Wilf Jones, John Kilpatrick, Cliff Penny, David Penny, John Pritchard

### Finance:

Chairman: John Hammond

Committee: Paul Henshaw, David Penny

Minutes: Carolyn Pascall

### H&G Canal Sales & Promotion

Hereford: Janet Moulton (Chairman), Barbara Moses, Ray Moses, Penny Shetliffe, Pat Skeet, Derek Weaver, Heather Worth

Gloucester: Margaret Holder, Maggie Jones, Pat March, Carolyn Pascall

### Health & Safety

Wilf Jones

John Pritchard

### Membership services

Secretary: Nigel Jefferies

Gift Aid: John Hammond, Janet Moulton

### Support to Council of Management

IWA Branch Liaison: Maggie Jones

### Website Development

Team Leader: Maggie Jones

Web Master: Nick Dymott

Committee: Ted Beagles, Carolyn Pascall

Digital Photos Archive: Colin Dymott

### Social Events:

Organiser: Janet Moulton

Support: Nigel Jefferies, Stephen and Gillian Chowns

### Talks and Walks

Co-ordinator: Nigel Jefferies

## THE WHARF HOUSE

DONATING ALL  
PROFITS TO THE  
CANAL TRUST

Over  
Gloucester  
GL2 8DB

Waterside Restaurant, Tea Rooms, Visitor Centre, Superior B&B,  
Telephone 01452 33 2 900 [www.thewharfhouse.co.uk](http://www.thewharfhouse.co.uk)

Chairman: John Hammond

Committee: Paul Henshaw, Carolyn Pascall

Commercial Director: David Penny

Accounts: Kerianne Genders

# HEREFORDSHIRE & GLOUCESTERSHIRE CANAL TRUST

Working together in the present to revive  
the past and secure a better future.<sup>®</sup>

### Restoration Sites

Restoration Chairman: Wilf Jones

Hereford Roving Team: John Pritchard

#### Aylestone

Site Leader: Brian Fox

#### Kymn East

Site Leader: Wilf Jones

#### Yarkhill

Site Leader: Chris High

Deputy: Paul Hatt

#### Oxenhall

Site Leaders: Brian Fox, Geoff Hopper

#### Newent (Sat)

Site Leader: Wilf Jones

#### Moat Farm

Site Leader: Martyn Tilford

#### Over and Vineyard Hill

Site Leader: Ted Beagles

Saturday Roving Team: Maggie Jones

### Publicity and Communication

Carolyn Pascall

### Press Liaison

The Wharf House, Carolyn Pascall

### The Wharfinger

Editor: Cliff Penny

Deputy Editor: John Hammond

Design/Production: Maggie Jones

Advertising: Carolyn Pascall

Distribution: Janet Moulton, Barbara Moses

### Legal & Project Development Team

Commercial & Technical Director: David Penny

Legal: Nigel Johnson

L&P Development Officer: Dr Caroline Buffery

Legal Advice: Roz Rutter, Simon Freeman,

No. 5 Chambers

Business Development: David Penny

Planning Consultant: Green Planning Studio

Engineering: Thomas Ashworth, Tony Gee & Partners

Delivery co-ordinator: Wilf Jones

Quantity Surveyor: Tony Kelley

page  
**8**Fun on the  
water at  
Over Festival.page  
**10**Working in the  
sunshinepage  
**11**

Towing TOW!

page  
**19**

Why Wales?

page  
**27**

Bob the builder

# Contents

page

- 3 Editorial: Into the Future!**
- 4 CoMelling reasons for change ...**
- 5 Chief Executive**
- 6 L&PDT: House for rent**
- 7 Donations welcome**
- 8 Over Festival on the Canal Report**
- 9 Grand Holiday Draw 2016 Results**
- 10 Employees from Land Registry  
swap their desks for sunshine!**
- 11 Towing TOW!**
- 14 Gift ideas from The Wharf House**
- 16 Malswick House News**
- 17 Remembering Liz**
- 18 New Canal Cycle and Walk leaflet**
- 19 We have an interesting project for  
you at Llanthony**
- 20 Social Evenings at The Royal Oak**
- 21 Thank you Janet**
- 22 Restoration Update: Hereford  
Roving Team**
- 23 Restoration Update: Yarkhill**
- 23 Restoration Update: Dymock**
- 24 Restoration Update: Oxenhall &  
Newent Station**
- 25 Newent & Oxenhall Open Day Report**
- 26 Restoration Update: Moat Farm**
- 27 Restoration Update: Over Basin**
- 30 Calling all Gardeners!**
- 30 Would you like to get involved?**
- 31 Nature Watch: The Over Basin Swans**
- 33 Book Review**
- 34 Gloucester Model Boat Club at Over**
- 35 By the Towpath Wall Hanging**
- 36 News from the National Waterways  
Museum Gloucester**
- 36 IWA Social Meetings and Events**
- 37 Sailing4disabled**
- 39 Not quite the last page!**
- 39 Advertising in The Wharfinger**

**Cover image:**  
H&G publicity in Birmingham – towing Tow!  
(see page 11). – BCNS.



**BETA MARINE**

**10 - 99hp**

- Robust Reliability from our world beating engines!
- Smooth low speed running as standard with our heavy flywheel
- Two alternators are standard
  - high output when cruising
- 230 Volts option for your washing machine, microwave, etc
- Excellent technical support and service with a 5 year warranty





Editorial by Cliff Penny

## ***Into the Future!***

The formation of the *Herefordshire & Gloucestershire Canal Trust* in 1992 came about following a detailed presentation we had given to senior local authority staff from both counties a few years earlier.

They advised that a charitable constitution, compared to that of an unregulated society, would enhance our credibility with the general public, local and national businesses and public bodies. In particular it was necessary to gain the local authority support for the essential protection of the route of the Canal that we subsequently achieved.

I wrote in ***The Wharfinger*** that it was “*the correct foundation stone on which our further success can be confidently built . . . it marks a major step in the history of our endeavours.*” I stressed that the charitable status required us to change some things to comply with the law and presented an opportunity for us to improve our organisation so that it was fit to help us deliver our long term objective.

It has been stressed that the physical act of rebuilding the Canal is, at times, almost the easiest bit – like an iceberg there is much more going on out of sight! The creation of the **Legal & Project Development Team** in 2012 marked another significant landmark in the organisation of H&G CT to try and meet increasing demands. The L&PDT has subsequently benefitted from a growing list of skilled professionals acting on a voluntary, pro bono or nominal cost basis. However, at times progress is not as swift as we would like due to the manner in which CoM is currently structured.

As reported previously CoM have been receiving professional advice on the implementation of major changes to the organisation and management of H&G CT – building on proposals discussed some 4 years earlier. CoM has decided to restructure H&G CT management into two tiers to improve operational effectiveness. In addition to a board of trustees (“Council”) an Executive Board will manage day-to-day activities on behalf of Council. The first step is the appointment a chief executive to work with CoM to refine ideas for the new structure (see pages 4 and 5).

Whilst it is of little significance in the overall scheme of things I can lay claim to having been the last Chairman of the Canal Society and the first of the H&G CT. Just as we recognised the need for change back in 1992 quite clearly it is now time to implement further changes to our organisation to more effectively meet current day and future demands. As always, progress will be reported in ***The Wharfinger***.

Regular readers will be aware that our longest ever serving Chairman Janet Moul (8½ years in total) announced at the AGM her intention to ‘retire’. However, that doesn’t mean that Janet has left us – far from it – she continues as Chairman of **H&G Canal Sales & Promotion** and is responsible for many other tasks! *Thank you, Janet (see page 21).*

As readers of Editions 128 and 129 will know, Council of Management has been engaging in a review of the organisation and management of the H&G CT. This started in March 2016 when CoM accepted the offer to lead a review by HR consultant and H&G CT member (and volunteer) Clive Weston. Discussions in the first two workshops led by Clive have focused us on our review about the way H&G CT operates. In particular, CoM members have considered the vision for H&G CT and the associated mission, in terms of the measures needed to make progress towards achieving the vision. We have also considered the many challenges H&G CT faces in accelerating that progress. **Our review has convinced us that now is the time to step up a gear!**

The Canal Society, and then the H&G CT, has been active for a third of a century. In that period it has built firm foundations in establishing itself in the two counties as a credible organisation and restored some four miles of the H&G Canal, a major achievement.

As our regular readers know it has also:

- ❖ Secured protection of the entire route in local authority plans together with important supportive policies enabling significant 'planning gain'
- ❖ Consistently been successful in representations to public inquiries and hearings
- ❖ Successfully worked in partnership with local authorities, parish councils and their communities, landowners and developers to deliver much more than just restoration of the canal

- ❖ Acquired freehold land and property including securing the means of access to the waterways network at Llanthony
- ❖ Developed capital assets and sources of perpetual income to support restoration and maintenance into the future
- ❖ Been consistently placed within the top 5 of 65 active UK Inland waterway schemes in the annual review by a leading national waterways magazine.

Janet Moult, our long standing chairman, announced at the AGM that she wished to step down before the end of the year, and that took effect at the end of October. That leaves an important post to be filled.

CoM has decided to restructure the management of H&G CT into two tiers: a Council, which is the board of trustees, and an executive board to which Council delegates responsibility for H&G CT's day to day activities. This kind of arrangement is in accordance with our Articles of Association and is increasingly common in bodies like ours which are seeking to improve their operational effectiveness.

The first step is to recruit a chief executive, on a voluntary basis, to lead the executive board, and CoM spent 20 October in a third workshop, led by Clive, to prepare for this task. We are fortunate to have his experience, and also the help of a senior head-hunter, John Macleod, who has volunteered to lead us in finding the right person for this vital role.

The first task for the chief executive will be to work with CoM to refine our ideas for the new structure. As always we will keep you updated in **The Wharfinger**, in the e-newsletter and on our website.

**H&G CT is rebuilding the long-closed canal between Hereford and Gloucester as a sustainable community and environmental asset, providing local employment and contributing to the economy of both counties.**

Recognised as one of the leading canal restoration organisations, H&G CT has been consistently placed within the top 5 of 65 active UK inland waterway voluntary groups in the annual review by a respected national waterways magazine.

In 2016 H&G CT gained The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service, the highest award given to local volunteer groups across the UK. It also gained international recognition with The Green Apple World Award for its Dymock partnership project.

H&G CT is now restructuring its management to address increasing demands for executive action

across a broad range of restoration and associated projects and in developing further partnerships with other bodies.

In addition to the Council (board of trustees), it is establishing an executive board which will manage H&G CT's day-to-day activities on behalf of the Council.

The first task for the Chief Executive will be to work with the existing Council of Management to refine our ideas for the new structure and to lead the executive board.

If you are excited by the challenges and rewards of this voluntary leadership role we look forward to hearing from you.

A briefing pack for applicants is available from Carolyn Pascall, at

[chiefexecutive@h-g-canal.org.uk](mailto:chiefexecutive@h-g-canal.org.uk)

**Closing date 30 November 2016**



**Experience More Magic.**

OUTLET SHOPPING WITH UP TO 70% OFF TOP NAME BRANDS

Gloucester Quays

Experience More

gloucesterquays.co.uk

## House for Rent



2 bedroom character semi-detached house  
in Llanthony Road, Hempsted, Gloucester.

**£895 pcm**

**Just been refurbished  
- available immediately**

**Situation:** The cottage is situated within walking distance of Gloucester Quays and Gloucester College as well as the docks and town centre, providing excellent shopping facilities and amenities.

A secluded unfurnished, two double bedroom, semi-detached property in a unique and interesting riverside location close to the city centre comprising entrance porch, lounge with gas fire, kitchen with electric cooker, second reception, large storage cupboard with plumbing for washing machine. To the upstairs there are two good sized bedrooms both with storage and a bathroom with shower over the bath. To the outside there is a large garden.

Parking area close by accessed by a private footbridge over the river. May not be suitable for younger children. Pets welcome.

For more information and to register your interest please contact:

<http://www.cgtlettings.co.uk/>  
(Gloucester Office)



## Welcome Donations

Donations in the past three months include £2,500 towards the **225 Anniversary Appeal**, including two grants of £1,000 each from the **Ratcliffe Trust** and the **DG Albright Charitable Trust**, and a grant of £500 towards the **Mill Barn Appeal** from the local branch of **IWA**. Land Fund income continues to accrue from those generous members who give a monthly sum; although the individual amounts are small, the annual total from this source is about £1,000.

**Thank you to all**

## SHOPPING ON LINE



### ***Do you shop on line?***

Please register with **Give as you Live?** Just type in <http://goo.gl/12c9xI> to your browser (it's a shortcut to [www.giveasyoulive.com/join/handgcanaltrust](http://www.giveasyoulive.com/join/handgcanaltrust)) Then the H&G CT will receive, at no cost to you, a percentage of the purchase value from any of the many retailers who have signed up to the scheme to support charities such as the H&G CT.



**H&G CT**

## LAND FUND

**more land = more restoration**

The **LAND FUND** will provide the means to obtain the crucial sites along the line of the Canal where

there is no new development proposed or where we cannot acquire the line of the Canal by other opportunities. It is a vital fund to help us eventually restore the full length from Gloucester to Hereford.

**visit** [www.h-g-canal.org.uk](http://www.h-g-canal.org.uk) then click 'About the Trust' then click 'Land Fund'



NATIONWIDE PLANT RENTAL

Over 50 years experience  
Quick response time  
Extensive fleet of latest  
equipment



With more than £7m invested annually  
and a fleet of 1000, Keyway offers the most  
comprehensive range of equipment and  
support services for our customers and operators.



Welcome to the Keyway Group – Extensive range of equipment, personal customer care



Nationwide  
Plant Rental



Transport &  
Bulk Excavation



Recycling &  
Aggregates



Skip Hire



Plant Sales



Keyway provides a complete recycling and waste management service to the construction and demolition industry operating a fleet of specialist vehicles within the south west region.

We seek to provide value for money and improved environmental solutions for all our customer needs. [www.keyway.co.uk](http://www.keyway.co.uk)



UK CONSTRUCTION RECRUITMENT is a leading employment agency specialising in the supply of temporary construction staff for the built environment. [www.ukcr.co.uk](http://www.ukcr.co.uk)



NATIONWIDE STONE SUPPLIES specialises in providing all of your aggregate solutions no matter the size and scale of your project. [www.nationwidestonesupplies.co.uk](http://www.nationwidestonesupplies.co.uk)

For further information please contact us on

T: 0845 241 81 81 | E: [plant@keyway.co.uk](mailto:plant@keyway.co.uk) | [www.keyway.co.uk](http://www.keyway.co.uk)

# OVER FESTIVAL

Report by Maggie Jones

The largest ever free 'Over Festival on the Canal' welcomed crowds to Over Basin on Saturday and Sunday 20/21 August.

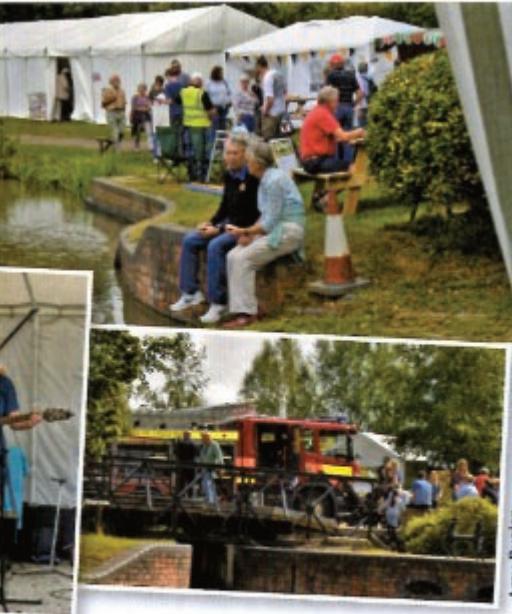
Despite rain on the Saturday it was a great success with even more attending on the brighter Sunday. The waterside was teeming with craft of all shapes and sizes from model boats to the H&G Canal Trust's own heritage fleet.

There was fun for all the family to get involved from boat trips on Mister Maysey to face painting, a climbing wall, donkey rides and treasure hunt. The fire engine and fire brigade displays attracted both young and old. The very full marquee housed a wide selection of local crafts and produce stalls.

New this year was a BBQ from the **Malswick House** team which proved very popular. The refreshments team were also kept very busy serving teas, sandwiches, a great array of home-made cakes and ice creams. The **Wharf House** featured its new terrace menu with local beers, ciders and perry on tap for the festival. A full programme of the best local live music talent played on the river terrace and continued through into the evening on the Saturday.

Two of our regular users of the Basin attracted a great deal of interest. The Gloucester and District Model Boat Club brought a great range of small craft and Sailing4Disabled welcomed visitors to ride on their wheelyboat and kataboat.





Amy Bugler

For everyone the message of the benefits of canal restoration by the Herefordshire & Gloucestershire Canal Trust was implicit throughout. The restored parts of the Canal provide a great venue for everyone to enjoy. We gained 10 new members, three volunteers and some hundreds of draw tickets were sold for our Grand Holiday Draw.

None of this could have happened without a large team of volunteers giving their time and enthusiasm. The H&G CT thanks everyone who helped in every aspect of the event both over the weekend and in the preparation beforehand. Also a big thank you to those who contributed the home-made cakes, ice-creams and bric-a-brac.



The Festival next year will be held on **Saturday 19 and Sunday 20 August 2017** - *we hope you can join us.*

» MJ

## GRAND HOLIDAY DRAW 2016 Results



This year's draw was made at the September Social by the speaker Ray Alexander.

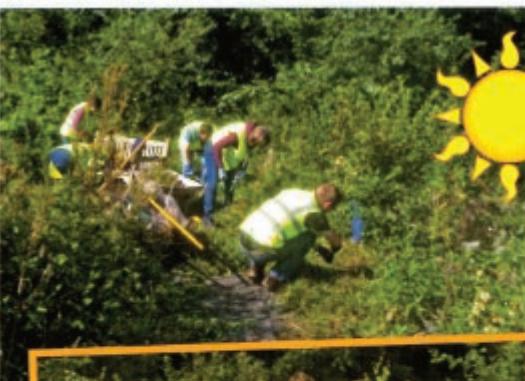
Thank you to everyone who helped, in any way, to make this yet another *successful Grand Holiday Draw*. The draw raised over £2,500 and well over half of this came from the tickets sent out in the Wharfinger and returned by our members. The draw was once again made at the September Social Evening at Much Marcle.

**1st Prize: Ticket no. 09465**  
**Narrow Boat Holiday for 4** - donated by **Black Prince Holidays**: Lyn Baker, Gloucester.

**2nd Prize: Ticket no. 2086**  
**One Day's Boat Hire** - donated by **Beacon Park Boats**: John Flemons, Gloucester.

**3rd Prize: Ticket no. 07744**  
**One night Bed & Breakfast for 2 at The Wharf House**: Mr & Mrs Ball, Shoreham-by-Sea.  
Our grateful thanks to **Black Prince Holidays**, **Beacon Park Boats** and **The Wharf House** for donating the Holiday prizes which help to make our annual holiday draw such a success.

*Thank you to everyone who supported the 2016 Grand Holiday Draw in any way.*



## Employees from Land Registry swap their desks for *life in the sunshine!*

By Maggie Jones

From time to time we have offers of help from local businesses and organisations.

These offers come in the form of a team prepared to do some physical work on our Canal. They are, of course, very welcome. So when a group of employees from the Land Registry, based in Gloucester, volunteered to spend a day with us we of course said 'yes please'.

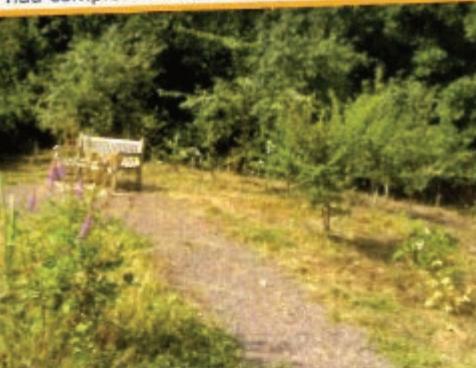
It was a couple of weeks before the Over Festival. Our regular Over volunteers were already working flat out to get the site ship shape for the event. The far end of Vineyard Hill had become very overgrown over the summer and young saplings, planted a year or so ago, were beginning to get lost in the undergrowth. The perfect job for the Land Registry team to tackle and eight volunteers, led by their co-ordinator Lynne Feddon, tackled it with gusto! It was a hot day but the enthusiastic team continued until the area was cleared and tidy once more.

A big thank you to them all. We hope they come back soon and recommend our 'green gym' to their colleagues.

» **MJ**



Land Registry volunteers still smiling after they had completed the undergrowth clearance.



Maggie Jones

The far end of Vineyard Hill after its makeover, taken from the same spot as the top photo.

An advertisement for Geoffrey Urch Garden Services. The top half features a collage of images related to gardening and landscaping. The bottom half contains the company name, service offerings, contact information, and a website address.

# Towing TOW!

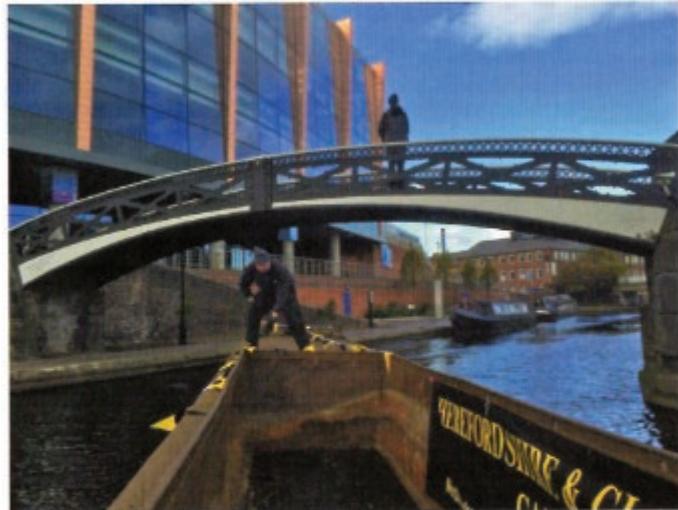
Through Birmingham to Alvechurch on its way to Gloucester

By Carolyn Pascall

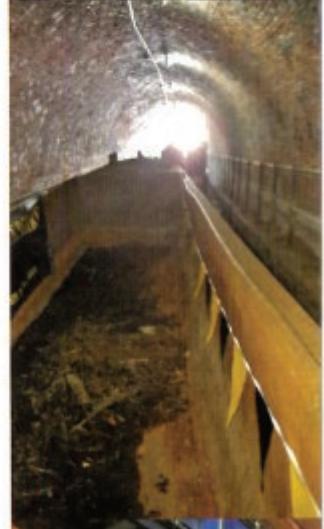
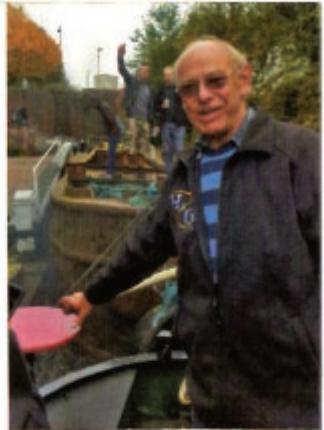
H&G CT's 70' heritage mud hopper, Tow, was towed by Muskrat, a 35' foot narrow boat, from Camp Hill to Alvechurch, on Sunday 23 and Monday 24 October in fine weather along the Birmingham Canal Navigations.

The journey involved 25 locks in Birmingham from the top of the Camp Hill Flight of 6 locks, through the Ashted flight (6 locks), then the Farmer's Bridge flight (13 locks) and through Gas Street Basin, then the Wast Hills Tunnel (2,276 yards) and down to Scarfield Wharf in Alvechurch.

Members of Birmingham Canal Navigation Society helped us rediscover Tow's location after it had been moved mysteriously from its mooring on Icknield Port Loop to the Cement Arm at the top of the Camp Hill locks. BCNS also volunteered their help, in the form of two very able boaters, Jeff Carter and Paul Smith, in this weekend collaborative project. Muskrat's owner, H&G CT Vice Chairman John Hammond, who has 30 years of canal boating experience and is a member of BCNS,



Above: Jeff (BCNS) ducks as Paul (BCNS) watches from above.  
Top right: John at the tiller with Seth, Darren and Henry on Tow.  
Middle right: Tow in Edgbaston Tunnel with Muskrat in front.  
Bottom right: Darren pulls Muskrat in at Gas Street Basin.





# Everything Canal Boats

*Services from 10 marinas in the UK and  
boating holidays from 16 locations.*

- Boating Holidays
- Boat Sales
- Day Boat Hire
- Boat Builders
- Chandlery & Repairs
- Marina Services
- Moorings
- Canalside Holiday Cottages



[www.everythingcanalboats.com](http://www.everythingcanalboats.com)

Call Us: 0330 333 0595



Left: Group photo, along with passerby, at Cambrian Wharf of John, Carolyn, Seth, Darren and Henry.

Below: Muskrat towing Tow, John at tiller, with some crew on towpath.

very much welcomed the support of BCNS in this venture. The H&G CT team included skilled navigator 11 year-old Seth and his father Darren Barnett, whose family live on a boat in Bath, and John's son Henry and wife Kirsty.

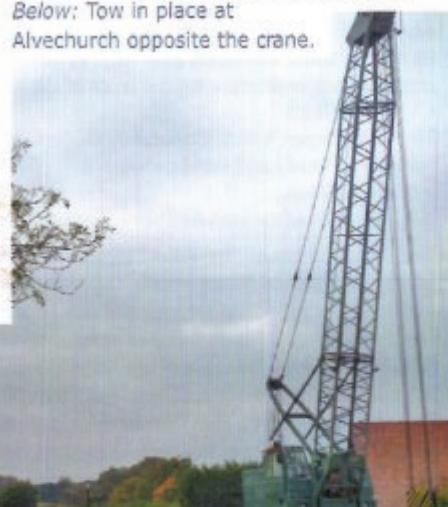
As the sun shone, people along the route stopped in wonder to gaze at this relatively diminutive narrowboat, evidently able to tow the wide, heavy and rusty mud-hopper, both craft being suitably bedecked in H&G Canal Trust livery.

After being craned out of the water at Scarfield Wharf, Alvechurch, a gesture generously offered to H&G CT by ABC Leisure Group Ltd, Tow will be transported by lorry to Over Canal Basin to undergo her restoration makeover and start a new life on the H&G Canal.

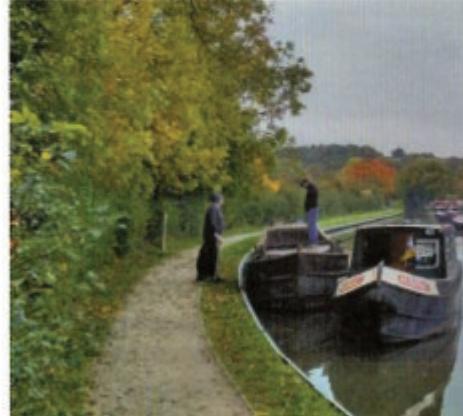
»» CP



Below: Tow in place at Alvechurch opposite the crane.



Carolyn Pascall



# *Gift ideas from* THE **WHARF HOUSE**



**New!**  
Membership  
Welcome  
Packs

## Membership of the H&G Canal Trust

A great gift for the historian, walker, boater or environmentalist in your life! If you are still struggling to find that elusive Christmas gift why not give a H&G CT Gift Membership – a gift that lasts all year – it will outlive those flowers or box of chocolates!

*The membership pack includes:*

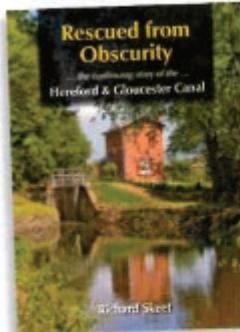
- A short history of the Trust and its restoration work
- Details for those members who wish to be more actively involved with the work of the H&G Canal Trust
- **The Wharfinger:** 4 recent quarterly magazines
- H&G Canal Trust Land Fund details
- H&G Canal Trust pencil
- H&G Canal Trust car sticker.

Available to callers at The Wharf House or just send your and the recipient's details, together with the relevant membership rate for the gift to the H&G Canal Sales and Promotion mail order address (inside back cover). Please include your 'phone number in case of any queries. Details of your gift will be sent inside a FREE H&G Christmas card at no extra cost to you and over the next 12 months the recipient will receive a further four future editions of *The Wharfinger*.

From **£7.50** (for rates see inside back cover), plus £3 P+P.

## **Gift Membership Plus!**

Add another £10 to the subscription cost (or £12 by post) to include a copy of the highly acclaimed **Rescued from Obscurity**.



## **Rescued from Obscurity**

The story of the H&G Canal written by former Chairman Dick Skeet and published by the H&G CT makes a excellent gift.

**£10** £12 by post

*"a thoroughly competent and enjoyable book ... informative text, a good selection of photographs and clear, concise, maps"* Waterways World

## **Gift Vouchers**

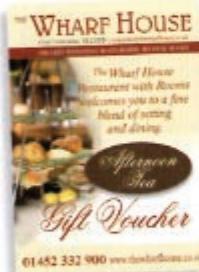


## **Gift Vouchers for the Restaurant**

Why not surprise your loved ones this year with a gift voucher for use at **WHARF HOUSE**

offering the chance to sample sumptuous local food, created with flair and imagination.

Vouchers can be purchased in denominations of **£20**, available by post with a gift card included for value of vouchers + £2.95.



## **Gift Voucher for Afternoon Tea**

By popular demand there is now a gift voucher for Afternoon Teas at **WHARF HOUSE**. The teas include a pyramid of

sandwiches, scones, cakes and desserts as well as a choice of beverage. Vouchers are **£16.50** per person. They can be purchased either at **WHARF HOUSE**, or available by post with a gift card included for value of vouchers + £2.95.



### Christmas Cards

Christmas Card of **"WHARF HOUSE** and Over Basin at dusk. The design is printed on quality card, and comes singly or in packs of 5 with self-sealing envelopes. Size: 210mm x 99 mm. **£1** each or **£3.99**

for a pack of 5 cards with envelopes, plus £2.95 P+P for minimum of 4 packs of 5.

*Why not come and see us soon – we have many other gift ideas so why not do your Christmas shopping in the Visitor Centre then join us for a meal – a far more relaxed way of working through your gift list!*

### Winter Opening times at the WHARF HOUSE

**Monday to Saturday** inclusive from 10am and most evenings for a la carte or Tasting menu (booking very strongly recommended).

Open for Afternoon Tea and light bites on **Sundays** and the rest of the week.

Over **Christmas** we are closed from Saturday, 24 December to Tuesday, 27 December

Over the **New Year** we are closed from Saturday 31 December to Tuesday 10 January.

It is always advisable to book as we can get very busy. We only accept a certain number of tables at any time in the diary, so do not be offended if you are turned away even if we do not look full! The restaurant is available to be booked for private functions 7 days a week.

### Christmas Menus:

[www.thewharfhouse.co.uk](http://www.thewharfhouse.co.uk)

# THE WHARF HOUSE

AWARD-WINNING WATERSIDE RESTAURANT WITH ROOMS

MODERN BRITISH AND EUROPEAN CUISINE WITH A TWIST



Tasting Menu Six Courses only £39.99 per person.

Lighter lunches including paninis from £4.50.

*Now also available: Afternoon Tea, Sundays 12-2pm*

### NEW TERRACE MENU

Riverside terrace for alfresco dining



**01452 332 900**

[www.thewharfhouse.co.uk](http://www.thewharfhouse.co.uk)

Over, Gloucester, GL2 8DB

[enquiries@thewharfhouse.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@thewharfhouse.co.uk)

Directions: Turn off the A40 at traffic lights 250 yds west of Over Roundabout (junction A40/A417). GL30 8JG

All profits from the Wharf House and Matswick House will be used for the promotion and restoration of the Hereford & Gloucester Canal.

# MALSWICK HOUSE

holds an afternoon of  
**Beer, Cider, BBQ  
+ Live Music**

by Maggie Jones

Towards the end of August, before the summer had started to fade, Malswick House held a BBQ welcoming guests, families and "Dogs too"! The latter certainly pleased Kai, their lovely canine resident.

With local beers and ciders including those from Wye Valley and Weston's



Cider and music played in the marquee, the afternoon went with a swing.

The food served from the BBQ in the courtyard proved to be particularly popular.

The newly completed beer garden along the former canal line gave visitors an attractive place to relax and take in the late summer sun.

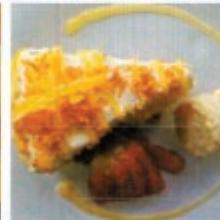
» MJ

# MALSWICK HOUSE



## TRADITIONAL PUB • FOOD • FUNCTIONS

A Traditional Country Inn situated on the edge of Newent in the historic Forest of Dean, Gloucestershire.



Serving a great variety of Nibbles,  
Lunches & Evening Meals.

Earlybird Menu available everyday only £10.95 for  
2 courses. Join us on Wednesdays for Burger Night  
and receive a FREE dessert.

01531 822 634

[www.malswickhouse.co.uk](http://www.malswickhouse.co.uk)

B4215, Newent, GL18 1HE

[enquiries@malswickhouse.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@malswickhouse.co.uk)

All profits from Malswick House will be used for the promotion and restoration of the Hereford & Gloucester Canal.

## Remembering Liz

Some 15 friends from the H&G CT gathered at Over Canal Basin in August, together with 5 members of Liz's family, for the unveiling of a plaque in memory of Liz by her parents Ann and Rodney Wood.

The weather was very kind to us and we then gathered on the terrace at The Wharf House for a cup of tea and cake – Liz would have approved both the cake and the budget! Members of the family then took a walk in the sunshine along the Canal at Vineyard Hill.

A memorable day when family and H&G CT friends could exchange fond memories of a truly committed and determined volunteer. Liz is rightly remembered for the undoubtedly

major role that she played, from the outset of the Canal Trust, in helping to establish and then maintain the credibility of the organisation and in managing our finances. » **CRP**



### Liz Connors

1959 – 2015

IN MEMORY OF LIZ CONNORS, FOR 25 YEARS TREASURER OF THE HEREFORDSHIRE & GLOUCESTERSHIRE CANAL TRUST AND ASSOCIATED COMPANIES.

WITHOUT THE COMMITMENT, VISION AND DETERMINATION OF VOLUNTEERS LIKE LIZ THE RECONSTRUCTION OF OVER CANAL BASIN AND THE CREATION OF THE WHARF HOUSE WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN ACHIEVED.

stationery • leaflets • mailers • posters • folders • programmes • newsletters • brochures • prospectuses • calendars • magazines • books • exhibition panels

# PRINT PLUS

01432 272025



126 Widemarsh Street • Hereford HR4 9HN  
Fax: 01432 353962 • Email: [enquiries@printplushereford.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@printplushereford.co.uk)

[www.printplushereford.co.uk](http://www.printplushereford.co.uk)



always delivering quality



## OVER BASIN

We have just published a sixth walk leaflet – although this time it is equally suitable for cycles. Three picturesque routes to Over Basin from the villages of Highnam and Maisemore and Gloucester City Docks. All three have well-maintained, all-weather surfaces and are cycling. This enjoyable route Network routes 42 and 45.

This leaflet is twice the size of previous leaflets and opens up to a plan of Over Basin and extensive information about the area's wildlife and water activities and well as a short history of its restoration.

The **H&G CT Canal Walk** leaflets are proving very popular with members and each includes part of the route of our Canal.

CANAL WALK NO. 1 STAPLOW

## CANAL WALK NO. 2 **WITHINGTON**

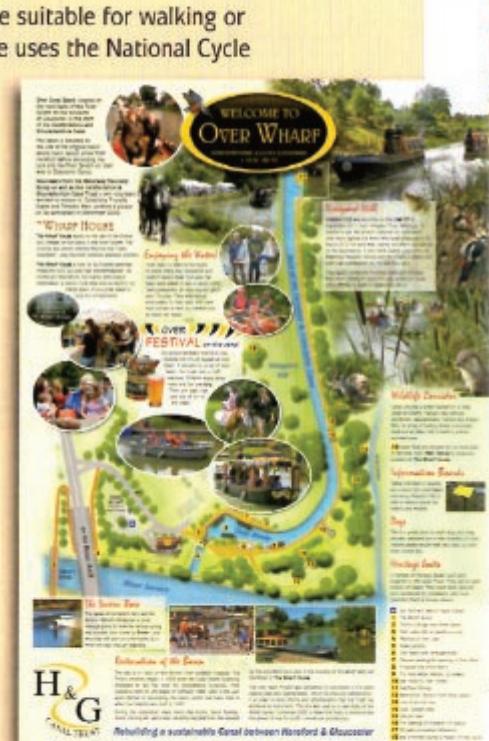
CANAL WALK NO. 3 DYMOCK

CANAL WALK NO. 4 **LLANTHONY**

CANAL WALK NO. 5 OXENHALL

## CANAL WALK/CYCLE NO. 6 **OVER BASIN**

The leaflets are available from The Wharf House or by post from Nigel Jefferies (address inside back cover). Please send your name, address and a loose second class stamp for each leaflet plus another loose stamp for return postage.



This leaflet has been



2. 中国科学院植物研究所植物学报

## "We have an interesting project for you at Llanthony"



... that is how it was put to Paul Henshaw in 2008 when he began leading the work on our new acquisition in Gloucester.

*"My initial reaction was why Wales?"* said Paul.

From the very first visit to the new location, it was apparent that the site has tremendous potential for improvement for it to become a positive attraction in the local area whilst our major H&G Canal hydro and lock project is designed, negotiated and funded.

The work started with some urgent maintenance on the cottages and the creation of temporary car parking facilities

for volunteers and visitors to the site. After research by Paul the team started a regime to eradicate the Japanese Knotweed which was prevalent on the northern section by the lock area and cleared the undergrowth from around the lock and between the lock and the river. The jobs were many and varied.

Paul has led the team at Llanthony Lock for 8 years. Following completion of the larger lock cottage's refurbishment and a new car park for the properties Paul has decided the time is right to stand down as Llanthony site leader.

The CoM thanks Paul for his hard work and leadership of the teams that have worked at Llanthony over those years. Paul continues to volunteer on our other sites and we hope will be willing to take on other challenges when the opportunity arises. *Thank you Paul* » MJ

## Replacement Parts Cover

*including Marine Breakdown & Recovery Service*

**NOW AFTER YOU'VE BROKEN DOWN,  
WE CAN PICK UP THE REPAIR BILL.**

- 24/7 Nationwide cover on all inland waterways
- Covers a huge range of specified parts, including the gearbox & drive plate, couplings, starters, alternators and many more \*
- Pays up to a maximum of £1,000 per repair
- You can make up to 4 claims per year
- **£** consumables such as cable, filters, rubber components and the like that require routine wear and tear replacement

annual membership **from only**

**£130**

**RCR**

KEEPING YOU MOVING

**tel: 01785 785680**

[www.rivercanalrescue.co.uk](http://www.rivercanalrescue.co.uk)

# Social Evenings

*at The Royal Oak*

The third Tuesday of every month (except December)

at **The Royal Oak**, Much Marcle, HR8 2ND

7.30 for 8pm start.

Please support our monthly meetings, make a note on the calendar and tell your friends and neighbours. We have an excellent venue and interesting speakers on a wide range of topics. Why not share transport and make an evening of it – **everyone is welcome!**

**Note** – No meeting in December. The Wall Hanging (p. 35) should be on display at our January meeting.

**17 January**

**The RAF gardener:** the story of a wartime escape.

– Stephen and Gillian Chowns

Two of our members start off the New Year with something completely different and an intriguing title.



**21 February**

**The Vale of Berkeley Railway**

– Ian Raven

Exciting news of a new heritage railway in our area and their plans to reopen the Sharpness Branch Line.



**21 March**

**Russia – from Astrakhan to Moscow via the River Volga**

– Penny Platts

We welcome back Penny after her splendid presentation last year.



After 14 years I am beginning to run out of ideas! I am sure there are a lot of our members out there who give talks so why not give one to the other members at Much Marcle? Canals and waterways related topics – plus wildlife and heritage railways – have been the focus of our past talks and with your help we hope this can continue. Other related topics would be of interest. Please let me (Janet Moulton) know if you would like to pass on your interests.

» JM



# Thank you Janet

by Cliff Penny

Janet Moult announced at the AGM her intention to retire as Chairman of the H&G CT, and from the CoM, "prior to the end of the year". Having stepped down from this important post once before, and subsequently been persuaded take over the reins for a second term of office, she said (with a broad smile) "I really mean it this time"!

In April 1999 Janet retired from Reading University Library and she and her late husband Brian swiftly moved to Herefordshire to 'retire'. The removal lorry could hardly have been out of sight before they were both greatly assisting that summer with the significant H&G CT presence at the National Waterways Festival, on the River Severn, at Worcester. Brian took over as Chairman of the H&G Trading Company in 2000 and, following his sad death the previous autumn, in 2003 Janet joined CoM and took over as Chairman of the Trading Company.

Janet first became Chairman of H&G CT in the autumn of 2006 – 5½ years later she was reporting back on her first period as Chairman with a number of memorable (and some significant) achievements. Excellent publicity from our 25th anniversary celebrations, new milestones erected, the purchase of Llanthony Lock, Cottages and land (thanks to the Beth Gadesden bequest), the opening of the slipway and first stage restoration through Aylestone Park (first boats on the Canal in Hereford since 1880!), the bedrooms at The Wharf House being completed and, for good measure, work well under way at Vineyard Hill and about to commence at Moat Farm.

After a 2 year interval (I quite deliberately didn't say 'rest'!) in December 2013 Janet was persuaded to once again take on the role as Chairman of H&G CT. During these latter 3 years just some of the notable achievements included publication of Rescued from Obscurity, construction of the large overflow weir at Aylestone Park, redevelopment of Holmer Trading Estate

approved with some £3million of 'planning gain' for the Canal, work at Oxenhall extending to Newent Station, the Dymock Partnership successfully completed with the additional 'bricks and mortar' asset of our house there, the purchase of what is now Malswick House and the refurbishment of the Cottages at Llanthony being completed.

Janet is quick to acknowledge just how much H&G CT value each and every one of our volunteers – no matter what they might be doing to assist our ongoing success. Now it is our turn to thank Janet for the thousands of hours that she has so far spent (supported by daughter Becca) as a volunteer in a multitude of roles. Janet has made it clear that she is willing, for the time being, to continue as Chairman of H&G Canal Sales & Promotion – in addition to all her other tasks such as distribution of The Wharfinger, arranging speakers for the Social Evenings (see request on page 20), organising the Grand Holiday Draw ... a most sincere **'thank you Janet'** for everything that you have done – so far!

» CRP



Waterway Images

Janet and daughter, Becca, receive a cheque on behalf of H&G CT from Brainston Marina.



# RESTORATION UPDATE

News of our work on the Hereford & Gloucester Canal

Want to get involved at any of our restoration sites? – You will be most welcome – *all the contact details are on page 30.*

## Hereford Roving Team

John Pritchard

### Burcott/Newtown Road.

An area of overgrown buddleia was removed and the undergrowth along the fence-line adjacent to Burcott Road tidied. Further maintenance will be carried out over the winter period.

### Aylestone Park.

Over the summer we continued our ongoing battle with the weed in the canal. In some places it is completely across the canal and the full depth of the water. Looking ahead to the completion of the adjacent Holmer section, when redevelopment of the adjacent industrial estate proceeds, we are going to need a better plan for tackling the inevitable weed.

### Kymin.

The towpath has been strimmed and kept clear. A large fallen branch was logged up and stacked. Thanks to Wilf for organising two work parties to strim the spoil heaps and remove any large pieces of wood.

JP



John Pritchard

### YOUR HELP PLEASE

John Pritchard would like to hear from you if you can assist in his pursuit of the 'holy grail' – aquatic weed extermination! {*I think you may have to settle for "best practice" in controlling it, John! Ed.*} As with everything that we do we are always willing to learn. John (contact details inside back cover) would like to hear from anyone who can assist him at Aylestone Park (and the H&G CT in general) with the identification of the aquatic weed species and recommending best means of control/prevention and disposal.

For a number of years the use of slowly rotting barley straw has helped to control blanket weed at Over and our friends at the Gloucester & District Model Boat Club have been trialling a system they developed of heavy chains dragged along the canal to help remove other types of weed. We know that (full size!) boat movement helps to reduce the rate of growth – but with the downside that it can also spread the weed. The historic weed cutting boat, under restoration at Over, might have been brought in to assist (and would have been trailable between 'wet' sites) but health and safety aspects arising from the old design preclude this.

The H&G CT is anxious to reduce the ever increasing maintenance workload for our volunteers that aquatic weeds present at all of our 'wet' sites so if you can assist with specific advice John Pritchard would be very pleased to hear from you.

CRP

## Yarkhill

Chris High

We are now into October and despite the odd chilly morning the vegetation is still growing.

The Team continue to meet the challenge head on and have also been preparing for a visit from "the man with a tractor" who will be giving the hedge, canal banks and canal bottom their autumn short back and sides.



The preparatory work involved strimming the first 150 yards as this always remains wet and is not accessible to the tractor. This pre-cut removes the temptation to try!

» **CH**



The water level slowly rises with the aid of the borehole pump.

## Dymock

Wilf Jones

As reported in the last edition our next task was to have the basin filled and the borehole completely installed. At the present time water is still being pumped into the basin and, as can be seen from the photos, it's slowly filling up.

The borehole was designed to 'top up' the water, not fill the basin, so it is doing this slowly but surely! The contractor has not yet completed his work (due to difficulties when drilling the borehole); once completed the adjacent towpath will be finished along with the planned overflow.

Volunteers have been working to clear weeds and the first cut of the towpath has been completed. The trees and shrubs have taken well, and therefore next year we should have a good display of slowly maturing trees. Planting of native waterside plants in the spring should enhance the overall picture.

» **WJ**



The first cut of the towpath has been completed.



The play area ground levelled by the parish council.

Much of our work this time has been devoted to completing the clearance of the former Willows Nursery site area and preparing the whole site for the Open day we held in September.

The wooden footbridge over the lock was found to be rotting away so remedial work was promptly commenced and has now been completed. The three trailers/site huts hidden in the 'jungle' have now been released and moved out so that the surrounding area could be cleared revealing some ground which we had not seen since the purchase of The Willows in 2004. The brambles were resistant to the weedkiller which we eventually managed to spray on but strimmers and then mowers did the job and are now keeping everything under control. Some small patches of Japanese Knotweed in the wooded area have been sprayed twice this year by Paul Henshaw and are now looking a bit sick but experience has shown us that it will take at least another couple of sprays next year before we can expect it to die. Goodness knows where it came from in the first place!



Site hut trailers "in the jungle".

### Permissive Path

The permissive path which we opened last year is now regularly walked by locals and H&G Canal Trust members. It is well signed with information boards at intervals. There are places where nettles and Himalayan balsam try to encroach but they are easily held back by a slasher now and then. Our trial of leaving the towpath with a minimum cut this year will not be continued next year because we think it does not present the canal in the best light and in particular our show-piece area around the lock and cottage.

### Good Neighbours

We have a good working relationship with our neighbour, the 'skip man'. He not only hires out skips but has a small excavator which he has generously used to level off a large hump in our track and to open up an access, through some very rough ground, to a level open area behind the ladder factory. This will soon be completely cleared of vegetation and will become the new parking area for our 3 trailers and various other bits and pieces which are in the way elsewhere. He also provides us with any spare pallets he has which are essential in our work at the station for storing bricks etc. In return he is given any scrap metal which we come across.

### Station Site

The station has now become the focus of much of our work and, together with the Saturday group under Wilf Jones, the clearance of the old station platforms is continuing. There is still old stock left by the builders, the previous tenants, which we are only just uncovering. Much of it is in good order and will be sold on to provide income for the Trust and the future plans for the station. One item which we found under a pile of old paint tins and general



Look what we found! To be 'upcycled' to form a new counter for an antique shop.

rubbish was a long wooden bench and on cleaning it up it became obvious it was quite old and well made. I mentioned this to a friend of mine who showed some interest and as soon as he saw it he offered a substantial sum which was eagerly grabbed. It will apparently form the frontage of a new antique shop which he plans to open soon. It took some moving as it was extremely heavy but well worth the effort.

Another item which is now more visible is an old railway footbridge which will eventually span the canal here. It came from Llanthony, near Gloucester, and has been lying in the undergrowth next to the platform here for many years now. It looks as though there will be work commencing on restoring the platforms early next year so how long before the bridge is spanning a new stretch of the H&G Canal? Watch this space.



Railway footbridge from Llanthony, Gloucester.



This year our annual 'away day' was to the Monmouth and Brecon Canal at Goytre Wharf near Abergavenny. 10 volunteers with a few wives hired a day boat and had some decent weather and a very enjoyable time. The pub we stopped at for morning coffee was found closed but the lovely lady who lived next door spotted our dilemma and invited us all in for a drink and chat. What wonderful Welsh hospitality. » **BF**

**H & G CANAL TRUST**

**Newent and Oxenhall**  
**Open Day**  
*on the canal 2016*

**Report**

The open day was a great success despite drizzly weather in the morning. A steady stream of visitors came to see the work done so far at the station and a good proportion of them finished up at Oxenhall Parish Hall for tea and home-made cakes. Several new members were enrolled and generally the comments from the public were very positive and looking forward to seeing the proposed changes through this site coming to fruition. » **BF**

## Moat Farm

Martyn Tilford

It's all quiet on the Moat Farm front. That is, business as usual with routine maintenance activity mixed with the continued 'development' of the site.

Routine maintenance, as always, involves regular mowing of the grassy areas we endeavour to maintain in that style. The 'wilder' areas occasionally need some intervention in order to enhance the habitats that we have created. The team have been busy working on the 'off-side' bank selectively pruning and strimming to preserve the hard won semi-managed areas we were able to create two or three years ago.

The excavator has been kept busy dredging and shaping the canal bed extending the length that had been completed last year. We have now accumulated a large volume of spoil arising from this work which will be relocated around the site during the next dumper session.

A problem arose with one of the excavator tracks when the main idler wheel bearing failed. Fortunately the machine was in a relatively convenient position when this occurred and replacing the failed component proved to be a straightforward challenge for our volunteer mechanics despite the weight of the idler wheel assembly.

» **MT**



Dredging and reshaping the canal bed.



The failed excavator track idler wheel during removal ...



... and the replacement ready to fit.



Ivor Bob & Chris completing great wall brick cladding ...  
Right: ... with the help of other members of the team.

## Over Basin & Vineyard Hill Ted Beagles

The summer is always a busy season, especially so this year with a very long period of vigorous growth of everything. Keeping on top of the grassed areas has been a demanding job, as well as cutting back shrubs and brambles. The garden areas have required a lot of attention to weed and replant. The weed in the canal basin is prolific, despite the efforts of other canal users to keep it under control. Thank goodness it is easing off as we move into autumn.

'Operation River View' is being mounted by The Wharf House to restore views of the river from the terrace, which over the years have been lost behind willows on the riverbank and shrubs growing on The Wharf House bank. In combination with The Wharf House staff the shrubs and brambles are being cut



Ted Beagles



*Inset:* Peter cleaning recycled bricks for the wall.



*Top:* Andy strimming river bank.

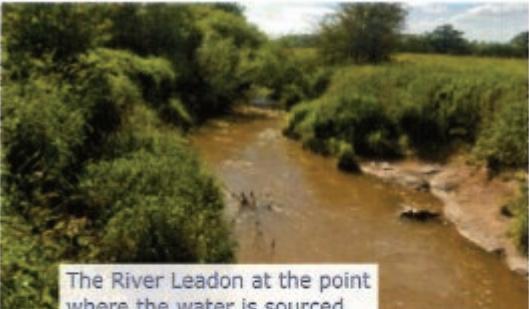
*Above:* Graham and Maggie clearing The Wharf House Bank.

*Inset:* Bob laying bricks.

back and thinned out and some willows are being cut down, and the material being used to weave a willow fence along the waterline to help inhibit erosion of the bank.

### Great wall progress

Bob and Ivor, assisted from time to time by other members of the team in transporting bricks from elsewhere on site and cleaning them ready for use, have now completed the basic brick facing of the concrete wall and are in the final stages of profiling the top of the wall. Next they come to the more challenging stage of building the brick arched roof of the cycle shed section!



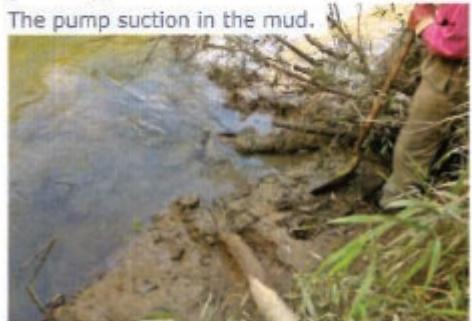
The River Leadon at the point where the water is sourced.

## Water Issues

Maintaining the canal water level has been a challenge throughout late summer. Lack of rain and a long warm period has meant that the level of water in the nearby River Leadon, which is our source of water, has been very low making it difficult to get the pump suction pipe into the fresh water and clear of the mud. We just managed to top up water in the canal for the Festival weekend by pumping during the short periods when the fresh water rose due to backing up on the incoming tide and stopping before the Leadon water became contaminated by the brackish water from

the Severn. Subsequently we have removed the suction pipe completely to clean out the mud and have repositioned it midstream, with ropes attached to both sides of the river. In pulling the pipe out we found it to be damaged at the site of a previous repair patch. This meant we had to cut off about 1metre of the pipe and refit the coupling back on to the remaining piece. The pumping system is now in normal service, and we have developed new skills to refit the end fittings on 6 inch plastic pipes!

The pump suction in the mud.



**THE OAK INN**  
Staplow HR8 1NP  
01531 640954



A VERY WARM WELCOME AWAITS YOU AT OUR NEWLY REFURBISHED INN  
OPEN FOR LUNCH AND DINNER EVERY DAY IN OUR COSY BAR AREAS OR RESTAURANT  
GOOD SELECTION OF REAL ALES - GOOD BEER GUIDE 2009 & 2010

REAL LOG FIRES, FLAGSTONE FLOORS, OLD BEAMS & HOPS  
PRETTY BEER GARDEN - PARTIES CATERED FOR - DOG FRIENDLY  
THE ONLY PUB IN HEREFORDSHIRE THAT ABUTS THE LINE OF  
THE HEREFORD AND GLOUCESTER CANAL

FOUR EN-SUITE B&B ROOMS NOW AVAILABLE  
[www.oakinnstaplow.co.uk](http://www.oakinnstaplow.co.uk)



## Ingenious Repair

For many years our wheeled strimmer has served us well, in cutting through tough banks of brambles and nettles, when it failed dramatically – the head drive shaft having sheared. There seemed to be no way of extracting the broken shaft. However, by perseverance of our mechanical team, and a combination of WD40, heating, a hub puller, and a big hammer over a period of several weeks the broken shaft was finally removed! But the mounting plate had unfortunately broken during the process; not to be outdone, Dave Hurran and Mike Hunt contrived a scheme to repair and put it all together, and the strimmer is back in service once more.

## Over Festival.

Throughout August we were busy getting ready for the Over Festival (see page 8), preparing the site for car parking, mending and putting up signs, washing and touching up the paintwork of the heritage boats. H&G CT's trip boat Mr Maysey was prepared ready for two days of hard work, and this year we also ran trips the weekend before for a wedding reception held at The Wharf House. Finally of course everything required packing up and storing ready for next year.

Visitors walking along the towpath at Vineyard Hill during the Festival came across a warning sign saying "Caution bees at work" and were surprised to see a long pole supporting a basket high up one of the ash trees. This had been placed there by Chris, our resident bee keeper, in an attempt to catch a large swarm of bees on the tree trunk. However the bees were not interested as they had already built



The ingenious repair on the wheeled strimmer.



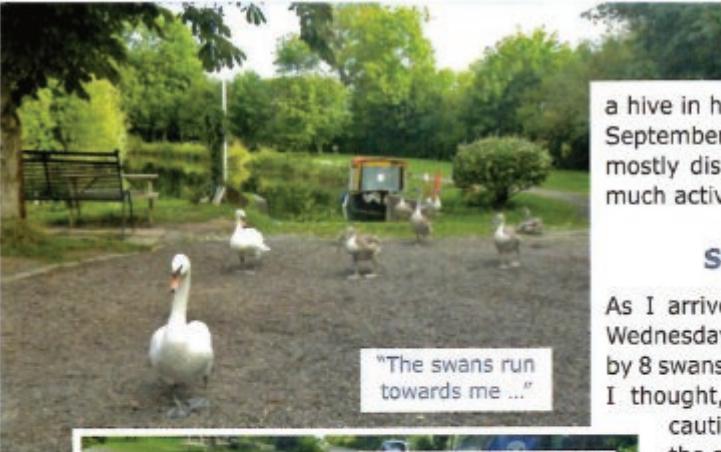
Inset above:  
Close-up of the bee  
swarm in the old  
ash tree.

Above right: An  
attempt to catch the  
bee swarm along  
Vineyard Hill.

Right: Close-up of  
the basket in place.



Ted Beagles and Chris Hands



Ted Beagles



a hive in hole in the tree. At the end of September the external bees had mostly disappeared but there was still much activity in and out of the hole.

### Swan Encounter

As I arrived to open up the site one Wednesday morning I was confronted by 8 swans running towards me! Careful I thought, what is going on here. I cautiously made my way through the group of excited birds into the site hut, and anxiously looked behind me only to find them all apparently lying down and resting and no longer interested in me - just disappointed as I had no food for them!

» **TB**

## Calling all Gardeners!

Around The Wharf House and towards the Basin we have a number of shrub and flower borders. These include a herb garden and the terrace overlooking the River. The task of keeping them looking tidy throughout the year is in the hands of volunteers.



There are plans to revamp the beds at the entrance to The Wharf House. We are looking for volunteers who enjoy gardening and would enjoy helping in this redesign as well as keeping all the other beds looking neat and colourful throughout the seasons. Volunteers meet at Over on Wednesdays and alternative Saturdays. If you are interested in helping us please contact Maggie Jones or Ted Beagles. (see below for details). Thank you.

» **MJ**

## Would you like to get involved?

You will be made most welcome on any of our sites, please contact:

### Hereford Roving Team

John Pritchard on 01432 272972  
johnpritchard32@btinternet.com

### Aylestone and Kymin

Wilf Jones on 01452 413 888  
wilfredjones506@gmail.com

### Yarhhill

Chris High on 01568 615 575  
chris@chrishigh.plus.com

### Oxenhall

Brian Fox on 01432 358 628  
briandfox74@gmail.com

### Newent Station - Saturdays

Wilf Jones on 01452 413 888  
wilfredjones506@gmail.com

### Moat Farm

Martyn Tilford on 01452 790 358  
martyn@tilford.free-online.co.uk

### Over Basin/Vineyard Hill

Ted Beagles on 01452 522 648  
tedbeagles@blueyonder.co.uk

### Saturday Roving Team

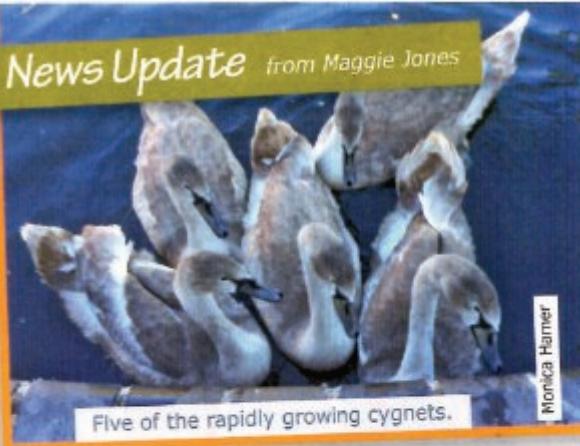
Maggie Jones on 01452 618 010  
maggiejones@blueyonder.co.uk

# The Over Basin Swans

As Monica Hamer told us in the last edition, a pair of swans, Sadie and Sam, (as she named them), have been nesting at Over Basin.

As the summer passed by the cygnets grew rapidly, and, as Ted describes opposite, became quite greedy. They knew just where they needed to be for the residents to bring them regular swan food.

When almost full grown, but still in cygnet brown plumage, the six became five. Nobody knows where the other one went (as the song goes). Perhaps he became victim to a predator, or perhaps he felt he had outgrown the flock.



Five of the rapidly growing cygnets.

Monica Hamer

The rest of the family would disappear for days and then reappear. Then one day just Sam and Sadie came back. Their responsibilities gone, they were free to enjoy the water together. The cygnets hopefully will find their way to non-breeding flocks where they will eventually find a mate of their own, and we hope they come back to Over next year, where they were treated so well.

» MJ

# HE.B HAYWARD & Co.LTD

*Sheet Metal Work, Welding & Fabrications*

We are a family run business established over 50 years ago, specialising in sheet metal work and fabrications in most metals including mild steel, stainless steel, aluminium, titanium, copper and brass.



- Items can be manufactured to your own drawings or from instructions.
- Quantities from 1 to 10,000.
- Sizes can range from a washer right up to fabrication of 1 tonne.

We have a wide client base with particular involvement in hydraulic press, concrete, materials handling, feed and flour milling industries.

It has been our pleasure in supporting the Herefordshire and Gloucestershire Canal Trust for over 20 years, and we will continue to work together in the present, to revive the past, and secure a better future. © H&GCT

Simon Hayward: 01452 700384, Fax 01452 700740

SHEET METAL WORKS, ASHLEWORTH, GLOUCESTER, GL19 4JJ



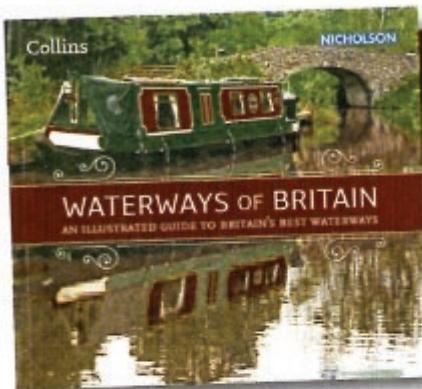
# MOAT CONTRACTING

GROUNDWORK SPECIALISTS



**07887 544 400**

[moatcontracting@aol.co.uk](mailto:moatcontracting@aol.co.uk)



# **WATERWAYS OF BRITAIN**

**Waterways of Britain** is a new softback edition of the **Times Waterways of Britain**. The book takes readers through a selection of "Britain's best waterways" and concludes with the H&G Canal to illustrate "what is still to come".

Written by Jonathan Mosse (who is also the researcher for the respected Collins and Nicholson Waterways Guides) the 300 page book is lavishly illustrated throughout with stunning photographs, maps and illustrations.

A unique feature of the book is a series of 'mileposts' that are included from time to time within the main text. The first 'milepost' is an account of James Brindley, who, as Britain's first true canal engineer, played such an important part in the Industrial Revolution. The final (25th) 'milepost' is titled "**Hereford & Gloucester Canal Restoration - The Future**". This comprises the final double page spread of the book and describes the H&G Canal and some of the achievements of the H&G CT with photographs of the restored Oxenhall Lock, Over Canal Basin and The Wharf House. The author explains our promotion of the canal corridor as a linear asset for all to use and enjoy and its benefit as a significant economic resource to the community - and our approach to developing sustainable income sources. He concludes "*The sheer dogged determination and tenacity of the H&G CT . . . will surely stand as an inspiration to all those engaged in future waterway restoration.*"

*Waterways of Britain*, softback 210mm x 190mm, 304 pages, HarperCollins, £16.99.

»» CBR

• 148 •

The distribution of *Microcoleus* (and of other cyanobacteria) has probably changed through a long history, across the continental shelf of the mid-latitude Atlantic (Boggs et al. 1976) well before the days of the 'blue-spirulina' oil (20 million years and completed by 120 Ma), making it the last major phytoplankton association in Britain and Ireland. This is in sharp contrast with the more equatorial waters of the Atlantic, where the first major phytoplankton bloom, initially in the upwelling waters of the equatorial Benguela Current, was followed by the construction of the *Microcoleus* culture belt, which finally extended to closure in 1970 to about 30°S (Fig. 1). The oil, which probably contributed to the closure of the system, was the last (and largest) Atlantic 'blue-spirulina' oil. By this time, the *Microcoleus* bloom, which was constituting the bulk of the phytoplankton

that ended in 1986, but nuclear weapons drag down the rest of the Department's budget. The Department's fiscal year 1987 budget, which... among other projects... will include funding three major classified weapons of the year along the way has a budget running between the \$600 billion projected earlier.

Currently a molecular wisdom, under the auspices of the WHO, works with some 100 countries to spread general knowledge on the topic, with the double objective of contributing directly together with the regular improvement of living standards regardless of the number of countries. At least half of the poor countries are involved in the WHO's programme, and the WHO has also developed a complementary programme for the use of traditional knowledge in the treatment of diseases that do not normally come through conventional medical environments. By its nature this is a local programme that requires the contribution of each, will fit different cultures, whilst simultaneously providing a little more

INCLUDE A CONSIDERATION OF TRENDS. THE PICTURE



1000

Very shortly, the corporation added  
a library and then a theater. Standard  
Oil and many very wealthy individuals  
during the long years under Standard  
Oil gave along as endowing trustees. It  
is through the many shared efforts  
of a strong underpinning that  
the city of Cleveland  
has been utilized and is once again  
a highly active center contributing  
to the advancement of man and

success rates, where this measure of fit-strength is more precisely measured than can be relied upon to indicate work well into the blues. The last example of this disease-modifying procedure is the *Whitman* technique, first described by the author in 1976, concerned with the treatment of the particular nervous system disorder of the *multiple sclerosis* patient. In this technique, the practitioner of *multiple sclerosis* treatment is able to combine the use of muscle relaxation with muscle strengthening, in a unique and effective manner. In comparing the results of the management of *multiple sclerosis* with those of *lumbar disc syndrome*, the author has found that the *Whitman* technique is more effective in the long run.

more allow to disseminate wide  
use of English amateur licensing

marble colored smp

complaints, he responded to a 13-kilometer (8.1-mile) walk along a long part of our conceptual hydrocarbon system.

It was nice to see the H&G Canal Trust honoured with The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service 2016 for all the hard work they are doing in saving the Canal.

The length at Over, even in its present very truncated state, provides a wonderful facility for several groups, with the Wheelyboat owned by Sailing 4 Disabled for instance. Rob, one of our wheelchair bound members, enjoyed his cruise up to the end and back during the Over Festival weekend; also the disabled canoeists who can get out on the water in a safe environment, the fishermen, and of course for our model boat club, plus the general public who just come for a walk down the Canal.

We had our usual display and boats on the

water for the Festival, some of which "escorted" the trip boats on occasions. It was a pity about the weather on the Saturday but the crowds came on Sunday which was a much better day. It was also nice to see visiting boats, both steam and paddle powered. Barry's wooden punt and canoe were wonderful examples of wood working skills and sometime after he gave a couple of us a lesson in how to get the finish he does on his boats.

The swans are getting nearly full grown although I don't know if they have learnt to fly yet. I had a confrontation with Dad one day – and Dad won! Our Safety Officer sent me in first which was wise of him! We had an extra 'water weeding' session recently to clear the weed from the top of the Basin at the Lock End. This was very successful and the amount of weed we shifted was so heavy that we had to have extra hands to lift the chain out at the end of many of the pulls.

» DE

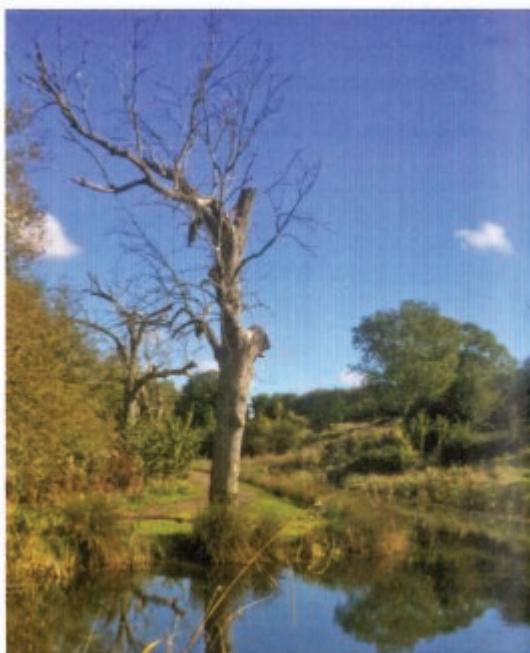


### Unrivalled luxury, ultimate relaxation

Unwind however you choose, and for as long as you like, in the splendour of the Brecon Beacons on the Monmouthshire and Brecon Canal.

To know more: 01873 858277

[www.beaconparkboats.com](http://www.beaconparkboats.com)



Jill Exell, the Wife of G&D Model Boat Club's regular correspondent David, has created this Wall Hanging which measures 100cm by 38cm. Jill says it was "inspired by the general atmosphere at Over, it's a wonderful place to sit and meditate."

## By the Towpath

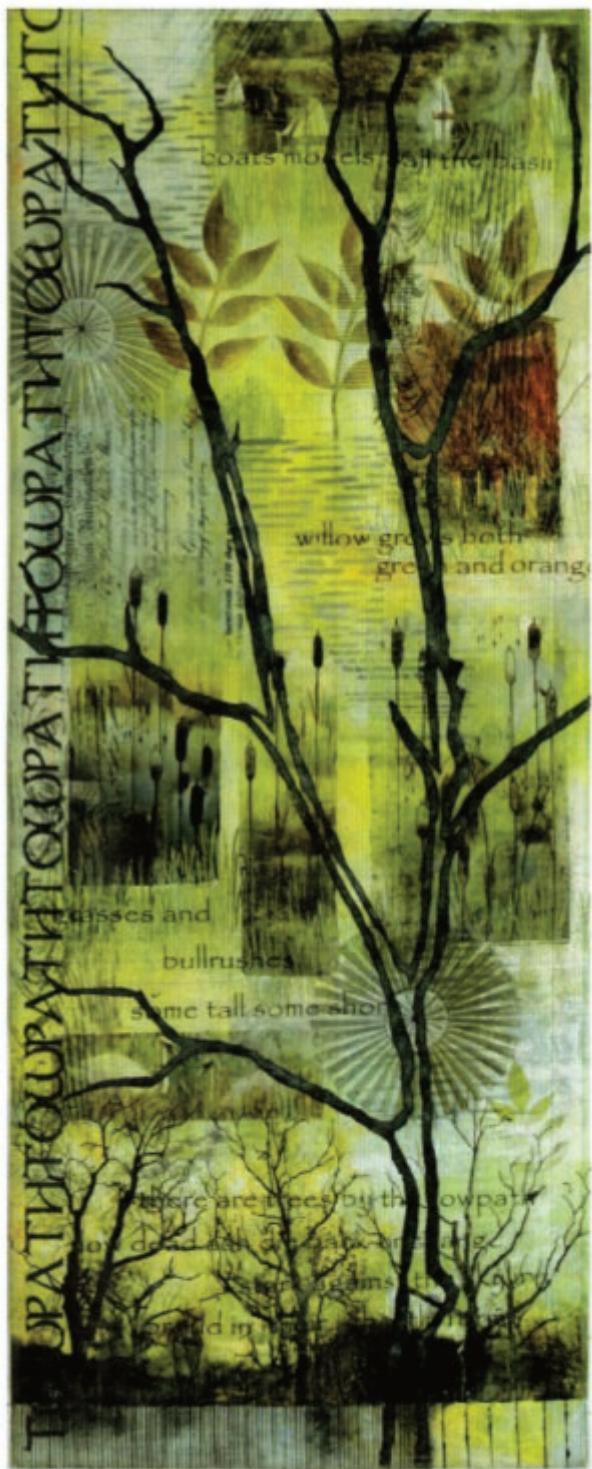
### Wall Hanging by Jill Exell

An attractive short stretch of the restored Herefordshire and Gloucestershire Canal at Over Canal Basin, Gloucestershire. Some of the trees beside the towpath are gradually dying, giving them a ghostly appearance, due to ash die-back or ecological change when the canal was restored. It is from this area that I have taken my imagery, the words are my own.

Lutrador, textured paper, acrylic paint, images computer manipulated and printed onto organza painted with inkaid, machine stitched. » JE

*NOTE: Jill Excell hopes to take her Wall Hanging to the H&G CT Social meeting on 17 January.*

**Gloucester & District Model Boat Club** sails at Over Basin on Wednesday, Friday and Sunday afternoons (weather permitting). You should find somebody sailing between 1pm and 4pm. The Club members will be only too pleased to talk to you about their models and the Club. The members have models of all descriptions including amphibious craft. Yachts are also very popular. *Chairman. Edward Tedaldi.*



# National Waterways Museum

Gloucester by Chris Witts

The moment we had all been waiting for! Richard Parry, Chief Executive Officer of the Canal and River Trust re-opened the Museum on 29th July. The efforts of all in getting the Museum up to the standards required were recognised and many Friends of the Museum were present including some of our Craft Ladies dressed in traditional costume.

A real cracking opening with dignitaries by the dozen is due to take place in Spring 2017 after the new front conservatory main entrance has been completed. By then Sabrina 5 should be back in place and we will have a more up-market café!

I must say a very big thank you to all the various teams involved in the Heritage Lottery Fund Project. Our FGWM Craft Ladies spent many hours caring for the exhibits-to-be. The volunteer teams worked hard to get the Steam Crane and Steam Dredger SND4 back into steam ready to run. The dredger caused a considerable attraction on the previous Wednesday when the first firing, running and steaming test took place, it was nice to see the crowds amassing on the far side of the Barge Arm. They were nothing compared with the visitors queuing to get below on SND4 on opening day.

What else has happened? Well, it seems historic narrowboat "Northwich" will eventually be lifted out of the water onto the bank between Llanthony Warehouse and Wetherspoons. The craft will require an, hopefully glazed, cover to keep off the seagulls, pigeons and also the



National Waterways Museum Gloucester

weather. It is being placed there to allow the children to climb aboard, dress up and enjoy.

The FGWM Talks will return to Llanthony Warehouse this season. Further details are on our website (under 'Activities'): [www.friendsofgwm.co.uk](http://www.friendsofgwm.co.uk)

» CW



The Inland  
Waterways  
Association

## Gloucestershire & Herefordshire IWA Branch 2016 Social Meetings and Events

Non members are welcome.

The Warehouse, Parliament Street, GL1 1HY  
Free parking at the Docks, Southgate St from 6pm

Thursday 1 December 7.30pm

Christmas Social

\_\_\_\_\_

No meeting in January

\_\_\_\_\_

Thursday 2 February 7.30pm

Rich Kelsey

Aerial views of the Severn part 2

Worcester to Sharpness and beyond. (This is a continuation of the talk in September.)

\_\_\_\_\_

Thursday 2 March 7.30pm

Annual General Meeting

\_\_\_\_\_

Further details contact: Roger Holmes

email: [rogervectis@aol.com](mailto:rogervectis@aol.com)

01594 840 316



## Sailing4Disabled

Pete Bisson

We were pleased to be part of the H&G CT's **The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service**, an award to be proud of as we volunteers add much pleasure to so many people in this world. Many volunteers have no idea what an impact they make, and very often just for a cup of tea/coffee, however at S4D we also get home made cakes - if I can get to our new cooker!

Not much to report apart from that we have now moved on to start turning clients away, not because we can't cope but the accommodation does not allow wheel chair users sheltered accommodation in poor weather conditions. Something that will be remedied when the Barn is built.

We had three very very wet pirates after taking part in 'Gloucester Day' in the City,

and all for £13.06, but this is where the potential clients came from - soon we hope?

Pete the Pirate!

The Wheelyboat had a weekend away with the Melksham Canal Trust, as a pleasure/trip/working boat at the town's Food and Water festival, which they had been invited to but their boat was out of action. A golden opportunity to try and show the type of craft that is needed for their operation. "A very successful event" even though it rained!

» **PB**

**Sailing4Disabled** meets every Tuesday at Over Canal Basin from

11.00 to 14.00.

It is open to everyone - whether they have a disability or not.

Pete (Long Gone Silver) Bisson:

07913 015018

peterwb49@hotmail.com

[www.sailing4disabled.org.uk](http://www.sailing4disabled.org.uk)



Chantal Flure Lumby-Taylor

POP! Another photo of launch day! Mayor of Gloucester Neil Hampson, popping the bubbly over the Wheelyboat. L to R Tredworth Crier Tony Ward, Pete and Mayor of Gloucester.

# MIDWINTER TRANSPORT

ESTABLISHED 30 YEARS

With a full range of vehicles including

- flat curtain sided and refrigerated
- from half tonne Escort to 38 tonne artic
- Hiab crane vehicle
- Nationwide



## **TOTALLY COMMITTED TO DELIVER**

Newent 01531 820276

Fax: 01531 822247

Strawberry Hill, Newent, GL18 1LH

[www.midwintertransport.co.uk](http://www.midwintertransport.co.uk)

email: [midwintertransport@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:midwintertransport@yahoo.co.uk)

# Not quite ... the last page!

## Stamps

IT ALL  
H&G CT  
COUNTS

Thank you to everyone who has sent Steve stamps recently. Please keep them coming!

Stamps can be taken to a Social Evening or other H&G CT event - or to **The Wharf House** or **Malswick House**. Or send them direct to:- **H&G Stamps**, c/o Steve Bence, 35 Lime Road, Southam, Warwickshire, CV47 1EQ. Please keep those stamps coming.

*Thank you » SB*

## Martin stands down

Martin Turner has decided to stand down from Chairing the committee of the local Gloucestershire & Herefordshire Branch of the IWA. Martin has been instrumental over the years to build good links between the various waterways groups within our two counties. He has led a number of successful campaigns over his time on the committee.

Martin is a good friend to the H&G CT. The photo shows him at our September social where he presented the Trust with an IWA cheque towards the Mill Barn Appeal. We wish him well and hope to see him in other aspects of waterways life very soon.

*Thank you Martin. » MJ*



## THE WHARF HOUSE Rosette



We are delighted that our Restaurant at The Wharf House has been awarded a Red Rosette for the seventh consecutive year!

Congratulations to all the Staff at The Wharf House for their continuing high standards.

## Advertising in *The Wharfinger*

Show the support of your business by advertising in *The Wharfinger*. Rates from £39 per issue and we will gladly design your advertisement free of charge.

Contact Carolyn Pascall

07947 108 726 / [cdpascall@aol.com](mailto:cdpascall@aol.com)

### Page List of Advertisers:

- 12 ABC Leisure Group
- 34 Beacon Park Boats
- 2 Beta Marine
- 40 Braunston Brokerage/Marina
- 10 Geoffrey Urch Garden Services
- 31 E.B Hayward & Co Ltd.
- 7 Keyway
- 16 Malswick House
- 38 Midwinter Transport
- 32 Moat Contracting
- 17 Print Plus
- 19 RCR (River Canal Rescue)
- 28 The Oak Inn, Staplow
- 15 The Wharf House

**Please support our advertisers –  
SUPPORT OUR SUPPORTERS**



*We wish all of our Readers  
a Happy, Healthy Christmas  
and a Prosperous 2017*

Copy deadline for the next issue  
**MONDAY, 9 JANUARY**

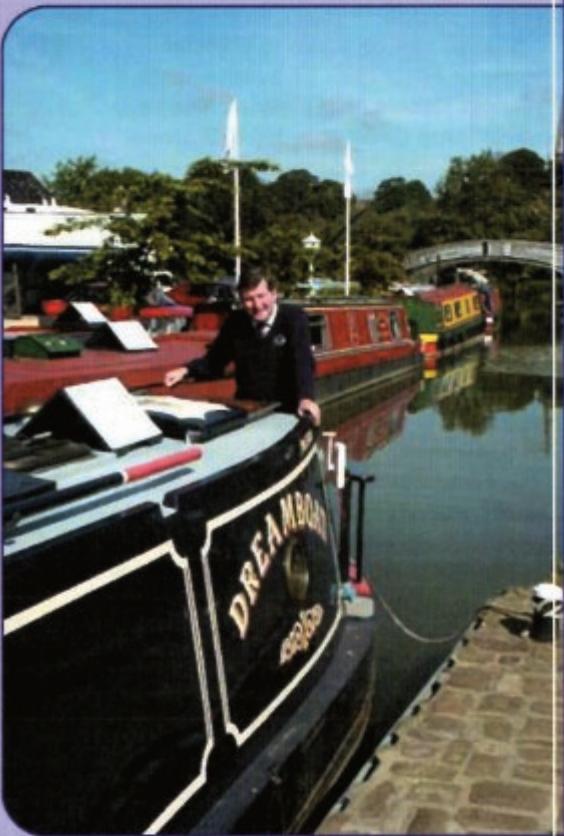
# *Buying or selling your DREAMBOAT?*

*Then make Braunston Brokerage  
– at the heart of England's  
waterways – your first port of call!*

*Established in 1988, we are  
a major player in the selling  
of narrowboats – new and  
secondhand – with a  
reputation for professionalism  
that is second to none.*

*Our marina offers the fullest  
range of support services.  
Uniquely, we have two dry  
docks on-site for surveys,  
hull-blacking, repaints, sign-  
writing and below waterline  
repairs. Also engineering and  
refit facilities.*

*Sell your Dreamboat  
where it will be seen!*



For full information – including our  
competitive brokerage package –  
contact Tim Coghlan at:

Braunston Marina Limited, Braunston,  
Nr Daventry, Northants NN11 7JH  
Telephone 01788 891373  
Fax 01788 891436

Website: [www.braunstonmarina.co.uk](http://www.braunstonmarina.co.uk)  
Email: [sales@braunstonmarina.co.uk](mailto:sales@braunstonmarina.co.uk)

## Want to help?

The Canal Trust is always in need of new volunteers as our activities continue to expand. We can normally find a use for any skill from gardeners to first aiders, brickies

to those willing to help with a shovel, pen or laptop. The H&G CT also welcomes offers of gifts of good quality used tools and machinery from those who no longer need or cannot use it.

## Contacts

Contact any of these names TODAY!

**John Hammond**

c/o The Wharf House  
Over, Gloucester, GL2 8DB  
07894 473 125  
jhammond@blueyonder.co.uk

**Cliff Penny**

"Coppice", Burley Gate,  
Hereford, HR1 3QS  
01432 820 886  
canal@penny-ep.co.uk

**David Penny**

01452 332 900  
david@thewharthouse.co.uk

**Wilf Jones**

01452 413 888  
wilfredjones506@gmail.com

**Ted Beagles**

01452 522 648  
tedbeagles@blueyonder.co.uk

**Brian Fox**

01432 358 628  
briandfox74@gmail.com

**Paul Henshaw**

01684 293 930  
paulhenshawuk@yahoo.co.uk

**Nigel Jefferies**

Two Hollylea Close, Bartestree,  
Hereford, HR1 4DN  
01432 850 661  
ncjefferies@talktalk.net

**Maggie Jones**

01452 618 010  
maggiejones@blueyonder.co.uk

**Carolyn Pascall**

07947 108 726  
cdpascall@aol.com

**John Pritchard**

01432 272972  
johnpritchard32@btinternet.com

**Chris High**

01568 615 575  
chris@chrishigh.plus.com

**Martyn Tilford**

01452 790 358  
martyn@tilford.free-online.co.uk

**H&G Sales and Promotion**

Mail Order Sales

**Janet Moulton**

18, Coningsby Court,  
Coningsby Street,  
Hereford, HR1 2DF  
01432 264 366  
jmoult@tiscali.co.uk

**Legal & Project****Development Team**

01452 332 900  
lpdt@thewharthouse.co.uk

"Who does what ..." is inside the front cover.

**General enquiries:**

information@h-g-canal.org.uk

## Visit our websites:

**H&G Canal Trust**

[www.h-g-canal.org.uk](http://www.h-g-canal.org.uk)

**THE WHARF HOUSE**

[www.thewharthouse.co.uk](http://www.thewharthouse.co.uk)



## Want to join?

Please support our voluntary work by becoming a Member of the H&G CT.

A membership form is available online or from

**THE WHARF HOUSE.**

## H&G CT UK Membership Rates

	Annual	Life
Individual	£10	£200
Joint/Family	£15	£300
Senior Citizen	£7.50	£115
Joint Senior Citizen	£10	£150
Corporate	£25	£500

PLEASE NOTE: All subscriptions and donations are treated as being made under the Gift Aid scheme unless you state that you do not wish us to do this. Payment made by Standing Order greatly assists us and payment remains under your control. All payments to: H&G CT, 6, Castle Street, Hereford, HR1 2NL

Unless specifically stated opinions expressed are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the policy of the Herefordshire & Gloucestershire Canal Trust. As a Registered Charity, with defined objectives, we cannot endorse the content of any specific advertisement, product or services. The Trust accepts no liability for any matter, or advertising, contained in this magazine. Reproduction of extracts from the magazine is welcomed provided that full acknowledgement is given.

Membership records are computerised. Your entry is available for inspection if you send a SAE to the Membership Secretary.

We try to ensure details of talks/events are correct – please verify with the relevant organiser if travelling long distances.

© 2016/17 Published by the Herefordshire & Gloucestershire Canal Trust.

The Wharf House Company Ltd [No. 4627931] is part of the Herefordshire & Gloucestershire Canal Trust Ltd group of companies. The Herefordshire & Gloucestershire Canal Trust is a non-profit distributing company limited by guarantee [No. 2704407] and is a registered charity [No. 1010721].

Registered Office: The Wharf House, Over Canal Basin, Over, Gloucester, GL2 8DB.

**Hereford**



Our objective is to rebuild the 34 mile Canal linking the centre of Hereford to Gloucester and its connection with the 2,500 mile inland waterway network. We have major restoration sites in each county, together extending to some 4 miles. The intention is to provide a financially sustainable independent Canal which does not require regular financial support from public bodies for its future operation and maintenance.

**The H&G Canal Trust**

The Canal Society, formed in 1983, became the Herefordshire & Gloucestershire Canal Trust, a registered charity, in 1992. It has an ordinary and corporate membership approaching 1,400, here and abroad.

**The original Herefordshire & Gloucestershire Canal**

Work started in 1792 reaching Ledbury from Gloucester by 1798. In 1827 Steven Ballard was appointed to oversee the Canal's completion, which reached Hereford in 1845; this was one of the last major canal routes completed in Britain. The Canal stretched from the River Severn at Gloucester, via Newent, Dymock and Ledbury to Hereford, using 22 locks and 3 tunnels. It was closed in 1881 to allow construction of the Ledbury-Gloucester railway which in turn closed in 1964.

**Gloucester Quays**

Pleased to support the H&G Canal

