

THE WENDOVER ARM TRUST WORKING PARTY NEWS

ISSUE 72

April 2009

April Working Party

On the Friday before this working party, Brian Harris and Brian Ing pumped out the worst water holes in the 'dry' bed and we were rewarded with a fine weekend that enabled us to work on dry land! Many thanks to the Brians.

Lining of the canal proceeded well and 20 metres of bed lining and 15 metres of both banks were lined up to coir roll level and filling above the coir rolls commenced. This latter operation is the slowest and most laborious task we perform – the spoil has to be placed in position and compressed using an excavator bucket but includes a lot of manual effort from the top of the bank. If the spoil is too wet it is very difficult to place, if it is too dry it falls down to the bed of the canal. Any suggestions will be appreciated.



Bert Matraves

LINING AT DRAYTON BEAUCHAMP

The formwork for the last mooring wall pour was completed on Friday ready for a concrete pour on the Saturday and the formwork returned to store by the Tuesday. We did have a problem during the pour when one of the vibrating pokers got tangled in the reinforcement at the bottom of the wall – there were some unusual views of bodies suspended in the narrow formwork as well as worries about the concrete setting before the pour was completed. Eventually, the poker was freed.

On removing the formwork, all was well – there were no imperfections. At Pete Bowers' Thursday work party, all the tie rod holes were sealed and final backfilling can take place at the May working party. Thus the mooring wall is now complete except for some backfilling and the work required to blend the end wing walls into the adjacent bank lining.



Bert Matraves

STAGE 1 COMPLETED 50m MOORING WALL

May Working Party

The final wall section of the Stage 1 mooring wall will be backfilled and the bank leading to the wing walls blended in at each end. The surplus concrete already used at the wing walls will be covered by hardcore or crushed concrete,

probably finished off with a weak concrete surface formed to support the Bentomat and block lining to avoid settlement.

The offside bank will be graded to final profile with the intention of lining this length for the public to see work in progress over the Festival weekend.

On Friday the line and level of the blinding for the mooring wall at Bridge 4 will be set out ready for Saturday and Sunday when we will be joined by KESCRG. They will be given the task of laying the 50 metres long blinding for the Stage 4 mooring bay that is an extension of the Bridge 4 offside wing wall.



Phill Cardy

THE SITE OF THE BRIDGE 4 MOORING BAY

This will enable Pete Bowers, when his work parties are not on more urgent work, to set up and dismantle the formwork for casting the base and wall sections of this mooring bay.

If there are spare volunteers over the weekend we will continue cutting Bentomat at Little Tring – there are two 40 metre rolls on the cutting platform ready to cut.

As I mentioned in the February Working Party News, Kingdom Tours of Aylesbury has organised a canal restoration weekend over the early May Bank Holiday to visit the Buckingham Arm, Aylesbury Basin and the Wendover Arm. The visitors will be walking from Wendover to Buckland Wharf on Saturday and on Sunday going from Bulbourne to Little Tring by trip boat, a visit to Tringford Pumping Station and then walk from Little Tring to Buckland Wharf, seeing

KESCRG at work at Bridge 4 and our volunteers working at Drayton Beauchamp.

Tring Canal Festival 2009

We must have a change in the weather this year!

Firstly, fencing the Festival site. The Heras fencing panels will be delivered on Wednesday 20th May ready for us to put up on Thursday 21st May and dismantle on Tuesday 26th May.

BRING A 19mm SPANNER WITH YOU!

As restoration is so far behind due to weather conditions, it has been decided to carry on with work at Drayton Beauchamp although volunteers will be scheduled so that everyone has time off to visit the Festival. I am also arranging a roster for two of our volunteers to man the restoration display stand during festival opening hours.

Nigel Williams has organised a mini-bus on the Saturday and Sunday to take visitors from the Festival site to Drayton Beauchamp on a booked timetable. Nigel will drive and Ted Jones will act as guide on the mini-bus to escort the passengers and direct them round the work at Drayton Beauchamp - volunteers working there please be ready to answer questions. There is also a possibility that the mini-bus will be available on Monday and, if so, Pete Bowers will be driving it.

This year, as we are giving restoration work priority, we will not be having the display tent by the Bridge Café as we will not be able to man it as well as the main stand at the festival site.

Finally, if you are bringing your craft to the Festival and want to moor on the towpath west of Little Tring Bridge, please let me know, including boat name and length. To date I have the following boats attending – in order from Little Tring Bridge

MARY BETH	53ft
MADRIGAL	45ft
CHUMLEY B	46ft
KOFFEE & KREAM	40ft
SHALDON	40ft
KAY CEE TOO	58ft
SCYTHIA	58ft
MALAIKA	51ft

Wish List

Readers of the Trust's Newsletter will have seen that we are promoting a wish list of items of equipment needed for the restoration works. You will be pleased to know that Trust Members Peter Lea and Richard Hope have each donated a new 2" water pump, replacing our life expired pumps that have given yeoman service but are now beyond repair.

Voluntary Labour

The table below shows the value of volunteer labour up to the end of 2008. Again, many thanks to Joyce Smith for all the time that she spends in collating our time sheets, a great asset when we require matching funding.

	HOURS	TOTAL HOURS	VALUE £	TOTAL VALUE £
1996	1,016.50	1,016.50	8,132	8,132
1997	997.50	2,014.00	7,980	16,112
1998	2,696.00	4,710.00	43,174	59,286
1999	3,550.50	8,260.50	30,799	90,085
2000	4,239.90	8,479.90	36,865	126,950
2001	5,021.50	13,501.40	40,132	167,082
2002	5,560.00	19,061.40	44,480	211,562
2003	6,721.50	25,782.90	53,772	265,334
2004	6,647.75	32,430.65	55,366	320,700
2005	3,784.50	36,215.15	37,437	358,137
2006	4,179.50	40,394.65	35,326	393,463
2007	5,463.00	45,857.65	43,704	437,167
2008	4,342.00	50,199.65	34,736	471,903

Insurance

It is incumbent on anyone, regardless of age, to inform the Trust in writing if they suffer from any medical condition that could in any way affect their ability to carry out their work as a Trust Work Party Volunteer.

Web Site

The address of the Trust Restoration web site managed by Oliver Revel (that is linked to the main Trust site) is:

<http://wendovercanal.org.uk/>

The number of e-mail recipients of this newsletter is increasing; please let me know if you wish to join them as it saves me time and the Trust postage/printing costs.

General Notes.

All volunteers receive and sign for the Trust's Restoration Handbook that includes full Health and Safety requirements for the restoration works. The Handbook is the property of the Trust; if you leave the working parties for any reason, please return your Handbook to either Ray Orth or myself. It has now been updated for re-issue to all volunteers.

Hard hats for use at all times and high visibility jackets to be worn on sites with mobile plant in use are kept in the store at Tringford and must be drawn/returned there.

One first aid kit is kept in the store; another is kept in the VW Transporter for use on site. Also available in the Transporter are ear defenders and goggles that must be worn when using strimmers, angle grinders, concrete breakers and the like.

Individual volunteers must provide their own gloves and footwear with reinforced toecaps.

We normally work from 9am to 5pm (or dark if earlier!) when we are hiring plant or taking delivery of ready-mix concrete early in the morning.

There are breaks for morning tea/coffee, packed lunch and afternoon tea/coffee. We take our own food and drink.

WENDOVER ARM CANAL RESTORATION PHASE II PRIGRESS REPORT AS AT 31st MARCH 2009

NB: Costs are to 31/3/2009 but physical progress is to 7/4/2009

CANAL LINING

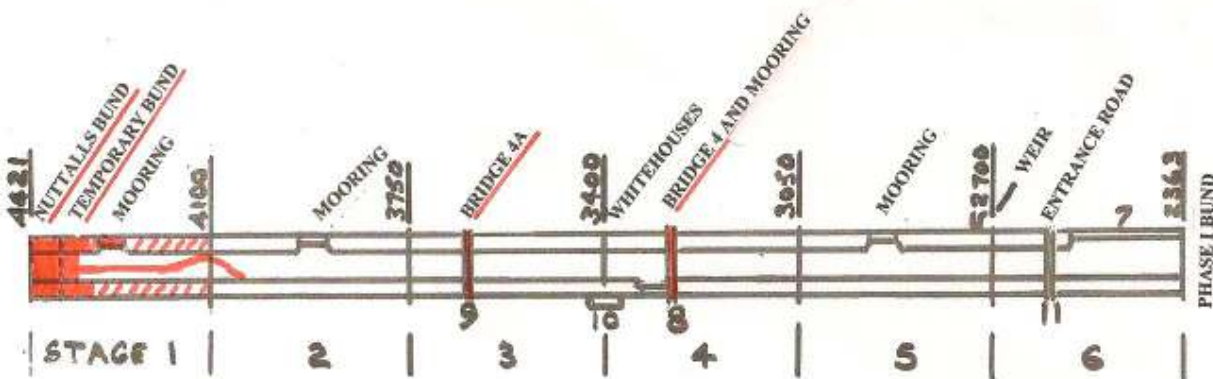
Item	Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3	Stage 4	Stage 5	Stage 6	Stage 7
Total length	321m	350m	350m	350m	350m	337m	-
Complete to date:							
Bulk Excavation	321m	75m					-----
Capping to pipe	321m	40m					-----
Tipping to offside bank	321m						-----
Tipping to towpath bank	321m						-----
Profiling offside bank	115m						-----
Profiling towpath bank	115m						-----
Lining towpath bank	110m						-----
Lining offside bank	110m						-----
Level and line bed	96m						-----
Planting banks	60m						-----
Mooring wall length	50m	50m	-----	50m	50m	-----	237m
Excavation	50m		-----	50m		-----	10m
Blinding	50m		-----	4m		-----	
Wall base	50m		-----	4m		-----	
Wall upright	50m		-----	4m		-----	
Backfill	30m		-----			-----	
Estimated Cost	£176,550	£183,750	£175,000	£175,000	£166,250	£98,725	£53,725
Cost to date/final	£79,047	£4,914	£361	£1,780	£345	£179	£390

FOOTBRIDGES & VARIOUS OTHER WORKS

Item	Stage 8 Bridge 4	Stage 9 Bridge 4A	Stage 10 Whitehouses Weir etc.	Stage 11 Cart track Narrows & Weir	Stage 12 Removal of bunds	Stage 13 Winding Hole nose	Stage 14 Nuttalls Bund
Footbridge	100%	100%	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Excavation	100%	100%	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Blinding	100%	100%	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Wall base	100%	100%	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Wall upright	100%	100%	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Backfill	100%	100%	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Weir	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Heritage work	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Other work	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	100%
Estimated cost	£20,000	£20,000	£20,000	£20,000	£20,000	£10,000	£3,500
Cost to date/final	£20,122	£20,031	£653				3,501

SUMMARY INCLUDING INDIRECT COSTS

	Lining	F/bridges & other works	Clear bed, & Temp'y Works	Environ't Reports	Materials In stock	Admin	Tools & Equip't	Vehicle	Unallocated	TOTALS
Estimated cost	£1,029,000	£113,500	£15,000	£3,500	£0	£25,000	£5,000	£10,000	£49,000	£1,250,000
Cost to date/final	£87,016	£44,307	£13,092	£3,245	£36,497	£10,330	£1,156	£4,610		£200,253



DATES FOR WORKING PARTIES

DATE (2009)	WORKING AT	WORK TO BE DONE
Friday 1 st May to Tuesday 5 th May	Drayton Beauchamp	Bank profiling mooring bay length including blending towpath side into wing walls. KESCRG laying blinding for Stage 4 mooring wall. (Sat/Sun)
Thursday 14 th May	Drayton Beauchamp	Erect formwork for first base of Bridge 4 mooring wall. Deal with undergrowth at Whitehouses old pumping station site.
Thursday 21 st May	Festival Site	Erect Heras fencing
Friday 22 nd May to Monday 25 th May	Drayton Beauchamp	Stage 1 offside lining through mooring wall length, about 60 metres..
Saturday 23 rd May to Monday 25 th May	Festival Site/ Drayton Beauchamp	Manning Trust Stand and conducting tours with mini-bus to Drayton Beauchamp
Tuesday 26 th May	Festival Site	Dismantle Heras fencing
Friday 3 rd July to Tuesday 7 th July	Drayton Beauchamp	Continue Stage 1 lining.
Saturday 8 th August to Sunday 16 th August	Drayton Beauchamp	Continue Stage 1 lining
Friday 4 th September to Tuesday 8 th September	Drayton Beauchamp	Continue Stage 1 lining

Roger Leishman, Restoration Director. 7 Hall Park, Berkhamsted, Herts HP4 2NU.
(Tel:01442 874536, e-mail rleishman@ukgateway.net)

WORK PARTY VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE TO MAY 2009

Date (2009)	Location		Excavator Drivers	Dumper Drivers	Beauchamp	Other Volunteers	
Fri 1 st May	Drayton Beauchamp	<i>R Leishman/ R Orth</i>	R Orth P Cardy	B Lansley B Ing	Festival Site K Graves	R Leishman M Wright	
Sat 2 nd May	Drayton Beauchamp	<i>R Leishman/ R Orth</i>	R Orth P Cardy	B Harris B Fletcher	Drayton Beauchamp Winter	R Leishman J Reynolds	
	Bridge 4		KESCRG		Drayton Beauchamp	<i>R Leishman/</i>	
Sun 3 rd May	Drayton Beauchamp	<i>R Leishman/ R Orth</i>	B Fletcher Orth P Cardy	B Lansley B Ing	Drayton Beauchamp	R Orth J Brooman M Wright R Leishman/ R Orth	A roster will be is
	Bridge 4		KESCRG		Drayton Beauchamp	<i>R Leishman/ R Orth</i>	
Mon 4 th May	Drayton Beauchamp	<i>R Orth</i>	R Orth P Cardy B Matraves	B Lansley B Harris	Festival Site K Graves C Johnson	R Leishman J Brooman M Wright	
Tue 5 th May	Drayton Beauchamp	<i>R Leishman/ R Orth</i>	R Orth	B Lansley B Harris	K Graves B Ing M Wright	P Winter J Reynolds	
Thu 14 th May	Drayton	<i>P Bowers</i>	N/a				

The name of the person in charge on a particular day/site is printed in italics.

P Bowers 01255 504540 or 07880 744730 R Leishman 01442 874536 or 07850 170858
R Orth 01494 786868 or 07733 092034 R Fletcher 01494 812087