

Trading Update

A green Wiggonholt boat with a canopy and orange lifebuoys is on a river. Several people are on board, including a man in a blue shirt and a woman in a purple shirt. The boat has "Wiggonholt" written on its side. The background is a dense forest of green trees.

**Julian Morgan
Director**

Trading company headlines for 2023

- Overall, trading in 2023 was similar to 2022
- In 2023 we faced challenges
- Criminal damage in April 2023
- Then another very dry summer
- Special events (Easter, Cream Teas, Santa) really saved the day

Good news in 2024

- Better weather for boat trips
- Emphasis on private trips and Cream Teas
- Priority to the first part of the season
- Numbers of public trips reduced
- Excellent results for private trips, very good for public trips
- New pump controls in action
- Still to come – Santa and more Cream Teas

Some financial results

	2024 to date	2023	2022	2017
Income	44	45	51	120
Costs	15	19	27	63
Profits from trading	29	26	24	57

The Outlook

- We are doing our absolute best with the canal and the people we have
- Volunteers work extremely hard but numbers are down – this is a looming problem
- Water supply is a constant worry and unlikely to improve a lot
- We are looking forward to the whole Loxwood section being fully available in 2025

Huge thanks to ...

- John Reynolds, Head of Boat Group, and his team
- Everyone who has worked to keep the canal open – PEST, dredger team, canal maintenance teams
- Lyn Nash, in charge of merchandise and Canal Centre Manager until recently
- John Robson, responsible for booking private trips
- The boat maintenance team
- Boat skippers, crew and Canal Centre and catering volunteers
- The back-office team that administer boat trips and booking systems