



WEY & ARUN

**Quarterly Magazine of the
Wey & Arun Canal Trust**

Issue 173 December 2015 / January / February 2016



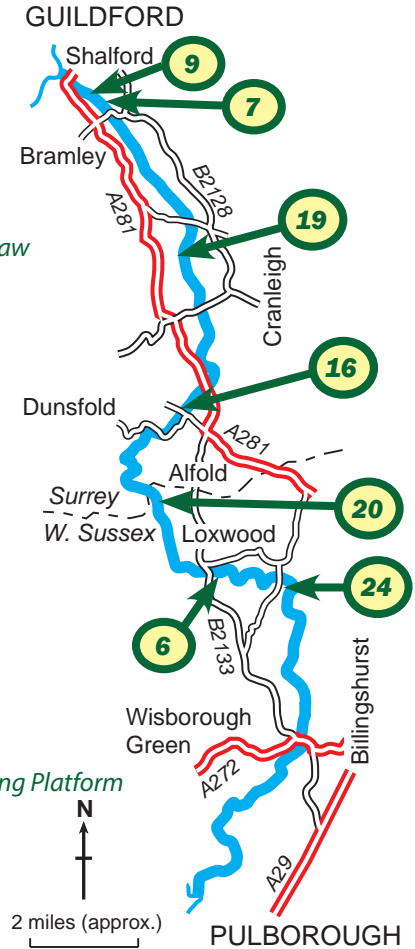
Above: Gosden Aqueduct in Shalford/Bramley seen during the Heritage Open Days guided walk on 13th September. The aqueduct, where the canal crossed Cranleigh Waters, has recently benefited from some careful tidying up work by our Monday Group. (Chris Grey)



This jug, remarkably intact, recently emerged from the canal mud near Compasses Bridge. Some quick research suggests that it could date from the second half of the 19th century. The Doulton company started life in Lambeth but later concentrated its activities on Burslem in Staffordshire.

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(Working Party Roundup)

Front cover: The new Compasses Bridge seen shortly before installation of the parapets.

Autumn Meeting 2015

Chairman's Report highlights

The Trust must have had the most exciting period in its history during the last few months, Chairman Sally Schupke told the Autumn Meeting.

The last year or two had clearly shown that the policy of having more than one major project had been successful, even though it did place a lot more demands on Trust resources.

If we had put all our hopes and fears into just one project, such as Gennets Bridge Lock, we would have endured two to three years of frustration as the problems were resolved, with few achievements to celebrate.

At Compasses, the contractors were ahead of schedule and the construction now actually looked like a bridge. At Gennets Bridge Lock, the contractors were off-site and our TSG volunteers were starting on the bricklaying. There was significant progress on Bramley Link, with the enabling studies under way.

Other projects were in the pipeline and plans were being formed for Whitley Manor, Rushett Farm, Sidney Wood and Harsfold. A masterplan was being developed for the Summit Level. Planning permission for the new slipway on the Summit Level in Alfold had been granted and this project had been entirely funded by the Thricutt family.



Sally Schupke on stage with Alan Johnson (left) and Philip Oliver. (Julian Morgan)

In the Shalford-Bramley section, the jigsaw of landowner negotiations was beginning to come together. Such negotiations were normally kept confidential but, in the case of Tanglewood Farm in Bramley, Malcolm and Susan Brenton had given permission to publicise the signing of a 999-year lease which will seriously assist us in the plans in that section of the Bramley Link. The Trust was very grateful for the Brentons' support.

The Trust's audited accounts for 2014 were officially approved on 13th August, well in advance of the statutory deadline for submission to Companies House and the Charity Commission. This represented a huge amount of work by a number of people. The officers were confident this year's end of the year accounts would be ready on time. To help



There were few spare seats in Alfold Village Hall as members awaited the start of the Autumn Meeting.

with this, Katie Price had been appointed as book-keeper and started work on the 1st October (see page 15).

Next year was the bicentenary of the opening of the Wey & Arun Junction Canal and a celebration was planned in the Alfold-Dunsfold area for the end of September.

During the year, WACT Technical Liaison Officer Alan Johnson had become Vice-Chairman, Richard Stephens and Tony Coles had joined the board and Jim Phillips, in recognition of his past services, had become a Vice-President.

The Restoration Fund had been relaunched as the Milestone Club. It was early days, but the Trust was seeing some return from the policy of looking after its regular donors and recognising the support they give us every year (see flyer enclosed with this issue of *Wey-South*).

Sally ended her report by thanking all the Trust's sponsors, donors, and volunteers who helped in such a variety of ways – they were a great team producing great results.

The Poddle

This year's Poddle sponsored walk, held on Sunday 7th June, raised the grand total of £8,284 from the efforts of our 142 walkers. At the Autumn Meeting, the Poddle Bowl was presented to Phil Broadley by Vice-Chairman Alan Johnson. The award was in recognition of Phil working tirelessly as a first man marshal for many years and then continuing to do the Poddle.

Alan handed the Poddle Plate to Rosie Perks, who helped with the pre-walk of the Poddle and walked as last man, checking no-one was still out on the route.



Phil Broadley is presented with the Poddle Bowl



Rosie Perks receives the Poddle Plate

The Quarterly Magazine of

The Wey & Arun Canal Trust

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The aim of the Wey & Arun Canal Trust is the preservation and restoration of the former inland waterway route between the Rivers Wey and Arun, with a view to reopening this to navigation.

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The next issue will be published in the second week of March 2016. Please submit copy by the end of January.

If at all possible please email copy by attachment in Microsoft Word format. Typed copy is also acceptable. Photos are always welcome – prints or hi-res digital please.

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Left: Doreen Mann admires the blue plaque on the side of the Canal Centre. Above: WACT members and Wiggonholt Association boat trippers assembled for the unveiling. (Julian Morgan)

Plaque in memory of Peter Flatter unveiled

On Saturday 22nd August the Trust commemorated the life of the late Peter Flatter, whose help and generosity contributed so much to both the Canal Centre at Loxwood and the tripboat *Wiggonholt*.

Prior to the annual excursion for members of the Wiggonholt Association, a plaque was unveiled at the Canal Centre by Peter's partner, Doreen Mann.

Peter Flatter was a Life member of the Canal Trust and became a Vice-President at the end of 2013. He was also the long-standing Chairman of the Wiggonholt Association, a

group dedicated to protecting the Sussex environment. Wiggonholt is a small village near Pulborough. Peter died in November 2014 at the age of 89.

Peter recognised that the Wiggonholt Association and the Canal Trust had a common interest in preserving the natural environment. It was his initiative that led to the idea of the Canal Centre being a 'green' building with low energy needs and features such as the planted roof. He also enthusiastically supported the concept of an electric tripboat, leading to the launch of *Wiggonholt* in 2009.

WACT 2016 Calendar now on sale

A fine collection of photographs is displayed in the Trust's 2016 wall calendar, a publication which builds on the success of this year's calendar. Our photographers have again responded magnificently to depict the life and times of the canal and its people throughout the year.

The calendar (front cover pictured) was put together by Geoff Thomas and costs £7, the same as last year. It is available from the Loxwood Canal Centre and by mail order via the Trust's website or the Loxwood Office.



Tanglewood Farm lease signed

The restoration of the canal's northernmost section took a significant step forward with the signing of a 999-year lease. WACT can now recreate 400 metres of the Bramley Link section on farmland owned by Trust supporters Susan and Malcolm Brenton, once funding is secured and planning permission obtained. The agreement is to use land on the Brentons' Tanglewood Farm for part of Phase 1 of the link, from Shalford down to Tannery Lane Bridge near Bramley. This phase will include a new Tanglewood Lock in the Trust's Hunt Nature Park.

At a signing party at Tanglewood Farm hosted by the Brentons, Susan commented that she first came across WACT when she saw its plans at consultation sessions run by the Trust for Bramley people in 2004. "Our lower field was shown as a possible route, so that raised our interest level," she said. "We have always been keen supporters of the Trust and are very happy to sign this lease."

Malcolm added that the key word in the lease negotiations was 'trust'. He felt there was a solid understanding on the part of both parties on how to get the restoration work done. Also speaking during the signing ceremony, Bramley Link Manager Philip Oliver thanked the Brentons for their generosity and commitment to the Trust. He praised the volunteers who have worked on the Bramley Link project so far, particularly in Hunt Nature Park. The Newbury Working Party Group, the Waterway Recovery Group and the Trust's own Midweek Working Party were singled out for specific mention. Speaking after the event, he said future generations of walkers, cyclists, riders, naturalists and boaters would all have cause to thank the Brentons for their generous support.



Bramley Link Manager Philip Oliver (right) with Susan and Malcolm Brenton at the party held to mark the signing of the Tanglewood Farm lease. (Janet Phillips)



WACT guests at the Tanglewood Farm lease-signing celebration hosted by Susan and Malcolm Brenton.

Recycling update

Thank you to all who have carried on with the job of recycling newspapers and magazines. During the three months July to September we collected enough to get a grant from West Sussex County Council of £3,288.

Under the new arrangements in the same period, we had to pay the collection company £1,346, but this still adds up to income of £1,942. If we can do this every quarter we are on for a return for our efforts of around

£8,000 a year. This is a useful amount towards restoring our lovely canal.

Please remember all ties are to be taken off bundles and newspapers and magazines are not to go above the bottom of the 'letterbox'. Please ring me for any information or if you want to report a bin is full.

John Taylor-Cram, Recycling Officer
(02392 250463, jtc@weyandarun.co.uk)

Heritage Open Days guided walks

More than 60 people joined excursions on two sections of the canal over the national Heritage Open Days weekend.

On Saturday 12th September, Technical Liaison Officer Alan Johnson led 27 people on a four-mile circular route starting at Shamley Green. With Tony Tyrrell and Sue Dewhurst acting as assistant guides, they visited four sites containing relics of the canal and the Horsham to Guildford railway, including three iron-framed bridges.

The next day, Press and Publicity Officer Rob Searle took 35 walkers on a stroll from Stonebridge Wharf on the River Wey at Shalford down to the site of the former Bramley Wharf. Canal Centre Supervisor Dave Verrall helped people appreciate the locations, as the walk took in the Gunpowder Store, Tannery Lane Bridge and the sites of Tanyard Lock and the unique Gosden Aqueduct.



The walkers gather at the Gunpowder Store for the Stonebridge to Bramley stroll. (Dave Verrall)

The walks, which were publicised in local newspapers and community publications as well as web locations such as Visit Surrey and The Guildford Dragon, were an ideal opportunity to showcase the Trust's work and encourage participants to become members.

Legacy from widow of founder Chairman

The Trust has received a generous legacy of £2,000 from the estate of Mrs Irene East.

Mrs East was the wife of the Trust's first Chairman, John East, who died in 1994. John East and John Markwick were the two men – initially unknown to each other – who took

the first steps towards restoration of the Wey & Arun Canal, starting in the late 1960s.

Mrs East donated the John East Cup to the Trust in memory of her husband. We still award this cup each year to a volunteer who has put in an outstanding effort.



The lively local band who entertained at the opening ceremony and the plaque commemorating the legacy from Ed and Doris Hunt which enabled Hunt Nature Park to be created. (Dave Verrall, Rob Searle, Julian Morgan)

Hunt Nature Park viewing platform officially opened

The Hunt Nature Park viewing platform will eventually be an ideal place to watch the canal being restored, says Bramley Link manager Philip Oliver. He was addressing an audience of around 100 people at the official opening of the picnic and observation deck on Saturday 24th October.

The platform, on the planned new route for the waterway from Shalford to Tannery Lane Bridge, currently offers views across the Cranleigh Waters stream to veteran oak trees, meadowland and shallow ponds. But Philip told the crowd it would be an ideal location to observe the new Tanglewood Lock and a stretch of the canal being recreated when the time comes.

Explaining the Trust's plans for bringing the canal back to life in the area, he said the park demonstrated a commitment to creating a 'green corridor' along the length of the waterway.

Trust chairman Sally Schupke also stressed the intention of extending the linear park down towards Bramley. "It's great to be providing facilities which benefit the people of Guildford, Shalford, Bramley and the surrounding villages and the many people who come here on the Wey-South Path," she said.



Guildford MP Anne Milton and Bramley Link Manager Philip Oliver with the plaque commemorating the official opening of the viewing platform.

Guildford MP Anne Milton declared the viewing platform open and unveiled a commemorative plaque in the centre of the unusual hexagonal decking. She praised the work of the Trust in establishing the park as part of its plan to restore the canal from Shalford to Pallingham.

"There are wonderful views from here and I hope people come and enjoy this excellent



Guildford Deputy Mayor Gordon Jackson, Deputy Mayoress Sue Jackson and Guildford MP Anne Milton with (from left) Bill Nicholson, George Whitehead and Rob Nicholson after the presentation of choice beers as a thank you for the volunteers' hard work.

facility which is so close to the centre of Guildford," she added.

Entertainment at the event was provided by a lively local band and refreshments were served to those present. George Whitehead, Bill Nicholson and Rob Nicholson received cases of choice ales in thanks for their leading parts in the installation of the platform's decking.



Events Organiser Sally Carter lines up cakes and soft drinks to refresh the guests.

Sally Schupke and Julian Morgan travelled to the viewing platform by canoeing along Cranleigh Waters.



Doris Hunt

Our members Henry and Ann Bartley were present at the opening of the Hunt Nature Park viewing platform and kindly provided some more information about our benefactors Ed (Edgar) and Doris Hunt.

Ed died in 1996 and Doris in 2004; they are buried in Loxwood churchyard. The Hunts lived in Ifold, not Loxwood (although Ifold addresses are "Ifold, Loxwood", so maybe Loxwood is not completely wrong). They had no children.

Doris was originally from Alfold and, according to Ann Bartley, never travelled far from her home district, not even to London or the Isle of Wight. The picture of Doris Hunt that appeared in the souvenir programme for the viewing platform opening (shown left) was taken in the Bartleys' garden in Ifold and lent to us by Ann Bartley.

Apparently, Doris enjoyed a drink in her later years, so the glass in her hand – believed to contain brandy – is quite characteristic.

Major Project Reports

With three major restoration ventures under way concurrently for the first time, reports from the project leaders were eagerly anticipated at the Autumn Meeting.

Bramley Link

Philip Oliver reported on plans for Phases 1 and 2a of the Bramley Link, from Gun's Mouth at Shalford down to Station Road in Bramley.

He said the project had made a significant advance with the signing of a 999-year lease to use land at Tanglewood Farm owned by Trust members Susan and Malcolm Brenton.

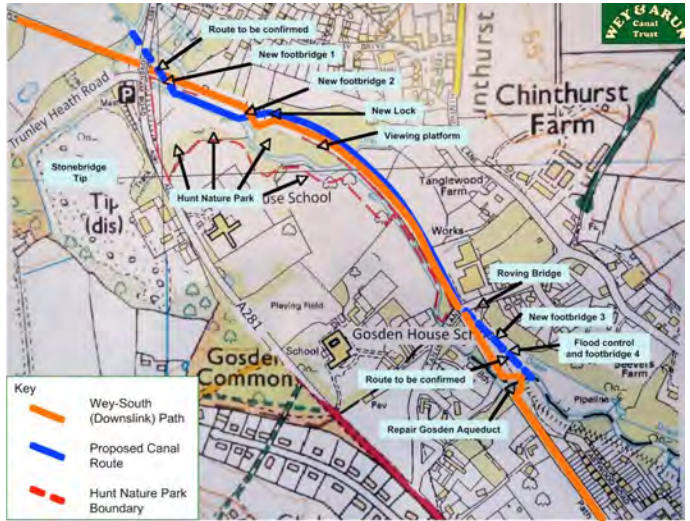
This would allow 400 metres of canal to be re-created alongside the Wey-South Path, on Phase 1 of the Bramley Link, which goes as far as Tannery Lane Bridge.

The canal would initially be routed along the Cranleigh Waters stream to a new Tanglewood Lock in Hunt Nature Park. A new waterway would be excavated to pass under the former railway arch of the bridge, with the path moved over to allow the re-alignment.

From Tannery Lane, the canal would be routed on a new line to join Cranleigh Waters on the upstream side of the Gosden Aqueduct.

It would probably follow the stream around Bramley, although taking it along the old railway line had not been completely ruled out. Improvements to one of the arches of the bridge over Station Road, to enable boats to pass under, would help lessen the flood risk in the village, as would flood-control measures in Gosden Meadow.

Philip referred to the year-long Environmental Impact Assessment being carried out on Phase



The restoration plans for Phases 1 and 2a of the canal's Bramley Link section – part of Philip Oliver's presentation to the Autumn Meeting

1, along with a civil engineering design study and a full flood study. It was hoped the three studies would support a planning application in Summer 2016.

An application would be made to the Heritage Lottery Fund for around £1.7million to help meet the estimated £2.9m cost of Phase 1.

So far, the money needed for the project totalled £198,000, to cover the three studies, ground investigations, legal fees and contingencies.

Gennets Bridge Lock

Eric Walker said contractors Burras finished their work and removed the last of their equipment on 25th September. Every day while the contractors were on the site, a qualified Trust member attended to ensure the Great Crested Newt fence was intact and to



Volunteers upgrading the towpath at Gennets Bridge Lock. They laid around 40 tonnes of type 1 aggregate. (Geoff Thomas)

repair it if necessary. Several newts had been “trapped” in the buckets spaced around the fence and transferred to the ponds created nearby to provide new homes for them.

It had been a struggle to get a European Protected Species licence to relocate the newts, a process that started in 2012 and had a restart in January 2014, all at some cost. But it appeared that Natural England was now taking a more pragmatic approach to great crested newts and dealing with their presence in future might not be so onerous.

One of Burras’s final tasks was to get some of the WACT kit into the lock, saving many hours of strain and manhandling. Bearing in mind the age of our volunteers and the weight of the items – about 5½ tonnes for the scaffolding and 10 tonnes of blocks and the two bottom quoins at 431kg each – it was a very welcome help.

Since the contractor left the site, volunteers had put some 40 tonnes of type 1 aggregate on adjacent towpaths, which was an outstanding commitment.

After that, they back-filled that part of the back of the lock where the contractor had his shuttering, with perhaps another 50 tonnes of

clay, and spent time erecting the scaffolding. WACT’s bricklayers were now at work laying the blocks.

Summit Level

Tony Ford revealed that it was now thought the concrete causeway being replaced by the new Compasses Bridge was built in the 1930s by the local authority, rather than being a Second World War construction intended to improve military access to the aerodrome. The workmanship was shocking and the buttresses, which had rusted-away scaffolding poles as reinforcement, did not tie in with the causeway.

The causeway would eventually be demolished by volunteers and the rubble used to construct training walls on the north side of the new bridge. It was possible remnants of the original canal bridge were waiting to be found.

The main bridge structure had been completed by contractors C.J. Thorne and construction of training walls was under way. Then the canal trough below the bridge was to be cut.

The first length of timber parapet was due to be installed in mid-November and the contractor intended to leave the site in December.

Then it was over to the WACT volunteers. Their work over the winter included preparations for the diversion of a BT cable, a sewer pipe and a Thames Water main, excavations for the new approach road, preparation works in the aerodrome, brick facing and paving.

The bridge project was on target for completion in time for the canal opening bicentennial in September 2016. However, there was lots of work still to do, there were plenty of opportunities for volunteers and significant funding was still required.

A major milestone would be reached at Easter with the closure of the aerodrome access road and Compasses gate for several days. During this time, the new road would be built and



Left: The wooden parapets on the new Compasses Bridge will be similar to those used on this bridge across the River Wey at Tilford in Surrey. Right: Bolts installed in the concrete sides of the new bridge deck ready to take the parapets

tied into the existing road and there would be alterations to the gate, gatehouse and security barriers. Then traffic would be switched to the new bridge.

Planning permission had been granted for a slipway to be built south of the bridge, with access from the aerodrome perimeter road, and construction on this would start soon. This would provide additional access to a completed length of canal, which it was hoped could be the venue for the 2018 IWA Trailboat Festival.

The Trust's Compasses Bridge project had helped cement good relationships with the owners of Dunsfold Park, who were preparing

an outline planning application for the aerodrome redevelopment masterplan.

With the need for a new access road to Dunsfold Park came the potential for a viable project to route the canal under the A281. It was possible that a roundabout planned for the A281 could be moved nearer the canal and the scheme combined with a new bridge.

The Midweek Working Party was to start clearing vegetation north of Fast Bridge in November and it was planned to restore around a kilometre of canal from there over the next three years.

W&A Enterprises Ltd Report

Derek Heath gives his upbeat report to the Autumn Meeting.



Treasurer Mike Anderson was reporting that income from all types of trips – Public, Charters, Specials – was higher than the same time last year and is probably a new record, WAEL chairman Derek Heath told the Autumn Meeting. The result would be known for sure at the end of the year. Two major factors had allowed this to happen:

Firstly, water. There was a long period without rain and the Environment Agency cut supplies on both pumps at one point. Plans had been made to cope with this but were not needed, due to the efforts of Peter Foulger. WAEL were

indebted, as always, to him and the effort he puts in.

Secondly, Crew. Public trips were run every Saturday, Sunday and Bank Holiday and there were over 200 charter trips. This needed more than 1,000 crew slots to be filled. Thanks to the efforts of the Crew Co-ordinators, all slots were filled and every trip was run.

A couple of other topics had been discussed by the WAEL board, said Derek.

- Now that there was significantly more canal available to use, thanks to the restoration group, new routes and timetables were being considered. It was hoped this would encourage more of the public to look at the new areas and also

reduce the pressure on the crews, as the current timetables could mean very little turnaround time.

- Also, It had been discovered that playing music on the boats was falling foul of the regulations, meaning PPL (Phonographic Performance Ltd) and PRS (Performing Rights Society) licences were needed. Grateful thanks were due to Mark Eyre for doing all the research.

Finally, a sad note. Many members would remember *John Smallpeice*, which was on the front of the 2016 calendar. In order to comply with the Small Boat Safety guidelines, it had been accepted that not enough passengers could be carried to make her commercially viable as a tripboat, so now she was starting a new life as a workboat.



Pictured at the Autumn Meeting. Left: Rob Searle rehearses his talk on the new Milestone Club, in front of the fundraising and publicity stall. Right: Angela and Alan Smith and Fanny Lines sell books, calendars and Christmas cards

Our video heritage

Members at the Autumn Meeting had a privileged glimpse into Canal Trust history, with showings of archive videos including the opening of Barnsill Bridge (1989), the start of restoration work on Drungewick Lock (1989) and the first official trip on *Zachariah Keppel* (1994). We hope that we did not embarrass young Peter Foulger too much; Peter and his father Gordon were the driving force behind the early restoration work at Loxwood. The Chairman at the time,

Peter Beresford, is shown giving them effusive thanks and hoping that other landowners will be inspired to follow their example.

Showing these videos was much easier than previously, thanks to a recent exercise to convert the Trust's VHS tapes to digital format. VHS tapes have a limited lifetime; after conversion the images are guaranteed not to deteriorate any further. The footage shown in the Autumn Meeting was 'fake' video, combining still photography with sound

recording. Real 'cine' cameras were available at the time, though, and we can see some of the jerky results in documentaries of early summer camps. These would need drastic editing for any public showing to shorten or remove the long sequences of young volunteers swimming in the River Arun or relaxing over a drink in a pub garden. Still, there are some real gems among the material. These include:

- 'The Bargee', which finishes with a trip along the canal route which was filmed from an aircraft
- 'Three Steps along the Wey', with adventurous boat trips on the River Arun and from Newbridge to Malham Lock

- A report of the Navvies Reunion of 1992 when hundreds of volunteers from all over the country cleared a long stretch of canal in the Lee Farm area between Billingshurst and Pulborough

We would like to be able to exploit our video archive more effectively as part of our publicity effort, so we are keen to meet anyone with experience in digital video editing. One volunteer has already expressed interest, but a small team would be ideal. Please contact Julian Morgan (01483 503029, jm@weyandarun.co.uk).

Welcome to New Staff

Katie Price

Chartered accountant Katie Price has joined the Trust as part-time book-keeper, using more than two decades of experience to help manage our finances.

Katie, who has a degree in accounting and finance, trained with Coopers and Lybrand.



She has returned to work after taking a career break to raise her family.

After qualifying as a chartered accountant in 1992, she had jobs with prestigious companies including

Somerfield, Brunel Holdings, Overland Trading, BOC Group and Securicor.

She has also been Treasurer of the Parent-Teacher Associations at Shalford Infant School and Tillingbourne School and Treasurer and Trustee of Shalford Pre-School.

Katie, who lives with her husband David and children Daniel (aged 12) and Sophie (aged 10) in Shalford, enjoys gardening, cooking and walking their Labrador Ruby.

Rachel Humphrey

Rachel Humphrey has been working as an Office Manager in the Loxwood Office since June but we have not had the chance to introduce her yet.

Rachel lives in Horsham with her family. She tells us: "Earlier this year, we got our first cat who is bonkers.

I enjoy reading, cooking, gardening, theatre and skiing.

"My two top holiday destinations to visit are Egypt and Canada. Every year, I raise money for The British Heart

Foundation and have done a parachute jump (never again!), hosted cake sales and run bingo nights!"



...and a farewell

In November, David Daniels left our staff after three years as Office Administrator in Shalford. We are grateful to David for his work in setting up the Northern Office and wish him well for the future.



The structure across the canal at Alfold was looking more and more like a bridge as October progressed, with contractor CJ Thorne around three weeks ahead of schedule. A huge amount of steel reinforcement was installed before the mixer lorries arrived on the 9th with concrete for the deck.

Thorne's staff combined with workers from Hanson, Surrey Concrete Pumping and McHugh Civil Engineering to pour around 50 cubic metres of concrete. By the middle of November, all the shuttering had been removed and the bridge shell had emerged.

Compass Bridge

Our photos show the finished walls, shuttering and reinforcement being prepared, a close-up of the extensive steelwork, concrete being pumped in, the finished deck slab and the bridge shell revealed. The canal under the bridge is being dug out to enable a base and the lower side walls to be cast.

(Dave Verrall, Julian Morgan, Rob Searle)





Northern Projects Report



London WRG members busy at the Compasses Bridge site digging exploratory pits to locate services, laying a sample brick wall and installing a pipe in a temporary bund across the canal so that a section can be drained ready for construction work. (Julian Morgan)



Both the NWPG (Newbury Working Party Group) and our own Summit Group have been working at Compasses Bridge, on the access road and building a dam, to assist the contractors' efforts. The Summit Group, which is made up of a small band of WACT volunteers meeting every third Saturday in the month, has, in addition, been carrying out clearance and fencing work at the Tickner's depot and alongside the airfield.

As well as visits from NWPG, we have had visits from two Waterway Recovery Group (WRG) parties – BITM (Bit In The Middle) and London. BITM had an interesting weekend at Whipleigh Manor, helping with investigating what might remain of the iron bridge that carried the Guildford to Horsham railway over the canal. A long trench revealed some huge lumps of iron.

London WRG's tasks at Compasses were rather more in line with conventional canal restoration – altering a drain outflow and creating a bund to allow a section of canal to be drained and dredged, plus preparatory work for moving a water main and preparing for the brickwork on the new bridge.

Bill Nicholson coordinates the visiting groups on the Northern half of the canal, and has plenty of work available for volunteers. He summarises forthcoming projects as follows:

Whether you are a third Saturday volunteer or a member of one of the Trust's regular visiting groups there is plenty of exciting and varied work



The impressively equipped BITM team uncovered a large amount of metal from the iron bridge which carried the Guildford to Horsham railway line across the canal at Whitley Manor. They also went to a lot of effort to remove a well-rooted tree. (Julian Morgan)

planned for the first half of 2016. In no particular time order, I expect that we will be working:

- Constructing the service ducts and paved footway across the top of the new Compasses Bridge
- Bricking up the facing walls of the bridge from about 400mm below water level to the underside of the bridge
- Other associated tasks related to the road links either side of the new bridge
- Construction of the slipway at the Burns site – work will initially involve casting concrete side walls (to be brick-faced)
- Removal of the causeway at Compasses once the bridge is brought into use – three days planned for after Easter
- At Shalford – supporting tree felling alongside the proposed canal route, plus any new path work connected with the school side of Hunt Nature Park

- Other jobs as yet unknown that the Northern project teams dream up!

So if you have, or are interested in learning, skills in bricklaying, carpentry, concrete mixing, plant driving or just putting in a good old fashioned day's hard (but rewarding) graft, why not join us? Although we will definitely be working on the third Saturday of each month we may also add additional days once the bricklaying on the bridge starts. Contact me, as below – with all this work we need your support!

A quick postscript to record the Trust's gratitude to Briants of Longwick for once again supplying replacement power tools for our volunteers to use at a very substantial discount over the price we would normally have to pay. This means that the Trust can use more of its limited funds to pay for materials and contractors.

Contact Bill Nicholson, 01844 343369/07791 097773, bn@weyandarun.co.uk



Volunteers began the next phase of the project at Gennets Bridge Lock when contractor Burras finished its work on 25th September.

WACT's taskforce was helped by Burras getting some of its kit into the concrete shell of the lock, thus saving us many hours of strain and manhandling.

About 5½ tonnes of scaffolding, 10 tonnes of blocks and the two bottom quoins at 431kg each were craned in.

As well as starting work on the bricklaying, the volunteers laid some 40 tonnes of type 1 aggregate on the adjacent towpaths and back-filled the back of the lock where the contractor had his shuttering, with perhaps another 50 tonnes of clay.

Our photos show the lock shell being constructed, section by section; a wider view of the site showing the newt-proof fence; jet-washing the concrete;

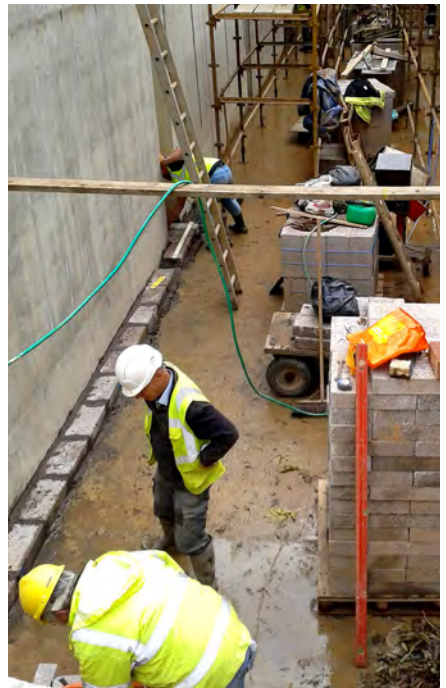
Burras's three-tonne excavator on its way out of the lock, well above the trees; project leader Eric Walker liaising with Richard Bracey (left) and Jason Falkner; scaffolding being put together ready for the brickies and the start of block-laying.

(Dave Verrall, Eric Walker, Geoff Thomas)



Gennets Bridge Lock





Letters to the Editor

Where are the facts on funding?

A gulf has developed between my (a member's) knowledge of WACT finances and the Board's knowledge. I went to the Autumn Meeting to try to clarify what's going on financially but came away more confused than ever. I fully support multiple projects as much better than 'single, one at a time' ones, but there is very little fact published except in the magazine, and that is incomplete.

My understanding is Bramley Link's current spend plans are £200,000. No mention of fundraising or shortfall. Is this fully funded?

Gennets Bridge Lock was previously stated as fully funded and the money safely ring-fenced, but it now has an unexplained shortfall of £85,000. Gates and back-pumping mentioned, but where is the detail?

For the Summit Level/Compasses Bridge, the website has been stuck at £700,000 needed, £434,722 donated so far, essentially all summer. Now, suddenly at the Autumn Meeting, the shortfall drops from £350,000 to become circa £200,000.

Up to now, the emphasis has been on fundraising for specific projects. Money clearly does not flow into undefined, vague appeals. Now we are even more confused and muddled by an impossible objective of £3 million a mile and a Milestone Club.

I notice no mention of matchfunding income from localgiving.com, or where it is being spent. WAEL hands over money from profits – how much and where is it being allocated?

My request is for more accurate, complete information. Fundraising should be for specific, defined projects where the benefits are tangible. Avoid large figures such as £3 million a mile at all costs.

Jonathan Robertson

Julian Morgan replies: With the 'three-sites' approach, it is not so straightforward as it

once was to explain exactly where money is needed. Above all, we do not put the key sites into a priority order. A summary of the funding position of the three sites is:

Compasses Bridge is funded to the end of this year, mainly from the specific appeal and an allocation of funds from the Peggy Gledhill legacy. The Chairman stated at the Autumn Meeting that we will need an estimated £260,000 to complete this project, which is in line with the website information. The website figure has been updated, but only with relatively small changes.

Gennets Bridge Lock is funded to completion of construction, but the 'navigation works' (lock gates, back-pumping), estimated at £85,000, are not funded. The project manager, with the support of the board, would like to raise funds for this work which would then be ring-fenced until required.

The Bramley Link studies and preparation work (approximately £200,000) are funded, mainly from the Peggy Gledhill Legacy, as explained in Philip Oliver's presentation at the Autumn Meeting. Phase 1 construction is estimated at £2 million or more and is not funded.

Income that is not earmarked for specific projects will be allocated by the Board between the projects that need it. This includes WAEL and Poddle income. Another allocation exercise is due before the end of the year and will be reflected in our Report and Accounts for 2015. This is likely to reduce the Compasses Bridge shortfall slightly, but there will still be a gap. Our Report and Accounts for 2014 – available via the Members Area of our website – summarise the position in terms of the three-site approach.

Why do we need a viewing platform?

Just a comment from a member, who enjoyed reading Issue 172 of *Wey-South*, as always. The magazine had many references to the Hunt Nature Park viewing platform but

there was no explanation in the magazine as to what people are going to “view” from it.

Not presumably the canal, as you can see that perfectly well from the towpath, so if not that then what? And please make clear why has the Trust spent so much time and effort on it. I’m sure there’s a good reason, but members may need reminding even if it was explained in the last magazine.

Nigel Flynn

Rob Searle replies: As reported on page 9, the Hunt Nature Park and the viewing platform are a key part of the Trust’s strategy to create a linear park, or “green corridor” along the length of the canal. The overall restoration project is providing facilities for everyone, not just for boaters, and it is essential we do this to attract grant money.

The Charitable Trusts to which we apply for funding increasingly want to know which sections of the wider community, and how many people, will benefit from the money they might give us. Facilities like the viewing platform and the Wey-South Path enable us to say those such as walkers, joggers, cyclists,

horseriders, naturalists, photographers and geocache enthusiasts will be attracted to the canal and surrounding land.

At the moment, the platform provides views of the Hunt Nature Park, with its veteran oaks and meadow, but it will eventually be an ideal place from which to watch the creation of the first section of the Bramley Link and the new Tanglewood Lock.

The viewing platform, like our work on the park, was funded using money from the Ed and Doris Hunt Legacy, which was left to the Trust specifically for an environmental project. It will draw members of the public in to learn about the work of the Trust, enjoy the facilities we are providing and, we hope, become members and financial supporters.

There has not been a canal in Shalford and Bramley since the late 19th century and, to local people, the idea of recreating it may seem odd, even a threat. The Canal Trust has to show that we are good neighbours and that our work makes the area a better place to live. This is what the Hunt Nature Park is all about.

Alfold postcard



Our member Henry Bartley, who owns property in the Fast Bridge area, has told us that in his opinion the postcard first reproduced in the June 2015 issue of *Wey-South* (see left) definitely does not show Fast Bridge.

The house is quite different from the shape of Fastbridge farmhouse and the bridge is a different shape from Fast Bridge, he says.

Meanwhile, member Bob Delamare has written to say: “The picture is of Tickner’s Heath painted from the canal bank [south of the Alfold-Dunsfold road] looking in the Guildford direction. The bridge has long gone but the buildings are there and the canal bank is heavily overgrown. I thought it was so obvious I did not mention it before.”

● Do you have a postcard or photographs that are of interest to members or which could be used as an illustration in *Wey-South*? If so, please contact Julian Morgan (jm@weyandarun.co.uk, 01483 503029).

The making of Great Canal Journeys

The first episode of Series 3 of *Great Canal Journeys – London's Lost Route to the Sea* – was shown on Channel 4 on Sunday 25th October. It featured canal enthusiasts Timothy West and Prunella Scales and included some positive coverage of the Wey & Arun Canal, but it was one of those things that didn't "just happen".

The amount of Trust time that the production took up was huge, especially when compared with the footage actually broadcast. During the episode, Tim and Pru travel from Teddington on the River Thames to the sea at Littlehampton. Filming of the Wey & Arun segment took place on 3rd June and, fortunately, the weather on that day was excellent.

The National Trust's River Wey Navigation team were not so lucky. They were booked for a filming session at Dapdune Wharf in Guildford earlier in the week but, thanks to heavy rain, the film crew went to the Yvonne Arnaud Theatre instead and never arrived at Dapdune.

A nice feature of the broadcast is that short clips of *Josias Jessop* and the Loxwood section are interspersed throughout the episode, although you would need to be an insider to recognise them. Philip Oliver (Bramley Link Manager) and Alan Johnson (Vice-Chairman) are on hand to welcome Tim and Pru at Gun's Mouth. We hear roughly one sentence each from Philip and Alan as they walk up towards Stonebridge and the A281. A good selection of restoration shots from the Trust's archives is inserted as Alan talks about the heroic efforts of our volunteers. The camera sweeps briefly across the canal outside the Northern Office at Bridge End in Shalford.

Already running well behind schedule because of retakes and other filming delays, Tim and Pru's next call was at the Canal Centre in Loxwood, then to Southland Lock by road. *Josias Jessop* was waiting at Southland, with Derek Heath, Rod Smith and Rosie Sugar acting as crew. Unfortunately, so far as we could see, none of the Trust volunteers



Timothy West at the helm of Josias Jessop, with Rosie Sugar, Sally Schupke and Derek Heath on deck. But none of the WACT volunteers who helped with the filming at Loxwood appeared in the broadcast.
(Dave Verrall)

who helped at Loxwood appear in the final broadcast. That was despite one of the first hold-ups when the producer objected to the boat crew wearing the normal luminous green uniform T-shirts, saying they would not film well. A messenger had to go and fetch dark green shirts instead.

If you don't blink too quickly you might recognise the canal around Southland and the big bend between Devil's Hole and Loxwood Locks; probably it is around here that Pru remarks that this must be the most remote canal they've ever navigated. By the time the boat reached the Canal Centre for a break and Tim's photocall with Lyn Nash, Dave Verrall and Nancy the dog (see September *Wey-South*), it was already clear it was going to be a long day.

There are some nice shots taken around (or from) Barnsill Bridge. However, it is the section south of the slipway, from Drungewick Aqueduct to Long Meadow that gets the most

exposure. By this time the sun was quite low, giving some magical lighting conditions that the film crew obviously enjoyed. We see Tim turning the boat in Long Meadow Winding Hole – and that is the end of the Wey & Arun segment.

The many hours put in by volunteers preparing for the filming day and on the day itself were not the end of the story.

Afterwards, we gave the production company access to our photo archive so that they could select the volunteer restoration pictures.

Tony Pratt, former Trust director and a key member of our talks panel, contributed his research into the life of JB Dashwood, whose famous journey in 1867 (“The Thames to the Solent”) was used as a backdrop to the TV programme. Tony presented the video “The Lost Wey to the Sea”, available from the Trust on DVD, which re-created Dashwood’s journey in modern times. Sadly Tony’s extensive research was compressed into

one brief sentence in the TV programme. Using census data, Tony has established that the most likely dates for Dashwood are 1832-1907 and that he was a schoolmaster, son of a surgeon at Guy’s Hospital. An early census entry quotes his profession as “teacher and poet”. This may account for the poetic language he uses in his book.

So what did the Trust gain from this exercise? Certainly it gave some good exposure to our canal, which remains relatively unknown despite our publicity efforts. We did receive a reasonably generous donation from the production company, leaving us wondering whether we could have negotiated much more. If you add up all the staff and volunteer time that went in, probably it doesn’t amount to much more than minimum wage. We’ll certainly be wiser next time a TV company comes knocking on our door.

Julian Morgan

Halloween sell-out at Loxwood



The frighteners were put on in a big way as Boat Group members ran sell-out excursions for Halloween. Around 100 children and adult passengers enjoyed the Spookerama trips, many of them also in fancy dress. (Pictures by Julian Morgan)



Working Party Roundup

This section of *Wey-South* celebrates our volunteers, our own members and various visiting groups. Although all donate their time and effort principally to help restore London's Lost Route to the Sea, along the way to reopening the canal, there are plenty of benefits that the individual workers can enjoy for themselves.

If you are anything like me, you get fed up by being told by the medical profession to lose weight, get more exercise, eat more fruit and veg, stop smoking, cut down on alcohol, eat less salt, avoid sugary drinks – the list goes on. And that ignores the current scares about red meat, eggs, dairy products or whatever the latest 'bad' thing might be. After all, most of us have been doing those things for years, and the doctors and the NHS websites still tell us we need to modify our lifestyle.

So the last, and best, piece of advice is take up canal restoration, even if only to make you live longer and healthier. We have said it before, but it works – you will use up those excess calories, most likely sleep better, and just feel better within yourself. Just don't ruin it all by falling into a lock or having an accident with a chainsaw... but as part of the package we can teach you how to avoid doing these things.

Convinced? To try it for yourself just check the Trust's monthly *Working Party News* newsletter, which will tell you what is happening, when and where, and who to contact to work on a particular day or specific location. The newsletter can be found on the WACT website, or you can get your own copy e-mailed to you as soon as it is published. Just send a request to be added to the WPN mailing list to listadmin@weyandarun.co.uk.

And, here's the best bit: it's free, and you can still subscribe even without attending work parties. We even offer a paper copy for those who are not online – but for this please send a supply of SAEs to the Loxwood Office.

Bill Thomson

Monday Group

The group has been active at many of its regular venues. August saw work at (almost) the two extreme ends of the waterway, rubbing down and painting at Haybarn Swing Bridge and vegetation clearance at Gosden Aqueduct. And they still found time to do some mowing and lock maintenance at Drungewick.

Vegetation continues to grow at a rate that keeps the group occupied at all its regular sites, so the next few weeks saw them at Malham, at the Lock 16 site in Sidney Wood, Drungewick again, Devil's Hole and Southland as well as giving the Loxwood section some attention. The group intends to concentrate once again on Sidney Wood in the winter months.

As well as maintenance, the Monday Group has been producing and looking after laminated information cards at several sites along the canal. The group can always use new willing volunteers. The work, on two Mondays each month, is mostly light in nature rather than heavy construction or fierce clearance, so is ideal for a pleasant day in the open air.

**Contact John Empringham, 01483 562657,
mondaygroup@weyandarun.co.uk**

Midweek Working Party

MWPP, under its new leader Margaret Darvill, has been busy at the extreme southern end of the waterway clearing the canal bed at Pallingham. The group attracts good numbers of volunteers every Wednesday – with up to 23 attending it could well be the largest regular weekly work party on any canal restoration project. That's not to say it can't use more people, and the weather has not always been kind recently, which rather depletes the turnout.

Other recent work has included bank clearance at Compasses Bridge, which will enable wild

A party of hedgelayers and their partners pose for a commemorative picture before setting off on their 13th anniversary cruise.



flowers to be grown next season, and spraying of reeds at Drungewick, which should cut the need for some future visits. The group was also active in tidying paths and strimming weeds in preparation for the Hunt Nature Park viewing platform opening and carrying out some heavier clearance of the canal bed in the Gun's Mouth area, reopening the vista from the A281 bridge. The latest task, at the time of writing, was to clear the towpath between Devil's Hole and Southland Locks.

Contact Margaret Darvill, 01483 894606, margaret_darvill@weyandarun.co.uk

Hedgelaying Group

A small party from the hedgelaying group demonstrated their skills at Loxwood Village Fete on Saturday 13th June. They laid



Hedgelayers coppicing by the side of the canal.

part of a hedge at the North Hall venue, thus reminding the locals of the WACT presence in the area. Over another couple of days, half of this hedge was completed and tidied up and the remaining half will be finished on the day of the 2016 fete.

To celebrate the 13th anniversary of the formation of the Hedgelaying Group a 'Spot the Hedge Cruise' was organised for Tuesday, 15th September. This was open to all past and present HLG members. The light morning rain stopped and a small contingent of layers and their partners set off with the boat crew for Southland on a sunny, mild afternoon. A "small repast" was taken at Southland, which was enjoyed by all on board (thanks Penny). We then managed to get as far as Baldwin's Knob Lock before having to turn back. A very pleasant four hours indeed.

Head hedgelayer Keith Nichols reports that the group re-formed on 20th October after the long summer break. So far, they have spent two days coppicing in readiness for laying a hedge for one of the team. This is because there is no canalside work to do at the moment, but this may change in the new year. In the meantime, the group will be creating a wildlife habitat and at the same time honing its skills ready to lay the next hedge for WACT. Keith estimates that there will be one or two more days work in the coppice, which will be the last canalside work for the time being.

Contact Keith Nichols, 01403 753882, hedging@weyandarun.co.uk

Thursday and Sunday Group

While the contractors were working at Gennets Bridge Lock (GBL) volunteer Dan Ostacchini went each morning to see what they needed from WACT. While there, he checked that the pumps clearing the water out of the works were working. In the late afternoon he would go again to check that the nature fence was still doing its job of keeping the protected species out and repairing it if necessary. This diligence is part of the European Protected Species Licence requirements that will continue until the works are complete.

There are three places where towpath work has been undertaken in the last quarter. From Brewhurst Lane to Birch Copse, this was a carry forward from last year. There, over many years with a low towpath surface, winter floods from the canal eroded the towpath even more. So the canal bank was built up to the highest level observed for the flood water, using

sand bags filled with weak mix concrete, and these were stabilised with steel pins. The bags were then covered with clay or soil.

Next year, we should be able to fill the whole of this part of the navigable section to the design or summer water level at the beginning of the season, maybe for the first time. But first will be the test of winter rains.

Next was the section from Brewhurst Lane to Brewhurst Lock where flood water from an adjacent field had washed off the towpath surface exposing the tree roots, giving a trip hazard and making in very difficult for prams and the disabled. Here a sandbag wall was built up beside the hedge and a new surface laid.

The third area was on a section just immediately south of GBL. We hope this will

now become easier to walk along in Winter. This work, and that from Brewhurst Lock, were funded by West Sussex County Council, with some sponsorship from the contractor Burras.

Once the contractor had gone, some minor repairs to the access haul road were undertaken. After that, it was full steam ahead with the volunteer elements of the GBL construction.

**Contact Eric Walker, 07717 855340,
tsg@weyandarun.co.uk**

Tickner's Heath Depot

Well, the Summer has been and gone, the trees around the depot are shedding their leaves and conkers and the days are drawing in. But we have managed to do some work – oh no, it's not all coffee and lunch breaks up at this end of the WACT empire, you know.

Mike Davison once again delivered some work for the team – in this case an outboard motor.

It had no fuel tank, so the team had to manufacture a temporary one until a proper tank could be obtained. Once the fuel was switched on away she went.

Our resident painter and decorator, Ken Bacon, turned his attention to the Canal Centre, tidying up the décor to help maintain a decent public impression for the Trust. Bookings for his talents are accepted at a reasonable price – please make the cheque payable to 'JF Smith'.



The Tickner's Heath Depot manager attempting to prove that he actually does do some work?

The large flatbed trailer I told you about in the last issue unfortunately lost a vital part of its jockey wheel, so we had to purchase and fit another, which should make it easier to operate. We have also fitted a new battery to our 4kVA diesel generator. We took advantage of what good weather we had during August to paint our workshop doors.

During September, we noticed that one of the walls had a rather alarming gap in it. So the team members, ever keen to increase their skill levels, set about with drill and various pieces of ironmongery left lying around the depot to at least prevent the gap getting any wider. It's a good job that we had a fair selection of SDS drills available, as the job would have been much harder without them. We have now ensured that at least one part of the depot's buildings will not collapse around our ears.

At the request of our chum and honorary team member, Dan O, we set about checking out two of our petrol-driven mixers. One virtually burst into life as soon as we pulled it over but, of course, we were not so lucky with the other. After a bit of research on the Internet we managed to obtain a gasket set for the carburettor. After fitting it, with a slight cough and splutter, the second mixer burst into life. Mind you, we did have to impart a trick of the trade or two to those thinking of operating it.

During October, we were asked to do a bit of preparation work for the arrival and fitting of our new gates and fence. Dave Evans's summit team did an excellent job of clearing the vegetation parallel to the Dunsfold road, so that the usable storage space in the depot has increased dramatically. By the time you read this you should notice a dramatic difference to our frontage with the outside world.

**Contact John Smith, 01903 235790,
depot@weyandarun.co.uk**

Autumn tidy up at Lordings

John Lee, the lengthsman for the Lordings to Lee Farm Lock section of the canal, has been busy with various tasks to maintain the attractiveness of his patch, as depicted by his photograph.

The noticeboard by the Lordings waterwheel has been stained, new posters have been put up and a new leaflet holder installed. The noticeboard at Floodgate Bridge has been painted and a new leaflet box installed. And the leaflet box at Harsfold Bridge has been renewed.

Lordings Group

The Lordings – formerly known as Winston's – Group doesn't have a lot to say for itself but quietly beavers away, mostly with maintenance work on the Arun Navigation, on Tuesdays or Fridays. The work centres around the Lordings, or Orfold, waterwheel, a unique feature that uses the flow of the River Arun to lift water up into the canal level above. It may not be the most efficient, or largest-scale, method of pumping but it costs nothing to run and is maybe the ultimate in renewable, sustainable energy.

It does suffer technical issues though – probably why the idea never really caught on back in the 19th century. Consequently, it has only run for short periods this year. But the group have been keeping it, and its surroundings, up to scratch. Another problem in the vicinity is a leak each side of the overflow, between Winston's Bridge and Rose Arch. The clay has been too dry and hard for a successful cure during the summer, but this will be attempted during the wetter season. The group will need more volunteers to help get and transport some new clay, and ram it into place. We are going to need some extra members to get clay from our clay store and get a low-load trailer and smallish tractor and move clay up to near the overflow.

**Contact Tony Clear, 01903 774301,
winstonsgroup@weyandarun.co.uk**



Membership Report

As at 31st October we had 3,004 members. Having passed the 3,000 mark, we have maintained this milestone and I hope we can continue to build on this. Our main sources of new members are our website and the Canal Centre; where you can browse our stock of books and other items. We would like to extend a very warm welcome to the following new members who have joined since the end of July. I would also like to thank those of you who have offered to assist with our various volunteer activities.

Ms Jane Arnott	Mr Tom Geddes	Mr Tony Ricards
Mr Lee Ashenden	Mr Paul Goodwin	Mrs Sally Rodwell
Mr Raymond & Mrs Elizabeth Baughan	Mr John Hamment	Mr A Sawyer & Mrs C Duke
Mr Peter Bennett	Mrs Gill & Mr Tim Harrold	Mr Anthony Schooling
Mr Harry Benschop	Mr Neil & Mrs Lisa Hebborn	Mrs Barbara & Mr Brian Sheerman-Chase
Mr Ashley Bowen	Mr Richard Heckford	Mr Richard Shenton
Miss Lynda Brincklow	Mr Mike Hoyle	Mr Richard & Mrs Janet Smart
Mr Peter Cooper	Mr Peter Jewell	Mr Martin & Mrs Karen Unwin
Mr Maurice & Mrs Glynis Craneffield	Mr Rick & Mrs Inge Marnier	Mr Chris & Mrs Jane Watts
Miss L Dijkstra	Mr Stephen Melling	Mr Martin White & Mrs Jane Hedgeland
Mr Peter Dixon	Mr R.A. Parsons	Mr Steve & Mrs Pauline Whyley
Mr James Edmunds	Miss Yvonne Ray	Mr Simon & Mrs Sue Yardley
Mr John & Mrs Anne Fox-Smythe	Mrs Lyn Read	

We have learned with sadness of the death of:

Mr D C Pinnock	Mr E.R. Pattison	Mrs Anne Weatherley
Mr Leonard Gill	Mr Pat Arman	Mr Michael Harrington
Mr Ron Polley	Mr Charles Barron	

Alan Dyer, Membership Secretary
(membership@weyandarun.co.uk)

Win with the Numbers Game

Help provide the Trust with assured income by subscribing to the WACT Numbers Game. Members contribute £3 a month by standing order for each number they hold. Rob Searle is keen to send you an application form to join or buy extra numbers. E-mail rob_searle@weyandarun.co.uk, or write to him via the Northern Office – address on page 3. The winners since the last issue of *Wey-South* were:

AUGUST – £145 first prize: Dr Geoffrey Grimes, Ifold – number 60. **£72.50 second prize:** Hugh Smith, Stratford – 140. **£36.25 third prize:** Hilda Waddington, Ferndown – 105. **SEPTEMBER – £147 first prize:** Hazel White, Horsham – 4. **£73.50 second prize:** Peter Crook, Bookham – 92. **£36.75 third prize:** Allan Glide, Mere, Wiltshire – 62. **OCTOBER – £151 first prize:** Raymond Chick, Adversane – 90. **£75.50 second prize:** Mike Hobbs, Godalming – 52. **£37.75 third prize:** Mrs Patricia Rowe, Horsham – 51.

Grow Your Tenner

Members again responded magnificently to the 2015 Grow Your Tenner initiative on Localgiving.com and we can expect to receive more than £3,600 this year.

The matchfunding pot for 2015 ran out after just 11 days, but members and supporters managed to register 23 direct debit donations of £10 for three months and 62 one-off gifts. Each one of those donations won matchfunding of up to £10 and most will also benefit from added Gift Aid of 25%.

All direct debits made before the pot ran out will continue to gain matchfunding and Gift Aid for a total of three months.

Buy your tickets for Brian's WACT Concert

A new fundraising initiative has been launched by member Brian White, who invites members and supporters to his inaugural WACT music concert. The Bourne Concert Band are stars of the show in Cranleigh Village Hall on Saturday 20th February, doors open 7pm. Brian is hoping for a full house at the event, with tickets at just £12.50, £9 for under-16s.

The 45-musician band, based in Woking, entertains with a wide variety of music taking in light classical and modern and ranging from Moonlight Serenade to Les Misérables. Its conductor is Jonathan Spencer, who is studying at the Royal Military School of Music to become a bandmaster.

In demand for concerts throughout the year, the band has performed at venues across

the South of England and have also ventured overseas to France, Holland, Belgium and the Channel Islands. If February's concert is successful in raising a significant amount of money for the Canal Trust, Brian plans to hold further musical events in other parts of the WACT area.

Rob Searle, fundraising and publicity officer, has volunteered to help Brian with setting up and running the concert but help is needed on the night with front of house duties and serving refreshments. If you can give two or three hours or have any questions, please contact Rob – e-mail rob_searle@weyandarun.co.uk, phone 01276 857914.

To book tickets, e-mail events@weyandarun.co.uk or call 01483 505566.

Dates for your Diary

Sundays 6th, 13th and 20th December, Monday 21st, Tuesday 22nd and Wednesday 23rd December *	Santa Cruises from Loxwood at 11am, 12 noon and 2pm. Booking essential.
Saturday 26th December *	Boxing Day Cruises from Loxwood at 11am, 12 noon and 2pm. Booking recommended but not essential.
Friday 1st January 2016 *	New Year's Day Cruises from Loxwood at 11am, 12 noon and 2pm. Booking recommended but not essential.
Saturday 20th February 2016	Concert by Bourne Concert band in Cranleigh Village Hall at 7pm. See more information above.
Sunday 6th March 2016 *	Mothering Sunday Relaxers from Loxwood at 11am (Coffee and Danish Pastries), 2.30 and 4.30pm (Cream Teas). Booking essential.
Friday 25th March to Monday 28th March 2016 *	Easter Bunny Specials from Loxwood at 11am, 12 noon and 2pm. Booking essential.
Saturday 23rd April 2016	Annual Meeting at Billingshurst at 2.30pm with events for members in the morning. Full details in March 2016 Wey-South.
Sunday 24th April 2016 *	St George and the Dragon Experience from Loxwood at 11.15am. Booking essential.
*For all boat trip information and bookings, please contact the Loxwood Office (details on page 3)	



Above: That's one way to knock in a fence post - Andy Evans (driver) and Dave Evans with the Summit Working Party at Tickner's Heath. (Julian Morgan)

Below: The Hunt Park Bandstand (sorry – Viewing Platform) on the opening day. (Stephen Batey)



WEY & ARUN

Canal
Trust

Help guarantee our income

Most of the Trust's income is from unpredictable sources such as donations, legacies and grants, which makes budgeting for restoration projects uncertain.

We have come a long way since the canal restoration started – 10 locks restored and one new lock built; 17 bridges restored and two new ones built; 2 aqueducts reconstructed; over half the canal worked on and 3½ miles fully restored at Loxwood to enable public trip boats to operate. But there is a huge amount still to be done – at an estimated average cost of £3million a mile.

Our most predictable income is members' subscriptions, money which is mainly allocated for staff costs (which we endeavour to keep as low as possible) and operating costs.

But there is a valuable source of money which members may not know about – the Milestone Club, formerly called the Restoration Fund. We invite you to join the Club, to help give the Trust more

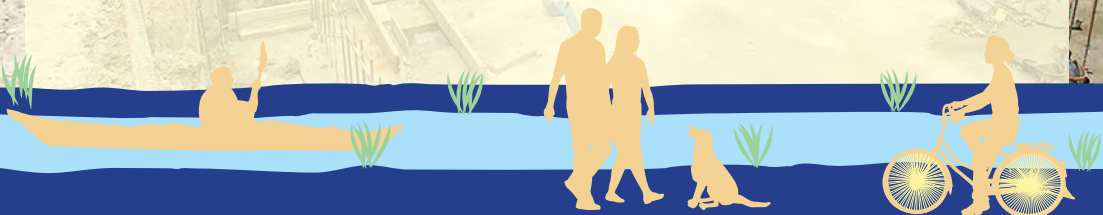


Contractors assembling the steel reinforcement for the concrete deck of the new Compasses Bridge at Alford, one of the Trust's current major projects.

confidence in planning future projects. As well as knowing you are helping the Trust achieve some financial security, you will benefit from invitations to Members-only special events.

Volunteer fundraiser Margaret Jack would be delighted to answer any questions you have. Contact her by e-mailing margaret_jack@weyandarun.co.uk, or via the WACT Northern Office.

To join, please fill in and return the forms on the reverse of this leaflet.



WACT Milestone Club Application

From

Address

Postcode

Telephone E-mail

I would like to make a monthly contribution of £ to the Wey & Arun Canal Trust Milestone Club. I enclose a standing order for my bank made out for this amount and due to start payment on

Signed _____ Date _____

WACT Membership No. and mandate reference (for office to complete)

Standing Order Mandate

TO: Bank

Address

Postcode

Please set up the following standing order payment from this account:

Account name

Account number Sort code

Pay to: Barclays Bank PLC, Cranleigh Branch, PO Box 33, Guildford GU13AN, in favour of **Wey & Arun Canal Trust Ltd**, account number **50961949**, sort code **20-35-35**, the sum of £ on (date)

and then the same sum on that day every month until further notice. **Please quote** (office will complete)

Signed _____ Date _____

Send both these forms to: Milestone Club, WACT Northern Office, Bridge End, Somerswey, Shalford, Guildford, Surrey GU4 8EQ. The standing order will be completed and sent on to your bank.