

# WORCESTER BAR

Edition No: 7  
Summer 2015



The Newsletter of the  
Birmingham, Black Country  
& Worcestershire Branch.

 The Inland  
Waterways  
Association

**IWA Birmingham, Black Country & Worcestershire Branch  
Winter Social Programme**

**Held at Coombeswood Canal Trust, Hawne Basin, Hereward Rise,  
Halesowen, West Midlands B62 8AW  
Starting at 7.15 for 7.30pm.  
2015/16**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Speaker</u>
Oct 19th 2015	The Gloucester & Sharpness Canal	Paul Barnett
Nov 16 <sup>th</sup> 2015	Update on CART Operations in our Area	Ian Lane CRT Area Manager W.Midlands Waterways.

**Subsequent meeting dates and speakers to be notified in the next edition.**

Contact: Chris Osborn 01299 832 593  
e-mail [jcosborn@btinternet.com](mailto:jcosborn@btinternet.com)

Non-members are very welcome to attend any of these meetings,  
where refreshing beverages, hot, cold, alcoholic and soft are available.

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### From the Helm

Busy time of year for all waterway based activities! in spite of boat-building, canoeing, walking, meetings and other activities some of us made it to this month's work-party at Wolverley Court lock - to finish the paint job and to start on the Himalayan Balsam bash that we will continue next month at Falling Sands.

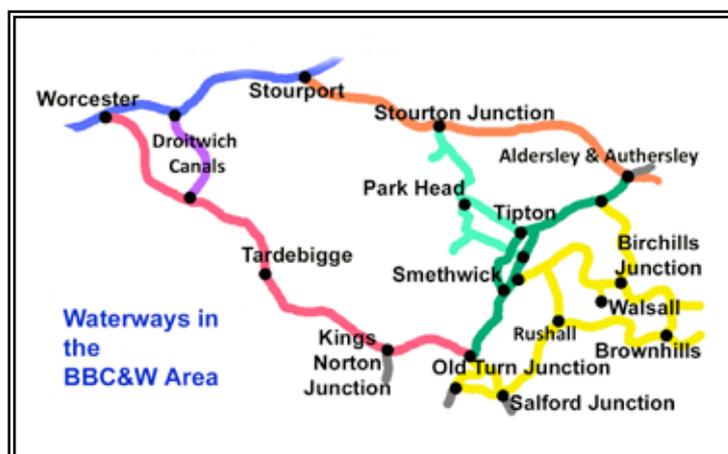
Also, the initiative started recently by BCNS to 'do something' with the decaying Titford Canal got off to a good start a couple of weeks ago with a meeting at the Titford Pump-House. CRT, EA, BCNS, IWA, and local conservation concerns are all in agreement that dredging is needed in the pools, some protection from further silt run-off from the M5 is required, and local initiatives to use the pools and protect the wildlife in the surroundings is important. A further meeting in August should bring to light all interested parties and make a start on deciding how to go about it.

I like to see the enthusiasm of these initiatives - and also the serious knowledge that the younger members of staff from the authorities have to offer. This is sometimes in contrast to a lack of experience in actual waterway applications - but they have to learn - and projects like this, if successfully continued by co-operation from everyone else, will ensure that they are equipped for more demanding projects elsewhere.

We are over-confident in OUR experience of heritage in the Birmingham area - it is good to remember that IWA also supports waterway development - e.g. the Stafford Link, the Bedford to Milton Keynes link, and one or two enlargements on the system - as well as preservation!

If you find an interesting scheme in your travels this year - please think about writing it up for us - we'd love to hear all about it. Have a good boating Summer.

David



## Severn Trow "Nora"

The Branch has recently been given a model of a Severn Trow 'Nora', by Arthur Paggett, which was made by his friend Bill Williams of Bridgwater. The original Nora was built at Bridgwater in 1868 by John Gough. It would have traded all around the estuary, and capable of coming up the Severn as far as Worcester, like the Spry (now in a museum at Ironbridge) but alas the Nora was given a 'Viking funeral' in 1939. The intention of the gift is that we will find a suitable permanent home for it - e.g. a museum, but before that a few small repairs are needed. It



will be shown to members at the Annual Members Meeting in September, and at our first social meeting in the Autumn, by which time we will have made arrangements for it's transfer.

Arthur Paggett is well known on the Severn with his various boats, including a voyage up the 'upper Severn' past Bridgnorth and on to Coleport in a large cruiser. This journey was much publicised at the time, when David Hutchings was helping the Severn Navigation Restoration Trust. He is now looking for someone to transfer his VHS video of the journey, and to help him add some commentary, which is largely prepared.

Any offers of help or comments please to the Chairman, David Struckett 01299 878461

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## Pipeline to Cross Canal

Residents of Wyre Forest District have been interested in proposals by Severn-Trent to install a new pipe-line from Trimpley to Frankley - as part of a by pass water supply system to enable long term up-grading of the hundred year old Elan Valley supply for Birmingham.

The new pipe line will cross the Staffs & Worcs. canal just north of Stourport. I have been assured by Severn Trent that right from the start the proposals intend the pipe to pass under - by tunnelling to a suitable depth, and that no interference to the canal will result.

As there has recently been a (smaller) tunnelling under this canal only in the last two years, successfully taking drainage water under the canal just south of Falling Sands viaduct, we know this type of operation can have minimal effect on the canal. The plans have yet to go for planning approval.

With the new bridge planned for the Sugar works site, this makes three new crossings between Stourport and Kidderminster; fortunately, none of them will affect the Wilden Marsh protected areas.

DWS

## St. Richard's Festival, Droitwich

The festival attendance was good and the weather kind to us. Amongst many others I met Richard Parry, Chief Executive of CRT. Plenty of interest was shown in the IWA activities and we may get some more members as a result.



Sadly, the anticipated visit of the Severn/Wye trow, the only working barge of it's kind to Diglis and thence to Droitwich for the St. Richards Festival had to be cancelled at short notice because rot had been discovered in her keelson.

Your Branch Committee agreed that the fee for her attendance should be donated to the repair fund.  
DWS



## Gas Street

A 200-metre stretch of the Worcester & Birmingham Canal in central Birmingham was drained in February to investigate a potential leak following reports of water seen escaping into a service road beneath the canal.

Water was found to be escaping from the bottom of the Holiday Street Aqueduct, originally constructed to carry a now disused railway under the canal and currently owned by Network Rail.

After rescuing the fish, initial attempts to drain the canal were hampered by a faulty seal, while the first repair failed to stop the leak, resulting in engineers replacing a larger section of the canal bed. The work was completed and the canal reopened several weeks ahead of schedule.

Once drained, a good selection of the usual items was displayed on the canal bed. Some were removed by the contractors but plenty remains for future work parties.



When these photos were taken I was accosted by fund raisers working on behalf of CRT. Not well furnished with literature and poorly briefed about CRT and canals. I doubt that they had much success in attracting punters.

Ed.

## The Worcestershire Forum

Longer-serving members will remember that once upon a time there was a simple quarterly meeting where the various waterway users representatives were able to share news and views – including British Waterways, and usually there was an EA and local Council representatives. Then BW told us that they would hold their own ‘forums’ – assuming that would close the regular one. Then, after a few vociferous arguments at one or two, the BW ones were stopped, in favour of ‘one to one’ consultations by the Waterway Manager. Then they were stopped altogether!

Meanwhile, the Worcestershire Waterway Users Forum, under the chairmanship of Dave Wright, carried on with its quarterly meetings – having some success in putting people in touch and solving problems. Swan rescue were assisted, licence and training requirements were found, and a feeling of potential usefulness prevailed. However, the support was dwindling, we lost a secretary, things were not kept up-to-date, and the circulation list was un-guided. Under CRT, their renewed forums visit other parts of the S Wales and Severn area – and visit Worcestershire once a year.

So, under a new initiative, prompted by IWA members and others present at the last three meeting, have promised a ‘new look’. Fortunately we have more co-operation now from CRT – as we have agreed to meet in the quarters remaining after the CRT ‘Forum’

in June, which was on last Wednesday – the 10<sup>th</sup>. At that meeting, Nick Worthington and his staff outlined the work of CRT over the last year and proposed work forthcoming, which was well illustrated and there was an opportunity to ask questions.

Of course, this doesn’t leave much time for issues that involve rescue services, local authorities, rowing, fishing (although the fishing interest was represented), walking, etc, and how they relate to river and canal maintenance. That’s where the next meeting of WWUF comes in – the date is Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> September – to be chaired by David W Struckett – but I hope that’s only temporary while I’m chairman of the Branch! We also need a new secretary, but we have a Treasurer (and some funds), and some willing representatives from the CRT Partnership (SW&S), WB&DCS, DW(PM)T, BC (canoeing), SMYC, SYC, Cathedral Ferry and IWA, and we have also invited riverside town Civic Societies to attend the next one to ensure coverage of ‘heritage’ aspects.

So, if you hear of WWUF, or any other version of a ‘forum’ in Worcestershire, that’s briefly the history – and the possibility that it still could be useful! (other counties have a ‘forum’ – including a useful one in Staffordshire to which we are linked because of the Staffs & Worcs. Canal.)  
DWS

## Wilden Marsh

On June the ninth I had a conducted visit to the upper end of the Wilden Marshes – that area of wilderness between Kidderminster and Stourport with restricted access.



The area is jointly owned by the Worcestershire Wildlife Trust and Associated British Foods – the legacy of the Sugar plant now largely dismantled. Divided into areas according to dampness, elevation and prevailing species, it contains woodland, grassland and meadow, pools, etc, and is of course adjacent to the River Stour for it's entire length.

I was impressed with what the Worcestershire Wildlife Trust has done in efforts restore a range of useful habitat from hay meadow to marshland pools – evidence of a greater range of birds, grasses, flowers, trees and fauna that has been seen for many years.

From the canal, there is plenty of historic reference along this stretch – from Caldwell lock (there used to be a cottage), site of overhead electric drive for tugs, Falling Sands, viaduct for the SVR, lock, and then Pratt's Wharf, disused lock down to the Stour, site of wood yards and iron foundries, and views over the marsh towards Wilden Lane and the settlement of Wilden (one shop, one pub, one church!).

The southern half of the marsh is more visitable from a footpath running across (usefully, to near the shop), and access to fields – largely self regulated by being kept very wet, as well as 'Wilden Pool' (Fishing!). Two 'rock weirs' have been constructed in the river, which effectively raise the water level (and water-table) by about two metres, from the previous levels. One of these is easily seen just above the Pratt's Wharf lock. Fish can easily navigate upstream, and indeed are encouraged to do so by the fast flowing and turbulent water. Otter's holts can be found in the pools and river, proving that some restoration of habitat from the previous industrial wasteland has been successful.

So when you cruise along the Staffs & Worcs. Canal past here, stop a while and watch the buzzards, kingfisher, woodpecker (both spotted AND 'lesser-spotted'!) and many other birds – some migratory and some native, that inhabit this area. Also - we will be doing some Himalayan Balsam pulling along the canal and river-side at Falling sands on the 8<sup>th</sup> of July, so we might see you there?

DWS

## Forty tonnes of Rubbish Cleared from the Birmingham Canal Navigations!

Over the weekend of 18 and 19 April, over 100 volunteers from [Waterway Recovery Group](#) (WRG), [The Inland Waterways Association](#), [Birmingham Canal Navigations Society](#), [Dudley Canal Trust](#), Coombeswood Canal Trust and [Canal & River Trust](#) (CRT), (including CRT Chief Executive Richard Parry), joined together to carry out a massive canal cleanup on the Birmingham Canal Navigations (BCN).

Volunteers spent the weekend clearing over 40 tonnes of rubbish along the BCN Old Main Line at Smethwick Junction and surrounding locks. Lots of interesting 'treasures' were pulled out of the canal including motorbikes, a freezer, a Hindu deity statue, a shotgun, several parts of a car ... and of course a few shopping trolleys! It is hoped this annual effort on the BCN will help keep the less well used parts of the BCN & Black Country Network from getting choked up with rubbish and becoming impassable for boats.

WRG Leader Chris Morgan said *This is the first time we have worked in this area, it was great to be surrounded by so much canal heritage, structures and features. The volunteers certainly enjoyed themselves! Thanks must go to all the societies who supplied the work boats to take*

*the rubbish away and to the Canal & River Trust staff who worked diligently to empty the boats, we have already started planning the 2016 event.*

The event was also supported by volunteers from the Friends of the Tipton Cut, IKON Gallery Slow Boat project, British Telecom and Black Country Adventures Boat Project.

## Crossword Solution

	S	S	E	N	P	A	R	A	H	S		
N	R	A	T					D	I	N	E	
O		N		L	V	A	C		K		K	
T	A	E	H		R	O	T		R	E	O	
P		Y	R	U	B	S	E	L	Y	A		T
W	H	U		R		L		A		B	S	U
A				H	T	O	R	F				G
H	O	S		E		H		F		V	A	N
T		L	V	A	N	V	C	T	O	O	R	
R	A	E	L		R	I	F		N	O	O	S
O		V		C	I	N	O	T		V		V
N	N	O	B						T	A	I	B
	N	N	Y	L	S	G	N		I	K		

## IWA Annual Member's Meeting.

### Assistance Request

Back on the BBC&W Branch patch again, the IWA Annual Member's Meeting will be held on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> September at Salwarpe Village Hall. Branch members are asked to offer assistance with greeting attendees, helping with parking etc for an hour or two.

The branch will be putting on some entertainment for those attending, and on the Sunday will be hiring the DCT trip boat, "Pamela May" to give those who have stayed overnight a taste of the Droitwich Canals before their return journeys.

Would any Branch member willing to assist, please contact David Struckett.

## Thanks to Becky & Mike

Following the resignation of Becky at the recent AGM, the position of Branch Secretary has yet to be filled, although it is hoped that a willing volunteer may have been found.

I would like to put on record my thanks and that of the Committee to Becky for all the work she has undertaken as Secretary and for the time she and Mike have given, and continue to do so, in supporting the Branch at festivals and gatherings over the years. Thanks too, to Mike for his work as Membership Secretary, a role now being undertaken by Dave Pearson.  
DS

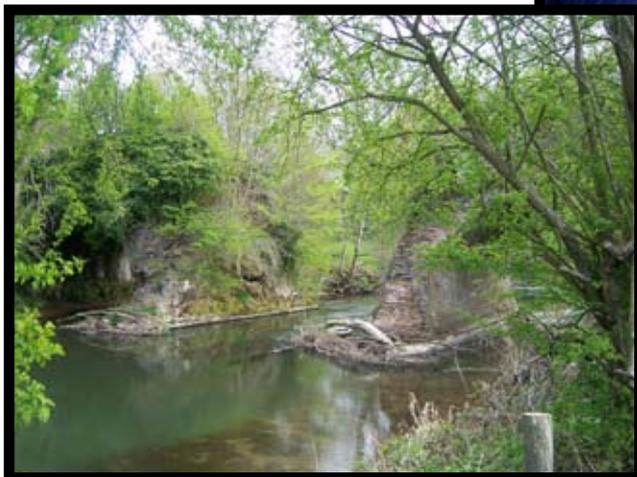
## Strolling Along The Leominster

IWA B'ham, Black Country & Worcester Conducted Walk on the derelict Leominster Canal on Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup>.

Meeting at The **Salwey Arms at Wooferton**, 6 Members of our branch were taken on a conducted tour of part the derelict Leominster Canal led by Martin Hudson & Mike Watkins from the Leominster Canal Society who had a wealth of information on the history of the canal supported by texts & illustrations.

The weather was kind to us & we saw Teme Aquaduct that had been blown apart during the 2nd World War to repel possible invaders, the bridge over the R.Rea, a mortar base & signs of the now disused railway line that superseded the Canal.

A worthwhile & most enjoyable visit & very good presentation by Martin & Mike.  
Chris Osborne.



## Social Meetings Report.

In February we heard about the work of the Derby & Sandiacre Canal Society from Doug Flack (Archivist/ Webmaster) and Chris Madge (Chairman/Trust Director). The Derby canal opened on 30<sup>th</sup> June 1796 and carried a variety of goods including coal, charcoal, chert, (flint form limestone), and milk for Cadbury's. It closed in 1946 and was abandoned in 1964.

The Society, founded in 1993, has commissioned feasibility, viability and impact studies and garnered support from the public, politicians and businesses.

In 2011, restoration plans were approved, subject to funding, by the four local authorities through which the entire 12.5 miles of canal run and the route is now protected. Councils, developers, MPs and CRT are all involved, supporting the proposals which include a counterbalanced arm to lift boats across the River Derwent. Most of the line is intact although there has been some building on the line in Derby.

The bigger challenges are crossing the M1 and a railway, although there are viable proposals for dealing with each. Two brick bridges have been rebuilt and one kilometre has been reinstated as part of a flood protection plan for the adjacent railway. A number of locks require complete rebuilding and in Derby the River Derwent will be canalised. Estimated cost for the entire project; £45,000,000.

For further information about the Society, go to <http://derbycanal.org.uk/>

\* \* \* \* \*

On the 20<sup>th</sup> April, Vince Williams assisted, by John Goodson spoke about the so called "Idle Women" of World War Two.

The girls who became known as the 'Idle Women' were the girls between 20 and 40 years old who were called up for voluntary National Service in 1940 and chose to be trained to crew on the working boats that carried vital goods during the war. The term 'Idle Women' was assumed to come from the 'I.W'. - Inland Waterways- on the badge that they wore. They tended to come from a well educated background & probably thought it would be a fun outdoor life working on the canals.

They quickly found this was not so.

They were given just 6 weeks training cruising on the Grand Union between London & Birmingham for which they were paid £3 per week. Unlike the Land Girls & Lumber Jills, they had to buy their own suitable clothing. They learned a lot of new terminology & how to 'cloth up' & handle the boats.

They were then formed into groups of 3 to work the boats & butty's, working very long hours. They had to endure walking on the planks high above the boat & water & we saw the austerity of the cabins & small space to live in & sparse toilet facilities. The cargo was

mainly munitions though all of the parts to build the Hurricane Aeroplanes were carried by barge.

Sculptor was the boat used to train the women & it is preserved at Stoke Bruerne. Only 6 women served right through the war & it is believed only 2 of the Idle Women are still alive today.

The talk reminded us of the hardship faced stoically by the Idle Women & was well presented with some humorous banter between the speakers.

\* \* \* \* \*

The 18<sup>th</sup> May meeting saw Dr Richard Churchley present a talk entitled "Carriers Before The Railways". His geographical area of interest is around Worcestershire and his main source of information the long established Berrows Worcester Journal.

Wagons have four wheels, carts two. Common Carriers transported light goods, whilst Hauliers transported timber, coal and other heavy freight. Carriers were vital to local economies with transport increasing hugely during the eighteenth century. An Act of Parliament enabled the formation of consortia and created The Turnpike Trust, initially around London, (there's a surprise), and then throughout the Shires of Worcester, Warwick, Stafford and the Black Country in around 1710.

Many carriers were engaged in other trades such as farming, fruiterers and retailers and their titles included Pedlars, Hawkers, Higglers (eggs & dairy produce), Salters (especially near Droitwich), and Crickers, (Crickney-ware, a coarse common earthenware). Carriers had regular routes, local, regional and national; many had horse changing stables.

Carriers developed their own regular routes with the longer journeys probably undertaken monthly. The value of loads, especially fabrics such as silks would often be £4-5000.00p and highway robberies were common, especially in difficult areas such as climbing the Lickey Hills. Accidents too were common, especially at fords and on bridges with drivers often being under the influence of alcohol.

From around 1700, the trade was subject to statutory regulation, with taxes on horses, dogs and of course, Turnpikes. In July 1752, Carriers wrote to Berrows Worcester Journal complaining that being limited by Tolls to fewer than five horses, they could not climb Birdlip Hill.

The Broad Wheel Act 1755, permitted three years toll free passage to those who fitted them, making travel easier and required the Carrier's name to be painted on the wagon.

And then came the canals.....

Jacky Osborn  
Bob Fox

## Van-Tastic Droitwich Canals Sponsored Walk

**Date:** Saturday 19th September

**Location:** Droitwich Canals, Worcester & Birmingham Canal & River Severn

**Distance:** 5-7 mile (route tbc) or 22 miles (the Droitwich Ring)

**Cost:** £5 per person (tea & cakes provided at finish!) and under 12s go free

**More details:** [www.wrg.org.uk/droitwich\\_sponsored\\_walk](http://www.wrg.org.uk/droitwich_sponsored_walk)

WRG are organising a sponsored walk along the Droitwich Canals and Ring to help raise funds for our [Van Appeal](#). We want everyone, WRGies, IWA members, friends & family and members of the public to get involved!

### So get your boots on for WRG!

The plan is to have 2 routes. **Route 1** will be a **22-mile walk** around the **Droitwich Canal Ring** and **Route 2** will be a family friendly **5-7 mile** wander along the **Droitwich Canals** on Saturday 19th September. You can walk as an individual, a family, group of friends ... or you can take part in our team event (more details on the WRG website – address above).

Joining us on the walk would be a great opportunity for you to see the Droitwich Canals fully restored, particularly for those of you who were involved in the restoration of the Hanbury Flight and the Droitwich Barge Lock, as well as helping us raise money for the WRG Van Appeal.



**Fancy dress is encouraged** and the theme is the colour red!

### For more details and to book on go to:

[www.wrg.org.uk/droitwich\\_sponsored\\_walk](http://www.wrg.org.uk/droitwich_sponsored_walk)

or contact Jen & Amber at WRG Head Office on 01494 783 453 ext 604 / email [enquiries@wrg.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@wrg.org.uk)

or send a cheque payable to 'Waterway Recovery Group', to Droitwich Sponsored Walk, Island House, Moor Road, Chesham, HP5 1WA

### Work Parties & Other Events

As always, there are plenty of activities to get involved in, whether for an hour or two or longer. Any and all help will be very welcome. In respect of our Branch Work Parties, each one will be notified by email, to include meeting place and likely activities.

2nd Wed. of each month southern end of S&W;

10<sup>th</sup> June; Wolverley Court Lock;

8<sup>th</sup> July, Falling Sands Lock.

(IWA BBC&W Branch, DWS, 01299 878461)

2nd Thursday of each month near Netherton

From Dunns Bridge at Windmill End, using a boat, nets & rakes, and litter picking.

(CRT, Terry Hodgetts, 07810 630376)

2nd w/e of each month (usually), Tardebigge Limekilns

(IWA WB&DCS Branch, Bill Lambert 02476 726924)

The Festivals are as follows:

4/5<sup>th</sup> July, River Festival, Stratford on Avon.

10/12th July, Kings Norton Festival

29/31 August, Northampton Festival of Water 2015.

12/13 September, Black Country Boating Festival, Windmill End.

19/20<sup>th</sup> September, Tipton Canal & Community Festival, Tipton.

19/20<sup>th</sup> September, Huddlesford Heritage Gathering, Huddlesford.

### Crossword

#### Across

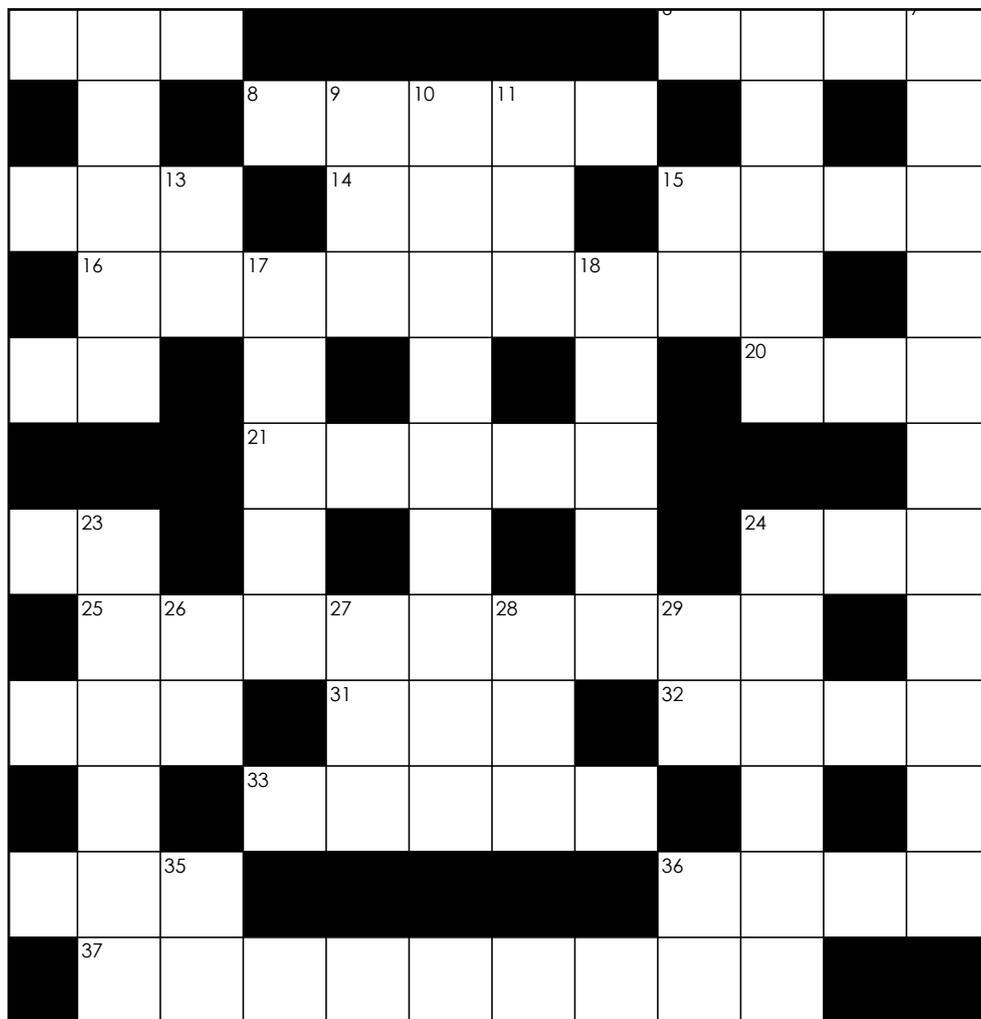
- 1 Royal mistress or a town on the Great Ouse?
- 5 A tempting morsel for a fish.
- 6 A small town in Germany, according to le Carré.
- 8 A good mixer.
- 12 In a short time.
- 14 It takes energy to make this tree burst into flames.
- 15 The king of jets?
- 16 Dental treatment for boaters?
- 19 Arena on the BCN, but not in the open air. (1.1.1.)
- 20 A sense of humour needed for this note – sounds like someone’s getting the needle!
- 21 A good accompaniment to coffee?
- 22 A boat with no air draft?
- 24 For when you can’t think of a word?
- 25 A Bucks arm.
- 30 Go about, about a giant.
- 31 A hill found in Glastonbury and Torquay.
- 32 Warmth found in the attic?
- 33 Tin and aluminium – a source of pleasure to IWA members.
- 34 Eat backwards with Ms. Blyton?
- 36 A mountain lake, thanks to the navy.
- 37 A clever monster at one end of the canal?

#### Down

- 1 What Aurora was not allowed to forget. (3-3)
- 2 What Clara Bow and computers have in common.

- 3 Note this boat well.
- 4 New books?
- 5 Probably not the quickest way from Woodham to Odiham, but definitely the pleasantest.
- 7 Not south current weight – site for this year’s festival.
- 9 Frequently, but briefly.
- 10 Spend, spend, spend with Viv on this canal guide.
- 11 Nationalist group responsible for disrupting the political process.
- 13 Definitely not!
- 15 For when you can’t think of a word.
- 17 Cheap cuts?
- 18 The first Prime Minister of India.
- 23 A willin’ chap from Yarmouth.
- 24 Scavengers with a sense of humour?
- 26 You were this, once.
- 27 When do we expect the Basque separatists to get here?
- 28 Supporter of feminists?
- 29 When negative, the blood group of a right-handed monkey?
- 35 Lawrence, initially.
- 36 Eliot, initially.

Compiled by John Butler.



## The Round House

Call for Information on Round House, Birmingham  
The Canal & River Trust and the National Trust plan to develop the Round House, Birmingham as an activity centre. As part of the development they are keen to interpret the heritage of the building and its commercial use as stables. It is hoped that part of the scheme will be a small display depicting this for visitors. To aid in this interpretation they have asked if anyone with photographs or other information about the Round House, particularly in commercial use, could get in touch. Anything provided would be copied and returned. If you have information you would like to share please email Ivor Caplan at [ivor.caplan@waterways.org.uk](mailto:ivor.caplan@waterways.org.uk).

## Branch Work Parties

We continue to meet on the second Wednesday of each month. With winter behind us, we have turned from mainly litter-picking to cutting overgrowth from around mooring rings in Kinver and below Whittington and Wolverley Locks. In May we painted Wolverley Court Lock, (pictured), and now are into removing Himalayan Balsam. Do please come and join us.  
DS



## Obituary

It is with sadness that we learn of the death in 2014 at the age of 90, of Mrs Doris Barker, who for several years was the first Birmingham, Black Country and Worcester IWA Branch Secretary back in the 1950s.

She and her late husband Bernard, an engineering surveyor, bought an ex-working boat, Nb Queen soon after the war and set about converting it using wood from orange boxes and bacon boxes for the cabin. They were the first pleasure boat to navigate Combeswood Tunnel but in doing so, became stuck and could only extricate themselves by demolishing the cabin. Once back in the open, they rebuilt the cabin and spent many years cruising the waterways.

I am indebted to Jean and Ray Dobbs for providing these details.

Ed.

### Unwanted Canal Books & Maps?

If you have any publications relating to our canals which are in reasonable or better condition and you no longer want, would you kindly donate them to us so that they may be used for branch fund-raising activities. All offerings welcome.

### Adjoining IWA Branches

#### And other Organisations

Details of activities in adjoining Branches and organisations are available below.

Warwickshire - [info.warwickshire@waterways.org.uk](mailto:info.warwickshire@waterways.org.uk)

Lichfield - [lichfield@waterways.org.uk](mailto:lichfield@waterways.org.uk)

Gloucestershire & Herefordshire - [martin.turner@waterways.org.uk](mailto:martin.turner@waterways.org.uk)

Shrewsbury & North Wales Branch - [alan.wilding@waterways.org.uk](mailto:alan.wilding@waterways.org.uk)

#### Other Organisations

Avon Navigation Trust - [office@avonnavigationtrust.org](mailto:office@avonnavigationtrust.org)

Canal & River Trust, West Midlands -

[enquiries.westmidlands@canalrivertrust.org.uk](mailto:enquiries.westmidlands@canalrivertrust.org.uk)

Droitwich Waterways (Pamela May) Trust - [alan.davey@r-pad.org](mailto:alan.davey@r-pad.org)

Lapal Canal Trust - [membership@lapal.org](mailto:membership@lapal.org)

Staffs & Worcs CS - <http://www.swcanalsociety.co.uk/>

Worcester, Birmingham & Droitwich CS - <http://wbdc.org.uk/>

## **BBC&W Branch Officers & Committee:**

Chair: David Struckett  
dstruckett@aol.com  
07976 746225

Michael Payne Vice Chairman  
Planning Officer (Birmingham)  
michael@payne.name.  
07791 297896

John Taplin Vice Chairman,  
Planning Officer (Worcs)  
johnwtaplin@btinternet.com  
07860 496460

Secretary: Position vacant

Treasurer: Chris Neal  
cptjneal@yahoo.co.uk  
07758 845211

### **Members:**

Freddie Cooke  
Planning Officer (Walsall, Wolverhampton & South Staffs)  
freddiecooke@googlemail.com  
07711 392442

Dave Pearson  
Membership Secretary  
dave@daveapearson.com  
07527 197842

Bob Fox  
Planning Officer (Sandwell & Dudley),  
Newsletter Editor  
bob@bobfox.demon.co.uk  
07855 817318

Chris Osborn  
Meetings organiser  
jcosborn@btinternet.com  
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Jo Smith

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