



Community boats back in Hemel Hempstead

Local IWA readers may know something of the wide beam boats operating under the Reachout Plus banner from the old Nash Mills site just south of Hemel. Sadly they went into liquidation at the end of 2013 and for several months, the future for the boats was very uncertain.

The happy news is that a group of Reachout's former volunteers have formed a new incorporated charity, secured the lease on the base and operating agreements for two of the three boats, and thanks to interest free loans and some donations, have purchased the third boat from the liquidator. Waterways Experiences started trading at the end of June on a 100% volunteer basis (Reachout had employed several staff). Leading all the hard work in getting things back up and running was solicitor Graham Danbury, tirelessly supported by John Bennett and many other former ROP staff and volunteers.

We held our first AGM on 14th November and a new board of six trustees was duly elected. Each of them also wears a 'team leader' hat, taking responsibility for day to day management of one of the eight functional areas (Bookings, Maintenance, IT, Operations, Land & Buildings, Marketing & Fundraising, Membership and Finance). So, unlike in Reachout, all trustees are closely involved in some aspect of the charity's operations. Some 40 members attended the AGM and the new charity has an energetic corps of nearly 100 volunteers.

In spite of starting from a zero base with no initial access to pre-2014 bookings and enquiry databases, Waterways Experiences carried just over 1,000 passengers with an average party size of 10 during its first 5 months of operation.



Feedback so far has been unanimously positive. About three quarters of all bookings were by groups meeting the criteria set out in its charitable objectives; i.e. focussing on delivering social welfare to disadvantaged and disabled people. These groups benefit from generously discounted trip prices. Full price bookings by the general public, provide important income to support the charitable operations.

Cont'd on page 5

**Chiltern Branch
Newsletter
January 2015**



**The Inland
Waterways
Association**

Chairman's Ramblings

First let me wish you all a Happy Cruising Year!

There are 3 inspirational articles in this issue covering different aspects of how the efforts of volunteers make a difference; for some to their own life.

We are now lucky enough to be able to enjoy a Waterways network that was still in decline just 50 years ago! OK, we still moan about things that are not being done how we would like but do you ever stop and think how it might have been without the tremendous efforts by volunteers over many years. You may have seen an article in the January Waterways World 'No More Heroes', written by Keith Goss. In my view a cynical and misguided attempt to belittle the efforts of many people currently involved in the management, maintenance, restoration and campaigning of and for our network. It is easy to make comparisons between current names and the likes of Aickman, Rolt, Hutchings but do we really think these people would not take pride in the current state of our system and the continuing efforts of today's volunteers; further, that society has changed such that many of the old 'Heroes' would struggle to be effective in the Health and Safety conscious and litigious environment today. Talking of heroes; see the next page for what we have for you after the AGM on 25th March!

So, articles in this issue continue to tell the story of Waterways volunteers; some working hard on restorations and some on making great community use of the waterways. There may be some of you who are already volunteering and others who just need to get started. Read the article by George Roberts to understand how finding a niche can even change your own life; or you may know someone who could make a difference or to whom the right volunteering involvement could be of great benefit; please don't just sit back and think about!

You do not have to make a commitment that might cause difficulty in the future, you do not have to be on a committee just contact someone, somewhere, to do something of interest to you and surprise yourself!

Now, courtesy of Chris & Judy Clegg here are 2 local pictures you may find of interest, some of you may even remember the earlier one!

Dave Chapman



Marsworth Junction in September 1965 (Chris Clegg) and December 2014 (Judy Clegg)

Diary & Notices

Chiltern Branch Meetings

8pm start unless otherwise stated.

28th January 2015

The Canal du Midi

Gillian and Peter Bolt

A recent cruise and history of the canal built to link the Atlantic and the Med, the Canal du Midi avoids the lengthy and often perilous circumnavigation of the Iberian Peninsula. Now, like its UK counterparts, it is devoid of freight but bustling with tourism.

25th February 2015

Waterways in West Africa

Dr David Hilling OBE

Fellows Morton & Clayton south of Lagos? There are some 5,329 miles of inland waterways in Nigeria. Liberia has commercial waterways and the Gambia River alone is 700 miles long and links the Republic of Guinea, Gambia and Senegal. David is a Vice President of the IWA and lectures on all aspects of water born freight at Royal Holloway College

25th March 2015

Chiltern Branch AGM

A short AGM followed by a ploughman's supper and videos courtesy of SONACS

'The restoration of the Southern Stratford Canal'

22nd April 2015

All Shipshape and Blackwall

Fashion

Jeremy Batch

This fascinating area of London has so much history - the hydraulic crane, birth-place of the Lighthouse, Brunel's first steamer engine fit-out, the Cutty Sark.

IWA raffle tickets

IWA have included raffle tickets with their magazines to members, please if you purchase these can you fill in the Wendover as your choice for the restoration project in your local area.

Wendover Arm Trust

See website at;

<http://www.wendoverarmtrust.co.uk/>

Here's another interesting website

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Traditional-Narrow-Boat-Handling/184474664917234>

Chiltern Branch -Committee/Volunteers:

We do need people to fill these posts; Newsletter Editor, Web Editor, Contact Dave Chapman; see back page.

New Members: we welcome

Mr and Mrs K Elphick

Mrs J Whittaker & Family

Mr & Mrs R Bowen

Ms A Edwards

Mr & Mrs M Vickery

Copy Date for the next issue

The next issue of Grapevine will be published in April 2015. Please send news items, articles, photographs and advertisements to the Editor by 5th April 2015.

PLEASE Sign up for IWA Chiltern e-News

The hardcopy version is normally available at our evening meetings.

From the Region Chairman

This time of year it is difficult to find much to say. Winter seems to bring with it less activity on all aspects of the Association's work so this month's contribution is shorter than normal. Canal & River Trust are coming to the end of their reorganisation which sees the waterway units, like London and the South East focusing customer service to boaters and other visitors whilst maintenance and construction are being centralised in four units. Let us hope this will improve the way the waterways are maintained. We wish CRT well in their endeavours.

Overstaying boats on moorings in London continue to cause concern. After an accident last year when a boater drove a spike into one of the Extra High Voltage cables that are under the towpath on the Regents Canal; National Grid, along with CRT, are putting in additional mooring rings. We have expressed our concern that this could lead to more boats causing nuisance to local residents; this has happened in the Kings Cross area, where mooring rings installed for the Olympics, are very close to residential properties, resulting in numerous complaints about smoke and noise. On the positive side the New Year sees that the CRT have launched three new bookable visitor moorings sited at Rembrandt Gardens in Little Venice. Boaters are able to book the mooring up to one month in advance. The maximum stay time will be seven days, with no return within one calendar month and no more than 14 days use of the moorings each year. For all enquiries and bookings please contact

RembrandtGardens@gmail.com



Promotions & Communications Committee (Prom-Com) has planned a workshop to help branches recruit more members to the Association. The Workshop on 28th March 2015 at Peterborough is open to anyone who would like to help, not just existing committee members. So if you would like to understand more of the workings of IWA and what is needed to secure our place within the world of Inland Waterways please contact your chairman. There is also more information on the IWA website at

<https://www.waterways.org.uk/iwa/calendar/event/view?id=1633>

I would also like at least one person within the region who is willing and capable of training others in the art of recruitment and retention. If you can think you are that person can you have a chat with me?

Paul Studwick
IWA , Chairman London Region

Community boats back in Hemel Hempstead

So far, the organisation has concentrated on promoting day trips from Nash Mills, cruising north as far as Boxmoor or south to the Hunton Bridge area. The jewel in Reachout's crown were the residential 'Enable' adventure



trips in which small numbers of disadvantaged youngsters were given the chance of picking up boat handling and team building skills, supported by well-trained crew members. These trips have the greatest potential to make life-changing impacts on the young people's lives but are the most labour intensive and costly to organise. Fortunately crew members are ready and waiting to re-start the trips as soon as a dedicated organiser and sufficient funding can be found.

The first few months of the new charity's life have proved the strength of demand for the services on offer. The challenge now is to establish a sustainable business for the long term. Can this be done without paid employees? This is certainly the aspiration of trustees, albeit right now, some of the volunteers with big responsibilities are somewhat overloaded. So the mission is to draw in more volunteers with specific skills so that workloads can be spread more evenly. Job descriptions are currently being drawn up for people to help in areas such as training, crewing, marketing, fundraising and IT. If you'd like to get involved, see our Ad on page xx or

sign up as a member on www.wexp.org.uk to receive our regular newsletters.

One of the bonuses of signing up as a volunteer is the opportunity to help with crewing the boats. We have several skippers who are either CCBM qualified (for the two smaller boats) or MCA Boat Masters (for Sheldrake 3) but more of both are needed. And new regular crew is always welcomed – for this role we provide a day's training with one of our qualified skippers.

If you'd like to join the crewing team, whether as general crew, a CCBM skipper or Boatmaster please drop an email to John.bennett@wexp.org.uk. Tell him what qualifications you already have, the extent of your recent boating experience, and whether you'd be interested in a fully or part-sponsored MCA Boatmaster's training course.



There's something very special about sharing your passion for the waterways and canal boating with people for whom such activities would normally be beyond reach. Please join us and find out for yourself!

Sally Ash

**WE Trustee with responsibility for
Marketing & Fundraising**

Please also see opportunities on page 14!

Points of Light



PRESS RELEASE: WRG volunteer wins award from Prime Minister

I first got involved with WRG because my father was determined that I wasn't going to spend the whole summer sitting at home. It was June 2009, I'd just finished my A-levels and was waiting to start University in October, so it was an understandable wish! He did some searching around on the internet, and having found the National Trust holidays to be far too expensive, searched for whether there was anything similar for the canal network. Unusually for me (I normally take forever to make a decision), I booked my first fortnight of camps within an hour of receiving the link.

For my first fortnight, I visited the Hereford & Gloucester. Starting from a blank field, we rapidly dug a large hole and then gradually filled it with a new slipway (the structure was set back from the present waterline so that we stayed dry in the process!). There was a lot of concreting, bricklaying and fun.

I'll confess, had I only done the first week, I probably wouldn't have come back to WRG. It wasn't that I didn't enjoy it, but it didn't give me that buzz that I wanted it to.

The group of people who arrived for week 2 were a bit younger, a lot livelier and ultimately the whole week was a huge laugh. It also helped that the leader, 'RAF' Martin Thompson, recognised my skills as a budding engineer and gave me a lot of responsibility for the engineering required to get the slipway set to the right angles and at the right level. That confidence really helped me to fit in and I loved it.

The slipway wasn't quite finished by the end of the fortnight, and as one of only a couple of people who'd been there since the start I'd really got the bug – so when weekends were organised in the Autumn to finish it off, I was in. 4 or 5 of us would gather, work hard all day and then sit round the kitchen table at the local's house, eating & drinking whilst the old hands told canal restoration 'war stories'.

It was one of those weekends that led to the next stage of my involvement with WRG. 'RAF' Martin was musing about needing an assistant leader for the following summer, and I sat there, nodding naïvely whilst as-

Photos from WRG 2014 Summer Camp

suming he was talking to the local who had been his assistant that summer. But I was mistaken, and so before I knew it my name had appeared on the leader's list for 2010, and that was that.

From there, I went on to go on to the Christmas Camp, Easter Camp and another 3 summer camps before my first camp as an assistant on the Cotswolds Canal at Eisey Lock. Since then the number of camps has continued to grow, and in 2014 I was presented with a 40th 'birthday' cake to celebrate my 40th canal camp. In that time, I've progressed to leading camps of my own and also cooking.

All of this led to the rather humbling announcement from Downing Street in November that I had been awarded a Point of Light Award, which recognises outstanding volunteers for the work they do. I won't deny that it is special, but I was a little disappointed that I didn't get the chance to share it with the hundreds of other volunteers that I think deserve it just as much as I do. But the publicity it has helped to generate for the work we do, and the fact that it encouraged the Prime Minister and my local MP (who happens to be the Minister for



Transport) to speak up in favour of canal restoration can only be a good thing.

So why should other 'young' people volunteer with WRG? Well, firstly, I should explain that I put young in inverted commas for a reason – I might be only 23 but I am not exactly a typical 'young' person. But I do think some of my experiences should encourage others to give it a go.

It's a great experience, with great people. WRG is full of a very diverse range of people of all ages, so you will always find someone to share a laugh with.

You're part of a big family. After my first camp, I have never been on a camp and not seen someone I know – and that family extends away from the

Cont'd on page 12



Clearance Oct 2014 © Dave Burbridge

2014 has been a year of transformation for BCS. The original Society was created in 1992 and eventually became an unincorporated charity. At our last AGM we discussed in some detail the conversion to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO). The new CIO was registered with the Charity Commission in April 2014 and the trustees subsequently agreed to transfer the assets and liabilities of the old BCS charity to the new CIO with effect from 1st August 2014.

This just left the trustees to clarify the position regarding Bourton Meadow and the Buckingham Canal Nature Reserve at Hyde Lane, and having successfully concluded those, the application was made to the Charity Commission to dissolve the old BCS charity in December 2014.



Clearance Oct 2014 © Dave Burbridge

Clearly, without the work so successfully undertaken by the trustees of the old BCS over a period spanning some 21 years, we would not be where we are today. 2015 is also going to be a year of further positive changes and continued growth as many projects fall into place. We expect to see more of the Old Stratford Arm from Cosgrove Lock to the A5 fully re-watered. The Buckingham Canal Nature Reserve site at Hyde Lane is intended to have water in the channel along its entire length and will then be, together with Bourton Meadow, a further section permanently in water. Canal & River Trust (CRT) are assisting us in securing permanent vehicular access to the Old Stratford Arm, since this will be crucial in the short and long term. Much of the other land at the Cosgrove (eastern) end is owned by the Radcliffe Trust; whose land is now on the market. We hope to work closely with the new owner to ensure that the new Buckingham Canal can find a way through so that it can pass under the A5 bridge where it crosses the River Great Ouse. A constructive relationship with whoever buys the land is essential to our success and we are in discussions with a few possible purchasers to see how we might co-operate. Change also comes with the recruitment of new trustees as well as the departure of some existing ones. This year Stuart Cummins is stepping down, but he will remain a supporter and valuable technical advisor; we are grateful to Stuart for his service and wish him and his consultancy every success.



Network Rail volunteers turn old Lock gates into seats

However, just like buses, as one ends its journey another seems to arrive. Mike Annan was recruited initially as a trustee, but has subsequently been appointed as chairman. Mike is also Chair of the CRT's Navigation Advisory Group's Licensing and Mooring sub group. If



you or anyone you know would like to join our trustees; we can promise an interesting and rewarding experience.

Our Financial Strength and Health

In total the last year showed an income of £33,590 and expenditure of £22,266, resulting in a surplus for the year of £11,324 compared to a small deficit of £1,185 in the previous year. As a result, our year-end bank balance was £45,596; an increase of over £11,320. This was due in no small way to donations of £24,713 (2013: £6,659) and grants of £2,450 (2013: £800). As good as these results are we still face the uphill challenge of raising substantial capital to secure the restoration of the former canal.

Work Party Report

A big thank you must go to all our volunteers who have worked on site in 2014, without which the efforts of the restoration work on the canal could not have been carried out. Most of the work in 2014 has been centred at Cosgrove and the Buckingham Canal Nature Reserve site at Hyde Lane. In 2014 we were very fortunate



Santander volunteers start Bund build May 2014



Pricewaterhouse volunteers - Count them!

in attracting more volunteer groups from external organisations than ever before to come and join us for their Community Days. In fact we had twelve companies take part last year and we have already received a booking for 2015 from a new company called Drive Hire. Throughout last year we have had our regular groups in attendance, including Santander, who joined us in June, September and October. Pricewaterhouse-Coopers (PwC) made a return visit in May. In addition,

we had several organisations sending teams to us for the first time. These included DeliCo Ltd from Milton Keynes who joined us twice; Home Retail Group made four visits to site in May, July and September; Vinci Technology Centre UK from Leighton Buzzard joined us in August; and finally we had a visit from the staff of Mace in October. Do you dig canals?...We Do! Work parties are held every other Thursday and the second Sunday of each month and are always friendly, welcoming and very rewarding. For further details on the work parties please visit www.buckinghamcanal.org.uk/events-and-news/work-parties/, and for all other aspects of the Society please visit www.buckinghamcanal.org.uk

We will finish where we started and that is to thank all those who have contributed to our success in 2014 and to report that over 4,000 volunteer hours have been worked on site plus many more hours behind the scenes on work that is crucial to success of our Society. If you haven't done so already, please LIKE our Facebook page or become a member, full details of which can be found by visiting www.buckinghamcanal.org.uk/get-involved/membership/

Thanks to Michael Annan and Ian Matson (BCS)

WINTER BOATING IN THE 1970s



Balador at Lymm 15.05.2008
(photo Judy Clegg)

In the early 1970s, whenever we could, our family used to go to the Christmas Gatherings usually in the Midlands organised by the NBOC now the HNBC. So in mid-December, my sister Sue and I, accompanied by the family dog, Whisky, set off for Farmers Bridge, Birmingham from our canal side house on the Bridgewater Canal at Lymm, Cheshire on the family boat Renown, a motorised, converted butty. In those days, I would remind you that there were no mobile phones and no RCR and some boat engines (including ours!) were notoriously unreliable.

Our journey was uneventful until we were above Lower Thurlwood Lock on the Trent & Mersey Canal when the engine expired. We pulled Renown up to Thurlwood Steel Lock, which still existed in those days, as it was nearer to civilisation, where we tied up to go in search of a telephone box. At this point, we realised we had no leash for the dog so a tatty piece of string was found. At that time, my sister was an art student and I was a law student; we both had very long hair and having been boating for a couple of days in the winter in the days before showers, we did not look very presentable. We went on to the road in

search of a telephone box. None could be seen but there were two elderly ladies further up the road looking at us with some disbelief. Some discussion took place as to who should go and speak to them – being the younger, I lost the argument! Seeing my approach, they turned away, so I spoke to them in my poshest voice, and directions were given. After several phone calls home, we had to leave Renown where it was and return home for Christmas.

Arrangements were made to borrow Hotel Boat Jupiter from Peter Froud at Preston Brook to go to Thurlwood and collect Renown. Sue and I had both crewed on Jupiter and Saturn and had certain expectations as to the facilities but we had forgotten that it was not designed for winter boating. Even worse, it turned out that Jupiter had been more or less stripped for the winter and one cabin side had been removed and was covered in plastic sheeting.



Thurlwood Steel Lock, Trent & Mersey
Canal, Aug 1965 (Chris Clegg)

WINTER BOATING IN THE 1970s (cont'd)

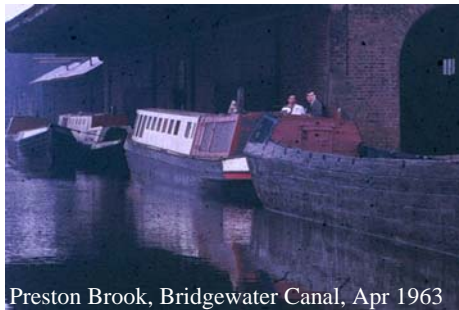
Along with Jupiter came Tim, who worked for Peter. My brother, Mike, my now husband Chris, Sue and I joined Jupiter and Tim on New Year's Eve for the journey to Thurlwood. We were not too worried about the lack of facilities on board Jupiter as we thought we would reach Renown that evening. However, it turned very cold and there was ice on the canal so progress was slow forcing us to tie up for the night at Wheelock. Cooking the evening meal of a fry up was interesting with just a grill and empty baked bean tin! We then went to the pub to sustain us for the night ahead.



Judith Cawson winding ground paddle at Freemans Meadow Lock Leicester River
Soar Oct 1972 (Chris Clegg)

Sleeping arrangements were interesting. Tim and Chris used the back cabin, which was the only place with any heating. Mike found a cabin but no mattress. Sue and I

decided on the dinette, which at least had a mattress. We soon discovered that it was not 6 foot in length so you either had to go to sleep sitting up or lying down with your legs in the air; and if you moved the bed collapsed. It was one of the few occasions when I put on more clothes to go to bed. In addition, the wind had got up and the moving plastic sounded like mice. Some of us did not sleep well.



Preston Brook, Bridgewater Canal, Apr 1963
(Chris Clegg)

We got up to find thick snow and made an early start up Heartbreak Hill. Good progress was made but shoes played an important part. Chris was ill prepared for snow, with just trainers, so was allowed to steer. As a punishment, he was bombarded with snow balls from the bridges as he entered each lock. I was wearing traditional Lancashire Clogs, which have a solid wooden sole. The problem with these is that as you walk in snow, it packs on the sole and these snow platforms had to be knocked off at frequent intervals. We reached Thurlwood during that day. The stove on Renown was soon lit. Bliss!

The return journey to Preston Brook with the pair was trouble free.

Chris and Judy Clegg

WRG—an interest for life!

restoration work itself. I've been all over the country with work, university and my personal life – and I've quite regularly borrowed floor space from friends, and returned the favour.

It's great for improving you. When I started with WRG, I was somewhat introverted and wouldn't volunteer to do anything without



being asked. In my time with WRG my confidence has grown immensely and I take on a lot more challenges – and I love it!

You're giving something back. Clearly, everything we do is done for a purpose. By reading this magazine, you obviously have some interest in waterways – and restoring more (and occasionally helping to maintain the ones we've already got) can only be a good thing for the country.

A sense of achievement. I've built a slipway on the H&G, seen the finish of restoration on two locks on the Cotswolds, built bridges on the Wilts & Berks and the Chesterfield, cleared miles of canal of scrub, seen water in the new length at Chesterfield (and built much of the new lock at Staveley), built a weir on the Cromford and much, much more. Aside from the work itself, I've lead 6 camps, cooked for 5 camps, led the WRG reunion where 100 people worked over 3 different sites, signed off over 20 young people carrying out their Gold Duke of Edinburgh Residential and encouraged even more people into the restoration movement.

You could be doing your Gold Duke of Edinburgh Residential.

You will have a lot of fun!

So my final piece of advice, to parents (of young adults sitting on the couch waiting to go to university) – send your children the link to the WRG website, and let them change their life. It is;

<https://www.waterways.org.uk/wrg/>

And then, when you've done that, book to go on a camp yourself (but possibly not the same one!).

As I have found, it can easily be the best thing you ever do.

George M Roberts

Notice of IWA Chiltern Branch AGM

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the Chiltern Branch of the Inland Waterways Association will be held on Wednesday 25th March 2015 at

The Village Hall, Cokes Lane, Little Chalfont, Bucks HP8 4UD.

Commencing at 8.00pm

AGENDA

1. Apologies for Absence
2. Approval of the minutes of the AGM held on 28th March 2012
3. Matters Arising
4. Report of the Branch Chairman
5. Report of the Branch Secretary
6. Report of the Branch Hon. Treasurer and presentation of Accounts
7. Adoption of Accounts
8. Business of the meeting notified under byelaw 1.3*
9. Election of Committee members
10. Address on behalf of the IWA Trustees
11. Any Other Business

** **Note:** Byelaw 1.3 provides that any member of a region or branch may propose business to appear on the agenda of an AGM of their region or branch, provided that notice of such business is delivered in writing to the Chairman of the region or branch at least six weeks before that meeting. (Input via email will be accepted)*

Elizabeth Norris, Hon. Secretary, IWA Chiltern Branch.

Nominations for election to the Chiltern Branch Committee must be deposited with the Hon. Secretary (Elizabeth Norris) 6 Tillers Link, Shephall, Stevenage, Herts SG2 9BA OR as an attachment to email to liz.norris@waterways.org.uk by 5th March 2015 at the latest.

Nominations can be made in writing or via Email attachment, in the format below, signed by the proposer, seconder and the nominee (all of whom must be paid-up members of the Association).

(Name)..... is proposed as a committee member of the Chiltern Branch of the Inland Waterways Association for election at the Branch AGM on Wednesday 25th March 2015.

Proposed by..... Seconded by

I agree to my nomination as a committee member

The AGM will be followed by a Ploughman's Supper + TBA.



Volunteering opportunities

We run trips that enable disadvantaged people to experience canal boating 'close up'.

We employ no paid staff and need additional volunteers in the following areas:

Trainers – general volunteer training plus skipper training to CCBM and Boatmaster levels

Crewing: Skippers (CCBM &/or Boatmaster's) and crew (training provided)

'Enable' trips project manager

IT – GoogleDrive

Marketing – events, telesales, web editing, Google Analytics

Fundraising – public appeals manager

Maintenance – of boats, property & gardens

Email Trustees@wexp.org.uk telling us where your interests and experience lie and what you're looking for in a volunteer role.

Share your love of the canals and canal boating!

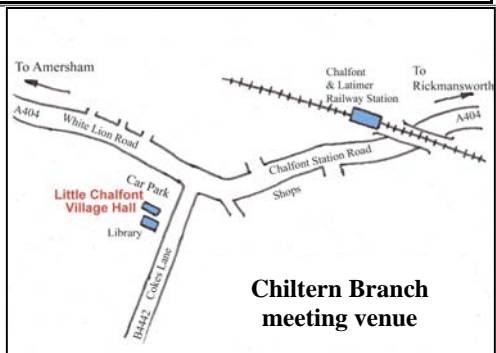
www.wexp.org.uk

Chiltern Branch Meeting Venue

The Village Hall, Cokes Lane,
Little Chalfont, Bucks HP8 4UD

Directions: Little Chalfont Village Hall is in Cokes Lane which runs south from a mini-roundabout junction with the main A404 road between Rickmansworth and Amersham. The hall is located by the Library and there is a Car Park. It is approximately 600m from Chalfont & Latimer railway/tube station.

Access to the hall is on the flat and so offers easy access. There are also toilet facilities for disabled members.



**Chiltern Branch
meeting venue**

You don't need to be on a Committee!

There are those who do and those who don't get involved with volunteering. If you've never tried it you will never know what you are missing. It will liven up your life, get you out of the house, give you some exercise, expand your social life whilst making some new friends, and not least you will have some good laughs. You will benefit from all these things and more, plus feel good that you have achieved something that benefits not only yourself but also others on our waterways!

So why not come and join our festival team? preparing and exhibiting for the IWA at the Rickmansworth Festival that takes place over the weekend of May 16th-17th ?

We need helpers for setting up before and packing up after the Festival.

Can you help us with transport, do you have a van, MPV or trailer for transporting tents and jumble to and from the Festival.

Are you knowledgeable about the IWA or the boating and canal scene; we have a position for you on our IWA stand.

Have you got the gift of the gab, enjoy bartering to broker a deal; you will enjoy it on our Jumble stand.

WoW (Wild over Waterways) children's activities that take place around the Festival, we need volunteers capable of helping with these activities.

IWA Sales stand, selling IWA branded promotional goods, maps, canal books etc. require sales assistants.

If I have aroused your interest in any of the above mentioned activities please give me a call or send an e mail, then I or one of our team will get back to you with further details.

I am looking forward to your call; 07740 733241 or john.brice@waterways.org.uk
Inland Waterways Association - Chiltern Branch

NOTE: Photographs by article author or editor unless stated otherwise.

The IWA is a registered charity (No. 212342) whose work is supported by member's subscriptions. The IWA campaigns for development of Britain's waterways for use by all.

The IWA may not agree with the opinions expressed in this Newsletter but encourages publication as a matter of interest. Nothing printed may be construed as policy or an official announcement unless stated, otherwise the IWA accepts no liability for any matter in this Newsletter.

Advertising Donation Rates

	One Issue	Four Issues
Full Page	£50	£160
Half Page	£30	£100
Quarter Page	£20	£70
Back cover	50% extra	

Members small ads £1 for 12 words. Extra words 10p. Send payment with the advertisement to the Editor.



Get Here: By Boat: Just pull up outside! **By Foot:** On the towpath opposite Bourne End Marina.
By Car: Park near Bourne End train station and cross over the railway bridge, then turn right along the towpath, The Bounty can be found about 300 metres away.

Your Committee

Chairman	Dave Chapman	01628 850842 07808 782055	dave.chapman@waterways.org.uk
Secretary	Liz Norris	01438 238187 07977 374116	liz.norris@waterways.org.uk
Treasurer	Ken Aylmer	01923 232515	ken.aylmer@waterways.org.uk
Programme Secretary	Colin Bird	01932 248178	colin.bird@waterways.org.uk
Fundraising & Waterway Events	John Brice	01494 873298 07740 733241	john.brice@waterways.org.uk
Planning Officer & Membership Secretary	Carolyn Leonard	01628 526512	carolyn.leonard@waterways.org.uk
Publicity Officer	Judy Clegg	01442 875818	judy.clegg@waterways.org.uk
Newsletter Editor	Vacant		
Website Editor	Vacant		
IWA representative to WAT (non-committee post)	Jenny Brice	01494 873298	jenny@johnbrice.co.uk