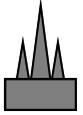




The Inland
Waterways
Association

Issue 2



Lichfield Branch

www.waterways.org.uk/lichfield

Winter 2012

Lichfield

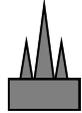


Still day on the
Trent and Mersey
at Armitage

Lines

The newsletter of IWA Lichfield Branch

The IWA may not agree with opinions expressed in this magazine but encourages publication as a matter of interest. Nothing printed may be construed as policy, or as an official pronouncement, unless specifically identified as such.



Chairman's Introduction

As chairman of the Lichfield Branch of the IWA I would like to welcome you to our new newsletter 'Lichfield Lines'. I hope that you will enjoy it.

The Inland Waterways Association has many functions; there is an aide memoire available that lists the ten most important functions of the Association. One of these, which I consider to be very important, is that we educate people about the waterways. My opinion is that this is done in numerous ways, for example by holding public branch meetings where accomplished speakers talk to us about various aspects of the waterways, plus, we should also have a communications system in place to inform members of what is happening in their area.

The purpose of the Lichfield Lines newsletter is to provide Lichfield Branch members with their own dedicated publication 3 or 4 times a year. It will also inform members about our forthcoming public meetings, walks, work parties and other activities, and provide reports on those recent meetings and events. The newsletter will also contain a summary of recent planning consultation responses and will update members on important committee issues, representation at User Group Meetings etc. All this will be carried out in good time and to a regular and predictable schedule.

Our newsletter will be edited by Pete Gurney, but, the content will be supplied by us, the members. If you want to submit a short article for inclusion in the newsletter please feel free to do so. Likewise, if you have waterways related events you want to advertise, please let us know.

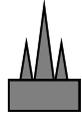
Obviously, the production of a branch newsletter will be a sharp learning curve for all of us involved in its production, feel free to advise us if the contents are not to your liking and what you would like to be included in future newsletters.

Please remember, this is your newsletter, and we will, within reason, publish what you want us to publish. The newsletter will evolve over the forthcoming months, as yet, we do not know what will be included in each issue. And, as to how many pages will be in the newsletter will obviously depend on the amount of material sent in by you, the membership.

Finally, do you really want a copy of your newsletter delivered via the Royal Mail? If you are happy to receive an electronic version, please let our Membership Secretary know as this will save the Association money and allow more of our funds to go to restoration projects. **See note Page 11**

Mike Moorse

Chairman – Lichfield Branch IWA



Forthcoming Events

Wednesday November 21st—Meeting 7:30 for 7:45pm start

Dutch Waterways and IWA Cruise by Tim Boddington who has entertained us twice before with talks ranging from the Rhine-Danube to the Macclesfield Canal.

Thursday December 6th—Walk 10:00 for 10:15am start

A 5½ mile morning canal and countryside walk near Atherstone Locks led by Ed Rule
Meet at St Nicholas Church Hall car park, Baddesley Ensor, Warks, CV9 2EL
Turn off A5 at the Black Swan roundabout at Grendon (between Tamworth and Atherstone) and follow road up Boot Hill to the church hall.

Contact Margaret Beardsmore

Wednesday December 12th—Christmas Dinner—See over for Menu

Oddfellows in the Boat, Walsall Rd, Summerhill,

Near Muckley Corner, WS14 0BU

7:00pm for 7:30pm

Contact Pat Barton

Tuesday January 1st—Walk 10:15 for 10:30am start

Joint New Years Day walk with Lichfield & Hatherton Canals Restoration Trust (L&HCRT). A 5 mile walk following the route of the Lichfield Canal through Darnford Park to see progress on restoration. Led by David Dixon. Meet at The Plough Inn, Huddlesford, WS13 8PY

Contact Pat Barton

Please note that we will be moving to a new venue at Martin Heath Hall in the New Year. (see Details and map on Page 13)

Wednesday January 16th—Meeting 7:30 for 7:45pm start

“The Norbury Canal—Plans and Progress” Speaker to be advised

Thursday February 7th—Walk

Details to be decided—see website for updates

Wednesday February 20th—Meeting 7:30 for 7:45pm start

“The Yangtse River—Before and after the Dam” by Audrey Smith

Thursday March 7th—Walk

Details to be decided—see website for updates

Saturday March 9th—Jumble Sale

Jumble Sale, jointly with L&HCRT 10am to 12 noon at

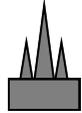
Penkridge Peace Memorial Hall, Pinfold Lane, Penkridge, ST19 5AP

Wednesday March 20th—Meeting 7:30 for 7:45pm start

Annual General Meeting—see Page 15 for notice. Followed by talk on “The Role of Volunteers in the Canal and River Trust” by Steve Bicknell

Wednesday April 18th—Meeting 7:30 for 7:45pm start

“Progress on Restoration of the Cotswold Canals” by Elizabeth Payne



IWA Lichfield
Christmas Dinner 2012
December 12th Menu
7pm for 7:30pm



Starters (can also be Mains)

Wild Mushroom Soup with a Lancashire Cheese and Herb Scone
Home smoked Hickory Chicken with a Walnut Salad
Crayfish Cocktail with Rocket Salad
Butternut Squash and Sage Ravioli dressed with Herb Oil
Gravlax of Salmon marinated with Dill and Mustard

Main Courses (served with potatoes and vegetables)

Turkey Escalope with Lemon and Herb stuffing wrapped in Puff Pastry
Slow cooked Blade of Beef served with a Bourguignon Sauce
Pan Fried Chicken Breast with Haggis stuffing with Whisky Cream sauce
Pan fried Bream with Garlic buttered linguini and Winter Greens
Beetroot and Goats Cheese Risotto

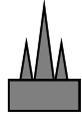
Homemade Puddings

Chestnut and Walnut Tart with Clotted Cream
Italian Lemon Polenta Cake with Limoncello Syrup
Christmas Pudding with Brandy Butter
Panattono Bread and Butter Pudding
Poached Pears in Red Wine and Star Anise

Coffee included Cost £22.00 per person

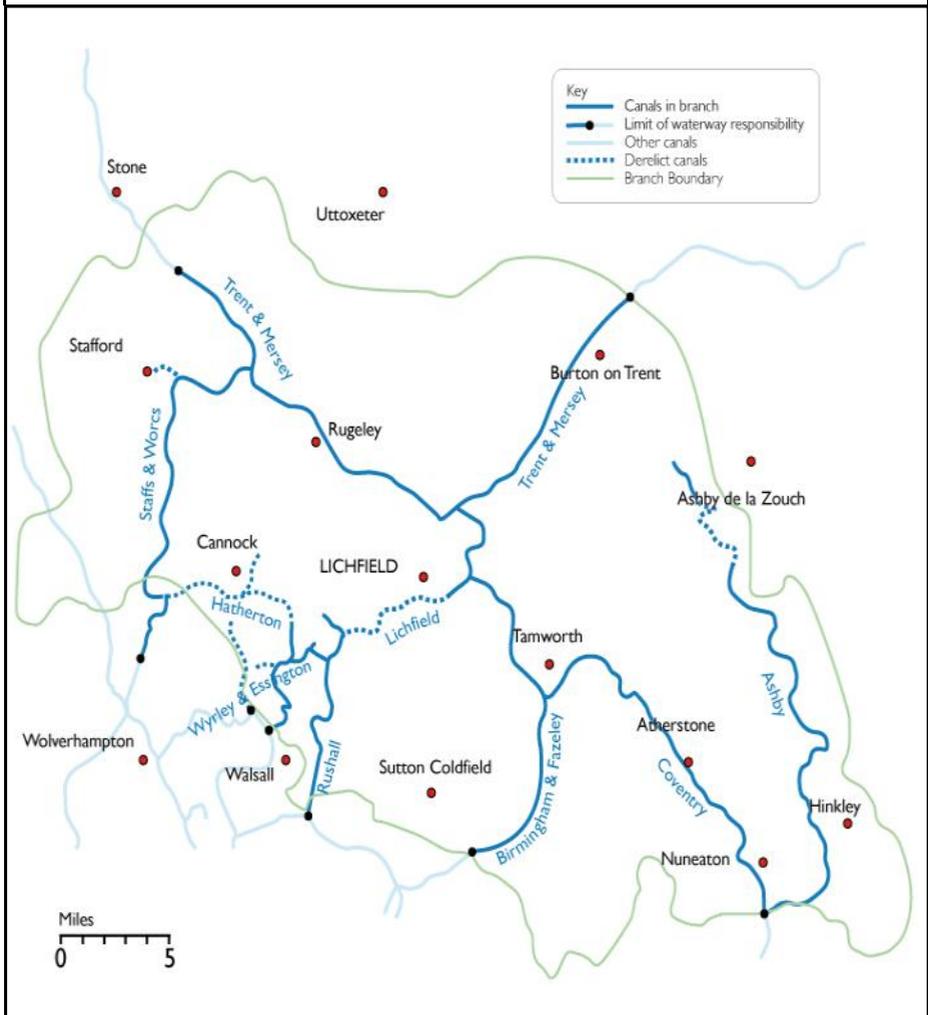
Please make your choice and pay in full to Pat Barton (cheques to IWA Lichfield)

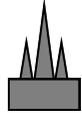
Before December 5th



Lichfield Branch Area

As can be seen from the map below, the IWA Lichfield Branch covers a wide area of the Midlands, including a large part of the Trent and Mersey and Coventry Canals, the Ashby Canal plus other sections of local canals. Also in our area is the whole of the currently under restoration Lichfield and Hatherton canals.





“Summer” of Olympics 2012

Report and Pictures Pat Barton

Some two years ago the Waterspace Team of IWA Festivals were approached by the then BW regarding help with the proposed special Olympic moorings in London for the period of the Games. BW was selling prime site moorings for visiting boats and needed assistance with the very strict controls imposed by LOCOG. The River Lee Navigation passes the Olympic Park and security was of prime importance.

Two of your Branch – Mike Moore and Pat Barton were part of a team of around 20 boaters who committed to the task, some for a week or two, although most were there for the whole 12 weeks. Their presence were the ‘eyes and ears’ for BW (who officially became



CRT on 12th July) and they had various jobs connected with the particular location they were moored in. Mike and Pat were based in Little Venice Pool, checking visiting boater’s paperwork, transit passes within the control zones which covered Little Venice/Paddington Arm, Regents Canal from Camden to Limehouse, and the River Lee.

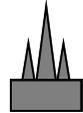
There are a lot of long term ‘unofficial’ moorers within this area and they had all been offered alternative moorings outside the prime sites. Most of them moved willingly, but some tried to get back to

their favourite spots – it was part of our remit to persuade them otherwise!! CRT did their best to evaluate the situation, but London boaters are a law unto themselves, and the old BW had not really got to grips with the problem. They hoped that this necessary movement would start the process of getting them regulated – only time will tell, lots of them went back as soon as the Olympics were over and the controls lifted!!!

Mike and I enjoyed the experience overall – there was some frustrations with CRT, but we couldn’t find fault with the ‘ground staff’; management on occasions was a different ball game!

Notwithstanding the problems we encountered, the whole Waterspace Team did a very worthwhile job, were thanked very much by CRT, London Waterways, and earned a total of around £12,000 for the coffers of IWA. Not a bad job done on behalf of IWA.





Recent Walks—1

Norbury Junction Walk – Thursday 4th October 2012 Report & Photo—Kaye Harrison

12 walkers, plus 1 dog, met at Norbury Junction for this 3 mile circular walk along the canal towpath, through a nature reserve and back along field tracks. The weather was a glorious October day and could not have been better.



The walk started by going north along the towpath of the Shropshire Union Canal, having looked briefly at the start of the derelict Shrewsbury and Newport network of canals. These are under active restoration but are mainly in private ownership and not available for walking. However the first lock could be seen from the junction bridge and is now a dry dock.

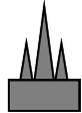
Passing under Bridge 39 called High Bridge we paused briefly to consider the unique feature of its arch; a short telegraph pole on a cross strut. Up to the 1960's this pole carried wires running along the towpath, but all other traces of the route have now disappeared.

Leaving the towpath at Bridge 40, we ascended to the Loynton Moss Nature Reserve. This is owned by the Staffordshire Wildlife Trust and is a post glacial landscape. As the ice age came to an end, huge blocks of ice broke from retreating glaciers gouging a depression known as a kettle hole. When the ice blocks eventually melted, this depression was filled with water to form a mere (lake) that extended more than 100 acres. Hundreds of years of natural processes and human activity have seen dramatic changes to the landscape. The lake has disappeared to form an area of the Moss.

The diverse range of insects attracts many breeding bird species each summer including willow warbler, reed warbler and reed bunting. Beyond the network of paths, the largely inaccessible areas of reedbed and wet woodland are home to a rich flora including uncommon plants such as marsh cinquefoil, cowbane and elongated sedge. The area of alder carr is a wonderful stand of wet woodland and when flooded resembles a miniature Everglades swamp. In the summer the grasslands are buzzing with insects feeding on wildflowers such as yellow rattle, birds foot trefoil and knapweed. There are information boards at points throughout the Reserve and it is well worth a visit if in the area.



Contd.



Norbury Junction Walk – Thursday 4th October 2012—contd

Using footpaths brought us back to the road by the High Bridge which we crossed carefully, dodging the traffic, to reach a footpath going along farm tracks. After a while the boats on the Shropshire Union Canal came into view across the fields. We paused again at the site, and moat, of the old Norbury Manor House. The moat is still in water. Again there was an information board to read.

The track finally led onto the road by the starting point at the boatyard. Here there is a Millennium Boulder Trail sign, on a huge boulder. This is a six-mile walk offering plenty of interest. We followed part of it - from the Junction to part way through Loynton Moss. A thoroughly enjoyable morning with plenty of variety to the walk.

Recent Walks—2 Armitage Walk Thursday 1st November 2012

Report Margaret Beardsmore Photos Phil Sharpe

On a wet and overcast morning, twelve intrepid walkers set off from Armitage for our branch walk. We were dressed in waterproof coats, trousers and boots. Naturally the clouds lifted and it became a pleasant autumn day.



We crossed the Trent and Mersey Canal at Armitage, and then went by towpath towards Handsacre for a short way. The walk then turned left and went by tunnel under the railway, crossed the River Trent by bridge and then across the fields towards Hill Ridware.

Just before Hill Ridware we turned left by the lake locally known as 'The Floods' which is full of wild birds. We went across fields to the Cawarden Reclamation Yard, eventually hitting the main road at 'The Yorkshireman' pub in Rugeley, and returning via the towpath to

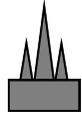
Armitage.

Despite the walk being longer than usual, with lots of stiles and lots of mud, everyone said they had thoroughly enjoyed themselves and thanked Derek for finding such an interesting walk.

We are about to put together our walking programme for 2013, and would welcome any suggestions for future walks – please contact me on 07581 794111 or email:

margaret.beardsmore@waterways.org.uk





Lichfield Branch 'Country Moorings' Work Party -2/3/4 November 2012

Report & Photos Margaret Beardsmore

Lichfield IWA were given a grant to improve the canal side in Rugeley and provide 'country moorings' in the Brindley Bank Area from 'Legacy Funding' following on from the IWA National Festival in Burton-on-Trent.



After negotiations with CRT, it was agreed to install 20 mooring rings on the Trent and Mersey Canal, between the Brindley Aqueduct and Rugeley Bypass Bridge. CRT agreed to provide a hopper and all necessary equipment and materials, with IWA Lichfield providing the mooring rings and manpower. As we did not have any experience of installing mooring rings, we asked Brian Holmes of Shropshire Union Canal Society to be our team leader as he had the necessary expertise – and what a good team leader he was!

On Thursday evening we moored our boat, together with Brian's 'Thursday's Child' next to the hopper which was already on site. Friday morning saw Brian digging trial holes, whilst Derek and Ed cut the grass in preparation for Saturday.

Brian was up and digging again on Saturday morning, and by the time the main work party had arrived, he had three examples – (1) hole, with mooring ring in situ, and concreted over (2) hole with mooring ring showing and (3) just the hole. This meant that everyone else could see exactly what needed to be done – in other words 'Here's one we prepared earlier'.

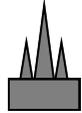
We had a really good turnout of volunteers from different organisations – some wearing more than 'one hat': IWA members, Brian from SUCCS, Rugeley Lions, LHCRT, Stafford Riverway Link, and Ulrich from WRG (who brought his brick kit). Everyone played their part, from the hole diggers, the concrete mixers, the wood cutters, the tree removers, the bricklayers, the step clearers, the undergrowth removers, not to mention the lunch, cake and tea makers.

We completed the job at 3 pm, shortly before it began to rain, with everyone saying what a good day it had been, and what were we doing next?

On Sunday, local volunteers turned out for a couple of hours in the morning for a scrub-bashing session. We managed to clear the long path leading from Wolseley Road down to the 'Bloody Steps', which is part of our intended 'Brindley Trail'.

Details of our next work party will be on our IWA webpage shortly, or you can ring Margaret on 07581 794111 or email margaret.beardsmore@waterways.org.uk and ask to be put on the email list for all details of future events.





Recent Meetings

Our new season of meetings opened at College Hall in September with an illustrated talk by Tom Kitching on Restoring a Wooden Narrowboat. In an engaging and entertaining talk Tom described the challenges of maintaining an old wooden boat and the significant commitment in time and resources it takes. Whilst there are still a few boat builders who can undertake this professionally, doing it as one of a group of friends requires a commitment to acquiring new skills, a willingness to learn from mistakes, and a lot of hard work and dedication. Wood, unfortunately, eventually rots and Tom had brought along a few samples to illustrate this and the thickness and weight of the replacement planks. Over time virtually all of a wooden boat has to be replaced except for the iron frames, but by doing it progressively the original shape and character of the boat is retained so that, like the navy's shovel with two new blades and three new handles, it's still the same boat !

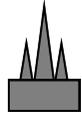
As can be seen from the picture Tom 's day job is as a fiddler in the folk band Pilgrim's Way.



The well attended October talk was on Canal Reservoirs by David Brown, Principal Reservoir Engineer for the Canal & River Trust, formerly British Waterways. David has 29 years experience in waterways engineering and latterly has specialised in reservoirs. As waterway users we tend to take the water supply from reservoirs for granted until we have a drought. But as David showed, they need regular monitoring to ensure their safety, and the results of dam and embankment failures elsewhere have sometimes been catastrophic. Fortunately, there have been few failures of our canal reservoirs, although most are earth banks and many are so old that construction details are uncertain so



extra vigilance is required. The general principles of reservoir construction and extension of the catchment area with feeder channels was illustrated by Belvide Reservoir on the Shropshire Union Canal, and the quite complicated system of feeders, sluices, valves and pumps interconnecting the Gailey Upper, Gailey Lower and Calf Heath reservoirs with the Staffordshire & Worcestershire Canal and the Hatherton Branch was explained. Of particular local interest was also the repair work recently completed to Chasewater Reservoir, which is now refilling well thanks to a very wet summer, although its limited catchment area means this could take several more years. A most interesting talk that revealed how much infrastructure is needed to keep our canals in water and the challenges of keeping it all working and safe.



Central Shires User Group Forum 11/10/2012

Three members of Lichfield Branch committee attended the Canal & River Trust's User Group Forum for the Central Shires Waterway at Rugeley on 11th October.

The meeting was chaired by Charlotte Atkins, chair of the Central Shires Waterways Partnership and many of the other partnership members were present. This body has a role in assisting CRT with local engagement, championing the waterway and shaping plans including spending priorities. The Waterways Manager Darren Green was not present but Will Burnish led a team of CRT staff able to deal with many of the users' questions. We had pre-submitted questions about planning consultations for Lawns Farm at Burton, about lock tail bridge railings and about the towpath mowing regime at Rugeley, which were answered in writing. Another question about the effect of HS2 – the High Speed Rail proposals – on the canal heritage at Wood End Lock, Fradley was covered in Will's presentation, although still far from being satisfactorily resolved.

Some points noted in the presentations and audience questions that affect the canals in Lichfield Branch area included:

- a vegetation management budget for 2012-13 of £787,000;
- planned stoppages on the Trent & Mersey Canal, before Xmas at Junction, Alrewas, Barton and Tatenhill locks, and after Xmas at Great Haywood and Woodend locks;
- an open day at Junction Lock, Fradley Junction on Saturday 17th November;
- the disused short pontoons at Fradley will be removed this winter and plans consulted on how to re-arrange moorings and improve the lock moorings between Junction and Middle locks;
- regular volunteer work party groups have been established at Fradley, Fazeley and Hartshill.

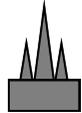
The next Central Shires UGF for our area will be held on 18 April 2013 and members are invited to forward any questions or concerns they have to the Branch during March.

IWA Branch Sales

There will be IWA Christmas cards and calendars (as well as books and other things you might like to buy as Christmas presents) available to buy on the branch sales stand at the November meeting. Helen Whitehouse, who runs the sales stand for us, also holds the stock of IWA clothing including waterproof jackets, fleece jackets and the new IWA "beanie" hat. If you wish to try on or purchase any of these items, please contact her on 01543 491161 or email iwaclothing@waterways.org.uk.

Stop Press!!!!!!

IWA Lichfield Branch have just been awarded £500 from Staffordshire Community Path Initiative. This is towards the £2000 total required to refurbish the footpath from Wolseley Road in Rugeley to the 'Bloody Steps'. The footpath forms part of the proposed circular 'Brindley Trail' walk, which is based on the Trent and Mersey Canal.



Planning Matters

The planning matters commented on recently have been many and varied.

On the Staffordshire & Worcestershire Canal, we were pleased to support an application at The Boat in Penkrigde for new signs showing a traditional working narrow boat, to replace the present inappropriate picture of an Aire & Calder tanker barge ! Meanwhile, at Gailey Wharf, plans we had previously supported have been approved for new moorings in a widened section of canal in place of the present hard standing, with new buildings and landscaping.

On the Trent & Mersey Canal, following a consultation from BW, we have supported CRT's Listed Building applications to replace the temporary wooden railings on the tail bridges at Keepers Lock and Middle Lock at Fradley Junction with steel railings similar in style to others on the T&M. At Burton-on-Trent, since our earlier objections, the East Staffordshire Local Plan has been changed to reduce population projections and housing numbers. However, it now proposes nearly 3,000 houses plus more industrial units on a large canalside greenfield site at Lawns Farm around Branston Lock on the edge of Burton. We consider that 'brownfield' sites should take precedence but that any more canalside development must include a broad landscaped open space amenity corridor to help protect the canal conservation area.

On the Coventry Canal, plans for conversion of a barn at Bridge Farm, Fradley to housing were amended following our comments and have now received consent. Further along the canal, several applications for extensions to the chemical rendering plant at Hartshill have been made and we've suggested they should be conditional on reducing the foul smells that periodically issue from the plant.

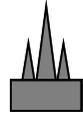
On the Ashby Canal at Market Bosworth we have opposed a large housing development on canalside farmland and woodland. Nearby, the previous conditionally approved plans for a new 150 berth marina have been redrawn by more capable architects and now show a practical layout of the jetties, an attractive towpath bridge over the entrance and soft edges to the basin, although the facilities and workshop buildings are yet to be detailed.

Over 60 planning applications and local plan consultations have been dealt with over the last three months and full summary notes can be found on our Branch website pages.

Newsletter Distribution

The escalating cost of postage means that Lichfield Branch increasingly relies on email to keep members informed of events and news affecting our area. Would members therefore please ensure that the IWA is aware of their up-to-date email addresses by contacting either Tracy Higgins at membershipofficers@waterways.org.uk or Neil Hodgson at neil.hodgson@waterways.org.uk as soon as possible.

If you are also happy to receive future copies of Lichfield Lines by email rather than post, please tell Neil.



Police Non-Emergency Number

Unfortunately we all sometimes see incidents of anti-social behaviour or vandalism taking place on our canals. Both the IWA and the Canal and River Trust are keen to see these reported to the police. It may not be appropriate to call the emergency 999 number but an alternative non emergency number is available—**101!**

Calls to 101 are answered by police officers and staff in the control room of the local police force. This ensures that staff with local knowledge can answer and deal with the calls and respond appropriately. You will not be put through to a large national call centre.

When you call 101, the system will determine your location and connect you to the police force covering that area. You will hear a recorded message announcing the police force you are being connected to. If you are on a boundary between two or more forces, the recorded message will give you a choice of which force to be connected to.

Calls to 101 cost 15p per call from anywhere in England and Wales at whatever time of day the call is made and is available from both landlines and mobiles.

West Midlands User Group Meeting 30th October 2012

Lichfield Branch was represented at the Canal & River Trust's West Midlands User Group Forum at Coombeswood by Helen Whitehouse although several other branch members attended wearing different hats.

Waterways Manager, Dean Davies supported by three members of his team gave a presentation and answered questions. Two of the CRTs council members were also present.

Comments are restricted to the West Midlands waterways area.

Dredging:

A total of £1.8 million has been spent in 2012 on spot dredging the Wyrley & Essington, Walsall, and BCN Main Line canals. During 2013 CRT propose to spend £850,000 on the Tame Valley, Rushall, Daw End Branch of the Wyrley & Essington, and the BCN Main Line Canals.

Stoppages:

Open days at Kings Norton Lock, Farmers Bridge Locks and Lapworth Locks are planned over the Winter Stoppage season to allow members of the public to view the works.. Details will be on the CRT website.

£200,000 is to be spent on the Guillotine Lock at Kings Norton (above and below water) of which £45,000 has come from English Heritage or from lottery funding.

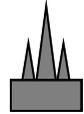
Farmers Bridge Flight has a prolonged stoppage from 7th January to 8th March 2013.

Enforcement notices:

Dean confirmed that a lot of enforcement notices have been issued to “non-compliant continuous cruisers” and those who over-stay on visitor moorings.

Dean Davies thanked all present for their co-operation in letting CRT know of any problems around the system.

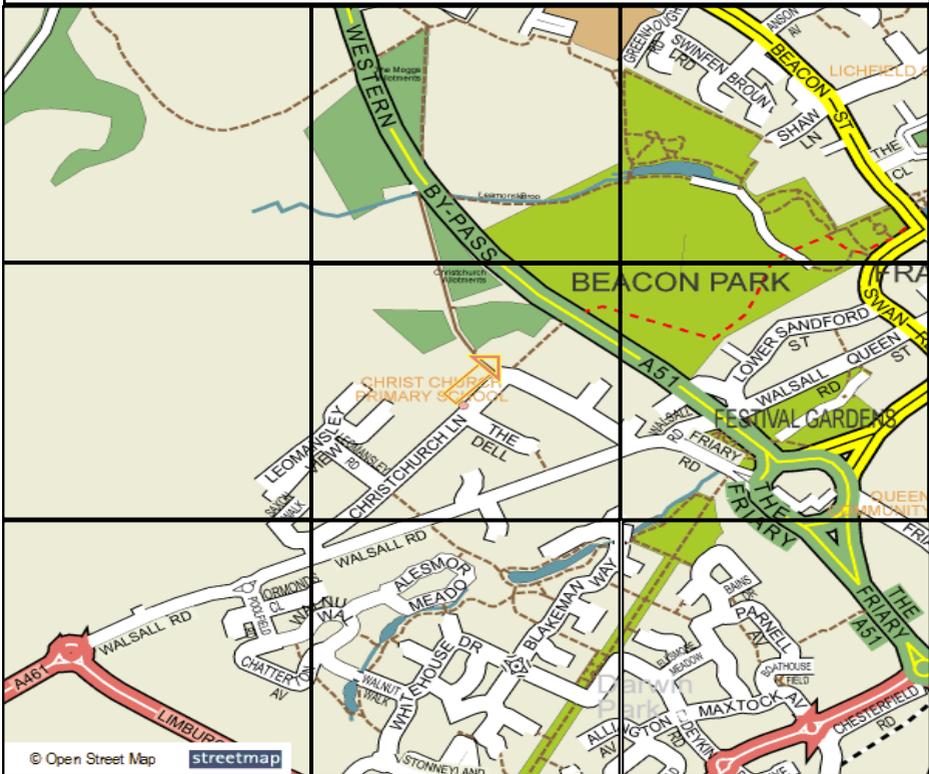
Helen Whitehouse



New Venue for Meetings From January 2013

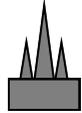
Martin Heath Hall, Christchurch Lane (off Walsall Road)
Lichfield W513 8AY

Martin Heath Hall is the church hall for Christ Church, Lichfield and lies about 1 km (½ mile) west of the city centre, the bus station and Lichfield City railway station.



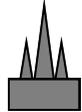
Directions:

From the large traffic island on the A51, at the junction of the Western Bypass, The Friary and Friary Road (the 'Bowling Green' roundabout) take the exit signed Leamonsley onto Friary Road, leading to Walsall Road. After about 150 metres there is a pedestrian crossing with lights and the road bends to the left. Just after the bend turn right into the narrow entrance to Christchurch Lane. Follow the lane past the church and where it turns left the entrance to Martin Heath Hall is on the right. There is car parking to the rear of the hall. If approaching from the Cannock, Burntwood or Walsall direction, turn left off Walsall Road into the other end of Christchurch Lane. Follow this down to the bend and turn left into the hall



Your Committee

<p>Chairman Mike Moorse</p>	<p>Mob: 07799 140068 Email: mike.moorse@waterways.org.uk</p>
<p>Secretary Kaye Harrison 1 Blue House Barns, Chetwynd Road, Newport, Shrops TF10 7UE</p>	<p>Tel: 07973 281728 Email: kaye.harrison@waterways.org.uk</p>
<p>Treasurer Barbara Hodgson 12 Hempits Grove, Acton Trussell, Stafford ST17 0SL</p>	<p>Tel: 01785 716806 Email: barbara.hodgson@waterways.org.uk</p>
<p>Deputy Chairman & Speaker Liaison Pat Barton 38 Waterside Court, Gnosall, Staffs ST20 6AR</p>	<p>Tel: 07947 337491 Email: pat.barton@waterways.org.uk</p>
<p>Planning Officer & Web Editor Philip Sharpe 34 Old Eaton Road, Rugeley, Staffs WS15 2EZ</p>	<p>Tel: 01889 583330 Email: phil.sharpe@waterways.org.uk</p>
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<p>Membership Neil Hodgson 12 Hempits Grove, Acton Trussell, Stafford ST17 0SL</p>	<p>Tel: 01785 716806 Email: neil.hodgson@waterways.org.uk</p>
<p>Posters and Newsletter Pete Gurney 5 Bracken Close, Stafford ST16 1SG</p>	<p>Tel: 01785 255101 Email: pete.gurney@waterways.org.uk</p>
<p>Sales and External Talks Helen Whitehouse Virginia Cottage, Brook End, Longdon, Rugeley, WS15 4PD</p>	<p>Tel: 01543 491161 Email: helen.whitehouse@waterways.org.uk</p>
<p>Rugeley Project and Walks Margaret Beardsmore 6 Rishworth Avenue, Rugeley, Staffs WS15 2ER</p>	<p>Tel: 07581 794111 Email: margaret.beardsmore@waterways.org.uk</p>
<p>Ex Officio: Region Vaughan Welch 3 Beach Close, Northfield, Birmingham B31 3DB</p>	<p>Tel: 0121 477 9782 Mob: 07971 202406 Email: vaughan.welch@waterways.org.uk</p>



IWA LICHFIELD BRANCH

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - 20th MARCH 2013, at 7.45 pm

**To be held at Martin Heath Hall, Christchurch Lane (off Walsall Road),
Lichfield, WS13 8AY**

AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence
2. Approval of the minutes of the 2012 AGM and any matters arising from these minutes
3. Report from the Branch Chairman
4. Financial report from the Treasurer
5. Elections to the committee
 - a) Members completing 3 years in post and eligible for re-election:
Pat Barton
Margaret Beardsmore
Barbara Hodgson
Philip Sharpe
Helen Whitehouse
 - b) Members co-opted since the previous AGM:
None
 - c) Any other candidates
6. Any resolutions requested by members of the Branch (provided the Branch Chairman was notified in writing of the item at least six weeks prior to the AGM)*
7. Report from the Region Chairman

Notes:

- Candidates for election to the committee must be current members of Lichfield Branch and should indicate their willingness to stand.
- The Branch committee officers (Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer) are elected by the committee from its membership at their first meeting following the AGM.

Current members of the committee are: Mike Moore Chairman; Pat Barton Vice-Chairman; Kaye Harrison Secretary; Barbara Hodgson, Treasurer; Margaret Beardsmore; Pete Gurney; Neil Hodgson; Phil Sharpe; John Stockland; Helen Whitehouse.

* Item 6: Please put any resolutions in writing and address them to the Chairman c/o 1 Blue House Barns, Chetwynd Road, Newport, Shropshire. TF10 7UE