Local Member of Parliament to Attend IWA's Festival of Water 2016

IWA is delighted to announce that Wendy Morton, Member of Parliament for Aldridge-Brownhills has kindly agreed to open this year's Festival of Water at Pelsall which runs from 27th to 29th August. This event is of special interest to Ms Morton as she values community involvement and is also a canal boater, being a member of the Longwood Boat Club.

IWA News

IWA’s Annual Members Meeting - Come and Join Us

The last few years have seen some enormous changes to the shape of the waterways movement and IWA has been at the forefront of campaigning for many of these changes to occur. As the country takes a collective pause for breath before a new phase of advancement, so IWA considers the changes needed to provide us with a springboard for modernisation and growth. This is the thrust of the discussion held by Trustees at recent meetings as they considered the type of organisation IWA needs to be going forward. The Charity Commission has recently revised its model Articles. These are the recommended format for the document that governs how a charity is run. The new version permits greater agility and flexibility to an association like IWA. Trustees considered these attributes to be essential to the Association, especially as digital and social media developments have completely altered the way in which much of our campaigning successes are achieved. Therefore a revision to IWA’s Articles of Association has been recommended by Trustees and is being presented for approval at the Annual Members Meeting in Wolverhampton on 24th September.

In the Autumn 2016 issue of Waterways, IWA’s member magazine which has just been published, there is a special pull-out supplement which sets out the proposed new Articles of Association. Members can book for lunch and for the opportunity to take a guided tour of a lock gate workshop and a guided walk of a...
site of a possible restoration project through the links given in this AGM supplement. Members can also use the Proxy Form to ensure they have their say in the resolutions being proposed if they are unable to attend. This form can be sent to IWA’s company secretary at any time from now until 10.30 am on Thursday 22nd September.

If you would like to take part in this event you can also book online - each person will need to complete a form. If you want to take a look at the information on the tours, have a look here and all of the AGM content is to be found on the AGM page.

**IWA’s WRG Work on Restoration of Dudley No2 Canal in Harborne Wharf**

The Lapal Canal Trust is focused on restoring the Dudley No 2 Canal from Selly Oak to California where it is planned to build a marina with new homes. It will be a significant regeneration project creating employment and becoming a tourist attraction. In a significant step forward a group of canal enthusiasts from IWA’s Waterways Recovery Group descended on Selly Oak for one week of intensive canal restoration work. While mainly focussed on repairing a section of the canal wall, the group also cleared the vegetation that was damaging the bridge, cleared the offside wall and greatly improved the access path. Led by Ian Gaston, the team arrived on Saturday 30th July in two new red vans recently bought from donations received. They set up in the Stonehouse Gang Youth Club facilities and started work on Sunday morning. For 13 of the 19 volunteers this was their first experience, a chance to learn new skills of mixing lime mortar, cleaning old bricks for re use, brick laying and pointing.

For a number of volunteers this was part of their Duke of Edinburgh’s awards programme. The group was supported by Lapal Canal Trust volunteers who arranged the facilities, delivery of all the materials, hire of the excavator and skip, and helped on various tasks.

**WRG at Inglesham Lock**

WRG volunteers spent two weeks (23rd July to 6th August) at Inglesham Lock, at the eastern end of the Cotswold Canals, repairing damaged brickwork and repointing the lock chamber below the waterline … luckily no scuba gear was required as a 3” pump was installed to drop the water level to allow access. Volunteers also erected 14 bays of scaffolding in the chamber, allowing a team to start removing the coping stones. This work means volunteers can now start the careful demolition of the upper walls of the lock chamber which have been severely damaged by tree roots and frost. Volunteers will be back at the end of August for another 3 weeks of canal camps to remove the brickwork and start rebuilding one side of the lock chamber.

Find out about volunteering - www.waterways.org.uk/volunteer
Colin Hobbs, leader of week 2 said, “I spent 10 days clearing the lock chamber last year so it’s great to see our efforts have allowed us to install the scaffolding and get the coping stones removed this year! My Canal Camp volunteers worked tirelessly over the week and I can’t wait to see how much progress is made over the next set of camps!”.

IWA is looking for this year’s participant to raise at least £2,000, but once registered participants can raise money for a cause of their choice. Why not join Sarah for what should prove to be a fun and enjoyable day on the waterways?

To find out more about the work of the Waterway Recovery Group go to its website page.

**IWA’s Guaranteed Place in the 2017 London Marathon**

IWA has been lucky enough to once again secure a place in the Virgin Money London Marathon. The London Marathon, happening on Sunday 23rd April 2017, is one of Britain’s biggest and most prestigious community sporting events and places are increasingly competitive; IWA is offering one lucky person the chance to secure a guaranteed place, whilst raising money for a great cause.

Last year’s runner, David Edwards-May, said, “This was an opportunity to get back into running and run my first ever marathon, a lifelong ambition…so when the invitation was published in the Head Office Bulletin there was no hesitation!”. David managed to raise an impressive £3,800 for IWA.

IWA is offering one lucky person the chance to secure a guaranteed place, whilst raising money for a great cause.

To find out more about the work of the Waterway Recovery Group go to its website page.

**Planning Matters Workshops in October 2016**

This invitation is being sent jointly on behalf of IWA and CRT to both IWA branches and waterway societies and to all those who have an interest in planning matters.

The planning system has a vital role to play in enhancing and protecting from inappropriate development the country’s multifunctional network of canals, rivers and docks. IWA has been looking at ways to improve its support for the essential planning work that waterways organisations

More about IWA - www.waterways.org.uk/about
undertake and how it can work together better with CRT in your areas. To this end, the organisations have jointly arranged a number of free workshops during October to enable these matters to be discussed further and to provide advice on current planning matters.

As not all organisations have a dedicated planning officer the workshops are open to anyone with an interest in this matter. The venues have been chosen to suit as many people as possible across the country and you are welcome to attend whichever is most convenient. The workshops are free and refreshments and a light lunch will be provided.

- Tuesday 11th October
  The Mechanics Institute, Manchester
- Saturday 15th October
  Austin Court Birmingham
- Monday 17th October
  London Canal Museum

Booking can be made via the online booking form.

Please book as soon as possible and no later than 17 September to enable us to finalise arrangements.

IWA Raffle - You Have to Be In It to Win It!

Tickets for the Restoration Raffle are now on sale. Back for a third year, we are aiming to raise even more money for waterways projects around the UK. The annual event continues to grow in success and we hope to top last year’s figure and raise over £15,000 for canal trusts and societies as well as for the IWA Restoration Hub.

Tickets are now on sale and can be found in the most recent issue of Waterways magazine, via IWA's website and through some of the restoration groups hoping to gain support this year. Tickets cost £2 each, in books of 5 tickets; you can find out more about this year’s raffle and some of the causes you could be supporting by visiting the IWA website.

For the first time, we are offering a cash prize, so one lucky raffle ticket holder could win £1,000 to spend, just in time for Christmas! We have also been lucky enough to receive generous donations once again from our corporate members and these are the prizes you could be in with a chance of winning:

- 1st Prize: £1,000 cash
- 2nd Prize: A one week boating holiday in a six berth narrow boat with The Wyvern Shipping Co Ltd, worth up to £1,500.

Other prizes include: A weekend boating holiday for four with Canal Cruising Company, worth £590; a weekend boat trip for four with Calcutt Boats worth £300; a two hour Thames cruise with Bow Boats; two Tickets for the London Boat Show; a traditional painted jug from the Stone Boat Chandlery; a 20L dry bag from OverBoard and more.

Ilkeston Announced as 2017 Festival of Water Venue

IWA has announced Ilkeston on the Erewash Canal as the venue for its 2017 Festival of Water. The annual event will take place over the August Bank Holiday weekend next year, from 26th to 28th August 2017. The festival is being supported by Erewash Borough Council, which is very enthusiastic about the event coming to its area.

IWA’s Festival of Water will be free to attend and will have an array of attractions on and off the water providing a fun day out for all the family. Many boats, including leisure, trade, heritage and working narrowboats, are expected and there will be a wide range of craft stalls and activities on site. There will also be a market and fundraising stalls and we would like to hear from boaters, charities and local groups who are interested in having a stall and fundraising for their chosen cause.

IWA Events Team Chairman John Butler said "I am delighted that we are able to bring IWA’s Festival of Water to Ilkeston next year. The Erewash Canal is a beautiful yet underused waterway and the event will attract more people to visit it. Put the dates in your diary now."

Councillor Mike Wallis, Erewash Borough Council’s Lead Member for Culture and Leisure, says: “This is wonderful news for Erewash and it is a real honour for our borough to be chosen as the host for the Festival of Water 2017. Our Erewash Canal has a rich history and was a source of wealth to the Erewash Valley with the export of coal for many generations. Now canal life flows at a more tranquil pace and is popular with boaters,
walkers and cyclists. What a great celebration the Festival of Water will be for everyone and we look forward to welcoming the thousands of people that attend this annual event.”

**IWA Branch News**

**IWA Chiltern Branch**

The sun came out for IWA Chiltern Branch’s annual Lock–Aid event on 6th & 7th August and so did the tourists. Boaters had an easier start on the Marsworth Flight, as volunteers from IWA Chiltern Branch helped them through the first lock of six – in return for a small, voluntary donation of course! Perhaps due to the heat, fewer boats than usual were passing through this stretch of the Grand Union Canal, but the branch is well established at running this event and any lulls in traffic meant the team could interact with the many walkers and cyclists who stopped for a break at the conveniently located Bluebell Tearooms or were exploring the local reservoirs. The event was a great opportunity for volunteers to talk about IWA’s work and about local restoration projects, as well as collecting much needed donations. They were greeted positively by all passing through and both children and their parents were particularly enamoured by the Branch’s adopted mascot, Thomasina the Tortoise. The weekend raised just over £300 which will be spent mainly on restoration projects on the Wendover Arm of the Grand Union Canal.

**People**

**Les Hunt**

It is with sadness that IWA reports that Les Hunt has passed away. For many years Les had been a member of IWA Lee and Stort Branch and was a committee member for around 10 years. Les was Vice Chairman and took on many roles and responsibility to promote the use of the rivers Lee and Stort. His efforts as the Ware Boat Festival Committee Chairman was one of his notable achievements. He laid the foundations for an event that goes from success to success every year.

Les achieved his personal dream of purchasing his own boat Georgina B, moving on board and heading to the Midlands realised his other ambitions. His funeral will take place on Friday 26th August at 2.30pm at Harlow Crematorium, Parndon Wood Rd, Harlow CM19 4SF. Family flowers only. His sisters have asked that donations be made to CanalAbility. Refreshments will take place in the community room at Toddbrook Sheltered Housing off Harberts Road, Harlow, Essex, CM19 4DU. If anyone is planning to attend this reception after the service please would they let the General Manager of CanalAbility know.

**Other Waterways News**

**Pelsall and Beyond**

Boaters attending IWA’s Festival of Water at Pelsall over the August Bank Holiday can spend the whole of September exploring and enjoying Festivals around the local area. Following the Festival of Water in late August, from Friday 2nd to Sunday 4th September there is a boat gathering at Withymoor Island on the Dudley No.2 Canal at Netherton. From Friday 9th to Sunday 11th September there is the Black Country Boating Festival. From Friday 16th to Sunday 18th September there is a boat gathering at Tipton (handy for exploring Black Country Living Museum) and from Friday 23rd to Sunday 25th September there is the Parkhead Festival (which is the Southern end of the Dudley Tunnels). Anyone who has entered the Parkhead Festival and arrives or returns through the Dudley Tunnels will have the full entry fee returned.

For more details of these events contact the Worcester, Birmingham and Droitwich Canals Society by emailing editor@wbdcs.org.uk.

IWA Campaigns Page - www.waterways.org.uk/campaigns
Wilts & Berks Urgent Appeal

Wilts & Berks Canal Trust need to raise £45,000 to complete the digging out of the canal line at Studley Grange between Swindon and Royal Wootton Bassett. Only 5,000 cubic metres of clay is left to shift to the adjacent landfill site using excavators and dumper trucks. Funding is needed by the 28th August so the 5,000 cubic metres of clay can be excavated and moved before the landfill site closes later on this year. Please go to the Trust’s website at wbct.org.uk for more details and to give to this project.

Water from Wendover

The Wendover Arm Trust is holding a Restoration Open Day on Sunday 4th September from 12.30 to 4pm. Access to the work site is from St Mary’s Church, Drayton Beauchamp HP22 5LS where there will be information boards, tea and home made cakes. This project is attracting a lot of attention as it is being visited by the Lord Lieutenant of Hertfordshire, Countess Verulam on 6th September and by representatives from the Heritage Lottery Fund later in the month.

Friars Mill was an 18th century mill complex which got its name from the Black Friars’ priory that once stood on the site. The area also included the former Donisthorpe & Co factory, the oldest in Leicester, founded in 1739 by the man who invented the wool-combing machine. The waterways were of course important to Friars Mill’s industrial success. In its heyday, the Donisthorpe factory would have relied on the river and canal network to transport its goods around the country. Now, following the installation of four new mooring points outside the former factory, boats are once again calling at Friars Mill.

City Mayor Peter Soulsby said: “The restoration of Friars Mill has been a huge undertaking, but I am proud that we have been able to bring these buildings back into use. Having come so close to losing such an important part of Leicester’s industrial heritage in 2012, when the old factory was nearly destroyed by fire, it’s wonderful to see the building restored to its former glory – and to see boats moored outside it once again.”

The new moorings are only a few yards from the new and well received Richard III exhibition that has been established where his remains were discovered and close to the Cathedral which has been
Scouts Join Forces with Lichfield & Hatherton Canal Restoration Trust

A local Scout Group has been having a bash at creating wildlife habitats along Lichfield Canal. The Foresters Scout Group, based in Yoxall, have been frequent visitors to the Canal’s Darnford Park, Darnford Moors and Summerhill sections during the summer, controlling bracken through the traditional method of bashing it with sticks, building bug hotels and habitat piles, digging bee scrapes, planting trees and constructing and installing bird and bat boxes. The Foresters’ Beavers, Cubs and Scouts have also enthusiastically litter-picked and sorted hundreds of engineering bricks for use in future construction work.

Christine Howles, Communications Director for Lichfield and Hatherton Canals Restoration Trust, said: “In May, June and July we were excited to start this relationship with the Scout Group. Their work is vital to our environmental objectives and we hope that these young people will have learnt more about wildlife and will have enjoyed putting The Scout Association’s relevant objectives into practice.”

Angela Burns, Foresters Scout Group leader, said: “We picked a general theme of ‘Water’ last year for our Scout Group to be involved in and embarked on how water impacts on life. We wanted to get practically involved and chose the Lichfield & Hatherton Canal Restoration Trust. The project is huge and we want to be involved with this in the long term.”

Discover the Leominster Canal

The Friends of Leominster Canal are holding an event on Thursday 22nd September when founder member Martin Hudson will give an illustrated talk on this canal’s history, remaining structures and industrial archeology. This will take place at Grange Court, Leominster, starting at 7.30pm. As a follow up to this, there will be a guided walk to the Teme Aqueduct at 10.30am on Saturday 24th September. For more information call Mike Watkins on 01584 711425.

Trial Electric Charging Points in Islington

CRT and Islington Council have won funding from DEFRA for electric charging points on the Regent’s Canal in Islington. Boaters will be able to use these charging points to top up their electricity and they will provide an alternative to running boat engines to generate energy.

The Trust is also developing a London mooring strategy for the capital and, working with boaters and other stakeholders, has discussed a range of ideas including eco-zones – where boats can get their power from electricity, not diesel engines – and how living on the waterways can be a sustainable and environmentally friendly choice. Islington is a popular spot for boats and the electric bollards could reduce the impact of engine noise and smoke that can affect both waterside residents and other boaters.

There will now be a period of discussions and consultations involving the Trust, the Council, boaters, canal users and other stakeholders to think about where the electric points should be located and how they should be managed.

The Trust will be keeping boaters updated via its monthly London Boating Bulletin and the website’s 2015 Waterway Events - www.waterways.org.uk/events
London pages. To sign up for the bulletin or to get involved with the discussion on the bollards please contact CRT in London by emailing london@canalrivertrust.org.uk.

Canal & River Trust
Annual Report Charts Waterways Activity

CRT's Annual Report & Accounts for 2015/16, published on 25th July 2016, highlights an increase in expenditure on the waterways and a growth in the number of people visiting, volunteering, and adopting stretches of its waterways.

The Report indicates:

- Expenditure on the waterways rose by 8% to £128 million, including work on culverts and embankments; channel relining and 135 winter lock repairs
- Less disruption for boaters including a significant drop of almost 300 days in unplanned closures compared with 2014/15
- An estimated 380 million visits made in total over the course of the year
- A 50% increase in the number of community canal adoptions in the year to nearly 150

The Report praises the response from staff and volunteers to the Boxing Day Floods in which communities have rallied to clean up and repair their local canals and towpaths. By the end of March volunteers had spent over 3,500 hours helping with the clean-up

The Trust’s Annual Public Meeting will be taking place on 22 September. For more information about attending visit the CRT website page about how to obtain tickets.

You can read the Annual Report via the CRT website.

CRT Publishes Winter Mooring Options

CRT has published the list of sites it will be offering for winter moorings in 2016-17. A final list of the winter mooring sites and prices can be found on the CRT website winter moorings page. All winter mooring permits will be charged at a 'per metre, per month' rate, and boaters will be able to book the spots for one to five months. As Easter falls later this year, winter moorings will be available from 1 November 2016 to 31 March 2017, as winter moorings won’t disrupt the start of the summer cruising season.

Both continuous cruisers and boaters with a home mooring will be able to take up a winter mooring. However, as with last year, boaters who are not meeting their licence requirements may not be eligible.

Bookings for the winter moorings will open on 3 October 2016, and will be made through the Trust’s boat licensing site. Boaters will be able to look at sites on the system from the beginning of September.

Any questions about winter moorings should be directed to CRT customer services on 0303 040 4040 or send an email.

Scottish Canals Opens Boating Price Consultation

A consultation which sets out a long-term plan for ensuring continued fair pricing for living and travelling on Scotland’s canals has been published following an in-depth independent review. Boaters are now being asked to have their say on the document to ensure the future pricing of residential and leisure moorings, as well as navigation and transit licences, on Scotland’s inland waterways remains fair, reasonable and is implemented in a sensitive manner.

The pricing review and consultation follows moves by Scottish Canals in April 2015 to bring leisure, residential and transit charges in line with market rates, become more financially sustainable, and charge fair and reasonable prices for the products and services which the organisation provides.

The comprehensive review saw consultants meet with boaters and organisations all over Scotland and visit every residential mooring site on the nation’s 137-mile canal network.

The subsequent report proposes a methodology for setting the market price of all residential and leisure moorings and licences on Scotland’s canals, as well as a clear plan for implementing future price changes. Individuals and organisations who use, live or work on the nation’s waterways are now invited to help decide how these recommendations should
be implemented and over what timescale.

Boaters have until 21st October 2016 to submit feedback and can do so at http://bit.ly/SCprice. Anyone looking for more information on the consultation can email Scottish Canals.

**Waterway Events**

**Major IWA events in 2016/2017**

- 27th - 29th August 2016 - IWA Festival of Water, Pelsall
- 25th September 2016 - IWA Waterways Triathlon 2016, Essex
- 29th April - 1st May 2017 - IWA Canalway Cavalcade, Little Venice

Have you got a waterway event or activity to promote? - Anyone can add details of a waterways event or activity to this area on the website. You don’t even need to register with the website or provide any sort of password. Simply use the upload event form. See IWA’s Events Calendar for a full list of waterway events. You can also search by event type or find out what’s going on in your area with the map search.

### Upcoming Volunteer/Cleanup Events

**August**

- 10th August Work Party - River Gipping (Supported by IWA Ipswich Branch)
- 10th August Work Party - Staffs & Worcester (IWA Birmingham)
- 11th August Himalayan Balsam Bash - Uttoxeter Canal (IWA North Staffs & South Cheshire)
- 13th August Work Party - River Gipping (Supported by IWA Ipswich Branch)
- 14th August Himalayan Balsam Bash - Warwick (IWA Warwickshire Branch)
- 17th August Work Party - River Gipping Trust (Supported by IWA Ipswich Branch)
- 20th August Himalayan Balsam Bash - Preston (IWA Lancs & Cumbria Branch)
- 24th August Work Party - River Gipping (Supported by IWA Ipswich Branch)
- 25th August Work Party - Congleton (IWA North Staffs & South Cheshire)

To advertise your restoration/cleanup events in the bulletin please add details to IWA’s events calendar.

### Upcoming Towpath Walks

**August**

- 21st August Waterside Walk - Regent’s Canal (IWA Towpath Walks Society)
- 4th September Waterside Walk - Regent’s Canal (IWA Towpath Walks Society)
- 6th September Waterside Walk - Rushall & Daw End Canals (IWA Lichfield Branch)
- 18th September Waterside Walk - Grand Junction & Regent’s Canals (IWA Towpath Walks Society)

To advertise your towpath walks in the Bulletin, please add details to IWA’s events calendar.
IWA Member Discounts and Special Offers

The following special offers are now available exclusively for IWA members:

Enjoy the Waterways Through Hire Boats and Leisure

ABC Boat Hire - 15% discount on holidays

Airedale Cruising, Yorkshire Dales BB18 6TP - 10% discount off skippered day cruises

Blackwater Boats, Essex CO4 5HF - 10% discount off boat trips

CanalCruising.co.uk - 10% discount

Canal Boat Magazine - 12 issues for £21.99 + Gourmet Society Plus

City Centre Cruises - 10% discount for Sunday lunch cruises

Frangipani SUP Ltd - 10% discount

Jenny Wren, London NW1 8QS - 10% discount off cruises

Middlewich Narrowboats - 25% discount off hire price of Willow

Wyvern Shipping Co. Ltd - 10% discount on published prices

Eating Out

Bounty Pub, Bourne End SL8 5RG - 10% discount off food

Clifford Arms, Staffordshire ST18 0SR - 10% discount off food

Fingerpost Pub & Restaurant, Pelsall WS3 5AU - 10% discount off food

Kings Lock Tearooms, Leicester LE2 8LT - 10% discount off food

Ring ‘O Bells Pub, Marple SK6 7AY - 10% discount off food

Three Locks Pub, Stoke Hammond MK17 9DD - 10% discount off food

Wharf Pub, Bugbrooke NN7 3QB - 10% discount

Better Value on Boats and Equipment

Boatshed Grand Union - 10% discount on brokerage

Boat Windows Ltd - 5% discount

Calcutt Boats - 5% online discount

Channel Glaze - 10% discount on double glazing

Cotswold Outdoor - 10% discount

IceGripper - Special offer on ladies walking boots

Kings Lock Chandlery - 5% discount on purchases excluding all fuels (diesel, gas, coal, wood, etc)

Marine Mega Store Ltd - 15% discount

Midland Chandlers - 5% discount

RoadPro - 5% discount

Solar Technology International - 10% discount on PV Logic Narrow Boat Kits & Foldup Panels

Willowbridge Marina - 10% discount on chandlery purchases and services in the yard

Zead - Free Postage & Accessories

Services

Europcar - Special hire rates to IWA members

Forge Studio - 10% discount

I Love Meet and Greet Ltd - 15% discount

Lee Sanitation - 10% on orders over £100

Paper Wizard - 15% discount

River Canal Rescue - up to 15% discount

Wavetrain Marine - 5% discount on selected training

Please note: All discounts and offers are entirely at the organisers’ discretion.

To see details of how to take advantage of these offers, please go to the IWA Members discount page.

For IWA members who receive a printed copy of this bulletin in the post, please contact the membership team on 01494 783453 for the details of the offers.

Members can also support IWA with a Narrow Boat magazine subscription

More about IWA - www.waterways.org.uk/about
**Boat Insurance**

IWA has an arrangement with insurers Navigators & General and River Canal Rescue that provides top quality boat insurance and access to the basic waterway rescue service for boat owners, with the added benefit that every policy taken out and subsequently renewed helps IWA, and thus furthers our charitable work for the waterways.

See more information about the IWA insurance scheme for boaters.

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**Contact Us**

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