

# BULLETIN

## 27th September 2018



Photo: Ebley Mill by Mike Gallagher

### WATERWAYS IN PROGRESS – A VISION FOR RESTORATION

Waterways in Progress is a new report to be published in the near future by our Restoration Hub in conjunction with members of the Hub's High Level Panel of restoration movement representatives.

Highlights from the report were presented to delegates at the World Canals Conference this year hosted in Ireland earlier this month by IWA's Mike Palmer MBE. Case studies included Ebley Mill on the Cotswold Canals project, Hollingwood Hub on the Chesterfield Canal and the built and natural assets on the Montgomery Canal.

Using case studies such as these, Waterways in Progress seeks to spell out how well thought-out, partial

restoration initiatives can start to deliver right from Day One.

You can subscribe to receive a PDF copy of the report as soon as it is published. Find out more and sign up at [www.waterways.org.uk/waterways/restoration/restoration\\_resources/waterways\\_progress](http://www.waterways.org.uk/waterways/restoration/restoration_resources/waterways_progress)

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# IWA NEWS

## SUMMER OF CANAL RESTORATION

This summer, our Waterway Recovery Group has held 17 Canal Camps across 10 waterways. These holidays with a difference saw over 250 volunteers, restoring locks, building towpaths and preparing restoration sites.

One of the big highlights included six weeks spent bringing the restoration of Ingleham Lock in the Cotswolds close to completion. At the start of the project the lock site by the Roundhouse in Lechlade was filled with rubbish and silt, with tree roots undermining the structure meaning that large areas needed to be rebuilt. This IWA led project to restore the gateway from the Thames to the Cotswold Canals has been eight years in the making and it's fantastic to see such good progress.

Volunteers also spent a week on the Lichfield Canal for the first time in a number of years. The group worked on the towpath retaining wall at Fosseway Heath, which will be over 100 metres long when finished.

Probably the most unique project that we have supported this year is the uncovering of original canal artefacts during an

archaeological dig at Ty Coch Locks on the Monmouthshire Canal near Torfaen.

Although the majority of the Camps take place over the summer, a number continue through autumn and winter. If you're interested in any of these, just give us a call on 01494783453, or find out more below:

20th-27th October  
Grantham Canal  
Wey & Arun Canal

## SILVER PROPELLER CHALLENGE – LET US KNOW WHERE YOU'VE BEEN

Over the summer it has been great to hear that many of you have been taking part in our Silver Propeller Challenge and visiting some of the various locations across the waterways system.

With our IWA Festival of Water at St Neots, many of you took the opportunity to visit the Challenge locations to be found on the Middle Level Navigations (Holme and Horseway Lock) and on the Great Ouse and its tributaries, including some who travelled across The Wash to get there.

Others have been spotted visiting locations around the waterways, such as the end of the Wendover Arm, the top of the Ashby Canal and the Dee Branch in Chester.

Have you visited any locations as part of the Challenge? We would love to hear from you if you are taking part – why not post a photo of a Silver Propeller location that you have visited on our social media accounts? You can post your pictures to our UK waterways Flickr group, or tag your images on Twitter, Instagram and Facebook with #silverpropeller.

- Twitter
- Instagram
- Facebook

Or email us at silver.  
propeller@waterways.org.uk

## WORK BEGINS ON THE BOSTON BARRIER

Work commenced over the summer on the Boston Tidal Barrier on the River Witham following years of consultations and missed opportunities. We lobbied for the flood barrier to impound the water on the currently tidal section of the Witham through Boston, which would have facilitated navigation between Grand Sluice Lock on the River Witham and EA's new Black Sluice Lock, improving navigation and associated economic benefits in the area.

Steel pilings are now being constructed to protect the wall of the Port of Boston from scouring and damage when

the channel is reduced to 18m wide during construction of the barrier.

David Pullen, IWA East Midlands Region Chairman, said *“It is such a pity, and a huge wasted opportunity, that these pilings are not to be utilised to form one side of the by-pass lock we were originally promised during extensive public consultations. It is also hugely frustrating that neither EA nor Boston Borough Council have seen fit to comply with the Barrier Inquiry Inspector’s report to consult with IWA on the navigation management plan for the Barrier.”*

Dredging has also been carried out, by a method known as beam dredging, where a large metal beam is dragged along the river bed on outgoing tides. This disturbs the silt which is washed away with the tide.

A diagram which has been produced by the Boston Barrier Team with the help of the Boston Harbour Master to advise navigational craft of the Boston barrier works between the Grand Sluice Lock No: 3 to the Wash.

## NEW MURAL FOR MOTORWAY BRIDGE

70 metres of motorway bridge on the Northampton Arm of the Grand Union Canal has been given a new lease of life by IWA Northampton Branch in collaboration with Lemon Pop Workshops.

The bridge, which had been a focus for graffiti for a number of years now features a historic timeline of Northampton through the ages, including Northampton Castle, the Battle of Northampton in the War of the Roses, the Great Fire of Northampton, the importance of the boot and shoe industry and the building of The Guildhall to the floods in 1998.

The project was supported by pupils and staff from Delapre Primary School, who had also worked on the Northampton Arm Nature Trail mosaics, another IWA Northampton Branch initiative. Year 6 students were asked to share their ideas for the design, which included their favourite places and buildings in Northampton. 60 children plus staff and volunteers then spent three days transforming the site with rollers and paint brushes.

With time to spare, a large red narrowboat with helmsman, swans, trees, shrubs and flowers was also created on an adjacent wall.

IWA Northampton Branch is planning on continuing this project with artwork on the offside wall and is appealing for ideas and help from local artists. Please contact [northampton@waterways.org.uk](mailto:northampton@waterways.org.uk).

## ESSEX 10K

130 participants ran 10km along the Chelmer & Blackwater Navigation in Essex on Sunday 16th September. The challenge raised funds to support the maintenance and development of this local treasure.

The Chelmer & Blackwater Navigation runs through a largely unspoilt part of rural Essex and connects the county town of Chelmsford with the tidal estuary of the river Blackwater at Heybridge Basin. The navigation is 13.8 miles (22.1 km) long and has 13 locks. Our subsidiary company Essex Waterways Ltd took over the management of the Navigation on 14th November 2005, in order to save the waterway from closing.

The route began at Hoe Mill Lock and ran through the scenic countryside of Ulting, Maldon and Langford.

## CHELMER & BLACKWATER WRG FAMILY CAMP

Four families and five children aged between 6 and 13 spent a weekend on the Chelmer & Blackwater Navigation in Essex making bird boxes and clearing vegetation.

The third Family Camp of 2018 organised by our Waterway Recovery Group also saw the group learning about the workings of a sea lock, which can only be opened at high tide, before helping five yachts into Heybridge Basin.

Family Camps are designed to encourage younger people to enjoy the satisfaction from conserving our waterways, and the weekend's waterways theme continued with accommodation on board the Haybay Barge nestled in the Blackwater Estuary.

For the finale, the decorated bird boxes were fixed in trees along the navigation.

Keep an eye out for next year's Family Camps, which will be announced in November.

## COMMUNITY BOAT TRIPS AT RUGELEY

Following the success of last year's trips, IWA Lichfield Branch together with the Truman Enterprise Narrowboat Trust once again

ran a series of Community Boat Trips on the Trent & Mersey Canal in Rugeley in September.

Trips for the elderly, young people and disadvantaged groups were all free of charge thanks to a grant from Rugeley Parish Council.

## GARAGE DOOR PULLED FROM THE NOTTINGHAM CANAL

21 volunteers helped to litter pick and grapple rubbish from the Nottingham Canal as part of the annual IWA Nottingham Branch Cleanup on Thursday 13th September. The haul included a full sized aluminium garage door, 26 bicycles, 15 shopping trolleys, 8 tyres, fence panels, traffic cones and other assorted items.

An enthusiastic cohort from local company Xylem took part in the activities, which also included litter picking on the towpath side, whilst another team set off on the workboat to tackle offside and any waterborne litter.

## SAD NEWS – DAVID WAIN

We are saddened to report the death of IWA vice president David Wain at the age of 91.

IWA National Chairman Ivor Caplan said *“David was a real gentleman and he always had a kind and supportive word for everyone.”*

David was one of the pioneer hire-boat operators, taking over the helm of the firm 'Inland Cruising Association' (founded in 1935) on the death of his father, Geoffrey Wain, in 1956. After building the business up to 23 craft by 1972, he sold the firm, and a year later set about establishing a visitor centre and waterways museum at Llangollen. David ran that business until selling up in 1987.

In 1962, David became involved with the Association of Pleasure Craft Operators and served in various roles, including secretary and chairman over the next 12 years, and was much involved in the 1968 Transport Act. That Act established the Inland Waterways Amenity Advisory Council as government's advisor on inland waterways matters, and David was a founding member, and eventually became its chairman for over 15 years, a period during which his influence on the inland waterways scene was immense. David had a long and supportive involvement with IWA, particularly in his local area in the North West, and was an IWA vice president for over 25 years. His services to the waterways were recognised with an OBE.

## IWA MEMBER DISCOUNTS AND SPECIAL OFFERS

Many of the offers below can be claimed simply by using your IWA membership card. For others, log in or phone the membership team on 01494 783453 for details.

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

### Enjoy the Waterways Through Hire Boats and Leisure

ABC Boat Hire - 15% discount on holidays (Direct Bookings Only)

Blackwater Boats - 10% discount on boat trips

CanalCruising.co.uk - 10% discount on holidays

Canal Boat Magazine - 5 issues for £5.00

City Centre Cruises - 10% discount for Sunday lunch cruises in Manchester

Frangipani SUP Ltd - 10% discount on adult beginner 'Stand Up & Paddle' lessons

Jenny Wren- 10% discount off cruises

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

### Eating Out

To take advantage of eating out offers you just need to produce a valid IWA membership card.

Kings Lock Tearooms- 10% discount on food

Ring 'O Bells Pub - 10% discount on food

The Fingerpost Pub & Restaurant - 10% discount on food

The Bounty Pub - 10% discount on food

The Clifford Arms Pub - 10% discount on food

The Three Locks Pub - 10% discount on food

The Wharf Pub - 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

Channelglaze Ltd. - 5% discount on double glazing

Cotswold Outdoor - 10% discount

IceGripper - 20% discount on ICETrekkers Diamond Grip

Kings Lock Chandlery - 5% discount (exclusions apply)

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 worth up to £16 when buying a Z-200 WiFi Adapter or Z-250 3.5G Dongle

### Services

Europcar - Special hire rates to IWA members

Forge Studio - 10% discount

Harbour Clean - 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 1 day RYA SRC VHF Licence Course

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

## 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.

### Contact Us

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