

CUT BOTH WAYS

Lichfield & Hatherton Canals Restoration Trust



The "Oss" at Fosseway Heath
taken by Jonathan Oates at sunset.

Issue No. 106
Winter 2020



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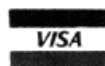
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What a year – this time last year this column was full of optimism following a successful 2019 which culminated in the presentation of the Queen's Award. I guess we are all happy to see the end of 2020, and yet it leaves so many of us still anxious. When the new strain of COVID was identified around end October quite a number of volunteers decided that continuing to come to work parties was too risky. Reluctantly, we decided to stop the Duke of Edinburgh volunteers work parties on Plant Maintenance and on Grounds work at Christmas. And now we have severely limited continuing work.



But, looking on the bright side:

- While cancelling events certainly hit funding, it's not been as badly affected as we thought, perhaps in part due to:
- The huge increase in people using our towpaths and nature trails, and consequent increase in membership and in volunteering, and:
- The ongoing work and creativity of our Communications and Website wizards, who have achieved increased use of our internet based communications, which is certainly excellent PR and results in donations from near and far, and also web based sales of our products.
- The success of the sheet piling appeal.

And definitely on the bright side was our 'Oss over Christmas and New Year so splendidly lit up with coloured lights! Thanks to the Bucks and also thanks to them that when the weather got so cold they've made sure the 'Oss stays warm as s/he has a blanket!

This is going to be the shortest Chairman's column that I have written, and maybe anyone has written in the 106 editions so far, but I am really finding it very difficult to find anything else to add that is not covered elsewhere.

Let us hope that by the Spring edition circumstances will be clearer, the weather better and for those of us who have lost their mojo that they have found it again.

Chris Bull, (Chairperson)

ANNOUNCEMENT

Keith Grice past away peacefully on 11th January at the age of 78 after a short illness. Obituary on page 13.

Donations to the Trust: 1st October to 31st December 2020

Donations during this period from individuals and groups, plus ancillary items, totalled £23,539 including those to the Tunnel Vision Appeal plus Gift Aid tax claims for UK taxpayers who completed the required formalities.

These bring the total of all donations throughout 2020 to almost £131,000.

Assistance was given during this period of reduced activity enforced by social distancing by the following, in alphabetical order:

Site work:-

- Chasetown Civil Engineering Ltd, materials.
- Netherstowe School student activity.
- Westwood Building Services, plant.

Other activities:-

- Lichfield City Council project management support.
- Lichfield Mayor & Sheriff's charity fund-raising events including LHCRT.
- All our Facebook followers who have donated to our fundraisers.

And all L&H Trust volunteer teams on...

- Canal restoration, plant maintenance and repair.
- 'Green and Grounds' Team, planting and vegetation control.
- 420 saplings from The Woodland Trust
- Maintenance of Heritage Towpath Trail.

**Our grateful thanks to all who
support the Trust in so many ways.**

Copy Date for the next issue is 5th April.

Membership rates are:

Adult £10; Family £15; Junior (under 18), Student, Retired or Unemployed £6;
Group (Clubs & Societies) £25; Small Business £100,
Large Corporate £200; Life Membership £200,
Family Life Membership £300 (includes children up to age 18).
To join, please contact the Membership Secretary (see above),
view our website www.lhcrt.org.uk or email members@lhcart.org.uk

Welcome to New Members – 1st October to 31st December 2020

D. Dalley, Burton on Trent	A. Johns, Cardiff
S. Lawton, Bury	O. Timmins, Lichfield
A. Proctor, Lichfield	M. Johnson, Scunthorpe
R. Bentley, Stockport	M. Whitcombe, Stanntham,
S. Gorell, Pleasantville, USA	Germany
D. Harrison, Lichfield	L. Guillot, Lichfield
K. Harris, Salisbury	S. Guilford, Thrapston
K. Matthews, Lichfield	A. Powell, Derby
S. Summersgill, Lichfield	C. Humphrey, Lichfield
P. Lumsden, Sutton Coldfield	P. Wild, Dudley
C. Weston, Rugeley	G. Wickham, Lichfield
I. Knowles, Nuneaton	R. Gleeson, Lichfield
S. Duckworth, Lichfield	R. Yapp, Burton upon Trent
L. McCain, Lichfield	P. Kirk, Lichfield
N. Cull, Sutton Coldfield	P. Browne, Elton
P. Hutchinson, Watford	L. Wallace, Falkirk
S. Bailey, Lichfield	P. Skidmore, Smethwick
W. Parker, Lichfield	C. Rogers, Warrington
T. Parker, Sutton Coldfield	V. Yates, Sutton Coldfield
S. Black, Spain	T. Carnell, Melton Mowbray
C. Duffell, Ashbourne	

Despite not being able to get out to recruit new members we've done remarkably well this year. Another 49 supporters have joined as members this quarter and those who have given us permission to print their names are shown above. Some of you have joined from local knowledge of walking the canal but an increasing number are joining because they have found out about us through social media and especially through the Cruising the Cut vlog on YouTube. Welcome to all of you.

We're really grateful to all of you who renew on time. We're happy to receive your membership subscription in any way you'd like to pay, but if you pushed us, we'd always say banker's order is our preferred payment method, and Direct Debit is our second. Both of these methods mean that we know the exact date the money is coming in and we don't need to send you a reminder.

If you'd like to switch to banker's order or Direct Debit or you'd like a reminder of when your subscription is due, please contact me (weekends are best).

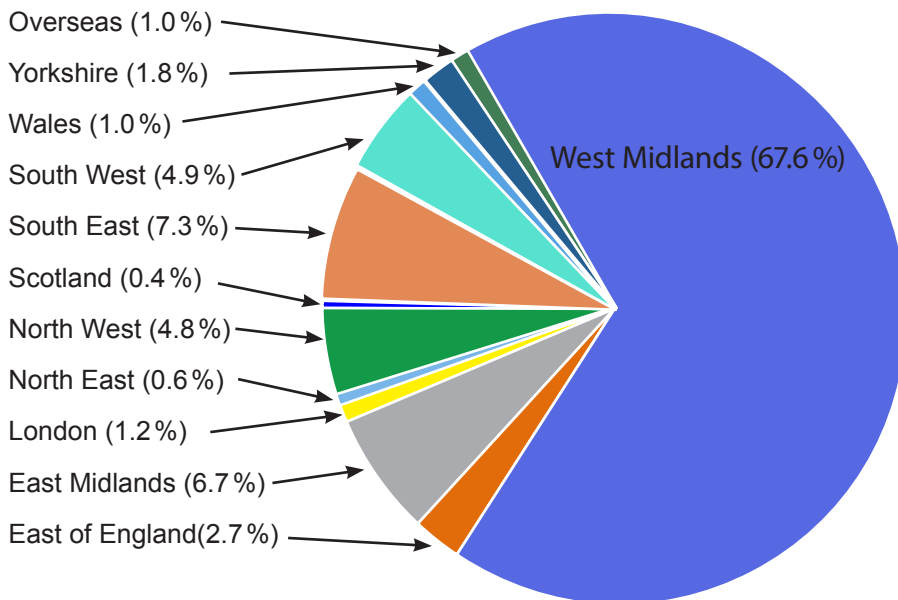
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Membership Total at 31st December 2020 :- 2032
(Comprising 367 Adult, 1012 Family, 240 Life, 404 Retired, 9 Other)

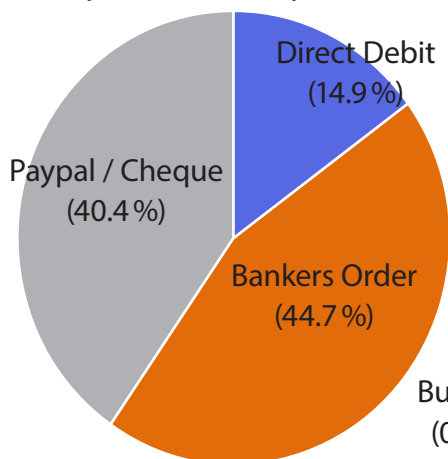
MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

I've been crunching the numbers and thought you might like an overview of where you all live, the membership type and how you each pay, so here are some chart for you. It's not surprising that the majority of members live in the West Midlands, but it is wonderful to see we have support from all over the world.

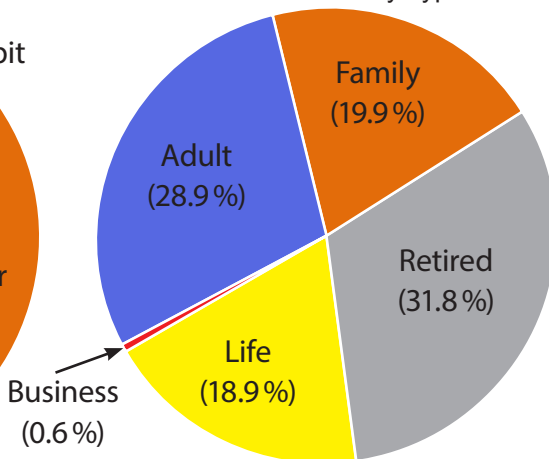
Location of Members



Payment Methods by Members



Members by Type



Christine Howles, (Events and Communications and stand-in membership secretary)

2020 accounts

Subject to professional examination for presentation to the AGM to be held later this year, preliminary results from our accounts for last year are:-

Total resources brought forward	£823,944
Income	£189,272 (34% unrestricted)
	<u>£1,013,216</u>
Expenditure	(£115,678) (76% unrestricted)
Asset depreciation	(£14,108)
Total resources carried forward	<u><u>£883,430</u></u>

20-20 Piling Appeal

Following completion of piling along the available part of the new section at Falkland



Road, further progress was made on restoring the narrow section of the original channel seen here by Tamworth Road.

It is with thanks to 180 donors to our Piling Appeal that it has been possible to raise over £22,000 towards the cost of the materials installed during 2020. The work will continue as further land and funds become

available in the coming year.

Donors can have their chosen inscriptions embossed on a metal strip which will be attached permanently to the waling beam along the tops of the piles. Due to there being nearly 400 inscriptions now being embossed, it is taking longer than expected to have them ready for fixing to the piles.

Continuing support to this Piling Appeal would be welcome as there is a lot more piling to be installed.

Bob Williams, (Finance Director)

To submit your donation and personal tag name, visit our website at...

<https://www.lhcrt.org.uk/2020piling.html>



Our 500 Club gives members a chance to win prizes of up to £400 every three months! 50% of the 500 Club income will be retained for capital expenditure essential for restoration of our two canals... and 50% paid in prizes to its members.

A full copy of the updated rules is available on our website.

270 subscribing members were eligible to share £405.00 in the December draw.

So please spread the word.

The winners of the December 2020 draw are (abbreviated for GDPR):

First prize £ 210.60 No 99 Hodgson, Stafford.

Second prize £ 137.70 No 80 Gulvin, Chatham, Kent.

Third prize £ 56.70 No 115 Heathcote, Curbridge, Southampton.

The “500 Club” Capital Fund has been established to raise funds for capital expenditure on land purchase and rebuilding structures on the Lichfield and Hatherton Canals. For an annual subscription of £12 Club Members are allocated 1 chance in each of 4 successive quarterly draws. Based on a membership of 500, the maximum prizes will be:

1st Prize £400 approximately 26% income

2nd Prize £250 approximately 17% income

3rd Prize £100 approximately 7% income

If there are more or less than 500 members, the prizes will be proportionally increased or decreased. So the more 500 Club members we have, the higher the prizes. Remember, membership of the 500 Club is open to everyone, not just members of Lichfield & Hatherton Canals Restoration Trust.

So please spread the word. If you want to subscribe, you can download an application form from our website www.lhcr.org.uk. Pending appointing a new administrator, please contact Bob Williams, Norfolk House, 29 Hall Lane, Hammerwich, Burntwood, WS7 0JP

(advertisement)



Michael Fabricant MP

**Member of Parliament for
the Constituency of Lichfield.**

If you live in the Lichfield Parliamentary constituency, and you require assistance and think your MP can help, you can either write to Michael Fabricant at the House of Commons, Westminster, London SW1A 0AA; or you can email him by using the webform at **www.michael.fabricant.mp.co.uk/contact.html** or telephone his office at 01543 419650 where you can also make an appointment to see him at one of his regular surgeries.

(advertisement)

At the time of the last report, we had record numbers of both adult and young people (mostly Duke of Edinburgh) working on Grounds and other work for a few hours each Saturday, having felt it safe to reinstate our DofE volunteers in July. Reluctantly, the October increase in COVID cases and its reputed link to transmission by youngsters meant that, very understandably, quite a number of adult volunteers decided to stand down for a while, though several have done work in twos and threes during the week, for which I'm most grateful.

However, we have also seen an increase in new volunteers –for construction work, for Grounds/Green work and as DofE volunteers. Through to Christmas on average there have been about 5 adults and 8 or 9 DofE volunteers out each Saturday morning doing a wide range of most valuable work, and some of the new adults are also doing construction work during the week.

What have we all been doing since October? While it was still dry and warm the D of Es had a couple of sessions tidying pallets, scrap metal, cement bags, etc which had been left “somewhat haphazardly” around Fosseway (note my careful wording: I know we have super volunteers who work very hard but some are pretty untidy... Steve and his team have created designated spaces for materials and rubbish so PLEASE keep the site tidy, even if that means that, as I do most sessions, you take stuff home for recycling or black binning!)

I also took delivery of 420 more saplings from the Woodland Trust early November. Most have been planted by the Grounds and DofE team at either Fosseway or Gallows Reach or Borrowcop Locks, but until we can continue along Falkland Road (awaiting bureaucracy again: Staffs Co Co transferring the next strip of land to us – it will happen – but “in the fulness of time”!) we've a few left overs (See Soroptimists below!).



While planting of these was going on at gaps in the hedges at Borrowcop Locks I was thrilled to hear one of the young DofE's say “Next week, we really must finish getting all the weeds, etc from here so that these new saplings can thrive”. These youngsters are an absolute delight: their interest, commitment to turning up in all weathers, working hard AND learning is terrific! On that, and as a bit of an aside but one worth reporting, another Canal Restoration Trust tracked me down to ask about having youngsters volunteer: evidently, some of their members were very reluctant; I assured whoever it was to look at our website reports over the last few years to

find out just how valuable they have been to us, and to add in that the stuff they learn is so valuable as they go forward in life. THANKS, you super young people.

While we have, to me sadly but totally understandably, lost our Queen's Croft High School volunteers on their Tuesday mornings because of COVID and also all the days we had booked with Foresters Scouts of Yoxall, I'm sure that once this dreadful pandemic is overcome we will resume these valuable partnerships. We have another couple of partnerships which have been revised or have evolved over the last few months.

A couple of years ago we had a session with one of 7th Lichfield Scout Group's Cub Sections; last year one of its Scout Section's Leaders made us Woodland Trust Sapling donation plaques and the plan, as with our several years partnership with Foresters Scouts, was to have a series of activities through 2020. The Scout Association shut down all activities until late summer; BUT we were delighted to have a group of Scouts come and help us sort and clean up bricks at Lock 24 on 12 December.

Also, Lichfield Soroptimists and Seasalt at Heart of England had planned to volunteer with us throughout the year on Grounds work and undertaking surveys; neither of which could happen with the COVID restrictions. But, several of Lichfield Soroptimists collected potted saplings and small trees on 12 December which they will each nurture over the winter and until we can plant them (ie once we have Staffs CC formalising further transfer of land along Falkland Road).

Saturday, 12 December therefore saw me out with Grounds and DoFE in the morning; Soroptimists at lunchtime and 7th Lichfield Scouts in the afternoon – all great stuff, and furthering such important partnerships.

Our regular Saturday morning sessions have involved much sorting, cleaning, stacking



and barrowing of then recycled bricks so that the Gallows Reach and Fosseyway Construction parties can use them for recreating walls and also for backfilling and retaining walls. Peter Buck has calculated that on average in a 2 hour session, a volunteer will clean up 20 bricks at £1 each were we to buy them, so with an average of 10 people (DoFE and others) that saves LHCRT £200!. So, our 5 days of this work in this last quarter has saved us £1000!

Christine Bull (Grounds / Green Team)

While the weather until Autumn was amazingly good, it's been somewhat mixed since then! Even so, we've only cancelled 2 Saturday sessions, and the second was on October 31st, which we had decided that, as being closest to when we would have drawn the Annual Prize Draw (billed as being at Whittington Village Hall at our Autumn Show on 30 Oct – but which of course had to be cancelled) would be done at Fosseyway. However, 5 adults and 5 DofE's turned up to Fosseyway in the pouring rain, along with the indomitable Bob Williams (whose family, I'm sure had separated all tickets, folded them and put them in a big bag – thanks, Family Williams!) and our super webmaster, Paul and his wife, Bev and so we huddled, socially distanced, under the Falkland Road bridge and young and older drew the tickets. Evidently, one of the winners had happened to drive by at the time and had wondered what the dickens we were doing!



Bob Williams draws a winning ticket



The Prize Draw Team

As I look back at my notes as to what's been done by the Grounds/DofE teams I realise I have omitted two things.

Aileen, Margaret and new volunteer, Ron tackled ivy and thick hedging at Gallows Reach so that Paul J could progress his towpath reconstruction – this also illustrates how our various teams interact and ask for help – super teamwork and what makes LHCRT so successful.

Our D of E team has been strengthened by several new older volunteers doing their Gold Award volunteering, some of whom have been with us for through bronze and silver. They've been assisted (as, most valuably, have I!) by new adult volunteers who have youth group and also D of E experience. The older D of E volunteers have, with Nigel's help, secured posts and tensioned wires to ensure that the fences along Pounds/Locks 24 and 25 are safe barriers for the huge number of people who regularly walk and run this route.

Hours spent on Grounds/Green /Youth Group work in 2020 were

Adults 513 hours and Youth Groups 756 hours

A pretty good record of work done, I think. My thanks to everyone involved.

Christine Bull (Grounds / Green Team)

Many of our readers would remember Keith Grice, who died on 11th January, aged 78, from reports of his regular attendance at work parties on both Hatherton and Lichfield Canals. Raised in the Brownhills area, he specialised in driving all manner of plant in his working life and with his love of boating on the canals, keenly contributed his expertise to the Trust for over twenty years. Always calm and obliging, he was a good friend among the volunteers, willing to share his technical knowledge and help those around him, only reluctantly retiring from active service on health grounds four years ago. His restoration work on the ground is appreciated as a lasting tribute to a long and valuable commitment to our Trust.



LOCKDOWN BLOOMS

The recently opened Heritage Towpath Trail at Gallows Reach has had some new primroses and bluebells transplanted to the raised garden section. Thanks to Jeanne Buck, who was able to carry out the planting during a dog walk.



These new plants will enhance the snowdrops and daffodils which are now starting to emerge along the side of the Nature Trail on the north side of Gallows Reach.

Gallows Reach will soon look a picture in a couple of weeks with all the spring flowers in full bloom along the canal, which provides a great healthy walking route during these difficult times.

Peter Buck, (Engineering Director)

Lichfield and Hatherton Canals Restoration Trust made huge progress in 2020 despite restrictions imposed by Covid-19 regulations.

The first lockdown stopped work completely for a long period, while coronavirus restrictions prevented Waterways Recovery Group camps, and visits by corporate volunteers, which had become such a big part of the restoration.

Fundraising events were stopped too, though that did not prevent supporters organising their own efforts, including Trust member Margaret Broadhead, who raised almost £800 by doing a sponsored walk up Ben Nevis.



The new channel of the Lichfield Canal at Falkland Road, with a brick wall on the road side and steel piling protecting the field side

An appeal was launched to help pay for sheet steel piling on a new section of the canal alongside Falkland Road, and that attracted a £2,000 donation from DPD's Eco Fund.

In total, the 20-20 Piling Appeal has raised over £20,000 since its launch in April.

The Tunnel Vision appeal, to raise at least £1million to instal a tunnel under the Cross-City railway line, has been delayed by factors beyond the Trust's control. Having reached over £600,000, from home and abroad, the amount is still growing as 'match funding' for grant money to stem rising costs and there are hopes that the tunnel can be in place before too much longer.

In the start-up after lockdown, reduced numbers returned to the work parties, though the Trust managed to increase both volunteers and members, and there were more people using the Heritage Towpath Trail and nature trails for their outside exercise.

Despite the restrictions Trust volunteers kept busy during the year.

Alongside the steel piling at Falkland Road, the canal wall, towpath and offside path were almost completed up to the point where the transfer of more land is needed to carry on further towards Birmingham Road.



The extension of the Heritage Towpath Trail at Gallows Reach

Work also began on filling the gap of the railway turn basin at Fossey Heath.

The canal wall and towpath were completed at Gallows Wharf and through Gallows Reach, next to the Tamworth Road, and piling also started in the Gallows Reach section.

Free hedging from the Woodland Trust was planted at various sites, and record numbers of Duke of Edinburgh award volunteers helped to reclaim bricks and build fences.

Maintenance of the towpaths at Summerhill and Hatherton also continued through the year.



Dan Hassall, head of technical at Persimmon Homes West Midlands (right), and Peter Buck, LHCRT engineering director, stand between the newly excavated Heritage Lock 23 and the concrete base for a retaining wall which will separate the Lichfield Southern Bypass from the Lichfield Canal

LHCRT held groundbreaking discussions with housing developers Persimmon which saw an agreement to include the canal and the retention of Heritage Lock 23 in the designs for a 450-home development at St John's Grange, between London Road and Birmingham Road.

The canal route lies between the new estate and the extension of Lichfield Southern Bypass, and the agreement met the challenge of safeguarding the route at this difficult pinch-point.

Two bridges are being built over the canal to link to the new housing development.

One consequence of the pandemic was that the Huddlesford Heritage Gathering, organised jointly with Lichfield Cruising Club, and due to be held in 2021, has been postponed.

The biennial event will now be held in 2022.

Tam Reid, (Publicity Officer)

DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD SUCCESS

Congratulations to all of our Duke of Edinburgh award volunteers who have been able to complete their volunteering hours against all odds.



The work that these young volunteers carry out on Saturday mornings is a huge help to us and without their help our adult volunteers would not be able to carry out their work; brick cleaning to prepare bricks for our Gallows bricklayers, turf cutting for the towpath, fence building and fence repairs, hedge planting and trimming, and much more. if you look at the new

bank along Falkland Road at Fosseway, the majority of that was built by our DoFE volunteers.

What's more, their skills grow extensively and they are happy to be leaving a legacy through their work.

Billy and Daniel are two of the many volunteers who completed their volunteering hours.

Congratulations to all of you!



Billy



Daniel

Christine Howles, (Events and Communications)



Borrowcop Locks to Gallow Wharf

These photos were taken by local resident Rachel Carr.

We love the way the colour of the path jumps out.



Fosseway Heath



Part of an article reproduced by kind permission of the Historic Narrow Boat Club (issue 2020/4) allowed by Editor Lucy Waldron whose Mother, Mrs Mavis Waldron remembered a long, arduous journey from Aylesbury to Wheaton Aston. Following an account of the early part of the voyage on Rufford towing Daffodil, only when they reached Braunston was it found that Hatton Locks were closed for cleaning so they had to find another way round... past Lichfield.

"After the Coventry Canal, we turned left at Huddlesford Junction, for the 30 single locks to Brownhills. Doing each one twice – not great on what was then a very dilapidated canal! The Section Inspector Charlie Hinton and his men were immediately useful, giving much needed help through this section. He told us 'boats never came his way', we said, 'unfortunately we had no choice!' He didn't know Hatton was closed either, it transpired. Now the dreaded Wyrley & Essington loomed. Charlie was amazing, at any time of day or night he was there to get us out of a mess. Every bridge hole was full of rubbish, and the locals were very helpful telling exactly what we were stuck on. Believe it or not, this section took us a month to travel, mainly due to the construction of the M6. We got caught at Sneed [sic] Junction where they were building the motorway. A legal condition at that time was that they had to provide navigation. However, as there was only 18 inches of water, with Rufford drawing 2 foot 10, and Daffodil more, this was going to be interesting. Needless to say, all work ceased on the motorway to watch the antics. Charlie's tug pulled Rufford through and the boat finished up very much on one side. My Mum was cooking apple pies, and had to sit in the galley with her back against the cooker to stop them falling out! I would never be able to show Mal (Rufford's owner) the photos [lost in a house fire]. A little man from the motorway crew appeared with a 6-foot aluminium shaft rather optimistically to try and push off 28 tons of Rufford – NO CHANCE! Finally, a sleeper held in the jaws of a JCB solved the problem. Jack said 'if they tried that with Daffodil, we will finish up with a boat in two halves!' However, when we put the rope on the dolly and she floated through no trouble. We would never have coped without BWB's help with their tugs. In the middle of all this, the lady passengers thought it was just another day, but I have to say, at the end of it all, my Mum was put off boats for life. The marvellous Charlie gave us his home phone number, and many nights we had to drag him out, but he never complained. At one place there was a large traveller camp and boys were walking on one side and asking if you wanted to sell batteries. Charlie said 'if we don't get you through here, you won't have a boat left by morning'. Men and boys from the camp were raiding boats and stealing everything portable. We found later (after we got through), they were putting a rope across the canal on an angle to deflect the boats into the bank, then boarding them and stealing. As we neared the BCN junction, who should come round the other way but Parrott! Complete collapse of Charlie, who then had the same struggle all the way back with another boat! At Horlsey Fields Junction, after many thanks to all the BWB staff, we started on the Wolverhampton 21. At last home waters. Wyrley & Essington had taken us a whole month... it was now June 1969, but we weren't home yet."

Bob Williams, (Finance Director)

LICHFIELD SOROPTIMISTS

In December, several members of the Lichfield Soroptimists collected about 40 saplings and young trees from us to tend them over the winter in their gardens.



Lichfield Soroptimists had been all set to help us both on the ground and also with survey work throughout 2020, but COVID put a temporary stop on that. So, both LHCRT and Lichfield Soroptimists look forward to resuming more fruitful partnering in 2021.



In the meantime, we know that our young trees, so important for improving biodiversity and thus wildlife, are being well cared for. Thank you, Lichfield Soroptimists.

Soroptimist International of Lichfield and District is part of a worldwide organisation of women, which is linked to the United Nations. The name “Soroptimist” was coined by combining the Latin words soror “sister” and optima “best”, and can be taken to mean “best for women” (Wiki). They are an organisation for women who work to transform the lives of women and girls worldwide.

Christine Howles, (Events and Communications)

SUMMERHILL A PLACE OF TRANQUILLITY

Summerhill may be out of the spotlight at the moment but that doesn't mean it has been totally neglected.

Since 2015 the towpath has been relaid, much of it by corporate volunteers but Mother Nature will soon take over again if we do not work with her. We are grateful to Mick McKie and Bill McDougall in particular for continuing maintenance along the Summerhill section, as well as development of the heritage path using the aqueduct as part of the visitor experience, when we eventually get permission to cross it. They can be found there most Tuesday and Saturday mornings.

So why not take a walk from The Boat Inn up to the Aqueduct and back? A distance of almost 1.5 miles.



The tow path is a mainly grass track on an all-weather base so there is no mud underfoot.

It leads up to the Cranebrook culvert and almost to the base of the aqueduct. Mostly the path is quite wide but isolation lay bays are provided. Wheeled aids can access and negotiate the path but at present it would be preferable for them to have pneumatic tyres.

Paul Marshall (Web Master)

HEDGING WIN!

We are one of eight community groups which have received funding from the South Staffs Water PEBBLE fund for projects to encourage and enhance biodiversity.

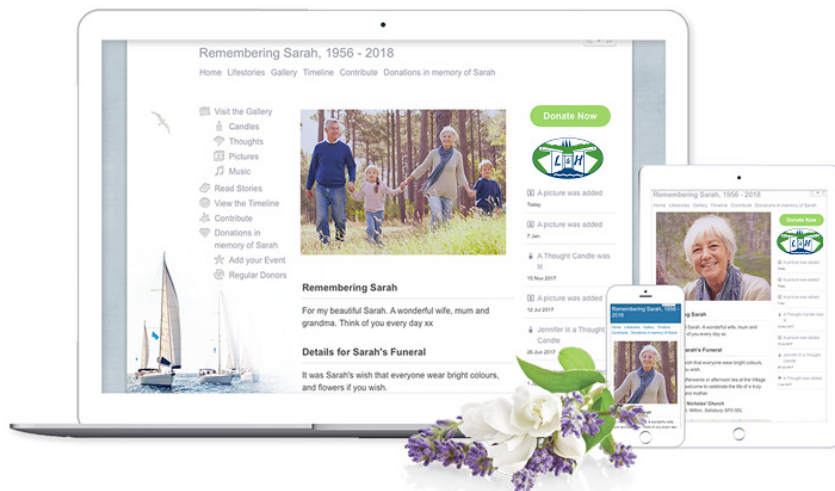
We have received £2,300 to buy hedging and plant it along the line of the canal at Falkland Road. This will provide new wildlife habitats and further improve the area for the community. The work will hopefully start in February, before the next section of the canal is excavated.

Dan Clark, Water Resources and Environment Manager for South Staffs Water, said: "We're not just here to provide our customers with high quality water, we want to protect and enhance the environment for current communities and for future generations. We want to do that by supporting and funding the existing community groups and charities, which are already working hard to increase the variety of natural living things and the diversity of the habitats where they live."



Christine Howles, (Events and Communications)

Much Loved – an online memorial to your loved one



Being able to express feelings and memories about the life of a family member or friend who has died can be very important to many of us.

We have joined Much Loved so that you can create a lasting online tribute and remember the life of a loved one, who was one of our supporters, in a positive and lasting way.

The online tribute enables you to:

- Share details of the funeral service with family and friends, including date, time, location and any instructions for people attending
- Collect 'in memory' donations, including Gift Aid
- Add and share messages, pictures, stories, music and videos, or light a virtual candle, to help you and the people around you to remember and celebrate your loved one's life.

You can keep your personalised tribute page for as long as you want to, meaning it stands as a lasting memorial to the life of the person you loved.

My mum passed away in December and by setting up a tribute page to her, I was able to collect donations for a charity dear to her heart but also keep it as a tribute to her. I visit regularly to light a candle for her.

www.muchloved.com

Christine Howles, (Events and Communications)

We have many small gifts available in our shop from calendars and Christmas cards (currently on sale), to mugs and fridge magnets.

We also have a range of art which has been kindly donated to us.



Autumn morning £195.50

One picture that is currently available is an oil painting of 'autumn morning' on the canal, by Dennis Harper from Lichfield and Sutton Coldfield Society of Artists.

We only have one available and it is framed and ready to hang. 26" x 23" (66 x 59 cm).



Swan pictures £30

We also have unique pictures of a white or black swan, which are hand-made by Susan Barker using a layering technique.

The pictures are in high-quality frames.

280 x 370mm overall.

Watercolour prints of Shardlow £13.50

These wonderful watercolours are by Lichfield artist John Broadbent and are supplied mounted, A4 size and you can choose canal boats at Shardlow or Trent Mill.



The views expressed in Cut Both Ways do not necessarily represent those of the Trust or the Editor. They are however published as being of interest to our readership.

SHOP AND SUPPORT US

Grab a bargain in our sale



Christmas cards

Our Christmas cards are reduced from £8 to £5 for a limited time.

They are A6 and on quality card, and you can choose from the Fosseway 'oss. Borrowcop in the snow, or Rose Willow which is reduced to £4.

Buy now and you're all set for Christmas 2021.

Calendars

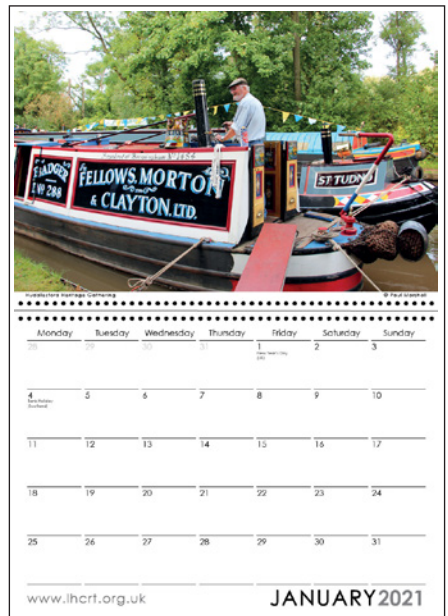
We have a small number of our 2021 calendars left, featuring photos of Huddlesford Heritage Gathering. The Gathering won't be happening this year so enjoy the sights of the boats every month of 2021.

These are now £5 + £1.53pp
(reduced from £9).

Here's January's page as you've almost missed it.

New to the shop

1000-piece jigsaw



High quality 1000 piece jigsaw of the Huddlesford Heritage Gathering.

Made of FSC-certified materials. £29.50

To buy any items phone Bob on 01543 671427, or visit:

<https://lhcrf.org.uk/shop/>

GRAND PRIZE DRAW—2020

Despite an estimated loss of £2,000 from not being able to sell our annual Prize Draw tickets at any seasonal events throughout 2020, the response mostly from our members was very encouraging. 2,248 tickets were bought at £2 each, plus donations making a gross income of £4,812.25, less operational costs leaving a net gain of £3,582.25 to Trust funds for which we are very grateful. The lucky winners were:-

1.	05736	£750 cheque, Mr D P Oldfield, Lichfield.
2.	10307	£250 cheque, Mr A Rowbotham, Sutton Poyntz, Dorset.
3.	10545	£50.00, Mr W Lawson, Burton on Trent, Staffs.
4.	03522	£40.00, Mr P Holford, Walsall Wood, Walsall.
5.	03034	£35.00, Mr P S Chester, Lichfield.
6.	10981	£30.00, Mr H Wilson, Leicester.
7.	04237	£25.00, Mr N Johnson, Lichfield.
8.	11872	£20.00, Mrs J Christopher, Brocton, Stafford.

To comply with health regulations, the Draw made on 31st October 2020 was held outdoors on Falkland Road where several young members of the Trust's Volunteer Team picked the lucky winners, duly filmed for our website and to the curiosity of passing traffic!

00001		Lichfield & Hatherton Canals Restoration Trust Grand Prize Draw To be drawn at Gallows Wharf on 30/10/2021 at 10am	00001
Lichfield & Hatherton Canals Restoration Trust Name _____ Address _____ _____ Tel _____ _____ Please return counterfoils, payment and unsold tickets by 23/10/2021	Printed by Stubbs Tickets.com Sample	1st Prize: £750 cash 2nd Prize: £250 cash for something special 3rd Prize: £50 cash for you to enjoy and many other prizes!	Tickets £2 each
Registered under the Gambling Act 2005, Licence: Lichfield District Council Licence No. 07/00593/GASSLO. Promoter: C.M. Howles, 22 Woodfields Drive, Lichfield, WS14 9HH. Reg Charity No. 702429 Tickets are not transferable and may not be purchased by persons under 16 years of age.			

With the likelihood of 2021 events seeming to be ever more unlikely, please help our fundraising efforts by taking part in our Grand Prize Draw.

Your tickets are included in this edition. Please return your payment and counterfoils to LHCRT, 22 Woodfields Drive, Lichfield, WS14 9HH

COULD YOU HELP US?

Fancy an opportunity to help us from home? We need more help with applying for grants to help generate increased income to support our ongoing work so we're looking for a volunteer bid writer.

We need someone, or a couple of people, to:

- Research, identify and manage bid opportunities and donations from trusts, foundations, institutional funders, governments and statutory-making bodies.
- Craft compelling and effective bids to secure successful results.
- Ensure bid deadlines are met, terms and conditions for grants are satisfied, grant income is collected efficiently when due.
- Maintain and update database of fundraising contacts.

Ideally, we are looking for someone with:

- Experience in preparing successful funding applications and writing SMART, detailed and compelling proposals.
- Excellent communication and presentation skills, both written and oral.
- Self-starter with the ability to work independently
- Excellent diplomacy skills.

We believe it is quite important, but not essential, that you know the area and have some understanding of canal restoration.

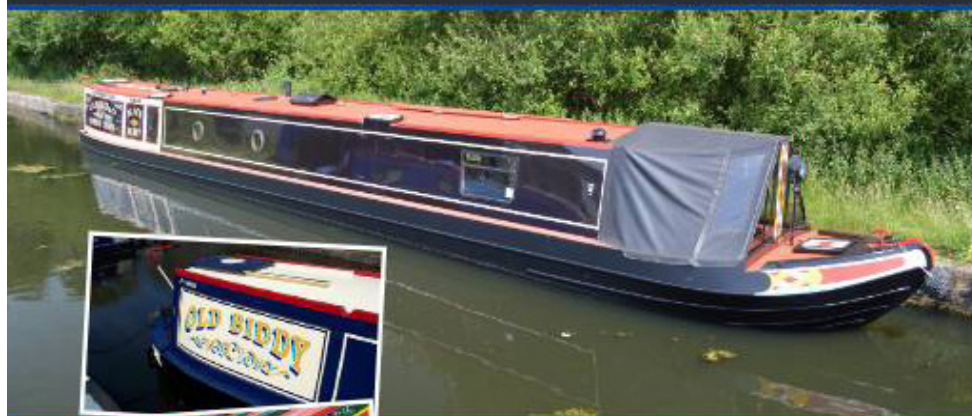
If don't have experience in bid writing but have the other skills, we'd also like to hear from you.

Contact Chris Bull for an informal chat 01283 790322, or apply via:

<https://lhcr.org.uk/mobile/m.volunteering.html>

Christine Howles, (Events and Communications)

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The Lichfield and Hatherton Canals Restoration Trust Ltd is committed to protecting your privacy and security in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation. We will never sell your personal data, and if we share your personal data, it will only ever be with our partner organisations where necessary to provide services, and only then if we are certain that its privacy and security are guaranteed. For more information about how your data is used and stored please visit www.lhcrt.org.uk/privacy.

**We are in desperate need of volunteers in the following areas:
finance, engineering, legal work, planning work,
project management and H&S.**

Can you spare a few hours a week, we would love to hear from you.

**Please contact Christine Howles 07852 190855
or volunteering@lhcr.org.uk**

Our Vision

**To reinstate the historic Lichfield Canal and Hatherton Canal
for the benefit of the community.**

**The natural wildlife corridor from Huddlesford to Hatherton will provide
a valuable amenity for walkers, cyclists, boaters and visitors to use
and will bring prosperity to the area.**

**This project will also provide an opportunity for young people to learn about our
history, our heritage and our environment.**

Mark Taylor  Humanists UK

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*Did you notice this in Membership Matters
on Page 5?*

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We can now set up for you the more popular Direct Debit as an easy means of payment, and for your renewal date. Give me a call.

Christine Howles, (Events and Communications)

For the latest pictures, news and on-line ordering of sales items,
don't forget to take a look at the web site.

www.lhcrt.org.uk

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If you have received this magazine and you are not a member please
consider joining the Trust. For more details contact the
Membership Secretary (details on Page 30)

All Correspondence should be addressed to :- Trust Secretary,
Dora Hancock, 2, Elias Close, Lichfield, Staffs. WS14 9TX

LICHFIELD & HATHERTON CANALS RESTORATION TRUST LIMITED.

The Lichfield & Hatherton Canals Restoration Trust Limited was established in 1988 as a non-profit distributing company limited by guarantee (No. 2456172) and is registered as a Charity (No. 702429).

Principal Aims : To promote the restoration of the Wyrley and Essington Canal from Ogley Junction to Huddlesford Junction (the "Lichfield Canal"), and the Hatherton Branch of the Staffordshire & Worcestershire Canal, and also the construction of a navigable link between the Hatherton Branch and the Birmingham Canal Navigations.

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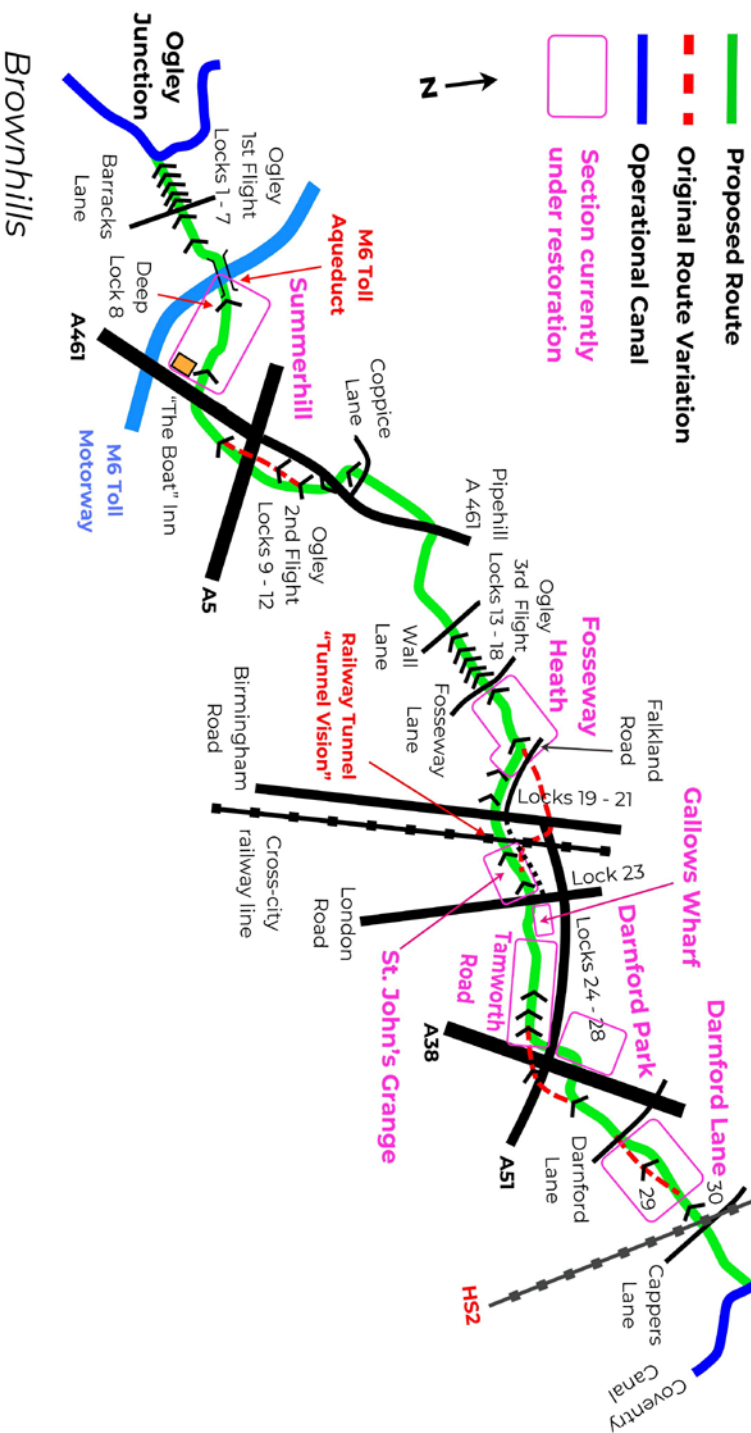
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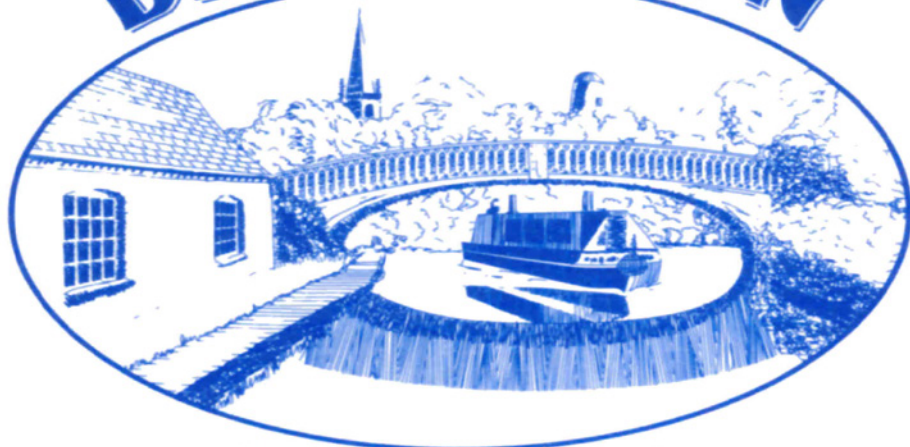
THE LICHFIELD CANAL

City of
LICHFIELD

Diagrammatic Plan Not to scale



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