

NORTH WALSHAM & DILHAM CANAL TRUST

In co-operation with the East Anglian Waterways Association Ltd.

Subject: Work-party at Bacton Wood Lock.

Date: Sunday 19th July 2015

From: C.J.B. Black, NW&DCT and EAWA

THE PLAN:

- To mow the surrounds of the lock not finished during last visit.
- To clear the remaining small trees from the east bank.
- To clear the lock area of general building material.

WORK ACHIEVEMENT: The morning was sunny and warm and the weather forecast was favourable with no rain showers forecast.

Eleven volunteers turned out and we set about our first task of clearing the heavily overgrown bund across the lock mouth. We needed access to the east bank to retrieve the small self set trees growing in the canal bank and bed and the associated general detritus. The east bank at this point sports many mature specimen trees, forming part of the large garden of Bacton Wood Mill. These specimen trees will remain in place and will give shade to the canal water here.

The grass cutting and strimming around the lock was mostly confined to the east side, which had become heavily overgrown. This task took up most of the day. The access track leading to the lock and the grass adjacent to the west side of the lock were mown again.

The small trees removed from the canal bed and east bank were chipped, with any useful firewood being removed then cut into cord length and stacked.

Lunch was taken at approx. 12.10 whilst sitting on the lock walls.

The afternoon work was concentrated on the east side of the lock. We cleared several old pallets, which were burned along with the considerable quantity of grass cuttings. The east side walls were cleared of bricks and wood left over from the building work and were restacked elsewhere resulting in a much tidier appearance.

We were pleased to see the two swans and their remaining three cygnets quite close by, totally unperturbed by our presence.

Work ceased at approx. 15.30 as the tasks had been completed in full.

Chris Black, Work Party Leader.