

NORTH WALSHAM & DILHAM CANAL TRUST

In co-operation with the East Anglian Waterways Association Ltd

Subject: Work-party at Ebridge spillway
Date: Saturday 29th July 2017
From: Chris Black, NW&DCT.

THE PLAN:

-To put in place the shuttering for the retaining wall beside the new east bank access track which runs diagonally up the north end of the spillway. (This retaining wall is to stop any erosion of the earth track by water running over the spillway. The spillway length at the top remains almost as it was originally but the bottom length is shorter.)

WORK ACHIEVEMENT: The weather was bright and stayed warm and sunny. I helped load the tools, old shuttering boards and lengths of timber on to Laurie's truck at Spa Common then we made our way to Ebridge. 8 volunteers had turned out to help with today's task.

The first part of the task was to excavate a trench through the old surface of the spillway. A guide line had already been marked on the old surface and with the small bucket put on the digger Laurie eventually managed to dig out the trench. At only 3' deep at the top end of the spillway it meant that we could set the 8' x 4' shuttering board length-wise, however it was soon realised that the old boards wouldn't be up to the job of holding the concrete in place. After a brief discussion I said the Trust would purchase some new plywood shuttering which Laurie and Darren fetched, together with two new panel saws.

Starting at the top end we gradually put the boards in place set at approx. 13" apart. Old bricks were placed at the bottom to maintain a constant width and the plywood sheets were butted together and held by lengthwise timbers which were screwed to them. The top width was maintained by battens screwed to the timbers. By doing it this way we should be able to pull out the plywood for future use.

Lunch was called at 13.15

Lunch over we resumed the task of finishing the shuttering which involved a rather fiddly piece of woodwork around the large timbers at the base of the spillway. It was now ready for filling with concrete on Sunday.

We cleared up the site and took the tools and two spare sheets of plywood back to Spa Common. The plywood was put in the lock-up for future use.

The work-party ceased at approx 17.00.

Chris Black,
Work party leader.