

## NORTH WALSHAM & DILHAM CANAL TRUST

In co-operation with the East Anglian Waterways Association Ltd

Subject: Work party on Old Wherry Pub quay heading.

Date: Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> July 2014

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

THE PLAN: To complete the installation work of the 2' wide timber walkway on the edge on the new quay heading beside the garden of the Old Wherry Pub. Time permitting the quay heading would be backfilled with wood chippings.

WORK ACHIEVEMENT: Initially the weather was favourable, warm and dry. Nine volunteers arrived and following a short discussion regarding the scope of the work we split up into two camps. David Simmons, Barry Mobbs and I resumed the task of nailing down the remaining walkway timbers and the rest of the team helped Laurie chip up branches from scrub upstream of Royston Bridge. There were many walkway timbers left to nail down and with increasing humidity and temperature the pace slowed, not helped by having to search for ratchet straps in order to pull in the back rail to the set timber length.

Laurie delivered a chipper load of wood chips – then the rain came down so lunch was called, which we then ate in the shelter of the road bridge. The rain ceased after lunch and we resumed work on the walkway and the rest of the team set off to do some more chipping. We realised that there were three more 600mm timbers required to finish the job so David and I had to walk back to Bacton Wood Mill to cut some more. It is quite a distance but was very pleasant in the sunshine, however starting back it rained and rained. We were soaked!

The rain ceased when we reached the Old Wherry Pub and we completed the walkway. The rest of the team returned from Pigneys Wood area – with the chipper minus a broken drive belt and some well soaked volunteers.

It was decided to call it a day at approx. 14.30 as I had agreed earlier not to work beyond 15.00.

We left site at approx 14.45 and the journey home was, however, quite eventful. We drove back to Norwich through Nth. Walsham and Coltishall, during which time the rain came down in torrents, causing flooded roads and very difficult driving conditions. It turned out to be one of the worst rain storms this summer!

Chris Black, Work Party leader