

North Walsham and Dilham Canal Trust

Work Party Report

Date: Sunday 19th February 2023

Location:

1. Purdy's Marsh @ Royston Bridge
2. West bank between Ebridge and Spa Common

Objective/s:

1. To clear brash at Purdy's Marsh
2. To cut overhanging branches on the west bank @ Ebridge

Arrived at base at 8.30am and got the outboard engine out and got it started after doing some repairs to the engine 'kill' button.

The volunteers were split into two parties.

Purdy's Marsh

The first group was led by Alan B.

5 volunteers took all the hand tools up to Purdy's Marsh at Royston Bridge, while Alan walked up with the DR mower which needed assistance to start. Worked fine stopping and starting for the rest of the day.



The volunteers collected all the tree branches and brash along the soke on Purdy's Marsh which we had cut down a month ago, a fire was already nicely established before I arrived with the mower, which then went on to consume the lot.

Alan B used the DR mower to:

- widen the cut area along the two sides of back-soke as far as the canal bank,
- open out the area around the two ponds at the south end
- re-open the path linking the two ponds
- cut the northern area previously blocked by the material cut down last time
- cutting the foot of the canal bank from this northern area south for about 50 yards (previously cut last year)



With all equipment put away they finished about 3pm.

Continued on page 2

West bank between Ebridge and Spa Common

The second group led by myself, including Derek B and Stephen E, took the outboard and a spare electric outboard with the pole saw and hand tools down to E Bridge.

Here we moved Ella and loaded up the pontoon with equipment, donned some life jackets and sailed up to the start of the west bank where there was a lot of overhanging branches that were catching the trip boat.

These were all cut back and have been piled up on the bank to be burnt at a later date. There is a pile that is a good hundred yards long.

Sue B was then taken back to the lock and secured. Both outboard engines and tools were taken back to base. We finished work at 4pm.

8 volunteers in total helped with this work at the different locations.

No photos taken at this location because our photographer was volunteering at Purdy's Marsh.

**If you are interested in helping at any work party,
please contact us using the 'contact us' form available on our website
<https://nwdct.org/contact-us/>**

THANK YOU TO YOU FOR YOUR DONATIONS AND SUPPORT HELPING US WITH THE CANAL RESTORATION PROGRAMME.