

North Walsham and Dilham Canal Trust

Work Party Report

Date: Sunday 28th May 2023

Location: Locks at Swafield

Objective/s: To clear brambles between locks on the upper section of the canal.

BEFORE →



The volunteers met up at the workshop at 9.00am where we collected all hand tools and drove up to Swafield. The canal owner for this section was then able to carry all the equipment on his small tractor and trailer down to the locks.



As requested by the canal owner the volunteers cut their way through the dense growth and cleared the whole of the lock side and down the steep banks to the waters edge.

MWi assisting the owner's wife, cleared a lot of the ivy from the top of the lock brick work.

Up to four brush cutters in use at the same time made short work of it.



We stopped for lunch at 1pm which was Cullen Skink soup and bread rolls with cake and strawberries, all supplied by the owners.

After lunch we carried on cutting right up to the second lock. At the base of this lock was a kingfisher going in and out of his nest in the bank.



All the cuttings were burnt at the lock side along with tree stumps that had been cut down and died years ago.

Another visit is proposed to clear the scrub and vegetation inside the lock chamber.

The volunteers finished work at 3.30pm with all tools returned to workshop.

7 Trust volunteers helped the owners of this top section of the NW&D Canal.



← Final picture

The final picture shows our work party leader and wife discussing with this section's canal owners further work that is required on the lock to manage growth.

Words by Terry Willoughby and Alan Bartram who also supplied the photos. Report editor Julie Kelleher

***This section of the NW&D Canal is private property and not a public right of way.
There is no access for the general public.***

**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.
All funds received go toward tools, maintenance and other Trust responsibilities.