

QUAGMIRE

NORTH WALSHAM & DILHAM CANAL TRUST CIO



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£2

Lunchtime for Volunteers



In Ebridge Millpond March 07

February 2022

Meet Joely Sharpe-Harris

You may have seen Joely going about her Work Experience , for her Easton College Studies, along the Canal. Let's find out more.



About myself:

My name is Joely Sharpe-Harris and I am currently studying the Zoology pathway in Animal Management at Easton College. I hope to study Zoology at university this year after the summer with my main focus on Entomology. I have always loved insects, from studying, surveying and just admiring them! I think they are underappreciated despite their massive contribution to the ecosystem, however, this general outlook seems to be changing for the better as we begin to understand them more and more.

Why I chose the canal trust: for my Work Experience Placement

The canal is a brilliant place for wildlife surveys, including plants, mammals, birds and invertebrates! This makes surveying very interesting, as I get to see such a wide variety of wildlife whilst completing tasks. This is something not many work experience placements offer, and is the reason why I

love visiting the canal.

What's so special about *Metrioptera roeselii*?

Metrioptera roeselii, or Roesel's bush cricket, is one of my absolute favourite insects. I love bush crickets in general, as they are so diverse in looks, chirps and behaviour, but Roesel's is my personal favourite because it is such a beautiful animal. As far as crickets go, it is quite a large species, ranging from around 13-26mm in length. The colour of these crickets ranges from a vibrant green to a dusky brown and all have a white horseshoe-like shape along the border of the thorax. The species feeds on grasses and seeds, and is a food source for a number of predators, such as thrushes.

An interesting fact about Roesel's bush cricket is that its chirp sounds almost exactly like the song of the Savi's Warbler, a rare, reedbed-nesting bird.

How it's all going so far?

So far, I have completed the first part of my cricket surveying, with the second part scheduled to take place in late spring/throughout the summer when the eggs hatch. I am comparing the ecology of the species I find at the canal across two generations, as I think this will provide some interesting results. At the moment, I am currently surveying bird species while the crickets are unhatched, and it's safe to say there is a very wide range of birds at the canal! I look forward to completing more surveys and generally enjoying my time down there.

Thank you for interviewing me!

The crickets are both Roesel's, the green one is a female and the brown one is a male. Thought it'd be cool to show their colour variety! 🌀



Photos provided by Joely

GRANT NEWS

North Walsham Town Council have kindly given us a grant to cover some of our annual rent costs. Huge thanks to them for this kindness. The Unit is essential for both our storage and our meeting room.

Enquiries are in hand with NNDC to establish if we can recover some of the lost income from the passenger trips, caused by Covid. We shall also enquire about Government grants, to go towards any material etc lost/damaged by virtue of Covid slowing progress. More on this as time goes on and news becomes available!

Would you like to help with the Trust's applications for grants? We desperately need a grant's team to search out and apply for monies - especially as we are now looking towards greater maintenance costs with a longer re-watered Canal, as well as funding to fit the bottom gates at Ebridge.

Please contact us on: secretary@nwdct.org for more information or to join the Grant's Team.

Graham & Julie 🌀

Boating News - Skipp Graham

The plumbing of the new hydraulics on *Weasel* has been arranged and is likely to be completed by the end of the month. Other jobs on the "to do" list include our carpenter forming a seal between the cabin top and the hatch, and for the Work Parties to organise the painting of the interior. New deck plates are being fabricated, ready for fitting. She'll then be ready to re-launch. Once back on the water, *Weasel* will be able to tackle the huge amount of silt that has been deposited by the North Walsham side stream at Spa Common. When not on official duties, *Weasel* will also be available on the Ebridge Reach - and hopefully even further up in the coming months - acting as a mess cabin and providing a much-needed toilet facility for work parties and other events.

The *Weedeater* has a full day or two's work to do to clear any remaining algae from the canal bottom. It can spend the winter being overhauled, getting ready for next season.

Sue B has been busy assisting the maintenance work being undertaken by the volunteers. This has included transporting the stop planks to and from Ebridge Lock, where they were needed to undertake some paddle repairs. She has also been used as a floating base for general bushing work along the reach.

Paintwork on *Ella II* is coming along. That said, cold weather prevents much progress being made, as paints don't do well under 8°C.

Thanks to all volunteers involved. The Trust's Boating Team welcomes offers to assist with boat maintenance, and also with the crewing and manning of any of the Trust's craft. We already have two *Weedeater* operators - why not become the third? Contact boating@nwdct.org for further details.



Weedeater, Ella II and Sue B at Ebridge - JK

CANAL BOAT TRIPS UPDATE!

Minimum donation requests now DOWN to £30 per couple or £40 for 4 people. Over 4 people is £50. That's you, your family and your trusted friends, up to 10 people! NOT mixed public trips. We're missing our public trips.

Why? Because your skipper WANTS to be out there on the water. We've not had a trip since before Christmas!!

Skipp Graham 🌀

Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG): The Canal's Potential for BNG Offsetting

New environmental legislation makes it mandatory for most new developments to achieve a **gain in biodiversity**. If a developer can't achieve at least a 10% biodiversity net gain on their development site, they will have the option to **purchase biodiversity units** from an **offsite habitat market**. This is the concept of **biodiversity offsetting** - a policy approach that seeks to minimize the environmental impacts of a development project by ensuring that any damage, or BNG shortfall, in one place is compensated for somewhere else. If units cannot be sourced from local habitat markets, developers will be able to purchase their required units (as credits) which will be invested in habitat creation. Here's where sites like the Canal may come in, as the NWDCT could potentially register the whole Canal corridor as a site available to help developers attain their required BNG.

Natural England is the body currently responsible for developing the BNG sites **register**, which will be a key component of future mandatory BNG requirements. The register will detail the baseline and expected future biodiversity value of the delivery site, plus information about site owners. It will also enable such sites to be traced back to the individual development whose BNG requirement they are helping to fulfil. Natural England are also starting work on a **net gain habitat management plan and reporting template**, as it is vitally important that habitats are managed and maintained for the duration of the BNG agreement. The latter requires habitats be secured for at least 30 years, which means they must be managed and monitored throughout this time (gosh, I could have a job for life, or longer!)

Clearly the BNG scheme's concept is similar to that of carbon offsetting, and has the potential for similar misuses. However, it is almost certainly here to stay; and it offers a potentially fascinating opportunity for the Trust to be rewarded for its wildlife-friendly goals and practices. It is also worth noting that the idea I've been banging on about for some time – to make the whole Canal a County Wildlife Site (CWS) – greatly strengthens the Trust's hand in applying for it to be accepted onto the BNG sites register. And my drive to have adjacent suitable pieces of biodiverse land also designated as CWSs should strengthen its case even more, as these would demonstrate what a substantial chunk of habitat-rich land the wider Canal corridor comprises.

Suki Pryce Jan 2022 🌀



Work Party News

Over the past three months, most of the work undertaken along the Canal has been maintenance based.



There were two sessions at Purdy's Marsh. On the first, the Marsh was found to be so overgrown that the DR mower was unable to make its way through, so brush cutters were needed to create the path for the mower - a full day's work! In November, the group tackled the stream, giving it some annual TLC.

Meanwhile, bank maintenance along the canal was the order of the day, with bushing and alder saplings being

removed. A popular task that always sees bonfires keeping everyone warm over lunch.



Sue B has also been showing her worth, either as a work-base for

bushing or aiding with the removal and return of the stop-planks to Spa Common. Elsewhere, mowing, tidying and car park maintenance at Bacton Wood and Ebridge keeps the tractor rig busy. 🌀



All Photos with thanks to Alan B

The first work party of the year was eagerly awaited by fans of wild swimming.

The staircase, supplied by the OCC, first of all had to have its side handrails removed and repositioned, so as to make a better exit for the swimmers.

It was then loaded onto *Sue B*, before sailing off to Ebridge with the volunteers aboard.

When we arrived, there were twenty swimmers from Norwich already waiting for us. We quickly unloaded the staircase and got it into position, so that they could all go down and have their swim. They were very grateful.

Terry Willoughby 🌀



NB: The staircase was fitted temporarily, until we put some bank shoring metal work in followed by back-filling with clay and soil. (TW) 🌀



With the ongoing maintenance work, and other planned restoration activities, there's a real need for more volunteers on Sundays. Please contact secretary@nwdct.org for more information, or have a look at the webpage for details of up-and-coming task dates. 🌀



A surprise birthday cake for Martin from the Sunday Swimmers, accompanied by a rendition of "Happy Birthday" by the "Swimming Group Choir"!

Photo - Caz Proctor

Quagmire is published quarterly, both as an e-version, which is posted to all members as a pdf, and as a link to ISSUU. It is also available in hard copy, and can be posted. For this, the Trust requests a further donation of £10, to cover the costs of printing and p&p. We would like to thank all who donate extra towards their printed version of the magazine.



Q - Extra - Monthly Newsletter of the NW&DCT

The *Q-Extra Newsletter*, produced during the other months, is usually available to members only by e-mail.

Past copies of the printed *Quagmire* magazines are available from the Editor at £2, inc. p&p. ☺

Memories - Mike Atherley

A trip up the Lower Canal - 1970's

Sometime during the early 1970's I was on holiday in my caravan at Ludham and always brought with me an inflatable boat with small outboard engine. I had found a nice launch site at Wayford Bridge, on the old hump bridge road, so I ventured up towards Dilham and noticed the canal entrance with a large sign, which said no entry for powered craft, so I ignored the sign and set course for Honing.



Tonnage Bridge c1978.
G. Eckersley.

The going was good for a while, with deep clear water, then I remember a narrow section with remains of fallen tree debris which stopped me until I raised the engine and paddled through to another clear section. My recollection was that Tonnage Bridge was in a pretty derelict state but I managed to squeeze through and continue to Honing Lock where I found, on entering the lock, that the bottom gate remains were in the chamber.

On the way back I found the Branch to East Ruston and navigated to the low M&GN railway bridge and would have liked to have been able to turn into to the old wharf, but the entry was blocked. The journey back to Wayford was difficult but easier. I know that the No Entry sign has now been removed, the bridge rebuilt and the lock cleared so small craft ought to be encouraged to use that section of canal.

Mike Atherley ☺

[Today, travellers along the Lower Canal should place their tolls in the Honesty Box, below Tonnage Bridge. Ed] ☺

WORK PARTY DATES

Sundays - 13th & 27th February and 13th & 27th March. (Why not treat Mum to a Mothering Day Special - A day's volunteering on the Canal?)

For Thursdays and other information, please check the website at <https://nwdct.org/work-party-information-page/> If interested in joining a workparty, or in chatting with the Work Party Leaders - please contact secretary@nwdct.org



Press Date for the May 2022 edition of *Quagmire* is Monday 18th April. Please keep those articles and photos coming in, to: qeditor@nwdct.org

Published 1st February 2022. Opinions expressed in this Newsletter do not necessarily reflect the views of the Trust ☺



11 Oct 2009



25 March 2007



4 June 2005



8 Mar 2009



25 Oct 2009



11 Oct 2009



3 N



**Ebridge
Millpond 2005-2009 (IC)**



Archive Slot - The Stop Notice - Ivan Cane

Following Nat Bircham's purchase in 1936 of the wherry *Ellie*, which was laid up in Ebridge Millpond, there was little use of the canal's locks. There is some suggestion, though, that Nat plied the Lower Canal with sugar beet for a few more years. Over the following three decades, the top gates deteriorated and eventually collapsed, allowing the canal's heads of water to be lost. The exception was at Ebridge, since the Mill still needed a supply of water. Here, the Mill owner's, Cubitt and Walker (C&W), kept both a dredger and a reed boat to keep the canal clear. Although the War Ministry had dredged the Ebridge Reach, and re-surfaced the spillway in 1941, by 1957 the North Walsham Canal Co (NWCC) found it necessary to dredge the Ebridge Reach again. At other times, the dredger was used along the section to clear silt, flowing from North Walsham side stream and entering the canal at Spa Common.



Dredger at Ebridge
c1960's Kiki Angelgrath



Dredger at Briggate 1993

The imminent collapse of the lock gates was of concern, so, in the 1960's, the mill-owners placed cement bags behind the gates, thereby holding up the water level. The Mill closed in 1998, after which a water supply was no longer needed.

Elsewhere, in 1993, the National Rivers Authority dredged from Honing to Briggate, and, at the turn of the twentieth century, some dredging was undertaken by the Environment Agency (EA) in the Swafield area.

By the early 21st Century, the canal waters were at full height. With the spillway long lost beneath spoil deposited from the IDB's soke clearances, and the Mill's slacker control no longer in use, the cement-bagged gates became the main weir for the reach.

By 2005, the East Anglian Waterways Association (EAWA) work parties, with permission from NWCC, had rediscovered and cleared the spillway, lock and surrounds. However, the canal's height was causing flooding through bank leaks further upstream, and the EAWA was asked to remove two layers of the top-gate bags, thereby lowering the water levels. The leakage problems continued, resulting in the EA dredging/desilting the canal and soke along the west bank in 2005.



EA works 2005. Paul Gibbons.



This did not solve the problem. By February, 2006, the east lock paddle had been raised, emptying the pound and allowing all waters to pass through the sluice. By 2007, the millpond was dry, with a small stream running through to the lock paddle. Work party lunches were held on the site of the pond (see front cover).



2008, paddle raised
and pound empty.
Mary Black



Briggate Lock Top Gates 1963 IC



Bagged Gates IC



1996 gates acting as
weir. Paul Gibbons.



Laurie Ashton and his wife, Julie, moved to Bacton Wood Mill in 1995, and became involved with the canal around 2003. As the NWCC had no monies to repair or restore, Laurie gained consent from the EA on May 23rd, 2003 to undertake works along the canal:

The **ENVIRONMENT AGENCY** in pursuance of its powers under the above Act and Byelaws **HEREBY CONSENTS** to the carrying out of the following works:

Clear all trees and saplings on canal banks, clear undergrowth and dredge canal sides to build up banks

Dredging or De-silting?

Although the term “dredging” is commonly used by the Canals & River Trust and the Broads Authority alike, the EA makes a fine distinction between the two:

“De-silting: Works to remove accumulated silt from the bed of a watercourse without deepening or widening the natural or constructed channel profile.

Dredging: (1) Underwater excavation, and (2) Works to deepen or widen a watercourse.”

(Source: EA, Oct. 9th, 2012, ref.121009/SR16)

Therefore, if the current depth is three foot, and it was constructed to four foot, that one foot of silt removal would be de-silting. On the other hand, if you cut down to five foot, you would then be dredging one foot below the original design. All past and future work on the canal will always be de-silting, i.e. removing the accumulated silt that has been deposited over the years, but never exceeding the “constructed channel profile”, as that would compromise bank stability and the original puddled channel. ☺



The Canal at Ebridge
March 2009 - IC.

Water can just be
seen in the distance
of the r.h. photo



After several years of negotiations, the Ashtons - in 2009 - bought their section of the canal, from Swafield to just below Ebridge Lock, in the name of their Company, the OCC. In 2010, the OCC purchased the ex-British Waterways dredger, *Weasel*, and brought her overland to launch in a section of de-silted millpond. The paddles were dropped and the water level raised to the top of the gates, allowing *Weasel* to be floated to work.



With the assistance of a digger from the bank, and *Weasel* midstream, several decades of silt were gradually removed.

Progress was slow, with Jeremy and Laurie undertaking the brunt of the

March & August 2010 - IC



tasks, and work parties aided tree and brash removal from the channel base and banks, so that machinery could have access.

Although the reclamation of the pond and channel was warmly welcomed, less well-known is the fact that there was a small group of people who saw the work as damaging. They wrote to the press criticising the actions of “urban warriors”. Of greater concern was the OCC’s machinery sometimes being sabotaged, with windows broken, bolts loosened, and even once a nest of eggs placed in front of the digger tracks overnight. Luckily, Jeremy had worked for many years for the Internal Drainage Boards (IDB), and, being engineers, he and Laurie were sure to check daily before progressing. Such actions inevitably diminished the many compliments received from passers-by enjoying the new walks opened to them. Laurie remarked *“My goal is to restore my part of the canal so that, ultimately, it is open for use by those that wish to sail down it and, where possible, subject to permission, those that wish to walk along its banks. As such, the works I have carried out are aimed at restoring the canal to what it would have looked like when it was in commercial use, without interfering with the character and the locality. I derive great satisfaction from the results and the thanks I have received from people living in or visiting the locality.”* (2016/0321). After two years of hard and dedicated work, the canal was reopened to Spa Common.



However, on 19th April, 2012, the OCC received the Stop Notice from the EA.

Water Resources Act 1991 Section 161A	
SCHEDULE 1 WORKS/OPERATIONS REQUIRED	
Works/Operations	By Date
Stop all dredging work on North Walsham and Dilham Canal.	Immediately

This was accompanied by EA representatives’ visits to Laurie’s home and on site, with reminder threats about the consequences of any further works taking place. The main precept was that the dredging works were affecting the hydro-morphology of the River Ant (North Walsham & Dilham Canal). The OCC had presumed their original licence to dredge was still active (unfortunately, it had date-expired), and that their work was de-silting a canal rather than dredging a river. Other concerns were that the EA’s representatives had implied the watercourse would have to be returned to its empty state of 2008 (not to its full state of 2005), and that they would not recognise it as a manmade canal rather than as a river (even though their River Basin Management defined the same channel below Ebridge as a canal).

A Public Enquiry followed. Although a room had been booked at the Wroxham Hotel, many people were turned away as it was not large enough to accommodate all those hoping to attend. The OCC mainly objected on the grounds that the original 1812 Act permitted the canal owners to maintain their waters, whilst the EA relied more on the habitat availability and quality. The EA prevailed. In hindsight, the appeal would probably have enjoyed more success had the arguments been founded on the bio-diversity of the length being enhanced. After all, it later emerged that the EA’s

habitat baseline was predicated on a “desk study” of what should have been there, rather than an actual survey of the empty channel that existed prior to the works being undertaken. One could also question, if it was felt that “harm” was being done by the OCC, why the EA had not intervened earlier in the three-year period.

A symptom of placing the Stop Notice on the OCC was that the NWCCo and other canal owners had to withdraw from further restoration works on their channels, as the same “threat” of prosecution now confronted them.

Following the loss of the Appeal, the OCC negotiated with the EA on the ground, and further works were allowed. The Stop Notice only covered Bacton Wood tail race to Ebridge Millpond, and so the very necessary de-silting works at Spa Common were permitted. The OCC then concentrated its efforts on the canal north to Swafield.

Meanwhile, the Trust arbitrated between the OCC and the EA, in order to have the Notice “lifted”. As this is a legal process, it was very time-consuming, ultimately taking more than seven years. The Trust’s Mitigation and Compensatory Group undertook the task, initially with Chris Black at the helm. This led to the first Canal Management Plan being published in 2015, with the stated purpose:

“to present a practical method of maintaining the restored canal section whilst ensuring that the maintenance work required for normal operation and safe navigation of vessels does not have a negative effect on the ecology of the water-body as a canal.” (P4)

After consultations with the EA, a second, more detailed document was deemed necessary. To this end, the M&C group liaised with the Broads Authority, Canals & River Trust, EA, Norfolk Wildlife Trust, Water Management Alliance and twenty-six other bodies. Extensive surveys were undertaken on flora, fauna, invertebrates and insect life; consulted, too, were the various canal users, ranging from walkers, anglers, canoeists and boaters to picnickers and gongoozlers. Our particular thanks to Mark Shopland, Graham Pressman, Suki Pryce, Perry Hampson and Tom Webster, who drew up the bulk of their sections of interest. That report took five years to consolidate, and was finally published in September, 2020. It includes a copy of the General Agreement, co-authored by the OCC and the Trust in 2018. Significantly, then, it enabled the report to be presented to the EA as a plan of the Mitigation and Compensatory measures that, where applicable, the OCC and the Trust would implement.

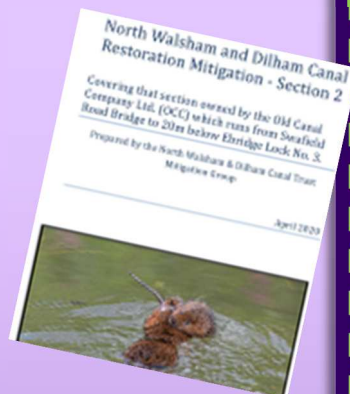
The Report was well-received, but still did not tick all the legally required boxes. Another round of negotiations had to take place, including “proof” that the Trust’s and OCC M&C practices were being put in place, e.g. annual aquatic plant management plan (i.e. use of the weedcutter - *Weedeater*). This was also during the time of COVID-19, when so many found the canal and its environs such an important “haven”. New users - for instance, the wild swimmers and paddleboarders - arrived, showing that their practices could rub shoulders amicably with the anglers, model boaters, nature and volunteers. An Annual Report for 2020 was drawn up by the M&C Group and presented to the EA in March, 2021, leading to the withdrawal of the Notice on December 1st, 2021. Our thanks, also, to Rory Sanderson of the EA, for his input and advice.

I am writing to inform you that the Environment Agency now considers this Notice to be withdrawn and we will not enforce against its contents.

This is a key milestone in the history of the canal’s restoration. It enables relevant maintenance works to continue on the Ebridge Reach, existing mitigation and compensatory features to continue along the OCC’s section of the canal, and to enhance the OCC’s Purdy’s Marsh CWS area. More importantly, it now gives the Trust the opportunities to work with the other three canal owners to look forward to restoration both to the North and South. Everyone on both sides has learnt much over the ten intervening years, and now look forward to working together towards the new Canal Restoration era of the BNG!🐾

Copies of the Report (Sept ‘20) and Annual Report for 2020 (March ‘21) are available at £10 & £3, + £1 p&p, from the Editor.

Opinions and statements in this article do not necessarily reflect those of the Trust, OCC or EA.



Waters (or lack of) Elsewhere - Channel Lining

Many restoration groups experience the same problem when re-watering their canals after many decades of being dry. One issue, which the OCC may also face when re-watering above Bacton Wood Lock, is that the water just doesn't stay there. When originally dug, many canals were puddled with clay, up to 3 foot deep, thereafter trampled by driving a herd of cattle up and down the channel. Unfortunately, such practices are not cost efficient these days.



Laying the Last Blocks (lctrust)

On the **Northern Reaches of the Lancaster Canal**, the plan was to re-open the "First Furlong" of dry canal towards Kendal, back in 2015. There was a rally of boats, a fayre and the official opening by Richard Parry, Chief Executive of the Canal & River Trust. This was to be followed by a flotilla of craft cruising the newly-opened stretch. Unfortunately, the re-watered section never filled more than a foot below the main canal the other side of the bund. As such, a small number of canoes were launched over the bund instead.

By 2018, the decision had been made to reline the length with a waterproof membrane, protected by a geotextile layer on either side, which was then itself protected by concrete blocks. Work began at Easter that year, a good deal of it undertaken by volunteers. Ironically,

there was a problem pumping out water to keep the section dry whilst the linings were laid.

It is hoped that the "First Furlong" will re-open this year, some seven years on from the Rally (lctrust.co.uk).

Over on the **Montgomery Canal**, a 361-metre dry section not only needed re-lining, but also suffered from four areas of sub-



Montgomery Canal lining. Oct 21 (Shropshire Star)

40m Bentomat on offside bank. Wendover. Dec 21. (Tony Bardwell)



sidence. There, the banks have been raised to account for further subsidence, then weighed down with water-filled tanks to induce the movement. The channel itself is being re-lined with waterproofing materials, then covered with blocks to prevent damage to the lining itself. Hopefully, the section will be re-opened this year.

The **Wendover Arm** of the Grand Junction faces the greatest challenge, that of re-watering a 6.5-mile stretch of dry canal long renowned for leakages (despite being build as a water feeder to the main canal). Early attempts in the 19th Century included

lining it with tarmac. The Wendover Canal Trust has experimented with different methods of lining, but their present system of laying Bentomat in 40m lengths, followed by hollow and solid concrete blocks, denotes the gold standard for other Trusts to follow (Wendovercanal.org.uk). This YouTube video represents the system more clearly than prose would allow.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1kiGfmSEKXc&t=581s>

Reborn this forgotten part of Heaven, like the Phoenix flying high.
 As in time past, so many owing to so few.
 That Merry Band of Men.
 A 'TRUST', they call themselves,
 And 'TRUST' we give them to tend this waterway from Heaven.
 Whilst we have folk like they, devoted, strong and true,
 Norfolk and England long live will you.
 Boaters, fishers, swimmers and walkers,
 Birds, fish and damselfly pass by.
 Weasel stands guard and Ella gives pleasure.
 Locks rebuilt from love, not profit.
 One day, I'm sure that, once again,
 Water will flow from Antingham Pond. Fish, swan and wherry
 In the dried-out ditch that once was Merry.
 Let's raise a glass and make our donation
 To the water and folk who uphold our GREAT nation.

Davidoff Bossanova 🌀

From the ICT Officer.

Thank you again everyone for your support whether its financial and through volunteering. Trust EVENTS along with Private presentations, provided by our archivist, Ivan Cane, can be viewed on our website via this link - <https://nwdct.org/2022-events/>

Work Party information and our archived WP reports going back to 2008 when the East Anglian Waterways Association managed them, these are also available via this link - <https://nwdct.org/work-party-information-page/>

If you have any memories or photographs please do get in touch either via secretary@nwdct.org or our newsletter editor who is also the EAWA Archivist for Canal Records.

A new CONTACT US website page has been created where you can reach most of our Trust Officers - The Trust Chair, Boating Officer, Membership, etc - this page has been updated asking for a 'calculation' to be completed when sending a request, this is to try and cut down on the amount of SPAM that we receive into secretary@nwdct.org

Julie Kelleher 🌀

Your Trust Needs You!

Are you recently retired and looking to remain mobile and active?

Have you recently moved to the area, and would you like to contribute something to the local community?

Then look no further. The Trust is seeking volunteers for the following roles...

Trust Project Manager

This position can be undertaken remotely, but an understanding of the work party locations and projects, and what is involved, would be beneficial.

The Trust has three very experienced work party leader, that would liaise with and seek guidance and instruction from the Project Manager.

The Project Manager would also help, in conjunction with the Trustees, to plan for the future restoration projects of the canal.

Trust Meetings Secretary

A role involving the management of the Trust's monthly, annual and other documents, e.g. rooms, agendas, minutes and officer reports. The person would also be asked to liaise with fellow Trustees and Officers, using templates provided, and following agreed Trust meeting protocols.

Trust Grants Officer

This position is central to the 'aims and ambitions' of the NW&D Canal Trust, inasmuch as investigating Grants opportunities aids the progress of large and small restoration projects. For example, a set of new lock gates with all ironwork and labour can require a grant of at least £90k, if not more, and yet raising funds for grassing the canal banks can be as little as £10. Our hope, ultimately, is that the Grants Officer will lead their own team, thereby sharing the workload. An initial task would be to draw up a list of "possibilities" that can lie on the shelf, so as to be prepared for the unexpected offers of grants.

Assistant Quagmire Editor

The role of Assistant *Quagmire* Editor will be to aid our current Editor. The Trust publishes a quarterly magazine, both online and hard copy, with monthly *Q-Extra* newsletters in the intervening months. The assistant would work with the Editor to gather articles from Trust Officers and other volunteers for publication, and to engage in the editing process.

Events Co-Ordinator

Our main event - the 2022 August Open Weekend - is again in the capable hands of Graham Moorhouse. However, the Trust needs volunteers to help co-ordinate other events during the year, including our popular Film Nights and Coffee Mornings, and stalls at various shows. There is also the welcome opportunity to liaise with and encourage other organisations to come and use the canal as their venue, for sponsored walks, triathlons, music from the pond, raft races, and "Introduction to Angling" days....

Press media officer

This role involves communicating with local press and relevant publications, like the EDP or waterways and boating magazines. The press media officer looks for interesting angles and news to share in order to get the public's attention and raise the profile of the Trust. You'll also keep online listings updated to advertise our boat trips, such as on the Visit Norfolk website.

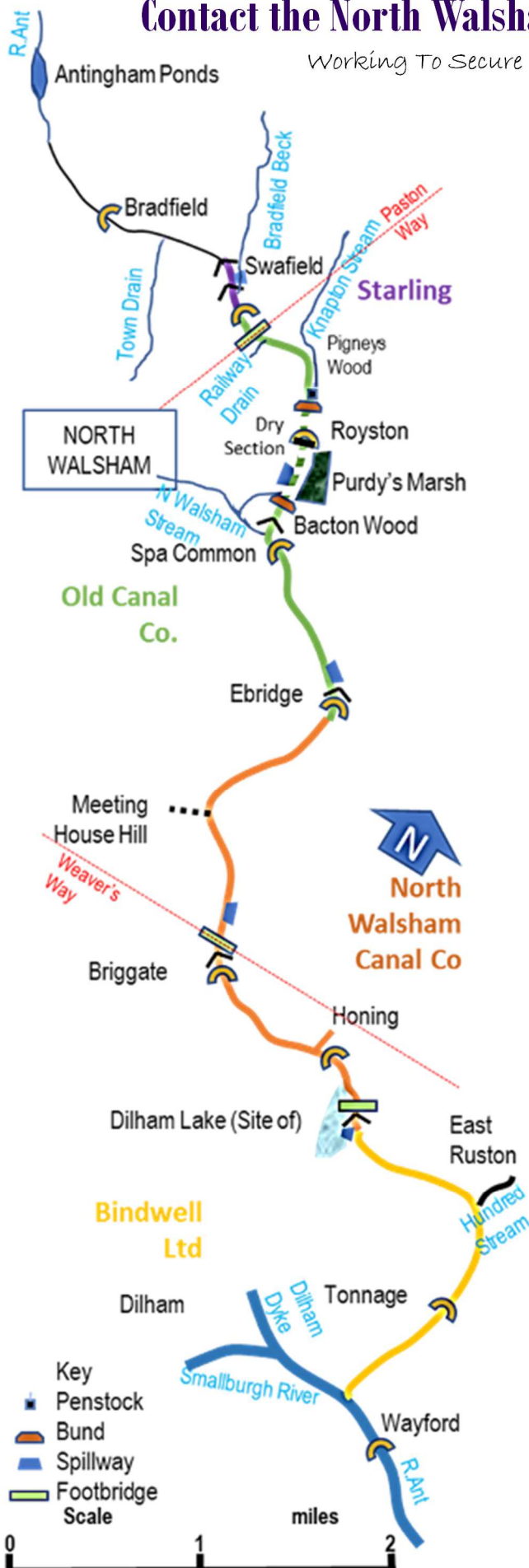
* * *

All published roles will have a dedicated Trust e-mail; they'll also have access to authorised Trust documents and files required to fulfil their volunteer's job within our charity, by means of an online file storage facility.

It is preferred, but not required, that those in all these positions are willing to take on a Trusteeship, since this involves legitimate decision making to the benefit of our charity. *Julie Kelleher* ☯

Contact the North Walsham & Dilham Canal Trust CIO

Working To Secure Norfolk's Canal Heritage



North Walsham & Dilham Canal Trust CIO
Unit 4 Bacton Wood,
Anchor Road,
Spa Common,
North Walsham,
NR28 9AJ

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 Organisation No 1180474

Email the Trust's Officers:

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Education & Training - Sue	education@nwdct.org

A3

For copies of the Trust's Access Map of the Canal - showing access points, car parks, pubs etc on one side, and an O.S map with enlarged sections showing the locks, on the reverse, e-mail the editor - £1 + £1 p& p.

QUAGMIRE February 2022



Ebridge Millpond 14 Years On



Open Weekend August 2021 (IC)

Vintage Canoe

*Weedeater and Sue B - Maintenance craft
Norfolk & Norwich Wild Swimmers*