

THE BUCKINGHAM NAVIGATOR

The Newsletter of Buckingham Canal Society

Registered Charity No. 1156662

Issue No. 107
Spring 2021



Featuring:

- The Bridge is Finished and Big Tractors Fit it!
- Award Winning Athina Shares Her Story
- Wildlife Thriving - Otter & Water Vole Reports



Cosgrove Marina

Lock Lane, Cosgrove, MK19 7JR

01908 562467



Contact us for short, medium and long term moorings.



Mick and Shirley are pleased to support the restoration of the Buckingham Canal.

RAWLINGS
LIMITED
structural design

Dryden,
Rock Lane,
LEIGHTON BUZZARD
LU7 2QQ
T: 07415 461917
W: rawlings.uk.net

Keith Rawlings MISE is proud to support
Buckingham Canal Society's work to restore the waterway to Buckingham

Please re-use this publication which incorporates a variety of information about some of our activities, to promote the work of the Buckingham Canal Society to a friend / neighbour / colleague / relative or other interested people.

Editorial

Welcome to the Spring 2021 edition of The Buckingham Navigator!

As we enter a new year with perhaps a little more certainty and a renewed hope for the future, COVID compliant work continues at our three main sites. Bridge No.1 is finally complete for the most part and is certainly open to BIG TRACTORS! Now our eyes now turn to Bridge No.2 and our other project sites. We also welcome two new trustees - Jo Lynch and Amanda Robinson, and introduce two new regular and insightful reports in this newsletter - namely Marketing and Community Engagement.



Thank you to all the contributors. Cover photo: The newly completed Bridge No.1 gets the BIG TRACTOR treatment on the 1st December last year © Steve Morley. **Why not drop me an email about what you enjoyed in this issue, and furthermore, why not contribute ideas or articles for future editions (see page 33). In addition to our website, we now have a wide social media presence:**

Please visit our website at: www.buckinghamcanal.org.uk

Follow/Like us on Facebook at: www.facebook.com/buckinghamcanalsociety

Reach us on Twitter at: www.twitter.com/bcsocietyuk

Find us on Instagram at: www.instagram.com/buckinghamcanalsociety

Watch us on YouTube at: www.youtube.com/channel/UCUsImDM1ExIXiH2iW9zAJhg

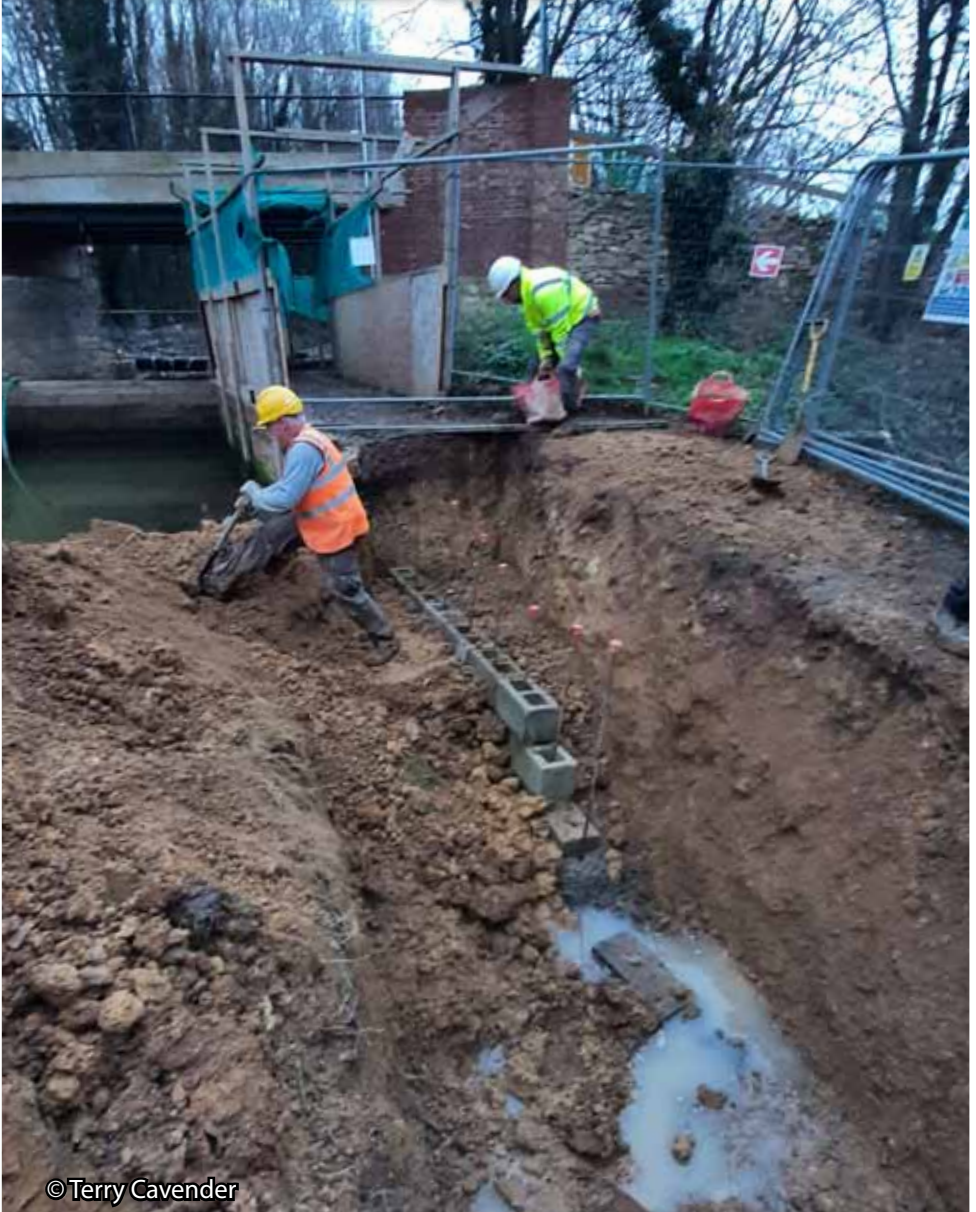
Thank you, and please stay safe, save lives, and protect the NHS.

Ian Matson
Editor

In this Issue

- | | |
|---|---|
| 4 Restoration Site Update | 28 Our 2021 Annual General Meeting |
| 9 Health & Safety Refresher | 28 The Grants & Funding Report |
| 10 The Winter Statement | 30 Funders |
| 10 Buckingham Canal Society News | 30 Patrons, Partners & Supporters |
| 12 Athina Beckett - An Award Winning History | 30 Corporate Members |
| 15 The Autumn Wildlife Report | 30 Corporate & External Volunteer Groups |
| 17 Membership Renewal & GDPR | 32 Buckingham Canal Society Craft Group |
| 21 The Pros and Cons of Reeds | 32 Work Party Dates 2021/2022 |
| 25 The Marketing Report | 33 Future Events |
| 26 Meet the Committee | 33 Next Navigator |
| 26 The Community Engagement Report | 34 Contact the Committee |

Restoration Site Update



Work starts on constructing the splash wall foundations below the towpath - see page 6 for more details on what a splash wall is and how it is constructed.

Cosgrove - Through the Eyes of Terry

Once upon a time, there was a big pile of dirt in a canal. Then the fairy godmother waved a wand in the form of a grab bucket and “WOOSH” it was gone! Well, COVID-19 deprived me of pantomime, so I thought...ok, I wont give up the day job.



©Terry Cavender

We keep over using the word milestone, but I dont care! This IS another milestone in that we have built Bridge No.1 (above), inserted stop planks, removed the piling, and now we have even removed the earth dam. By the way, it was earth, and clay, and lumps of stone, and rubble, and tree roots and so on and so forth. As I type, there is still some more to come out as part of the dredging, but as the song goes, there “ain’t no stopping us now”.

COVID-19 has reduced our scope and volunteer numbers, but we have been managing our work at Cosgrove within the COVID compliance framework, with Canal & River Trust reviews to allow us to continue the works within the government’s guidelines.

The previous dredgings have been taken out of the hopper and deposited behind the Nicospan (below) at ‘Cosgrove Cow Corner’ where the cows have broken down the bank.



©Terry Cavender



© Terry Cavender

We are rebuilding the bank for Canal & River Trust and hence we are able to deposit our dredgings (above & left) with the relevant permits and without cost to us, whilst being of benefit to all canal users. We will be fencing the muddy bit off in March to stop the silly cows wading in to the squidgy mud and getting stuck (Moooooo!).



© Unknown

Meanwhile, the towpath at Cosgrove is starting to reform where the temporary farm crossing was located. A long time ago, this was the most significant breach of the canal between Cosgrove and the A5, possibly caused by a tree fall. That's why this was the chosen location for the temporary crossing. The field access to Cosgrove Hall has now been closed off and re-fenced.

Part of this temporary works remediation also includes building a splash wall (below) to separate the wet clay on the channel side with the dry toe



© Terry Cavender

of the banks supporting the towpath. This is a concrete foundation with 9" wide concrete blocks (see page 4) and eleven courses of bricks that will all be buried inside the towpath underneath the walking surface. As I write this, the task is nearing its completion and should be done by the time this edition of the newsletter reaches you.

Work will then progress to move the infill under the temporary farm crossing and this should commence subject to government COVID advice etc. We have even used recycled concrete blocks harvested through Facebook for this!

Once the channel is clear, we will then focus on the towpath bankside leaks over the spring and summer as well as raising the bund at the farm crossings to allow for the raised levels. Discussions are ongoing to reduce the farm crossings and remove each in turn in the not too distant future.

Terry Cavender
Trustee and Executive Officer

Maintenance Tasks Continue at Bourton Meadow

Because of the present lockdown restrictions our Sunday work parties are on hold, although we hope to resume them again at the beginning of April. The last work parties held at Bourton Meadow were in September and October which saw several external organisations joining our own groups of volunteers.

On Sunday 6th December my partner and I walked along the towpath at Bourton Meadow checking



out what work needed to be done at this site for future work parties. We were very upset to see that behind the spill weir was the remains of what looked like a party that had taken place, and there was rubbish spread everywhere.

We collected as much of the rubbish as possible but didn't have anything with us to remove the beer cans that were floating in the canal water, so I contacted fellow trustee Gerry Millard who lives near Bourton Meadow. He offered to go down to the canal with a fishing net and remove all floating beer cans, so a big thanks goes to Gerry for helping us out here. There was also a problem with the new leaflet box which Gerry has kindly fixed as well.

I'm really missing working on the canal, and I'm looking forward to when we can meet up again on a work party. One good thing is that I'm continuing to get requests from people who are interested in volunteering with us, so when the Sunday work parties do start up again there should be quite a few new faces on site.

Footbridge and Hedgerow Repairs Proposed for Hyde Lane

Our first Sunday work party at our Buckingham Canal Nature Reserve for quite a while took place on Sunday 13th December. This would have been the first time many of the Sunday volunteers would have worked at this site because last year we worked at Bourton Meadow. Unfortunately the weather was against us and it poured with rain as we made our way to site, so I was not very surprised to find only a few hardy souls had turned up. In fact the weather was so bad I was surprised that anyone had turned up at all!

By about 10.30 things had improved slightly and five of us managed to get quite a bit of work done. The interpretation board at the start of the canal was cleaned as was the one by the lock. A new blue leaflet box was installed, again by the lock, and this looks very smart indeed. The seating area was tidied up and moss was cleared from the seats.

All fallen branches were cleared from the bed of the canal, and any branches along the towpath and canal bank were removed. This was so that this area could be strimmed in future to encourage more wild flowers to grow. To wrap up, we had a bonfire to get rid of most of the branches blocking the canal bed, and that certainly cheered us up on this very muddy and wet day.

Because of the bad weather many of you would have missed the opportunity of working at this really attractive site, so I am looking forward to showing you around when work parties start up again. A lot of work is planned for this site in the spring which includes installing a bridge over the stream. This will involve clearing the area where the crossing will go and building the footings for it.



© Athina Beckett

Hedgelaying was carried out here about five years ago, and this now needs attention (left). Stakes and binders need replacing and we may do a small amount of hedgelaying too, since we now have two people who have recently been on a hedgelaying course.

Once they have started up again I plan to run work parties between

Bourton Meadow and our Nature Reserve at Hyde Lane over the next few months. This will depend upon where the work is most needed on the second Sunday of each month. We should have volunteers joining us on alternative Thursdays too.

Everybody is welcome and no experience is necessary. If you are interested in joining us, please contact me using my details on page 34.

Athina Beckett

Trustee, Volunteer Leader and Work Party Organiser

Do You Dig Canals?...We Do!



Work parties are now held every Tuesday, Thursday and the second & last Sunday of each month and are always friendly, welcoming and very rewarding. Most Tuesdays and Thursdays, as well as the second and last Sunday of each month will take place at Cosgrove. Some of the other dates will be at Bourton Meadow or Hyde Lane.

Further information can be found on page 32, and more detailed information about these and extra curricular dates can be found by visiting our work parties web page at:

www.buckinghamcanal.org.uk/events-and-news/work-parties/

If you would like to become involved, please contact either myself or Terry using our contact details on page 34.

Athina Beckett

Trustee, Volunteer Leader and Work Party Organiser

Health & Safety Refresher

Buckingham Canal Society has a duty of care to its members, volunteers and the public to comply with the Health & Safety legislations in place.

BCS operates work parties under terms of Insurance provided through the Inland Waterways Association. As a part of this, we work within many of the principles and methods of Waterway Recovery Group.

You will always be given a Health and Safety briefing for any work party. All work parties involving construction machinery, often referred to as plant, will require that you confirm you have watched the Waterway Recovery Group's Health & Safety video (via the link below) within the past twelve months.

The video contains important Health & Safety information that all new volunteers need to know. All volunteers are required to watch this video before they go on site in order to find out about Waterway Recovery Group's on site Health & Safety.

This video is only an introduction to site safety, and does not remove the need for a volunteer to have a full briefing about a specific site/project.

For full details of the Waterway Recovery Group's Health & Safety policy and additional documentation and videos, please visit:

www.buckinghamcanal.org.uk/wrg-health-safety-video/

For more information about Waterway Recovery Group, please visit:

www.waterways.org.uk/wrg

The Winter Statement

Hello and welcome to another fantastic edition of The Buckingham Navigator. If you follow us on social media, you will have seen that great advances have been made. If you don't yet follow us, then please do so and encourage all your friends to as well. Every like and share we receive is a show of support and greatly improves our position when applying for grants.

With Easter fast approaching, expect to see regular updates from Admiral Cavender as he and his scurvy crew travel south to collect the new addition to the rapidly expanding Buckingham Canal Society fleet. Our new vessel will be a significant asset for not only the development of the canal, but also its regular maintenance.

The bund separating the Buckingham Arm from the Grand Union has now been breached, and the connection between the two opened. Work is going apace to allow the first section to be fully connected, with the opportunity for boats to pass under the bridge. Although with no winding hole, any boat venturing down the arm will at present have to reverse out, and whilst inconvenient, we bet that people will be vying for the opportunity to do so.

This year's Annual General Meeting will be a little different again, with it being fully online. **Please look out for instructions using on how to join in by using the link on page 28. If you have any questions you would like addressed, please email us.**

With the beauty of winter finally here, and spring now beckoning, now is a fantastic time to take a socially distanced walk along our restored sections with camera in hand and capture that beauty. **If you do get a shot that you think is fantastic, then please post on our Facebook page for everyone to enjoy.**

We hope you are all well and staying safe, and we thank you for your continuing support.

Rob Morris

Trustee and Chairman

Buckingham Canal Society News

We Need Your Help!

In the previous newsletter you will have read about me receiving the IWA Christopher Power Prize for my services to canal restoration, and with this award was a cheque for £1,000 made out to our Society. At a recent committee meeting the trustees agreed this money should be spent on a special piece of artwork or project for the canal at Cosgrove - something that would be a focal point when walking the Buckingham Canal. This is where we need your thoughts and ideas. This could be anything from a new style bench seat to a mosaic. In other words anything arty or something you would like to see when walking the Buckingham Arm.

One of the positive things for me in the present lockdown is that I live next to the Grand Union Canal in Milton Keynes where, in 2016, a new arts trail was put in place along the banks of the canal. This means that on my one walk a day I get a chance to look at a collection of different types of artwork on every walk. This photo shows me with my froggy friend bench seat where I can sit next to the canal and watch the world go by. **If you want to see more of this arts trail in Milton Keynes, search online for the Gyosei Arts Trail.**

Now it is your turn to get involved, so get your cameras out, come up with new ideas, take inspiration from other arts trails, design your own piece for Cosgrove and send your ideas to us at: info@buckinghamcanal.org.uk. I can't wait to see your ideas!



© Jonathan Brown

Athina Beckett

Trustee, Volunteer Leader and Work Party Organiser

Cosgrove Canal Festival & Craft Fair Postponed

It is with deep regret that we have to announce that the annual Cosgrove Canal Festival & Craft Fair will not be taking place in 2021. The committee has reviewed the ongoing Coronavirus pandemic, and in light of any uncertainty as to when restrictions will be



lifted while taking into account the safety of all who attend, we cannot commit to a 2021 festival. We are now planning to hold the next event in July 2022 instead. We thank everyone for your continued support and look forward to inviting you to join us next year.

BCS Trustee Committee

Athina Beckett - An Award Winning History

After winning the IWA Christopher Power Prize for my contribution to inland waterway restoration last year, it was reported that I have been volunteering with Buckingham Canal Society since 1993. People have asked what it was like when I first started volunteering with the Society and the changes I must have seen over the years. I then decided to put together a few notes about my work with the Society over the years and the progress I have seen since 1993.

I was born and grew up in London with no interest in canals until my divorce. It was then that I had to find new interests, and volunteering seemed the way forward. So I joined a conservation group called British Trust for Conservation Volunteers (more commonly known as BTCV), which is now called The Conservation Volunteers (TCV). At the same time I felt I needed a new holiday experience, so I answered an ad in a London magazine where someone wanted a couple of extra people to make up a party on a canal holiday. Through answering that ad, I found myself on a 70ft narrowboat with nine complete strangers cruising the canal systems around Stoke-on-Trent. I loved every bit of it!

After returning, I looked for other opportunities to go boating, and for quite a few years I went as crew with people who needed an extra pair of hands on their boats. I had some very interesting experiences - but that is a different story!

Back to the conservation group, and one day one of my friends said to me "you like canals Athina, have you heard about a group called Waterway Recovery Group? They do a similar thing to us except they work on canals". I hadn't heard of them but soon found out about them.

At about the same time in 1993 a work colleague mentioned that he had heard about a new group who had just started up, and that they were working to restore the disused Buckingham Canal. He said that he was going along on the coming Sunday to join them on a work party and asked if I wanted to go with him. And so I became a Buckingham Canal Society volunteer, whilst also joining the Waterway Recovery Group - Bit in the Middle at about the same time, enjoying many years donating my spare time in the name of canal restoration.

In September 1997 I took over as the Work Party Leader for our Society. At this time we were only running one work party a month on a Sunday, and only at Cosgrove, so wanting to do more I started up the midweek work parties. As I was also volunteering with The Parks Trust in Milton Keynes on their chosen day, which was Wednesdays, I choose Thursdays for our own volunteer work parties.

Cosgrove

My first ever work party with Buckingham Canal Society was working at the A5 end of the canal and clearing a very overgrown section of the canal bed. At this time most of the rest of the canal was completely overgrown with large trees, which at a later date all

had to be all hand winched out and the canal bed completely cleared. So to help with this task I brought the aforementioned Bit in the Middle group along to help remove the larger of the trees. They were the first Waterway Recovery Group volunteers to join us on site.

Most of the early days were spent on keeping the towpath in good shape and clearing the canal bed so people could see the full potential of the waterway when they walked past. When we were finally able to re-water part of the section at the Cosgrove end, this helped people to imagine what a fully restored canal would look like.

Whilst progress was made at other sites, we had to wait for permission from Canal & River Trust before we could start the restoration work on Bridge No.1. So it was fantastic news when permission was given to restore this bridge, and we were able to proceed with a grant in place. Now we have the bridge restored, and the piling that was installed around 1945 has been removed, the canal is now back in water again.

For years, apart from brush cutters and strimmers, all tools used on work parties were hand tools. Now though, when you join one of our work parties, we have Blue - our first excavator, Marigold - our dumper truck, and the latest edition being our Hitachi excavator. Louise - our work boat, joined us about a year ago and is now helping with dredging the Buckingham Canal. What a difference since my first work party day in 1993!

Bourton Meadow

After taking over as Work Party Leader, I felt we needed more sites to work on, so myself and the then chairman Tony Collins got to know a very friendly local farmer called Nick Hawes. He owned part of the canal at Bourton Meadow and was happy to let us work and restore his part of it. At this time the canal bed was completely overgrown and filled with extremely large trees. It was almost impossible to see the bed, but Nick very kindly offered us the loan of his excavator and manpower for several days which then made it possible to remove said trees. With no help, it would have been a very difficult task with just our own hand winches!

As most of you know, we were eventually able to get a Waste Recycling Environmental Ltd (WREN) grant to re-water this section of canal. We had a fantastic opening day in October 2013 with about two hundred people from Buckingham celebrating with us (right).



© Richard Lewis

Little Hill Farm

My partner Jonathan and I loved walking the Ouse Valley Way which follows the canal route from Buckingham until it reaches the Thornton Road, where it turns right and follows the river. On this particular day we didn't want to follow the river but wondered what happened to the canal, so upon reaching the Thornton Road we crossed the road and peered through the foliage, and there in front of us was a canal and in water!

Being very excited by the fact that there was a canal in water, we walked around the corner and knocked on the farmer's door. We explained we were from Buckingham Canal Society and asked if we could look at part of the canal we had seen from the road. Mike Edmonds made us very welcome and Little Hill Farm became our next work site.

Hyde Lane (Buckingham Canal Nature Reserve)

This site is owned by Berkshire, Buckinghamshire & Oxfordshire Wildlife Trust who bought this site as a nature reserve in the 1950s. They wanted it to stay as such, but there was one problem. The site was getting very overgrown and they didn't have any local volunteers to work the site, so after a long discussion they made me an offer I couldn't refuse. For a trial period in 2005 I would become the Trust's site warden and was able to bring my own Society volunteers along to work on the site.



This arrangement worked very well for several years, and in 2011 we were offered the lease for the site. It was one of my most memorable days when Mark Vallance, my colleague from the Trust handed over the lease to me (left)!

The second most important event was having my grant application to Waste Recycling

Environmental Ltd for the work to repair the Hyde Lane lock accepted. Not only was it the first large grant that the Society had ever received, it was also my first success at having a grant worth more than a few hundred pounds accepted!

Since then I have continued working for Buckingham Canal Society in several roles as Trustee, Chairman and Work Party Leader. Thank you so much to my many friends in the Inland Waterways Association for awarding me the Christopher Power Prize for my services to inland waterway restoration, and also for the £1,000 cheque awarded to the Society!

Athina Beckett

Trustee, Volunteer Leader and Work Party Organiser

The Autumn Wildlife Report

A Brief Update On My Wildlife Sightings

Before I get to the main Bourton Meadow wildlife report, I thought that you might like a brief and final update on my sightings up until the year's end, COVID-19 restrictions permitting. Well, my bird species tally ended up at respectable 179, an increase of 55 since the last report. Who knows what this year will bring, although I'm at 93 already, which isn't bad considering we've been in full lockdown since the beginning of the year. Anyway, to wrap up my 2020 sightings, here is a briefer than usual personal report.

The species seen since my last report until the end of 2020 were:

Snipe; Little Owl; **Whinchat**; *Ruff*; **Ringed Plover**; Yellow Wagtail; **Wood Sandpiper**; Great Skua; **Bittern**; Turnstone; **Siskin**; Tree Pipit; **Crossbill**; Arctic Skua; **Long-tailed Skua**; Whimbrel; **Eider**; Black Tern; **Sabine's Gull**; Kittiwake; **Little Gull**; Sandwich Tern; **Arctic Tern**; Knot; **Curlew Sandpiper**; Guillemot; **Black-tailed Godwit**; Golden Plover; **Water Rail**; Wheatear; **Cetti's Warbler**; Pink-footed Goose; **Red-crested Pochard**; Tawny Owl; **Barnacle Goose**; Bar-headed Goose; **Little Stint**; Bearded Vulture; **Common Crane**; Red-backed Shrike; **Corn Bunting**; Yellow-browed Warbler; **Red-flanked Bluetail**; Lesser Redpoll; **Little Bunting**; Rustic Bunting; **Water Pipit**; Hawfinch; **Russian White-fronted Goose**; Grey Partridge; **Glossy Ibis**; Whooper Swan; **Bewick's Swan**; Tundra Bean Goose; **Ring-necked Duck**.

I would have to say that out of all of my sightings last year, the Bearded Vulture (a wandering first winter female named...er...Vigo) has to top the list as the most impressive. I was lucky enough to see this on its last day in Cambridgeshire on 11th October, before it decided to head south and ultimately cross the channel. It had spent most of its time in Derbyshire since first appearing like a flying barn door back in July. This was the second ever record for the UK. However, right at the other end of the scale, I was so chuffed to see and hear my first tiny Cetti's Warbler in ages at Calvert Jubilee nature reserve in Bucks. Probably my personal favourite, at least from this batch, was the very obliging juvenile Red-backed Shrike near Dungeness, Kent in October. I've always loved Shrikes since seeing my first, a Woodchat Shrike in Mallorca in the early '90s. Anyway, on to Bourton Meadow...

Bourton Meadow's Wildlife Enjoys a Lockdown Breeding Success

In the last edition, I didn't have any remaining space for The Autumn Wildlife Report, so as promised, I have carried this over to this edition. Unfortunately though, as I write this, there have been no winter wildlife reports submitted so far.

Local walkers Michael & Diane Hunt have sent us their third batch of wildlife sightings reports for 2020, taking in August and spanning 8 species of birds and insects. These ongoing reports continue to illustrate the growing importance of Bourton Meadow as a key habitat for a number of important species of fauna and flora.

Last year we had breeding Whitethroats, Reed Warblers and Reed Buntings all along the Bourton Meadow stretch of the canal! This year, it has been confirmed that Whitethroats have definitely bred here again. Based on the last report it is likely, although unconfirmed, that the other two species also bred here this year, especially with the relative lack of disturbance offered during the first lockdown. It is also very likely that Sedge Warblers bred here too, as they have here, and at Hyde Lane in the past.

The Dragonflies (order Odonata, which contains the sub-orders Zygoptera (Damselflies) and Anisoptera (Dragonflies)) are only represented by the sub-order of Dragonflies themselves in this report, and mainly in small numbers. Butterflies make an appearance too. Read on to find out how well these and other species fared toward the end of last year.

BIRDS: The 16th August saw three juvenile **Whitethroats** on site, which, as Michael stated, would “prove they bred here”. Thirty **House Martins** were busy gauging on the flying insects overhead, especially important as it wouldn't have been long before the first ones began their journey to Sub-Saharan Africa for the winter months. Other birds included two masters of the fishing game - a solitary and statuesque **Grey Heron** and a beautifully striking **Kingfisher**, seen more often than not as a quick flash of blue along the water.

INSECTS: Only the Dragonflies were represented this time. A single example of a **Southern Hawker** was seen on the 12th August, with another two on the 16th. The 12th August also saw three **Brown Hawkers** and thirteen **Common Darters** along the canal. Finally, a single butterfly in the shape of a **Holly Blue** was noted on the 12th August.



Common Darter - pair © Sarah Perkins



Holly Blue - male © Mirko Graul

Hopefully we will see more and more wildlife records for Bourton Meadow in the coming months, despite whatever COVID-19 restrictions are in place, and who knows, something rare or unexpected too! The Society wishes to thank Michael & Diane Hunt for this contribution, which was forwarded to Berkshire, Buckinghamshire & Oxfordshire Wildlife Trust.

When it is safe, and the appropriate COVID-19 restrictions have been eased or lifted, please let us know of any wildlife sightings along any stretch of the entirety of the Buckingham Canal, be it restored or not. You can send your records to myself or any of the trustees using our contact details on pages 34 and 35. For further details about the Berkshire, Buckinghamshire & Oxfordshire Wildlife Trust, please visit: www.bbowt.org.uk

Ian Matson
Editor

Membership Renewal & GDPR

Membership Reminder

A very small number of members have not as yet renewed their membership. If you did not receive a letter during December, or have forgotten to renew, it's not too late!

Please email membership@buckinghamcanal.org.uk, or contact Jean and Chris on 01908 674447 and they can help you renew.

General Data Protection Regulation

GDPR – use of personal data and our compliance requirements

In 2018, new legislation came in which changed the way we have to manage your personal details, such as address, phone number and email address. We take this legal requirement very seriously, and constantly monitor our processes to ensure we remain safe and compliant, to protect you and your personal data, which is held securely and access is limited only to nominated officers of the Society.

With your membership renewals, there was a form included where we asked that you let us know your contact preferences, and what you wanted to hear about.

If you have not yet completed this (and thank you to everyone who has responded) – whether by post, email or online (via the link or QR code), please do so as soon as possible, and by no later than 31st March. After this date, if we do not have a confirmation of your contact preferences, we regret we will have to remove you from our database for all future contact so as to remain legally compliant.

The information required is as follows overleaf.

Many thanks.

Jo Lynch

Trustee, Marketing and Publicity Lead

I would like to receive information from Buckingham Canal Society as follows.

Please tick the relevant box in each section:

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

- ☐ By post
- ☐ By email
- ☐ I would like to pay by standing order and not be contacted for membership renewal
- ☐ I would like to cancel my membership and not be contacted again

THE BUCKINGHAM NAVIGATOR NEWSLETTER

- ☐ By post
- ☐ By email
- ☐ Please don't send me The Buckingham Navigator

VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES AND INFORMATION

- ☐ By email
- ☐ Please don't send me volunteer opportunities

***NEW* EMAIL BULLETINS**

- ☐ By email
- ☐ Please don't send me email newsletters

Please advise us of your preferences by no later than 31st March. You can either:

- a. Return this information by post to:

The Membership Secretary,
Buckingham Canal Society,
5 Staters Pound,
Pennyland,
Milton Keynes,
MK15 8AX

Please include your name, postal address and email address

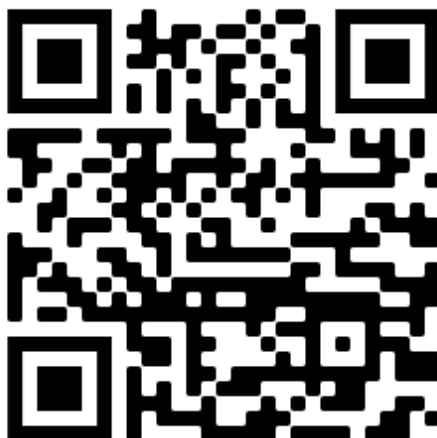
- b. Reply by email, confirming all preferences as above, to:

optin@buckinghamcanal.org.uk

- c. Complete our online survey at:

www.freeonlinesurveys.com/s/bbfMOrvn

This can also be accessed by scanning this QR code below:



You can find details of our privacy policy at:

www.buckinghamcanal.org.uk/resources



BUCKINGHAM CANAL SOCIETY

WHY WE VOLUNTEER HERE

I HAVE A KEEN DESIRE TO VOLUNTEER FOR BUCKINGHAM CANAL SOCIETY AS I HAVE A LOVE FOR EARTH SCIENCES.

HAVING STUDIED A GEOGRAPHY DEGREE, I LOVE TO SEE HOW WHAT I HAVE LEARNT IN THE CLASSROOM CAN TRANSLATE INTO A REAL LIFE PRACTICE.

I WANT TO BE A PART OF A DRIVING FORCE FOR OTHERS TO LEARN WHAT MORE WE CAN DO TO PROTECT THE ENVIRONMENT AGAINST SOME OF THE INEVITABLE CHANGES WE ARE FACING DUE TO CLIMATE CHANGE.

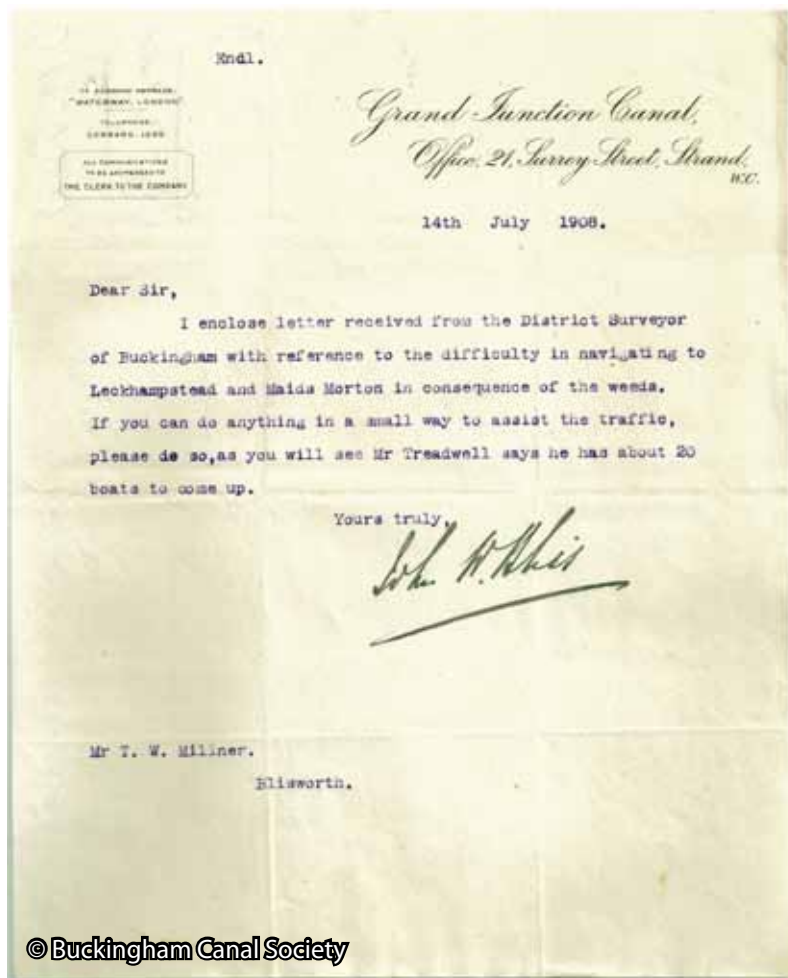
I HAVE LIVED IN MILTON KEYNES FOR 20+ YEARS AND I LOVE TO SEE HOW THIS GREAT CITY IS DEVELOPING AND EXPANDING BUT WE NEED NOT FORGET ABOUT THE BEAUTIFUL NATURAL ENVIRONMENT AND HOW WE CAN PROTECT IT FROM HARM.



AMMA

The Pros and Cons of Reeds

Reedbeds are part of a healthy river system, providing an excellent habitat for fish, invertebrates, and birds. They are great natural filters, removing pollutants and oxygenating the water. When they get into canals they bring the same benefits, but as any boater can testify, they also pose a problem. They grow very vigorously and have a tendency for rapid growth from the bank and out into the channel, hindering navigation.



The Buckingham Canal is no stranger to reeds and bull rushes. Take these two letters from our archive. This first letter is from 1908. The local engineer, Mr Millner has received a complaint from the Buckingham District Surveyor. He complains about the navigation between Leckhampstead and Maids Moreton being difficult because of reeds.

RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF BUCKINGHAM.

R. CURTIS CORDON,

M. INST. MUN. E.,

SURVEYOR OF HIGHWAYS.

BUCKINGHAM,

15th July 1911

J. W. Mullner Esq.
Blisworth

Dear Sir,

I have had complaints respecting the weeds in the canal between Stony Stratford and Leckhampstead.

I am sure it would be a boon to our canalboat people if you could have the worst places cleared at an early date - we are continually having supplies of stone, but weeds retard the Boats considerably.

Yours faithfully
R. Curtis Cordon.

© Buckingham Canal Society

The second letter is from 1911 and is another complaint, this time from the Rural District Council of Buckingham. In this instance, the complaint is about the reeds in the canal between Stony Stratford and Leckhampstead hindering navigation of boats carrying stone.

Now, in modern times, as we progress in restoring sections of the canal, we are again encountering the problems of reeds as well as the benefits.

Our Bourton Meadow site is exhibiting the pros and cons of having these plants. Over the last few years it has become a haven for all sorts of wildlife, with many reports from locals regarding sightings of birds and insects.

When the section was restored and re-watered, the banks were planted with a selection of native, non-invasive, aquatic plants. These have since thrived. However, they are having to battle with the rapid growth of reeds, which presumably were introduced as dormant seeds in the soil that was replaced on top of the liner. Other water blanketing growth has also appeared, possibly brought up from the river by the pump that is used to keep the canal topped up.

The reeds grow very quickly and spread across the width of the canal. Regular work parties are now needed to keep the growth down as much as possible. Of course, this has been a problem during 2020 as, given the COVID-19 pandemic, we have been unable to get out very much. Nevertheless, we did manage a few visits.



Reed clearing is quite hard work. We've found one of the best ways is putting on waders and getting into the water to pull them out from their roots. In the long term we will need to consider mechanical means such as a reed cutting boat that can be moved around our sites.

The reed growth in the re-watered section at Cosgrove has also been noticeable. When we dry dredged prior to re-watering, we removed the top soil all the way down to the clay bed. But as soon as the water was in, reeds started growing from the clay, as well as the soil that we had pushed to the sides! It just goes to show how hardy the dormant reed seeds can be. But as at Bourton Meadow, the benefit to wildlife at this site is noticeable.



Bourton Meadow © David Old



Cosgrove © Alan Mynard



Cosgrove © Alan Mynard



Moorhens © Alan Mynard



Common Blue Damselfly - pair © Alan Mynard

As we head into the growing season in 2021, we hope the pandemic lockdowns will ease and we'll be able to get out to maintain our sites on a more frequent basis. Regular and new volunteers are always welcome to come and join us. **Please watch for announcements on social media for details of (resumed) work-parties, or contact us via email at: info@buckinghamcanal.org.uk.**

Alan Mynard

Website Administrator and Archivist

The Marketing Report

Hi everyone, and welcome to the marketing update. I am going to make this into a regular feature so you can all hear about what we are up to in the world of keeping people, communities and companies informed, engaged, interested, and up to date about everything the Society is up to!

Firstly, my name is Jo Lynch, and I live in Buckingham. During Lockdown #1, I discovered the Bourton Meadow section, whilst on one of my many furlough walks. I won't lie, even after living in Buckingham for three years, I had no idea it existed, and it piqued my interest enough to find out more. So, I joined as a member back in June, and quickly got involved with taking on some marketing activity, alongside the existing team responsible for marketing.

My day job is also in marketing – I work for one of the large chain dining restaurants where I am responsible for local sales, marketing and partnerships, and I cover the whole of the UK from Inverness to Plymouth, and everywhere in between. Travel throughout this past year has been much restricted, and the industry has been tough!

My interest in canals is also a family one. My sister and brother-in-law have a seventy-foot narrowboat moored at their house on the Grand Union Canal in Milton Keynes, and I'm a regular with them on day trips and mini holidays; although my navigation skills need improvement, I'm now a dab hand with the locks! It's a great way to enjoy the countryside, at a sedate pace of life, and fellow canal folk are so friendly.

So, a few months in and I've now taken on full responsibility for all marketing activity, and have a great team working with me, who I will introduce in future editions of Navigator. I've also just become a trustee of the Society, which is hugely exciting, and I'm really looking forward to working with the team to get the marketing rolling.

The plan currently is around housekeeping, and as part of this you will have heard from us already, or soon will do, about opting in to different forms of communication from the Society. Whether you simply want to read our new short email bulletin which is designed to keep you up to date in between editions of The Buckingham Navigator, or find out about what volunteering opportunities are coming up, or even what skills are needed for our projects – opting in to our new email communications will help keep you up to date and informed.

We would also like to give you the opportunity to receive The Buckingham Navigator by email. We currently mail out a lot of copies, which costs us around £1,000 per year, and if we can take the opportunity to encourage some of you to receive email copies, it would definitely help to allow more funding to be used for our canal restoration work. We do understand that email isn't for everyone, but any help you can give us in achieving this is appreciated.

Once spring arrives (as I type, snow is falling outside!), and we've completed getting our house in order, we'll move to a proactive marketing plan which will primarily be to encourage new members, volunteers and donations, gain grants and funding. We will further engage local people, and those further afield, in what we are doing and the overall plan for the restoration of the canal. There are exciting times ahead, and I'm delighted to have become a part of it.

Jo Lynch
Trustee, Marketing and Publicity Lead

Meet the Committee

Jo Lynch



Jo is Head of Local Marketing and Partnerships for a large UK restaurant chain, and has lived in Buckingham since 2017, although she has been in Buckinghamshire since early childhood. She discovered the existence of the canal in summer 2020 during a lockdown walk, and having found out more about the canal and its heritage, she got involved, and was invited to head up the marketing and communications function, and then to become a trustee, all within a few months. Whilst Jo claims to be better placed to help us from behind her laptop, she is known to come and join us in work party groups and get her hands dirty too!

Amanda Robinson



Amanda studied Heritage, Archaeology and History at Bangor University between 2003 and 2006, and then worked on a few different digs before settling down and having two boys. She first became aware of Buckingham Canal Society early in 2019 through a discussion with Rob Morris who believed she would love working on the project, however it took a whole year for her to actually get on site! Now she absolutely loves working at Cosgrove and is excited for the next phase of the restoration project where she will get to use her archaeology skills and knowledge.

The Community Engagement Report

While December and January have seen stricter lockdown measures in place, I have managed to stay busy with grant applications and planning behind the scenes, hopefully with some exciting news to come on this front in the next few weeks!

We were able to secure a small grant for some wildflower seeds for our Buckingham Canal Nature Reserve at Hyde Lane. This was from Natural Environment Partnership - Bucks Buzzing to over sow some of the areas where the previously planted seeds have not taken so well. Alongside this we have obtained a grant for a weed cutter that can be used in the water and on the meadow at Bourton Meadow. We expect to be able to use these later in the year to harvest seeds and run some workshops around the different pollinator species which frequent the meadow and distribute some seed to the public to be used in their gardens and other areas around Buckingham. While summer feels so far away, it is in reality creeping ever closer and I am sure that many of us are willing it to come more than ever this year.



Mink © mlorenzphotography



Mink - tracks © Unknown

We have also been in contact with external agencies to see if we can obtain mammal tracking rafts for our Hyde Lane and Bourton Meadow sites, as we have had reports of both Otters and Water Voles (below) as well as other small mammal species. Please do let us know if you see anything on any of our sites as we are really keen to keep track of populations of both of these species. Did you know that there are only three confirmed populations of Water Voles in the whole of Buckinghamshire? One of the main problems they face is predation by Mink (above). We are also keen to hear of any sightings of these predators as we are working to try and establish a Water Vole population on both our Buckingham sites.



Water Vole © Peter Trimming



Water Vole - tracks © Unknown

I have also made a start on a tree survey at Cosgrove, identifying any management that needs doing and keeping track of the species we have there. This is really helpful to us so that we know what species are successful and what needs more planting as we start to lay hedges and plant along the towpath, infilling the gaps in the established hedgerow. Alongside this we are always looking for volunteers, especially as the weather improves to help us create this wonderful wildlife haven!

Unfortunately, due to covid restrictions I have not been able to attend any markets or fairs, and we have also had to take the difficult decision to cancel the our Cosgrove Canal Festival & Craft Fair again this summer. **It is difficult to get out into the community at the moment so I would urge anyone with any thoughts, concerns or ideas to please get in touch with me at: aimee.tidman@buckinghamcanal.org.uk**

Aimee Tidman
Community Engagement Worker

Our 2021 Annual General Meeting

Our next AGM is planned for Saturday 20th March 2021, to commence at 7:30pm. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, this will be an online event.

Please note that there will be a members vote on a resolution to amend the constitution so that it has stronger emphasis on some of our heritage and environmental outcomes.

Further details on how to join, or to confirm any changes to the format etc can be found at: www.buckinghamcanal.org.uk/agm-2021/

Information will be updated on this web page in the run up to the event.

Terry Cavender

Trustee and Executive Officer

The Grants & Funding Report

The Latest Grants News

We have had just the one successful grant application during the last period. We have been granted £6,200 by the National Lottery Awards for All England fund to create a community garden at 'Lock Island' where the Buckingham Canal meets the Grand Union Canal at Cosgrove. **If this is something that you would like to get involved with, then please get in touch with Aimee Tidman, our Community Engagement Worker, using her contact details on page 35. She will be pleased to give you the details, as they become available.** A similar project at the Buckingham end is being investigated.

An application is being prepared for Highways England for a scheme to overcome the barrier of the A5, where it breaches the canal path at Old Stratford.

As always, we are extremely grateful to all of our grant funders, without whom, the restoration would remain a dream instead of a reality.

A complete list of our most recent funders can be found on page 30.

Colin Levett

Trustee and Grants Officer

Can You Help Us Fundraise?

As a charity, and particularly over the past torrid year, raising funds has always been an integral part of what we do. Whether through your annual membership fee, grants or general donations, every penny is vital towards our restoration goals.

There are two specific ways you can also help us, without costing you an extra penny!

Amazon Smile

Amazon Smile is a simple and automatic way for you to support our Society every time you shop, at no further cost to you.



As of November 2020, we have received over £65 from this avenue of funding, and I would expect that at the next update, which will include Christmas spending, this will have significantly increased.

Simply log into your Amazon account using the 'smile' prefix as follows - www.smile.amazon.co.uk - and select Buckingham Canal Society as your preferred charity. Then every time you use Amazon Smile, they will donate funds to your chosen cause.

Co-op

If you shop at your local Co-op, and have a membership card, then you can nominate Buckingham Canal Society to receive a donation from yourself by simply using your membership card each time you shop. When you buy selected Co-op products and services, 2p for every £1 spent goes into your membership account.



Since October 2020, we have received nearly £130 from the Co-op!

In order to donate, you need to be a member of the Co-op, so please either visit our fundraising page on their website at membership.coop.co.uk/causes/44221, use their app, or ask in your local store for details.

Jo Lynch
Trustee, Marketing and Publicity Lead

Funders

We are very grateful for the financial support from all of our funders. Listed below in chronological order, beginning with the latest, are our most recent funders:

- The National Lottery Awards for All England
- Co-op - Local Community Fund
- Heart of Bucks Community Foundation for Buckinghamshire - Bucks Coronavirus Stabilisation Fund
- HDH Wills Charitable Trust - Martin Wills Wildlife Maintenance Fund
- Buckinghamshire Council - Local Authority Discretionary Grant
- Vale of Aylesbury Housing Trust - Thriving Communities Fund
- The National Lottery Community Fund
- The Rank Foundation
- The Radcliffe Trust
- The Foyle Foundation
- South Northamptonshire Council - Community Event Fund
- Milton Keynes Heritage Association
- Tesco - Bags of Help (Buckingham)
- The D'Oyly Carte Charitable Trust
- MJ Camp Charitable Foundation
- Buckingham Town Council
- Alpkit Foundation

Patrons, Partners & Supporters

We are very grateful for the continued support of our patron:

- Lord Boswell of Aynho

We have formal partnerships with the following:

- Berkshire, Buckinghamshire & Oxfordshire Wildlife Trust
- Buckinghamshire Council
- Buckingham Town Council
- Canal & River Trust
- Deanshanger Parish Council
- Environment Agency
- Inland Waterways Association - Corporate Member
- Northamptonshire County Council
- South Northamptonshire District Council

We are very grateful for the ongoing support of:

- Inland Waterways Association - Milton Keynes Branch
- Inland Waterways Association - Northampton Branch
- Waterway Recovery Group and their regional volunteers

We have been recognised by the following:

- Cosgrove Parish Council
- Foscote Parish Meeting
- Maids Moreton Parish Council
- Old Stratford Parish Council
- Thornborough Parish Council
- Thornton Parish Meeting

Corporate Members

Braunston Marina



Lionhearts Cruising Club



Taverners Boat Club



The Wyvern Shipping Co Ltd



Inland Waterways Association Northampton Branch

We Support:



Corporate & External Volunteer Groups

We are very grateful to all of the organisations that have ever assisted us with their volunteer groups. Listed below in chronological order, beginning with the latest, are our most recent attendees:

- Network Rail
- The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints - Northampton Stake
- Hallam Land Management Ltd
- Waterway Recovery Group - London
- Santander
- The Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales
- Kent & East Sussex Canal Restoration Group
- McAfee
- Eddyfi Technologies - TSC
- Vinci Technology Centre UK
- London Waterway Recovery Group
- Milton Keynes College
- Waterway Recovery Group - Bit in the Middle
- Computacentre
- Stowe House
- Stowe School
- Trees for Cities
- Argos
- Network Rail - Bletchley Maintenance
- Virgin Money UK
- Mayflex UK
- Community Payback - Buckingham
- Waitrose
- The MacIntyre Charity - Green Genies
- The Parks Trust Young Explorers
- NHBC
- G4S Secure Training Centre - Milton Keynes
- Tech Mahindra
- The Woburn Hotel
- Hewitson Moorhead
- Waterway Recovery Group - Forestry

Buckingham Canal Society Craft Group

Our craft group is still on hold, but the production of rag rugs is still taking place in people's homes. Aimee Tidman, our Community Engagement Worker, got the chance to run a stall at the Christmas market in Leighton Buzzard, and even sold a rag rug! So we still need a supply of old T-shirts, and although people have donated very generously, we still need more. Rag rugs produced by the craft group retail for £25 each, and therefore raise much needed funds for the Society. We do take orders as well. **If you have any old T-shirts, or if you would like to attend when it is safe to reinstate the meetings, please get in touch using my contact details on page 34.**

Athina Beckett

Trustee, Volunteer Leader and Work Party Organiser

Work Party Dates 2021/2022

April

Every Tuesday
Every Thursday
Sunday 11th
Sunday 25th

May

Every Tuesday
Every Thursday
Sunday 9th
Sunday 30th

June

Every Tuesday
Every Thursday
Sunday 13th
Sunday 27th

July

Every Tuesday
Every Thursday
Sunday 11th
Sunday 25th

August

Every Tuesday
Every Thursday
Sunday 8th
Sunday 29th

September

Every Tuesday
Every Thursday
Sunday 12th
Sunday 26th

October

Every Tuesday
Every Thursday
Sunday 10th
Sunday 31st

November

Every Tuesday
Every Thursday
Sunday 14th
Sunday 28th

December

Every Tuesday
Every Thursday
Sunday 12th
Sunday 26th

January

Every Tuesday
Every Thursday
Sunday 9th
Sunday 30th

February

Every Tuesday
Every Thursday
Sunday 13th
Sunday 27th

March

Every Tuesday
Every Thursday
Sunday 13th
Sunday 27th

COVID-19 and BCS Work Parties and Events: Update

We are pleased to confirm that our volunteer work parties continued through the lockdown in line with government restrictions and in agreement with Canal & River Trust. All activities are run in accordance with Health & Safety Executive and Inland Waterways Association guidance, and are aligned with the government guidelines in effect on the day. Please bring your own food and refreshments. You are advised to travel alone whenever possible.

The Buckingham Canal Society trustees and project teams continue working in the background with electronic meetings etc., ensuring the restoration work can continue. Whilst we look forward to welcoming everyone back and seeing our previous volunteers alongside any new ones, you must consider your own health, especially if you are in a vulnerable group, before joining these sessions. We recognise this is a very challenging time for everyone. If any of you need to chat, then you are welcome to call any of the trustees. Please stay safe and well. We look forward to seeing you now our work parties have resumed.

Most Tuesdays and Thursdays, as well as the second and last Sunday of each month will take place at Cosgrove. Some of the other dates will be at Bourton Meadow or Hyde Lane. **For planning purposes, please confirm which date(s) you would like to attend by using my contact details on page 34. I can then verify the date(s) and the task schedule(s).**

Terry Cavender
Trustee and Executive Officer

Future Events

Saturday 20th March 7.30pm

BCS AGM

Location: Online

Details:

www.buckinghamcanal.org.uk/agm-2021/

**DUE TO COVID-19, PLEASE
CHECK WITH THE RELEVANT
EVENT ORGANISERS
FOR THE LATEST UPDATES**

Next Navigator

So we are nearing the end of another issue of the Navigator and I am sure many of you are eager for more. You can be part of what appears in the next issue. There are regular items from the committee but there is space assigned to YOU, our valued members, for your submissions. I am also always very interested to hear what you think of the newsletter and comments are most welcome!

Please submit all contributions for Issue 108 (Summer 2021) by the 1st May 2021 via email, CD, or typed/handwritten letter (in that order of preference) to:

editor@buckinghamcanal.org.uk or

Ian Matson, 63 Alnners Road, Lyne, Chertsey, Surrey, KT16 0BH

Advertising with us We welcome advertisements in the Navigator to assist funding. Rates are as below. Payment is required before copy date. Cheques made payable to "Buckingham Canal Society". 33% reduction for 3 issues.

Whole Page: £16

Quarter Page: £6

Back Page: £22

Half Page: £10

Inserts: £7.50

Contact the Committee

Athina Beckett

Trustee, Volunteer Leader and Work Party Organiser
2 Staters Pound, Pennyland,
Milton Keynes, Bucks, MK15 8AX
01908 661217 / 07721 319404

athina.beckett@buckinghamcanal.org.uk

**Terry Cavender**

Trustee and Executive Officer
7 Buckingham Road, Akeley,
Bucks, MK18 5HL
01280 860316
07976 629440

terry.cavender@buckinghamcanal.org.uk

**Richard Dwight**

Trustee and Treasurer
34 Hazell Park,
Amersham,
Bucks, HP7 9AB
01494 728611

treasurer@buckinghamcanal.org.uk

**Colin Levett**

Trustee and Grants Officer
47 Bradwell Common Boulevard,
Bradwell Common,
Milton Keynes, Bucks, MK10 9DN
07950 997177

colin.levett@buckinghamcanal.org.uk

**Jo Lynch**

Trustee, Marketing and Publicity Lead
14 Edmonds Close, Buckingham,
Bucks, MK18 1YR
07469 888419

jo.lynch@buckinghamcanal.org.uk

**Gerry Millard**

Trustee and Construction Manager
32 Campbell Close,
Linden Village, Buckingham,
Bucks, MK18 7HP

gerry.millard@buckinghamcanal.org.uk

**Rob Morris**

Trustee and Chairman
218 Bushbury Road,
Fallings Park, Wolverhampton,
Staffs, WV10 0NT
07818 035299

rob.morris@buckinghamcanal.org.uk

**Amanda Robinson**

Trustee, Heritage and Archaeology Lead
5 Burbage Close, Wolverhampton,
Staffs, WV10 9YG
07485 109966

amanda.robinson@buckinghamcanal.org.uk

**Paul Sayer**

Trustee and Construction Engineer
Sunnyside, 25 Moreton Drive,
Buckingham,
Bucks, MK18 1JG
07825 190867

paul.sayer@buckinghamcanal.org.uk

**Anthony Smith-Roberts**

Trustee and Health & Safety Officer
Glasdir Cottage, Pen-y-Ffordd,
Treffynon, Sir y Fflint, CH8 9HU
07801 506411

anthony.smith-roberts@buckinghamcanal.org.uk



Lee Whiting

Trustee and Plant & Equipment Manager



lee.whiting@buckinghamcanal.org.uk

Ian Matson

Editor and Publicity & Communications Manager
63 Almnors Road, Lyne, Chertsey,
Surrey, KT16 0BH
07793 451958
ian.matson@buckinghamcanal.org.uk

Other Key Contacts :

Registered Address/General Enquiries

Buckingham Canal Society
c/o 2 Staters Pound,
Pennyland, Milton Keynes,
Bucks, MK15 8AX
0300 323 1350
info@buckinghamcanal.org.uk

Jean Beddard

Membership Secretary
5 Staters Pound, Pennyland,
Milton Keynes, Bucks, MK15 8AX
01908 674447
membership@buckinghamcanal.org.uk

Robert Jones

Minutes Secretary
8 Manor Close, Aston,
Bampton, Oxon, OX18 2DD
01993 851663 / 07792 561514
robert.jones@buckinghamcanal.org.uk

Alan Mynard

Website Administrator and Archivist
Milton Keynes, Bucks
alan.mynard@buckinghamcanal.org.uk

Keith Rawlings

Structural Engineer
Dryden, Rock Lane,
Leighton Buzzard, Beds, LU7 2QQ
07415 461917
keith.rawlings@buckinghamcanal.org.uk

Aimee Tidman

Community Engagement Worker
aimee.tidman@buckinghamcanal.org.uk

Illustrated Talks & Presentations

talks@buckinghamcanal.org.uk

Cosgrove Festival Team

events@buckinghamcanal.org.uk

The cost to call 0300 numbers is the same as calling a normal local or national land line. If your tariff or call package offers free or inclusive calls to landlines, numbers starting with 03 will be included in the exact same way.

Excellent Boats on a Beautiful Canal

Our base at Linslade is within weekend reach of the Waterways Museum at Stoke Bruerne, or the Chiltern Hills and Aylesbury. Choice of exciting one or two week cruises including the Thames. 35 luxury boats - 2 to 8 berth.

Boat builders - Repairs - Dry Dock - Blacking - Repaints
Waterside Cottage

The WYVERN SHIPPING Co Ltd

Rothschild Road, Linslade, Leighton Buzzard, Beds LU7 2TF
Tel: 01525 372355 Fax: 01525852308

Website: www.canalholidays.co.uk Email: wyvern@canalholidays.co.uk

Members of: IWA, APCO, BMF, B&MK Waterway Trust, Wendover Arm Trust,
Buckingham Canal Society, Aylesbury Canal Society.



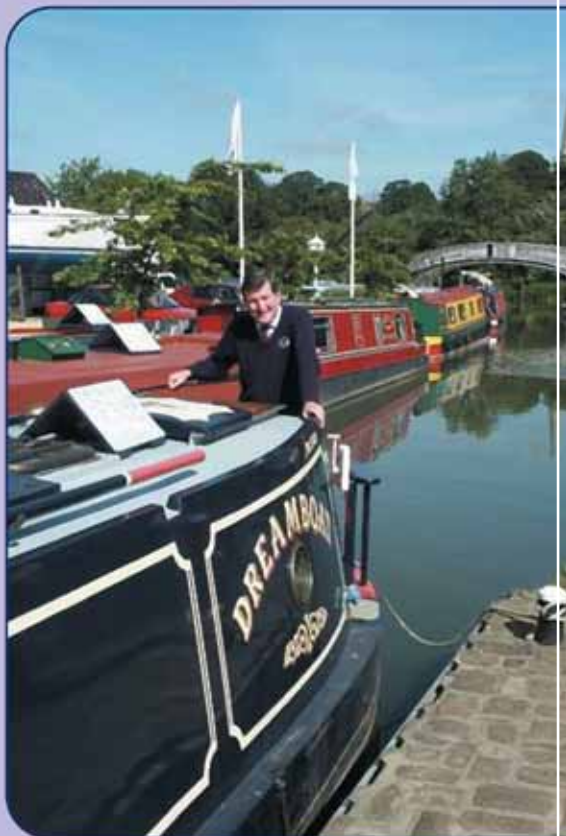
Buying or selling your DREAMBOAT?

*Then make Braunston Brokerage
– at the heart of England's
waterways – your first port of call!*

*Established in 1988, we are
a major player in the selling
of narrowboats – new and
secondhand – with a
reputation for professionalism
that is second to none.*

*Our marina offers the fullest
range of support services.
Uniquely, we have two dry
docks on-site for surveys,
hull-blackening, repaints, sign-
writing and below waterline
repairs. Also engineering and
refit facilities.*

*Sell your Dreamboat
where it will be seen!*



For full information – including our
competitive brokerage package –
contact Tim Coghlan at:

Braunston Marina Limited, Braunston,
Nr Daventry, Northants NN11 7JH
Telephone 01788 891373
Fax 01788 891436

Website: www.braunstonmarina.co.uk
Email: sales@braunstonmarina.co.uk