

58 | Fifty Eight

The Magazine of The Worcester-Birmingham & Droitwich Canals Society

*'Promoting the upkeep of the canals to ensure that
the heritage is looked after for all to enjoy'*



HAWFORD JUNCTION LEADING OUT ONTO THE SEVERN FROM THE DROITWICH BARGE CANAL



Monthly Meetings

**Our regular monthly meetings are currently being held online.
Public monthly meetings will be reinstated as soon as possible.**

No meeting is scheduled for December.

**Full details of future meetings will be communicated to
members via email, our website and facebook.**

Please ensure that our Membership Secretary has your current details.

Donations

We have introduced new and easier ways of making donations to the society.

QR Code: We have the facility to make donations direct to the society. You can simply scan the QR code on our flyers and collection tins or visit <https://bit.ly/3pcfp1C>



Just Giving: We have also set up a 'JustGiving' page.

Simply go to the JustGiving website, create an account or log in and then do a search for our society.

The Magazine of the Worcester-Birmingham & Droitwich Canals Society

Issue 559 Dec/Jan 2021/22

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We have a vibrant **Facebook** page, why not pay a visit and 'like' us?

www.facebook.com/wbdcs.org.uk

We are also on **Twitter** please follow us @wbdcs58.

View videos on our [YouTube channel](#)

Opinions expressed in Fifty Eight are those of the authors and not necessarily those of the Society, but are published as matters of interest

Copy date for the next issue: Jan 14th 2022

Worcester-Birmingham & Droitwich Canals Society

**'Promoting the upkeep of the canals to ensure
the heritage is looked after for all to enjoy'**

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Chair's Notes

I look back over the year and realise what a topsy-turvy year it has been. From lockdown to free movement back to lockdown and back to free movement. During all of this our 'Cecilia' volunteers have worked like Trojans and have had a very successful few months with daily trips helping to put the bank balance in a more healthy position. Well done to you all.

Denis Pike has been working tirelessly over the last few months getting speakers on Zoom which has proved a success. Just lately Denis has been looking at the possibility of returning to meetings at Alvechurch coupled with a choice of joining on Zoom as well. Unfortunately, the C&RT personnel who were due to speak to us at our December meeting, told Denis just this week that they are now unavailable coupled with the emergence of a new Covid variance which has put all of this in doubt. We will probably stay with the Zoom meetings for the time being and review the situation for February.

I wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

David Wheeler



Editor's Notes

Hello Readers,

in what must be much cooler times than last time '58' was sent out!

Your society has been busy as usual what with 'Zoom' meetings and the ever increasing activities of the 'Cecilia' group who have been working particularly hard both on the boat and with the boat. They are hoping to have somewhat of a respite within the next few weeks, at least with trips out, so that other jobs may be focussed upon.

Something different has happened lately here at Alvechurch apart from changes at the 'Weighbridge' with Jayne and John leaving. The orchard moorings which have been in situ for a great many years are now vacated. At the time of going to press it is unclear why this has happened as many long time moorers have now been displaced. The canal edge does look very untidy at the moment (see pictures) and '58' will be monitoring things as the last thing needed there are buildings. The orchard itself provides much food and shelter to local wild life and ought to be preserved as such. Mind you we thought that about the canal side at Stoke Prior as well and look what's happened there! If anyone could share any information with us about this we'd be very grateful. *(see photos on page 6)*



A few editions ago, we ran an article about the reservoir keeper's cottage at Lower Bittell. Readers may recall that it had been left empty for a long time and was in danger of deteriorating even further. The property has now been connected to the main sewerage system as the Environment Agency would not allow a septic tank to be dug so close to fresh water which surrounds the cottage. We understand that the property will not be sold owing to the area being required by C&RT for operational purposes. However, the resources required to make it habitable for renting out have apparently dried up for the time being. Presumably this would have included the under pinning that we had been advised is a requirement to make the structure safe. '58' hopes that this can be rectified just as soon as possible and this heritage building can once more be utilised and looked after properly.



Readers may be aware that the society has been looking to find a new home for the model boat lift (pictured below) that some may have seen on display for a short time in the meeting room.



Ed Butcher has kindly agreed to look after it at his house in Droitwich for the time being pending a more permanent move. If any readers have any ideas about this please do get in touch as even Ed may soon tire of playing boat lifts! Neil has tried several places including Avoncroft and Bromsgrove Museums without success. It seems such a shame that this artefact cannot currently be seen by a wider audience even though there has been somewhat of a 'creative licence' situation in relation to its likeness to the actual one used at Tardebigge during the very early part of the 19th century.

The society is hoping that the next meeting scheduled for December 7th can go ahead using a combination of 'Zoom', or equivalent, as well as the usual meeting room. Please do watch out for confirmation of this on social media and website etc. as we have just heard that the planned speaker from C&RT has given back word despite being asked some time ago. Over to you Denis as programme secretary. Speaking of which, the society is still in need of a minuting secretary if anyone out there fancies finding out

what this task entails. Margaret, our vice-Chair is currently covering this role but only on a temporary basis as she also chairs some of the meetings which is never ideal, besides new people are always needed to any organisation such as ours.

Could I please thank this edition's contributors for their input and even though a little early, offer seasonal greetings to all readers. If any resolutions are being considered for the new year then please add to your list offering a contribution to your favourite magazine '58'.

Enjoy the read.

John Hemingway

Membership News

New Member Welcomes.

The following people have recently enrolled into the society:

Janet and Malcolm Church from Catshill near Bromsgrove.

'58' offers its customary welcome into membership and hopes to see our new members at any of the society's activities.

Message from our Membership Secretary.

There are still a few people who have yet to renew their membership for this current year. This could quite easily have slipped minds what with one thing or another demanding attention. If you're one of those people please do your utmost to renew as it's even more important these days to the society as almost all the usual sources of income have been put on hold because of covid. Apart from that the Editor of '58' would be so upset if you didn't get your prized copy of your favourite magazine. Please check with Joe (contact details on page 4) if unsure.

Joe Morley

Membership Secretary

West Midlands Regional User Forum

Perhaps this is an item which we have not reported on for a very long time and much opportunity for this has been lost because of the covid restrictions. However just to bring readers up to date, the 3 canals which your society has its main interest in falls under the remit of the C&RT West Midlands, something supported by WB&DCS some years ago. The West Midlands Regional User Forum meets under the auspices of C&RT and your society is ably represented on this group by our vice-Chair, Margaret Rowley.

The forum met recently, albeit on-line which is becoming more and more popular, and Margaret has kindly sent us some information to share with the readership. Topics covered included preparing for the Commonwealth Games managed by Ian Lane who is the Head of Operations; plans and priorities for next year described by Regional Director Adnan Saif; welcoming all to life on the canals with Matthew Symonds and Gavin Passmore; managing our environment for people and wildlife with Charles Hughes and Peter Rodriguez; delivering user members' priorities with Becky Whitehouse and Tom Freeland; let's keep talking with Sarah Rudy and Yvonne Moore.

The C&RT West Midlands Team also included a link to view past meeting notes which readers may be able to access on:

<https://canalrivertrust.org.uk/meetings/48580-west-midlands-regional-user-forum-2021>

Any thoughts or observations from readers about this forum will be very welcome. - Ed.

Spotted on The Droitwich Barge Canal

Can readers spot the mistake here?



Answer at bottom of page 18.

Lapal Canal Restoration News



Our friends from the Lapal Canal Trust have been busy as usual with a work party held recently along the canal route which runs alongside Weoley Castle ruins. There was a very good turnout of local people, councillors and the Member of Parliament such is the interest in this project. The main focus for the work party was litter picking and there certainly was plenty of it all piled up ready for collection by Birmingham City Council Refuse Department. Hopefully as things progress the canal line will not be used as a general dumping ground unfortunately appearing to be coming from some neighbouring properties.

The new winding hole on the Worcester and Birmingham Canal in Selly Oak has still not happened but is expected soon. This will eventually enable boats to enter the new section of canal which, when fully

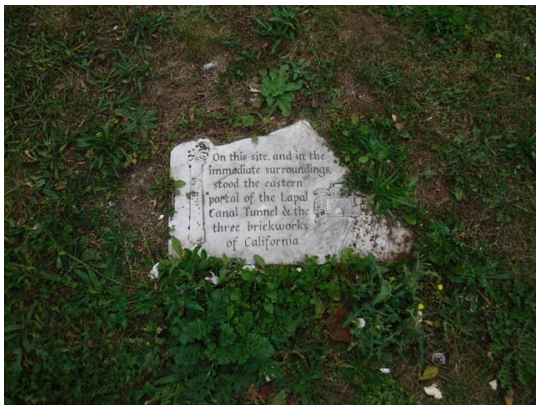
restored, will join the original canal line in Selly Oak Park.

The Trust's prime focus has been about this first part of the restoration in Selly Oak which has been delayed by the need to sort out the complex land ownership issues. The land ownership agreement has finally been agreed and it's been circulated for signing off by the 4 main parties involved.

Paul Whitwick has featured the Dudley No 2 canal in his 10-minute YouTube <https://youtu.be/S5PZVAFoGwo>. This has been seen by literally 30,000 plus viewers with over £500 donated to the cause. The 31st AGM took place, as advertised in the last edition of '58', with Justin Malpass and Paul Smith being appointed as additional Directors and Trustees. The Trust's monthly boat trips for 'SENSE' resumed with passengers from the Tanglewood SENSE care home in Malvern, photos of which are on the Trust's facebook page.

Very recently a Zoom meeting was held with LCT representatives and Canal and River Trust along with a planning officer. The meeting, which was chaired by Ailith Rutt from C&RT, went into much detail required by C&RT in order for the restoration to be connected to the Worcester and Birmingham Canal. Topics covered included water supply, the new swing bridge, lowering of the gas main and fibre way which is currently under the towpath of the W&B, the needs of residential moorings on the new section and any potential dredging for the new junction. There is clearly much still to do here which has to be commenced by 2025 if the section 106 money is to remain in place. However, walkers can now access the new section via the under croft alongside the Bristol Road which leads onto the Sainsbury's site and the Harborne Lane bridge.

Further details can be found on the Lapal Canal Trust website: www.lapal.org.



The three old pictures have been sent for use in '58' via a C&RT rubbish bin would you believe?

Fortunately we have an 'eagle eyed' friend of the society who rescued these from oblivion for which we are very grateful as, no doubt, our LCT friends will be too.

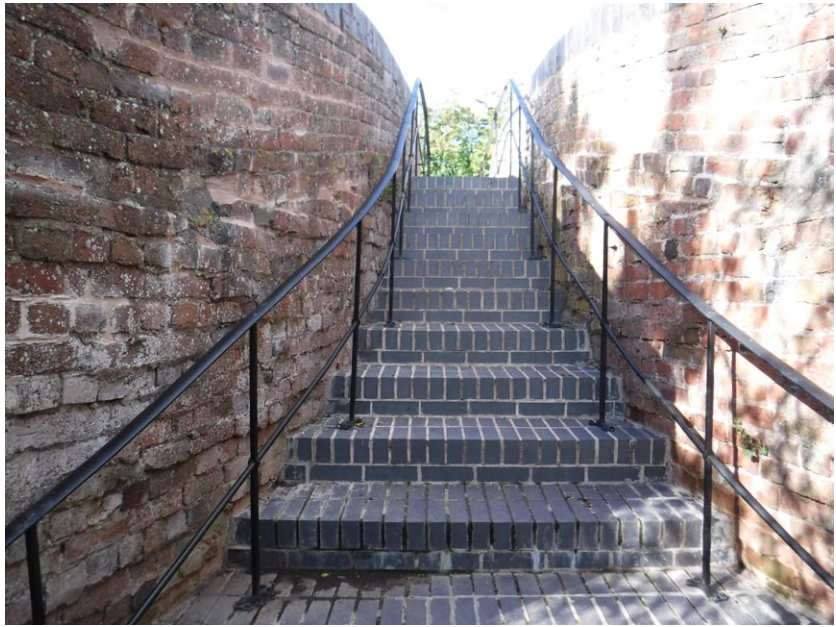
Lapal Tunnel Commemorative plaque

Coffin Bridge

The 'Coffin Bridge' on the Worcester & Birmingham Canal is situated just below Hanbury Wharf Junction and has undergone some renovation work during the last year in order to make it safer to use. Moorers on the non-towpath side can now cross the canal safely on a more reinforced bridge while retaining its original style.

There are many such named bridges on this canal but unfortunately no plaque names to identify unlike on such as the Birmingham and Fazeley Canal. Any plaques would surely enhance the canal experience and help all users to try and discover a reason for the name being given.

As usual any thoughts on this welcome. - Ed.



November Meeting

Report of the November Meeting via Zoom.

The society's November Meeting, taking place via the increasingly popular medium of Zoom, was somewhat of a move away from our usual waterway related themes. The illustrated talk, delivered by military historian Tim Barney of Evesham, was about the role played by the people involved with RAF Defford during World War 2 and beyond, particularly the development of airborne radar from which most of today's aircraft rely on.



Many people will have heard of the secret role played at Bletchley Park in Buckinghamshire, but from 1942 to the 1960s, this quiet Worcestershire

backwater was one of the most secret places in Britain. Staff there carried out scientific work that was just as vital to the Allied war effort as Bletchley was. Taking in an eighteenth century mansion and a landscape park, a wartime airfield and the early story

of airborne radar development, this fascinating talk had something for everyone.

Some members present actually had personal experience of some of the many air related items shared with the participants and were able



Photograph by Mike Peel

to share this much to the delight of the presenter Tim.

The story concluded to the present day with a brief account of the National Trust property at Croome Park (*above*) and the RAF Defford Museum (*right*), both of which are open to the public. There are web sites available for any readers wishing to discover more about these places which could well be on the 'bucket list' for several people.





'Nature Notes'

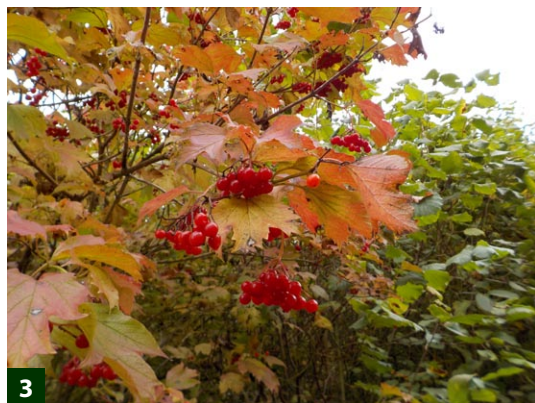
Mary Green

The swans that nested in spring on a pool not far from me have reappeared down the canal. They have two healthy grown-up cygnets with them, still quite brown. They will stay together till the parents start next year's breeding and nesting process, when the young will be sent packing if they haven't gone! There are also some young adult swans around which have just lost the last tinges of brown – last year's cygnets – and a two more adults that look to be paired up. I wonder where they will nest. The established pair won't want them nearby

It's been a wonderful year for fruiting trees and shrubs along the canal, especially those that flowered in May or later, when we had a warm dry spell. They include holly, hawthorn, guelder-rose, spindle, wild service tree, elder and crab apple. Some earlier flowering trees like wild cherry did less well, though blackthorn and buckthorn are fine. There's a feast there for birds. And the late-flowering ivy, with berries ripening now, will provide follow-up.

Nut bearing trees are not so good, except horse chestnut which flowered well in May and had lovely conkers. Hazel was hit especially hard because the male and female flowers got out of synch in the strange stop-start winter-spring. There were very few nuts, but next year's catkins are there now. Beech did well though - there are some lovely ones in Shortwood.

Oaks here have had no acorns. I don't know how far this spreads (they have them in Yorkshire!) but it often happens. They all collaborate in some years on not producing acorns while they recoup their strength, then another year – a "mast" year - they will produce a huge crop, another year a normal one – but always together. They communicate this through their roots and mycorrhizal fungi, so



they don't compete with their neighbours. Last year was a mast year, this year a rest.

Sweet chestnuts set fruit well, but it wasn't a warm and sunny enough summer for the nuts to really swell fully. Their food value would be poor. All of this means that some birds and mammals which feed on nuts will have slim pickings this winter – squirrels and jays especially. Others like blackbirds, redwings and fieldfares that eat berries will have a good winter.

I've heard back from the local C&RT about my concerns that their new mowing regime is harming biodiversity. They still claim flowers growing to their proper height by the canal hamper visibility. But they are considering a less harsh cutting regime, so we'll see. To me, anyone managing vegetation should understand what plants are there, how they grow and flower, and how to make sure all the species can thrive together. Any cutting back for human benefit needs to be based on this. Unfortunately, it is more often cut-it-all-down on a calendar date.

The mixture of flowers and grass we get on undisturbed ground is an important and increasingly rare habitat, hosting diverse wildlife and capturing carbon. Underneath are roots and fungi. Fungi survive for years, only some popping up as fungal bodies or mushrooms. I found some lovely hedgehog mushrooms again at Shortwood this autumn – uncommon now and edible.

The trees turned colour late this year so the canalside stayed green. Now it's looking wintrier. Remember insects, fungi and even small mammals, amphibians and invertebrates are living all around you and under your feet with the roots of the plants – it's not dead.



- 1. SWAN FAMILY**
- 2. FROG ON THE TOWPATH**
- 3. GUELDER-ROSE BERRIES**
- 4. HEDGEHOG MUSHROOM**
- 5. NEXT YEARS CATKINS ON HAZEL**
- 6. ALDERS & OAK IN WINTER**

History Corner - 10 Years Ago

The November 2011 edition of '58' was packed full of society activities as usual, which is a little different from today with the covid restrictions that have been in place restricting so many events. However, 10 years ago 'Cecilia' was in the news again with an activity to support our friends from the Lapal Canal Trust. This activity involving 'SENSE'

In mid October, Adrian Smith skippered Cecilia on a trip carrying members of the charity SENSE as part of the celebrations marking the opening of the Selly Oak Bypass. This is your Society doing what it does best...



On behalf of the Lapal Canal Trust, Dr Peter Best presented a model narrowboat to the SENSE group as something they can touch and feel...

Dear Lisa, Dave and everyone involved at Birse, Worcester Birmingham & Droitwich Canals Society and the Lapal Canal Trust,
On behalf of everyone at Sense, I would like to say a big thank you to you all for what you have done for us. You have given our deafblind service users the opportunities to experience new and exciting things that would otherwise not have been possible (as the picture of Irene at the Cecilia's tiller shows). Tomorrow, some of them will be at our national Members Day to receive their certificate for second prize in our Bridges Competition for which this has all been a part.

Thanks again
Roger
Roger Smith
Health and Safety Manager
Sense

continues to this day although not with 'Cecilia'. However, who knows what may happen again in the future should LCT require additional support with 'SENSE' trips?

The partnership with Lapal Canal Trust and WB&DCS continues as the restoration project of the Dudley No. 2 Canal progresses.

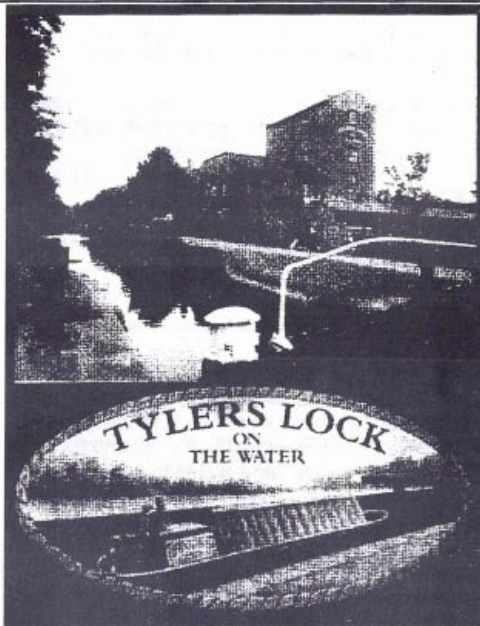
In December 2001, the '58' team of Jon Axe, Ron and Betty Millward used colour photography on the front and back covers which looked really eye catching. However, in that edition were a number of articles about 'Tylers Lock' which was the then name given to the former 'Engine House' just above lock 57 of the Tardebigge Flight. The 'Engine House' used to house the large pump that brought water up from the reservoir to just above lock 58. It had become a night club and eventually a pub run by Andy and Caren Taite and received much business from the canal users, particularly during the main boating season. The society held several events there, as did other groups, which were always well patronised. The property is now a privately owned residence which has been somewhat of a loss to many a boater, or walker and cyclist, doing 29 locks upstream and in need of refreshments.

The same edition of '58' introduced a new worker to the then British Waterways (no C&RT in those days) who also happened to be a director and volunteer on the then Droitwich Canals Trust.

(Did you write this article Denis? – Ed)

TYLERS LOCK **LOCK 57 WORCESTER BIRMINGHAM CANAL**

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BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS. DINNER NIGHTS.
BOATING AND CANAL FESTIVALS.



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BW's New Worker

Denis Pike, a Droitwich Canals Trust director and volunteer, has joined the ranks of Neil Bedford's work force. Denis is the Trust skilled hedge layer and with all the new knowledge he is sure to acquire working for BW he will become the all knowing expert, who will know more than the rest of the volunteer workforce and show them how to do the job properly, the way the professional tackle things.

Denis assures the Trust volunteers he intends to carry on with his voluntary work, which can only be a good thing. They hope to benefit from his input. His contribution will be even more valuable.

If you happen to encounter Denis toiling along the W & B towpath you will find he is a cheerful guy, so spare him a friendly word as you pass.

The way relations are developing between DCT and BW it is almost getting to be like family.

Cecilia News

The 'Cecilia' volunteers are keeping busy as usual either resealing windows or fixing work tops in the galley. The picture shows, amongst others, Steve Partridge refitting one of the work tops which has been damaged by rain water ingress.



'Cecilia' & volunteers report November 2021

This month has been both very busy and successful. The trip season for 'Cecilia' has closed and now the hard work starts with the second phase of the refurbishment of the dear old lady. Bill's work parties are continuing and we are actively engaged with C&RT on our adoptions around Tardebigge.

National Community Boats Association (NCBA)

Our RYA trainer Bob Strachan has now retired so we needed to find a new partner for training and approving helms persons. We have investigated alternatives and recommend that our society join the NCBA. This has a variety of advantages but mainly that their training regime is recognised by C&RT and the Maritime Coastguard Agency. They will train us to be trainers so that we can then train others. More information about this next time.

New Crew

We have had a week of training new crew who are keen to become helms persons themselves. During the first week in November we took 9 members out on training days. They helmed 'Cecilia' through a number of tricky situations including tunnels (very dark), Anglo Welsh (very tight) and winding the boat at Tardebigge.

The intrepid nine were Maxine Quinn, Nick Hadley, Lisa Winterbourne, Gerrard Nash, Mike Crook, Barry Kinsella, Steve Partridge, John Talbut and Al Gibbs. The trainers on the Monday were Ed Butcher and Neil Franklin; Tuesday - Ken Robinson and Trevor Albutt; Wednesday - Ian McGarr and Ed Butcher.

The days didn't include going through any locks so they had it easy. Next time it's the Tardebigge Flight! Just when they thought this boating thing was a piece of cake!

'Cecilia' is booked in to have her hull blacked on 16th January 2023. We like to plan ahead.

Ken, Steve and Trev have met to sort out the works required on the boat. Our main task is to stop the windows leaking by refitting them – again! This also includes refurbishing the inside frames and the water damaged walls. We are also looking at painting the superstructure and replacing the seating.

If you want to help in this herculean task please contact Neil or Ken. Everyone is welcome to lend a hand. We need all the help we can get!

In addition, we also propose to update the 'Cecilia' description on the society's web page. Keep your eyes open for Ed Butcher's journalism and Wendy's editing.

Bookings

During the past month we have taken out parties as diverse as Primrose Hospice, Walking Buddies, and SEN families. This was funded with monies raised by Julie from the National Lottery Heritage Fund. External charitable trips have raised over £1,000 during this short season. Wendy is already taking bookings for next season. This is the best part of volunteering on 'Cecilia' as our guests always enjoy themselves and so do we. It is particularly heart warming when a young man, under our supervision, takes to the helm like a natural and his family are thrilled that he has shown a confidence they rarely see.

Home EdVenturers have donated over £2,400 since July. Julie (Home Ed coordinator) is already talking to people like the 'Lounge' in Alvechurch about lock challenges in the new year.

On a lock challenge the children get an individual certificate for completing the Tardebigge Flight. 30 locks, 200 feet, over a distance of two and a quarter miles in one day - they certainly deserve their certificate (*pictured left*).



Finances

Julie has raised over £1,500 herself in grants this year which will enable us to provide polo shirts for

the crew as well as going towards making 'Cecilia' self-financing. We are currently working on a financial plan for our society treasurer - *honest!*

The Model Boat Lift

After an epic move, the story of which is due out on Netflix next year, the model is now in Ed Butcher's shed for safe keeping. We will continue to look for a new home for it where it can be displayed to the public. It does however need refreshing.

Safeguarding

We are proposing to issue a 'Safeguarding Policy' in the new year as the volunteers do spend quite some time with young people and vulnerable adults.

Anyone can come along and help with 'Cecilia' or at our Tardebigge adoptions and hopefully soon, on the 'Wanderer' work boat, so please get in touch and we'll get you on board.

Neil Franklin Volunteer coordinator

And a very big thank you to all the volunteers for your help throughout this difficult year - Neil.

The ever increasing number of volunteers certainly do deserve a vote of thanks from everyone. Very well done and thank you one and all, particularly Neil for co-ordinating things – Ed.

More Cecilia News

Members of the Alvechurch Walking Buddies recently enjoyed a trip on 'Cecilia'. Around 24 people shared the boat. Several walked down to Tardebigge and enjoyed an early lunch in 'Chataways' whilst the others went to 'Tardebigge Court' cafe after enjoying a trip on 'Cecilia'. They reversed passengers for the trip back. *Many thanks to Ed & Maxine for crewing.*



Tardebigge News

The lime kilns garden area is currently being worked on (on a regular basis) by a small team of volunteers led by Bill Lambert. The signage around the area is being replaced.

We also now have a key to the notice board by the entrance to the gardens area. Below is a picture of the new signage for the 6ft x 2ft boards on the site. If you would like to help out in the gardens area then please call Bill on 07815 986012.



The Worcester - Birmingham & Droitwich Canals Society

Promoting the upkeep of the canals to ensure that the heritage is looked after for all to enjoy
Visit our community gardens at Tardebigge. Why not become a volunteer?



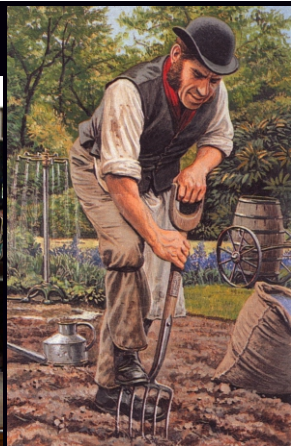
Please donate

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Page 8 answer: The answer for the eagle eyed is in the main title - 'Mildenhall Fisheries' which is on the Droitwich Barge Canal.

Gardeners Arms 01905772936



Your Local Community Canal Pub

Droitwich Canal Swing Bridge 19

Gardeners - Community Pub Restaurant for your pleasure

Bar Beer Garden - Open 11.00am until late

Restaurant - Serving meals 11am 9.30pm 7 days

Beer Awards - Pub of the Season CAMRA - Cask Marque

Food Awards - Winners of 11 National Food Awards


Pub Awards - Pub of the Year - Music Pub of the Year

Marquee Hire - Hosting Weddings - Birthdays - Christenings

BT Sports - Live coverage of your favourite sports

Children - Menu - Play garden - Pool Room - Foosball Table



The Sign of  a good pint



E-mail us and Get Our Monthly News Letter

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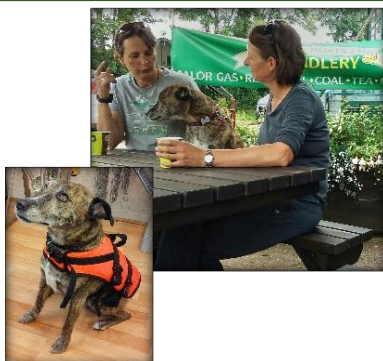
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(Formerly Jeremiah Boats Ltd)

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Company Registered No 5241966

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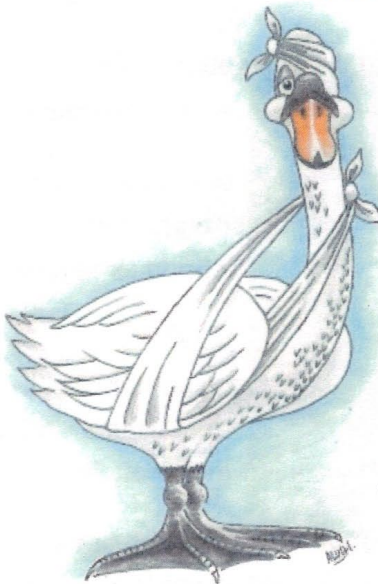
BASES AT CHIRK ON THE LLANGOLLEN, NAPTON ON THE OXFORD, ACTON BRIDGE ON TRENT ON THE TRENT & MERSEY, PEAK DISTRICT (STOKE ON TRENT) ON THE TRENT & MERSEY, STOKE PRIOR ON THE WORCESTER & BIRMINGHAM, FALKIRK ON THE FOURTH & CLYDE, ELY IN CAMBRIDGESHIRE, BRADFORD ON AVON ON THE KENNET & AVON, CLIFTON ON DUNSMORE ON THE NORTH OXFORD

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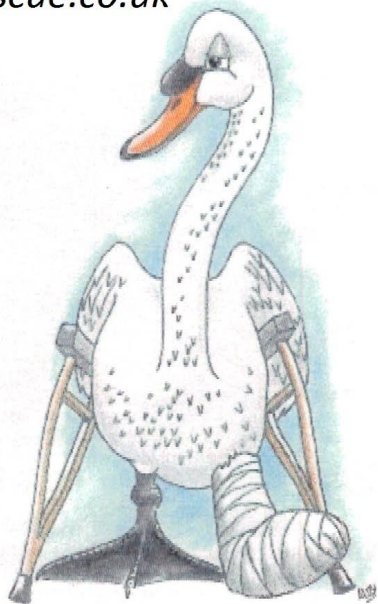


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If you are interested in canals, angling, boats, boat crewing, natural history, walking, cycling, photography, industrial archaeology, local history, canal work parties, preservation and enhancement of the environment as well as meeting up with like-minded people, then please consider joining this friendly Canal Society.

We usually hold our regular monthly meetings at the Alvechurch Boat Centre, Scarfield Wharf, Alvechurch, B48 7SQ (just behind the award winning Weighbridge pub). Meetings are currently being held on 'Zoom' on the first Tuesday of the month at 7.45pm. If you are in the least bit curious then please come along, as non-members are always welcome (we publish joining instructions on our Facebook page). You do not need to be a boat owner as most of our members are not. If you require any other assistance please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Presentations have included The Bridgewater Canal, Coal For The Ashby Canal, Cotswold Canal Restoration, Idle Women, The Cadbury Story, Lapal Canal Trust Restoration, Hereford & Gloucester Canal Restoration, The Montgomery Canal, The Wiltshire & Berkshire Canal and Chance's Glassworks.

Further details are available on our website, Facebook and Twitter where you can find out lots more about us (details below).

Our own society narrowboat 'Cecilia' is available for use by groups or individuals for half day and day trips*

**Terms & Conditions Apply.*

We hope to welcome as many new faces as possible from members of the community.

Please visit our website: wbdcs.org.uk

(where you can also download a membership application form)

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