

AUGUST

BRIDGE

2018



The Resolute GCS Team

Definitions:

Resolute -	Admirably purposeful, determined and unwavering.
GCS -	Grantham Canal Society
Team -	A group of individuals working together to achieve a goal

The
Grantham Canal
Society
CHARITY NO: 507337



Supported by
The National Lottery®
through the Heritage Lottery Fund



This month's update from Mike Stone (Chairman)

At long last we have access to Lock 14 and in no time at all CRT contractors's Squires have prepared the access track. I understand that they are, most generously, not charging for the work and it is a donation to the Project for which we thank them. Not only is the track laid but Squires also put in the upper dam which gives vehicle access to the towpath side of the canal. All we need to do now is dismantle and rebuild the lock! Easy to say but, as I am sure GCS volunteers will tell you, far from easy to construct and with a target of two years we need all the help we can get. Experience of Lock 15 – Lock 14 is virtually the same task – will assist GCS volunteers to close the time gap and also to attract new recruits. **This is a 'once-in-a-lifetime' opportunity for you to join a team that is building a heritage structure that will last for centuries?** Just drop an email to volunteer@granthamcanal.org and we will follow up and discuss your preferences.

You may think that lock restoration is the Society's prime purpose; it isn't! Our task is the restoration of the whole of the Grantham Canal with all that entails. Maintenance of the canal above Lock 18 keeps the Friday & Saturday teams busy throughout the summer as well as the remainder of year; this year the Three Shires trip boat has been very busy so far this year and, as ever, more crew members would help 'spread the load'; our Rangers patrol the towpath throughout the year, including the SKDC length in Grantham, and are building a positive relationship with their local communities; in addition there is much work behind the scenes to present both the canal and the Society to a wider audience. We have much to do and if you, dear reader, could spare us a little of your time I think you would find it rewarding. We have lots of friendly people you can meet who would welcome your time contribution, however small it may be.

The Society would like to thank those members of the public who have drawn attention to potential issues that might impact on the future of our waterway. Most recently these have included issues caused by climatic conditions; previously such matters as local planning applications, encroachment of boundaries, change of use of adjacent land, etc. have been brought to our notice. If you think there are matters of which we are unaware please don't hesitate to talk to the GCS Ranger for the area or contact our Head Ranger, Chris Cobb at: headranger@granthamcanal.org
We appreciate your help.



Lock 15 is now complete and operational – or would be if we could get craft to it! If you haven't seen the finished article why not visit us over the August Bank Holiday weekend (Sun/ Mon 26/27th See page 12).

Volunteers will be there to talk about their work and you can also enjoy refreshments and home-made cakes at our Woolsthorpe Depot. If you get up early in the morning the trip-boat will be offering short cruises of 30 minutes duration from 10am. These always book up early in the day as tickets (the boat only accommodates 10) are sold on a 'first-come-first-served' basis.

Mike Stone.

NOTES FOR YOUR DIARY

<u>Date & Time</u>	<u>Event & Venue</u>
2018	
Thurs 16 th Aug 12.45	Talk: Grantham Stroke Club
Fri 17 th – Sun 19 th Aug	WRG Family Weekend at Woolsthorpe
Sun 19 th Aug	Guided Walk, Woolsthorpe - Muston
Tues 21 st Aug 2.00	Talk: Colsterworth WI
Thurs 23 rd Aug	Skylarks Festival, Holme Pierrepont
Sun & Mon 26 th – 27 th Aug	Bank Holiday Event – lots of help needed
Sun 2 nd Sept	Grantham Fire Station Open Day
Wed 5 th Sept 11.30	Talk: Trent Valley Probus
Thurs 6 th Sept 6.30.- 8.00	Bingham Brownies
Sat 8 th Sept 10.00-4.00	Lincolnshire Heritage Open Days 'Picture the Past', Woolsthorpe Depot, short boat trips, etc.
Sat 8 th Sept	Harlaxton Village Fete changed date
Mon 10 th Sept 7.30	Talk: East Midland Canoe Group, Boathouse, Barrow on Soar
Thurs 13 th Sept 2.15	Talk: Nottm National Trust, Mechanics Institute
Sat & Sun 15 th & 16 th Sept 11.00 – 4.00	Heritage Open Days in Denton Church
Sun 23 rd Sept 1.30 – 4.30	Hedgehog Welfare Fundraiser, Foston Village Hall
Tues 25 th Sept 2.30	Talk by DLB West Bridgford Library
Sun 30 th Sept 10.00 – 4.00	Summer Sunday Boat Trips
Wed 3 rd Oct 1.00	Talk: Horsington WI, Horsington Village Hall
Mon 8 th Oct 7.30	Talk: Gonerby Hill Foot WI
Sun 14 th Oct 10.00-4.00	Discovery Day 2018
Mon 12 th Nov 7.30	Rangers Meeting, The Plough, Stathern
Talk bookings are already coming in for 2019!	

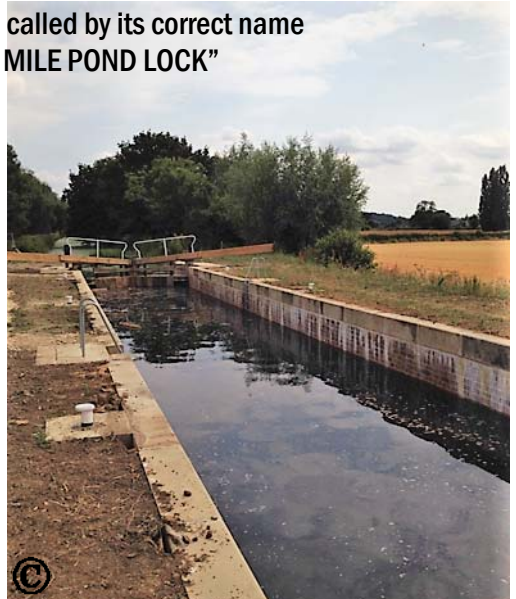
If you hear of a local event from a coffee morning to a Steam Fair where we might raise awareness and funds for the society, please let me know communityandevents@granthamcanal.org or 07971173069

Rosemary Gibson

Society thanks to Steve Adcock, of Somersby Consulting, who prepares the Society Annual Financial Report and those required by the statutory bodies, has retired from work in the voluntary sector. Steve has been a great supporter of the Society and we thank him for his contribution and guidance over recent years.

THE GRANTHAM CANAL HERITAGE INITIATIVE

Lock 15 - now it should be called by its correct name
"BOTTOM OF HALF MILE POND LOCK"



FROM THIS

TO THIS

Lock 14 groundwork commences



Many thanks to Bob
Terry &
Jim Freeman
for these photos
which show the
upper dam, new
roadway and
compound areas
being prepared.



VOLUNTEERS needed for BANK HOLIDAYS and DISCOVERY DAY

We are in the planning stage for running our boat trips on the Sundays and Mondays of the Bank Holidays.

We are also opening our canal depot at Woolsthorpe by Belvoir for refreshments, displays and, if we have time the day before, (*and someone to do it*) - canal dipping. It always fascinates our visitors to see the mini-beasts our canal has to offer.

Canal dipping is only one aspect of this event. Here are some of the jobs our volunteers will carry out:

Organising and advertising.

Baking cakes etc.

Setting up and serving refreshments.

Arranging tables and chairs.

Putting up displays of Canal work.

Canal dipping & displaying mini-beasts.

Cleaning up the depot & putting signs out.

Manning our guide book stall.

Crewing and skippering the trip boat.

Taking boat bookings on the day.

Welcoming visitors.

.....many of the tasks require no specialist knowledge - simply using skills most of us already have. (Skippering and crewing the trip boat does - training is available - and this is an ideal time to get involved!)

Myth buster! *'Canal volunteers have all been at it for years' - 'I won't know anyone' - 'it'll be very clique won't it?'*

Many of our volunteers have joined recently. You will be made welcome - in whatever role you choose. We are all working towards the same aim - to get this fabulous canal of ours open again!

Please contact Rosemary Gibson if you can help in any way.

communityandevents@granthamcanal.org

Flora & Fauna along the Grantham Canal by James Faulconbridge



August - bindweeds

As the summer turns, one of the most characteristic signs is the prevalence of bindweed flowers brightening up the hedgerows. The flowers of bindweed have a bell shape, a bit like the end of a trumpet or trombone, with the petals splaying outwards at the ends. Many gardeners will be all too familiar with their habit – they are scrambling, smothering species which spend little of their energy on structure and instead rely on clinging to whatever is around them – be it a hedgerow, a bridge or a lock. This means that you can find them flowering several metres up in shrubs and hedges, scrambling through the stems of early-summer wildflowers as they go.

There are three species you are likely to encounter along the Grantham Canal, though none of them have helpful names! There are two large white-flowered species, only one of which is called 'large bindweed'. The key distinction between this and the outwardly similar 'hedge bindweed' is in the bracts. The bracts are the two green left-like appendages at the base of the flowers – in large bindweed, these are overlapping but in hedge bindweed, they are not. You might also see the much smaller field bindweed with flowers just a couple of centimetres across. These often grow lower in the grass – they're easy to spot in the verge as you're driving – and can be either pure white or an attractive white and pink stripe. These are beloved by bumblebees and a great source of late-summer nectar!

THE WAY IT WAS

By Mike Atherley



After Mike Mitchell settled in the committee got back to full strength and the membership was slowly increasing. Mike suggested we ought to become a Ltd Company to protect our personal risk. We agreed and Mike set it all up and wrote the constitution. The name then became The Grantham Canal Restoration Society Ltd. British Waterway's also relaxed some of there constraints on work party clearance and good inroads were made in clearing the 30 odd miles of towpath. B.W. also started to fit wide access gates to allow them to maintain the towpath, hedges and bank sides with tractor and flailed mower. But what we needed was a base or yard where we could store the tools and equipment we were slowly acquiring. B.W. had given us long kebs and grapple hooks etc and we had either bought or been given saws scythes and many other tools.



Luckily B.W. came up with the large area of ground alongside lock 11 known as Cropwell Wharf. All the original buildings had been demolished which just left a cottage garden and perimeter fence. There was a drive access off the A46 with wide

gate so very easy for members cars to enter. Jim Branston was the engineering leader at the time and his team quickly tidied up the usable area and several wooden sheds were donated and erected where the cottage had stood. Unfortunately Jim was a bit over enthusiastic with his collection of possible reusable items for the ongoing restoration of the canal. Several well past it wooden boats appeared, old circular saw table, a self loading large concrete mixer, caravan and many other items started to litter the site. The team built a wire mesh compound to try and stop theft and vandalism after the small tractor we had purchased from Bingham Bowls Club was damaged. Unfortunately the compound blocked a public right of way and had to be taken down. Also a load of slightly imperfect or damaged concrete garage type panels also appeared and the site was starting to look like a dump. After B.W. made an inspection they gave the Society a warning to clear up the site or vacate it So all metal items were sold for scrap and the wooden items burnt. The sheds had been damaged by fire and other means but the concrete panels made two large sheds with roofs using fibreglass moulds purchased from the Player's Horizon new factory . These sheds provided good storage for our new waste paper collection.

Continued ...



When Nick Powell took on the job as Work Party Organiser he suggested the committee buy a s/h double pony trailable horse box for our tool storage. Sir Denis Le Marchant agreed we could keep it at his farm at Colston Bassett or Hungerton Hall. This turned out to be a very useful tool and could be towed by anyone with a large car with towball. Some of the team fitted a small workbench with repair tools so that anything broken on w.p. could be repaired. Later it even carried two Allen Sythes. I then purchased an old Land Rover which meant we could access more difficult locations.

More next time



THE GCS TRIP BOATS

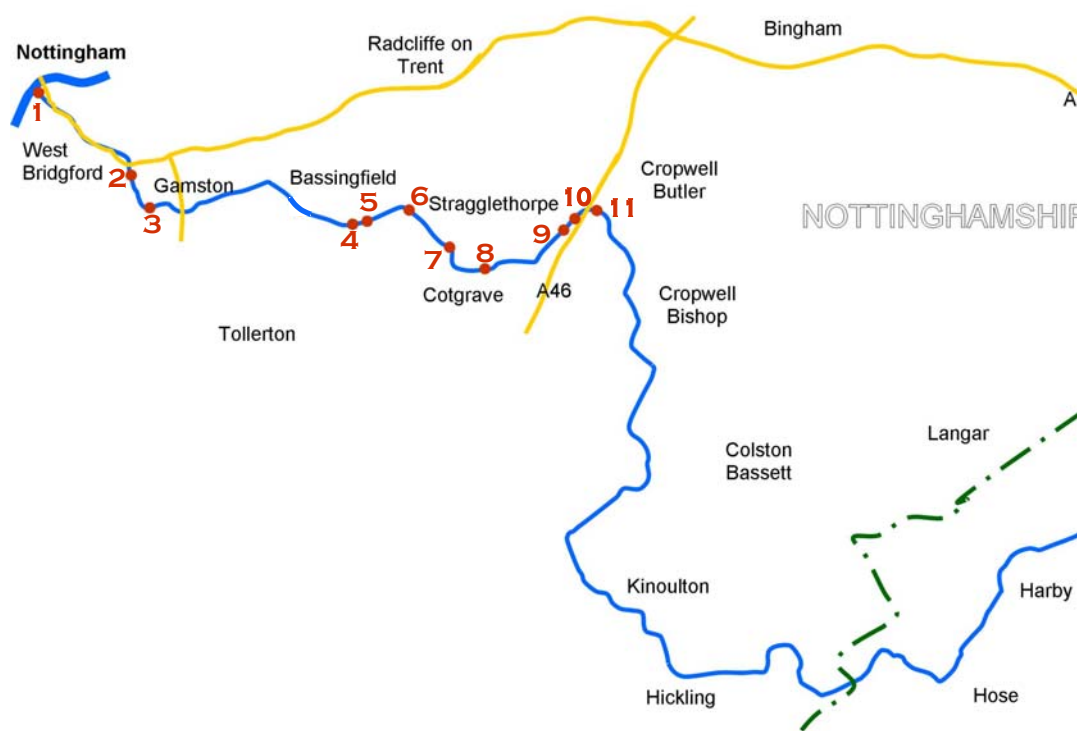
An extract from Mike Atherley's article in Sept 2017

The first trip boat we purchased for use on the Grantham was a small scale narrowboat which I think came from the Huddersfield Narrow Canal. It was about 18ft long by about 4ft beam and had a small rear cabin and covered seating area. Passenger capacity was under 12 people, the layout being similar to a working boat. The engine was an inboard petrol Morris Vedette side valve and traditional swan neck rudder. After little refurbishment and service we launched at Hickling and named the boat 'Reclaim 33'.



The idea of Hickling was for many reasons. It was well patronised by visitors, the Plough pub, a reasonable stretch of water and Chris Tizzard lived close by and volunteered to keep a watching brief. A gas main had been buried under the canal and the concrete and steel bank repairs made a good level mooring place. The engine was always difficult to start so a new battery was purchased and new spark plugs etc fitted.

Many problems arose, mainly finding regular crew, the narrow beam made the boat tilt and roll a lot, upsetting some nervous passengers but the worst was the blanket weed and duck weed clogging the prop and blocking the water cooling filters. Also because of irregular use the battery would be flat with no local charging source. We tried dredging and other ideas but decided to sell the boat on to another canal society after two or three years.

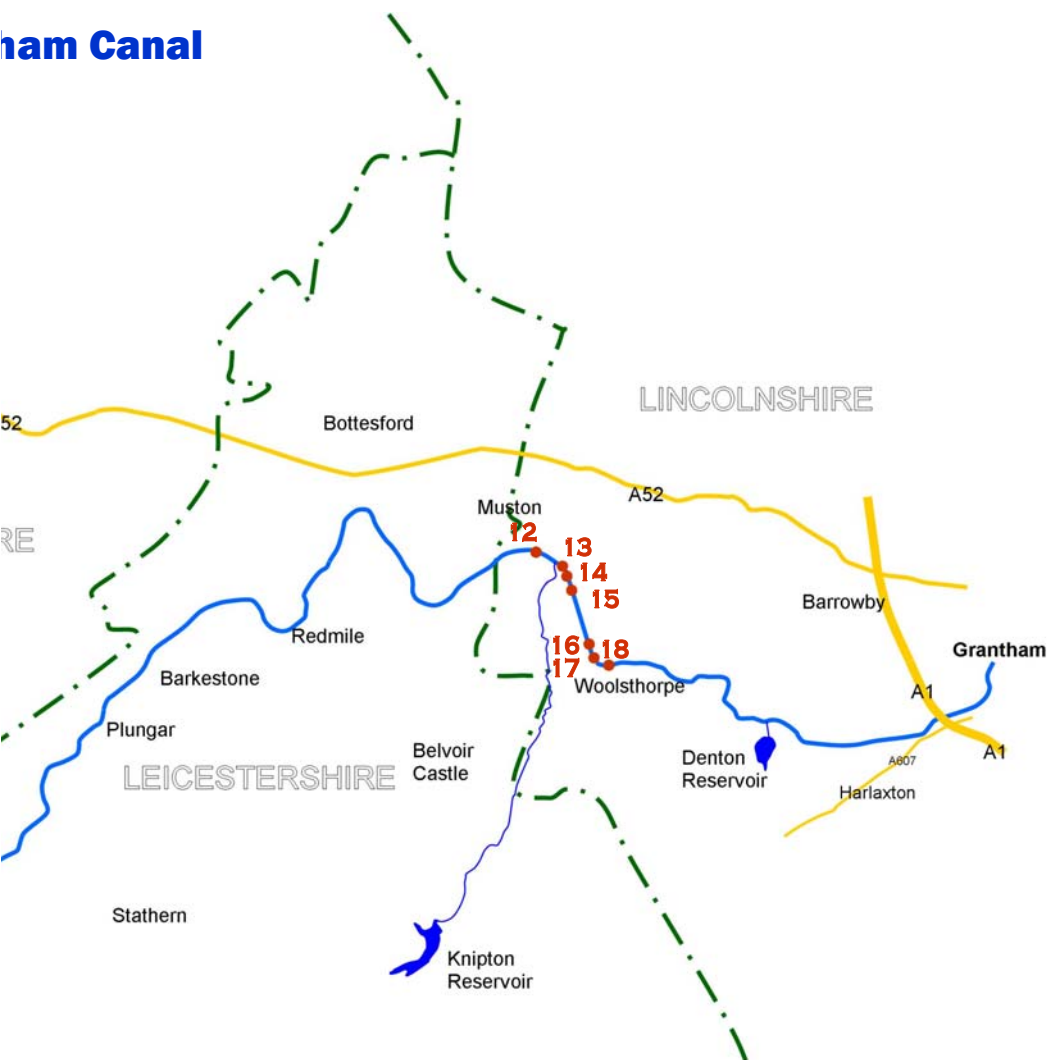


The locks on the

Taken from Bradshaw's Canals and

Lock No	Name
1	TRENT
2	BRIDGFORD
3	GAMSTON
4	SKINNER'S
5	SANDERS
6	COTGRAVE BRIDGE
7	HOLLYGATE LANE
8	JOSS'S
9	CROPWELL (BOTTOM)

ham Canal



Grantham Canal

and Navigable Rivers published 1918

Lock No

10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18

Name

CROPWELL (MIDDLE)
CROPWELL (TOP)
WOOLSTHORPE BOTTOM
STAINWITH
KINGSTON'S
BOTTOM OF HALF MILE POND
CARPENTERS SHOP
WILLIS'S
WOOLSTHORPE TOP

We are delighted to welcome Neil White onto the team - he will be responsible for GCS Fundraising . He writes;



I'm extremely happy to have joined the, nearly, 600 members of GCS and taken on the role of Fundraiser. I've probably not taken on a traditional route to the role. For a starter I am not a frequent user, neither have I been a long-term resident of the area. My interest in the role was piqued following a Bank Holiday trip on the Three Shires with my two children aged 11 and 9. Following an enjoyable trip we retreated to the Depot for drinks. Whilst my two children were happily tucking into a cake of some chocolate form I read the noticeboards and saw the advertisement for the Fundraising Role. Following an initial conversation with Tony Jackson and a longer one with David I was sold on the role! It just goes to show how important such events are important for advertising GCS to all sectors of the local community. My background is in International Education and my wife and I left these shores in 2000 and I have since lived and worked in Sri Lanka, Qatar, Kenya, UAE, Kazakhstan and Malaysia in several different capacities. Much of my recent work has been in Executive roles and I have worked closely with Governments and have had much input into tenders for work, which is very similar to the process used by many fund/grant awarding bodies – a lot of boring paperwork as Tony would put it! So, I'm hoping that my experiences, my studies to complete an MBA, and the lessons in patience that my work overseas has taught me will hold me in good stead for the role!

My work overseas has also taught me the importance of community. Communities are so central to how people interact and

survive in the countries I have listed above and since returning to the UK I have actively looked at how I could contribute to local communities. As a resident of Muston, the current restoration work of The Grantham Canal cannot be more local, and I am excited about the opportunities the restoration of the canal provides for communities over the 33 miles it stretches. Furthermore, I remain passionate about education and youth, as a member of The Rotary Club in Grantham I am involved in creating mini-Rotary Clubs in schools that provide opportunities for young children to engage in service projects in their local communities. The work of GCS is important not only for current users of the canal, it provides the opportunities for hands-on educational activities such as those provided by Schools Week and the activities provided by the GCS Educational Team, but also for the legacy it provides for future generations. From an ecological, historical, traditional and leisure perspective (and probably more!) it is a significant venture that my children and countless like them (and hopefully grandchildren) will be the true beneficiaries. Now - how can any funding donor resist that argument! I'm going to finish now, by thanking the members of GCS who have already made me feel very welcome. The members of The Executive Committee who have spent time providing the background and considerable history of GCS, and their help in assisting me to shape an initial strategy to the fundraising approach. The volunteers who I have met down at The Depot, and the volunteers I met down at Lock 14 for sharing with me the details of the lock restoration process – an education for me! It is a poignant time to start the role, as work began on Lock 14 following the completion of Lock 15. The stark difference between the two is so visible, and I hope my work will support further work on the canal.

GUIDED WALK

Join the Grantham Canal Rangers on a 6.5 mile walk to visit the nearby village of Muston and the canal towpath.

Meet at the Dirty Duck Public House,
Woolsthorpe, NG32 1NY



SUNDAY 19TH AUGUST 2018 at 10.30 am

The walk is free, donations to the GCS welcome.



COMPUTER TECH TIPS BY GILES

Spectre and Meltdown Security Flaws

In recent months two security vulnerabilities have been discovered called Meltdown and Spectre that could allow hackers to steal the entire memory contents of computers.

The hack exploits a design flaw in microprocessors that has been present for the last 20 years but has only recently been discovered.

While companies like Intel, AMD and ARM are busy trying to fix the problem using software patches it appears that it may be quite difficult to secure data completely especially against Spectre which is said to be a problem in the fundamental way that processors have been designed.

The issue doesn't just affect PC's and laptops, it affects tablet devices and mobile phones too including all apple devices.

It looks like the issues are likely to be addressed in the next generation of microprocessors which leaves current systems vulnerable to the threat. One of the main concerns is with cloud based systems where the possibility of malicious code inside a virtual machine being able to read data from the memory of the underlying host computer, with the threat that one cloud customer could steal data from another.

For further reading there are quite a few articles about this problem online, if you Google the words 'spectre and meltdown' there are many links including details on Wikipedia.

This could become quite an issue and I'm surprised there hasn't been more coverage on mainstream media.

The best advice is to always keep your software up to date, most importantly your operating system and antivirus software.



INLAND
WATERWAYS
ASSOCIATION



WATERWAY
RECOVERY
GROUP

Meetings are held at 7.45 pm at Rushcliffe
Arena, Rugby Road, West Bridgford,
Nottingham, NG2-7HY, about 15 minutes from
M1 Junction 24 up the A453
There is no meeting in August

A WOEFUL DAY FOR THE KENNETT & AVON CANAL!



DAVID MAGUIRE

**A stretch of the Kennet and Avon Canal after it
was accidentally drained**

A spokesperson for the Canal and River Trust confirmed what happened was not malicious but that the boater was "rushing and left the paddles up". He added that the trust had since restored the water levels. (18-07-2018)



GOOGLE

**The Kennet and Avon Canal near Seend, as it
normally looks**

Many thanks to
Adrian Bellamy
For sending us this
news item

Item copied from

**BBC
NEWS**

WE NEED YOUR HELP PLEASE for

August Bank Holiday

Home-made cakes are wanted for the Refreshment Stall, also if you can help for a couple of hours or more, on either or both days, with the refreshments, please ring Mary

01476 566578

ALSO

Could you spare some time helping on tombola, book stall, displays, taking bookings for trip boat, welcoming visitors, mini beasties, etc.

Please contact Rosemary

07971 173069

ARE YOU A MEMBER OF THE GRANTHAM CANAL SOCIETY?

Why not join the 15 new members we gained in July?
It doesn't matter if you live miles away or don't wish to actively volunteer - you will be supporting our efforts

THE COST IS MODEST!

The annual subscription rates are as follows:

Single Adult:£20

Family:£30

Under 18/Over 60: ..£15

The Grantham Canal Society

CHARITY NO: 507337

BOAT TRIPS

August Bank Holiday
Sun 26th and Mon 27th.

10 am – 4 pm

Boat Trips (30 minutes) £3 Adult, £2 Child

Spaces subject to availability. Sorry, no dogs on board



Find us at:

The Carpenter's Shop, Duck Lane,
Woolsthorpe by Belvoir, Nr Grantham NG32
1NY (behind The Dirty Duck)

Free parking by kind permission of
Jean-Francois & Lynne, licensees of The
Dirty Duck.

Refreshments Displays
Tombola Mini Beasts

Guided tours at Lock 15 restoration site.

*Proceeds towards the restoration of the
Grantham Canal*

For more information:

www.granthamcanal.org



**A GREAT FAMILY DAY
OUT**



Join us for a Bat Walk



Friday 7th September
7.15 - 9.00 pm

In conjunction with the Lincolnshire Bat Group we will take a short walk along the Grantham Canal at Woolsthorpe.

Meet outside the Dirty Duck Pub, Woolsthorpe, NG32 1NY.

The walk is free, donations gratefully accepted and split between the two groups.

To book a place on the walk please contact

headranger@granthamcanal.org

Or phone:

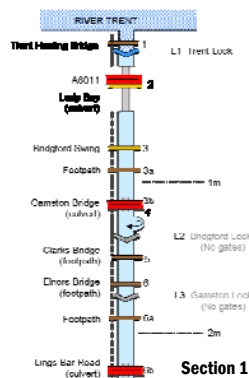
07926 414652

We cannot guarantee that bats will be seen!

HELP!

Would you like to get stuck in and improve the appearance of our lovely canal? Well now you have the perfect opportunity. Are you up for the challenge? See what some of the Lady Bay residents got up to with their section pictured below?

Can we better their efforts?



All of our work will be supervised by the Canal and River Trust who will give a safety briefing before starting the work and provide all necessary equipment such as inflatables, hand tools, wheelbarrows, etc. They will also dispose of the vegetation and rubbish we remove. All we have to do is provide the MUSCLE.

Whether you can spare 1 hour or several hours, you are welcome to the ... OUTDOOR GYM - WHEN?

Sun 16th SEPTEMBER 2018 (tbc)

Please register your interest before Friday 20th July to: Ranger Rob 0798 670 1348 or email rob.cook47@virginmedia.com



The lottery will open to supporters on Tuesday 18th September



For every £1 ticket you buy 50% will go to

The Grantham Canal Society
CHARITY NO: 507337

Providing you nominate us!

We will be providing more details of this exciting lottery in next month's Bridge!

Our grateful thanks to the following who has recently made a donation to the Society:

Grantham Rotary, Rempstone Traction Engine Club, B.Pense, C.N.Weston, R.Crew, P.Mustoe, M.J.Scorrow, G.K.Gallagher, P.Robinson & Nigel Lee

HELP OUR FUNDRAISING BY DONATING...THINGS!

We have the contacts to raise money for the society from certain donated items.

Do you have any of the following which you would like to donate?

- Stamp collection
- Cigarette Cards
- Model railways - 00 and N gauge
- Beer mats
- Beer pump clips
- Good quality pottery and porcelain
- 12" vinyl LPs, singles and CDs
- DVDs
- Rocks & Minerals

If so email David on
david.lyneham-brown@granthamcanal.org
or ring on 07970 858458

WE WILL DISCUSS WHAT WE CAN TAKE AND SELL FOR ADDITIONAL FUNDS EVERY LITTLE HELPS!

Data Protection Statement

The Grantham Canal Society may ask for some personal details from its members and volunteers. This ensures that we can contact you and take account of your Health & Safety.

The Grantham Canal Society takes our responsibility for looking after information seriously. We follow the data Protection Act at all times when asking for or handling your information including:

- Personal data shall be processed fairly and lawfully
- Data is processed only for the purpose(s) for which it was collected
- Data is adequate, relevant and not excessive
- Data is accurate and kept up to date
- Data is not kept longer than necessary
- Data is kept secure against unauthorised access and loss or damage

Sometimes sensitive information may also be asked for e.g. health information. We will always ask for explicit consent before collecting or using this information.

A copy of this statement will be brought to the attention of all members and volunteers.

GDPR1805/R0

To UNSUBSCRIBE from receiving further copies of Bridge: email bridge@granthamcanal.org putting UNSUBSCRIBE as the subject

VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES



WEEKDAYS AT LOCK 14 or



FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS WITH ONE OF OUR WORKPARTIES

If you can spare some time to join one of our teams then please email volunteer@granthamcanal.org or ian.wakefield@granthamcanal.org