

London WRG News



Andi, Gilly and Rick pointing stonework (Froghall, Andrew Roberts)

Issue 56 October 2003

From The Editor

Welcome back after the summer, I hope everyone enjoyed themselves, I certainly did! London WRG seemed to also have an extremely good summer, the turnout for the traditionally quiet summer digs was good and we have managed to recruit a lot of people from the camps! Recruitment is going so well we regularly have to take two minibuses on digs and numbers of 30 odd seem the norm now. Many thanks to all who have spent their time talking to people on camps and other events and persuading them to come digging and a great many thanks for all the new volunteers who have come digging with us, hope to see you on lots more events.

To help with the recruiting we have dusted off and updated the LWRG recruitment leaflet (available from the website) and printed a batch of “business” cards to be handed out to prospective volunteers. The idea of the business cards is that you can over print the backs with the next few dig dates (list template also on the website!) and hand them out, if you want a supply for any reason give us a shout.

We have managed to get a lot of work done with all these volunteers as the dig reports on the next pages will testify, organising digs now seems to be less about doing a ring round and more about work planning, logistics and people management when on site, much more challenging but a lot more rewarding. This issue also contains all the information about the WRG Bonfire Bash, the KESCRG/LWRG Xmas do and the LWRG Xmas party, see page 12 for details and page 15 for the Bonfire Bash booking form.

Before I forget (and get strung up by Sal) I had better mention the new LWRG T-shirts that arrived last week, they look really good! Many thanks to Sal for organising the ordering and if you have missed out on the first round then fear not, another order will be going in soon, hopefully just in time to collect the T-shirts at the reunion! order forms are available from the website.

Page 2

Pub Change

As some of you may have heard we had a spot of bother in the “Jugged Hare” pub the other week as two of our younger volunteers (but they were still over 20!) were refused service and were not allowed to stay in the pub! This led to a quick move up the road to the Lord Burleigh where proceedings continued as normal. With this in mind we will be changing the pub the socials are held in, more details on Page 3.

London WRG E-mail List

As Andrew Palmer has left IWA head office to go back to University the person we need to contact about e-mail list subscriptions has changed to:

richard.hollidge@waterways.org.uk

E-mails sent by mistake to Andy will still be picked up but please use this address in future.

London WRG (and others) Take A Running Jump...

...Off another boatlift! Yes, the boatlift abseil team have been at it again, this time abseiling off the Falkirk Wheel in Scotland! While the rest of London WRG were painting tools Martin, Helen (The Purple Fairy), Mole, Bungle, MKP and others were spending far too long in GCW for the dubious pleasure of abseiling 80 foot to raise funds for The Waterways Trust and the WRG “Right Tool” appeal, hopefully we will have photos in the next issue.

Canalway Cavalcade 2004

I know it seems a long way ahead but plans for next years Cavalcade are already taking shape, the theme will be “Steaming Ahead” as the steam driven narrow boat “President” will be there! So get your thinking caps on as we need ideas for the London WRG entry into Saturday’s pageant!

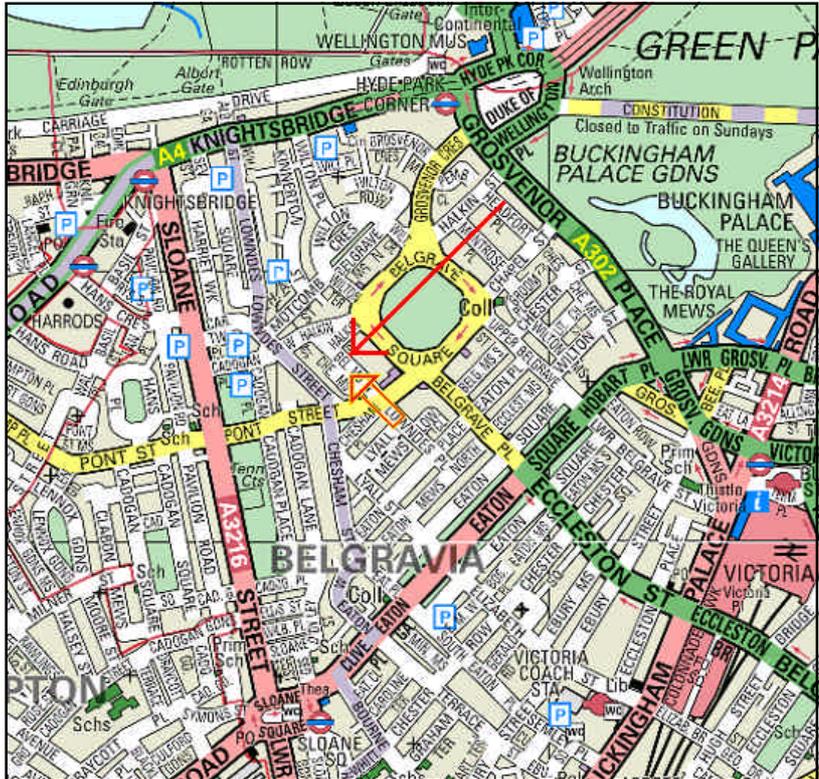
London WRG website:
www.london.wrg.org.uk

London WRG News

After some trouble with people not being served in the “Jugged Hare” pub a few weeks ago and a number of very successful extra socials we have decided to move the London WRG socials to the “Star Tavern” on Belgrave Mews West. This is an excellent small pub tucked behind the German Embassy on an old cobbled mews and has the distinction of having been in every issue of the Good Beer Guide (one of only 17 pubs in the country!) The pub is part of the Fullers chain and the beer is always good and the food has to be tasted to be believed (the steaks come highly recommended).

London WRG Socials

So from the social on 28th October onwards we will be meeting in this pub, probably in the upstairs room, as it is slightly less hectic. The pub is within easy walking distance of Victoria, Knightsbridge and Sloane Square stations but beware, finding the entrance to the mews is quite difficult! Find the German Embassy at the Eastern end of Chesham Place and just to the right is a white arch over a cobbled mews, go through the arch and along the mews (this is Belgrave Mews West) for about 50m and the pub is on the left just before another arch.



Above Map showing the Star Tavern’s location.



Left The pub!

Below Entrance to Belgrave Mews West from Pont Street.



Working Party Reports

Wilts & Berks Canal, Chaddington Lock, 2-3rd August 2003

Anyone who turned up at Waterloo on Friday evening awaiting the minibus to take them to the dig was to be sorely disappointed (and not to mention stranded). With the minibuses busy being used on the summer camps a convoy of cars descended on Lyneham to deliver the eager volunteers for the weekend's dig.

Martin and Sal arrive from Reading with the Traveller full to the brim with supplies for the weekend as well as a few bootfuls of water for Sal. Peter and Nadia had collected the keys from the hall manager for us and were awaiting our arrival.

By 9pm most of the expected people had arrived so with Peter and Nadia in tow we negotiated the long walk across the road to the White Hart. Of the real ales on offer one of the pumps has already been "turned round" so it looked like there was competition to LWRG to drink the pub dry. True to form by the end of the evening we had managed to drink them out of Bombardier but not before they had managed to put back on the 6X. Richard turned up with Rick in tow which was a surprise to our organiser Matt. During the course of the evening the landlord of the White Hart tried to persuade Matt that we should hire out the upstairs of the pub next time with the main selling point being the wardrobe that converts into a bed!!

After last orders it was back into the hall where the sturdier (or more foolish) of us stayed up drinking and chatting in the kitchen into the wee hours.

Saturday morning arrived with Matt preparing breakfast for us all, and managing to use all of the sausages for the weekend in the process. Bob arrived during breakfast much to everybody's surprise as it was after we had all got up (it turned out he actually slept in – unfortunately this didn't extend to Sunday morning).

After finishing breakfast and preparing lunch (what no egg sandwiches!!) we headed off on the short drive to Chaddington Lock where we met the local volunteers on site. The work for the weekend involved bricklaying, repointing of the existing brickwork and general site maintenance. Since it was the coping level of the wingwalls and lock chamber that had to be laid the best brickies were set to work. Four others were banished to spend the day beneath the arch bridge cleaning off the excess mortar in preparation for the repointing of the brickwork. The initial cramped location beneath the bridge turned out to be a blessing over the weekend as the temperatures soared and everybody started to suffer. During the day entertainment was provided by an air display over Lydiard Park just north of Wootton Bassett with a fly past later on in the day of a Lancaster bomber with Spitfire escort. Nobody was sure if Rick managed to see this or not as he appeared to be intent on clearing a direct route back to the accommodation with a strimmer. By the end of the day the coping bricks on one and a half of the wingwalls had been laid, the brickwork beneath the bridge had been prepared, concrete verges had been poured along the bridge parapets and Rick had been retrieved.

Saturday evening saw us all back at the hall where Martin had prepared a delicious chicken stew, as well as a "Russian salad" using home grown cucumbers donated by Nadia (Marcus didn't try his pickles though.....maybe in spite of protestations that he didn't want them he just didn't want to share them around).

Tim managed his usual feat of turning up just in time for dinner, and the supplies for the Sunday morning's breakfast vastly increased. Due to a mix up both Lesley and Tim bought sausages and bacon for breakfast.the rest of the group though seemed to have no problem at the thought of too much bacon and sausage for breakfast.

After dinner it was back down to the White Hart where the group was joined for the evening by my sisters who shed bemused looks on the group and wondered what the hell their brother had got himself into.

At the end of the evening the short walk back to the hall provided a perfect evening for star gazing as it was a beautifully clear night with the Milky Way visible in the sky.also for those of us lucky enough to look up at the right time a shooting star made an appearance.

Again the party split into sleepers and idiots.with the idiots moving to the kitchen again to continue the drinking and talking into the small hours yet again. With Bob's decision to join the idiots there were hopes that he might lay in on Sunday morning but these hopes were dashed when Bob got up to see the morning in with a stroll around RAF Lyneham.

Working Party Reports

Sunday morning again saw an early start although with the added bonus that we did not have to clear the hall by 9am as previously thought necessary since the preacher of the religious group was ill and nothing short of a miracle would enable him to get there – (there were a few nervous thoughts though about having to still clear the hall as he was definitely in the right line of business for the performing of a few miracles). Breakfast was prepared by Lesley with a helping hand from myself and contained an ample supply of bacon and sausages.

With lunch having been prepared, the breakfast things cleared away and the kitchen tidied in anticipation of leaving the hall that day the convoy set off a little before 9.30am missing only a few elements. Martin had planned to stay behind for a while to prepare the next issue of Navvies. However, Tim after a moment of blinding inspiration managed to



Jenny, Bob and Andy preparing the bridge for pointing (Ed Walker)

Working Party Reports

stamp his claim for this year's "Lame Excuse" award. . . . not only did he managed to lock his keys in the car but he also managed to leave the engine running and his mobile phone in the car. This meant he had to await the arrival of the RAC to rescue him. Out on site everything seemed too quiet but then we suddenly realised that with Tim's car temporarily out of action and Martin staying behind we had not had enough room to bring Sal. However, the Morris Traveller turned into a white charger as Martin abandoned Navvies and brought Sal out himself. Eventually Tim managed to extricate the keys from car and was able to join us although nobody was sure what he actually did when he got there.



London WRG back at what we do best...brick laying! (Ed Walker)

The day tended to proceed pretty much as the day before (including air show again) but with most of the brickies topping off the brickwork inside the lock and Nigel and Pete finishing of the wingwalls. Marcus helped move the compound around since with the bridge now operational the road could be diverted over the bridge. Yet again the use of having a 4-wheel drive vehicle on site was realised when "The Beast" had to be used to help one of the site vehicles get moving.

With the weather hotter than Saturday (32°C according to Marcus's phone although we were not sure that wasn't the temperature of his trousers), by mid afternoon it was clear that everyone was flagging slightly so an extended tea break was taken where we all watched the kettle boil to provide a little longer rest (in the shade) than usual. The plan was to finish up once the bricklaying on the wingwalls was finished so with the eyes of the rest of the group upon him Nigel managed to cope with the pressure admirably and the wall was completed, scaffolding dismantled and kit cleaned by about 6pm. Since it was the day for the Wootton Bassett carnival the main road had been closed off but it was a quick trip back to the hall following the diversion signs – that is it was quick for everyone but Tim and Sal since Tim managed to follow the diversion the wrong way and just guess who had the hall keys. Eventually we managed to get into the hall where the final tidying up and packing away was completed. By a little after 7pm a tired but happy group bid adieu to the hall and Lyneham after a successful weekend's work. In total the work completed for the weekend included the cleaning up and repointing of 90% of the brickwork on the underside of the arch bridge, laying of the coping level of bricks for both wingwalls and setting the facing bricks on the coping level of one side of the lock, dismantling of the scaffolding between the wingwalls, clearing of 150m of tow-path vegetation and moving the majority of the compound to its new location.

Thanks to Matt for organising the weekend and to everyone for turning up and making my very first dig such a good one. For your sins I may even come back – that is if Sal hasn't taken me to task using the list she was compiling throughout the weekend.

Andy Richardson

Caldon Canal, Froghall, 6-7th September 2003

Friday evening, 6.55pm and NJF pulled up in a cloud of smoke at Waterloo, a swift break to recover from Rick turning up EARLY and a quick change of driver we headed off to places North. Leaving the station Sally found that she couldn't drink and hump at the same time hence Martin was asked to hump slower in future. After a very smooth run up to Stoke-on-Trent we pulled into the pub at the unheard of hour of 10pm, scaring the many other people who had turned up already, this was always going to be a big dig, lots of recruits from camps and other regulars as well. We finally crawled back from the pub quite late and found a group of people playing some weird numbers based game in the accom, well it kept them amused! Bed called very late that night, but we did have bunks!

Saturday and Harri T did us proud with a fine cooked breakfast and we headed off to site. MKP did his "in charge" bit leading us on a magical mystery tour and detailing the jobs to be done, most of which required waiting for kit/materials. One of the major jobs for the weekend was to find the edges of the basin below the lock, no one seems to know what the layout is!

Working Party Reports

Up on lock 1/14/16, (we don't know which it is!) we started to excavate the new path along the lockside, after lunch Marcus took over the path job and started to lay roadstone.

A major job for the morning was cleaning off the stonework in the lock, the major problem with this being the foot of water in most of the lock! The afternoon saw a team being set to dig behind the coping stones that had been pushed out by tree roots, after much digging and tea breaks to allow for rain Richard and I managed to acro 5 of the stones back into line. Nina, Gav and Adrian were also setting the woodwork up on the railway siding and Tenco and Alison spent most of the day up trees with chainsaws.



Acroing coping stones back into place (Tim Lewis)

Working Party Reports

Crawling back to the accom after site, we had to endure the ensuing fun and games of non-working show-ers and variable sex toilets; this was all eclipsed by a great meal delivered by Jude and Co's catering team. Another expedition to the pub (only 1.1 miles away according to the sign!) where we soon managed to take over both ends of the main bar leaving only the centre area for the locals, back at the accom and another round of the numbers game was played while the rest of us enjoyed a port/beer on the veranda.

Sunday: Harri T cooked breakfast AGAIN, Natalie just about manages to find the accom after driving around the county for half an hour, apparently Natalie was the only person to request good weather and that's why it was sunny all day! On site things seemed a lot smoother as we had all the materials and everyone knew the jobs. The last of the coping stones were acro'ed into position and while the pointing team swung into action an interesting lime-and-roadstone concrete mix was used to fill the gaps behind the stones. Marcus's path team were going great guns managing to loose an entire lorry load of roadstone in one day, meanwhile the Railway Recovery Group (otherwise known as Gav, Adrian, Rick B and Nina) were laying sleepers and roadstone on the railway siding. With the weather being so much better the ice cream shop did a brisk trade at tea break, the honey and ginger ice cream can be well recommended. We finally managed to tidy up and leave site by 4.30pm, a quick tidy of the accom and we were off back home, stopping briefly in Uttoxeter for diesel and McDonalds.

Many thanks to Tunji for organising the dig and to MKP for organising the site work; this was certainly one of the larger London WRG digs I have been on for a while and was great fun for it. This was definitely a very civilised dig with beds in the accom, a tea shop on site and taps in the site hut!

Ed Walker

Hereford & Gloucester Canal, 26-28th September 2003

Last weekend saw my turn to brandish the leadership whip come round as we visited the H&G. As usual the pre weekend van, key and people manoeuvres were as confusing as possible, trying to collect GCW and get me, Ed and Martin in the correct places with the correct vans and keys at the right times.

Due to an ever-growing number of volunteers we had a 16 of us travelling in the vans, (is that a record??) plus kit, tools, catering kit and food. I think those in the back were well packed in! Collection time at Waterloo and Ed and I arrived in GCW on time to discover that Martin was still collecting tools at Dorothy's and would be at least another 45 mins (Martin that IS impressive even for you!). We crammed as many people as possible into GCW, leaving Andi, Nerina, Jean and Jon to wait for the trailing Martin.

Off we set and due to having to collect two Tirfors from Dauntsey, we set off on our magical mystery tour across the country – otherwise know as how many canals, sites and accommodations can we visit before getting to the one we want! Ed and I had agreed to split the driving but somehow I was still driving when we reached Dauntsey. Tirfors loaded and everyone else packed in we headed off for the accommodation in Dymock with Ed at the wheel. We finally arrived at the pub next to the accommodation (less than staggering distance!) at 10 to 11, but not before pre-ordering our round! Luckily for us closing time proved to be slightly later than usual! Back in the hall after the usual unpack of kit, more beers and toast it was time for bed.



Reprofiling the canal with Blue (Tim Lewis)

Sat morning came round, as usual too early for most people. Due to the number of people a full van of people and kit headed off for site, whilst the remaining volunteers (those running late or not coping with morning!) stayed behind to make lunch. Also it was finally time to open the HUGE tin of corned beef as we had enough volunteers to eat it all!

Once on site first job of the day was the ever-predictable job of having to move concrete block from one pile to another as they were in the wrong place. An hour or so, about 300 blocks and an uncountable number of spiders later we had finished and it was time for tea break – well timed with the arrival of the other van and the brew kit!

Post tea break it was time to tackle the main jobs for the weekend, Ed, Dave and Jenny disappeared with Blue to re-profile the canal near the lock. Allan and co. decided fire was the way forward and set to working their way through a Bob sized pile of branches. The rest of us started on the main task of the day, which was uncovering an aqueduct to enable investigation later in the day by some Structural Engineers. Martin decided the bung in the pipe from the in water section of canal, just wasn't up to scratch. Removing it proved easy but replacing it was a much more entertaining (at least for the rest of us) challenge. Martin received the only shower of the weekend– but I am not entirely convinced about the cleanliness of the water!

About this point the Tirfor crew of Marcus, Andy R, Grace and Nat (Fab) decamped to Newent to tackle the stumps left from our last visit.



Exposing the Aqueduct (Tim Lewis)

Working Party Reports

Lunch time came and went and the afternoon continued in a similar vein with more of the aqueduct appearing and new Jon G creating steps in the steep bank to provide easier access. The day finished with the arrival of 6 student engineers plus tutor to measure the aqueduct so they could design its repair as a project. I am not sure about any one else but they definitely kept me entertained by having to keep retaking measurements as they had made mistakes the first time. Am not quite sure what they made of us though!

Fencing up and back at the accommodation it was time to celebrate Marcus' birthday (here's hoping I got that apostrophe in the right place!) before the usual decamp next door to the pub for a beer or two.

Back on site on Sunday after the usual fab fry up the Tirfor team carried on at Newent, Ed followed by Nigel carried on with the profiling whilst the rest of us got to trash an old mobile home. I wish I could have captured the look of glee on several people's faces! The inside was stripped followed by the destruction of the shell, the burning of as much as possible on a SMALL and CONTROLLED fire, yes Tim and Russ that applies to you too! The aluminium was then trimmed in to tidy squares for recycling before Dave and Ed set to carving the base frame into pieces. A definite case of kit formed caravan!



Caravan going.... (Tim Lewis)

Working Party Reports

Back on the Newent site stump and tree removal continued and a fencing crew joined them to finish the fencing job started last time and to help burn the stumps and tidy the site

We finally reached the end of two very successful days and wended our merry way home, drivers powered as usual by a supply of Jelly Babies. Thanks to everyone who came I hope you all had as good a weekend as me. Also thanks to the locals, we definitely approve of the hall at Dymock. See you all next time.

Sal Nutt



Top: A "small and controlled" fire (Tim Lewis)
Bottom: Going.... (Tim Lewis)

And a thank you from the local organiser:

Sally,

Yours is the only address I have for London WRG so would you do me the favour of passing on this message.

Sorry it's a bit late but thought David P. was doing the honours. I am the site manager and I would like to say thanks to all your gang who made the effort to come to Gloucestershire last month. Very impressed with all you did and in particular the aqueduct clearance that uncovered detail that hadn't been seen for years. It certainly made the surveyor's job a lot easier. The butch members of your team seemed to enjoy smashing up the caravan and stacking it in nice neat piles afterwards. Surprised to see so many female members in attendance - perhaps those butch types are the attraction. They clearly don't come just to make the tea or do the cooking!

Otherwise a very successful weekend and looking forward to seeing you all soon. Will the hall at Dymock be OK again or would you prefer the hall at Oxenhall, which is in a very rural setting and a long way from any noisy pubs?

Brian Fox

I think we can safely say we prefer being next to the pub in Dymock - Ed.



Gone! (Tim Lewis)

Tool Painting Weekend, 11-12th October 2003

The bus left Waterloo at 10.15am on the Saturday, 10.15am? Here you cry, Saturday? Yes! This was not a standard dig but a session “restoring the kit that restores canals” (with apologies to logistics), back in the mists of time at the AGM we had decided that a tool painting weekend would be a good idea and Moose volunteered the use of his boatyard. Some discussion at the National and we fixed a date, the boatyard being only just outside the M25 a Saturday meetup was called for. We finally got to the boatyard at 11.30am with NJF packed to the gunnels with LWRG’s complete tool collection. A cup of tea with Moose, Maria and Marcus and we swung into action, Maria and Sal took the catering kit in hand and swiftly generated a list of the extra stuff we needed while the blokes made lots of noise cleaning concrete off shovels, and that was only Rick and with a hammer! Showing impeccable timing as ever, Tunji rolled up just as we stopped for lunch, apparently he had “stuff” to do that morning.

After lunch Maria and Marcus went off to terrorise downtown Harlow in Beastie (apparently Marcus has now been banned from even more DIY shops after the weekend) while Sal and I started the painting job and Richard Cool and Rick carried on making noise. The painting continued until about 6pm by which the garage looked like the Aladdin’s cave from the National Panto and we were in possession of a freshly sharpened and candy striped wrecking bar and many new bits of catering kit. As the sun set we headed off to a pub that Moose had come to an “arrangement” with for food, the “Good Intent” in Sawbridgeworth, many pints of Pride and a buffet later we turned in, in the upstairs room of the pub itself!

The next morning rolled around and continuing with the theme of a relaxed weekend Moose came round with tea at about 8.30am, a quick wash and we were on the road again to finish off the painting. While Maria cooked breakfast the rest of us carried on painting tools, eeking out the red paint with white spirit as necessary. Having an angle grinder and whetstone to hand we also went on a bit of a sharpening spree, so watch out next time you use the kit: the kitchen knives are sharp as are the machetes, the chisels and even the mattocks!

Working Party Reports

As it reached 5pm we decided everything was about done and so packing the still slightly tacky tools back in the van we wended our merry way home. Many thanks to everyone who helped with the weekend; Moose and Maria for loaning us the garage and sorting the food, Martin for gathering the tools from Dorothy’s garage and getting paint, Marcus “I’ve got just the tool for that in the back” Jones for bringing Beastie and Sal, Richard, Tunji and Rick for ceaselessly painting stuff all weekend, I didn’t know we owned so much tat!

Ed Walker



Moose carrying out a delicate adjustment to a bolster (Ed Walker)

Next Time Out

WRG Bonfire Bash, Basingstoke Canal, 7-8th November 2003.

The work: scrub-bashing on Ash Embankment, removing trees and vegetation which if left would eventually threaten the stability of the canal banks where it crosses the Blackwater Valley on a major embankment. And burning the stuff we cut down on some nice big bonfires! Also probably some work on the back-pumping project at St Johns that the summer Canal Camp volunteers worked on.

The accommodation: the Malta Barracks, Aldershot. Full joining instructions will be sent out to everyone who books in. There is ample parking space, and if you arrive by public transport you can be picked up from a nearby station. There are showers at the accommodation.

The cost: £10 for the whole weekend, including delicious food from Jude and her team, and a contribution to the cost of the 'do' on Saturday night. (please don't bring your own fireworks - Harry & Ralph have got it all in hand!) And we hope to be able to arrange for a supply of Real Ale for Saturday night, but if that isn't your favourite tittle, please bring whatever is. (although I daresay the odd trip to the off-licence will be arranged) Booking form on page 15.

The reason why: because the work needs doing, to secure the long-term future of the canal. Because it's a chance to get together with the volunteers you met on the summer Canal Camps and the rest of WRG. Because it's just after the 5th of November and a good excuse for a Guy Fawkes party!

What should you bring? Your usual canal-digging kit, with one exception.... **What's the exception?** Just possibly your airbed or carrymat. Because there are BEDS in the accommodation. But only for the first 93 volunteers who book in. So there's an incentive to get those booking forms in pronto!

KESCRG/London WRG Xmas Party

As some of you will have heard from the London WRG e-mail list, we have had some trouble finding accommodation and a site for the KESCRG/LWRG Xmas do, well after a lot of work by Martin and Eddie Jones we are going to be working at Froghall on the Caldon Canal again, unfortunately the original date was booked already (I believe NW are having their Xmas do that weekend) and so we have had to change the date to 13-14th December. The accommodation is in a village hall in Kingley but please note the hall will only sleep about 35 and while Rupert and Alison have offered to put up a few people, numbers will have to be capped at 50.

Tickets are available from Brian and Maureen Amos as usual for the princely sum of £12 (cheques made payable to KESCRG), the address is:

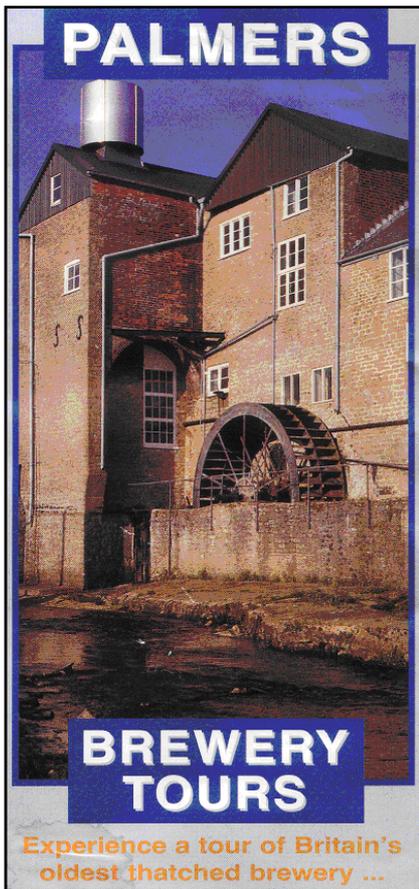
13 Trosley Avenue,
Gravesend,
Kent.
DA11 7QN

Please state when booking on if you are vegetarian or have any food allergies and when you will be at the weekend. Tickets will also be available from Ian Williamson at the WRG Bonfire Bash in November. The London WRG minibus will be leaving Waterloo at 7pm sharp on the Friday, please contact me to book a seat.

The theme for the Saturday night party is London Underground Stations, I will leave the rest of it to all the creative people out there!

Remember: places are limited so book early to avoid disappointment.

Ed Walker



Seen at the Great British Beer Festival, ever wondered what Mike Palmer got up to when he wasn't digging?

I think we took the instruction "if its red, paint it" a bit far this time (Richard "Cool" Worthington):



Snippets

From the London WRG Hollywood correspondent, a leak of part of the script to the new "Blues Brothers" movie:



It's 106 miles to Basingstoke, we've got a full tank of diesel, half a pack of jelly babies, it's dark and we're wearing hard hats.
Hit it.

London WRG Dates List

For up to date information check the London WRG web pages:

www.london.wrg.org.uk

Working Parties: Transport available Friday evening in the London WRG minibus; meet by the post box outside Costa Coffee at Waterloo station; normally at 19:00 but may be earlier or later depending on distance. Contact Tim, Martin or Lesley for details.

Date	Location	Organiser
8-9/11/03	Bonfire Bash, Basingstoke	Centrally Booked
13-14/12/03	KESCRG/LWRG Xmas Party, Froghall	-
17-18/1/04	Dig Deep on the Wilts & Berks	Moose & Maria
7-8/2/04	TBA	Tim Lewis
28-29/2/04	Dig Deep on the Basingstoke Canal	Andi Kewley
20-21/3/04	BCN Cleanup	Aileen Butler
17-18/4/04	TBA	Rick Ansell
15-16/5/04	Dig Deep on the Wey & Arun	TBA

Note: Digs marked “Dig Deep” are on projects where work is being co-ordinated under the Dig Deep Initiative, a scheme involving ourselves and four other mobile groups (Essex WRG, NWPG, KESCRG and WRG BITM).

Social Gatherings: Tuesday night, normally 11 days before each dig i.e. 28th October, 18th November (extra social), 2nd December, 6th January etc. at the **Star Tavern** (upstairs room) Belgrave Mews West, behind German Embassy on Chesham Place, from about 19.30 till 23.00.

Other Events:

16/12/03	London WRG Xmas Party	Lesley McFadyen
26/12-1/1/04	WRG New Year Canal Camp, Mon & Brec.	Centrally Booked
28/1/04	London WRG AGM, The Star Tavern	-
1-3/5/04	Canalway Cavalcade, Little Venice	-
8-9/5/04	WRG Training Weekend (TBC)	Centrally Booked

Who to contact:

London WRG Co-ordinator: Tim Lewis, 6, Downs Road, Enfield EN1 1PA.

Phone: 020-83676227

E-mail: tim@timlewis.org.uk

Enquiries: Martin Ludgate or Lesley McFadyen, 35 Silvester Road, London SE22 9PB

Phone: 020-86933266

E-mail: martin.ludgate@wrg.org.uk

London WRG News Editor: Ed Walker, 4 Westhorpe Road, Putney, London. SW15 1QH

Phone: 020-87859976 / 07887-568029

E-mail: e.walker@imperial.ac.uk

**waterway
recovery
group**

**NATIONAL CO-ORDINATING BODY
FOR VOLUNTARY LABOUR ON THE
INLAND WATERWAYS OF BRITAIN**

WRG Reunion Bonfire Bash 2003

I would like to attend the 2003 WRG Bonfire Bash on the Basingstoke Canal on November 8th-9th

Forename: _____ Surname: _____

Address: _____

email: _____

Phone: _____

Any special dietary requirements? _____

I require accommodation on **Friday night / Saturday night / both nights**

I enclose payment of £ _____ (please make cheques payable to 'WRG') for food (cost is £10 for the whole weekend, based on £1.50 for lunch each day, £1.50 for breakfast and £4.00 for Saturday evening meal and party.

How will you be travelling to the Bonfire Bash? _____

Do you want to work with volunteers from one of this year's Canal Camps or from one of the regional groups? If so, which camp or group? _____

Do you suffer from any illness, such as epilepsy or diabetes, about which you should know, or are you receiving treatment or under medical supervision for any condition **YES/NO** If yes, please attach details on a covering letter.

In the unlikely event that you should be injured, who should we contact?

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Signed: _____

(parent's signature also required if aged under 18): _____

Please send this form to:

Bonfire Bash Bookings, WRG, PO Box 114, Rickmansworth WD3 1ZY



London WRG Aladdin's cave (Tool Painting Weekend, Ed Walker)



London WRG at Froghall (Tim Lewis)