

STAFFORD RIVERWAY LINK

(A Community Interest Company)

E-mail srl2010@hotmail.co.uk

Patron:- The Lord Stafford, DL, FRAGS

President:- David Kidney

Vice President:- Jeremy Lefroy MP

Objective: To promote the restoration of the historic river and canal waterway linking the county town of Stafford to the national waterways network for the benefit of the community and all interested groups.

Newsletter 30

Hi Everyone,

Not a full-blown newsletter as our chairman, Ivor, is away so there's no chairman's update. However, there is so much positive news to share it merits an update for you all.

Thanks to the generosity of many individuals and businesses we now have a container on site, courtesy of Stafford Boat Club and Bet365. This is used to store some tools, first aid, the refreshment box, cement etc., but nothing of great value. Close by, and thanks again, to the Boat Club, we now have a portaloos on site! We've also been given a cement mixer. A very generous individual, wishing to share some good fortune, has donated us a new generator. We have received donations of cement and, also, 6 pallets of the blocks we are using for the side of the basin. Local builder's merchants Huws Gray have been more than generous. Then there is the lovely lady who supplied enough biscuits for the whole of the last 3 day work party and beyond. If I have overlooked anyone or any item please accept my apologies. All of us are so chuffed and grateful for the current upsurge in enthusiasm.

We held a 3 day work party very recently which went very well. The weather was kind, with only the tiniest splatter of rain. The sun shone intermittently and although we had some wind, it was not too cold. As ever, our volunteers are a mixed bunch, with individual preferences for 'work'. As such, the lock house garden has been mown and tidied; more basin has been dug out; more bricks and blocks laid; more reclaimed bricks have been cleaned up for future use; more brickwork has been done to the lock house 'footprint'. Passers by have stopped, chatted, and enthused. It's always gratifying to be told that we seem to have made a lot of progress!

Have I made you wish you had been a part of it? Well, our next work party is 4 days – 10th, 11th, 12th and 13th May, but as always, we don't expect to see people for all of that time! We welcome you however brief your visit and we appreciate every hour you might offer! Can't manage the 'physical' work? Come and keep the cement mixing guys supplied with coffee! Chat to the walkers and tell them what we're achieving. Also, for May, we are hoping to have a **bric-a-brac stall** as we have some donated items so sitting to 'man' that would be very helpful. Do come and join us!

Our social evenings finished in style for this season with a trip to the Titanic Brewery. Thanks to 'the brewery' for organising and funding the coach and the trip itself, allowing us to boost the SRL funds with the nominal charge we made and the proceeds of the raffle we held on the coach. Thanks also, for Titanic's continuing support in allowing us free use of a room in 'The Sun' for some of our meetings. Evening meetings will resume in the autumn and we already have a couple of very interesting speakers in mind.

Whilst on the subject of fund-raising, there is a new quiz available. Entry is £1, the prize is £20! Most committee members have copies for sale and the closing date is not until September. Also, John and I will be at the Norbury Festival with our boat. Whilst we don't envisage spending all our time engaged in SRL activities as there is no official SRL stand, we will be selling quizzes and distributing leaflets where appropriate. We would love to see other SRL members so make yourselves known and join us for coffee etc. Perhaps next year we can have a greater presence at this lovely festival. This year's dates are 4th, 5th and 6th May and, yes, we should be home again for the work party.....

Best wishes to you all, Vee



Corporate member

Stafford Riverway Link Community Interest Company is a not for profit Company Limited by Guarantee Incorporated 3rd December 2009. Company Number 7093971

The views expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the Editor or the Stafford Riverway Link CIC or its officers/directors