

## **NORTH WALSHAM & DILHAM CANAL TRUST**

In co-operation with the East Anglian Waterways Association Ltd

Subject: Work Party at Briggate Mill Pond

Date : Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2013

From : D Revill, NW&DCT

THE PLAN. To carry on with further clearance of the area during the wild-life quiet time.

WORK ACHIEVEMENT. The weather was forecast to be quite good for the time of year and so it turned out to be! With some seven (7) volunteers present and after the usual H&S and general briefings out of the way, we split up into groups and continued roughly where we had left off on the previous visit here in November. The planned edge clearance was continued to good effect and the majority of the roadside edge of the water can now be seen from the road. Our Water/Fire man, Alan, once again entered the water and carried out a great clearance of reeds and weeds from the western end of the pond adjacent to the former coal shed site – now just a pill-box standing there. Alan was joined by Ivan and together they made very good progress towards the main area of the pond. Whilst this was being carried out, several walkers came by, mostly from the hamlet, and commented favourably about the clearance. Their main point was that they had been saddened that the pond had disappeared under reed/weed growth but were now pleased that it was coming back to life again. One heron could be seen enjoying his food, but what it was could not be seen! Their enjoyment at seeing bird and water life would be regained. During the morning, our chairman visited carrying a large bag with mince-pies! These were readily consumed, being washed down with several cups of non-alcoholic mulled wine, and prepared by Mary. It is not usual for us to take a break as early as 11.00hrs, but it was good for a one-off! Our picnic lunch was taken in the sunshine adjacent to the pill-box, on the lee side. Final touches were put to the site before we all departed (four on to yet another canal meeting) at 14.45. There is a requirement to return for probably one more visit to finish the planned tasks although I shall provisionally allow for two to cover any bad weather (how dare it?).

Once more a wonderful improvement to the site for the benefit of everything concerned.

David E Revill, NW&DCT  
Work Party Organiser



Roadside edge now visible along with the Pillbox



Reeds and weeds being cleared by some of the Work Party



A selection of some of the photos taken on the day by Alan Bertram.