

NORTH WALSHAM & DILHAM CANAL TRUST

In co-operation with the East Anglian Waterways Association Ltd

Subject: Work-party at the Paston pound length of the canal.
Date: Sunday 24th Jan 2016
From: C.J.B. Black, NW&DCT and EAWA

THE PLAN:

- To continue the clearance of the small trees from the winding area/wharf.
- To recover the useful timber for firewood and burn the brash.
- To cut up the timber and stack it on-site.
- To clear and burn the leaf litter and detritus.

WORK ACHIEVEMENT: The weather was overcast but warm, the wind light and in a reasonable direction for fires. 15 volunteers turned out, thus maintaining the excellent attendance rate.

At the last work-party it was decided that the Trust's hand tools and safety hats needed to be replaced. Builders Equipment in Norwich were able to offer us a significant discount on our order so we spent approx. £500 on new saws, shovels, safety hats etc. My first task at the work-party was to give everyone a quality personal safety helmet. The new tools were welcomed by the volunteers – the sharp saws especially welcome! A briefing on today's tasks was given.

The feed-water here was flowing quickly and relatively deep so two safety throwing lines were located on site. The area slopes steeply down to the canal bed and the soil/silt remains slippery, especially adjacent to the canal.

A fire was started on the east bank to burn the brash from a couple of small trees which were dragged across the canal, any useful wood being stacked on the bank. A small tree was removed from the water's edge on the west bank near the bridge. It was leaning across the canal and was in danger of falling on the fence adjacent to the Kingdom Hall car park.

Lunch was taken at approx. 12.30.

Work resumed on another small tree, which was growing directly beside road-bridge. It was cut back as one limb was very close to the bridge parapet and leaning horizontally across the canal. Ivan and Tom continued the investigation of the 'cut' behind the Gallery building.

Any useful wood was cut up and stacked for firewood.

Work ceased at approx. 15.30.

Chris Black, Work Party Leader.