

NORTH WALSHAM & DILHAM CANAL TRUST

In co-operation with the East Anglian Waterways Association Ltd

Subject: Work-party on SW bank of the canal at Pigneys Wood and Swafield areas.
Date: Sunday 3rd Apr 2016.
From: Chris Black, NW&DCT.

THE PLAN:

- To clear SW bank of canal of remaining brash to allow machine access.
- To clear and burn all detritus.
- To sow grass seed on the SW bank between Staithe Cottage and the Paston Way crossing.

WORK ACHIEVEMENT: The weather was sunny and dry. 13 volunteers turned out, some given the task of seeding the bank and the remainder appraised of the work to clear the bank of the detritus. Bearing in mind the time of year great care was taken to identify any nests in the brash. A detailed visual inspection did not find any nests old or new so we set about lighting a bonfire to burn the brash as it was cut back. Two safety throw-lines were located on site as we were working near the canal.

It was nice to walk on a solid bank, as for several previous work-parties the ground has been extremely muddy. The good weather brought out several walkers who were most appreciative of the restoration of the canal and the new walking paths provided by permissive access to the banks. We collected eleven more signatures on the petition – the total now being only eight short of 3000.

Lunch was taken at approx. 12.30

After lunch we continued the clearance of the bank. The seeding party having finished their task joined the rest of the party near Pigneys Wood. We were unable to remove all of the heavier brash as Laurie's digger had had its diesel stolen, resulting in a clogged filter as it ran out of fuel. The area was raked clear and the fire was rounded up and left to safely burn itself out.

Work ceased at 15.30 approx.

Chris Black, work-party leader