

NORTH WALSHAM & DILHAM CANAL TRUST

In co-operation with the East Anglian Waterways Association Ltd

Subject: Work-party at Purdy's Marsh area.
Date: Sunday 16th October 2016.
From: Chris Black, NW&DCT.

THE PLAN:

- To continue the clearance of the detritus from the west side of the east back-soke.
- To burn the brash and Himalayan Balsam

WORK ACHIEVEMENT: The weather was a bit drizzly at first but eventually turned out fine with bright intervals. 14 volunteers turned out – a good number as again there was a lot of small trees and brash hidden in the heavy vegetation which needed to be moved away from the bank of the soke-dyke. We seemed to have reached the full extent of the invasive Himalayan Balsam but as it is growing on the opposite bank I think we will have to approach the landowner to allow us access to remove it next year.

There was a considerable amount of timber lying in the vegetation beside the soke-dyke and this needed to be cut up – the useful firewood being stacked and the brash being removed to a large fire which had been started by Alan. The work was very intensive and even with the chainsaw I found it difficult to keep up with Laurie's machine which was removing brash from the soke.

Lunch was taken at approx. 12.30

We continued with the removal of the timber and brash for several more yards downstream, but it was plain to see that the team were getting exhausted. After a further break to sharpen the chainsaw I continued to cut up the fallen timber, taking care to avoid the silt on some of the branches. The site was cleared and the fire was rounded up to make it safe.

It was decided that we would return to this work area on the next work-party.

Work ceased at approx. 15.30
Chris Black, work-party leader