

## **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 11<sup>th</sup> December 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

WORK ACHIEVEMENT: After a night of very heavy rain I awoke to very welcome sunshine. I wonder if the sun was the reason why a record number of 21 volunteers turned out - or was it because we partake, in what has now become a tradition on this last work-party of the year, of a glass of Glühwein and a mince pie!

Whatever the reason, it's great to see so many volunteers willing to help to restore the historic canal.

Once again a couple of fires were lit to burn the brash and any useful firewood was stacked to be collected later.

Lunch was taken at approximately 12.40

Lunch over, the work continued to clear some old stumps and an old metal farm gate from the marsh but as some work still remains we will have to return to this area in the New Year. Now that we are able to access the pair of culverts taking the soke under the canal, it has become clear that some remedial work is required to be carried out on the inlet side of the upstream culvert. With the heavy flow of water in the east dyke from last night's rain it wasn't possible to see exactly what has happened to the inlet to the culvert, however we suspect that some concrete sandbags have collapsed and an extension to the plastic culvert has moved. With a lower flow we will be able to divert all the water into the downstream culvert to allow a proper inspection and repair.

Work ceased at approx. 15.30

Many thanks to all our volunteers for the work done over this year - have a Happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

Chris Black, work-party leader.