



#### **SUMMER 2018**

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# **OF INTEREST**

SPECIAL POINTS

- Spring Refresh
- Canal & River Trust Workboats
- Fond Farewell
- Beating the Breach

Edited by Bernie McCrae, compiled by Chris and David Owen-Roberts, copy and imagery contributed by Aqueduct Marina and STTV.

Got a story that you would like to share? We are always on the lookout for new stories. If you have tale to tell please contact Bernie McCrae on 01270 525040 or email

# **AQUEDUCT NEWS**

## 2018 - The Year Ahead

I introduced myself to many of you at our Aqueduct Marina Anniversary Evening in February, but for those of you who weren't there, I have worked at the marina for over 8 years. I started as an Engineering and Electrical Apprentice and have worked my way to Operations Director in 2017.

In December last year the Aqueduct Marina board gave me, Phil Langley, the opportunity to become Marina and Operations Director, overseeing the day to day running of Aqueduct Marina's whole operation, a position I was proud to accept.

#### So what does this mean for you?

I will be working hard, with the support of myfellow board members and staff, to provide you with the best moorings and facilities as part of our 'One Stop Continued on page 4



## Aqueduct Marina Open Event, 21 July



A One-Stop Open Event for boating, this is a day designed for boaters. We will have staff, surveyors and suppliers on hand to answer all your boating questions.

In addition to this we will be opening the doors to our facilities including our new controlled painting environments, re-vamped chandlery and extensive engineering operations.

A selection of new and used boats will be on sale

including our on-site bespoke boat builders, Knights Narrowboats and Aintree's 'Fab-Four' Beetle range.

Make sure you keep an eye out on the Open Event website page over the next couple of months for the latest information.

www.aqueductmarina.co.uk/ open-event





Church Minshull Aqueduct Marina Church Minshull Nantwich CW5 6DX























#### Crick Boat Show

With more than 50 narrowboats, wide-beams, heritage vessels and budget craft on display, there are more boats at Crick this year than ever before.

This year we will be partnering up with Aintree Boats and showcasing a 30ft Aintree Beetle (Stand F39 & 40). Aqueduct Marina can exclusively offer limited 2018 build slots for the Aintree Beetle Fab Four Range.

For exclusive viewings of the Aintree Beetle at Crick Boat Show please contact our Brokerage Manager on 01270 525040.

## **DOWNLOAD** YOUR FREE COPY OF THE NEW AINTREE BEETLE **CATALOGUE**



## Sunrise

Holiday boat Sunrise is based at Aqueduct Marina. See

www.hattershaven.co.uk/

for more information.



## Marina Refresh

Over the past couple of weeks we have been busy having our reception, meeting room and café refreshed with some new coats of paint. We are very pleased with the result and would like to thank James Jump Painter and Decorator, for his great

For those of you who have asked, the official colours for the meeting room, Galley and Reception include ceilings: Dulux brilliant white, walls: Dulux just walnut, feature walls: Dulux chic shadow and woodwork: Dulux brilliant white/Dulux matt chocolate. The Galley sign writing was completed by Robin Wagg. We hope you enjoy the refresh and make sure you pop in for a look next time you are in the marina!









## Welcomes and Farewells

#### A warm welcome to:

Mr Royle narrowboat Rasputin

Mr & Mrs Fitzsimons narrowboat Samson **Shareboat Empire** 

Mr & Mrs Gardiner narrowboat The Speedy Whippet Mr & Mrs Campbell narrowboat Cheshire Star Mr Watson narrowboat Marco Polo

Mrs Blatchford narrowboat the Lady Ada

#### A fond farewell and happy cruising to:

**Shareboat Avington** 

Shareboat Hollinhurst

Mr Proctor Itsa Kinda Magic

Mr & Mrs Revell Pilgrim

Mr & Mrs Smith Misty Waters - sold through Aqueduct Marina Brokerage

Mr & Mrs Barnett Maid of Hare – for sale through Aqueduct Marina Brokerage

www.aqueductmarina.co.uk/second-hand-boats/maid-of -hare

## Ellie Dances at the Commonwealth

Ellie, who works in the Galley Café, performed as a dancer in the handover for the Commonwealth Games. The handover was from the Gold Coast 2018 to Birmingham for 2022 and took place on Sunday 15th April. Blue Peter presenter Ranzi Chinyanganya also performed as a dancer.

Games



who was also performing as a dancer

## Welcome Ben and Paul

We would like to welcome Ben Allen-Mead who has taken on the position of Boat Yard Operative. As part of his job role he will be working alongside Alex helping with the daily operations of the boat yard including conducting boat moves, assisting with boat maintenance preparations and keeping the yard tidy.

Ben Allen-Mead

Make sure you say hello next time you are walking past the workshops!



We would also like to extend a warm welcome to Paul Taylor, our shot blaster who has joined the **Boat Maintenance Team.** 

## MEET OUR TEAM...



#### The Board

**Robert Parton** Managing Director robert.p@aqueductmarina.co.uk

**Andrea Parton** 

**Human Resources Director** andrea.p@aqueductmarina.co.uk

Jennifer Parton

Hospitality and Social Events Director

**Phil Langley** 

Marina and Operations Director phil.l@aqueductmarina.co.uk

#### Marina Office

**Chris Moran** 

General Manager chris.m@aqueductmarina.co.uk

Bernie McCrae

Marketing, Campaigns and PR Manager bernie.m@aqueductmarina.co.uk

Sarah Rayner

Office Manager, Accounts and Board Clerk

accounts@aqueductmarina.co.uk

Julie Beedham

Marina Reception reception@aqueductmarina.co.uk

#### Boat Maintenance Team

Nik Lambert **Boat Yard Supervisor** 

Rob Adair Senior Marine Engineer

Will Brown

Marine Engineer will.b@aqueductmarina.co.uk

**Darren Smith** Marine Engineer

Scott Astbury Welder/Fabricator

Alex Strachan **Boat Yard Operative** 

Ben Allen-Mead **Boat Yard Operative** 

Paul Taylor Shot Blaster

Jonathan Howard **Boat Painter** 

#### Chandlery

**David Wilkinson Chandlery Assistant** chandlery@aqueductmarina.co.uk

Alex Bebbington Marine Chandlery Apprentice

#### The Galley Restaurant

**Holly Critchley** The Galley Manager cafe@aqueductmarina.co.uk

Alison Booth Chef

Joanne Parr Chef

Maggie Peach The Galley Front of House

Maggie, Niamh, Ellie, Maisie, Charlotte and Olivia

#### Marina Grounds

Woody - just Woody Groundsman

#### Brokerage

Nick Beech Brokerage Manager brokerage@aqueductmarina.co.uk

#### **CONGRATULATIONS!**



Robert Parton, Managing **Director of Church Minshull** Aqueduct Marina received the **Certified Marina Manager** Accreditation.

Robert has, over the last few years, taken a more active role in the wider marine sector, either attending formal meetings and training or equally enjoying social events with British Marine Inland Boating, the Boat Building Academy and The Yacht Harbour Association. He is currently Chairman of the BM Midlands regional committee.

Robert, along with his wife Andrea, opened Church Minshull Aqueduct Maria in 2009 as a new, purpose built, premier inland marina in Cheshire. Since opening, the business has continued to develop and grow and has now become a one stop solution for all things narrow boating. The marina won Inland Marina of the year in 2017 and

Robert said, "Having previously enjoyed attending the Advanced Marina Management course, I increasingly saw the Certified Marina Manager accreditation as an award of real value. I am delighted to receive the CMM and look forward to benefitting from the network.



Robert (left) shares the celebration with Woody (Marina Groundsman)

#### **MORE CONGRATULATIONS!**

Congratulations to Sarah, Sue and Barry's daughter (Tiller Girl) for winning BBC Political Journalist of the Year







#### CHARITY OF THE YEAR - KIDNEY RESEARCH UK

Fundraising from the Easter Quiz Night and Prize Draw raised £446 for Kidney Research UK. Please visit

www.aqueductmarina.co.uk/ marina-events for more information

#### **Cards Evening**

Featuring a selection of traditional card games brought to you by Pam Parton, come along and enjoy a night of tricks, tips and trumps at our Cards Evening on Saturday 26th May.

Doors open at 6.30 pm so come and sit down to a tasty meal of Beef Madras, Chicken Tikka Masala or Vegetable Curry with games starting at 8.00 pm. Free entry and all welcome. To view a copy of the full menu please visit www.aqueductmarina.co.uk.

To book your table please visit <a href="https://www.aqueductmarina.co.uk/bookings">www.aqueductmarina.co.uk/bookings</a>.

31st December



#### The Year Ahead continued...



One of the first things we have implemented this year is a WIFI Upgrade. Part one, a faster connection, is now live and part two, which is a hardware upgrade around the site, will be installed shortly.

Two of our most popular services, the chandlery and the café, received a refresh in April. With the help of our resident Gardener Woody, we will also be upgrading, renewing and tidying other areas around the site to maintain and improve the standards we have set over our first 9 years.

This year's 'Open Event' (Saturday 21st July) is going to follow a different format and will be much more boat focused. A day designed for our customers, we will have staff, surveyors and suppliers on hand to answer your boating questions. In addition to this we will be opening the doors to our facilities including our new controlled painting environments, re-vamped chandlery and extensive engineering operation.

A selection of new and used boats will be on sale including our onsite bespoke boat builders Knights Narrowboats and Aintree's 'Fab Four' Beetle range. The day will roll into the evening with live music and a hog roast which will be complimentary to all the moorers. For more details and updates keep an eye on our website and social media feeds.

#### The Middlewich Breach and FREE electricity

As many of you will already know, on Thursday 15th March the Middlewich Branch of the Shropshire Union Canal breached between Wardle Lock and Stanthorne Lock. We are still very much open, with lots planned

over the next 12 months, but this breach will affect those of you hoping to head East or do the Four Counties Ring (now the Four Counties Horseshoe, as it's now been renamed in our recent poll). To reflect the fact that during the breach, cruising options are restricted, we are offering moorers FREE electricity on all moorings until the breach is repaired. You can collect free electric cards from the chandlery or reception by showing your moorer's card.

Please note: Your NEW moorer's cards can be collected from reception along with a gift when you renew your mooring. This card also allows you discounted pump outs and 10% off in our onsite café.

#### Your views matter

As part of the continued improvement of services we provide we sent out a customer survey in April along with some information on GDPR when we asked you to "OPT IN" to continue to receive updates and offers from the Aqueduct Marina team.

If you have any questions or queries in the meantime then please don't hesitate to get in touch with Julie our Receptionist who will direct you to the relevant member of the team.

That's all folks!

The final word from me is just to thank you for your ongoing support which has led to us being voted Inland Marina of the Year for the second year running. This is an award we are very proud of as it is voted for by you, our moorers.

Wishing you all a successful and enjoyable 2018 cruising season.

Yours sincerely

Phil Langley Marina and Operations Director

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY 2018

See our up-to-date diary online anytime via this link: http://www.aqueductmarina.co.uk/news

#### **External Events**

#### Aqueduct Marina Events 7th May 2018 **Boat Jumble** 26th May Card and Games Night 26th - 28th May Crick Boat Show (Aqueduct Marina will be showcasing a 30ft Aintree Beetle. For exclusive viewings please call 17th June Fathers' Day 01270 525040). 30th June Car Boot and Boat Jumble 15th - 17th June Middlewich FAB Festival 30th June Italian Themed Night 19th - 20th June Cheshire Show Aqueduct Marina Open Event/Hog Roast/Music - see 21st July 8th July **Darnhall Show** above for more information 25th July Nantwich Show 25th August Bingo Night 27th - 29th July CarFest **Dance Themed Evening** 29th September **IWA Festival of Water**

New Year's Eve Party 9th - 13th January London Boat Show 2019

To book marina events please contact us on 01270 525040, email <a href="mailto:cafe@aqueductmarina.co.uk">cafe@aqueductmarina.co.uk</a> or online <a href="mailto:www.aqueductmarina.co.uk">www.aqueductmarina.co.uk</a>/
<a href="mailto:marina-events">marina-events</a>









## Stay On Board and GDPR

For all those who enjoy receiving our newsletter, listen up!

Church Minshull Aqueduct Marina Ltd is committed to conducting its business in accordance with all applicable data protection laws and regulations and in line with the highest standards of ethical conduct.

You have a choice about whether or not you wish to receive information from us. If you wish to stay on board and continue receiving exciting updates with our latest news and offers about our services and products, then please click on the opt-in link below and follow the instructions.

Thank you.





And as a

small thank you to our subscribers we are offering you the chance to win £200 worth of John Lewis vouchers for every resubscription we receive.

To opt in please follow the link <a href="https://www.aqueductmarina.co.uk/stayonboard">www.aqueductmarina.co.uk/stayonboard</a>.

To see a copy of our Privacy Policy please contact our Data Protection Officer or visit

www.aqueductmarina.co.uk/privacy-policy.

## 50% Off Hempel Paint

your devices at the ready!

WiFi Upgrade

The second phase of our Wifi

upgrades onsite will be starting

the week beginning Monday

21st May. Make sure you have

Get your paint brushes and kits at the ready! We are now offering 50% off across all Hempel Paint\* in the Chandlery until Saturday 30th June. So whether it's gloss, multi coat, under coat, non-slip decking, primers or varnish, we've got the product for you!



\*Offer excludes Hempel hempadur and hempinol

## Canal & River Trust Workboats

Our engineering team has been busy over the past couple of months progress through their long list of Canal & River Trust craft.

The latest Canal & River Trust project was workboat 'Mere', which was brought into the marina all the way from South Wales. Our fabrication team completed a full rebuild and refit to the back end of the boat. The craft is now undergoing its final preparations before its full repaint. Next in line is work boat 'Brendon'.

In addition to this, our painting workshop has been busy completing a full repaint on narrowboat Another Fluke including cabin, hull and stern. Other boats have included Cleddau (Mr and Mrs Deveson pictured outside the marina after the launch) and Adelante (pictured after the completion of its sign writing).

We have all the skills onsite to carry our virtually any type of narrowboat maintenance work including electrics, plumbing, joinery, fabrication and much more. Should you have any work that you would like pricing and scheduling, please get in touch as the diary is already filling up fast.

For more details about our boat maintenance services please visit <a href="www.aqueductmarina.co.uk/narrowboat-maintenance">www.aqueductmarina.co.uk/narrowboat-maintenance</a> and take a scroll down.



#### A Chandlery Re-Vamp

Over the past couple of months, we have been busy revamping

the Chandlery, clearing counters, moving shelves and reorganising products. Make sure you call in and take a look!



## OTHER BROKERAGE **ACTIVITIES**

#### Recently under offer:

Ellesmere, Maid of Hare, Whitchurch, Welshpool, Silver Birch Sampson, Ends and Beginnings, Morning Mist and Emmaus.

#### Sold.

Misty Waters, Morning Mist, Mike Christian Shell 1 and 2

#### Other Boats For Sale

Aldford Boats

www.aqueductmarina.co.uk/second -hand-boats/alford-boats/

Lilea Meg

www.aqueductmarina.co.uk/ second-hand-boats/lilea-meg/

www.aqueductmarina.co.uk/second -hand-boats/barder/

#### **MINI MARATHON**

Help support Mags Peach, our Galley Front of House waitress, on Sunday 3rd June in Dublin's Flora Women's Mini Marathon raising money for still birth association, AFeiecain. The 10k Mini Marathon annual charity road race is one of the largest women's events of its kind in the world.

Please visit www.gofundme.com/ feieacain-stillbirth-association

We wish Mags the best of luck!

# Brokerage Update

New arrivals this month include:

#### Kastaway Cruiser Style £49,950

Built for the owners in 2007 and lived in until April 2018, Kastaway has just been blacked and prepared for sale.

Built on a Colecraft hull by Harvey's of Tamworth, Kastaway has been well equipped for living aboard; this includes 3.5Kw travel power, a Samsung washing machine and a Bubble stove with back boiler in addition to Webasto diesel central heating.

The interior is of a conventional fit and layout using mainly oak faced panelling. Externally some areas of the paintwork are tired but Kastaway has many quality components and needs a little TLC to shine again. See

www.aqueductmarina.co.uk/second-hand-boats/ kastaway



#### Tipsy Toad 60ft Traditional, £38,950

A classic David Piper shell, it includes the well-known stern gas locker which in this case has been raised. (Ask for more info). Tipsy Toad has a conventional layout of foredeck, living area, pullman style dinette, side doors,

galley, off-set bathroom, bedroom and a trad stern.

Equipment includes a solid fuel stove and back boiler for heating, a Sterling 1.8Kw inverter and landline provide 230v power whilst a Sterling battery charger, 70Amp alternator and a pair of solar panels recharge to the 12v batteries. A pump-out toilet system, full gas cooker and under counter fridge are included. The hull sides were re -plated in 2007 and the BSS certificate is valid until 17 October 2018.

AQUEDUCT BROKERAGE

For more details please visit www.aqueductmarina.co.uk/ tipsy-toad

Greenfields 58ft Semi-Traditional, £3,000



Tipsy Toad

Launched in 2005 Greenfields is a 58', run independently by joint owners through a committee based organisation.

Powered by an Isuzu 42Hp engine and large PRM 260 gearbox Greenfields has accumulated around 9,000 hrs of running.

Equipped for comfortable holidays, Greenfields has a 2.0 Kw inverter, Webasto diesel central heating, a solid fuel

Continued at the bottom of page 7



COMPETITIVE COMISSION FEES TO ARRANGE YOUR FREE VALUATION PLEASE VISIT AQUEDUCTMARINA.co.us





www.AQUEDUCTMARINA.co.uk TEL 01270 525040 EMAIL INFO@AQUEDUCTMARINA.CO.UK

## 2018 SLOTS AVAILABLE

ARRANGE YOUR FULL REPAINT BEFORE THE CRICK BOAT SHOW\*
AND RECEIVE 3 MONTHS OF FREE BOAT STORAGE



# BOATING MADE BEAUTIFUL



Providing you with the highest quality paint finishes Aqueduct Marina presents its full repaint packages.

Our standard process is to grit-blast your boat back to clean bare metal and re-paint to the highest standards all in controlled conditions.

Traditional methods are also an option.

We can arrange your FREE visual canal side survey or collect your boat from any location and provide a FREE no obligation estimate.

For more details please visit

#### www.AOUEDUCTMARINA.co.uk

Tel: 01270 525040

Email: info@aqueductmarina.co.uk

AQUEDUCT

Colon and additional annual colonial of the same colonial resource in construction

stove and a full galley.

For more details please visit <a href="https://www.aqueductmarina.co.uk/greenfields">www.aqueductmarina.co.uk/greenfields</a>

Hobbit 25ft Cruiser, £32,000

Hobbit is a 25ft Aintree Beetle, completed in October 2015 with the 4 berth layout and



compact 25ft length. It has added extras including a solar panel and combi-inverter for 230v power plus a Beta Marine engine with 680 hrs of run time. Also including a cruising kit, TV and spare Thetford cassette this little boat is ready for an adventure. For more details please visit www.aqueductmarina.co.uk/hobbit



## **Galley Pictures**

Since our refresh, we are currently deciding on some pictures to feature on our Galley wall.

We are always on the look out for new ideas and would be keen to get some inspiration from you! Share your cruising shots with us before Monday 30th July for your chance to feature on our Galley wall. To enter simply send a copy of your name and photograph to Bernie bernie.m@aqueductmarina.co.uk and we'll 'take it' from there!

# We Like to Hear from You

02000

We've been busy this week sending out a customer feedback questionnaire.

Your feedback is greatly appreciated, and it only takes a couple of minutes to complete. Your experience is important to us and for every feedback response we receive we will donate £1 to Kidney Research UK.

To help us try and improve our quality of service, we would be grateful to hear from you. To complete the questionnaire please check your inbox for our email address

info@aqueductmarina.co.uk

'Aqueduct Marina Questionnaire' and follow the instructions on survey monkey.

We will publish a copy of the results in our next newsletter.

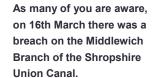
## Norbury on Barder

Geoff Harris bumped into ex-moorers Ellie and Digger Brown n/b No Plan 2 at Norbury. As part of an epic journey collecting a 40ft project boat from Bosley with fellow musketeers, Woody, Maurice, Robert and Joseph, Geoff was delighted to stop off for a well needed cuppa and

catch up with the Browns before continuing on to Aqueduct Marina.

Please enjoy a photograph of Geoff and Digger with narrowboat Barder. For details on Barder please visit

www.aqueductmarina.co. uk/barder



Beating the Breach

We remain very much open for business with entrance to the marina accessible from the Middlewich Branch and all water levels remaining consistent.

As part of our services we are now offering three 'Beat the Breach' packages for overnight shareboat owners and monthly cruisers to take advantage of. We are offering a new flexi-mooring service, giving the opportunity for all those of you affected by the breach the chance to flexibly moor your boat. We are also

offering free electricity to all our moorers. To book a mooring please visit www.aqueductmarina.co.uk/

Need somewhere to store? We are also offering boat storage.

book-a-jetty

We also offer haulage services, with slipway and gantry available should you require your boat be taken out of the water and moved by lorry.

To keep up-to-date with the latest news on the Middlewich Breach please see the Canal and River Trust website

www.canalrivertrust.org.uk.



Woody, Joseph, Robert and Maurice (above right)

## Small Tasks Team Volunteers

March saw us at Calveley for a two-day work party. There were many tasks! We split into three groups.

The first was to tackle painting, clearing mooring rings and refurbishing the seat. The second group set to work to prepare the ground for a new walkway. This was to avoid any further mishaps on the slippery path round the old 'turn-over' bridge by providing a protecting fence, a hard-core surface and some steps. Ed Moss the National Volunteer Manager who was visiting for the day helped in this.

The third group were responsible for making a decent and safe way round and under the bridge. This was important for the contractors who have to bring their mowers down this slope without falling in the canal! This proved a bigger job than envisaged as a spade just bounced off what appeared to be a grassy slope. After much wrestling with roots and rocks, the ground was prepared and the stone installed.

We are always prepared to welcome new members. Contact John Riley for details.

Please address all STTV correspondence to:

John Riley01352 741322/07518 040632 john.riley295@btinternet.com

Bulletin matters to: John Bannister: johnbann@aol.com



Getting started



Work well underway







