

## SPRING 2018

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

New Year Developments	2
Congratulations Nik	2
Aqueduct Marina debut the stunning Aintree Beetle - Downsize your Boat, not your Lifestyle	2
Welcomes and Farewells	2
Latest Delight from the Galley Café	2
Welcome to Scott and Joanne	3
Meet our Team	3
Charity of the Year, Kidney Research UK	4
Blasting on with Boat Maintenance Works	4
Dates for your Diary	4
SeaSafe Life Jacket Drop-off Point	6
Charity of the Year cont.	6
Brokerage Update	6
We Need Your Boat	6
Samson in our Paint Workshop	8
Farewell Steve	8
Duck, Duck...?	8
Woody's Work	8
Small Tasks Team Volunteers	8
Christmas Fair Competition Winners	8

### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- Charity of the Year 2018
- Boat Maintenance Works
- Duck, Duck...?
- New Year Developments

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 [bernie.m@aqueductmarina.co.uk](mailto:bernie.m@aqueductmarina.co.uk)

# AQUEDUCT NEWS

## Thank You - We've Done It Again!



Directors Jennifer, Andrea, Robert, Phil and Stuart with the certificate

**For the second year running Church Minshull Aqueduct Marina has won the UK Inland Marina of the Year 2018 as awarded by The Yacht Harbour Association at London Boat Show.**

Exhibiting for the first time with their own stand at the London Boat Show, Aqueduct Marina was introducing the Cheshire canal network to London and an international audience.

The Inland Marina of the Year award is voted for by marina berth holders and sponsored by Marine Insurers, NMU. The award recognises the best of over 160 Gold Anchor accredited marinas from across the globe.

Robert Parton, Managing Director at Aqueduct Marina commenting on the award said, 'We are delighted to have won the Inland Marina of Year award 2018. In an increasingly competitive market where customers have plenty of choice of marinas and moorings around the inland network it is particularly rewarding to win as a

result of boat owners' votes. Our thanks go to all those who voted for Aqueduct Marina, The Yacht Harbour Association for organising and to NMU for sponsoring'.

Simon Haigh, Chairman of The Yacht Harbour Association, gave his praise to the Marina, "Many congratulations to Church Minshull Aqueduct Marina in the NMU Marina of the Year Awards 2018. These awards have built huge momentum since they were introduced and really mean something because it is marina customers who are voting for their marinas, recognising the excellence of facilities provided and the level of service which they receive.

"Church Minshull Aqueduct Marina has been endorsed by their customers in the best possible way, to become Marina of the Year in their respective category, which must be a hugely motivating and satisfying achievement. I would like to commend everyone involved and pass on our best wishes for the 2018 boating season."

Joe McCarthy, Marine Trade Underwriting Manager at awards sponsor NMU commented, "To be recognised by their berth holders for consistently delivering a first-class service is testament to the marina and their staff."

To commemorate the achievement, Aqueduct Marina directors, Robert Parton, Andrea Parton, Jennifer Parton, Stuart Martin and Phil Langley were presented with an etched glass trophy and framed certificate by NMU.



## New Year Developments

Happy New Year! As part of our new year spring clean, we have some exciting development plans...

We will be updating our wifi system and completing essential repair work to our marina jetties. A gentleman in a pair of thick gloves with long arms – do not be alarmed, he is a good friend of ours from GJP Marinas - will be carrying out most of the repair work.

As ever if you have any further queries please do not hesitate to get in contact with us.



## Congratulations Nick



Nik Lambert, Boat Yard Operative, has now taken over the position of Boat Yard Supervisor, arranging and scheduling boat maintenance works, providing customer updates and managing the boat maintenance team.

Congratulations Nik, we wish you the best of luck with your new job role and look forward to supporting you in your new position.

# Aqueduct Marina debut the stunning Aintree ‘BEETLE’ - “Downsize your Boat not your Lifestyle”

To accommodate ‘offshore boaters’ downsizing, those considering the benefits of standard moorings in Thames Marinas, or cruising all the inland waterways, ‘Aqueduct Marina’ debut the 25ft to 40ft Aintree BEETLE range.

These boats, easily trailered throughout the country or indeed in Europe, offer an alternative to ‘offshore’ cruising without compromising on lifestyle, reliability, comfort or style.

Featuring the smallest in the ‘Fab 4 Range’, (they are proudly produced in Liverpool) the debut show-boat is ideal for weekend and occasional cruising. The full Aintree BEETLE range exclusively brokered by Aqueduct Marina offers 8 variations that would suit those downsizing, owning a substantial boat for the first time or seasoned canal boaters on small to medium moorings.

Young purchasers Hannah Richmond and Simon Nichols bought their Aintree BEETLE to live on after finding their first boat too old and expensive to maintain.

Disheartened that they were unable to find another second-hand boat within their price range, they were delighted to come across the Beetle which gave them quality and reassurance for potentially less than some second-hand boats.

“We haven’t seen anything like this for this price range,” said Hannah, “it’s amazing really.”



Simon Nichols and Hannah Richmond



Hand-crafted in steel and fitted out in oak trim to high standards, these stylish boats have high residual value, are cost effective to run and give endless opportunity for cruising throughout the 1,500 miles of rivers and inland waterways.

Working as professionals in London the pair were surprised by the amount of space available offering a better lifestyle and more options in the London area. “To have a smaller boat is better because you have more options of where to moor and it’s easier to manoeuvre within the London waterways.”

The Aintree BEETLE range is increasingly popular, offering a value for money option without compromise and in partnership with Aqueduct Marina, who offer a wide range of moorings and services, the Aintree BEETLE range is becoming a sought-after brand.

Meeting at the same architect firm, with Hannah originally from the North of England and Simon from the South, the Aintree BEETLE offers the couple the perfect alternative solution to start their new life together whilst bridging the gap between the two hemispheres.

Nick Beech, Aqueduct Marina’s Brokerage Manager commenting on the Aintree Beetle’s success at this year’s London Boat Show in January said, “The 25ft Aintree Beetle which we were debuting was a great hit with visitors. Aqueduct Marina received a wonderful response from everyone who came to speak with us throughout the show and 2018 is going to be very busy.”

The ‘Debut Show boat demonstrator’ was sold prior to the show, cementing the close relationship between Aqueduct Marina’s Brokerage team and the quality boat builder Aintree Boats Co Ltd.

“My advice to anyone who wants an Aintree Beetle is to

## Welcomes and Farewells

### A warm welcome to:

Tim & Chris Freeman-Dean n/b Elusive  
Mr & Mrs Rowe and Roy & Yvonne Pritchard n/b Alten Weg

### A fond farewell and happy cruising to:

share boat Sandalwood  
Mark Musgrave n/b Drift



## Latest Delight from the Galley Café

Alison’s homemade peanut cookies.



get in touch with the team here at Aqueduct Marina quickly as build slots are being booked up fast!"

Jamie Greaves Managing Director at Aintree Boats added, "We look forward to seeing more of these boats venture into the southern market and Hannah and Simon provide the perfect example of customers in need."

"Aqueduct Marina provides a strong and committed

team to showcase the Aintree Beetles and we are delighted with their progress so far. We are positive about the year ahead".

For more details about these Aintree Beetles please visit [www.aqueductmarina.co.uk/aintree-beetles](http://www.aqueductmarina.co.uk/aintree-beetles) or call Aqueduct Marina's Sales Team on 01270 525040.



The Aintree Beetle exhibited on our London Boat Show stand



## WELCOME TO SCOTT AND JOANNE



Scott at work

We extend a warm welcome to Scott Astbury who has taken the position of Welder/Fabricator in our Boat Maintenance Team. Working alongside Rob, Will and Darren he will be completing a mixture of maintenance works including welding and fabrication. Some of you may remember Scott Astbury working with his granddad Terry Lowe out of the workshops 6 and 7 at Aqueduct Marina 7 years ago. We wish Scott the best of luck with his new job and look forward to supporting him in his role.

## MEET OUR TEAM...

### The Board

**Robert Parton**  
Managing Director  
[robert.p@aqueductmarina.co.uk](mailto:robert.p@aqueductmarina.co.uk)

**Andrea Parton**  
Human Resources Director  
[andrea.p@aqueductmarina.co.uk](mailto:andrea.p@aqueductmarina.co.uk)

**Jennifer Parton**  
Hospitality and Social Events Director

**Phil Langley**  
Marina and Operations Director  
[phil.l@aqueductmarina.co.uk](mailto:phil.l@aqueductmarina.co.uk)

### Marina Office

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**Sarah Rayner**  
Office Manager, Accounts and Board Clerk  
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**Julie Beedham**  
Marina Reception  
[reception@aqueductmarina.co.uk](mailto: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](mailto: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

**Pat O'Shaughnessy**  
Marina Operative

### Chandlery

**David Wilkinson**  
Chandlery Assistant  
[chandlery@aqueductmarina.co.uk](mailto:chandlery@aqueductmarina.co.uk)

**Alex Bebbington**  
Marine Chandlery Apprentice

### The Galley Restaurant

**Holly Critchley**  
The Galley Manager  
[cafe@aqueductmarina.co.uk](mailto: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](mailto:brokerage@aqueductmarina.co.uk)



Joanne

We would also like to welcome Joanne Parr to the Galley Café Team. Joanne will be working alongside Alison with the daily tasks including prepping ingredients and preparing meals.

Church Minshull Aqueduct Marina has chosen Kidney Research UK as its charity for 2018. The charity was put forward by Mrs Audrey Foulkes, one of Aqueduct Marina's long term moorers, whose Auntie Mabel was one of the first donors to take part in a living kidney transplant in Liverpool in 1973. Later, Audrey's mother Pearl, was rushed into hospital with kidney failure. She was given a bi-fed kidney, replacing the use of both kidneys, whilst keeping them intact. The reason for Pearl's lifesaving kidney transplant was never diagnosed, however it gave her 13 years of extra life.

Hearing about the bravery of Mabel and acknowledging Audrey's involvement and connection with Aqueduct Marina, the directors decided to appoint Kidney Research UK as their chosen charity for 2018.

Kidney Research UK funds the research needed into kidney disease and aims to improve the quality of life for patients today.

The charity has invested over £70 million in renal research since 1985, including £5.5m in the north west region alone.

Continued on page 6

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY 2018

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

### Aqueduct Marina Events

10th February	Wine and canapés
11th March	Mother's Day
31st March	Quiz Night
28th April	Jam Night
26th May	Card and Games Night
17th June	Fathers' Day
30th June	Italian Themed Night
21st July	Aqueduct Marina Open Event/Hog Roast/Music

To book marina events please contact us on 01270 525040, email [cafe@aqueductmarina.co.uk](mailto:cafe@aqueductmarina.co.uk) or online [www.aqueductmarina.co.uk](http://www.aqueductmarina.co.uk)

## Blasting on with Boat Maintenance Works

**Like a lot of businesses, we don't always stand back and appreciate all the finer works that we do...**

Over the past couple of months our boat maintenance team has worked on many boats giving them anything from engine servicing right through to full re-plates and fabrication.

Our latest projects have included the Canal & River Trust work boat Amerton, which our team has been busy revamping, carrying out a mixture of essential welding, electric, plumbing and repainting works with the craft now currently receiving its fit-out by our good friends Knights Narrowboats.



Amerton

In addition to this, we are also completing a full repaint in our painting workshops of 60ft narrowboat Samson including the cabin, hull and coach lines (see right and page 8).

We appreciate all the work that our boat maintenance team do and have all the skills on site to carry out virtually any type of narrowboat maintenance works.

Should you have any work which you would like pricing and scheduling please get in touch as the Summer diary is starting to fill up.



Amerton



Samson

25th August	Bingo Night
29th September	Dance Theme Evening
27th October	Halloween Party
24th November	Christmas Meal
31st December	New Year's Eve Party

### External Events

15th March 2018	British Marine Federation Inland Waterways Boat Electrics Course, Egham. To book please contact Liv Whetmore 01784 223631 email: <a href="mailto:whetmore@britishmarine.co.uk">whetmore@britishmarine.co.uk</a>
26 - 28th May	Crick Boat Show
25th July	Nantwich Show
31st August - 2	Nantwich Food Festival

**3 Months FREE Storage**  
**When you book a full repaint**

Established modern controlled environments.

Offering top quality paint finishes.

FREE estimates and visual surveys offered anywhere in the country.

**One Stop Solution**

**Two Great Offers**

**FREE Pre-Sale Valet**  
**Aqueduct Brokerage**  
**And Dressing Service**

Proven track record with boats normally sold  
within two weeks at competitive prices.

FREE valuations and  
arranged collection from anywhere in the country.

FOR MORE DETAILS VISIT

[WWW.AQUEDUCTMARINA.CO.UK](http://WWW.AQUEDUCTMARINA.CO.UK)

EMAIL: [INFO@AQUEDUCTMARINA.CO.UK](mailto:INFO@AQUEDUCTMARINA.CO.UK) - TEL: 01270 525040

## SEASAFE LIFEJACKET DROP-OFF POINT

Life jackets are an important piece of equipment when it comes to boating and even though they are not always the most visually appealing they are vital for keeping you afloat.

Don't worry though as our chandlery now offers an official service point for SeaSafe life jackets in the North West. Drop your jacket off to either one of our friendly chandlers Dave or Alex and they will arrange for SeaSafe to come and collect, examine, service and return your jacket.

Did we mention that any replacement parts and carriage fees are also included in the price? From only £9.95... with a 14 working day turn around.



## CHARITY OF THE YEAR continued



Marina Director, Andrea Parton said "We always try to support our moorers and hearing about the connection between Audrey's Auntie and the breakthrough for kidney research we were keen to get involved. Our fundraising for the year ahead started with our Christmas Fair last year when we raised a whopping £250!"

"We are delighted to hear that Church Minshull Aqueduct Marina has chosen to support us this year." said Hannah Wysocki, Community Fundraising Manager, "Audrey's story of her mother's transplant many years ago, shows not only how transplants save people's lives but how much treatment processes have developed in the last 40 years. Research really does save lives!"

Aqueduct Marina plans to cement its relationship with the charity at the Marina's 9th Anniversary Event on Saturday 10th February.

# Brokerage Update

The start of the new year has been busy on the Brokerage. We have taken offers on Georgian Star and Boudicca and presented new owners Alice & Alan Watson, George Godwin and Roger Birkenhead with their boats: Foxy Lady, Katrina and an Aintree Beetle. Congratulations and Happy New Year – we'd like to wish them the best of luck with their new ownership!

New arrivals this month include:

**Emmaus** 30ft Cruiser, £21,500



Emmaus (above, above right and below)



Built in 1984, Emmaus is a 30ft traditional style narrowboat built by Calcutt Boats and recently modernised.

Ideal for weekends away or short breaks, it is basically



equipped and has no complicated systems to worry about.

Fitted with a BMC 1.5 l engine, Emmaus also has a 1000 watt quasi-sine inverter, full-size cooker, LCD TV and solid fuel stove.

Accommodation includes a forward living area with sofa-bed, followed by the stove, dinette and galley which runs from mid-cabin to aft. Also aft is the offset shower room, fully-tiled with a wash basin and porta-potti WC. The stern area includes cupboards and space for cruising equipment.

The perfect get up and go boat, Emmaus is an interesting opportunity to get afloat (see pictures, or go to <http://www.aqueductmarina.co.uk/second-hand-boats/emmaus/> )

Recently under offer: Far From the Madding Crowd, Shrewsbury and Toad.

## We Need Your Boat

Due to the high number of boat sales in December and January we now require further stock.

Why choose us?

We have a proven track record with boats normally sold within two weeks at competitive prices.

- Free valuation anywhere in the country

- Competitive commission
- Free pre-sale valet and dressing service
- Arranged collection from anywhere in the UK

For more details please contact our sales team on 01270 525040.



# Mother's Day At The Galley

~Sunday 11th March~

~Served from 11.30am~

## Starters

Homemade Tomato and Basil Soup served with Bread Rolls and Butter (V) (GF)

\*\*\*\*\*

Duck and Orange Pate served with Hot Toast and a Salad Garnish

## Mains

Roast Beef served with Fresh Seasonal Vegetables, Roast Potatoes, Yorkshire  
Pudding and Gravy

\*\*\*\*\*

Poached Salmon with a Honey and Mustard Topping served with Fresh Seasonal  
Vegetables and New Potatoes

\*\*\*\*\*

Homemade Cheese and Onion Quiche served with Fresh Seasonal Vegetables and  
New Potatoes (V)

## Desserts

Homemade Black Cherry Cheesecake

\*\*\*\*\*

Homemade Profiteroles with Warm Chocolate Sauce

~Free Glass of Fizz for Mum ~

2 Courses £17.99 3 Courses £21.99 Pre-Booking Required

To book please call the Galley Team on 01270 525040 or email [cafe@aqueductmarina.co.uk](mailto:cafe@aqueductmarina.co.uk)

## Samson in our Paint Workshop



Samson undergoing a full repaint - see page 4

## Duck, Duck...?

Over the Christmas period we launched a poll on our Facebook page with the most popular names for our resident goose and asked you to vote for your favourite.

After an intense month of voting, with the most popular names down to Sparky, Charlie and Les, we are delighted to announce that the winning name for the Aqueduct Marina resident goose is... Sparky!



## Woody's Work

Woody has been over the last couple of weeks planting new bulbs, cutting hedgerows and preparing the marina grounds for spring. Enjoy some photographs of Woody's latest work below.



## Farewell Steve

We'd like to say a fond farewell to Stephen Wallace, who has been working for the marina for 8 years. We would like to wish Stephen all the best for the future and thank him for all his work whilst he has been at Aqueduct Marina.

## Christmas Fair Competition Winners

Thank you to everyone for attending our Christmas Fair in November. Congratulations to Pam and Rob Brown for winning our Waterways World Subscription competition and to Sarah Tomlinson for winning our Name the Bear competition with the name 'Romeo'.



## Small Tasks Team Volunteers

December was a quiet time for work parties, but featured the annual Christmas Dinner! Held at the Cheshire Cat with guests Wendy Capelle and Neville Preece, both shortly to retire, it gave us an opportunity to thank them. The weather was not very kind, but a goodly number of volunteers managed the journey and a good time was had by all!

The January work party was scheduled for 25th and 26th at Marsh Lane, Nantwich. The weather was unkind on the first afternoon, but made up for it on the second day, a glorious day!



The steps at Bridge 90 before work started



The work involved re-building the access steps at Bridge 90. The steps are busy now that many houses have been built nearby.



The work was almost completed, just needing a delivery of the right gravel on the Monday, when a few volunteers returned to finish the job.



Meanwhile, a small group of us went litter picking. We completed the stretch from Calveley southward on day one, and on day two cleared from Nantwich Canal Centre to Bridge 90.

