

Editorial

Very short one this time, must be down to feeling the effects of the weather - either snowing and the ground's too hard, or raining and everything is too soggy. Still, Spring is on the way.

Don't forget the Navvies Lunch on 14th March (see WPN 290) although it's too late now to book.

Bill

Mrs Bucket Group - Keeping Up Appearances on Mondays

February, first outing a busy day for 10 volunteers at Loxwood and Brewhurst, finishing repairs to the fence by the lock, brush cutting the overflow car park, replacing the rotten

support post of the flagpole at the rear of the canal centre and a lot of hedge trimming around both locks. The other two meetings in February were held at Malham lock where a lot of work was required. A large amount of brush cutting and trimming was undertaken on both sides of the lock and on the steps down to the canal edge at the tail of the lock. We also completely replaced the fence on the meadow side with 10 posts double wired, having first disentangled all the old wire mesh from the thick bramble hedge and roots (see photos!). We haven't finished there yet as the landowner has requested that the whole of the bramble 'hedge' on the meadow side is removed and we need to add a third wire to the new fence. Looks like a full day's work for the 5th March.



This page and next - three images of Monday Group hard at work clearing brambles and undertaking other tasks at Malham Lock on 19 February. (Pictures by Martin Burgess)

Working Party Diary

Every Sunday and Thursday	Mainly construction work	Details from Dennis Gillen/John Robinson
Every Monday	'Mrs Bucket' - Keeping Up Appearances	Details from John Empringham
Every Wednesday	Mid-Week Working Party	Details from Margaret Darvill
Every Wednesday (plus Thursday and Sunday as required)	Loxwood Link Maintenance	Check with Kev Baker
Every Wednesday	Maintenance sessions at Tickner's Heath Depot	Contact John Smith/Ken Bacon
Various Tuesdays (not in summer)	Hedge Laying	Contact Keith Nichols
Third Saturday of the month	Summit level	Contact Dave Evans



Monday Group at Malham (see previous page)

Other work in prospect is the provision of a canoe landing stage at Brewhurst and then we shall have to start going round our regular sites from mid-March; remembering too that Sidney Wood will require attention sometime when outstanding training permits.

Nick Wood

Tickner's Heath Depot

Not too much has been happening in this neck of the woods recently, some of it due to the weather, but then I expect we are not alone in that.

Work goes on to make the best use of the space available at the depot. To that end the crew have been beavering away casting jaundiced eyes over items that have laid idle on the shelves for many an eon under the label that it will come in handy if we ever use it. Our new motto is if it ain't been used since Nelson had his eye then it's for the bin.

That said, we have managed a few bits of tinkering. We haven't as yet given up on the depot

generator that let us down some months ago. We have picked the brains of a local expert and have formulated a cunning plan. To be fair, it hasn't shown much of a return as yet, as it has only really told us somethings we already knew, but, heigh ho that is, in some ways, progress.

The Land Rover has been back to Harwoods but only because it was due its annual service. We had hoped that it would have been done in October last when the MOT was due but unfortunately the message must have got lost in translation. Of course we chose to collect it on the coldest day of the year so far, but the old girl is now back with us ready for use at a moment's notice.

Oh yes, would the kind soul who borrowed the old girl's pen please return it as we are running out of spares at the depot.

Well I think that it's for this month (it wouldn't be me if there wasn't a moan somewhere). All the best.

John Smith

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