

GIPPING GOSSIP

NEWSLETTER OF THE RIVER GIPPING TRUST – SEPTEMBER 2019



WORK CONTINUES AT PIPPS FORD

Volunteers are seen here removing damaged interlocking blocks at the entrance of the lock at PIPPS Ford. These will subsequently be replaced to minimise scouring of the river bank. The opportunity was also taken to remove assorted debris from the river bed which could have had environmental issues.

RGT GOING FROM TRENGTH TO STRENGTH



The River Gipping Trust has recently gained two new Trustees, Paul Cain and Ian Petchey. They are both extremely enthusiastic and are already making major contributions to the Trust's fundraising and future development programmes. Ian has also taken over as Restoration Manager from Martin Bird who has held the post for the past 10 years. The RGT are deeply indebted to Martin for his outstanding contribution in this role. Few will realise the amount of work that is put in by individuals like Martin that make the Trust tick.

Les Howard – Editor

AWARD WINNING FRIENDS

Lewis Tyler our long suffering Secretary reported that at the recently held annual "Creating the Greenest County Awards" ceremony at Snape Maltings two individuals that have had an association with the Trust won awards. His daughter Sarah's company Obee CIC won the "Valuing Water Award". The Derek Moore Award, a special accolade, was presented to Dr Charles Beardall OBE, who retired as regional director at the Environment Agency this year and is one of East Anglia's most respected, long-standing conservationists.





CHARD WADLEY A MAN OF MANY TALENTS

Chard had a lovely childhood growing up on his parent's poultry farm surrounded by chickens, geese and a few goats. There were plenty of fresh eggs and he was brought up on milk straight from the goats.

Aged 15 Chard started an apprenticeship as an agricultural mechanic at Colchester Tractors. When he was 27 he changed direction and worked for Securicor starting on the cash vans and then he progressed to Manager of Omega Parcels in Ipswich. After 20 years working for Securicor Chard returned to the work he loves best and worked on the farm at Kings Seeds in Kelvedon.

Despite Chard's lack of hair now, as a teenager and up to age 30 his hair was shoulder length. This look worked well during his time as a road manager for a band and his love of heavy metal music such as Jimi Hendrix, Deep Purple, etc.

Being a road manager for a band meant driving the band to gigs, setting up the equipment, protecting the band members as they played on stage and occasionally standing in for the drummer.

Chard and I had our first narrow-boat holiday on the Canals in 1977 where we ventured along the Llangollen Canal. We joined the IWA in 1979. Chard then joined the committee of the Ipswich Branch and



went on to be the Chairman for 27 years. During those years the branch attended many IWA Waterways Festivals where money was raised for the Branch. Each August Bank Holiday this meant loading up a large trailer with books and bric-a-brac, which was stored where we lived in Langham, and travelling to many areas on the canals. A group of us manned the stand for the three days.

Chard enjoys the voluntary work on the River Gipping and once he retired in 2007 he was able to do more on a regular basis each Wednesday. When we moved to Rattlesden, Chard was asked to keep the River Rat tidy and a small band of volunteers soon grew in number to 11 to date.

We have cruised many canals over the years and in 2009 we were fortunate enough to buy our own narrowboat 'Bruizer'. She was built in 2002 and is a Tug Style built by Roger Fuller. Bruizer has a Lister HA3 engine which Chard cleans and polishes. Those who know Chard well will not be surprised to know that Bruizer is washed, her brass regularly polished and he keeps her immaculate.

Apart from boating Chard loves holidays with the USA high on the list. We have visited many areas and he loves driving the American highways. Monument Valley is one of his favourites as he loves Cowboy Films, especially those featuring John Wayne. Chard owns over 80 John Wayne films, he has always been a big fan.

Chard's other loves are hats and cars. He owns four hats which he purchased in America, one of which is a Stetson. He has had many cars over the years, his favourite was a black Ford Capri JPS.

EDITOR: A big thank you to Carolyn Wadley for this fascinating insight into Chard's background.



Chard concentrating on the task in hand

FOOTPATH IMPROVEMENTS AT PIPPS FORD

Work continues to improve the quality of the footpath between Baylham and PIPPS Ford. Using surplus soil excavated from the bywash the gradient of the footpath leading to the bridge over the lock was considerably reduced. Mowing and strimming the footpath is an on going battle to maintain it open.





NEIGHBOURLY ACT

To facilitate a delivery of a large piece of equipment the Trust sort permission to widen and remove overhanging branches from the lane that leads down to Pipp's Ford. The opportunity was also taken to level out a section of the lane. The volunteers received a number of compliments from the residents living at the bottom of the lane.



Messing about in the river !

The water went over the top of Pete's waders as he stumbles over a hidden obstacle, luckily Les was there to lend a helping hand.



A large piece of pipe was found on the river bed at the entrance to the lock at Pipp's Ford



TOP: *Chard was disappointed to find out that nothing valuable had been discovered.*

BOTTOM: *Typical work people -five watching, one working*





Routine Maintenance at Baylham

Top: Martin checks the winding gear on the sluice at Baylham

Bottom: *Ian and Les make some adjustments to the stop planks in the lock at Baylham*





CHAIRMAN'S AWARD

At the AGM of the River Gipping Trust the Chairman's award was presented to Paul Cain. The Chairman, Brian Annis said, " Paul has done an outstanding job on fund raising since becoming a Trustee. He has relentlessly pursued local and national companies to contribute to our funds. He has been particularly successful with supermarkets that raise funds for local organisations.

Paul has also taken on additional responsibilities to source grants to assist the trust with its short and long term objectives. These include creating a new footpath between Baylham and Needham Lakes. He is also assisting with the long term objective to restore navigation on the River and tourist trips in an electric boat.



DADDY WHAT IS TELEVISION?

To most people under 60, television has always been with us – to a large number of people the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth in June 1953 was their first acquaintance with television. In fact, it was the Coronation of her father, King George VI that marked the first television outside broadcast in the world. However, ever since wireless was invented, there was the desire to add pictures to the words. It was the generally accepted Father of Television, John Logie Baird, who devised the first system which was based on mechanical revolving discs of 240 lines, 25 fields per second. Concurrently, the giant British company, Electrical and Musical Industries (EMI) were developing an electronic system based on 405 lines, interlaced, 50 fields per second and locked to the 50 cycles per second mains supply.

The BBC had acquired the eastern wing of Alexandra Palace high up in northern London as the first home of the new service. In late 1936 trials were carried out with weekly alternate transmissions of both systems – it was EMI who won and on 6th February 1937 the first high- definition television transmission in the world was launched on a frequency of approx 50M/Cs in Band I



Because reception at this frequency is essentially 'line of sight', the original expected further most area was in the region of Colchester, but with a suitable high aerial and conditions being reasonable, a useable signal was usually possible in Ipswich. Programmes were originally one hour in the afternoon and one-and-a-half in the evening – everything was 'live' coming from two studios. Suddenly, on 1st September 1939 with the impending onset of World War Two and without warning, transmissions ceased

Our first television receiver, a Murphy A56V, a 9" cathode ray tube masked down to give a picture 7.5 " x 6 ", four controls on the front and three on the side, very heavy and also acted as a room heater! This we stored over the duration of the war, switching it on every few weeks to keep the electrolytic condensers fully charged. On Friday afternoon, 7th June 1946, the service re-opened ahead of the Victory Parade held the next day and which was televised



An example of an early post-war receiver was the Bush TV22 range in a mounded plastic cabinet which appeared in various screen sizes over the next few years

Reception was still restricted to the London area and with space available for 5 high-power transmitters in. Band I, by 1952 large areas of the Midlands, North, Scotland and Wales were covered. Most of the remaining areas were eventually serviced by medium and low power transmitters over the next few years.

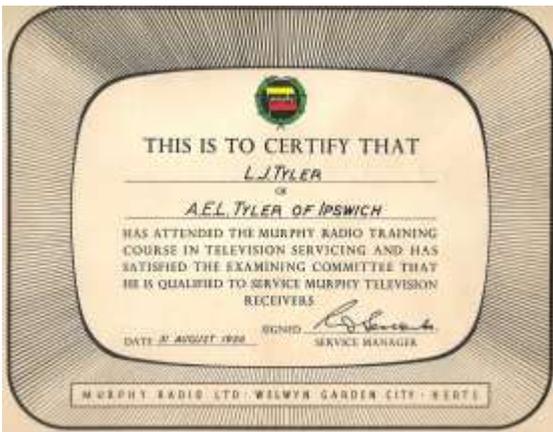
Top : Lewis Tyler's father superimposed on the Radio Olympia exhibition building.

The clamour for an additional programme resulted in the opening of commercial television (ITV) in 1955 which again spread throughout the country to eventually include Anglia, based in Norwich, in 1959.

The next major development would be the introduction of colour on the increased definition of 625 lines with the original plan for four stations in Band IV/V and then, with some clever manipulation, the addition of Channel 5.

And what of the next 55 years – wall-to-wall communication – 24 hour television – 200+ channels.

EDITOR: A big thank you to Lewis Tyler for compiling this article. It is based on the talk he gave to members of the Trust that attended the AGM.



The two bottom pix show Tyler's Radio & TV shop in Felixstowe Road, Ipswich. Sadly no more as demolished to make way for a Greggs.



RIVER GIPPING TRUST ANNUAL DINNER

SUNDAY 27TH OCTOBER

12.30 for 1.00pm

Rushmere Golf Club

Rushmere Heath IP4 5QQ

Traditional Roast Beef with seasonal
vegetables followed by Apple Tart

Coffee & Mints

£25

Please book your place with Les

Email: les.jan@hotmail.co.uk

Text: 07775 921814

Please advise of any special dietary needs



**Help the River Gipping Trust
fund raising activities by collecting
scrap metal. It is as simple as ABC.**

Aluminium

Brass

Copper

Also Tin, Lead, Batteries,
etc

We can arrange collection from your home.

Please give Spencer Greystrong a call on

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