



# Friends of the Cromford Canal e-Newsletter

Issue 1 : January 2020

FCC primary aim is "The restoration, reconstruction, preservation & maintenance of the Cromford Canal, its associated buildings, towing path, structures & craft & the conservation of its natural character as a navigable inland waterway system for the benefit of the public."

**Volunteer Work Party - Weekly on Wednesdays** : The work party is reed-pulling at Cromford on 15<sup>th</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup> January: If you're interested, report at the Gothic Warehouse at 0930am : Contact John Barker 07860 632837

**Volunteers at Birdswood** provide a vital input to the thriving community. Many roles involved, from assisting customers, walking the tow path and opening the swing bridge. Contact Vix on 07552-055455

## Volunteers



## We need you

### **Birdswood update**

Our trip boat was lifted out of the canal on 11<sup>th</sup> November, and after much hard work by volunteers, was given a clean bill of health by the Marine and Coastguard Agency inspectors, meaning that we can plan for the 2020 cruising season. An extensive article appears in the winter edition of "The Portal".

### **Dredging update - Cromford end**

Plans drawn up by FCC and our prospective contractor have been approved by DCC and have now been submitted to Natural England (NE) and the Environmental Agency (EA). We await comments: NE's response is expected by 23/12/19 but as yet we have no commitment from the EA. Dredging in February remains a possibility but it's possible that we will have to consider further changes.

**Next FCC Event's: Ironville Church Hall**, Casson Street, Ironville, NG16 5NN; Tea, Coffee, Bar & Raffle; £2.50 admission. Non-members welcome

- 20th January 2020: **Bicentenary of the Mansfield & Pinxton Railway** An illustrated talk by Dr David Amos - a railway that was an important link to the Cromford Canal. Start at 7.30pm
- 17<sup>th</sup> February: **The Fall of Saxon England**: An illustrated talk by FCC's own Mike Kelley, who's book will also be on sale. Start at 7.30pm

### **Beggarlee Planning Application**

The Beggarlee Planning Application (for the extension north from Langley Mill to Stoney Lane) rumbles on - we are now dealing with some further queries. Our latest estimate is January 2020 for a decision, but as always this is subject to third parties being satisfied with the responses. Fingers crossed.

### **Browns Bridge (aka High Peak Junction Swing Bridge)**

The scheme to replace the bearing of Browns Bridge is progressing. Detailed design has been completed and drawings prepared. Historic England (a statutory consultee) are attending site on 18/12/19 to review plans and hopefully allow the scheme to progress through Derbyshire County Council's technical approval channels.



Yes we're on TripAdvisor! - we have 160 reviews...

- "What a brilliant and beautiful way to spend 2 hours, so peacefully the crew are very friendly and knowledgeable about the boat and the canal": December 2019
- "My U3A group arranged a private hire of the Birdswood narrow boat for 40 people. We had a wonderful return trip with excellent commentary from our guide, Hugh". September 2019
- "Bromham Scout Group have to say what an excellent experience we had and the staff were very accommodating". September 2019

**PLEASE POST YOUR REVIEW!!!**

We're also on Facebook!! - FCC has a page and Birdswood has a page!!

**FCC:** [click here](#): We have 921 members of this page. If you feel inclined to take the next step and become a member of The FCC and support our valuable work, please [click here](#)

**Birdswood:** [click here](#): Regularly updated, we have nearly 1500 likes and shares!

**PLEASE LIKE AND SHARE WITH YOUR FRIENDS!!!**

**Cromford Canal Boat Trips ; Booking Information**

On-board refreshments and toilet. Well behaved dogs welcome

Phone: 07552 055 455 ;Email: [bookings@birdswood.org](mailto:bookings@birdswood.org) ;Online: [www.birdswood.org](http://www.birdswood.org)

**Friends of Cromford Canal**

FCC, Weighbridge Office, Gothic Warehouse, Mill Road, Cromford, DE4 3RQ

<http://www.cromfordcanal.info/contact/contact.htm>

Issue 71 of our journal "The Portal" is available now