

# STAFFORD RIVERWAY LINK

## NEWSLETTER NUMBER 2, APRIL 2007

Since our last newsletter, our first, quite a lot has happened, those of you who manage to get hold of a copy of Towpath Talk will have seen an excellent article on The Stafford Riverway Link in issue number 14, 7th December 2006 on pages 32 and 33. I was well pleased with the article but surprised by the lack of response from anybody, even though my address, home phone number and E-mail were printed. (I have got about 10 copies for future use)

We have recruited a new member to the committee (Ivor Hind) who is going to look after sponsorship and he has made it his first task to get me more leaflets printed, this time professionally at a cost we can afford.

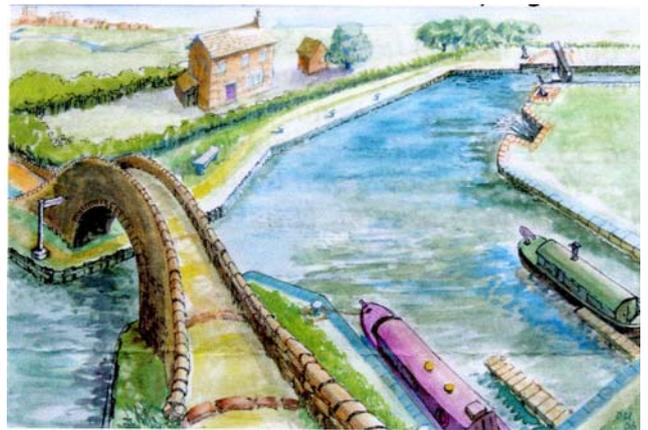
Once again I think the SRL display stand at the I. W.A National Festival at St. Ives on the River Great Ouse 25/27th August is a bit of a non goer owing to Insurance costs but once again I will ask the I. W.A if I can again place leaflets at one of their sites.

The Committee has decided in order to proceed, a focus is necessary and we have decided that a basin/Marina where the Stafford Riverway Link is to commence at Baswich off the Staffs & Worcs Canal is our current top priority and as we know that British Waterways is keen to develop such Marinas, contact has been made. A meeting was arranged with British Waterways Marinas Ltd on the 7th March and we must thank Bob & Patricia Bowden and David Jones for meeting with Derek Newton, the Managing Director. Bob's report is extremely encouraging and no doubt I will be able to give you an update in the Autumn - the viability of this proposal seems to hinge on the Land owner.

I have promised for some years to try and get a video of the route from Baswich into Stafford to help us promote our aims and objectives with talks and aid promotion when we take our display stand out on the road. So, I wrote to our local Microlight centre. The C.F.I has replied that he would be willing to take me up in one of his aircraft with an open cockpit to video and photo the route from many hundreds of feet up in the air. I do not know whether I am looking forward to this, it depends on the aircraft - some days I watch all sorts of flying machines slowly and noisily drifting across the sky seemingly very precariously and get the impression if one leans out take a photo, the whole thing will capsizes. My hope is that he has something like a

WW1 Tiger Moth, I doubt it, but I will let you know.

Geoffrey Hales has managed to get a friend of his to produce a painting of the possible entrance basin from the Staffs & Worcs Canal on to the River Sow, although to be commercially viable I think more moorings space is required, but nevertheless excellent material for the display stand and possible further pictures as time progresses. Copy photograph below: -



For some time now the Committee has discussed the idea of a Presidential person and I came up with a name that I must confess was not generally met with much enthusiasm - but I have kept pushing my idea and finally I was allowed to try & contact this person (only because they think he won't accept, even if my letter gets to him - even I have doubts) If this comes off, this will be a mega story. I will not have to let you know if he accepts as it will be worldly reported, but do not hold out to much hope. His name? You will have to wait.

I would also like to remind ALL Members that have not renewed their Membership for 2007/8 which is due in July that their continued support would be greatly appreciated. A slip is enclosed to assist you with payment As a Member, if you have any suggestions or ideas that you consider to be of value to the SRL please do not hesitate to put them forward to the Committee. These Newsletters hopefully will appear in the Spring and the Autumn to inform Members of progress in our aims and objectives

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