



MERCIA MARINA  
http://www.merciamarina.co.uk/

# Mercia Mercury

August 2014 Issue : 67

## The Boardwalk Development

The construction work is into its final ten days. The workers will be off-site from the 8th of August, leaving behind a striking and elegant building which will rapidly become a familiar part of the Mercia Marina skyline. The Boardwalk businesses, including the bar/bistro and the farm shop (the Butcher, Baker and Icecream Maker) are now starting their individual fit outs and, all being well, will be opening to their first customers in mid-September.

New planning permission will allow up to six 'business' boats the end of the visitor moorings, and the hope is that some will be permanently based at Mercia and the rest will be coming for different times throughout the year - adding colour and variety to complement the busy Boardwalk.

Stuart and Sven are continuing their work creating the Sensory Garden with its water feature, rocks, walkways, soft planting and colour. It'll be a year or so before David Boddy's design and their hard work begin to show the results but it will be worth waiting for! There will be a small Piazza at the heart of the Garden which will be used for events at various times.

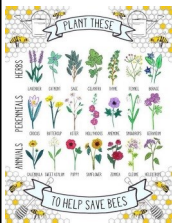
The Marina's Festival Weekend - 11 and 12 October - will be the occasion for a more formal celebration of the Boardwalk, and one which will welcome all moorers and lodge owners, their friends and families, friends of the Marina and members of the local communities. Put the dates in your diary now!

The Bar/Bistro and Farm Shop are looking for staff; keep your on the local press and the Marina noticeboards for more details. The Office will forward emails to each of the two businesses for you if you would like to put yourself forward but can't find the job advertisements.

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## David Bellamy Award

The annual inspection for this Award took place recently. The Marina's environmental development was again praised and the wildflower meadow much enjoyed with its abundance of butterfly and bee friendly flowers. The inspector discussed the plans for the Sensory Garden and toured the site. The out-



## September Tea Party

Saturday 6 September 1pm till 4pm

This is a lovely opportunity for moorers and lodge owners - and their guests - to have some fun on the Marina and to raise funds for the National Memorial Arboretum. The event will be held on the grass area to the North side of the Lodges. We will be Commemorating the Centenary of the 1st World War .



First World War Centenary

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Would those attending please bring some food to share as a fuddle - there is a food list held in the Marina Office and if you call in to say what you are intending to bring - or ask for suggestions - we will surely have a good range of food.

There will be a raffle - so prize donations are very welcome - the money raised will go to the National Memorial Arboretum.

Would Moorers and Lodge Owners please bring their own chairs - if it should rain on the day gazebos will be provided!

There will be a War Time memorabilia corner - we hope to make a collage of any pictures, trinkets and treasures that you have within your family heirlooms. Please bring them along on the day and share your stories.

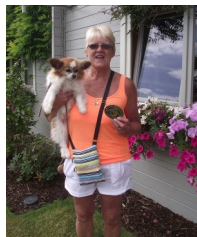
We hope to have a Band - if you know anyone that would like to play a bit of old time music then just let us know!

If anyone would like to give some time on the day to help coordinate the event (we have a small group of helpers but more are needed) or if you have some ideas you want to share to contribute to the day please contact Sue Hicks (WB Free Spirit, Q38) [suehicks7@btinternet.com](mailto:suehicks7@btinternet.com), or speak to Jules in the Marina Office.

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## Golden Windlass Award

Sue Eales, nb Joe, has received a Golden Windlass Award. This was agreed at the last Forum meeting in recognition of her fundraising for breast cancer research and treatment. Sue's walk from Mercia to Alrewas in May was a great success and Sue has plans for next year!



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Our thanks, again, go to Midland Chenders for continuing to support Mercia by printing the Newsletter.

## Mercia in Bloom

The competition is open to all boat and lodge owners.

Friday 22nd August is the judging date for

the Competition - and that's less than three weeks away! The long hot days of summer have made for great growing

conditions but there's bound to be a lot of tidying up, reorganising pots and troughs and showing off plants and boat to best advantage. For full terms and conditions of the Competition, please call in at The Office

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## Boaters & Lodge Owners' Forum

Tuesday, 15 July 2014

The Notes from the Forum have now been emailed out to all those on the circulation list. If you would like to receive the Notes this way, give the Office your email address. A hard copy of the Notes is available in the Office, or you can ask for your own copy. Your representative on the forum may have changed so check the list below. Your rep can be consulted on all matters and will bring items to the Forum meetings for you.

FORUM REPRESENTATIVES (June 2014)
<b>Finch, Grebe, Heron</b> Nigel Hunt of NB MaryAnn. Email <a href="mailto:nbmaryann@gmail.com">nbmaryann@gmail.com</a>
<b>Ibis, Jay, Kingfisher, Lapwing, Moorhen</b> Ian Cowlishaw of NB Thomas. Email <a href="mailto:ian.merciarep@gmail.com">ian.merciarep@gmail.com</a>
<b>Nuthatch, Owl, Peregrine, Quail</b> Tony Wilkinson
<b>Redshank</b> Keith Tonge
<b>Veery, Woodcock, Xantus</b> Richard Tandy of NB Mystic River, Veery. Email <a href="mailto:exp lugger@btinternet.com">exp lugger@btinternet.com</a>
<b>Yellowhammer, Zebra Dove, Avocet, Blackbird, Albatross, Bullfinch</b> Mike Coates of NB Aphrodite, Albatross. Text or call on 07857109822
<b>Superberths (Sandpiper, Teal, Upland Goose)</b> Terry Evans of NB Gentle Gypsy
<b>Mercia Marina Lodges</b> Bev Wilcockson, Fir Tree Lodge. Email <a href="mailto:whitcolbvc@gmail.com">whitcolbvc@gmail.com</a>

**Retractable Dog Leads:** The suggestion to ban extendable dog leads was discussed at the Forum. The 5 dog owners attending understood the points made and agreed with the rest of the forum members on a ban. A dog is on a lead is to protect it from traffic, from other dogs and to protect people or other dogs from your dog. To do so, you need your dog close to you. A standard leash is 6' long; a retractable leash can be 26' long. For more information, please Google "Are retractable leashes safe for dogs?". The ban on retractable leads does not extend to people who use a stick for walking, people in wheelchairs or needing to use mobility scooters.



## Classic Car Show Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> July 2014

The Classic Car Show was a great success with Rolls Royces, Bentleys, MGs and other



Classics gleaming in the July sunshine. A BBQ, the Fish 'n Chip van, Derby A Cappella, icecreams, and plenty to see brought in local people, moorers and lodge owners with their friends

and families and car enthusiasts. A great day was had by all especially with Harvey Lea inviting Willie Green, a local man with a long and distinguished racing career, to come to judge the classes.



A lot of work was put in by Josh Fitzsimons and Harvey, so thanks are due to them for such a good day.



**Best in Show** - Jaguar XK120, Year 1953, Owner Steve Mulvaney

**Best Pre-war Car** - Rolls Royce 20HP, Year 1927, Owner Tony Gray

**Best Post-war Car** - MGB Roadster, Year 1968, Owner Nigel Baldy

**Most Interesting Car** - Rolls Royce Silver Shadow, Owner David Howard

**Most Original Car** - Opel Manta, Year 1984, Owner Kevin Byatt

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## Mooring Contracts

It is time for all moorers to renew their contracts with the Marina. You will have had a letter from Lucy, enclosing your new contract and reminding you that the Office needs copies of your boat's CRT Licence, insurance and BSC together with the signed and completed contract. As the letter reminded you (and by way of encouragement!) all those who had done this by the end of July will have been entered in a draw and the lucky winner will be given the prize of a month's mooring fees!

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## European Health Qigong Games July 2014, Mons, Belgium

John Collinson, our own T'ai Chi practitioner, has just returned from a very successful First European Health Qigong Games.

With 16 teams competing and teams of up to eight, competitors ranged from a 12-



year old boy to people in their 70s. John was part of a Derby team of 5 people led by Carol Gascoigne from the Derby T'ai Chi Centre. In



the individual competition, Derby collected a total of 3 gold, 6 silver and 3 bronze medals between them - with John winning a gold and a silver. In the team competition, Derby won a gold and two silver. So John won two gold and three silver medals! A wonderful result. Well done John and the team.

Qigong is not dissimilar to T'ai Chi but uses its forms and routines as a system of wellness.

John's travels out from the Marina were not just to Belgium. In April he spent three weeks in China - partly as a tourist and partly in training with a group from a national T'ai Chi School. Spending four days in Beijing, they moved on to Xi'an and then to the Wu dang Mountain. John intended - but failed - to send back a Mercia on Tour picture! Handing over his day rucksack for the Forbidden City Security Guards to check, when he subsequently reached inside for the T-shirt to ready himself for his notable pose, he discovered it was no longer there!

John currently offers weekly classes in T'ai Chi in Ilkeston, Fritchley and Ashbourne. If you would like to find out more, give him a call on 07768 279583 or find him on his boat on AA Pontoon.



## The Tillerettes

There are a number of women at Mercia who say they would welcome the chance to gain more experience at the tiller - in particular going through a lock, winding, mooring and reversing. Others would like a 'refresher' course and a further group would like to start virtually from scratch. So we have a plan!

"The Tillerettes" will pair any of the above with one of a select group of experienced women drivers on the Marina (well, three women and two honoraries!) to spend a bit of time doing one, two or all of three bespoke sessions - i) to Stenson, through the lock, wind and return; ii) to Willington, wind, moor, set off again and return;

iii) round the Marina, reversing, going into and out of a jetty mooring. The sessions will last anything from one to three hours depending on what is wanted and this - and dates - can be discussed and agreed between the pairs of Tillerettes.

Further details will be available nearer the time but, if this is something that interests you, you can certainly leave your name in the Office to ensure you receive all those further details as they emerge (Thank you to Darren Amphlett for the logo [still in draft] A wonderful image!)

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## Dedicate a Bench or Plant a Tree?

A number of people have asked the Office if they could donate a bench or a tree on the Marina and dedicate it to someone.

This is a lovely idea and certainly possible and the Office will be happy to discuss this further and help ensure people's wishes were carried out. The bench would be the same as those already on the Marina and brass plaques would be done with an agreed form of wording.

Trees or shrubs would be chosen from a list of those species known to be suitable for the Marina and would also carry a brass dedication plaque.

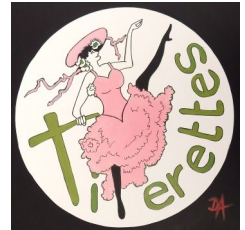
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## Mercia on Tour

Pictures continue to arrive in the Office



and the "On Tour" Gallery is quite something! Keep them coming the summer is not over!



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Cost £20 per 4 week block (this is an exclusive price subsidised by Mercia Marina for moorer dog owners only)

Interested?

Contact Jim Wainwright on 07721 555764

email : [jim@progressdts.co.uk](mailto:jim@progressdts.co.uk)

Website [www.progressdogtrainingschool.co.uk](http://www.progressdogtrainingschool.co.uk)

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