



NEW YEAR OPENING HOURS

Marina Office:

30 December – 9am - 5.30pm

31 December – 10am - 2pm

1 January – **CLOSED**

2 January onwards **normal hours**

We are opening on all of the Royal Mail delivery dates.

PLEASE COLLECT YOUR PARCELS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE OVER THE CHRISTMAS PERIOD.

Still Waters Shop:

30th December – 9am - 5.30pm

31st December – 9am - 4pm

1 January – **CLOSED**

2nd January - **open from 9am as normal**

Willow Tree Tea Room:

30th December – **normal hours**

31st December – 8.30am - 3pm

1st January – 10am - 4pm

2nd January – **normal hours**

Midland Chandlers:

Wednesday 30th -- 1000 – 1600

Thursday 31st – **CLOSED**

Friday 1st January – **CLOSED**

Saturday 2nd January onwards:

Open as normal.



Our thanks to
Midland Chandlers
for their support for
the Newsletter.

SANTA STROLL



Findern Primary School had their annual Santa Stroll to the Marina on Friday 4th December. This year they met our very own Santa and his helper 'Elf and Safety'.



Santa and 'Elf' have been busy all December with Steve Frost on the Trip Boat Grotto.

TOWPATH TASKFORCE



Ian Webb retired recently. Contemplating the next phase in his life, his eye fell on an article in the Derby Telegraph calling for volunteers to join the South Derbyshire Towpath Taskforce. With no boating experience himself but having two narrowboating friends, Ian decided that helping care for the Trent & Mersey Canal would be worthwhile and interesting – and painting and decorating outdoors with others would certainly beat doing it at home!

He arrived at Swarkestone for the first Taskforce session on the 9th of October, joining Barry Keight (Volunteer Leader, Central Shires, Canal and River Trust), John Dyson – member of the Fradley Task Force, Atholl Beattie – member of the Tamworth Task Force and Steve Morton who's been volunteering at Fradley in a variety of roles over the last four years.

It was the perfect day for doing preparatory work on Aylesbury – the CRT work boat due for a repaint. And for the Taskforce Volunteers to get to know each other. John, Atholl and Steve had a lot of experience with different teams and different work sites. As Barry Keight pointed out, once signed a Volunteer can volunteer anywhere at any time. And CRT is keen to help Volunteers learn new skills - Steve had done Wattle Fence Making and Helmsman Courses and had just become a CATS (Competence Assessment & Training Scheme) Assessor for Volunteer Lock Keepers.

The team is looking forward to the next South Derbyshire sessions which are on every second Friday. Anyone interested in joining them or finding out more on this or other Towpath Taskforces should get in touch with Canal and River Trust's Volunteer Co-Ordinator Tom Freeland (tom.freeland@canalrivertrust.org.uk).

JANUARY DIARY

To all Moorers and Lodge Owners

BEETLEDRIVE BINGO CRAFT
WATER CHARITY EVENTS QUIZ
COLOURS WALK GAMES TALKS
 FIREWORKS NIGHT

FORTH-COMING EVENTS



Wednesday, 6 January 7pm Craft Night at the Willow Tree Tea Room



Wednesday, 6 January Skittles Night at the Burton Bridge Inn, Burton on Trent



Monday, 11 January Music Night at the Willow Tree Tea Rooms



Wednesday, 13 January 7pm Beetle Drive at the Willow Tree Tea Rooms

? ? ? ? ? QUIZ ? ? ? ? ?

Wednesday, 20 January 7pm Quiz at the Willow Tree Tea Rooms



Wednesday, 27 January 7pm Bingo Night at the Willow Tree Tea Rooms
 (find all the details on the Marina Community Facebook Page or ask in the Office)

MERCIA MARINA

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Wi-Fi deals at Mercia Marina are now even better. There is a new, faster system available and costs for data are the best value ever.

Standard access - 2.5Ghz. Fine for browsing the internet, emails and Facebook etc. To connect, just search for a wireless network and select the Mercia Marina wireless location that has the highest signal strength. Your mobile provider will redirect you to the log in screen. You can use the same access code with several devices at the same time.

Fast access - 5GHz. Better suited for gaming, streaming video or larger downloads. You will need to purchase and install a specific aerial and router package available for £355 from the Marina Office. This will give good wired and Wi-Fi inside your boat or lodge. Please note that the aerial needs to be in line of sight to a specific mast. See office staff for more details.

You can purchase access codes from the Marina Office with different amounts of data to suit your usage requirements. These codes will work on other systems.

The time starts counting down from when the code is first used.
 Codes expire when either the data allowance has been used up or the time runs out.

	MAXIMUM TIME TO USE DATA			
tariff	Data	Week	Month	Year
Bronze	128 MB	1 GB	3 GB	60 GB
	Price	£3	£10	£60
Silver	241 MB	2 GB	10 GB	170 GB
	Price	£3.50	£17	£100
Gold			20 GB	240 GB
	Price		£24	£170
Platinum			30 GB	360 GB
	Price		£35	£240
Diamond			50 GB	600 GB
	Price		£40	£340

MERCIA MARINA

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Masts shown for Standard Access.

The mast in red is for Faster Access and Standard Access - You will need line of sight to the mast for Faster Access. Additional masts will be installed if there is sufficient demand for Faster Access.

A POEM BY CHRIS POLLARD

*Puppies in an apron, and a smug looking kitten,
 A gorgeous girl laughing whilst being licked and bitten,
 Faithful Old Labs, who wait for their food.
 KERRY and HONEY'S eyes on dishes are glued.
 These photos so many the pleasure they bring,
 These are a few of my favourite things*

*There's clever old TESSA she delighted us all,
 She was so amazing when seeking a ball,
 You could hide it completely whilst shutting her away,
 But she would find it in seconds, oh what a display.
 There are other old friends, who smile on us all,
 There was PENNY; She was special although she was small,
 Her love was so great; Her heart was so big,
 She gave us such joy, in the life that she lived.
 To look at these photos the delight that they bring,
 These are a few of my favourite things.*

*There was ZITA; she was faithful, slender and brown,
 She was a dog who would love you and not let you down.
 There are so many old friends, in these pictures I love,
 They are part of my life and I thank heavens above,
 When I look back at their lives and the joy that they bring,
 These faithful Old friends are ALL my favourite things.*

*Before I finish there is one I have missed,
 This one is SASHA; She was a gift.
 She arrived on our doorstep one Sunday afternoon,
 Her eyes were so sad, Her face full of gloom,
 She was such a beauty we could not turn her away,
 Now she is happy and still with us today.*



The second Tuesday of each month Beech Vets will be offering a small outdoor clinic in the car park next to the Marina Office.

Services offered:

- Free Consultation and advice
- Microchipping
- Vaccinations
- Flu Clipping
- Flies and worm treatments
- Health Checks
- Dental Checks
- Collect and drop off for operations

Should anyone need a consultation for a poorly pet and they phone the surgery prior to the visit, they could park the car accordingly and perhaps visit the pet on their least for more privacy.

"We could not have received a better service from Beech Vets especially at such a very difficult time as our Labrador Elise was only at the end of her life. Beech Vets responded in less than 20 mins and were thoughtful and kind. Let's support our local vets."

Phil and Ann Peck MB ECVS

Beech Vets 01283 704768

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 Willington
 Derbyshire
 DE53 4QB
 beechvets@btinternet.com

New Year's Eve @
THE BOARDWALK
 PUB & DINING

Music, hot buffet, bubbly on arrival 7.30 till late.