

Car Wash

There is a 10% Discount for Mercia Marina Club Card holders. Also boat cover wash, rinse and seal for £10 (And then the Club Card 10% Discount).

BCW

HAND CAR WASH

WASH & GO £3.00

1 Hand Car Wash Wax Outside Windows Dry Tyre Shine Inside Door £5.00

2 Mini Valet Hand Car Wash Wax Dry Vacuum Dash Cleaned Windows in/out Inside Doors & Alloy Clean £10.00

3 Gold Mini Valet Hand Car Wash Wax Dry Hand Polished Vacuum Dash Cleaned Windows in/out Inside Doors & Alloy Clean £20.00

4 Wash and Polished £15.00

5 Full Valet Bring Your Vehicle Back To Showroom Condition £50.00

07440 761 906

A38, Northbound Service Station, Derby Rd, DE65 6GY

OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK 9:00AM—6:00PM

SPECIAL OFFER £1 off any wash with this sign

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WE ARE HERE

← A38 TO DERBY ← A38 TO DERBY

← A38 TO BURTON ON TRENT ← A38 TO BURTON ON TRENT

OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK 9:00AM—6:00PM

WE WASH ALL CARS, 4X4 & VANS

4X4'S, VAN'S & LARGE VEHICLES

WASH & GO £4.00

1 Hand Wash Wax Outside Windows Dry Tyre Shine Inside Door £7.00

2 Mini Valet Hand Wash Wax Dry Vacuum Dash Cleaned Windows in/out Inside Doors & Alloy Clean £15.00

3 Gold Mini Valet Hand Wash Wax Dry Hand Polished Vacuum Dash Cleaned Windows in/out Inside Doors & Alloy Clean £30.00

4 Wash and Polished £20.00

5 Full Valet Bring Your Vehicle Back To Showroom Condition £60.00

WE ARE HERE

← A38 TO DERBY ← A38 TO DERBY

← A38 TO BURTON ON TRENT ← A38 TO BURTON ON TRENT

OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK 9:00AM—6:00PM

WE WASH ALL CARS, 4X4 & VANS

Find BCW at the Willington/Hilton exit off the A38 just by the BP Garage.

Internet Trouble?

If you use the Marina WiFi, have moved your mooring and are having internet trouble, please let Wynne know. Your iPad, laptop or tablet may be fine but you need to change the mast!

Flying Swans

Visitors to the Marina Office can view a wonderful piece of sculpture “Flying Swans” by Paul Margetts. Chosen by Lucy and Louise Davies, it will be installed shortly in the wild-life pond to form part of the Treasure Trail and be a general attraction in the Marina. Paul started as a blacksmith at the age of 16 and, when he found his contemporary metal-work and sculpture to be more interesting than blacksmithing, he concentrated more on expressive pieces. Boaters may like to know he finds no difference in metal now as opposed to decades ago, nor between British and other steel. He believes boaters’ should be reassured that modern steel is of the same high quality! See more of his work at www.forging-ahead.co.uk



Mercia moorers, Jane and Neil Wakeham, have joined with the Marina to launch a new Save Our Bees project. In the UK there are 24 species of bumblebee but only eight are commonly found in most places. Bumblebees are found in a variety of habitats and most people should be able to attract them to their gardens if they have the right kinds

of flowering plants Our bumblebees have been declining because of changes in agricultural practices that have largely removed flowers from the landscape, leaving the bumblebees with little to feed upon. Most UK species have declined greatly in recent years, and two have become extinct in the UK since 1940. Jane and Neil have encouraged the planting of bee-friendly plants and herbs around the marina and on boats. Come and find out more and find out what you can do at the first of the Marina’s Bee Events. **Monday May 2nd from 10am.** There’s a Coffee morning at the Willow Tree Tea rooms to support the Bumblebee Conservation Trust, a Bee Stall outside Still Waters shop, a kiddies Lucky Bee Tombola fand and a Bee Raffle.



Chilli Bird Seed

Fed up with the squirrels eating all the bird food and getting past every obstacle you put in their way. Here’s a radical suggestion; let them at it but first spike the bird food with chilli powder!! Don’t worry, it’s not cruel - it’s even recommended by the RSPB! Chilli feels hot because it contains a chemical called capsaicin which triggers your heat receptors, fooling you into feeling like your mouth is burning. Your body is so convinced you’re on fire it starts the normal inflammatory response it uses to mitigate burns. This is what causes all the swelling, sweating and general discomfort associated with spicy food, symptoms that can also be used to your garden’s advantage. In nature, the chilli pepper produces capsaicin to repel pesky mammals and insects. Birds, however, are entirely immune to the spice’s effects. In fact, the chilli plant needs birds to eat the fruit and spread its seeds far and wide. The upshot is that you can load up bird feed with as much chilli powder as you like and your avian visitors won’t feel a thing. Meanwhile, any roaming rodents won’t come back for a second bite! (Thanks to Bruce Napier for this tip.)



The Vancy

Just before 8.00 a.m. on Sunday morning, 10th April, the smoke detector on a boat on Heron Pontoon sounded its alarm. Four boats down, Kerry Nelson’s The Vancy, was on fire. The Fire Brigade was called., a boater in between the boats was sounding a further alarm by ringing his bell and the Marina’s local Fire Warden was alerted. The first appliance arrived at 8.15 a.m., coming from Kingsway and because they had held an exercise in the dry dock at the Marina, they knew where to go and that they would be met at the Gate. Fortunately, Kerry had been dog sitting overnight on a friend’s boat further down the Pontoon and her two cats had been able to disappear through the cat flap. Despite the best efforts of the firemen, there was little that could be done to save The Vancy and Kerry’s belongings. Subsequent investigations have concluded that the fire was solely the result of a chain of events begun by an electrical fault. It was a horrible accident in a well-maintained boat that was insured and had its Boat Safety Certificate.



Kerry says: “Whilst I was, thankfully, away from my home an electrical fault caused a fire which has destroyed the boat and all its contents. I don’t have the words to convey my gratitude to all those friends, neighbours and the wider community who have been touched by the incident. I’m overwhelmed not by the material losses but by the kindness, courage and concern that has been extended to me and my two little puss cats, both of whom are also safe. Had I been

aboard and had my dear neighbours not been out on the canal there could have been tragic consequences. All souls safe, no harm to the brave neighbours or the fire brigade and a testament to the training the volunteer fire wardens undertake - I’m deeply indebted to all. From the depths of my soul I’m grateful.”



You may remember this Newsletter covered the story of other moorers who also lost their boat and all their belongings in an unexplained electrical fire (Keith and Jennie Riley’s ‘Gulliver’). The Fire Investigation Officer who came to The Vancy says he attends three narrowboat fires a week across the UK so this is, perhaps, a good moment to run through some basic questions critical to your safety and security:

- ◆ Is your boat insurance up to date?
- ◆ Is your boat safety valid? (If not, your insurance will be void)
- ◆ Are your Fire and CO alarms working and in the right place? Do you check them regularly?
- ◆ Where are your Fire Extinguishers? Are they immediately available? Are they maintained? Do you know how to use them and what they are for? (To create an escape path, not to fight the fire)
- ◆ Do you have an escape plan and an accessible exit at each end of the boat?
- ◆ Are your pets able to exit?

Most serious fires happen at night so when you go to bed, double check the fire is damped down, candles are out, cookers off, unnecessary electrics unplugged and electronic devices on charge (phones, tablets etc.) resting – with their transformers - on suitable surfaces. The Marina Office has issued a letter for each boat and lodge which explains in detail how to respond to accidents and

emergencies on the Marina. Enclosed with the letter is a two-sided card which provides clear instructions of actions and basic contact information. You should read and study both of these and keep the card by you in case of a Fire or a Medical Emergency. Have you collected/got yours? Have you read it? Is the card in a good place where you can grab it along with your phone at a moment’s notice?



Photography Competition



Congratulations to Michelle Pywell for winning the March Photo Competition with this great photo of Bridge 22 (Potlocks). Well done Michelle.

Sue Starkey’s Visits

The Revd. Sue Starkey, Vicar of All Saints Findern and St Michael’s Willington, has become a familiar face in the Marina through her weekly visits over the last couple of years. With her shoulder still not 100%, rather than walking round and visiting boats, she will be resident in Chestnut Lodge for a couple of hours each week for a chat, a coffee and



biscuits. Everyone is welcome and the first visit will be on Wednesday 4th May from 2 till 4pm. If you would like to get in touch with Sue at any time, ring the Vicarage landline (01283 703928).and leave a message.

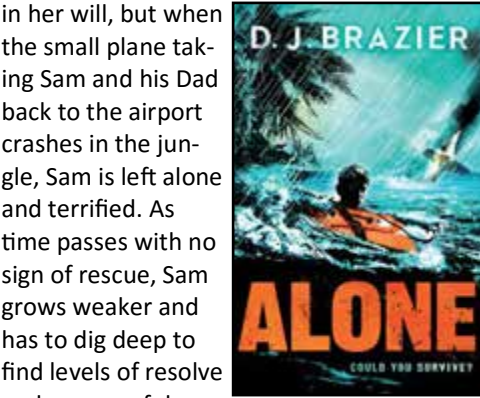
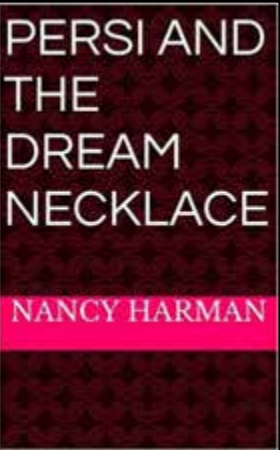
Mercia's Authors

It's a delight and a pleasure to congratulate two new Mercia Authors – Nancy Harman and Dave Brazier - on the publication of their novels.


Nancy's 'Persi and the Dream Necklace' is available through Amazon Kindle. It tells the story of Persi, who lives with her mother on a narrow boat.

On her 13th birthday she is given an unexpected present from her great-grandmother, whom she never met. The necklace had a story going back to Viking times and it wants Persi to find its sister necklaces and through a series of 'real' dreams, she discovers its history. With the help of her grandmother and her friend Danny, she searches out the mysteries surrounding the necklace and is able to reunite the three originals. She discovers things about her own history whilst on her quest and realises that she has inherited powers that will enable her to not only have this adventure but also future ones.

Dave Brazier's book 'Alone' (published on the 5th May) will be available through www.lovereadings4kids.co.uk (author D.J. Brazier). Synopsis: The trip of a lifetime - that's what it was supposed to be, paid for with money Gran left thirteen-year old Sam in her will, but when the small plane taking Sam and his Dad back to the airport crashes in the jungle, Sam is left alone and terrified. As time passes with no sign of rescue, Sam grows weaker and has to dig deep to find levels of resolve and resourcefulness he never knew he had in order to survive. Desperate and close to giving up, Sam's spirits are lifted by the arrival of an otter cub whose companionship and loyalty give Sam the strength he needs to keep going. But when disaster strikes, Sam has to make the hardest decision of his life. Can Sam save his friend and make it out of the jungle alive?



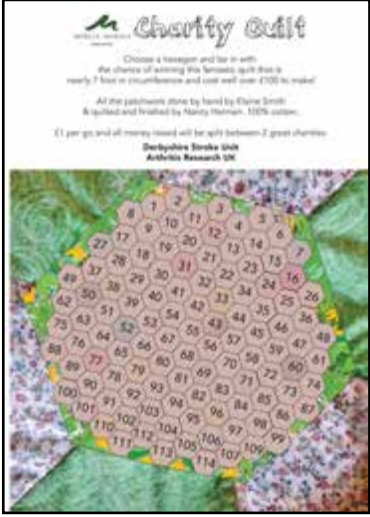
Barbed Hooks



Graham Haygreen, a moorer, removed this lure from a duck on the marina. The duck had the barbs through its leg, wing and beak and was unable to stay upright in the water. Marina fishing can only be done with barbless hooks, or if predator fishing, barbs must be pinched down or pinched down and removed. Predator fishing must also be on a 15lb line so that, unlike the line attached to the lure removed by Graham Haygreen, it does not break and leave the lure in the water as a hazard.

Charity Quilt

A beautiful quilt, made by Mercia moorers, is the prize for guessing the hexagon! All money raised goes to the Marina's charities - Derby Stroke Unit & Arthritis Research UK. Further details, and the quilt itself, are in the Marina Office so go and join in while there are still hexagons to choose!



Events



All events are in the Willow Tree Tea Rooms and start at 7pm. Please note that there is no bar running for any event and so take your own drinks.

- Wednesday, 4 May **Craft Night**
- Thursdays, 5, 12, 19, 26 May **Watercolour Painting**
- Monday, 9 May **Music Night**
- Wednesday, 11 May **Beetle Drive**
- Monday, 16 May **Photography Club**
- Tuesday, 17 May **Craft Night**
- Wednesday, 18 May **Quiz Night** (Book with the Office)
- Tuesday, 24 May **Cake Decorating** (see below)
- Wednesday, 25 May **Bingo**
- Tuesday, 31 May **Book Club**

Further details are on the Marina Community Facebook page. Or, if you don't do Facebook, ask in the Office.

Re-Baker at 7pm, Tuesday 24 May

A very special Event! Rebekah Preston (with husband Tony), talks about her amazing cakes, exhibits many of her triumphs and all decorate a cupcake to take home! Cost £2 per person.




Willington Arts Festival 14/15 May




A showcase for local artists, providing inspiration for the visitor, as well as the opportunity to buy unique art work. Get hands on with pottery, circus skills and fabric craft workshop, Big Picture 3 and vote for your favourite art work in the Mercia Marina art competition. Enjoy live music at the Busk Stops. Mercia crafters will be exhibiting from their narrowboats moored on the towpath in Willington. For further Festival Information, contact Sue Gent on 07777 604279 or go to www.willingtonartsfestival.co.uk



Bandstand Busk



Come and join the fun on Sunday, 15 May. Bring or buy a picnic and drinks, set up your chairs and settle down for a great afternoon's entertainment with live music from local bands. The photograph from April's session shows moorers Bill Smith and Wynne Jones with Pete Hannah.



Golden Windlass

The Boaters' and Lodge Owners' Forum were pleased to agree with the nomination of Keith and Sheila Tite for their assistance to John Fowler on his sudden medical emergency. The Forum were also pleased to agree with the nomination of Gary Scott and Sarah Cunnington for looking after Mick Grant after he suffered a broken pelvis.



Walking Festival Launch



The National Forest Walking Festival is being launched from Mercia Marina Bandstand on Saturday 14th May with the Three Marina's Charity Walk. There are two guided walks - one 'leisurely' and one 'moderate'. You must have registered to be on this - or any of the other 86 National Forest Walking Festival Walks. For further details and information: www.thenationalforestwalkingfestival.org.uk



SATURDAY 14TH MAY

1 Three Marina's Charity Walk

Guided Walk **Leisurely**
Start time 10am **Moderate**

3.5 or 7 miles, 1.5-3.5 hours, 0 stiles (but lots of steps over two bridges) £5 adult, £3 concessions, children free

STARTING POINT Bandstand, Mercia Marina, Findern Lane, Willington, DE65 6DW

Join the Chairman of South Derbyshire District Council on this sponsored charity walk of 3.5 or 7 miles in aid of Rainbows hospice for children and young people and SSAFA. Starting from Marina, along footpath to Findern, through village and down to Trent and Mersey Canal towpath. Follow towpath back to Marina for short walk and onto Willington for longer walk. Free quiz for children and families to do. All participants will receive a medal.

Booking essential.
www.threemarinascaritywalk.eventbrite.com
or call 01283 595895

Do you have your tickets for the Queen's 90th Birthday Street Party at the Marina on the 11th June?? If not, time is running out so go and talk to the Office.



Willington's New Chip Shop



Willington's new Chip Shop is proving very popular, says manager Graham Gibson, who also owns the Hilton Fish Bar. Alongside a traditional and excellent menu, The Chip Shop offers jacket potatoes, coffee and – proving very popular – milkshakes. Graham is happy to cater for parties or other special occasions, so give him a ring on 01283 701450. He also has gluten-free evenings – one pan dedicated to cooking those meals.. He, Rachel and Nigel would be delighted to welcome all new customers. Opening hours: Monday-Friday 12 – 2pm and 5 – 10pm; Saturday 12 - 10pm; Sundays 4 – 9pm.



Gas Regulator Recall

Clesse Industries is voluntarily recalling all the **BP1803 regulator range**. Go to clesse-safetynotice.com and register your details. An agent will be in touch with you to arrange whatever necessary to replace your affected regulators. If you have questions, contact on 0800 088 5545 between 0800 & 1800 Mon. to Fri. or email safetynotice@clesse.eu to let them know if you wish to participate in the recall. **If you don't know if you have this type of Regulator, tell the Office and someone will check for you.**

