



CLASSIC CARS

MEETING AT MERCIA

SUNDAY AUGUST 6TH

10:00 - 3:30

FEATURING

BOAT MOTOR CLUB

MC OWNERS CLUB

Mercia Marina, Findern Lane, Willington, Derbyshire, DE65 6DW
01283 703332 www.merciamarina.co.uk info@merciamarina.co.uk

Mercia Matters

Electricity: Electricity prices will be going up by about 15% at the beginning of September to around 13p per KWH (incl. VAT). The last increase was five years ago when the previous contract was negotiated. There is no Marina ‘add on’ to the supply cost and the increase is in line with the general national increase that’s been going on this year.

Second Entrance: When the Highways’ Agency has completed its paperwork we can begin work on changing the emergency gate entry into a formal second entry to the Marina. It’s hoped this work will begin in September.

The Piazza: The development is on schedule and handover is still expected in December. That will be followed by the fit-out, so the new retail and food outlets won’t be up and running for two or three months after that.

Gate Checks: All moorers and lodge owners are reminded that their vehicles should have Mercia Marina stickers. Gate Checks will be starting up soon and vehicles without such stickers won’t be allowed through. So please go to the Office and get yours!

Electric Bollards: Bollards are about to be checked to ensure the right boat is connected to its designated electric plug. If you would do your own check in advance that would be helpful.

Boaters’ and Lodge Owners’ Forum: The Forum meets regularly and if there are any matters you would like to have raised, please talk to your Forum Rep. The meeting notes are available to read in the Office or can be emailed to you if you ask. And the Marina staff are very happy for you to raise matters directly with them at any time.

Free Mooring Winner: Tony Webb (nb Elizabeth Ann) was drawn as the lucky winner of the month’s free mooring



Canal & River Trust

Towpath

The Canal and River Trust will start work (upgrading the towpath between Willington and Potlocks Bridge) in September. They will start at the Willington end. More details to come but there will be volunteers involved (Waterways Recovery Group, Towpath Taskforce) , so if you’d like to join in, let the Office know.



Free Jewellery & Watch Valuations

at Mercia Marina,
Findern Lane, Willington,
Derby DE65 6DW

Saturday 19 August
10am - 3pm

Discover the value of your Jewellery with the opportunity to consign to auction with Isabel Balmer FGA

Free Home Visits
for large/multiple items, House Clearance & Downsizing advice
Probate & Insurance Valuations


HANSONS
Auctioneers and Valuers Ltd
Heage Lane, Etwell, Derbyshire DE65 6LS
T: 01283 733988
service@hansonsauctioneers.co.uk
www.hansonsauctioneers.co.uk
Regulated by RICS

A Big Thank You from Colin and Maureen

Maureen and Colin Selwood (nb Soda) want to say a big ‘Thank You’ to all their friends on boats and in lodges who responded with immediate offers of help and support over Colin’s recent poorliness. This started when they were at Barlaston when Colin had a stroke. After a few days in Stoke Hospital and a couple more on their mooring, they made their way to Alrewas and then back to the Marina, with Tony Preston in touch by phone and many offers of help waiting in the wings. A week after their return, Colin had a heart attack in the early hours of the morning. Bev and Brian (nb Esme) from the next door lodge responded immediately. The paramedics were called and Wendy Bourne, from the Marina’s First Aid team, went straight round. Since then, Colin has undergone various procedures and is doing very well.

Terry Evans, the Marina’s First Aider, has kept in touch and the Selwoods continue to be touched by the care and support being shown by so many. They say thank you and especially to all those named above. They have huge praise for the care Colin received and is still receiving from the Hospitals and the entire NHS service.

Many thanks to Midland Chandlers for continuing their support for our monthly Newsletter. Paper copies are available from the Marina shops or the Marina Office. Ask the Office about emailed copies /





MERCIA MARINA

DERBYSHIRE

<http://www.merciamarina.co.uk/>

Mercia Mercury

Did we have a Flaming June this year?

“BRITAIN is weeks away from a flaming 100F hot summer with tropical heatwaves driven by “Spanish Pluming” forecast through to autumn”

That was the April report from The Daily Express with other national headlines carrying a similar message. Do you remember the weather at Glastonbury? Or at Wimbledon? It’s not always easy to recall how often the sun shone or how many days saw rain, although we can all probably remember days when we were enjoying an evening outdoors with friends or sipping drinks and BBQ’ing beside moored boats on a trip out (The two pictures are of our glorious stay at Bugsworth Basin in May).

It’s probably a bit early to make a judgement about the summer as a whole and indeed there are some reports that we are due a heatwave again in August, but now that we have our own weather station we can report on what we know about Mercia’s weather over the last 100 days (given that I’m writing this on the 24th of July!). Every day, since March, one of the Weather Team visit the Met Office weather station and record six indicators - the amount of cloud, the state of the ground, minimum air and grass temperatures, the amount of rainfall and the hours of sunshine all in the previous 24 hours. These measures are fed into the national Met Office database and provide a useful and interesting record of our local weather.

It may surprise you to know that we recorded no rain (not a drop, not a trace) on 69 of those 100 days. In June , there was no rain on 17 of the 30 days and 5 days with over nine hours of sunshine, including the hot spell of the 18, 19 and 20 June. And even though the weather has felt very different since the start of July, there has been no rain on 14 of the last 23 days and though there has been less in the way of sunshine and high temperatures, on only two nights has the temperature dropped out of double figures.

So the verdict on June? We have a number of very skilled amateur weather observers living around and about and one, David Stanier, has been generous with his time, both visiting and offering support and resources. He and his colleagues have drawn their conclusions from the measurements taken in the area. This has been the warmest June since 2007 and the 3rd warmest June in 65 years. How good is that!

Some instruments in the Weather Station are straightforward - a rain gauge and thermometers - but we also have the elegant Campbell-Stokes sunshine recorder. The crystal ball concentrates the sun’s rays and directs a beam onto a recording card (see two of them -->) which is changed daily. These cards are from the 19 and 20th of June and show a complete burnt track across the hour markings from just before 0600BST to just before 1830BST when the sun was high enough for its rays to reach the Campbell-Stokes recorder.

There is one change coming to the Weather Station in September. At the moment we have alcohol thermometers (the use of mercury in observing instruments is now banned) measuring the minimum air and grass temperatures in the previous 24 hours. The Met Office is now on a programme to replace all its alcohol thermometers with electrical resistance thermometers and I’m hoping we will get two additional thermometers which will measure the maximum air and grass temperatures.

If you’re on the Marina and would like to join the Weather Team, do let me know. The commitment is 15 minutes at 1000BST (0900GMT) once a week - excepting holidays, work and such things - to take the readings on ‘your’ day and enter them into the Met Office database through our own Mercia site. The duty fits in very well with a dog walk!

Mercia Piscatorial Society

The fishermen had the MPS Inaugural Match on Sunday 9th July. As John Welch says: Good event and bit of fun but it has to be said there was a competitive spirit so the weights were as follows: Nigel Hunt - 16lb mixed bag with some nice bream making the bulk; Steve Winning - 9lb again bream making the main weight; Rex Geary - 7.5lb a nice mixed bag; Ian Carroll - 5lb and the only one to bag a small Perch. Neil Wakeham came in with 4.5lb and Stuart Willington rounded it off with a 2lb bream. So well done Nigel Hunt. These weights will be added to a league table and, at the end of the season, there will be awards for the best combined weight of the year.

The next MPS Meeting is on Tuesday, 15th August at 7pm in the Willow Tree Tea Rooms. The first half of the meeting will be on Society business and the remainder of the time will be about rigs and shottup floats for beginners. Would all members please try to attend as there will be matters requiring a vote. Everyone is very welcome to come along.

Marina Speed Limit 10mph



I do like CRT's latest campaign material to get people to drop their cycle pace on the towpaths. Perhaps we should have some of our own done - with ducks or frogs (big ones) seeming to be asleep on the perimeter road or perched on a speed bump. Maybe that would get people to remember to slow down and drive all the way round the Marina at no more than the required 10mph.

Thank You, Sven

Sven Osborne has left us for pastures (well ... gardens) new. It's a great loss - he's been here for 7 years - three years in Midland Chandelers and 4 years as part of the grounds and maintenance team at the Marina. Everyone has benefited from Sven's considerable horticultural experience from his time in New Zealand and his HND in Motorsport Technology has come in useful more than once, as well as his many years as a hard-core boater. He's been one of the key people responsible for the development of this wonderful green and environmentally sensitive Marina. The white van, with its amazing interior holding everything that could ever be wanted for anything at any time, rattling gently round the perimeter road with its trailer bumping merrily behind won't ever be quite the same without his grin and wave from the driving seat. And being a long-time boater with enormous experience, he was also a great source of advice and help to many of us. It was always a delight to meet him out on the cut - I've even locked him through Stenson more than once! I will think of him, particularly, every springtime, when the thousands of daffodil bulbs he planted around the Marina put on their magnificent annual display. He has asked that his thanks be passed to you for making this a great place to have worked and he looks forward to seeing many of you out on the cut. Thank YOU, Sven ... we will miss you.



Mercia Community Events 2017 - 2018

The 2017-2018 Calendar of Mercia Community Events is about to be posted on the Mercia Community Facebook Page in the File Section. If you don't know how to access this, ask someone, ask in the Office, email merciaevents@hotmail.com - there is plenty of help around and it is really important that you check when your group/s are - dates and times - and how to keep in touch with any last minute changes or arrangements. Most of the clubs and groups will be starting up in September and so too will be the regular Bingo, Quiz, Beetle evenings. And there will be an evening for all those new to the Marina to get together and find out more on who's who, what's happening, how to get involved and so on. Any Questions? Email merciaevents@hotmail.com Louise Davies is about to spend hours and hours of her life putting all this information out there for you (so our thanks to her for such dedication. She advised you all, if you have an automatic notification for new posts to the Mercia Community Facebook page, that you switch it off once you realise this is underway. There are going to be dozens and dozens of entries and being 'pinged' for each one will be tedious!

The ReXFactor coming in September



Have you called in on Bee's Tea Room yet? A delightful new addition to Findern, with gorgeous handmade sandwiches (carryout offered!) home-made cakes and brownies, and a cosy table upstairs or downstairs if you're meeting friends and want to settle for a while. If you're off the Marina and visiting locally, pop by. You won't be disappointed. Open Thursdays to Mondays (inclusive) 10am - 4pm.

HELLO! WELCOME TO BEE'S TEA ROOM

01283 703685 HELLO@BEESTEAROOM.CO.UK

HOME PAGE ABOUT US FOOD AND DRINK MEETING ROOM BLOG OPENING HOURS FIND US GET IN TOUCH

THERE'S ALWAYS TIME FOR TEA

BEE'S TEA ROOM IS A TEA ROOM IN THE LOVELY VILLAGE OF FINDERN, DERBYSHIRE.

WE SERVE A VARIETY OF SPECIALITY TEAS AND COFFEES, A YUMMY SELECTION OF CAKES AND TREATS, WARM LUNCHES AND AFTERNOON TEA.

WE ARE OPEN THURSDAY TO MONDAY, 10AM - 4PM. WE'D LOVE FOR YOU TO POP IN AND SAY HELLO!

SEE OUR FOOD & DRINK MENU

BEE'S TEA ROOM, FINDERN

NATURE SOCIETY
Making a real difference

WILDLIFE WEEKEND CHANGES

Sadly, the Wildlife Weekend planned for August 12th and 13th has had to be reduced to just one day. This will be the Sunday 13th August which means no photographic competition or storytelling. However, Mr Buzz will be here (so bring you little ones). Also, hopefully Burton Wildlife Rescue will be back as well. Of course, there will a raffle and Kiddies' Lucky Dip along with wildlife information.

HEDGEHOGS



As a lot of awareness has been raised about hedgehogs lately and of course we know from first hand that they have many difficulties to overcome and dangers to face, we will be making a special feature about them at the Wildlife event with lots of facts and information on hand.

Are You Off Out Boating Again?

With the weather forecast looking promising over the next weeks, August Bank Holiday weekend waiting at the end of the month and September usually giving us some lovely boating weather, the Office would be seriously pleased if you would do two things before you go - if you are off for more than a couple of days. Firstly, take your car down to the Long Stay Car Park so as to ease up spaces close to the water. Secondly, tell the Office so they can put your mail to one side ready for your return rather than ready for a daily drop-in. If you'd like a friend or neighbour to pick anything up for you, that's fine. Just let the Office know who will be calling by and what they will be collecting.



Butterflies at
Mercia



Who are they?
When can we see them?
What are their caterpillars like?
What do they eat?
And lots more fascinating facts.

Come along and find out
Willow Tree Tearooms
August 18th 19.00
£1 admission
Tea & Coffee available



THE NEXT CPR TRAINING SESSION'S ARE ON
SATURDAY 29th JULY & 26th AUGUST
@ 7.00 IN THE "WILLOWTREE"

BE A SAVER NOT AN OBSERVER

PLACES ARE RESTRICTED, SO PLEASE
REGISTER WITH THE OFFICE

CALL
PUSH
RESCUE

"One morning my mum's heart stopped beating. I knew CPR and kept the blood pumping around her body until the ambulance came. I helped save her life."

Lifesaver Samantha Hobbs (14).
Parents Mandy and Nick Hobbs.

Become a Lifesaver.
Find out more by
contacting your
CPR lead.

I KNOW IT AND
HELPED SAVE
MUM'S LIFE

FIGHT
FOR EVERY
HEARTBEAT
bhf.org.uk



Makers Market • July 30th, 10:00 - 4:30

Classic Cars Display • Aug 6th, 10:00 - 3:00

Wildlife Weekend • Aug 13th 10:00 - 4:00

Free Jewellery & watch • Aug 19th 10:00 - 3:00
valuations by Hansons
Auctioneers

Bandstand Busk • Aug 20th, 12:30 - 4:00

Free Entry