

Friends of PRESIDENT



195

December 2015

'Friends of President' is a support group working for the Black Country Living Museum, Tipton Road, Dudley, DY1 4SQ

(Registered Charity No: 504481)

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All items for inclusion in the newsletter to be sent to the editor, contact details above.

Help raise funds for Friends of President

By searching the internet using <http://fop.easysearch.org.uk/>
Current total : £70.01p from 7,846 searches

By shopping online via <http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/fop>
Current total : £474.67p from 30 registered supporters

Website : <http://nb-president.org.uk/>

Editorial

Welcome to the last newsletter of 2015. Not too much in this month's edition, but it does give me the opportunity to thank everybody for their continued support of the boats, in both time and money, during the last year, and hope that you will be renewing when the notices go out later. On behalf of the committee I would like to wish all the Friends a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Hopefully there will be more boating next year.

Canal Boating Times December issue has a piece about Willow Wren Training's steam experience days using *Adamant*. For what they are charging for a day on the boat, you could have 21 years individual membership to FoP, or 16 years family membership. Perhaps we need to publicise membership benefits more.

There is a committee meeting next Wednesday evening, so if you have anything that you would like to comment on, or ask, then please let any member of the committee know and it can be raised.

Kildare News



Dave Stott and I were at the Museum earlier in the month and during the showers managed to get the cratch built. But short of a cabin block and one of the up stands being buried under the hold contents on the side didn't get all of the running gear up.

Nick Haynes

The work party on Nov 14th was cancelled, but one was held on Nov 21st when more work was going to take place on the new floor.

Could work parties be treated like the trips we go on, in that someone is nominated to write a brief note about who attended and what work was completed. Please don't let this chore put you off attending work parties though. There isn't a lot of point in having monthly newsletters if I haven't got any news on the progress of the refit.

I've been told that there is a work party on Dec 5th, so let's test out the above request please.

Fundraising

A £12.94 increase in the amount raised this month, £12.34 from easyfundraising and £0.60 from easysearch. Still 30 supporters, no increase on last month.

President's boiler will need to be taken out of the boat during the winter of 2016/7 for the five yearly inspection. This is an expensive process, so if anyone has any good ideas for fundraising next year, please let the committee know.

Membership Matters

I am slowly getting to grips with the membership list and will be sending out the renewal notices soon.

Website News

We are having some problems with the website at the moment, the shopping facility isn't available at present, and there are bits of code appearing that shouldn't. Hopefully this will be sorted out soon.

Museum News

David Eveleigh, Director of Collections, Learning & Research, will have left the BCLM by the time you read this. He is taking up a senior role at the Ironbridge Gorge Museums after seven years at the BCLM.

The Steam Team have been working on adding a steam powered generator turbine to their collection of working items.

At last week's Black Country Chamber of Commerce Awards the museum picked up two awards. First was the **Social Enterprise or Charity of the Year**. Later on in the evening they were awarded the **Large Business of the Year**.

There is a report in the December issue of Towpath Talk about the birthday party for *Peacock*.

Well that's about it for this month.

Neil