

Next Work Party

This will be held on Saturday October 20th. If you fancy joining us and haven't volunteered before we undertake tasks such as vegetation clearance, litter picking, painting and sometimes pulling rubbish out of the canal. Canal & River Trust provide us with all the safety and other equipment that we need. Meet at lock 13 (Crabtree Lane) from 10 am onwards.

Possibly the Metro stop at Edge Lane is nearer than the stop at Clayton Hall. If you use the former you will have to walk back down Manchester Road/Ashton New Road to Crabtree Lane which has an Aldi on the corner, perhaps some 600+ metres. The post code for other modes of transport is 76 Crabtree Lane, M11 4GU.

Celebration of Operation Ashton

Operation Ashton was the massed volunteer clearance of seven years of dumped rubbish from the canal section through Openshaw and Droylsden in September 1968. To celebrate this, 50 years later Manchester branch along with the Strawberry Duck at Lock 13 will be showing the film made at the time, in the pub during the Work Party. Why not drop in to see it ... and see the work being done down the locks by Manchester Branch volunteers whilst you are there. This is in addition to our showing of the film and 2 others at our October Open Meeting on 8th October.

Helping IWA Manchester Branch

'Operation Ashton' was a significant event in the campaign to reopen the Lower Peak Forest and Ashton Canals ultimately making it possible to cruise the 'Cheshire Ring' via the centre of Manchester. Although 'Operation Ashton' was 50 years ago the need to campaign for our waterways has never ceased. Maybe you were one of the volunteers that weekend, or any of the other working party's needed to keep the momentum going, who no longer feels able to wield a pick and shovel but still wants to do something to keep our canals open. Perhaps wielding a pen or keyboard instead, perhaps as a member of our Branch Committee, could be the ideal way to keep alive the spirit, not just the memory, of those volunteers who chose action all those years ago. For more information about what we do just talk to any member of our Committee who is present at this event.