Report Name	
Submitted by	Canal Group
Date	30th October

Report
The refurbished trailer is being used to transport scrap metal to raise funds for the branch. Donated items of scrap are sorted by our volunteers into steel, aluminum, copper etc and taken to Swindon - recently raising about £500. Donations of heavy scrap (NOT white goods etc) can be taken to the canal park on Wednesdays and Saturday mornings. The clearing of the bed of the canal within the park has revealed the remains of freshwater mussels, so we now know we have reached the original bottom. Further work will take place next summer to clear the banks especially near to Stainswick Lane. This work is needed because we need to replace the two culvert pipes which carry the water from the ditch on the south to the ditch on the north side of the canal. Chambers will be installed either side of the canal, with a larger pipe beneath. This ditch carries rain/flood water from fields/ditches on the south under the canal and onwards to a culvert beneath Longcot Road and into the Defence Academy Lakes etc and to Tuckmill Brook under the A420 and on to Tuckmill Meadow (SSSI) and the River Cole. This is all part of the Upper Thames Catchment Area. The work to replace the culvert is a major task and is a major project registered with the W&BC Trust. The estimated cost is C £20,000 so will not happen until we have raised sufficient funds - 2027/8/9? In the meantime this part of the canal we refill over the winter, the local scouts hope to canoe/paddle board! We hope to keep it topped up using our solar pumped facility from Tuckmill Brook (we have a licence for this). At Uffington Gorse forestry work /hedging etc continues apace. Also digging at the base of the canal bottom has reveal the original clay liner, (and a vast amounts of scrap metal and bottles of every shape and size!!!) We will also appreciate donations of bulbs (daffodils etc) to plant around the Park from any one who has some to spare.

Hope that helps, there is always more information on our website