

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name : .....

(Dr/Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms/Other) .....

Address .....

.....

..... Post Code .....

Telephone Number .....

E-mail .....

Age (If less than 18) .....

The annual membership subscriptions, which are payable from  
1<sup>st</sup> April each year, are :

Adult Membership £10

Family Membership £15

Junior Membership (16 – 18) £5

Group/Corporate Membership £25

Life Membership £100 per person.

Donations are always very much appreciated.

I/We apply for membership of SRL

Category ..... £ .....

I/We also make a donation of ... .. £ .....

TOTAL ..... £ .....

Please make cheques payable to – Stafford Riverway Link C.I.C.  
and send your payment with this form to :-

The Membership Secretary  
Stafford Riverway Link C.I.C.  
c/o Stafford Boat Club  
Maplewood  
Wildwood  
Stafford  
ST17 4SG

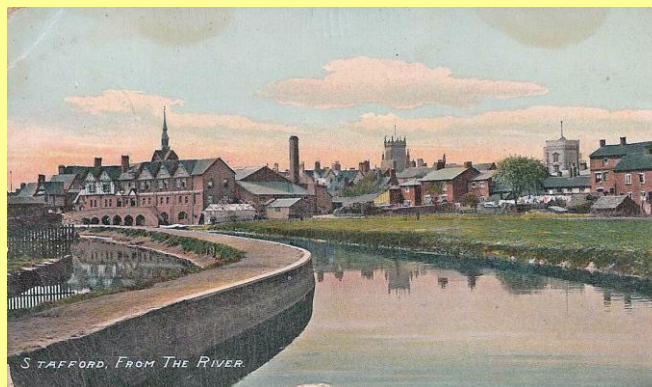
On receipt of this we will send you your membership card and a  
welcoming letter and we will keep you informed of progress.



THE REMAINS OF THE ROVING BRIDGE  
(With Bridge 101 in the background)

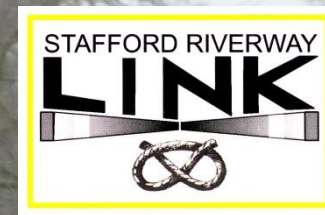
## HISTORY AND HERITAGE

Work started on the one-and-a-half mile navigation in 1811 to link Stafford Town Centre with the Staffordshire and Worcestershire Canal. It involved constructing a roving bridge, lock, aqueduct and short pound at Baswich, and straightening and deepening the River Sow. In the centre of Stafford, near Green Bridge, a coal wharf was built by digging out a short channel parallel to the river. The waterway opened in 1816 and was navigable until the 1920s. Although its main purpose was to carry “coals, lime and merchandise”, the waterway was also popular with pleasure boaters. It was owned by Lord Stafford and leased to the Staffordshire and Worcestershire Canal Company in 1838. The last lease expired in 1927.



The coal wharf and channel in Stafford were infilled in 1930 and is now a commercial site and multi storey car park. At Baswich, the roving bridge, lock and aqueduct survived until they were demolished in the 1970s, although traces of this bridge and the pound walls are still visible. The river channel, all the other bridges and most of the towpath into Stafford are still in place. Weir levels on the river have been changed as part of flood relief works, and the Rivers Sow and Penk have been realigned.

**ACCESS** The navigation forms the first part of Stafford Borough Council's Littleworth to Baswich Bridge Waterside Doorstep Walk and the towpath is used as a footpath. From Stafford Town Centre, River Sow at Green Bridge (Bridge Street, near the Civic Centre). Car Parking nearby. Part of this route has access for disabled people. Boaters can follow the route on foot from Bridge 101, or take a bus near Bridge 98 into Stafford Town Centre.



# STAFFORD RIVERWAY LINK

## A vital link for Stafford

Stafford Riverway Link  
Community Interest Company  
is a not for profit Company  
Limited by Guarantee  
Company Number 7093971

[www.stafford-riverway-link.co.uk](http://www.stafford-riverway-link.co.uk)



# WHY MAKE THE LINK

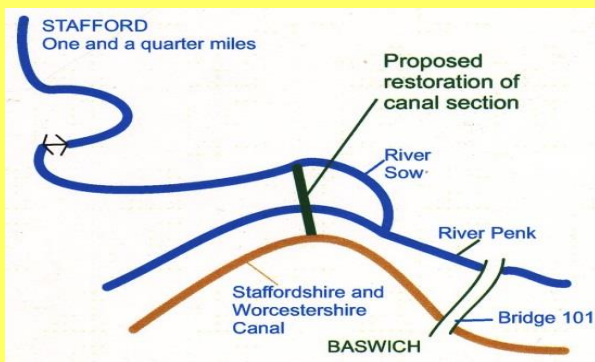
## *Our Aims and Objectives are :*

- To promote the restoration of the historic river and canal waterway linking the county town of Stafford to the national waterways network for the benefit of the community and all interested groups.
- To further the preservation, conservation and restoration of the SRL, and promote and stimulate public interest in wildlife and respecting its history.
- To establish partnerships with local authorities and other bodies that will facilitate this restoration.
- To raise funds, organise publicity and encourage other activities to promote this objective.



**ENTRANCE TO AQUEDUCT FROM THE BASIN 1968**

*(Photograph courtesy of Peter Freakley Collection – Staffs & Worcs Canal Society)*



# BENEFITS :

- Leisure
- Tourism
- Environment
- Economic Regeneration
- Heritage



**QUEENSWAY BRIDGE STAFFORD**

**Provide a destination and focus** from the Staffordshire and Worcestershire Canal at Baswich into Stafford and offer moorings for boaters to stop off in Stafford Town Centre where boaters could explore and use local facilities bringing welcome income for the local economy.

**Create a key leisure and social facility for Stafford** and give a focus to local regeneration. It would improve the quality of life by encouraging a wide range of leisure activities, including fishing, boating and photography. The towpath will enable cycling, walking and will have wheelchair access.



**THE WINDING CHANNEL OF THE RIVER SOW**

**Add tourism value** by creating a destination and new facilities with full access for the disabled, as well as boaters and their crews coming into Stafford. Riverside access and the presence of boats in the town centre will act as a magnet for visitors and tourists, which will in itself encourage job creation and economic regeneration.

**Enhance the local environment** through the protection and improvement to the natural features of the area. Nature conservation will be an important feature of the Link. The creation and management of wetlands will develop a high conservation value. Rivers and canals are valuable green corridors, especially through urban areas, allowing the movement of animals and the spread of flora and fauna.

**Make the area much more attractive to investors** and create new opportunities for commercial, leisure and possibly residential development in an urban waterside environment.

**Compliment wider regeneration schemes** by integrated planning between the local authority and County Council.

**Generate new employment opportunities** in the leisure industry through on site activities and within support services. Initially there would be short term construction jobs.

**Raise awareness of the rich industrial heritage of Stafford.** Stafford Riverway Link is part of our industrial heritage and as such is a valuable educational resource for the whole community, enabling a wide range of subjects to be studied, from industrial history to biology and environmental science.

All of this would significantly enhance the County Town of Stafford as a place of historical importance

**TO LIVE, TO WORK AND TO VISIT ... ..**

**THINK LINK !!**

