

We haven't got the water to fulfil canal dream

I READ with interest the letter extolling the many advantages of replacing the old canal system. Nothing would give me more pleasure than to see the old canal restored.

There is the same old problem that I keep repeating – there is insufficient water available for the town's use without the added problem of filling the canal.

This was to be accomplished by The Sustainable Urban Drainage system proposed by the developers of the Front Garden. The big

problem is, that it takes copious amounts of rainfall to achieve this. At the moment the evaporation rate is greater than the moisture going into the ground. We are looking at somewhere around 64,000,000 litres or 17m gallons to fill it as the proposal stands, without widening the canal through the town.

I have finally found out what the solution to our inadequate water supply of the future will be. The answer is to dig a vast 'dry' hole near Abingdon to be filled from the Thames. As the water flowing into

the hole will only fill it to the level of the existing water-table level, after which it seeps sideways, then I really don't think that it will be the solution to the problem unless the entire hole is lined with clay!

The other solution is to stop expanding Swindon beyond its natural resources and as that is driven by money not sense, I feel there is little chance of sanity!

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