

# AINA CASE STUDY

## CLIMATE CHANGE

### Going under cover at Stafford Boat Club



#### *Reusing an Olympic structure helps meet sustainability targets*

A retractable tunnel used to welcome athletes at the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games is now being used as a shelter for canal boat owners at Stafford Boat Club. The seven metre refurbished tunnel, which was located at the entrance to the basketball arena, now enables club members to carry out important maintenance on their boats without enduring bad or wet weather.

Stafford Boat Club, with 180 members, is situated on the Staffordshire and Worcestershire Canal and was formed in 1964. Over the years, it steadily developed a wide range of facilities, including a club house built entirely by its members, but never had anywhere for warm and dry working.

Club Commodore John Mountfort explained: “One of our members had suggested using a retractable tunnel as a temporary shelter and we decided that would be perfect because it could be pulled over the boats whilst being worked on and taken away afterwards. This was great timing since when we made enquiries, a company called Spaciotempo had only just got its specially made tunnels back from the Olympics.”

Uttoxeter-based Spaciotempo specialise in temporary structures and when they supplied the tunnels to the 2012 Games they had entered into an agreed buy back scheme which enabled them to meet Olympic sustainability targets. As part of a full refurbishment, the tunnel was widened by an extra metre to accommodate boat widths with enough room for the owners to work alongside. The 7 metre tunnel is made from PVC stretched over an aluminium frame and runs on rubber tyres filled with urethane to allow smooth and easy movement. When not in use it compresses to a depth of just one metre, which makes for easy storage.

The reuse of resources, materials and structures contributes to wider sustainability work and enables waterway projects to address climate change across a varied range of work.

Further information is available at [www.spaciotempo.co.uk/pdfs/stafford-boat-club.pdf](http://www.spaciotempo.co.uk/pdfs/stafford-boat-club.pdf)