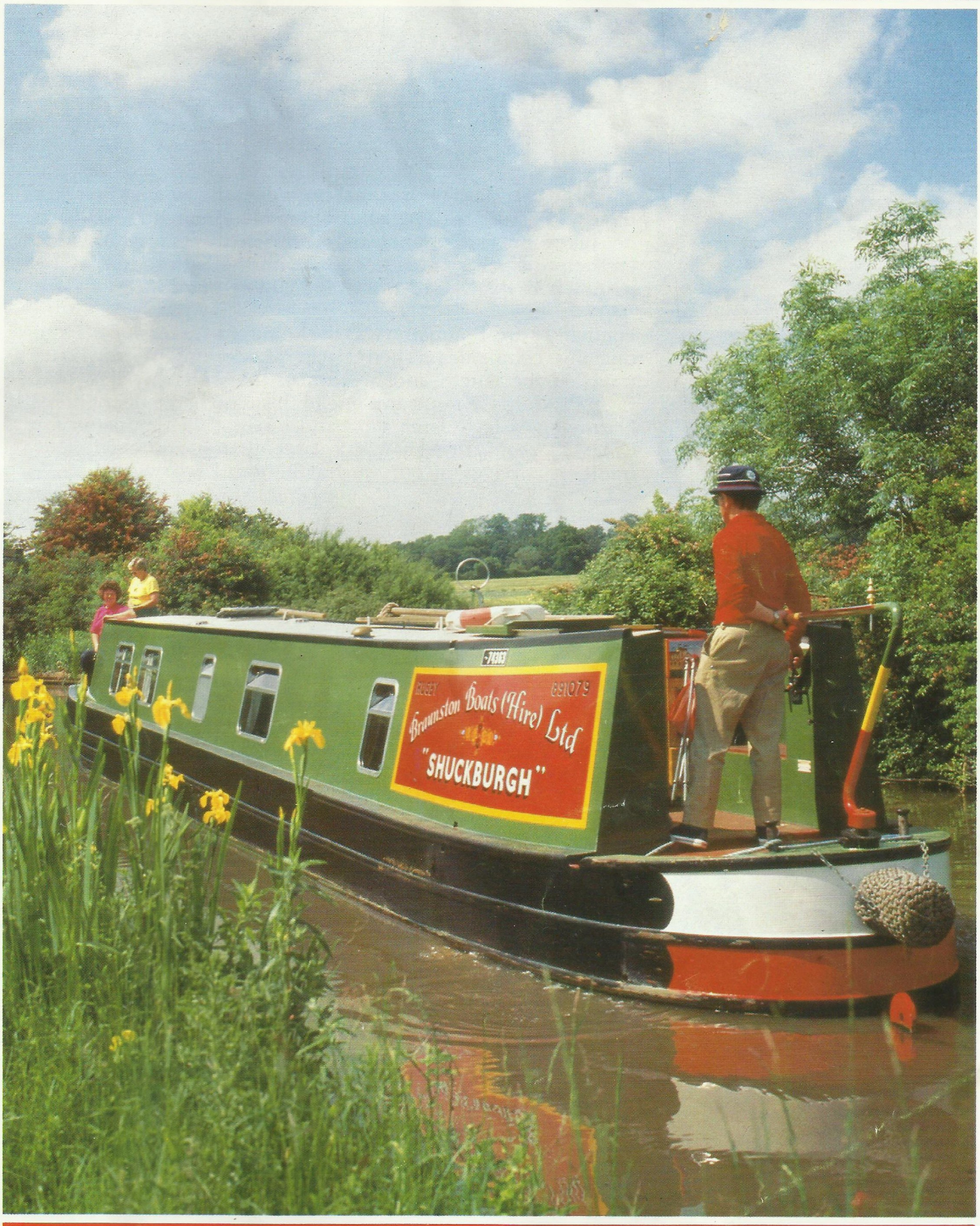


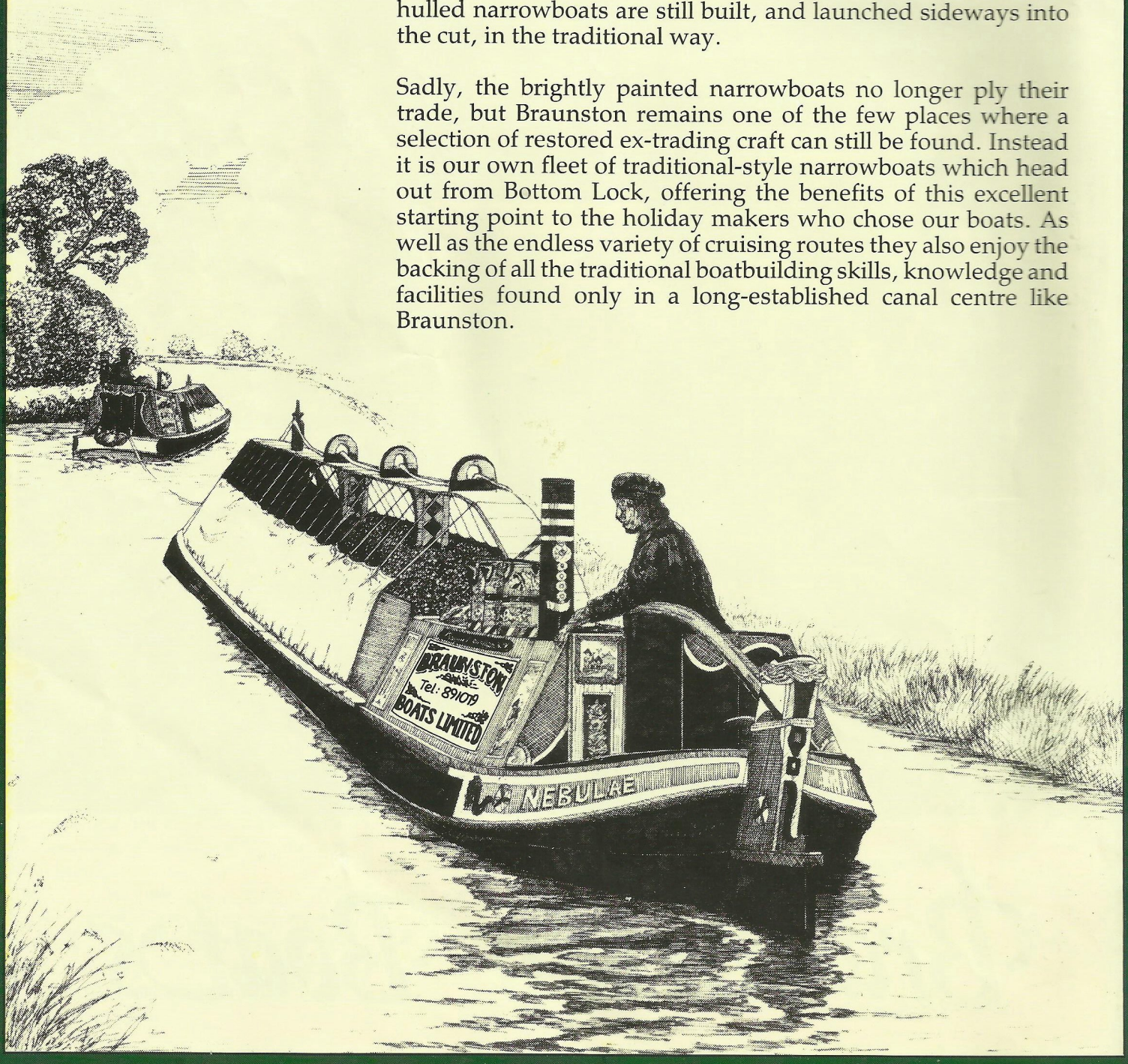
Braunston Boats

Braunston Boats Ltd.

Since the very start of the canal era, when the navvies first dug their way across the English countryside, Braunston has been one of the most important canal centres in the country. It stands on the principal crossroad of all the north-south routes, at the point where the Oxford and Grand Union canals meet.

For many years Braunston was the home of a succession of large carrying companies. Their fleets of working narrowboats travelled the length and breadth of the waterway network. Even Pickfords, a familiar name to this day, had a depot here. Narrowboats have been built and repaired in Braunston for over 150 years, first of wood, later of iron and steel. This tradition survives in our yard at Bottom Lock, where steel-hulled narrowboats are still built, and launched sideways into the cut, in the traditional way.

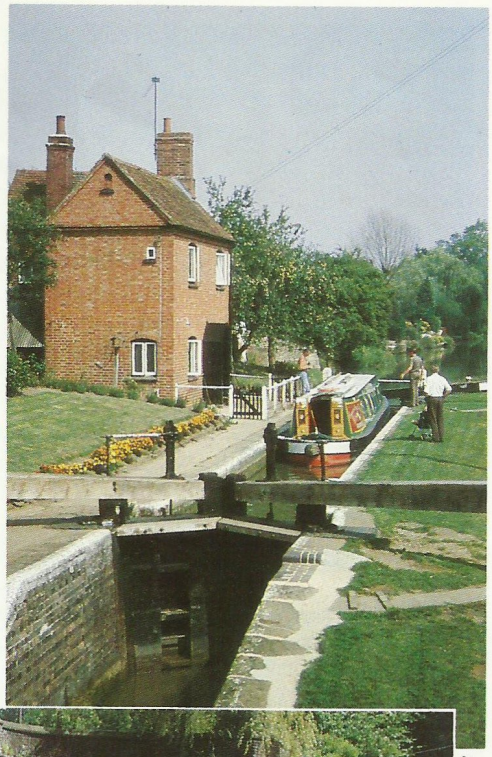
Sadly, the brightly painted narrowboats no longer ply their trade, but Braunston remains one of the few places where a selection of restored ex-trading craft can still be found. Instead it is our own fleet of traditional-style narrowboats which head out from Bottom Lock, offering the benefits of this excellent starting point to the holiday makers who chose our boats. As well as the endless variety of cruising routes they also enjoy the backing of all the traditional boatbuilding skills, knowledge and facilities found only in a long-established canal centre like Braunston.



Why a Waterway Holiday?

The Inland Waterways of England have cast their spell over many thousands of people of all ages, nationalities and backgrounds. These canals and rivers offer a unique, tranquil but active means of exploring backwater Britain, taking your own luxurious floating home with you all the time.

There's something for everyone in a canal holiday, and from Braunston in particular we offer an unrivalled collection of varied cruising routes to suit all levels of energy and tastes. Eat out or barbecue in, cruise or snooze, pub berth or "desert island" moorings; the freedom is yours to go as you please and make it your type of holiday. No small booklet could ever hope to convey the tremendous atmosphere and potential of the waterways. Suffice to say perhaps that the vast majority of newcomers are hooked for ever by the experience of a canal holiday and return time after time.



Cropredy Lock, South Oxford Canal

Why Braunston?

Nearly all our customers are established canal addicts, either as regular Braunston customers or as converts from other areas or fleets. We're proud of the high percentage of repeat business we achieve, and of the large number of new clients originating either from personal recommendation or from seeing one of our boats out cruising. We regard the boats and our customers as roving envoys and our best form of advertising, and both are looked after accordingly.



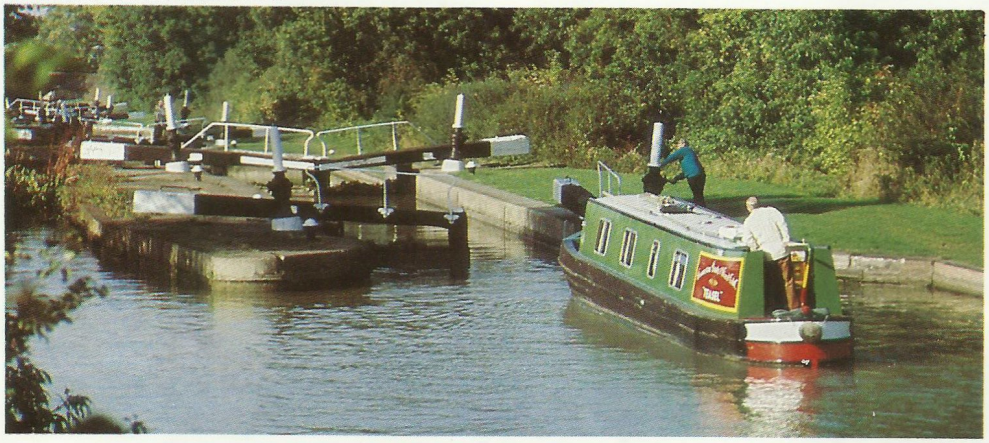
""Flecknoe prepares to burrow into Harecastle tunnel."

Newcomers to the canals are no less welcome. Our location at Bottom Lock allows us to give thorough tuition in lock-working and boat handling so that you start your holiday confident, not only that you have made the best choice of fleet, but also that you have the knowledge to handle your boat competently.

Braunston Boats took over the Bottom Lock yard in 1968 with the demise of the famous Willow Wren canal carrying fleet. Since then Braunston Boats and its associated concerns have been noted for the construction and operation of top quality narrowboats both for commercial as well as cruising purposes.

Our present fleet of thirteen boats has been built totally "in house" by us, starting from a pile of steel plates and a stack of timber, so we know them inside out. Build quality is well in excess of the norm for hire craft, outwardly visible in the quality of design, finish and equipment, but also present in many less obvious ways. There is a high level of equipment standardisation, allowing efficient spares stocking and easy repair. Systems such as electrical wiring are standardised. Structures are extremely sturdily designed for reliable service.

Stockton Locks on the Grand Union Canal



In short, every boat has been specifically and carefully designed for its precise purpose, utilising our knowledge and skills as boat builders, repairers and canal enthusiasts resulting from a close involvement with the industry since 1968.

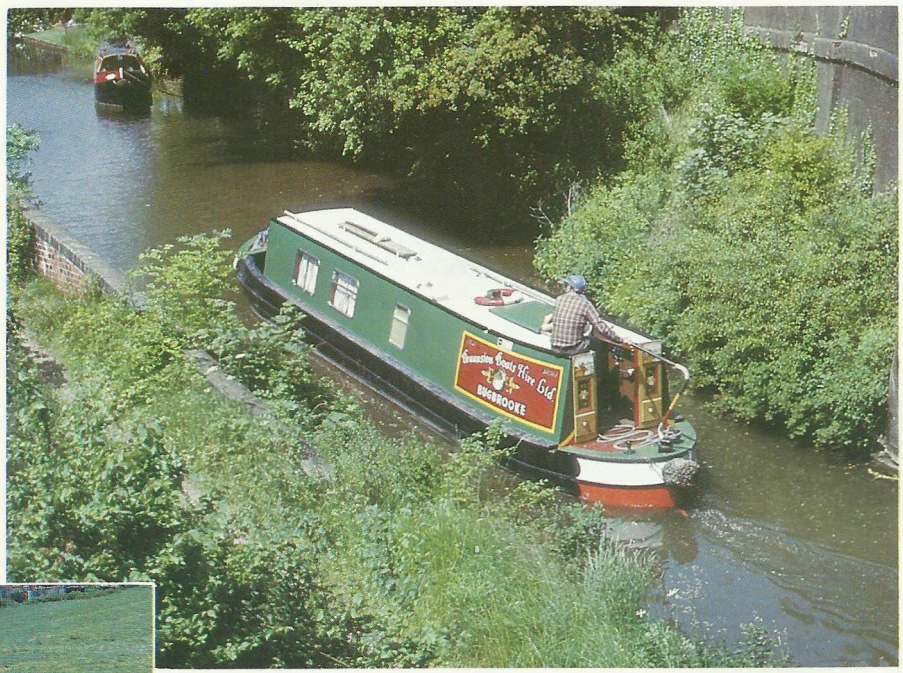
Our commitment to our customers is no less firm.....

Before your holiday we will be pleased to assist in any way possible with your planning, from airport collection for overseas clients through to choosing cruising routes and stocking your boat with groceries.

You really won't do better than a "Boatman"

Once aboard, you will find that every boat carries a comprehensive boat manual which includes information on all necessary aspects of the boat and notes on navigation and lock working. In case you need help or advice, we supply a list of telephone numbers. Unlike most other fleet operators this list includes our Directors' and engineer's home and mobile numbers as well; we are on duty and available "all waking hours!" and our answering machine is only rarely used.

Perhaps not surprisingly, in view of our Managing Director's second profession of Marine Surveyor, we place a high emphasis on safety. We were amongst the first to discard gas refrigerators in favour of electric units. All boats are fitted with gas leak detectors.





Every boat has a permanently fitted anchor for river work. Fire retardant foam materials are used for mattresses and insulation. We constantly monitor the latest standards and update our fleet accordingly.

When you book a Braunston Boat you can do so in the confident knowledge that you are dealing with professionals who understand the boats, the canal system and your needs. The Braunston ***Boatman*** class narrowboats are recognised throughout the Midlands as superlative boats, and because the fleet is small enough to be under the personal supervision of the Directors, our overheads are also much less than the larger multi-based fleets, so you get the best possible value for money.



"Thistle"

You really won't do better than a ***Boatman***, but if you have any doubts at all do come and see for yourself. We will be pleased to show you our boats at almost any time, but please ring first to make sure the boat is in.

What about the boats?



Alfresco repast aboard "Shuckburgh". Photographed by Roy J. Westlake

Built along traditional lines and to proper boatbuilding standards, all our ***Boatman*** class vessels handle beautifully, swim cleanly and look superb.

Power is supplied by reliable, water-cooled diesel engines, carefully installed to minimise noise and vibration.

All boats have the most modern Mansfield fresh-water flushing toilets, with large capacity holding tanks. Top-up supplies of toilet fluid are provided.

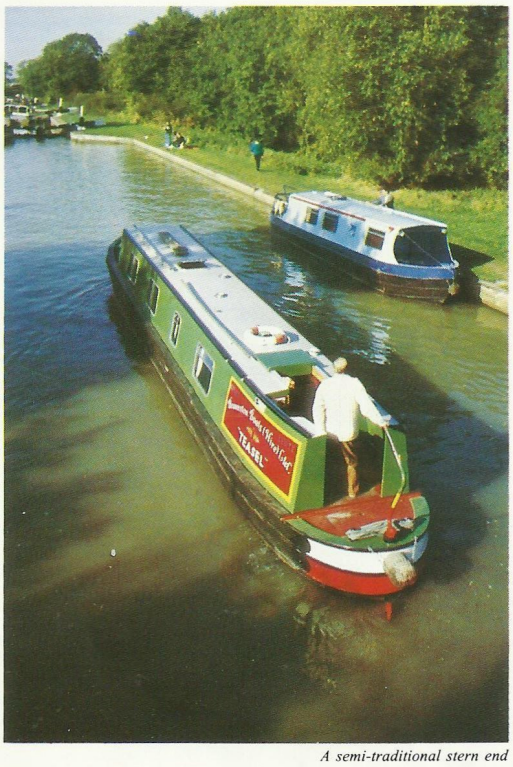
Heavy duty 12 volt electrical systems are used, with split circuits for starting and lighting just in case! 240 volt shaver sockets are standard fitment throughout the fleet, while colour televisions are supplied free of charge, subject to availability. Some boats also have 240 volt 1500 watt inverters, allowing the use of a hairdryer, toaster and iron etc. All our boats can also be supplied with special 100 watt inverters for charging mobile phones, camcorder batteries etc.

Galleys are spacious, with large worktop areas, four-burner cookers with grill and oven, stainless steel sinks and efficient electric refrigerators. An excellent variety of quality crockery and utensils completes a comprehensive inventory. Many galleys also have roof sun-hatches to provide additional ventilation and light.

All boats have excellent forward cockpits capable of seating the entire crew, and on most a table can be set up outside as well.



"Swan"



A semi-traditional stern end

All boats have additional centre mooring lines for easier locking.

At least one berth on every boat is fitted with a canvas cot-side, for babies or toddlers. A lashing ring is also provided in each forward cockpit for baby harness, dog lead or skipper's restraints - for use during opening hours!

Interiors are heavily insulated and thoughtfully lined, for the most part in natural timber. This not only makes them easy to warm on cooler days, but also eliminates condensation problems. All the boats have full radiator central heating, with hot water supplied by large indirect storage cylinders, similar to the average domestic system. These ensure full pressure hot water for powerful showers, and the showers themselves are the latest sit-down or stand shower-bath type.

Every boat has a large capacity water tank and carries ample fuel and gas for normal cruising.

An initial stock of washing-up liquid, cloths and other kitchen and bathroom necessities is already aboard the boats at the start of each holiday. If we receive a list in advance we will also be pleased to organise grocery and off-licence requirements for you before you arrive.



Berths are a minimum of 6'2" long, but usually much longer, with top-quality foam mattresses. We supply quality full-size continental quilts and sheets on all boats.

One well-behaved dog or cat can be carried free of charge . . . though we do like to see the pet's bed going aboard too!



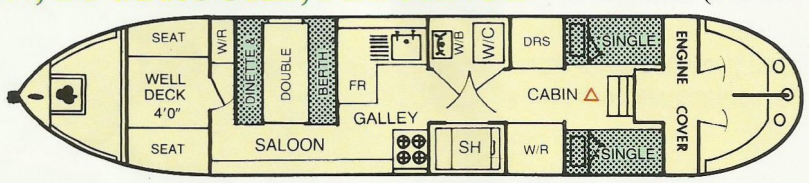
"Newbold" on the Thames near Goring

This table shows, at a glance, some of the principal features of our ***Boatman*** narrowboats. Details of start days (Friday or Saturday) and weekly hire rates are given on the accompanying Hire Rate Sheet and Booking Form, as are our Conditions of Hire and Cancellation Insurance Scheme, which you are advised to read.
Please note that exact facilities can vary, since we are continually endeavouring to improve our boats. Successful features on the newest boats are often retrospectively fitted to earlier craft.

Feat Gu

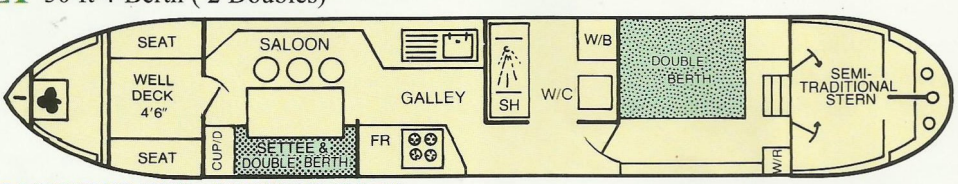
Feature	NORTON	BUGBROOKE	FLECKNOE	LILY
Total berthage (see plans below for configuration):	4	4	4	4
Overall length to nearest foot:	42	42	44	50
Quiet water-cooled diesel:	Leyland	Leyland	Leyland	Perkins
Steering position; semi-traditional or other:				S/Trad
Steering position; traditional short stern deck:	✓	✓	✓	
Freshwater flush, pump-out toilet/s:	One	One	One	One
Radiator central heating:	✓	✓	✓	✓
Hot water from storage cylinder:	✓	✓	✓	✓
Shower bath/s:	One	One	One	One
Half-glazed forward bulkhead:	✓	✓	✓	✓
Skylight over galley:			✓	✓
Colour television (gratis, subject to availability):	✓	✓	✓	✓
Electric Fridge:	✓	✓	✓	✓
Table fits in well deck:			✓	✓
6'3" headroom	✓	✓	✓	✓
Dralon or cloth berth cushions:	✓	✓	✓	✓
Gas leak detector fitted:	✓	✓	✓	✓
Duvets, sheets and two pillows per berth provided:	✓	✓	✓	✓
Generous water storage tank:	✓	✓	✓	✓
1500 watt/240 volt inverter for domestic appliances.				✓
Carpets fitted:				✓

NORTON, BUGBROOKE, FLECKNOE* 42 ft 4-Berth (1 Double/2 Singles or 2 Doubles)

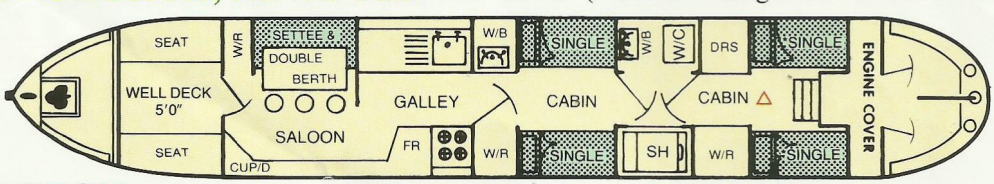


Flecknoe is 44' long and has a saloon/galley layout as *Dunchurch*

LILY 50 ft 4-Berth (2 Doubles)

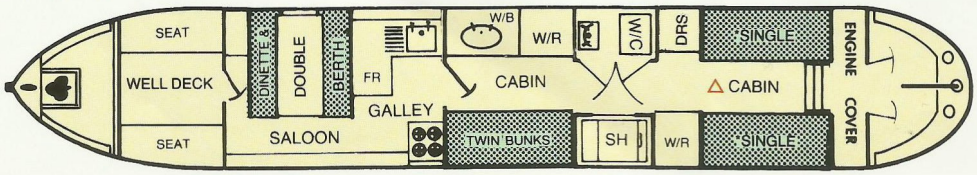


DUNCHURCH, NEWBOLD 52 ft 6-Berth (1 Double/4 Singles or 2 Doubles/2 Singles)



NB: The paired single berths in some stern cabins (marked with a small triangle) can be converted to double berths if required.

NAPTON 52 ft 6-Berth (1 Double/4 Singles or 2 Doubles/2 Singles)



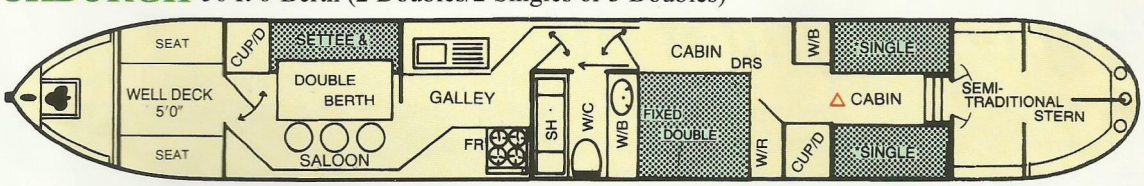
SH: Shower-Bath W/C: Toilet W/B: Wash Basin DRS:

ures
ide

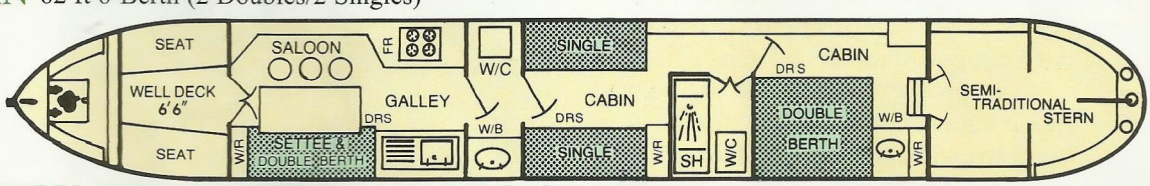
Please note: We regret that ***Boatman*** class narrowboats are not available for charter to single-sex parties. Well-behaved pets can be carried free of charge. All boats can now be fitted, on request, with 100 watt 12 volt inverters using cigar lighter adaptors for charging mobile phones and camcorder batteries. Some boats also have 1500 watt 240 volt inverters, as indicated on the chart below. **We have always believed that our boats are our finest advertisement, and we welcome inspection at any time.**

NAPTON	DUNCHURCH	NEWBOLD	SHUCKBURGH	SWAN	HILLMORTON	BUCKBY	BUCKINGHAM	THISTLE
6	6	6	6	6	8	8	8	8
52	52	52	56	62	62	62	62	65
Leyland	Leyland	Leyland	Leyland S/Trad	Perkins S/Trad	Leyland	Leyland Open	Leyland S/Trad	Perkins S/Trad
✓	✓	✓			✓			
One	One	One	One	Two	Two	Two	Two	Two
✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
One	One	One	One	One	Two	Two	Two	Two
✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
		✓	✓	✓			✓	✓
✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
				✓				
	Saloon			✓				

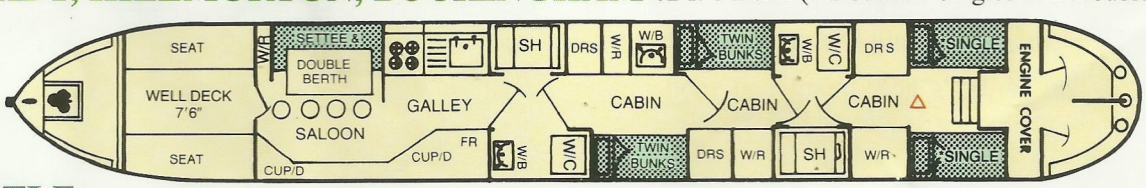
SHUCKBURGH 56 ft 6-Berth (2 Doubles/2 Singles or 3 Doubles)



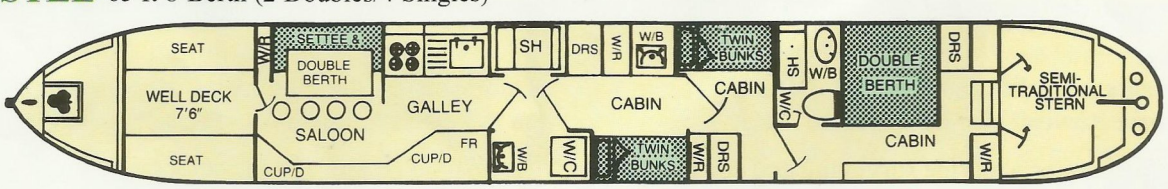
SWAN 62 ft 6-Berth (2 Doubles/2 Singles)



BUCKBY, HILLMORTON, BUCKINGHAM 62 ft 8-Berth (1 Double/6 Singles or 2 Doubles/4 Singles)



THISTLE 65 ft 8-Berth (2 Doubles/4 Singles)



35,000.

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rawers CUP/D: Cupboard FR: Fridge W/R: Wardrobe

Don't just take our word . . .

We receive many letters from customers - these are just a few.

Puaikura Reef Lodges

COOK ISLANDS
Telephone 23-537
Fax (682) 21-537
HOSTS: PAUL & SUSAN WILSON

Balliol and Estelle Fowden
Brauston Boats (Hire) Ltd
Bottom Lock
Brauston
Northamptonshire NN11 7HL
UNITED KINGDOM

Kia Orana

Susan and I were sorry that we missed you when we returned "Flecknoe" on the 27 May, however we have now arrived back home in Rarotonga with a lot of happy memories of our 11 week trip and in particular must say that the Canal cruising was the high point of our whole trip.

We must say how pleased we were with the way that "Flecknoe" was turned out, as you can guess coming from this part of the world without any knowledge of canal cruising at all, how extremely helpful you and your staff were.

Please find enclosed some Cook Island stamps packs and our $ 3.00 notes, could you pass these onto Colin for us.

There is another couple and our selves that are thinking very seriously of doing a 12/14 day canal cruise August 1994, could you send us your thoughts of routes on a 12/14 day trip and while I appreciate that August 1994 is still 14 months away approx costs, we feel looking at your brochure that the "Shuckburgh" would be a good site.

Once again many thanks.

Paul Wilson

p.s. It's winter here and the temp is 28c.

"Sorry that we missed you when we returned 'Flecknoe', however we have now arrived back home with a lot of happy memories of our 11 week trip . . . the canal cruising was the high point. We must say how pleased we were with the way 'Flecknoe' was turned out . . . and how extremely helpful you and your staff were."

Penzance,
Cornwall.
TR19 6DW

Dear Mr. Fowden,

NB Bugbrooke

Thankyou for the cheque representing the returned damage deposit. We had an excellent holiday and, as I said to you last Saturday we agree with your slogan "Braunston Boats are Best".

of my crew when clearing up packed your Brasso and duster (tiller polishing for the) for which my apologies.

ope to see you again. Very best wishes.

s sincerely,

"We had an excellent holiday . . . and agree with your slogan "Braunston Boats are Best."

Chilbolton
Stockbridge
SO20 6AU

Ms. R. Fowden
Braunston Boats (Hire) Ltd.
Bottom Lock
Braunston
Daventry
Northants
NN11 7HL

Dear Ms. Fowden

In acknowledging receipt of your cheque for £60.00 security deposit refund, I should like to say very briefly how impressed my wife and I were with the standards of your company.

Having been annual visitors to the Norfolk Broads for around 25 years, we have seen both good and bad hire companies; on this occasion - our first canal holiday - we were very happy indeed both with the quality of finish on Newbold, and with the service deployed when we had a minor technical problem.

All the personnel we met made us feel welcome, and I certainly feel you are to be congratulated on your operation.

With best wishes
Yours sincerely,

John K. Byfield

"we were very happy indeed both with the quality of finish on 'Newbold', and with the service . . . all the personnel we met made us feel welcome, and I certainly feel you are to be congratulated on your operation."

Edinburgh EH4 5EX

Dear Mr Fowden,

This is in appreciation for our rental of your boat 'Thistle' last week. It was the best-appointed boat we have rented - we particularly appreciated the central heating and the great showers. We noted the refinements like the easy gas change-over and the provision of two poles. Keep up the good work!

Yours sincerely,

Mark Sykes

PS You gain yet further in our estimation by making an exception and refunding our deposit. That's the way to build customer loyalty!

"This is in appreciation for our rental of your boat 'Thistle' last week. It was the best appointed boat we have rented."

SUTTON COLDFIELD
W. Midlands B75 7TP

Dear Sir/Madam,

Having just enjoyed a week on 'Hillmorton' ending today, I would like to congratulate you on the state of the boat and every item on it.

Usually, we take out cutlery etc and give the things a quick wash before use, but all the items here positively sparkled, and it was a delight. We were really impressed.

With thanks,

Yours faithfully,

N. A. Courtney

(Bishop Vesey's Grammar School 1963)

"Having just enjoyed a week on 'Hillmorton' I would like to congratulate you on the state of the boat and every item on it. We were really impressed."

Customer Satisfaction Survey form from Blakes Holidays.

CUSTOMER SATISFACTION SURVEY

Please enter your Booking Reference No. 296287/04 and Cottage/Boat Name "SWAN" BRAUNSTON BOAT HIRE
AND TICK THE RELEVANT COLUMN

	Excellent	Good	Adequate	Poor
Brochure Description	✓			
Reservation Service	✓			
Welcome on Arrival	✓			
Cleanliness of Accommodation	✓			
Quality of Furnishings & Fittings	✓			
Value for Money	✓			

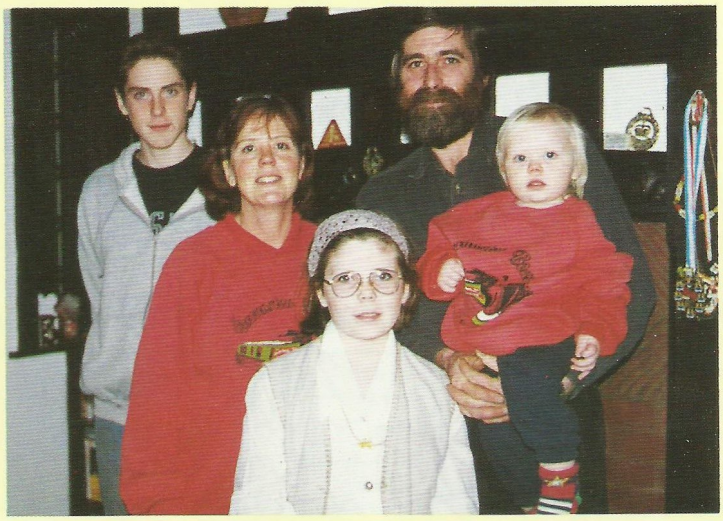
Would you recommend a Blakes Holiday to a friend? Yes ☑ No ☐

ADDITIONAL COMMENT THE BOAT WAS EXCELLENT.

"The boat was excellent!"

The People Behind it All:

Balliol & Estelle Fowden. Balliol's involvement with the waterways goes back to 1968, starting with hire cruisers and horse drawn barges and developing through boat building and repairing to his present principal preoccupations of narrowboat hire and marine survey work. Balliol led the field in narrowboat repairing, carrying out major restorations of many historic vintage trading craft and inspiring the trend for narrowboat lengthening as the marine equivalent to home extensions! In boatbuilding, his new narrowboats were well known for innovation and high quality, and his last achievement before retiring from retail boatbuilding was to design and build the first successful narrow-beam British-built Dutch barge replicas.



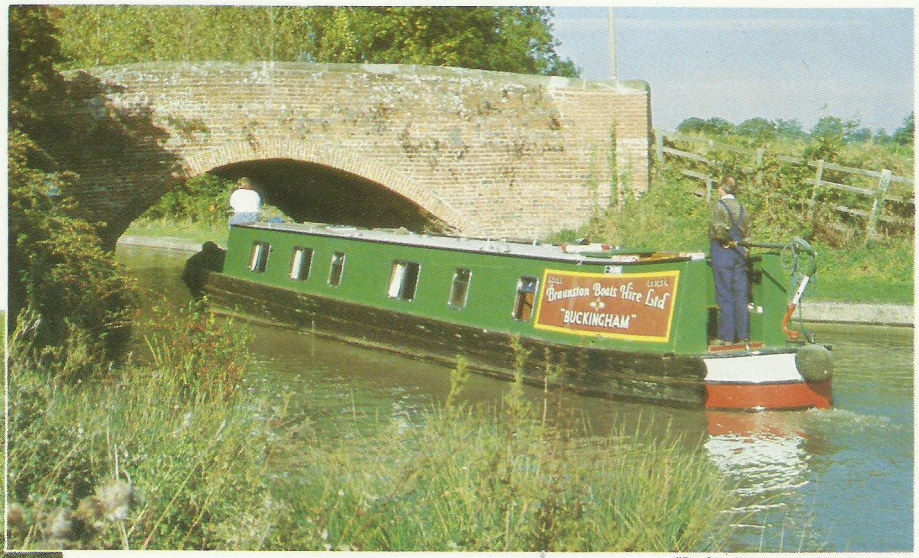
Estelle has been Balliol's accountant and moderating influence throughout the operation of their businesses, shouldering the ever-increasing administrative workload and managing the domestic side of the hire fleet. Estelle has also exerted a strong influence on interior designs and equipment; our customers often comment on the tastefully chosen fabrics and high quality fittings in the boats.

Son ***Russell*** started life living afloat, has steered narrowboats almost from the cradle and is now part of the Saturday workforce, where Rowena also lends a hand. Peter, the latest addition to the team, remains a spectator for the time being.

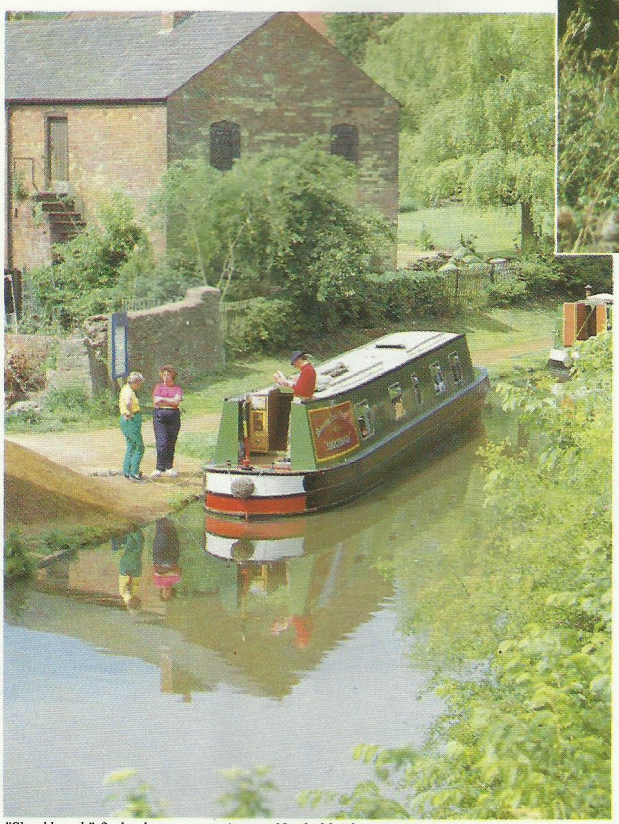
Balliol also operates a marine surveying and consultancy business; Anglo European Marine Surveys.

We take pride in our fleet and we hope it shows. Certainly, our regular clients frequently pass on the favourable comments they have overheard from fellow canal travellers.

A ***Boatman*** is a narrowboat you will be proud to be seen aboard - and reluctant to leave!



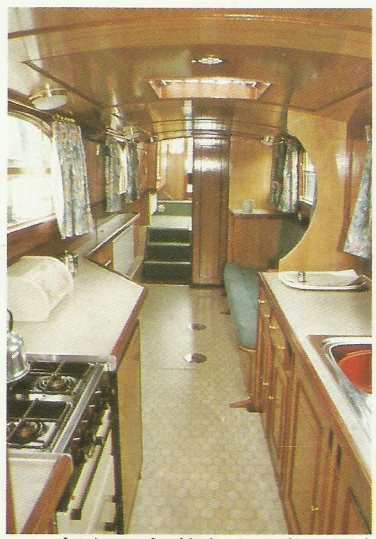
"Buckingham" above Stockton Locks



"Shuckburgh" finds pleasant moorings at Newbold. Photo: Roy J. Westlake

In our boats we have tried to achieve that elusive mix of traditional appeal and modern practicality. We believe we have come closer to that ideal than any other company currently offering narrowboats for hire.

All our boats have been built by us in recent years and they constitute one of the highest quality hire fleets afloat anywhere in the UK. We are constantly assessing new ideas and innovations, which we incorporate across the fleet whenever feasible to ensure that Braunston's ***Boatman*** narrowboats remain at the forefront of latest thinking.



Interiors are hand built using quality materials

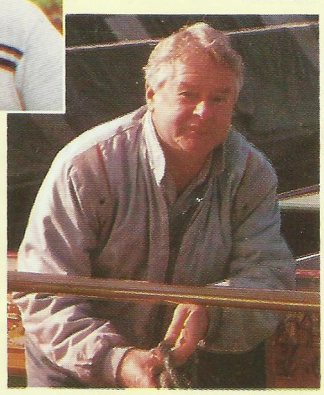
Mick Whitlock. Mick's family connections with the canals go back well before the present pleasure boat era. Mick himself was brought up on the family's *Blue Line* pair running coal to the "Jam 'ole" in Southall until 1971, so he is well qualified to instruct on narrowboat handling. He is also in charge of maintenance, service and general back-up for the Braunston fleet.

Mechanical failures can happen, just as our clients have been known to bend the odd rudder or break a window. Whatever the problem, either Mick or Balliol will be on call to render prompt, friendly and effective assistance should you need it.

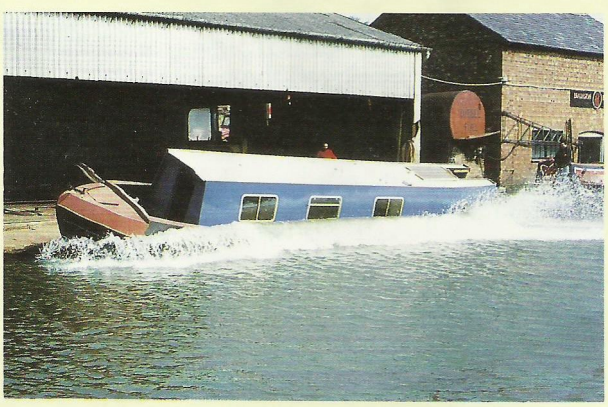


Mick Whitlock

Colin Lister



Chris & Ann look after the day-to-day running of the office, laundry, the cleaning taskforce and the thousand and one other little matters that contribute towards a perfect holiday.



Chris and Ann



"Norton" is launched from the yard at Bottom Lock.

Colin Lister has been our stalwart assistant for many years now. He is a keen holiday boater and an experienced member of our turnround team.

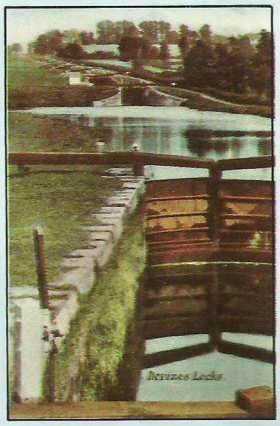
Where can we go?

Braunston is beautifully situated at the hub of the South Midlands waterways, and you could easily become a friend for years with the variety of routes available to you from our boatyard at Bottom Lock.

Though the hustle and bustle of commercial boating has ceased, Braunston remains one of the busiest canal centres in the country. Our boatyard lies amid the historical buildings of 'old' Braunston, where the working boats were (and occasionally still are) built and traditions were begun. The technicolour splendour of traditional paintwork, the glint of burnished brass and the intricate knotwork of cotton rope: all survive to evoke the spirit of the past. What better setting for the start of a memorable holiday?

Three principal canal junctions lie only a few hours' cruising from our base: Napton, Norton and, of course, Braunston itself. From such beginnings even our most regular customers can be sure of finding a new route for each visit. Some of the most popular one-week cruises are described here, though a two week holiday broadens horizons considerably.

Our boats are licensed for all the 2,000 or more miles of canal controlled by British Waterways. On waterways governed by other authorities, including the rivers Nene, Thames, Avon and Wey, additional licence fees may be incurred.



WARWICKSHIRE RING

(94 locks, 105 miles, 3 tunnels)

Cruise in circles and navigate the Warwickshire Ring, seeing both sides of the waterways world. This one-way route not only passes through some very beautiful countryside, but also affords a glimpse into the canal's industrial past. A day or so can be spent amid the industrial heartland of the 'Black Country'; not a prospect to be viewed with trepidation, but an experience that shouldn't be missed!

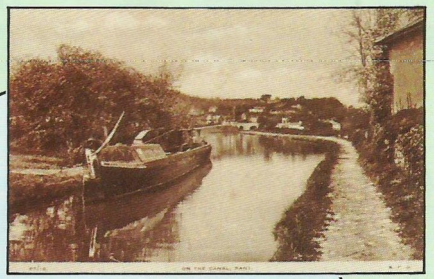
OXFORD

(78 locks, 110 miles)

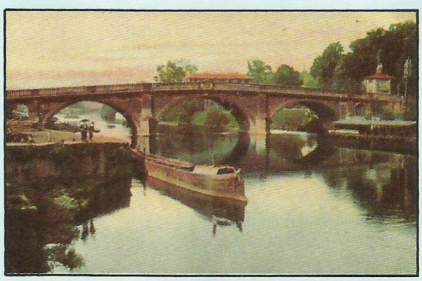
The southern Oxford Canal is arguably one of Britain's most picturesque waterways. It meanders gently through mile upon mile of unspoilt countryside and past a string of quaint mellow-stoned Cotswold villages. Punctuated by an abundance of charming country pubs and restaurants, and with the added attractions of the historic university city of Oxford as an objective, if offers a very varied and relaxing route for a week's holiday. For the historically minded the canal also passes conveniently close to several stately homes, including Blenheim Palace and Rousham House, and Banbury, midway along the route, is useful for supplies.

Llangollen

Brecon



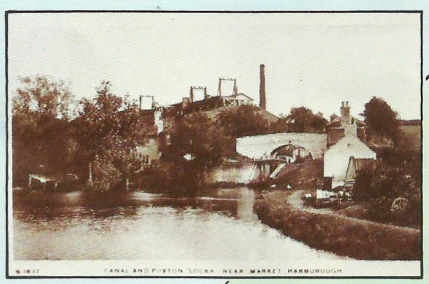
The illustrations on these pages are reduced reproductions of Victorian and early Edwardian picture postcards.



TWO WEEKS?

Given two weeks a whole variety of circular and one-way trips become possible. The Thames Ring *(175 lks, 261 m)*, through Oxford and London and back up the Grand Union, is possible for fairly energetic crews, though requires an extra river licence. The Leicestershire Ring *(100 lks, 152 m)*, which encompasses the River Soar, Trent & Mersey and Coventry Canals, offers a particularly attractive mix of river and canal cruising with the option on several brief detours along arms and other waterways.

Two week return trips could include destinations as far afield as Lechlade or Henley on the Thames, Nottingham, Peterborough, Central London or the splendid Caldon Canal.



ASHBY

(8 locks, 92 miles, 2 tunnels)

Are you inherently lazy? If you are then look no further than Snarestone at the top end of the 21 delightful and lock-free miles of the Ashby Canal. In an entire week you need work through only eight locks, yet have free range over almost a hundred miles of essentially rural waterway. There's much to see on the way too, including the tastefully presented battlefield at Bosworth and a steam railway at Shackerstone. With time to spare there's a further thirty-odd miles of level pound to explore, including the short arm to Coventry, with its famous cathedrals.

LEICESTER

(94 locks, 95 miles, 4 tunnels)

The remote Leicester Section of the Grand Union Canal is justly famous for its abundant wildlife and fine pastoral surroundings. Long tunnels and the intriguing Watford and Foxton staircase locks add cruising interest, while a detour along the rustic Welford Arm is a must. The town of Market Harborough makes a convenient mid-week destination, though the wide-locked descent towards Leicester and the River Soar offers alternative turning points.

LEIGHTON BUZZARD

(54 locks, 96 miles, 2 tunnels)

The highlight of this trip along the Grand Union Canal might well be the fascinating Waterways Museum at Stoke Bruerne, though others might vote for Braunston and Blisworth tunnels! But why not make a detour down the short five-mile Northampton Arm? This is a gem of a canal which sparkles with some of the clearest waters on the system and boasts magnificent views over the Nene valley.

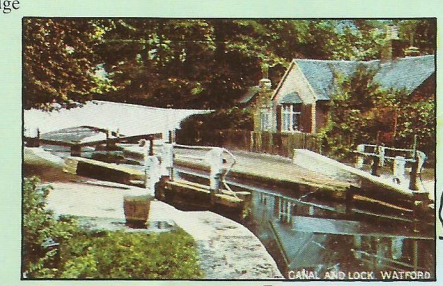
Junctions

Broad Beam — Narrow Beam

Navigable Waterways

Under Restoration

(Un-navigable as through route)



STRATFORD

(162 locks, 78 miles, 1 tunnel)

Surrender to culture — visit Shakespeare Country! A cruise to Stratford-upon-Avon and back, via Warwick, could include visits to Warwick Castle, Anne Hathaway's Cottage, the RSC Theatre or the stately pump rooms of Regency Leamington Spa. It will also be hard work too, labouring through over 150 locks, but most are in flights and over half are broad. Not for the faint hearted though!

We are always happy to hear from our customers. If we can be of any service while you are considering your route please feel free to contact us. We will be pleased to offer advice and chat about the canals we love. We can also supply a range of cruising guides to help with your planning and the enjoyment of your holiday.



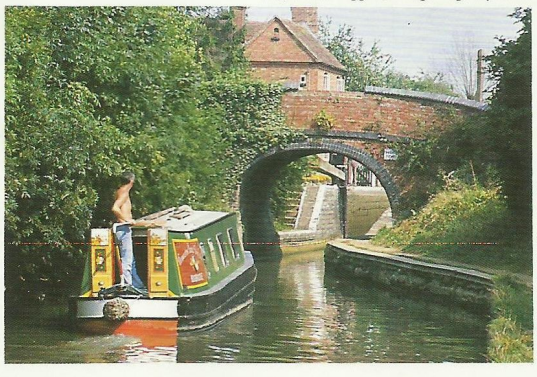
"Buckby" at "The Boat", Stockton

Be careful! If possible, always try to see your boat before confirming a booking. Our boats are available for inspection at almost any time. Please telephone to check that the boat is not out on hire and we will be pleased to show you round.





"Bugbrooke" approaching Cropredy Lock



Associated Companies:

If you need more than eight berths, our associated company; **Willow Wren Hire Cruisers Limited** in Rugby, operates a fleet of 10-12 berth narrowboats that are ideal for groups, schools and clubs. All-male and all-female parties are welcome on these boats. We can arrange to have a Willow Wren colour brochure sent to you on request. Do remember, however, that **no narrowboat** is large enough to be properly luxurious for more than eight people. If you need space and comfort for more than eight you would be well advised to consider two boats.

How to find us in Braunston . . .

Braunston lies mid way between Daventry and Dunchurch on the main A45 Northampton to Coventry road. Turn off the A45 soon after crossing the canal (from either direction) and join the High Street, rising up into the village. Follow the road through Braunston for approximately three quarters of a mile. A narrow lane down to the right, signposted "Little Braunston", leads to the approach road for Bottom Lock. From here there are signs which will guide you to our base.

Arriving from the A361 Daventry-Leicester road, the turning down Dark Lane is the first on the left as you enter Braunston, approximately a mile and a half from the main road.

Anglo European Marine Surveys provides a marine survey and consultancy service, specialising in narrowboats and Dutch barges, working anywhere between Truro and Terschelling. If you graduate to boat ownership, Balliol will be pleased to assist with considered professional advice.

Braunston Boats (Hire) Ltd
Bottom Lock, Braunston,
Northamptonshire, NN11 7HL
Tel: 01788-891079
Fax: 01788-891934

