

## INTRODUCTION

This guide has been produced by the Anglian Region of the Environment Agency and provides useful information for people wishing to navigate the Rivers Nene, Great Ouse, Ancholme, Welland, Glen, Stour and the Middle Level System. Every effort has been made to ensure that the information contained in this guide is accurate, but no liability can be accepted for any errors, inaccuracies or omissions.



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## ENVIRONMENT AGENCY NAVIGATION STRATEGY

The National Navigation Strategy was published in the last quarter of 1993 and is one of a series of documents setting out aims and objectives, and the means by which they will be achieved, across all the Agency's core functions.

The principal aim is to maintain and improve inland waters and their facilities for use by public where the Agency is the navigation authority.

Key objectives of the strategy are to:-

- contribute to the development of an overall navigation strategy for England and Wales;
- regulate Agency navigations through the enforcement of a consistent series of licences, orders, byelaws and statutes;
- maintain and improve the Agency navigation fairway, facilities and standards; and
- recover from users the costs of providing specific navigation facilities and a reasonable proportion of the costs of maintaining the navigation.

Through the implementation of the strategy, we will ensure that resources are properly targeted towards maintaining and improving the Region's navigation in a cost effective way.

## **INFORMATION LINES**

Should you require general information on the navigation function, please contact our navigation section on

Peterborough (01733) 371811.

For local information on the Great Ouse please contact our Brampton office on (01480) 414581.

For local information on the Nene, Welland, Glen and Ancholme please contact our Lincoln office on (01522) 513100.

For local information on the Stour please contact our lpswich office on (01473) 727712.

## **BOAT LICENSING AND REGISTRATION**

Details of regional requirements for the registration and licensing of craft to use the waterways described in this booklet are available from:-

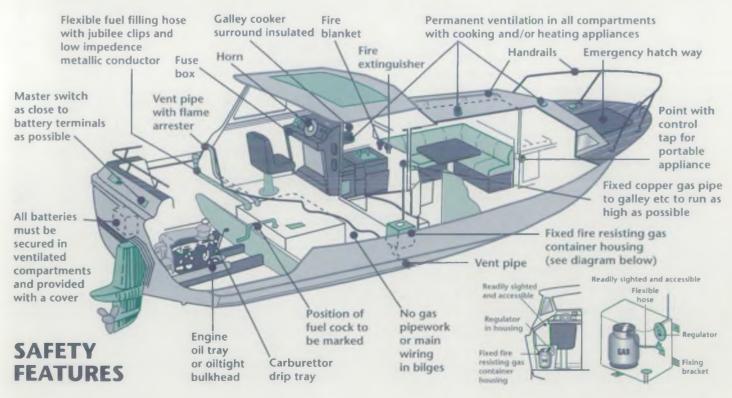
The Environment Agency Anglian Region Kingfisher House Goldhay Way Orton Goldhay PETERBOROUGH PE2 5ZR

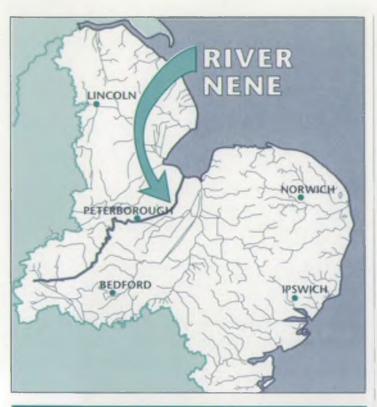
Telephone (01733) 371811

Failure to pay the appropriate fee in advance will lead to prosecution.

Boat owners navigating Recreational Waterways within the Agency's Anglian Region should acquaint themselves with the following legislation, copies of which can be obtained from the Agency at the above address.

The Recreational Waterways (Registration) Byelaws 1979 The Recreational Waterways (General) Byelaws 1980





## RIVER NENE NAVIGATION

The River Nene is a particularly important navigation as it links the Grand Union Canal to the Middle Level and the sea. Although the navigation was originally commercial it is now almost entirely used for recreation.

Flowing through Northamptonshire, Cambridgeshire, Lincolnshire and bordering Norfolk, the Nene gives constrasting views of eastern England. In Northamptonshire the river flows through farmland and the industry of Northampton, Wellingborough and Irthlingborough interspersed with the numerous stone villages with their churches for which this "county of squires and spires" is famous.

Peterborough dominates the route through Cambridgeshire with the cathedral visible on the horizon across the fenland landscape. The Nene was tidal to Peterborough until the construction of the tidal lock and sluice at the Dog-in-a-Doublet **Irthlingborough** in 1937.

Wellingborough

The tidal Nene flows through parts of Lincolnshire to the busy port of Wisbech with its Dutch style of waterfront architecture and the new port at Sutton Bridge before entering the Wash between two towers known as "the lighthouses".

Rising at sources near Badby, Naseby and Yelvertoft, the Nene becomes navigable at Northampton where these tributaries combine. Navigation begins at the junction with the Northampton Arm of the Grand Union Canal near Cotterstock Cotton End Lock and

The Agency's Recreational waterway stretches from Northampton Mooring, Diesel, Petrol, Water, Waste, Chandlery to Bevis Hall, just ndle Manna Clubhouse a Repairs (01832) 272762 upstream of

extends 91 miles (147

km) to the sea.

Wisbech River. Users must conform to the Recreational Byelaws throughout this length.

Great

Little

Addington

Irthlingborough

Ditchford Lock

Wadenhoe Thorpe Waterville

Titchmarsh Lock

Oundle

Lower Barnwell

Gas, Diesel, Cranage, Slipage, Pumpout Facilities Stibbington Stibbington Boatyard (01780) 783144

tibbing

Elton

ton

Wansford

Yarwell

Wansford Lock

Yarwell Lock

**Fotheringhay** 

Nassington

Cotterstock

Lock

Elton Lock

Environment Agency Islip Lock Middle Nene Sailing Club Environment Agency 48 hr Mooring at Nine Arches Bridge

N

Thrapston Mooring, Water, Diesel, Slipway, Waste, Telephone, Bar, Shower, Tollet Thrapston Mill Marina (01832) 732850 Boat traffic is

Denford increasing on this Woodford attractive waterway Woodford Lock but it is still quiet Lower Ringstead compared with other Upper Ringstead Lock navigations such as the Addington canals and Great Ouse.

> A speed limit of 7 mph (11 kmph) applies throughout the navigation except for one mile downstream of Peterborough. This derestricted stretch is clearly signposted.

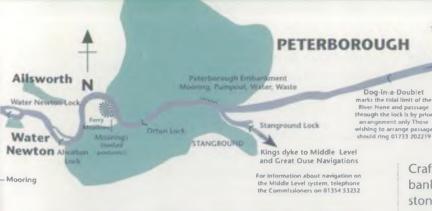
There are 66 fixed bridges and 37 locks between Peterborough and Northampton. Each lock is 83ft 6ins. (25.5m) long and

15ft wide (4.6m). To make allowances for adverse conditions, the maximum dimensions for craft should be regarded as:

Length 78ft (23m) Beam 13ft (3.9m) Draught 4ft (1.2m) Headroom 7ft (2.1m)

N.B. All craft approaching all these maximum dimensions would have difficulties.





Water levels cannot be guaranteed. Care should be taken when:

- 1) Approaching any of the river controls, weirs, sluices, locks etc., should there be any significant flow on the river.
- 2) Stopping overnight, or leaving a boat for a considerable amount of time, ie over winter (where boats are permitted to remain in the water) or in a flood situation, do not moor in shallow water or with a tight rope or chain as water levels may fluctuate. If the level drops and a craft is moored aground or in shallow water, it may be careened or damaged. If the level rises and mooring ropes or chains are tight, the boat may take on water, be pulled under or even broken free. The Environment Agency (Anglian Region) is not liable for any damage caused to craft moored on the river, as a result of fluctuating water levels.

#### MOORING

Boats must not be moored within 36 metres of any locks, sluices, weirs or water intakes except when navigating through a lock. In some cases such as the Dog-in-a-Doublet, Bedford Road Sluice (Northampton) and Weston Favel (Northampton) mooring is prohibited for 100 metres on both sides of the structure.

The Nene is a Recreational Waterway between Cotton End Lock, Northampton and Bevis Hall, Wisbech and Agency Recreational Byelaws apply to all of this length of river.

## FOR PASSAGE TO AND FROM THE TIDAL RIVER NENE

The river is tidal for 25 miles downstream of the Dog-in-a-Doublet Lock which is five miles below Peterborough. Registered craft may pass through this lock every day from 07.30 hours until official sunset time. Boat owners are advised to telephone the Lock Keeper at Peterborough (01733) 202219, in advance of their arrival to make arrangements for passage. Passage before 07.30 and after sunset by prior arrangement and a £6 charge.

For information in respect of the passage of craft or moorings in the port of Wisbech and down to the sea apply to:

The Port Manager Port Office

Wisbech. (Telephone (01945) 582125).

Craft should proceed through Wisbech with care. The banks are lined with steel and concrete piling, there is stone in the bed, and there is a strong run on the flood and ebb tide, particularly at the lower stages.

## FOR PASSAGE INTO THE GRAND UNION CANAL AT NORTHAMPTON

The Northampton Branch extends for 4 miles before joining the main Grand Union Canal at Gayton via 17 locks. Maximum beam for craft in the Northampton Arm of the canal is 7 ft.

## RIVER NENE LOCKS

The majority of locks on the River Nene have steel pointing doors at the upstream end and vertical steel gates at the lower end.

# LOCKS SHOULD BE LEFT WITH THE POINTING DOORS CLOSED AND THE VERTICAL GATE RAISED AND LOCKED

The vertical gates are normally locked. KEYS ARE THEREFORE REQUIRED TO OPERATE LOCKS ON THE RIVER NENE. These can be obtained from the Environment Agency, Anglian Region, Kingfisher House, Goldhay Way, Orton Goldhay, Peterborough, Cambs, PE2 5ZR. Two weeks should be allowed to process applications. A windlass to fit a 11/4 inch square is required to operate the paddles.



Navigation - River Nene

## USING THE LOCKS

The vertical steel gates should be operated with care. Children should not be allowed to operate the gate. At the first operation ALWAYS take the weight of the gate carefully, using both hands. This will avoid the risk of injury in the event of unauthorised interference to the counter balance weights. Boat owners are advised to use side fenders when inside the lock pen, to avoid damage on the mooring chain bolts.

## Procedure when entering the lock from the higher level:

- (i) Lower the vertical gate
- (ii) Open paddles in the pointing doors
- (iii) Open the pointing doors when water levels are equal and enter the lock
- (iv) Lower the paddles and close the pointing doors
- (v) Raise the vertical door a few inches only. This is stiff at first, to prevent rapid opening of the door and possible boat damage. The vertical gate should be FULLY RAISED once the water level in the lock pen has fallen.

## Procedure when entering the lock from a lower level:

- (i) After entering the lock, lower the vertical gate
- (ii) Open the paddles in the pointing doors
- (iii) When levels permit open the pointing doors
- (iv) After leaving the lock, lower the paddles and close the pointing door
- (v) FINALLY RAISE THE VERTICAL GATE FULLY

IF THE POINTING DOORS ARE FOUND CHAINED BACK (OPEN) AND THE VERTICAL GATE PARTIALLY LIFTED, IE THE LOCK IS 'REVERSED', NO ATTEMPT TO NAVIGATE SHOULD BE MADE. WARNING SIGNS ARE SITED UPSTREAM AND DOWNSTREAM OF LOCKS TO INDICATE WHEN A LOCK IS REVERSED.

Should there have been heavy rain in the area it is probable there will be a rapid change in water condition eg rise in level, increase in current, change in colour. With any such change in conditions the Agency will almost certainly be operating sluices to regulate water levels and extreme care should be taken when approaching locks or other structures.

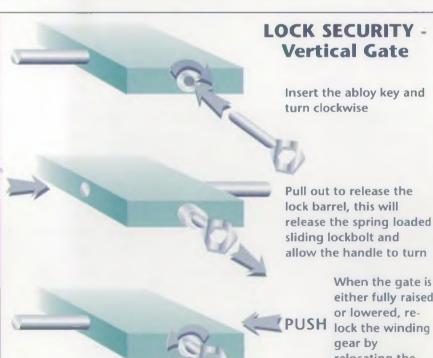
### MAPS OF THE RIVER NENE NAVIGATION

Ordnance Survey 1:50,000 are available from bookshops.

Navigation length Map	Number
Grand Union Canal and Northampton to Ditchford	152
Ditchford to Higham Ferrers	153
Higham Ferrers to Perio (Fotheringhay)	141
Perio to Guyhirn	142
Guyhirn to Wisbech	143
Wisbech to Outfall and the Wash	131

A useful booklet with a map for navigating the Nene is also published by

Imray, Laurie, Norie and Wilson of St. Ives, Cambs and is on sale at most marinas.



On electrically operated gates simply use the abloy key to open the control box and press the appropriate buttons, ensuring that the pointing 'V' doors are properly closed before lifting the gate and that the gate is fully raised and the control box relocked when passage is complete

When the gate is either fully raised or lowered, relock the winding gear by relocating the slide bolt, while holding the slidebolt with the thumb, push in and relock the abloy lock barrel. Remove the key

## BOATING FACILITIES ON THE RIVER NENE

## NORTHAMPTON, COTTON END LOCK Joining the Nene from the Grand Union

Joining the Nene from the Grand Union Canal, passing under Northampton South Bridge.

### **NORTHAMPTON LOCK**

Pointing doors at each end. Short stay moorings are

Becketts Park provides pumpout for use by disabled persons, chemical toilet disposal, water point, toilets and rubbish disposal. Public telephone at main road junction near traffic lights, corner of Victoria Promenade.

\* Approximate distance to next lock, 1.2 miles (1.9km). Northampton Canoe Club on the left bank.

## **RUSH MILLS LOCK**

Pointing doors at each end. Nearest telephone - walk to pay telephone available at riverside Britannia Inn.

\* 0.3 miles (0.5km).

## **ABINGTON LOCK**

Pointing doors at each end.

\* 0.7 miles (1.1km).

#### NORTHAMPTON WASHLANDS

No mooring between Abington and Weston Favell Barrage Gates.

### WESTON FAVELL LOCK

Vertical gate electrically powered. Help in an emergency may be available from Northampton Boat Club downstream from this lock on the left bank, slipway for members only.

\* 0.8 miles (1.3km).

### **CLIFFORD HILL LOCK**

Vertical gate electrically powered. Nearest public telephone is at Little Houghton by the Village Post Office/Stores. Good walk.

\* 0.6 miles (1.0km).

#### **BILLING LOCK**

Vertical gate electrically powered. Public telephones and toilet on Billing Aquadrome site.

Telephone Northampton (01604) 408181 for information on accommodation, entertainments, refreshments and fishing.

\* 1.3 miles (2.1km).

Marine Secol downstream of Billing Road bridge on right bank.

### **COGENHOE LOCK**

Telephone available at Cogenhoe Mill Caravan Site (emergencies only). Post box on road to village - 50 yards further on is a small village shop. Pub in village.

\* 1.2 miles (1.9km).

## WHISTON LOCK

Nearest telephone is in Whiston village - long walk. Post box in wall by bus stop. No shops.

\* 0.9 miles (1.5km).

#### WHITE MILLS LOCK

Emergencies only telephone at nearby Garden Centre. Pay telephone opposite post office near church at Earls Barton. Walk of 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> miles, shops, pubs, etc.

\* 0.9 miles (1.5km).

## **EARLS BARTON LOCK**

Nearest village Earls Barton, 2 miles but no easy access from the lock.

\* 0.9 miles (1.5km).

## **DODDINGTON LOCK**

Track to main road, turn left for 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> miles, turn right at cross roads to Great Doddington village. Post office, shops, call box.

\* 1.1 miles (1.8km).

### **WOLLASTON LOCK**

Landing stage upstream and downstream.

## **UPPER & LOWER WELLINGBOROUGH LOCKS**

Toilet block on Wellingborough
Embankment, also water point. (Nene lock

key fits padlock on tap). Post box at cross roads on Irthlingborough Road.

\* 1.0 miles (1.68km).

The Environment Agency's public slipway is located on the left bank downstream of the Upper Lock. Access through Turnells Mill Lane.

#### DITCHFORD LOCK

Radial gate and pointing doors. No telephone within easy walking distance. Emergencies - AW Broadholme Sewage Treatment Works on the left bank.

\* 2.3 miles (3.7km).

#### HIGHAM LOCK

Nature reserve on both banks with good birdwatching. Walk to Higham Ferrers for shops, pubs etc. Good canoe access from Wharfe Road.

\* 1.0 miles (1.6km).

### **IRTHLINGBOROUGH LOCK**

Northants Association of Youth Clubs camp downstream on left bank. Slow to avoid canoes or other river users.

#### **UPPER RINGSTEAD LOCK**

Footpath across field towards Great Addington Church - telephone box nearby.

\* 0.6 miles (1.0km).

## LOWER RINGSTEAD LOCK

To reach a public telephone, either take the road to Great Addington or the road to Ringstead. Both long walks. Good access for canoes.

\*2.3 miles (3.7km). Overnight mooring on right bank 200 metres below lock.

#### WOODFORD LOCK

Footpath from lock to village, shops, public telephone, pubs. Distance about one mile.

\* 0.9 miles (1.5km).



Irthlingborough Lock, River Nene

#### **DENFORD LOCK**

Short walk to village, telephone, post box, Inn, village store.

\* 1.5 miles (2.4km).

Thrapston Mill Marina downstream on right bank provides short stay moorings and full facilities.

Short walk into Thrapston town.

## **ISLIP LOCK**

Telephone box in village or walk to Thrapston for amenities as above.

\* 2.2 miles (3.5km).

#### TITCHMARSH LOCK

Adjacent to Middle Nene Cruising Club, slipway for members only. Track to main A605 road, turn left towards Thorpe. Fair walk, telephone box and post box at entrance to Thorpe Inn on main road. Nature Reserve on left bank, good birdwatching.

\* 2.6 miles (4.2km).

## **WADENHOE LOCK**

Public telephone opposite village store - post office on Aldwincle Road through village, easy distance of lock. Village Inn provides food and riverside moorings close to the lock. Good access for canoes.

\* 1.1 miles (1.8km).

### **UPPER BARNWELL LOCK**

Mill Restaurant and Bar close to lock (telephone available when open). Nearest public box: take road to Oundle, first left turn round Jesus Church (Spar Store opposite), turn left along A427 past garage for 20 yards to public telephone. Country Park open all year, telephone: Oundle (0832) 73435. Good access for canoes. Water point available on upstream right bank.

\* 0.3 miles (0.5km).

Oundle Cruising Club downstream of Barnwell Road bridge on the left bank, open at weekends in season. Oundle Marina, full facilities.



Barnwell Mill, River Nene

## **LOWER BARNWELL LOCK**

Walk across meadows on left hand bank (looking downstream), over backwater and new bridges, up Basset Form Road, turn right, follow road towards Oundle Parish Church emerging at Market Place. Shops, Chemists', doctor' and dentists' surgeries. Hotels, pubs, cafe, restaurant etc. Public telephone and Information Centre in Market Place.

#### **ASHTON LOCK**

Public telephone and post box by "Chequered Skipper" public house at Ashton - take footpath on left hand bank of Millstream, over weir bridge, past Mill, museum and tearooms, turn right to road leading to village. No shop at Ashton.

\* 2.1 miles (3.4km).

### **COTTERSTOCK LOCK**

No shop or pub in Cotterstock but telephone box available, walk left at road bridge 0.5km downstream. No shop or pub in Tansor but telephone box by church. School rowing club and races in this length - caution.

#### **PERIO LOCK**

\* 2.4 miles (3.8km).

At Fotheringhay, just downstream, earth mound remains of Castle which was site of execution of Mary Queen of Scots. Inn/restaurant, public telephone. Good access for canoes at the road bridge on left bank.

Moorings available, apply Castle Farm Cottage. Guest House at Castle Farm, tel. (018326) 326.

#### WARMINGTON LOCK

Footpath across meadows towards Elton Boat Club (boats moored on Mill Stream), walk past Mill to Eaglethorpe, across main road (A605) into Warmington via Chapel Street, first turn on right leads to store, Post office, telephone box. Pillar box opposite "Red Lion" on A605 also. Good access for canoes via the Mill. Short stay

moorings and water point available at the Boat Club.

\* 1.6 miles (2.6km)

#### **ELTON LOCK**

Path from lock leads to village green. Middle Street leading to main A605 road. Village Store/Post office with telephone box in Middle Street.

\* 2.0 miles (3.2km).

Nassington Village on left bank has inns with restaurants, shops, post office and telephone. Slipway at the Queens Head.

## YARWELL LOCK

Close by Yarwell Mill, caravan and camping/boat holiday site, telephone: Stamford (01780) 782247. 24-hour

mooring ticket includes use of shower/toilet block. Water point and sewage disposal available on purchase of ticket from site office on arrival.

Access road from Mill main road - turn right for Yarwell Village (store/Post Office, telephone, public house) or turn left to Nassington as above - about equal distance.

\* 1.2 miles (1.9km).

(Note footbridge across Yarwell Lock is low - 7' clearance at Summer river levels).

## WANSFORD LOCK

Vertical gate electrically powered. Navigate downstream approach with care if heavy flow on river, side weir hazard. Best access to village is right bank footpath by Wansford Old Bridge. Hotel, pubs, shops, Post Office, telephone etc. \* 3.8 miles (6.1km).

Stibbington Boat Yard on right bank above Nene Valley Steam Railway. Water point. Toilets, chemical toilet and rubbish disposal.

#### WATERNEWTON LOCK

Telephone box near Mill immediately downstream from lock. Post box 50 yards further on.

\* 2.0 miles (3.2km).

#### **ALWALTON LOCK**

Peterborough Cruising Club site nearby providing short stay moorings. Turn right at top of road leading from lock to find Post Office/ Stores. Telephone box past Wheatsheaf Inn on road leading to A1. Good access for canoes.

\* 3.8 miles (6.1km).

Access to Ferry Meadows Nene Valley Park on right bank providing short stay moorings. Telephone Peterborough (01733) 233526 for details.

### **ORTON LOCK**

Vertical gate electrically powered. Peterborough Yacht Club on right hand bank, slipway for members only. Also close by Nene Valley Railway Station and Orton Mere. Orton Longueville lies across A605 road. Shops, post box and telephone at entrance to village. Proteus Canoe Club downstream of locks, major events most weekends, proceed with caution.

#### **PETERBOROUGH**

Access to Peterborough, Cathedral, shops near river.

## **EMBANKMENT**

Amenity block with water supply and sewage disposal facilities available with lock key and small fee downstream of Key Theatre. Moorings available for hourly and annual periods. Easy parking and access for canoes.

### STANGROUND BACKWATER

Access on the right bank under railway bridge 1km downstream of Town Bridge. Peterborough Boat Centre and Bransons Boats on right bank. Shops and pubs in Stanground.



Nun Mills, Northampton

#### STANGROUND LOCK

On the right bank, lock-keeper's cottage adjacent to the lock.

\* Distance between locks in miles.

## RIVER NENE DOWNSTREAM OF PETERBOROUGH EMBANKMENT

Below the junction with Stanground Backwater there is a single span road bridge and then a double span bridge "Fitzwilliam Bridge" which marks the beginning of the derestricted mile where no speed limit applies. The length is clearly signed at both ends but extreme caution is required especially when water-skiing is in progress. Skiing and speeding outside this de-restricted zone will lead to prosecution.

At the end of the mile there are two sharp bends before a straight 2 mile channel leads to the tidal Dog-in-a-Doublet Locks.

## **DOG-IN-A-DOUBLET LOCKS**

These are manned most daylight hours. No mooring is permitted within 100 metres of the lock except in passage. Water point and toilet facilities are available with a lock key. A payphone is available in the lock control building.

The nearby Dog-in-a-Doublet pub has a restaurant and there are good facilities in Whittlesey, one mile to the south.

## THE TIDAL RIVER

Only Guyhirn (8 miles), Wisbech (15 miles) and Sutton Bridge (23 miles) lie on the river downstream of the Dogin-a-Doublet. Add 2 hours to times for tides listed for West Lighthouse to the Dog-in-a-Doublet.

Headroom clearance at Guyhirn Road Bridge varies with state of tide.

There is an outfall from Whittlesey Washes (Moreton's Leam) above Guyhirn on the right bank and the North

Level Drain and South Holland Drains discharge on the left bank between Wisbech and Sutton Bridge.

There is a strong run on the flood and ebb tides in Wisbech and boats should avoid these periods.

TO TELEPHONE	SLIPWA	TIC
KIVHK		

RIVER NENE SLIP	VAIS
Name	Telephone Number
Ken Yates Marine	(01604) 408312
Billing Aquadrome	(01604) 408181
Oundle Marina	(01832) 27262
Stibbington Boatyard	(01780) 783144
Bransons Boat, Stanground	(01733) 322811
Peterborough Yacht Club	(available for club members)
Middle Nene Cruising Club	(available for club members)
Northampton Boat Club	(available for club members)
The Queenshead, Nassington	(01780) 782289
Peterborough City Council (Public Slipway) Potters Way Fengate, Peterborough	(01733) 317386
Peterborough Boating Centre 73 North Street	
Stanground, Peterborough	(01733) 66688
Frontiers Activity Centre	(01933) 651718
Thrapston Mill Marina	(01832) 732850
Yarwell Mill	(01780) 782247
Peterborough Cruising Club (contact Club Secretary)	(01733) 62881
NRA Public Slipway Turnells Mill Lane Wellingborough	(01536) 517721

## **RIVER NENE - USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS**

Dog-in-a-Doublet Locks	Peterborough (01733) 202219
British Waterways Board,	
Blisworth	Northampton (01604) 858233
Stanground Lock Keeper	Peterborough (01733) 66413
Middle Level Commissioners	March (01354) 53232
Port of Wisbech	Wisbech (01945) 582125
Environment Agency Office,	Kettering (01536) 517721
<b>Environment Agency Office,</b>	Spalding (01775) 762123

## SHORT TERM POINTS AND LOCK KEY AGENCIES, RIVER NENE AND GRAND UNION CANAL

NENE AND GRAND UNION Blisworth Tunnel Boats	N CANAL Northampton (01604) 858868
Grand Junction Boat Co.	Northampton (01604) 858043
Alevechurch Boats, Gayton Marina	Northampton (01604) 858685
Ken Yates Marine Sales, Billing Aquadrome	Northampton (01604) 408312
Peterborough Boating Cent. 73 North Street, Stanground	re, d Peterborough (01733) 66688
Mike Wright, Dog-in-a- Doublet Sluice Bungalow	Peterborough (01733) 202219
Anchor Cottage Crafts	Long Buckby (01327) 842140

## OTHER MARINE SERVICES ON THE RIVER NENE

Thrapston Mill Marina	Thrapston (01832) 732850
Oundle Marina	Oundle (01832) 72762
Yarwell Mill	Stamford (01780) 782247
Stibbington Boatyard	Stamford (01780) 783144
Bransons Boats, Stanground	Peterborough (01733) 322811

## **RIVERS WELLAND AND GLEN**

Fosdyke Port	Fosdyke (0120585) 206
Surfleet Lock	Surfleet (0177585) 225
Fulney Lock (Spalding)	Spalding (01775) 723350





## NAVIGATION THROUGH THE MIDDLE LEVEL

#### **GENERAL INFORMATION**

1. The Middle Level affords a navigable link between the River Great Ouse and the River Nene and a large majority of boat-owners entering the system use it for that purpose. The recommended route is indicated on the accompanying map.

The waterway's function is the arterial drainage of 267 sq. miles of highly productive farmland, and the cost of continual channel maintenance is met out of drainage rates, with a contribution from letting of fisheries. No licence fees or toll charges are levied on pleasure boats at present (this may change when the Navigation Byelaws and Boat Charges Scheme are updated), but the name of each boat should be clearly shown, and visitors will be required to register their name, address and telephone number with the lock keepers at Stanground and Salters Lode when entering the system.

 Certain watercourses are subject to erosion of the banks and elsewhere shallows make navigation difficult. The Commissioners therefore request the cooperation of persons navigating between the Great Ouse and the Nene in making passage via the recommended route.

A maximum speed limit of 5 mph is operated throughout the system with the exceptions of Kings Dyke (Stanground Lock to Ashline Lock) and Well Creek (Marmont Priory Lock to Salters Lode Lock) where the maximum speed limit is 4 mph.

- Aquatic weeds occur in most of the system during the Summer period and from July onwards weed ropes may be encountered. These ropes must be removed to allow passage and carefully and securely replaced.
- 4. The Middle Level Acts do not require the Commissioners to provide for mechanically propelled pleasure craft and the Navigation Byelaws concerning the operation of boats on the Middle Level apply. The Byelaws include the following provisions:-



Barrier Bank - Middle Level

- a) no refuse shall be thrown overboard into the river or deposited on the adjacent banks.
- b) boats shall be properly moored and secured so as not to impede or endanger the passage of other craft (mooring two or more abreast is forbidden).
- sunken boats shall be removed forthwith at the owner's expense.
- d) no lock may be navigated between 10.00 am and 4.00 pm on Sundays or on Christmas Day.

Boat movements during the hours of darkness are prohibited.

5. There are pump out and chemical toilet emptying facilities at March Sanitation Station which is situated on the site of the old quay adjacent to the Town bridge. Keys to this facility can be obtained at Stanground Lock, Salters Lode Lock and the Middle Level Offices in Dartford Road, March. In the event of mal-function contact Fenland District Council Tel. March (01354) 54535 - 24 hrs.

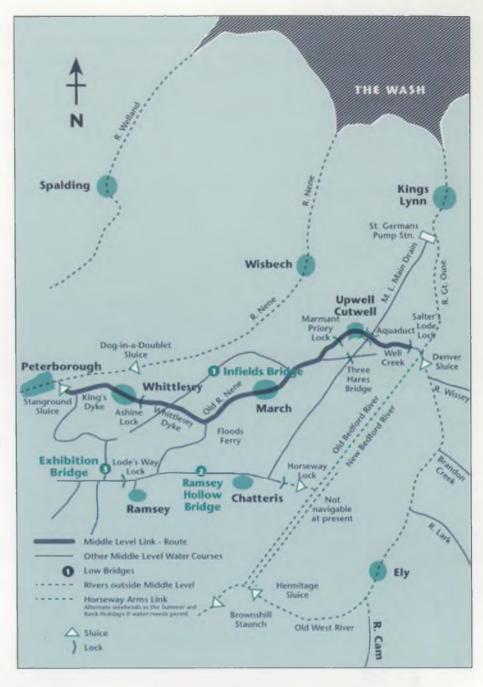
Polluting matter must not be discharged into the waterways from any vessels or from any sanitary appliance thereon.

6. It should be noted that excepting where there are public highways, ALL lands adjoining Middle Level river banks are private property whereon the normal laws of trespass apply.

The Middle Level waters comprise a valuable coarse fishery, intensively used between mid-June and mid-March. Boat users are requested to afford the usual courtesies to anglers who will be encountered in greatest numbers on Saturdays and Sundays in the Season.

During the winter period ice skating on Well Creek, when conditions allow, is a traditional local sport often attracting thousands of people to the area. Disturbance of the ice while it is forming results in an uneven surface unsuitable for skating. Boat movements under such circumstances are therefore frowned upon locally, and should be avoided.

7. Boat users are advised to avoid the Main Drain (which is navigable only as far as the Well Creek Aquaduct at Mullicourt Priory) and Old Pophams Eau (another dead end) north of Three Holes Bridge as conditions there can



be hazardous due to sudden pumping or sluicing operations.

- 8. Security arrangements normally preclude the use of Lodes End Lock unattended and arrangements for the attendance of a lock keeper should therefore be made at least 24 hours in advance. Boat users are advised to do this on a week day by telephoning Mereside 521 or, if no-one is available there, the Middle Level offices at March (telephone March 01354 53232) from 9.00 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. and 2.00 p.m. to 5.00 p.m.
- 9. The navigation headrooms at the low bridges indicated on the map on page 13 under normal summer water level conditions are approximately as follows:-

1 Infields Bridge - 6 feet 2 Ramsey Hollow Bridge - 6 feet 5 feet 5 feet

## **RECOMMENDED ROUTE - NENE TO GREAT OUSE**

Total Distance = 28.5 miles (45.8 km)

## STANGROUND SLUICE, PETERBOROUGH

Length 80'0" Maximum draft to negotiate cill not to

exceed 2'3". Width 11'6"

> Lock-keeper Mr A. Rootham Tel: Peterborough (01733) 66413

Telephone lock-keeper beforehand and do not enter lock without keeper in attendance.

### KINGS DYKE

8 bridges Minimum headroom approx. 7ft Water level may be below navigation level and 24 hours notice to Stanground lock-keeper will avoid possibility of delays while the water level is being adjusted.

N.B. Restricted length and sharp bend through Briggate, Whittlesey. Width

between walls 14'0".

New winding bay now constructed to allow

70ft. craft to turn at Ashline Lock.

## **ASHLINE LOCK, WHITTLESEY**

Length 58'0" Lock-keepers - Mr & Mrs H. Maurer Width 11'6" Tel: Peterborough (01733) 202975. Do Not

enter lock without keeper in attendance. Whittlesey: Pop. 11,000, Shops, fuel.

### WHITTLESEY DYKE

7 bridges:

Main drainage channel.

minimum headroom (at summer water level) Burnt House Bridge approx. 7'6"

#### OLD R. NENE MARCH TO MARMONT PRIORY UPWELL

3 bridges ample

March: Pop. 16,000; Middle Level

Offices; Fox's Boatyard;

Moorings; Shops; Fuel; Sanitation

## MARMONT PRIORY LOCK

Width 12'0"

Length 58'0" Lock-keeper - Mrs M. Norton Tel: Wisbech (01945) 773959

> Please ensure that the lock doors and penstocks are properly closed after use. Leakage can rapidly lower the water level in Well Creek and it can sometimes take several days to restore a satisfactory

navigation level.

## WELL CREEK TO SALTERS LODE

14 bridges; minimum

Route passes through villages of Upwell and Outwell; Mooring; Shops;

headroom at Fuel.

navigation level approx

7ft

### SALTERS LODE LOCK

Length 80'0"

Lock-keeper - Mr P Cottram

Width 12'6"

Tel: Downham Market (01366) 382292

Locking through to tidal river for limited periods each side of high tide. Telephone lock-keeper beforehand and do not enter lock without keeper in attendance.



Kings Lynn



## **GREAT OUSE NAVIGATION**

This is the major navigation network in the Anglian Region encompassing some of the most popular stretches of river. Navigable from Bedford to the tidal limit at the most famous land drainage structure in Britain - the Denver Sluice at Downham Market in Norfolk - it encourages boaters to explore some of the most traditional landscapes of East Anglia.

In an area rich in history and visual appeal, the river flows through picturesque market towns such as St Neots and St Ives and the centre of the fenland city of Ely with its majestic cathedral dominating the skyline from all directions.

## **DENVER TO KINGS LYNN (22.4KM)**

The depth of water from the outfall to Denver Sluice varies according to tide and season of the year. The minimum depth at low water spring tides is approximately 0.3m and on neap tides 0.6m. For purpose of navigation the maximum permissible draught on spring tides may be taken as 3.05m and on neaps about 1.8m.

## Headroom - Bridges:

As an indication of the headroom available under bridges, the following table gives the approximate headroom for a spring tide of 7.2m and a neap of 5.9m on the Alexander Dock gauge.

	Spring Tide Neap Tide			
	H.W.	L.W.	H.W.	L.W.
Downham Bridge 2.4 km	2.6 m	7.5 m	3.65m	7.0 m
Stow Bridge 6.6 km	2.35m	6.5 m	3.75m	6.6 m

Magdalen Bridge				
11.8 km	2.35m	7.3 m	3.7 m	7.1 m
St Germans Bridge				
14.8 km	2.5 m	7.6 m	3.9 m	7.4 m
Free Bridge				
20.2 km	2.85m	8.75m	4.2 m	8.0 m
Length: Not restricte	ed Beam:	Not restricted	d	
Channel: From 15.2	m to 21.3	m		

## HUNDRED FOOT RIVER: DENVER TO EARITH (32.8KM) Headroom - Bridges:

riedar oom bridge				
	Spring T	ide Neap 1	ide	
	H.W.	L.W.	H.W.	L.W.
Welney Bridge				
9.6 km	2.4 m	5.4 m	3.85m	7.0 m
L.N.E.R. Bridge				
15.2 km	2.65m	4.4 m	4.1 m	5.0 m
Mepal				
22.4 km	3.3 m	3.9 m	4.3 m	4.35m
Sutton Gault				
26.4 km	2.9 m	3.6 m	4.05m	4.1 m
Earith				
3.7 m	4.1 m		4.6m 3	32.4 km

Beam: Not restricted Channel: 9.15m to 12.2m

#### NOTE:

The depth available from Denver to Earith is considerably influenced by the amount of fluvial water but, under dry weather conditions, the minimum depth is about 0.3m at low tide, spring or neap. During a high neap tide the draught would be about 0.6m and on a high spring tide 0.9m to 1.05m. When the river discharge is small, it is necessary to come up from Denver with the tide starting from Denver about 3/4 - 1 hour after low water depending on speed of craft. There is a shallow section of river below Oxlode Railway Bridge.

#### **SOUTH LEVEL**

Ten Mile River: Denver to Littleport Bridge

#### NOTE

Levels of lock cills and navigation levels are referred to a datum of 100 below Ordnance Datum Newlyn.

Depth	at Navigation Level
0.0 km - 2.4 km	5.8 m
2.4 km - 8.6 km (Southery Ferry)	5.5 m
8.6 km - 9.6 km	5.35 m
9.6 km - 12.8 km	5.2 m
12.8 km - 15.6 km (Littleport Bridge)	5.0 m

#### DENVERLOCK

Normal navigation level: 101.43m

Cill Level	U/S 99.39 m	Draught: 2.04 m
	D/S 98.78 m	

Length 29.5 m Width: 5.4 m
Headroom U/S Footbridge - 4.75 m
Roadbridge - 4.62 m

Headroom at Navigation Level - Bridges:

Railway Bridge 4.0 m

Hilgay Toll Bridge 3.2 m Minimum width: 26.5 m

Littleport Bridge 3.35 m

ELY OUSE: LITTLEPORT BRIDGE TO JUNCTION WITH OLD WEST

**Depths at Navigation Level** 

0.0 km - 3.2 km
3.2 km - 7.6 km (Ely, Roswell Pits)
7.6 km - 9.6 km
9.6 km - 12.8 km
3.8 m
12.8 km - 14.6 km
(Upstream junction with Old West)
3.35 m

Minimum width: 16.6 m

Headroom at Normal Water Level - Bridges:

normal retention level 102.77 at Ely railway bridge

Sandhills Bridge 3.2 m Muckhill Rly. Bridge 3.3 m Adelaide Road Bridge 3.6 m Cutter Rly. Bridge 3.3 m Adelaide Rly. Bridge 3.65 m Ely High Bridge 3.3 m Beet Factory Pipeline 3.6 m Newmarket Rly. Bridge 3.3 m Beet Factory

Footbridge 3.55m

RIVER WISSEY: JUNCTION WITH TEN MILE TO STOKE FERRY:

normal retention level 101.5 at Hilgay

Depths at Navigation Level 2.0 m

0.0 km - 1.6 km
2.0 m
1.6 km - 8.0 km (Wissington Sugar Beet Factory)
1.8 m

Minimum Width: 14.6 m

Headroom at Normal Water Level - Bridges:

Hilgay Rly. Bridge 2.65m Beet Factory Pipe 3.2 m Hilgay Road Bridge 2.55m Beet Factory Road Beet Factory Rly. Bridge 3.5 m

Wissey Sluice Bridge 2.9 m

Bridge 3.0 m Stoke Ferry Bridge 2.9 m

LITTLE OUSE: BRANDON CREEK TO WILTON FERRY:

normal retention level 101.8 at Wilton Bridge

 Depths at Navigation Level

 0.0 km - 3.2 km
 2.0 m

 3.2 km - 11.2 km
 1.8 m

 11.2 km - 15.2 km
 1.8 m

 15.2 km - 16.4 km (Wilton Ferry)
 1.8 m

 Little Ouse Syphon
 1.35m

 Minimum width
 7.55 m

Headroom at Normal Water Level - Bridges:

Brandon Creek Bridge 3.05m Wilton Bridge 3.3 m

St John's Road Bridge 3.15m F.P.S. Sluice

(access bridge) 2.6 m

**BRANDON LOCK:** 

Cill Level downstream 0.44 m
Cill Level upstream 1.73 m
Length: 12.4 m
Width: 3.7 m
Draught: 1.4 m
Headroom: upstream gate 3.0 m

RIVER LARK: FROM MOUTH TO JUDE'S FERRY

Depths at Navigation Level

0.0 km - 3.2 km 2.4 m



Houghton Lock, River Great Ouse



River Great Ouse

3.2 km - 12.8 km 2.6 m - 2.05 m 12.8 km - 16.0 km 0.45m - 1.35 m Minimum width: 9.15 m

#### ISLEHAM LOCK:

normal retention level - upstream 102.15, downstream 101.68

Length: 26.8 m Width: 4.55 m Draught: 1.0 m Headroom: upstream gate 2.0 m

## Headroom at Normal Water Level - Bridges:

Branch Bridge 3.35m Hiam's Footbridge 2.55 m Prickwillow Rly. Bridge 3.1 m Jude's Ferry Bridge 3.2 m Prickwillow Road Bridge 2.95m

## **OLD WEST: FROM CAM TO EARITH:**

normal retention level 101.7 at Twenty Pence Marina

Depths at Navigation Level 0.0 km - 14.4 km 1.05m - 1.2m 14.4 km - 16.0 km 1.7 m 16.0 km - 18.0 km 0.6 m Minimum width: 9.15 m

## HERMITAGE LOCK, EARITH

Cill Level: 100.00 m 1.5 m Draught: 30.5 m 4.0 m Length: Width Headroom: Bridge - 4.25 m at 101.5 m

## Headroom at Normal Water level - Bridges:

Railway Bridge Stretham Ferry Bridge 3.2 m 3.55 m Twenty Pence Bridge 3.25 m Wooden Bridge 3.4 m Military Road Bridge 3.2 m Aldreth Bridge 3.2 m Stretham Wooden Willingham Flat 3.55 m Bridge 3.5 m Bridge

## RIVER CAM: JUNCTION WITH OLD WEST TO BOTTISHAM LOCK

Depths at Navigation Level 0.0 km - 9.8 km 2.6 m - 2.0 m 9 8 km - 10 0 km 2.0 m Minimum width: 20.1 m

### **BOTTISHAM LOCK**

Length: Draught: 1.5 m 29.85 m Width: 4.5 m Headroom at Normal Water Level - Bridges:

## Dimmock's Cote Bridge 3.7 m

## RIVER CAM: BOTTISHAM LOCK TO BYRON'S POOL, CAMBRIDGE This stretch of river is controlled by the Cam Conservancy.

Length Width Depth Over Cill Rise **Baites Bite Lock** 4.35 m 1,2 m 1.2 m 30.5 m Jesus Green Lock 30.5 m 4.25 m 1.35 m 1.2 m

Normal retention level at Baites Bite Lock - upstream 103.85, downstream 102.65

The upper Reaches of the South level Rivers are not navigable.

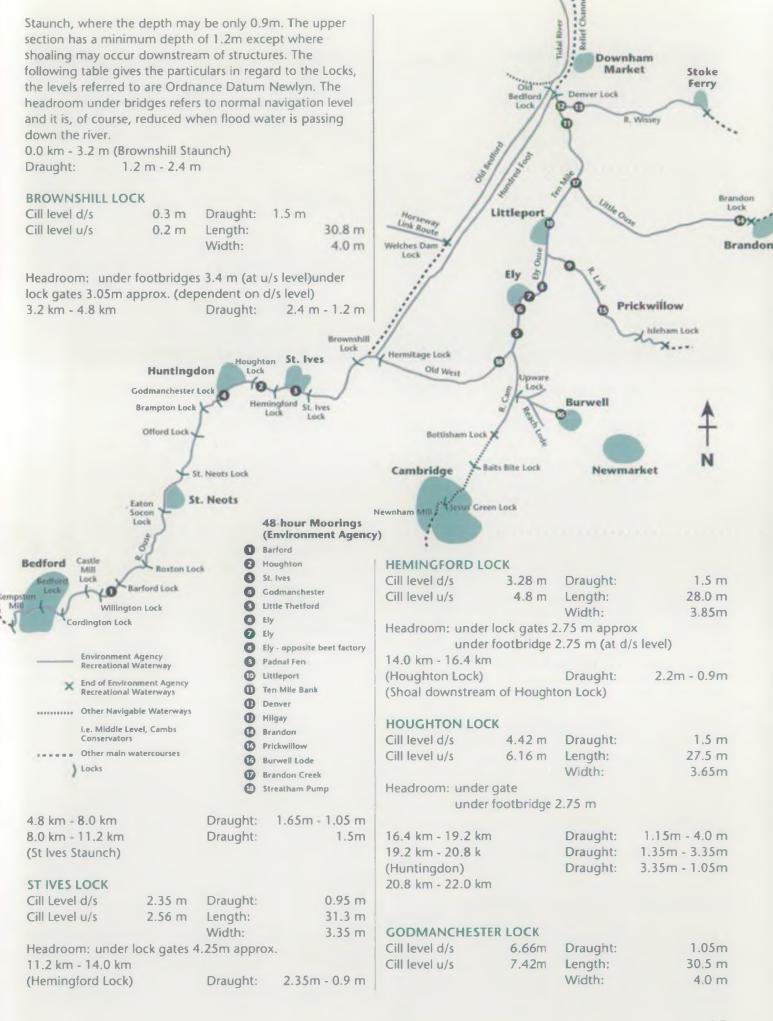
## THE LODES

The Lodes with the exception of Reach and Burwell Lodes are not navigable.

### RIVER OUSE

## NOTE:

The River Ouse is now navigable from Earith to Bedford. At minimum levels there is, generally speaking, a minimum depth of 1.35m on the lower section of river, with the exception of a length of about 1.2km above Brownshill



Headroom: under f			
	ock gates 2	2.95m appro	x.
22.0 km - 24.0 km		Draught:	1.5m - 2.9m
BRAMPTON LOCK			
Cill level d/s	7.59m	Draught:	1.45m
Cill level u/s	8.29m	Length:	31.7 m
		Width:	3.4 m
			1.2m draught
Headroom:under lo	ock gates 2		
24.0 km - 27.8 km		Draught:	1.2m - 3.8 m
055000 1064			
OFFORD LOCK	0.60	D l.t	1.2
Cill level d/s	8.69m	Draught:	1.2 m
Cill level u/s	9.60m	Length:	30.5 m
27.8 km - 32.0 km		Width:	3.4 m
32.0 km - 34.8 km		Draught:	1.2m - 4.1 m
32.0 KIII - 34.6 KIII		Draught:	0.6m - 4.25m
ST NEOTS LOCK			
Cill level d/s	10.13m	Draught:	1.05m
Cill level u/s	11.40m	Length:	32.9 m
		Width:	3.3 m
Headroom: under l	ock gates		
34.8 km - 36.8 km	3	Draught:	1.8 m - 4.0 m
36.8 km - 38.8 km		Draught:	
		3	
EATON SOCON LO	OCK		
Cill level d/s	11.95m	Draught:	1.6 m
Cill level u/s	13.08m	Length:	31.5 m
		Width:	3.3 m
			3.2m at 1.2 m
			at d/s end of lock
Headroom: under o	gates 2.7m		
38.4 km - 45.4 km		Draught:	1.2 m - 3.65m

DO	VT	ON	10	CK
KU		VIV	LU	CV

Cill level d/s	13.9 m	Draught:	1.15m
Cill level u/s	14.7 m	Length:	26.0 m
		Width:	4.0 m
Headroom: unde	r bridge 2.75	m minimum	

## **BARFORD LOCK**

Cill level d/s	14.8 m	Draught:	1.2m
Cill level u/s	16.0 m	Length:	29.5m
		Width:	4.0m

Headroom: under footbridge 4.55m

## WILLINGTON LOCK

Cill level d/s	16.0 m	Draught:	1.3 m minimum
Cill level u/s	17.3 m	Length:	29.5 m
		Width:	4.0 m
1.6	6 41 11	1 0 6	

Headroom: under footbridge 4.06m

## **CASTLE MILL LOCK**

Cill level d/s	18.0 m	Draught:	1.2 m
Cill level u/s	19.8 m	Length:	29.5 m
		Width:	4.0 m

Headroom: under bridge 4.3 m

## **CARDINGTON LOCK**

Cill level d/s	20.83m	Draught:	1.15m
Cill level u/s	22.17m	Length:	28.5 m
		Width:	3.15 m

Headroom: under bridge 2.75 m

under vert. lift gate 2.75m

## **BEDFORD LOCK**

Cill level d/s	22.59m	Draught:	1.1 m
Cill level u/s	23.29m	Length:	29.7 m
		\A/idth-	2 2 m

Headroom: under footbridge 2.1 m under vert. lift gate 2.05m

From Roxton Lock to the limit of navigation, the draught in the channel is generally no more than that available at the locks.

## Headroom at Normal Water Level - Bridges:

	Distance	Headroom
St Ives New Bridge	11.1 km	4.09 m
St Ives Town Bridge	12.0 km	2.66 m
Hemingford Lock Bridge Huntingdon Town Bridge	13.8 km	3.28 m
(largest arch)	20.8 km	3.35 m
Railway Bridge approx.	23.4 km	4.75 m
Offord Lock Road Bridge	27.8 km	2.46 m
St Neots Paper Mill Bridge	34.8 km	2.87 m
St Neots Town New Bridge	36.8 km	2.77 m



River Great Ouse, Godmanchester



River Great Ouse - Ely

Tempsford New Road Bridge 44.9 km 3.65 m  Tempsford Old Road Bridge 45.0 km 3.05 m  Barford Bridge (two navigation arches) 50.0 km 2.97 m  ("UP" arch width: 4.0m)
Tempsford Old Road Bridge 45.0 km 3.05 m D/S 7.89m  Barford Bridge (two navigation arches) 50.0 km 2.97 m D/S 9.05m  ("UP" arch width: 4.0m)
Barford Bridge (two navigation arches) 50.0 km 2.97 m D/S 9.05m ("UP" arch width: 4.0m)
(two navigation arches) 50.0 km 2.97 m D/S 9.05m ("UP" arch width: 4.0m)
("UP" arch width: 4.0m)
("DOWN" arch width: 3.5m)  Offord  U/S 11.13m
Goldington Railway Bridge
(Disused) 57.7 km 2.64 m St Neots U/S 13.56m
D/S 11.22m (Depends on Grafham
Road and Pipe Bridge 57.7 km 2.74 m pumping)
Bedford Marina entrance Eaton Socon U/S 15.01m
Footbridge 60.2 km 2.74 m D/S 13.59m
Railway Bridge 60.4 km 2.29 m
Footbridge 60.6 km 2.90 m Roxton U/S 15.90m D/S 15.10m
700tbridge 80.8 km 2.90 m
Bedford Inner Relief Great Barford U/S 17.15m
Road Bridge 60.6 km 2.69 m D/S 16.00m
Footbridge 61.4 km 2.13 m Willington U/S 19.05m
D/S 17.30m
NORMAL RETENTION LEVELS - BROWNSHILL TO Castle Mills U/S 21.9 m
BEDFORD D/S 19.2 m
Brownshill U/S 3.17m Cardington U/S 23.7 m
D/S 1.83m average - have recorded as D/S 22.00m low as 1.10m
St Ives U/S 5.05m Bedford U/S 24.8 m
D/S 3.32m (in low flow periods) D/S 23.7 m
Hemingford U/S 6.34m
D/S 5.10m

**BOAT CLUBS AND MARINAS ON GREAT OUSE AREA** 

Priory Marina Huntingdon Boat Haven Barkers Lane Godmanchester

Bedford MK41 9RL Cambs

Bedford (01234) 351931 Huntingdon (01480) 411977

**Bedford Boat Hire** 45A St Cuthberts Street

Bedford

Bedford (01234) 212300

**Brearley Marina** 

**New Road** 

Barford Boat Yard

Great Barford, Beds

Bedford (01234) 870401

St Neots Cambs

Bedford (01234) 870249 Huntingdon (01480) 472411

Ouse Valley River Club

6 Sollershott West

River Mill School Lane Eaton Socon

Kelpie Marine

Bedford MK44 3DS

A1 Roxton

Letchworth St Neots Hertfordshire SG6 3PX Cambs Letchworth (01462) 679850

Huntingdon (01480) 473456

Crosshall Marina C Fox (Boatbuilders) Crosshall Road 10 Marina Drive

St Neots March Cambs Cambs

Huntingdon (01480) 472763 March (01354) 52770

Carters Boatyard **Purvis Marine** Mill Road Hartford Road Buckden Huntingdon Cambs Cambs

Huntingdon (01480) 811503 Huntingdon (01480) 53628

The Buckden Marina Huntingdon Marine and

Buckden Leisure

Huntingdon Godmanchester

Cambs Cambs

Huntingdon (01480) 810355 Huntingdon (01480) 413517

Hartford Marina Daylock Marine Hartford Road Hartford Road Wyton Wyton

Huntingdon Huntingdon Cambs Cambs

Huntingdon (01480) 454677 Huntingdon (01480) 455898

L.H. Jones & Son Cambridge Motor Boat (Boatbuilders) Limited Club

The Boathaven Waterbeach St. Ives Cambridge

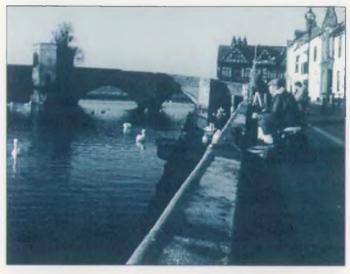
Cambs

Huntingdon. (01480) 494040

Pike and Eel Marina Quiet Waters Boat Haven

Needingworth Earith Cambs Huntingdon Huntingdon (01480) 63336 Cambs

Ramsey (01487) 842154



River Great Ouse - St. Ives

West View Marina Twenty Pence Marina Twenty Pence Road Earith Huntingdon Wilburton Cambs Ely Ramsey (01487) 841627 Cambs Cottenham (01954) 51118

Hermitage Marina Two Tees Boatyard

**Earith** 70 Water Street Huntingdon Cambridge Cambs Cambridge (01223) 65597

Ramsey (01487) 840994

C D Elbrow Marine Shrubb's Wharf Stetham Swaffham Bulbeck

Cambs Cambs

Cambridge (01223) 63692 Cambridge (01223) 811812

Tiptree Marina **Upware Marina** Prior Fen (Trebleways) Ltd Upware Upware

Ely Ely Cambs CB7 5YI Cambs

(01223) 440065 Ely (01353) 721930

Fish and Duck Marina Bridge Boatyard

Popes Corner Elv Elv Cambs

Cambs Ely (01353) 663726

Streatham (01353) 649580

Annesdale Marine Loveys Marine Annesdale Dock Elv Marina Waterside Elv Cambs Ely Ely (01353) 665420 Cambs

Ely (01353) 664622

Littleport Boat Haven

Littleport Ely Cambs

Ely (01353) 861969

Denver Cruising Club The Old Ferryboart Ferry Bank

Downham Market

Mr Daymond Hire Boats 4 Spruce Road Clackclose Park Downham Market

(01366) 383618

Isleham Marina **Fenbank** Iselham Cambs

Isleham (01638) 780114

Scudamores Boatyard Granta Place Mill Lane Cambridge

**Great Ouse Boatbuilders** and Operators Association Fox's Boatyard Cambridge (01223) 359750 10 Marina Drive

March

Cambs PE15 OAY March (01354) 52770

Great Ouse Boating Association The Willows 13 Enfield Road Glatton, Ramsey Cambridgeshire PE17 5AP Secretary -Ramsey (01487) 830105

## **PUBLIC LAUNCHING SITES**

- 1. To RIVER OUSE at ST NEOTS (By Rowing Club)
- 2. To RIVER OUSE at ST IVES (in quay D/S of Bridge)
- 3. To RIVER OUSE at ELY (Waterside)
- 4. To RIVER WISSEY at HILGAY (D/S of Road Bridge)
- 5. To RIVER LITTLE OUSE at BRANDON (D/S of Brandon Staunch) LIGHT CRAFT ONLY

- 6. To TIDAL RIVER OUSE at KINGS LYNN (Common Staithe Quay)
- 7. To RIVER OUSE at GODMANCHESTER (The Causeway)
- 8. To RIVER OUSE at HUNTINGDON (D/S of Purvis Marine)
- 9. TO RIVER OUSE AT DENVER.
- 10. To RIVER CAM at UPWARE (Five Miles From Anywhere No Hurry Public House)

## MECHANICAL TOILET PUMP-OUT SERVICES

These are available at:

- 1. River Mill, School Lane, Eaton Socon, St. Neots, Cambridgeshire, Telephone Huntingdon (01480) 73456
- 2. Hartford Marina, Hartford Road, Wyton, Huntingdon, Cambridgeshire, Telephone Huntingdon (01480) 454677
- 3. Hermitage Marina, Earith, Huntingdon, Cambridgeshire, Telephone (01487) 840994
- 4. Annesdale Marine, Annesdale, Ely, Cambridgeshire, Telephone (01353) 665420

## **SHORT STAY MOORINGS (48 HOURS)**

**River Ouse** 

Ten Mile Village (2 moorings)

Denver Littleport

Hilgay

Ely - opposite Beet Factory

Ely - near Cutter PH



River Great Ouse

Ely - downstream of High Bridge Needingworth St Ives - town centre Houghton Godmanchester Tempsford Great Barford Old Mills Brandon Creek Picnic Area Little Thetford
Holywell
St Ives - The Waits
Hemingford Grey
Huntingdon
St Neots
Great Barford Bridge
Bedford
Burwell Lode

RIVER LARK

**Padnal Pumping Station** 

Prickwillow Village

River Wissey

Hilgay

River Cam

Details available from Cam Conservancy, Guildhall, Cambridge. (01223) 358977

**River Little Ouse** 

Brandon playing fields

**Old West** 

Upstream of Streatham Pumping Engine

**LOCK HANDLES** 

With certain exceptions (mainly downstream of St Ives) Locks on the Great Ouse River System are unattended and can only be operated by the use of a windless lock handle. These can be purchased from most marinas and chandlers.

The following locks however, are all attended ones, where lock handles are not needed:-

Salters's Lode (Middle Level Junction with the tidal Ouse: tel. Downham Market 01366 382292)

Denver Lock (Great Ouse: tel. Downham Market 01366 382340)

Hermitage (Great Ouse: tel. Ramsey 01487 841548) Brownshill (Great Ouse: tel. Swavesey 01954 30413) - not manned



River Great Ouse



Navigation - River Great Ouse

St Ives (Great Ouse: tel. St Ives 01480 63262) - to be determined shortly

Opening times for the above attended locks:

Dec 9am - 4pm	Jan Feb March April May June July Aug Sept Oct Nov Dec	9am - 4pm 9am - 4pm 9am - 5pm 8am - 7pm 8am - 8pm 8am - 8pm 8am - 8pm 8am - 7pm 9am - 5pm 9am - 4pm		Lunch closing 1.00 p.m 2.00 p.m.
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Denver hours vary slightly to suit local conditions

Note: From November to March the attended locks close on Wednesdays, with the exceptions of Salter's Lode and Denver lock which are open 7 days per week.

#### MAPS AND GUIDES

- MAP entitled "The Rivers Cam and Lower Great Ouse" published by Messrs Imray, Laurie, Norie and Wilson of Wych House, St Ives. Covers the rivers from Denver Sluice to Cambridge and Tempsford including the navigable sections of the Wissey, Little Ouse, Lark and Lodes. (Scale 3" to 1 mile). Available from booksellers or possibly marinas.
- MAP published by the same firm covers the upper River Great Ouse from Bedford to Popes Corner. (Scale 3" to 1 mile). They also produce a map covering the Middle Level.
- "Where to Launch your Boat". Compiled and edited by Diana Goatcher. Published by Barnacle Marine. A guide to launching sites for small boats throughout England, Scotland and Wales.
- 4. "Canoe Touring in East Anglia." Published by Sports Council and East Anglia Tourist Board. Available from British Canoe Union, John Dudderidge House, Adbolton Lane, West Bridgford, Nottingham, NG2 5AS. Full details of facilities and rivers open to Canoeists.



## RIVER ANCHOLME NAVIGATION

The River Ancholme is navigable for approximately 27 kilometres from the entrance from the River Humber at South Ferriby to Harlem Hill Lock at Snitterby. The speed limit for craft is 7 mph (11 kmph) from South Ferriby to Brigg, and 4 mph on the rest of the river.

The lock at South Ferriby will accept craft of:

Length 68' 0" Beam 19' 0"

Draught 10' 0" Headroom unlimited

The above dimensions alter as soon as one leaves the visitors moorings at South Ferriby and craft larger than the

dimensions given below should not attempt to navigate any further up river.

Length 40' 0" Beam 12' 0" Draught 6' 6" Headroom 15' 0"

Allowances should be made for adverse weather conditions because the river is part of a large land drainage operation. If in doubt telephone the lock keeper at South Ferriby (01652) 635219. For passage in and out of the River Ancholme the lock keeper must be informed. The lock is manned 24 hours a day between 1st April and 31st October.

- 1. No mooring should take place outside the lock at South Ferriby during the three hours either side of low water.
- Mooring is forbidden on the wharfside adjacent to the lock at South Ferriby except whilst awaiting passage through the lock. The Agency have constructed a mooring/landing platform in the Ancholme Haven on the Western bank.
- 3. There is no mooring allowed below Horkstow Bridge between 1st November and 31st March unless crew are on board all the time.

## FACILITIES ON THE RIVER ANCHOLME

#### **SOUTH FERRIBY**

Visiting mooring facilities available, village shop and post office. Two public houses, public telephone at garage about 400 metres from lock. Water point on wharfside. Full marina facilities at Clapsons Marina 250 metres upstream from lock. The Agency with a contribution from Glanford Borough Council, have constructed a toilet block with pumpout, chemical disposal and water point at South

Ferriby.

## BRIGG

(approximately 14 kilometres upstream)
Usual rural town facilities, supermarkets, chemist.
Market day is Thursday.
Glanford Boat Club can accommodate visitors and is very welcoming.

#### **BRANDY WHARF**

(14 kilometres upstream from Brigg)
Public house, telephone, small market garden, mooring facilities, water. Very welcoming. The Inland
Waterways and the Agency have constructed a lock at Harlem Mill which will permit navigation to Bishops Bridge.



River Ancholme



## RIVER WELLAND NAVIGATION

Rising west of Market Harborough, the river Welland is one of the most interesting watercourses in the Anglian Region and it is a Recreational Waterway from just below Stamford down to Fosdyke Bridge near its outfall into the Wash, approximately 35 miles.

Navigation in the Stamford to Peakirk length dates back to Roman times and the remains of a Roman canal can still be seen north of the river between Uffington and Stamford. This route linked to the Car Dyke which runs south to Peterborough and formed part of a major navigation between Lincoln and the fens 2,000 years ago.

Craft navigating the Welland are restricted by bridge clearances from Spalding upstream and by depth above Peakirk but canoes and other light craft of shallow draught may navigate up to Hudds Mill if they are carried around sluices and mills.

## THE JOURNEY DOWNSTREAM TO THE WASH

Hudds Mill, Stamford is the site of an old priory with footpath access from Uffington Road, Stamford. Just downstream the River Gwash joins on the left bank, Rutland Water fills the Gwash valley ten miles upstream.

Fast flowing, shallow water with occasional deep pools extends from Uffington down to Deeping St. James and the river is suitable only for canoes. One mile downstream, from the confluence of the Folly river on the right bank, the Welland widens into the channel constructed after the disastrous floods of 1947. From here to the sea, water levels in the river are above that of the surrounding fenland whose protection depends on the raised flood banks on both sides of the river channel.

A series of bridges restrict passage from here to the tidal limit as follows:-

Crowland Bridge	2.1 metres
Four Mile Bar Footbridge	1.6 metres
Little London Bridge, Spalding	1.9 metres
Victoria Bridge	2.3 metres
Railway Bridge	2.4 metres
New Footbridge	1.9 metres
Albion Street Footbridge	2.1 metres
High Bridge	2.2 metres
West Elloe Bridge	2.2 metres

There is a pub and public toilet near Crowland Bridge. Crowland's famous abbey is clearly visible to the south.

Cowbit Sluice on the right bank is the beginning of the Coronation Channel constructed in 1953 to protect Spalding from floods by diverting river flows into the tidal river via Marsh Road Sluice. This channel is not a navigation in normal circumstances and is subject to the Agency's Water Park Byelaws and it includes a nature reserve.

Fulney Lock marks the tidal limit of the Welland. Passage is by prior arrangement with the lock keeper by telephoning Spalding (01775) 723350, or the Agency Sub-area office at Spalding (during office hours) (01775) 762123.

Maximum dimensions for craft passing through Fulney Lock at normal summer retention level are:-

Length 19 metres Beam 8.5 metres
Draught 0.8 metres Headroom unrestricted
The River Glen joins the Welland on the left bank about 4
miles downstream of Spalding.

Fosdyke Bridge marks a small but expanding port about 5 miles from the Welland's outfall into the Wash. Caution is required to avoid moored and maneouvering craft, some of which are large bulk carriers. Fosdyke has a pub, shop and public telephone.

Just downstream on the right bank is Moulton Marsh nature reserve which was built in 1983 and is managed by the South Lincolnshire Nature Reserves Ltd and Spalding Wildfowlers.



River Welland

# ENVIRONMENT AGENCY ANGLIAN REGION, CENTRAL AREA SCHEDULE OF DISTRICT OFFICE CONTROL IN RESPECT OF RIVER NAVIGATION

RIVER	REACH	CATCHMENT	OFFICE HOURS CONTACT
BEDFORD OUSE	KEMPSTON TO EATON SOCON	BEDFORD	(01234) 262622
BEDFORD OUSE	EATON SOCON LOCK TO EARITH		
HUNDRED FOOT	EARITH TO DENVER	ELY	(01353) 666660
SOUTH LEVEL	ELY OUSE, LARK, LT OUSE,		
	CAM, OLD WEST, LODES	ELY	(01353) 666660
WISSEY	ELY OUSE TO STOKE FERRY	ELY	(01353) 666660
TIDAL OUSE	DENVER TO STOWBRIDGE	ELY	(01353) 666660

NOTE: OUTSIDE OFFICE HOURS CONTACT PETERBOROUGH (01733) 371811 IN EITHER CASE EMERGENCIES WILL BE DEALT WITH IMMEDIATELY. IF A RESOLUTION OF THE PROBLEM IS LIKELY TO BE DELAYED, THE CALLER WILL BE CONTACTED AND APPRAISED OF THE SITUATION



## RIVER GLEN NAVIGATION

The River Glen is a recreational waterway from its confluence with the Welland outfall channel below Surfleet Sluice to Tongue End near Bourne.

Most of the channel upstream of Pinchbeck is shallow and only suitable for light craft and canoes.

Bridges with headroom restrictions (in upstream sequence) are as follows:

A16 Road Bridge at Surfleet	2.3 metres
Flaxmill Road Bridge	1.9 metres
Railway Bridge	2.2 metres
Herring Bridge	2.3 metres
Money Bridge	2.9 metres
Access Bridge	2.3 metres
Pinchbeck Bars Bridge	2.6 metres
Guthram Footbridge	3.1 metres

Passage through Surfleet Sluice should be by prior arrangement with the Sluice keeper at Surfleet (01775) 680225 (or in office hours at Spalding (01775) 723136).

The maximum speed for craft on the river is 7 mph (11.2 kph).

## FACILITIES BETWEEN SURFLEET AND TONGUE END

Surfleet Village Public telephone, shops and inn.

Herring Bridge Inn adjacent to bridge.

Pinchbeck Bars Bridge Public telephone and Inn adjacent

to bridge.

Tongue End Bridge Shop on Spalding Road - 1/2 mile.

Ordnance Survey Maps: 1:50,000 O.S. maps are available as follows:

Sheet No. Navigation Length

131 Outfall to West Pinchbeck





### **River Stour** Sudbury Bridge Locks in good condition for restoration or restored **Ballington Cut** Sites of other locks Mill Barge raised 1972 (derelict or obliterated by Gt. drainage works) Cornard Weirs (not necessarily shown in correct relation to lock site) Landing Stages built by Henny the River Stour Trust **Launching Sites for small** Shalford craft

Pitmire

Lamarsh

Bures

2 kilometres

## RIVER STOUR NAVIGATION

The Environment Agency is the navigation authority for the River Stour navigation which runs from Brundon, near Sudbury, to Cattawade near Manningtree.

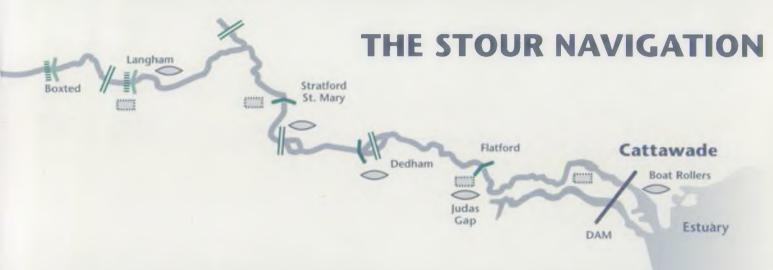
Mechanically propelled boats are only permitted on the reach of river between Ballingdon Bridge at Sudbury and Henny Mill at Henny, a length of approximately 2.5 miles. Manually propelled or sail boats are permitted over the whole length of the navigation.

As the commercial function of the navigation ceased many years ago, the majority of the original locks have been replaced with fixed structures, and portage around these structures is necessary for persons wishing to traverse the whole of the navigation. Where the structures are associated with mills, or the side of mills, permission to portage round them should be sought from the owner. Flood control structures have been built at Flatford and Dedham Locks and this will restrict the times of year when the locks are operable.



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Miles



## **ANGLIAN REGION**

General Manager: GRAINGER DAVIES

## **REGIONAL OFFICE**

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Tel: 01733 371811
Fax: 01733 231840

## **AREA OFFICES**

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Area Manager:
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Harvey Street Lincoln LN1 1TF Tel: 01522 513100 Fax: 01522 512927 CENTRAL
Area Manager:
KEITH STONELL

Bromholme Lane
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Huntingdon PE18 8NE
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Area Manager:
PAUL FOSTER

Cobham Road Ipswich Suffolk IP3 9JE Tel: 01473 727712 Fax: 01473 724205 The Environment Agency delivers a service to its customers, with the emphasis on authority and accountability at the most local level possible. It aims to be cost-effective and efficient and to offer the best service and value for money.

Head Office is responsible for overall policy and relationships with national bodies including government.

Rivers House, Waterside Drive, Aztec West, Almondsbury, Bristol BS12 4UD Tel: 01454 624 400 Fax: 01454 624 409

## **ENVIRONMENT AGENCY REGIONAL OFFICES**

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NORTH EAST Rivers House

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Fax: 01733 231 840

Leeds LS1 2QG Tel: 0113 244 0191 Fax: 0113 246 1889

NORTH WEST

Richard Fairclough House Knutsford Road Warrington WA4 1HG Tel: 01925 653 999 Fax: 01925 415 961

**MIDLANDS** 

Sapphire East
550 Streetsbrook Road
Solihull B91 1QT

Tel: 0121 711 2324 Fax: 0121 711 5824 SOUTHERN

Guildbourne House Chatsworth Road Worthing

West Sussex BN11 1LD Tel: 01903 820 692 Fax: 01903 821 832

SOUTH WEST

Manley House Kestrel Way Exeter EX2 7LQ Tel: 01392 444 000 Fax: 01392 444 238

**THAMES** 

Kings Meadow House Kings Meadow Road Reading RG1 8DQ Tel: 01734 535 000 Fax: 01734 500 388

WELSH

Rivers House/Plas-yr-Afon St. Mellons Business Park St. Mellons Cardiff CF3 0LT

Tel: 01222 770 088 Fax: 01222 798 555



The 24-hour emergency hotline number for reporting all environmental incidents relating to air, land and water

ENVIRONMENT AGENCY EMERGENCY HOTLINE 0800 80 70 60

