

Why restore Canals?
or
A short cycle ride down the
towpath....

Mark Horton
BBC Coast,
University of Bristol
Cotswold Canal Trust

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A RATHER BIGGER PROJECT.....

Photo courtesy Jim Malcolm



JUNCTION OF THE STROUDWATER NAVIGATION AND THE GLOUCESTER SHARPNESS CANAL





Gloucester and Sharpness Canal

Line of Stroudwater Navigation and
Thames and Severn Canal

Google earth

Imagery Date: 9/9/2014 30 U 551374.56 m E 5733533.02 m N elev 104 m eye alt 4.81 km

WHY YOU NEED A CANAL!



SEVERN TROW



STANLEY MILL, 1813



STANLEY MILL, 1813, ONE OF THE EARLIEST FIREPROOF MILLS



STROUD – THE WRONG END OF THE COTSWOLDS!



IT MIGHT HAVE WORKED ONCE.....



THE ORIGINAL FARMERS MARKET...



WHAT THE CANAL WAS LIKE IN THE 1960'S



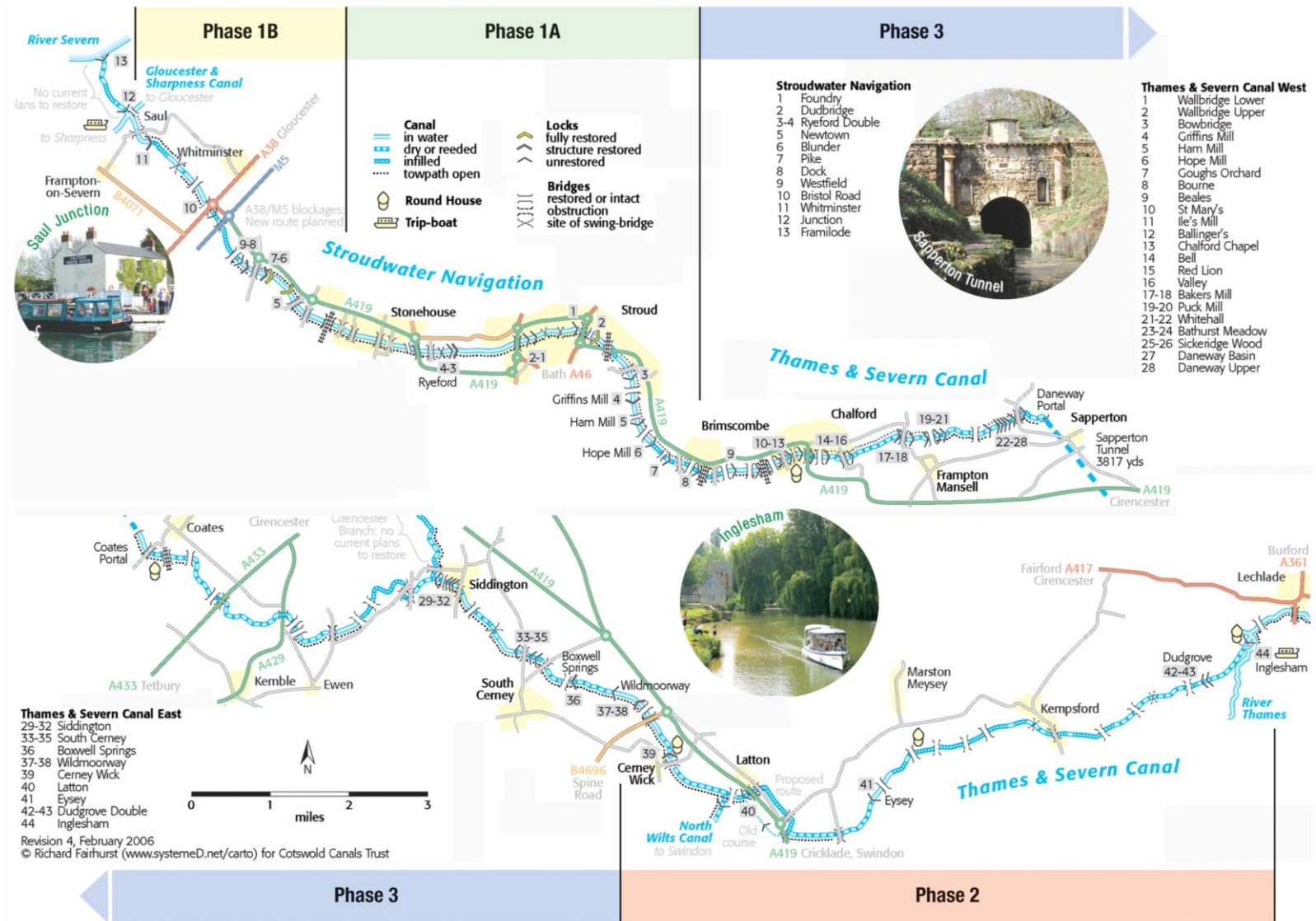
And of course the famous shopping trolleys.....



The Canal restoration has transformed Stroud.....

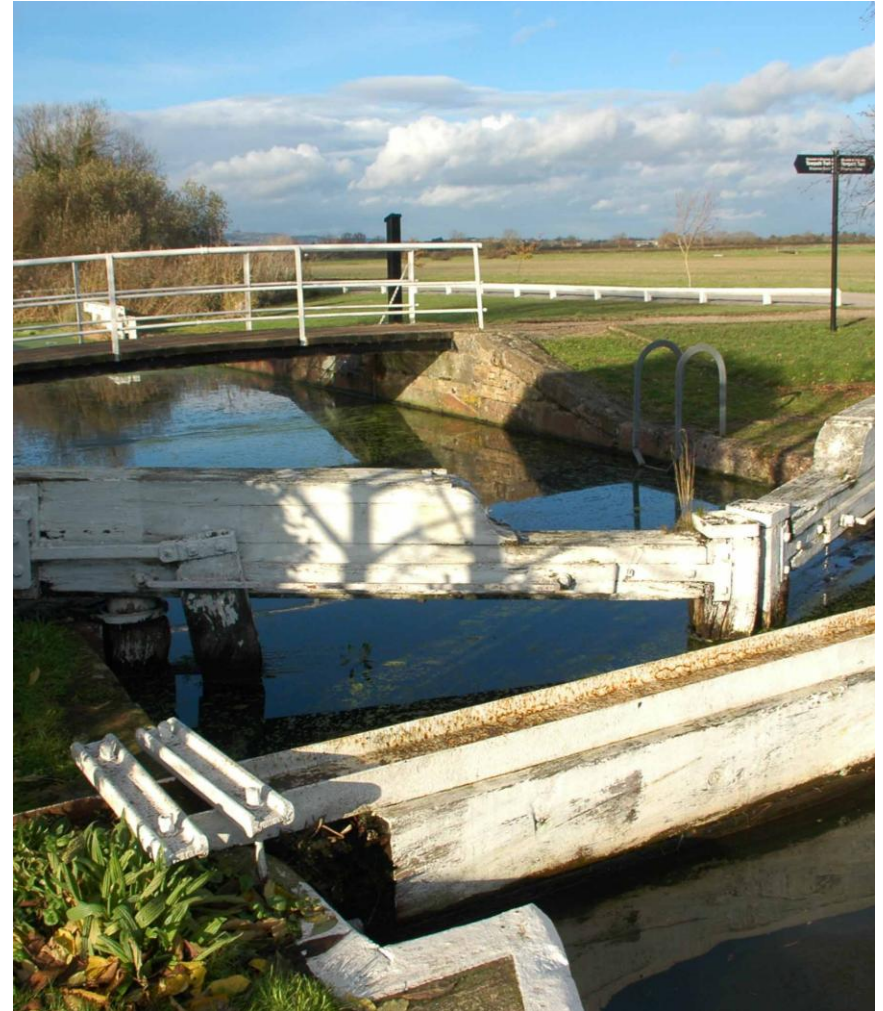
**“A PLACE TO AVOID TO A PLACE TO
GO”**

Cotswold Canals..



SOME FACTS AND FIGURES

- Private sector investment to as a result of the canal regeneration £101 million
- Involved 48,000 volunteer hours, and a core of 300 volunteers
- HLF grant of £12.9m, Stroud Council £4.4m, CCT £1m
- Inward investment approximately 40% employment, 60% housing
- 15% to 20% boost to house values along the canal





SAUL JUNCTION
VIA TOWPATH 11.6KM



BRIMSCOMBE
VIA TOWPATH 3.7KM

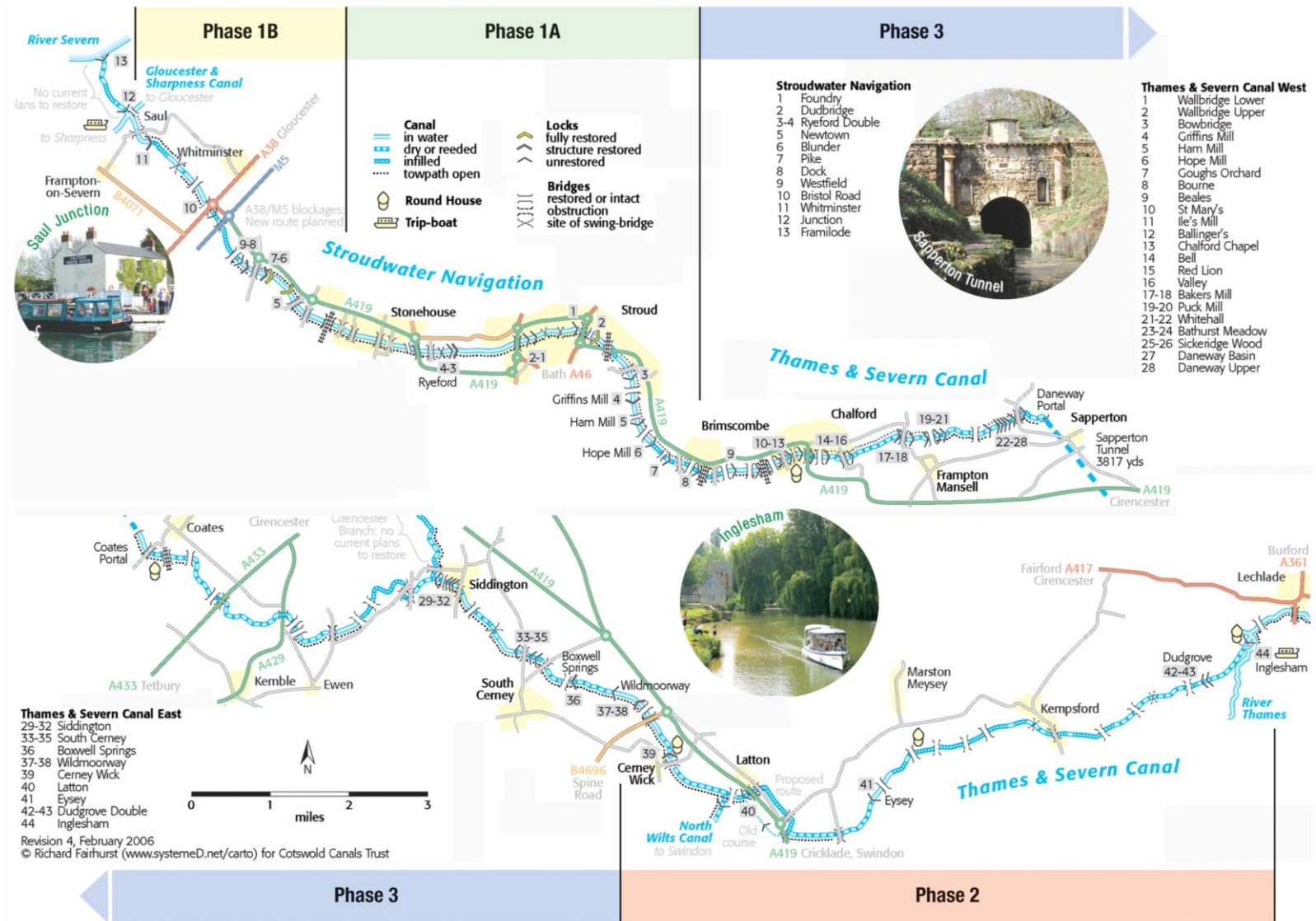
SAUL JUNCTION 11.6KM

**WALKERS
COMMUTERS
CYCLISTS
PHOTOGRAPHERS
SCHOOL KIDS
PLAY
KEEP FIT
DISABILITY ACCESS**

**DAYDREAMERS
WILDLIFE WATCHERS
FISHERMEN
CANOES AND KAYAKS
PADDLE BOARDING
CORACLES
STEAM BOATS
FREE SWIMMING
TRIP BOATS**

**ONLY 5% OF CANAL USERS
ARE BOATERS**

Cotswold Canals..





SAUL JUNCTION
VIA TOWPATH 11.6KM



BRIMSCOMBE
VIA TOWPATH 3.7KM

SAUL JUNCTION 11.6KM



WANDERERS AND PONDERERS.....





WALLBRIDGE



RESTORATION OF THE CANAL AT WALLBRIDGE

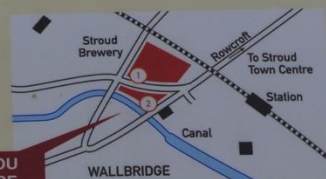
The area around you changed with the completion of the new 'Brewery Bridge' to your left. This was one of the many projects making up the first phase of the restoration of the Cotswold Canals, led by Stroud District Council. The basin below you was restored and the whole site landscaped. The Upper Wallbridge lock was restored with new lock gates. Two of the original gates were recycled for use elsewhere on the canal.



This photograph shows the scale of the work being carried out here during 2011.



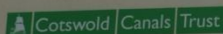
Wallbridge and the canal circa 1790
© Museum in the Park, Stroud.



YOU
ARE
HERE

BREWERY

The building remains opposite you are those of the original Stroud Brewery. There were two buildings (shown in red on the map).

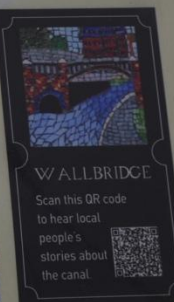
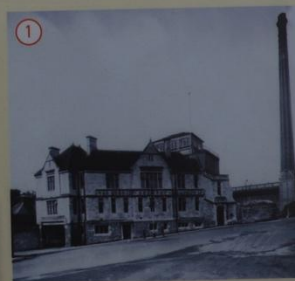


VISITOR CENTRE

The Cotswold Canals Trust Visitor Centre stands above the lock. Here you can find out about the historical and natural heritage of the canals and current information on the restoration.



Once work on the new bridge and the replacement lock was completed, the new scheme was officially opened by HRH The Princess Royal.



FIND OUT MORE
www.cotswoldcanals.com

THAMES & SEVERN CANAL

CROSSING THE A46



A SPACE FOR PUBLIC ART



Volunteer on the Canal restoration

We have lots of opportunities along the canal including rebuilding locks, towpath construction and general maintenance.

No experience necessary.

Great fun and get fit.

Learn new skills.

All welcome.

For more information
either email
jon.ponte'ract@stroud.gov.uk
or phone Paul Weller
on 07836426317 or
browse the CCT website
Cotswoldcanals.com







Roundabout

Cotswold Canals
Thames & Severn Canal

Stroudwater Court
Retirement Apartments














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AREA**
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natural habitat
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OR LITTER
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LOCKS, LAKE AND LAWN

RUSCOMBE BROOK

Restoration of the two locks here at Duddridge – Franks, or Lower Lock and Foundry, or Upper Lock, has been a major project with the inclusion of the hydro-electric scheme. To generate electricity, the scheme utilizes the heightened flow in the canal from the waters of the Painswick Stream and Slad Brook.

The locks were restored in 2013. Before it was filled with 500,000 litres of water, members of the public were given the opportunity to walk on the floor of the Upper Lock. Artefacts retrieved during restoration included a Second World War steel helmet, possibly once worn by an Air Raid warden and a live hand grenade. Bottles were also discovered, probably from the Victoria Tap pub that once stood close to the locks.

LAKE AT THE LAWN

The map accompanying the auction of The Lawn in 1904.

A 19th century mansion called The Lawn, with its own estate and pleasure grounds, was once on the other side of the canal from where you are standing. It had a fine lake, fed by the Ruscombe Brook.

The estate was victim to road and traffic developments in the 1960s and 70s. All the estate buildings disappeared and the grounds remained overgrown and forgotten until this century.

LAKE AT THE LAWN REVIVED

Since 2002, the site has been brought back to life for people and wildlife to enjoy.

The Stroud Community Land Trust, in partnership with Stroud Valleys Project and local schools and volunteers, has cleared the site. It is a great place to explore, relax and picnic. The variety of wildlife in and around the lake continues to increase.

Direktion - Duddridge Upper Lock in 1963

Small Red Damselfly

Local children helping to create new hedges at the Lawn.

A SHORT DIVERSION

You can explore the grounds of the old estate by:

1. Continuing along the towpath up on to the bridge and turning right
2. Walking over the lock gate bridge and through the gale by Ruscombe Brook

Moorhen

Blackcap

FIND OUT MORE

www.cotswoldcanals.com

STROUD DISTRICT COUNCIL
www.stroud.gov.uk


STROUD LOTTERY FUNDED

DUDDRIDGE Scan this QR code to hear local people's stories about the canal.

STROUDWATER NAVIGATION



DUDBRIDGE LOCKS HYDROELECTRICITY







Many tonnes of water flow down this part of the Stroudwater Navigation each day, fed from the Painswick and Slad Brooks which enter upstream. These are used by this turbine to generate electricity.

At the moment we send 1500 kW of electricity into the grid with a total of 75 kg of CO₂ saved

And an impressive total of 328 kWh generated so far.

Thanks are due to the Landfill Communities Fund of the Gloucestershire Environmental Trust (GET), Cory Environmental, the Summerfield Charitable Trust, Stroud District Council and others for their generosity and the many volunteers and supporters of the Cotswold Canals Trust.

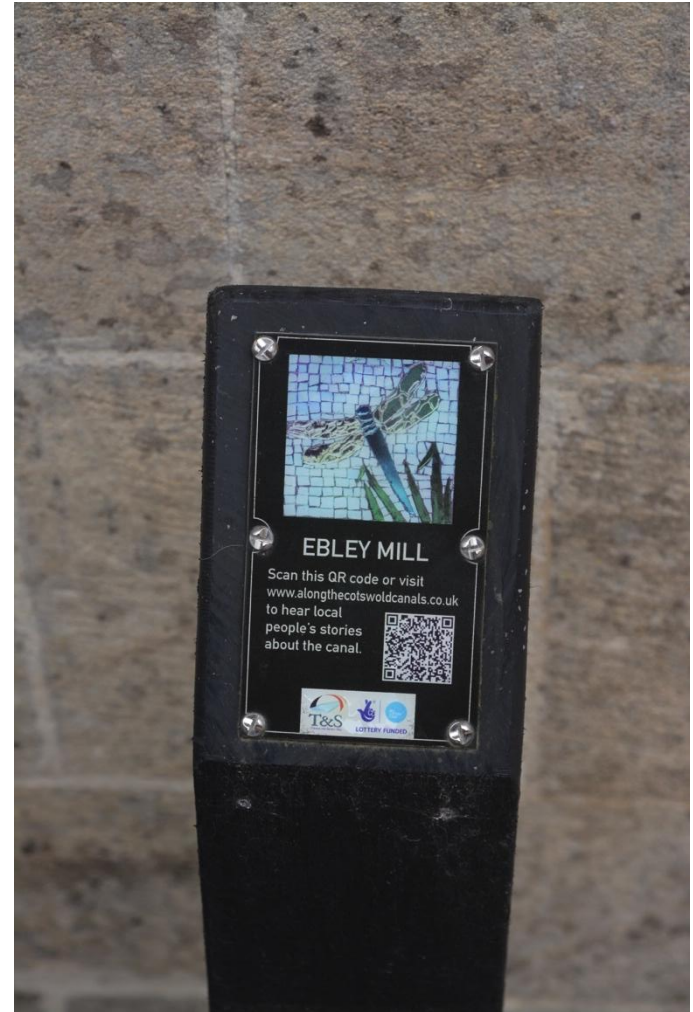


STROUDWATER NAVIGATION



















SWING BRIDGE OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS
TO STOP BRIDGE IN EMERGENCY
PRESS EMERGENCY STOP BUTTON

ENSURE BRIDGE IS CLEAR OF PEDESTRIANS & TRAFFIC
BEFORE AND DURING OPERATION
FOR OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS SEE SCREEN BELOW

TO OPERATE BRIDGE
1. TURN KEY
2. TURN HANDLE
3. TURN HANDLE
4. TURN HANDLE

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1. TURN KEY
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“WE ARE FULL UP AFTER 2 MONTHS, THE CANAL GAVE US FREE ADVERTISING AND FOOTFALL AND THE VIEW’S NOT BAD...”



SPACE TO THINK....



TRIP BOAT



SWIMMING GALA 1935















“WE ARE IN JUST
THE RIGHT PLACE”

