

**Inside**  
**Our nature is national asset**



**page 2**

**Norbury is the home of the deal**

**Win a free week's boating holiday on Norbury's Facebook page**

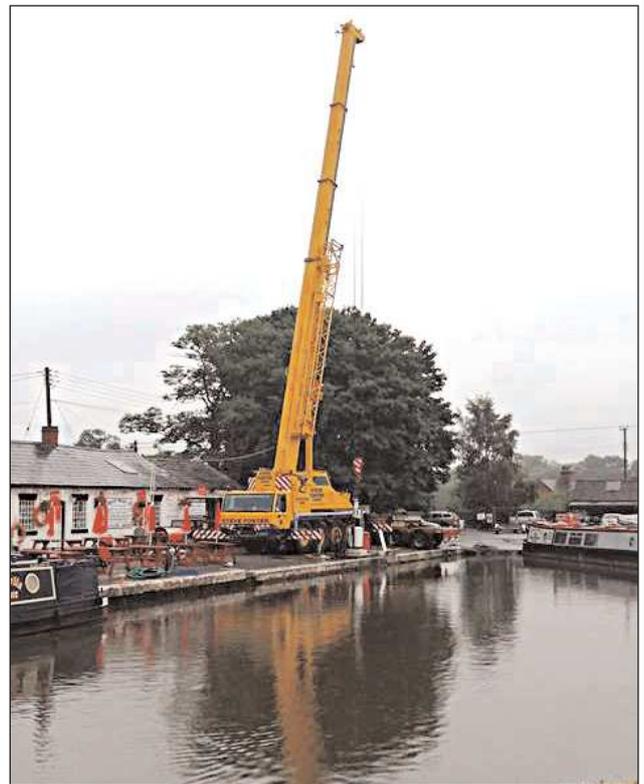


# Licence or lose it - or let us buy it

**The Canal & River Trust's use of its powers to seize unlicensed boats is highly controversial when applied to boats used as homes, but the threat has resulted many unlicensed boats not only getting a license with national figures for licence evasion now down to less than five per cent.**

However, the threat of seizure can add to the financial worries of all boat owners. Sometimes boats have just become too much of a financial burden for owners, what was once a fun hobby has become a money pit and they appear to give up. Changing circumstances can mean that what was once an enjoyable hobby has turned into a series of demands for money – for a licence, insurance and repairs.

Unfortunately when they become part of the small minority who fail to get a licence C&RT enforces a Section 8 notice and the boat is eventually seized, craned out of the water and placed in to storage. If the owners don't pay all the substantial outstanding fees the boat is eventually sold and only once all costs are covered is the balance (if any) paid to the owner. The result is a final financial blow to the owner. Norbury Wharf director David Ray said: "Two boats have recently been lifted out here at Norbury as they are subject to a Section 8, but there is a much



*A crane on the quayside at Norbury Wharf waiting to crane a customer's boat onto a lorry - but next time it could be a vessel seized by C&RT under its Section 8 powers*

better alternative. "We will buy any narrow boat for cash and give you an instant decision with the sale completed in less than 24 hours. "That has got to be cheaper than seeing the value of your boat eaten away by C&RT fees and charges. "No survey is needed - just proof of ownership. It is a serv-

ice we offer across the country, but remember we are based on a narrow canal, so we only deal with narrow boats." Anyone who has fallen out of love with their boat or the costs of boating can call Norbury Wharf on 01785 284292 and speak to David, Simon or Adrian or email us at [info@norburywharftd.co.uk](mailto:info@norburywharftd.co.uk).

## Bargains

### DIESEL

- Our fuel is the cheapest at a commercial boatyard on the waterways - and FAME free. It can change on a weekly basis but it is now at:

**59p**

### BATTERIES

- 110amphr batteries JUST each when you buy four or more in the

**£64.95**

same transaction. £69.00 each if sold singly.

### ECOFANS

The original and best fan for your

**£74.99**

# Our nature is national asset

**I**t is not just boaters, walkers, cyclists and fishermen who value the extraordinary green corridor of the Shropshire Union Canal - in the last 200 years it has become a vital habitat for wildlife.

In either direction from Norbury Wharf there are superb opportunities to observe some of the most interesting birds, mammals and plants and nearby parts of the canal system have national importance as nature reserves.

Pairs of stately Buzzards play in the green cuttings and soar over the fields by the canal and there are even Cormorants as you travel south, towards Wolverhampton.

The eagle eyed may spot water voles and even water shrews on the banks of the canal and the clean waters of the Shropshire Union have brought both otters and the destructive but pretty Mink to play on its banks.

Most birds have fledged and left their nests by July but if you are sharp-eyed, you can spot this year's brood as they mature to become indistinguishable from their parents. Ducks are prolific breeders and you may spot a second brood of ducklings even now, being kept in order by a bossy mother duck.

If wildlife is your thing you can give it a helping hand by volunteering to help a 'Making Special Places for Nature' project,



Just south of Norbury, between Wheaton Aston and Brewood, Belvide Reservoir, built in 1833 to supply what was then called the Birmingham and Liverpool Junction Canal, covers 74 hectares and is part of a £350,000 national nature project by Canal & River Trust to improve vulnerable wildlife habitats across 10 key sites.

Overwintering, migratory and breeding birds, aquatic plants and insects use the reservoir and the work will deal with silt build up and water quality improvement by coppicing, vegetation management.

Another of the sites is to the north of Norbury on the Montgomery Canal, leading off the Llangollen, where rare protected aquatic plants, including floating water plantain, and several species of dragonflies are getting a habitat makeover by the removal of silt, shade reduction, vegetation management, coppicing, removal of invasive plants.

The disused Guilsfield Arm will be improved for wildlife.

Volunteers will play key role at this site.

In all the 'Making Special Places for Nature' project spans reservoirs and canals in Leicestershire, Nottinghamshire, Greater Manchester, Shropshire, Worcestershire, Staffordshire, Berkshire and mid Wales. It will benefit water shrews, voles, otters, bats, dragonflies and other rare fauna and flora.

C&RT is appealing to volunteers to join us in this mammoth task and hope to encourage many residents, particularly young people, to roll up their sleeves and get involved in improving their own local nature reserve.

Trust ecologist Stuart Moodie said: "Getting local people involved in managing these reserves is a key priority. We would appeal to anyone who wants to get in touch with nature and play an important role in conserving their local area to contact us. This is a genuine chance to make a real difference."

## Double celebration for top Shroppie volunteer group

**V**olunteers are playing an ever-increasing role in the upkeep of our canals and those on the Shroppie are doing more than most - members of the Small Task Team Volunteers (STTV), formed in March 2012, have just completed their 100th work party.

This coincides with their founder and coordinator Paul Mills being presented with the "National Volunteer of the Year" award by waterway newspaper, Towpath Talk.

The volunteers celebrated the double achievement at a party hosted by Canal & River Trust at



the National Waterways Museum in Ellesmere Port, attended by chief executive Richard Parry. The group has built up expertise in small construction tasks and can now regularly be seen installing picnic benches, carrying out improvements to locks and towpaths, and enhancing moor-

ings and water points.

Richard Parry said: "This group is an excellent example of the difference we can all make by working together. STTV has set a high bar for others to aspire to and demonstrates the complex tasks that can be achieved by volunteers."

# Norbury is the home of the deal



**At Norbury Wharf we like to take our customers by surprise and offer them something more.**

This month you can get anything from a free boating holiday to a discount on bottom blacking.

**HAVE A HOLIDAY ON US**  
We are offering a week-long holiday aboard our four-berth narrowboat Flora, worth up to £1,200. Just find the offer on our Facebook Page, LIKE our Facebook page, LIKE the post, SHARE the original post on your wall and add "I love Norbury Wharf" to the comments. The lucky winner will be drawn totally at random at

the end of July and notified through Facebook.

### SAVE A QUARTER THIS SUMMER

Summer boating holidays just got cheaper. Norbury Wharf is offering up to 25 per cent off selected hire boats during the peak children's holiday months of July and August – details on the website – [NorburyWharfLtd.co.uk](http://NorburyWharfLtd.co.uk) and the Facebook page.

### DRY DOCK FOR LESS

If you are quick you can get the boat's bottom blacked for less, Norbury's excellent covered dry dock has a few spots available at a 10 per cent discount off docking and blacking for July and August. Live aboards welcome. DIY also

available during this period. Free no obligation quote .

### MOORING WITH DISCOUNTS

Norbury has a few moorings available – and that's unusual – but they come with special discounts on docking and blacking as well as other moorer's perks.

### FLAT RATE SELLING

We even have a deal if you want to sell or upgrade your boat. We are now offering a special flat rate brokerage fee of £1,500. Norbury has 30 years experience of buying and selling narrow boats and we can offer FULL boat yard facilities. Dry dock available for surveys.

## Speeding cyclists urged to cool it

**All around the waterways we have seen massive improvements in towpaths in recent years, especially in towns, and a real upsurge in the numbers using them for walking, and cycling – but the improvements have also brought rising tensions.**

Smooth, surfaced towpaths – often paid for with money from the cycling charity Sustrans – are attractive commuting routes, but speeding cyclists have increasingly been in conflict with families out walking, pet owners and boaters. In a recent survey commissioned by C&RT as part of its 'Share the Space, Drop your Pace' campaign, showed nearly a quarter of people saying their biggest bugbear in public places is when cyclists speed past them.

The difficulty the Trust faces is that it has no effective sanction on speeding cyclists as there is no legal obligation on them to be licensed, insured or to stick to a speed limit. Instead C&RT has to use persuasion and throughout the summer it is intending to spray messages on the

towpath in the busiest areas to encourage people to 'slow down and look around' and that there's 'no need to rush, just relax'.

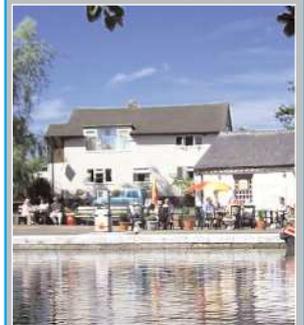
It has also created a 3D image of a sleeping policeman to deploy at certain points along the towpath encouraging people to drop their pace.



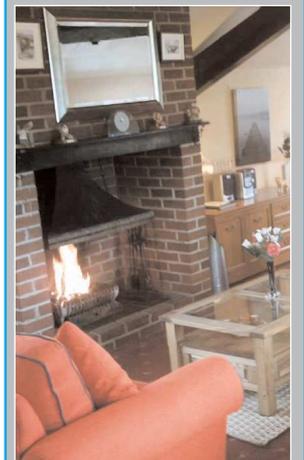
## Holidays

### WHY NOT JOIN US ON SHORE?

Norbury Wharf's cosy cottage sits alongside our busy wharf and is a home from home.



### Special rates on day boats if booked in advance.



### All bookings are handled through Hoseasons.

# Boats for sale

## Slow n Easy

65 foot semi-trad all steel narrow boat built in 2002 by Burton Narrowboats and powered by a Beta Marine 43HP engine with twin alternators and PRM hydraulic operated gearbox. Hot water is via a twin coil calorifier, fed by the engine, gas central heating and a 240V immersion heater. From entering the boat at the rear some steps take you to the rear cabin laid out as two single bunks, that can be made in to a large double bed across the width of the boat. Then comes the shower room and pump out toilet, Forward of this is the double bed, and then comes the galley before a large saloon with L shaped seating and lots of space with bow doors leading to the front deck.

£34,999



## John O Dreams

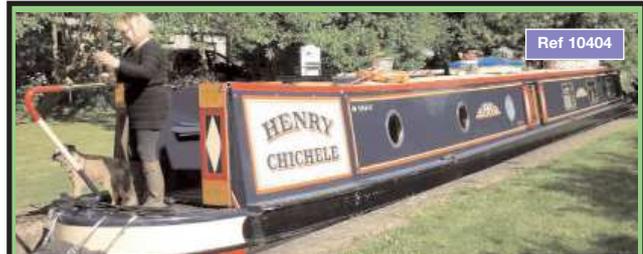
is an all-steel 38 foot traditional stern narrow boat. The boat has a four year Boat Safety Certificate in place and has recently had a hull condition survey showing that the boat is insurable and only requires a small amount of work to give it a full bill of health. From entering at the rear of the boat is the engine room with twin cylinder Lister engine, followed by the bedroom, next comes the shower room, pullman dinette area and finally the galley which is fitted with all new appliances.

The boat is heated by a solid fuel stove. Cratch and cover fitted over forward well deck. This boat has been a project for the current owner and is still in need of some works to bring it up to a satisfactory standard.

£12,950



## Captain's Folly



## Henry Chichele

- a 68ft semi traditional stern narrow boat built by Reeves in 2005 and fitted out by Malcolm Smith, finishing in October 2009.

It is powered by a reliable 42hp Isuzu marine diesel engine with a hospital silencer considerably reducing the exhaust noise and a smooth running Python drive coupling ensuring you are guaranteed an enjoyable and peaceful time afloat.

The quality of the craftsmanship in this boat is second to none - lined out in marine oak faced ply and framed in substantial solid oak capping. All internal doors and front doors are bespoke including a pair of internal glazed doors to both side doors.

Henry Chichele is an ideal boat to be used for extended cruising or indeed living aboard by benefiting from: large fuel tank, large stainless steel water tank, washing machine, twin alternators, bowthruster, Victron 3kW inverter/charger, fuel gauge, water gauge, two flat screen television (saloon and bedroom) with 12v motorised satellite dish with Freeview sky box.

This boat has been extremely well maintained by her current owner.

£69,950

## Two Waters

A 60ft semi traditional stern all steel narrow boat built by Liverpool Boats in 1996, and powered by a reliable Beta Marine 43hp engine. From the rear of the boat is the double bedroom, next is the shower room with Thetford C200 toilet. Following this there is another double bedroom.

Next comes the galley with Vanette hob and eye-level grill and oven and a pair of side doors. Finally comes the open-plan saloon with Morso Squirrel solid fuel stove. This boat has many extras including Adverc Battery Management system, diesel fired central heating and cratch. Boat Safety Certificate July 2020.

£36,950



## Boat on Trailer

