

FACILITIES

WATER POINTS

Sherborne Wharf (Birmingham) [0121 456 6163]
Farmers Bridge Top Lock (Birmingham & Fazeley)
Holliday Wharf (just south of Gas Street Basin)
Tividale Aqueduct (Netherton Tunnel Branch)
Tividale Aqueduct (Old Main Line)
Wolverhampton Top Lock
Wolverhampton Lock No.15
BW Sneyd Yard (Wyrley & Essington)
Anglesey Bridge Marina (Anglesey Branch) [01543 454994]
Longwood Junction (by Boat Club)
Perry Barr Top Lock
Walsall Top Lock
Parkhead Junction (next to pump house)
Aldridge Marina (Daw End Branch) [01922 53397]
Hawne Basin (Dudley No.2)
Malthouse Stables, Tipton (Old Main Line)
Cuckoo Wharf (Aston Locks)
Canal Transport Services (Cannock Extension) [01543 374370]
Grove Colliery Basin (Cannock Extension)
Black Country Museum
Coronation Gardens, Tipton (Old Main Line)
NEW – Windmill End (Dudley No.2) [next to new visitor centre].

REFUSE DISPOSAL

Farmers Bridge Lock No.7 (Fleet Street)
Sherborne Wharf (Birmingham)
Holliday Wharf (just south of Gas Street Basin)
Tividale Aqueduct (Netherton Tunnel Branch)
Gorsebrook (Wolverhampton Locks)
BW Sneyd Yard
Longwood Junction
Perry Barr Top Lock
Parkhead Junction (next to pump house)
Aldridge Marina (Daw End Branch)
Hawne Basin (Dudley No.2)
Cuckoo Wharf (Aston Locks)
Oldbury Boat Services [small amounts – by arrangement only – 0121 544 1795]

SANITARY STATIONS

Farmers Bridge Top Lock
Sherborne Wharf
Perry Barr Top Lock
Holliday Wharf
Tividale Aqueduct (Netherton Tunnel Branch)
BW Sneyd Yard
Longwood Junction
Walsall Top Lock
Aldridge Marina (Daw End Branch)
Cuckoo Wharf (Aston Locks)
Associated Cruisers (Wolverhampton Top Lock) [01902 23673]
Canal Transport Services (Cannock Extension)

PUMP-OUTS

Sherborne Wharf (Birmingham)
Associated Cruisers (Wolverhampton Top Lock)
Hawne Basin (Dudley No.2)
Longwood Boat Club (self-operated)
Malthouse Stables, Tipton (self-operated)
Aldridge Marina (Daw End Branch)

DIESEL

Oldbury Boat Services (Old Main Line)
Sherborne Wharf (Birmingham)
Associated Cruisers (Wolverhampton Top Lock)
Canal Transport Services (Cannock Extension)
Aldridge Marina (Daw End Branch)

CHANDLERY

Associated Cruisers (Wolverhampton Top Lock)
Sherborne Wharf (Birmingham)
Mechanical Engineering Services, Malthouse Stables, Tipton (Old Main Line)
Oldbury Boat Services (Old Main Line)
Aldridge Marina (Daw End Branch)

GENERAL INFORMATION

The Birmingham Canal Navigations (BCN) is a 100 mile network of narrow canals situated at the very heart of the Midlands waterway system. There is, arguably, no other inland waterways complex in the world which provides such vivid, sometimes breathtaking, contrasts. It would be difficult to imagine a canal landscape containing more features of interest to such a wide variety of users.

Unfortunately, the BCN harbours a serious burden – its image. To the uninitiated the BCN is still perceived as grimy and unpleasant, but this is simply not true. Admittedly, some parts do pass through industrialised areas – but remember – that is the reason they were built in the first place! There are many others which remain amazingly rural and completely unspoilt. Nowhere is this more apparent than the delightful areas of the Northern BCN, providing many miles of tranquil, trouble-free cruising.

Fortunately British Waterways, in conjunction with local canal societies and councils, has done much in recent years to enhance the waterside, to improve navigation and to promote the BCN canals as a valuable leisure resource.

It is hoped that this all too brief introduction to the available amenities will serve to stimulate those as yet unfamiliar with the area, whilst encouraging those with preconceived notions to reconsider. Obviously, there is much, much more than can be conveyed by literature alone and the only path to true enlightenment lies with personal experience. So come and take a fresh look at the Birmingham Canal Navigations – you may be surprised!

Finally, it is recommended that this leaflet be used in conjunction with one of the popular cruising guides such as Nicholsons, Pearsons or GEOprojects excellent full-colour map.

USEFUL CONTACTS:

Birmingham Canal Navigations Society
MARTIN O' KEEFFE, 35 Redwood Close, Oaklands Park, Gloucester,
GL1 5TZ. Tel: 0121 654 4669 (day) 01452 526248 (eve).

IWA Lichfield Branch
PETER CHANDLER, 34 Fox Lane, Alrewas, Burton-on-Trent,
Staffs., DE13 7EQ. Tel: 01283 791832.

IWA Birmingham, Black Country & Worcestershire Branch
VAUGHAN WELCH, 29 Dice Pleck, Northfield,
Birmingham, B31 3XW. Tel: 0121 477 9782.

British Waterways, Birmingham & Black Country
Bayleys Lane, Tipton, West Midlands, DY4 0PX.
Tel: 0121 506 1300 / Fax: 0121 506 1313.

DISCLAIMER:

Please note that moorings are "as recommended" only with no guarantee of security and that details of facilities are subject to change. Therefore, neither the compiler nor the above named organisations can accept responsibility for any inconvenience which may result. The compiler, however, welcomes amendments or additions to this list.

Compiled and produced by Kevin Maslin (Tel/fax: 0121 557 8114) on behalf of the Birmingham Canal Navigations Society. © Kevin Maslin, 4th edn. Jan 1998.
BCN map reproduced by kind permission of Ivor Caplan.



The Birmingham Canal Navigations

Essential information for boaters including:

- Moorings
- Boat yards
- Pubs
- Chandlery
- Water
- Fuel
- Sanitary stations
- Pump-outs
- Refuse disposal
- Useful addresses

BIRMINGHAM CANAL NAVIGATIONS ~ RECOMMENDED MOORINGS

BIRMINGHAM CITY CENTRE

There are several excellent visitor moorings around the ICC, NIA, Brindleyplace and National Sealife Centre complexes. Also Sheepcote Street/St. Vincent Street, Worcester Bar and Holliday Street – Salvage Turn. These vary in duration from 24hr to 14 days.

PUBS: Many to choose from in City Centre and Brindleyplace, but the PRINCE OF WALES (rear of ICC) is a boaters' favourite.

DIGBETH BRANCH

Near Aston Science Park at Top of Ashted Locks.

BIRMINGHAM & FAZELEY

Top of Farmers Bridge.
Cuckoo Wharf (on Aston flight).
Bottom of Aston flight near Salford Junction.

PUBS: "Flapper & Firkin" (ex Longboat), Kingston Row. Others in side streets off Farmers Bridge flight.

NEW MAIN LINE

Near Engine Branch Aqueduct, Smethwick.
A few quiet spots in Galton Valley (north of Galton Bridge).
Near Spon Lane Bridge.
Pudding Green Junction.
Near Dudley Port Junction.

Opposite "Watery Lane Junction".

PUBS: "Horseley Tavern" (opposite Dudley Port BR Station); "Railway Inn" (opposite Sandwell & Dudley BR Station), Bromford Lane Bridge.

OLD MAIN LINE

Engine Branch (Top of Smethwick Locks outside Galton Valley Centre).
Near Whimsey Bridge, Oldbury (next to Mecca complex).
Good stretch between Tividale Quays and Tipton Junction.
Coronation Gardens, Tipton.
Malthouse Stables, Tipton.
Coseley Stop (south of tunnel).
Wolverhampton Top Lock.

Wolverhampton Racecourse (Dunstall Park) in between Lock No.17 & Lock No.18.

PUBS: "Wagon & Horses" (Oldbury); "The Hardy" (Oldbury); "The Boat" (Tividale); "The Wonder" (Tividale); "M.A.D. O'Rourke's Pie Factory" (Tipton); "The Fountain" (Tipton); "The Boat" (Coseley); plus many hostels in Wolverhampton Town Centre.

TAME VALLEY CANAL

Between Lock No.11 & No.12 adjacent to park and container base.

Good stretch between M6 and Lock No.7.

Perry Barr Top Lock.

Good stretch north of Perry Barr Top Lock.

Rushall Junction.

PUBS: "Boars Head" on College Road above Perry Barr Lock No.11.

RUSHALL CANAL

Just north of Fiveways Bridge.

Below top two Rushall Locks.

PUBS: "The Bell" (north-east of Bell Bridge).

WYRLEY & ESSINGTON CANAL

DAW END BRANCH

Longwood Boat Club

(towpath side or club moorings by arrangement).

Near "Park Lime Pits" nature reserve.

PUBS: "The Manor Arms" (adjacent to Park Lime Pits).

ANGLESEY BRANCH

Ogley Junction

Anglesey Basin (very quiet, very remote!).

PUBS: "The Anchor" (just north of Catshill Junction).

CANNOCK EXTENSION

Selected quiet spots along the entire length of this mostly rural stretch but moorings recommended at Grove Colliery Basin and Norton Canes terminus.

PUBS: "The Turf" (50yds from terminus on A5 Watling Street).

WYRLEY & ESSINGTON MAIN LINE

Pelsall Common (one of prettiest locations on the BCN) – depth is best adjacent to the "Royal Oak".

Visitor moorings at Sneyd Junction.

PUBS: "Royal Oak" (York's Foundry Bridge, Pelsall North Common); "The Free Trade" (Pelsall Works Bridge, Pelsall North Common).

WALSALL CANAL

Top of Walsall Locks by Birchills Museum.

Bottom of Walsall Locks at junction with Town Arm.

Willingsworth Hall Bridge (adjacent to Patent Shaft site).

Top of Ryders Green Locks.

PUBS: "New Navigation" (Walsall Top Lock); "Eight Locks" (Ryders Green Top Lock). NOTE: from Ryders Green Top Lock it is possible to navigate (or walk) to the winding hole at the (now) terminus of the Wednesbury Old Canal and visit the excellent new pub the "Ridgacre".

TITFORD CANAL

Opposite Langley Maltings.

Area around Titford Pools (terminus).

Adjacent to "New Navigation" pub.

PUBS: "New Navigation" (Jarvis Bridge); "Finings & Firkin" (Langley Green Bridge); "Crosswells" (Langley town centre).

DUDLEY NO.1 CANAL

Black Country Museum end of Dudley Tunnel (Lord Ward's Canal).
NEW VISITOR MOORINGS.

Some quiet spots between Parkhead and Woodside Bridge.

Waterfront (Merry Hill) – moorings on hotel side of basin.

Merry Hill (past Waterfront). ACCESS TO SHOPS FROM TOWPATH AT FAR END OF CINEMA CAR PARK.

Delph flight (Arm between Lock No.1 and Lock No.2).

Delph flight (Arm adjacent to Bottom Lock).

PUBS: "The Woodside" (off Woodside Bridge); spoilt for choice at Merry Hill's Waterfront development and a real ale fan's paradise at the bottom of the Delph flight: try the "Bull & Bladder"; "Black Horse"; "Tenth Lock"; "The Bell"; plus many others within a short walking distance.

DUDLEY NO.2 CANAL

Windmill End Junction

Opposite "The Wharf" pub (north of Gosty Hill Tunnel).

Hawne Basin.

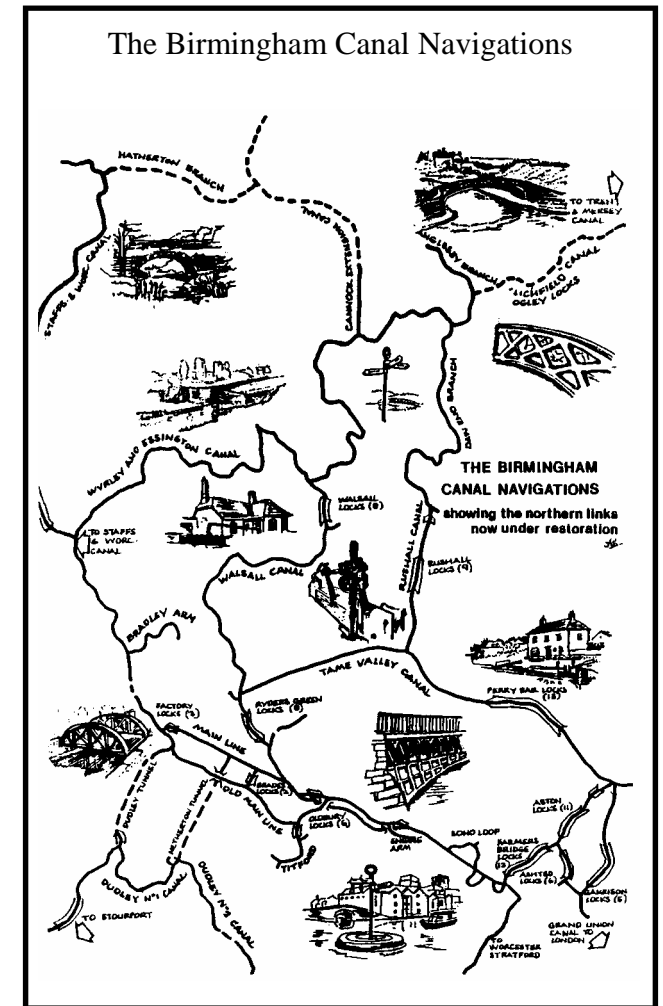
Some quiet spots between Blackbrook and Parkhead junctions.

Parkhead Junction (outside pump house).

PUBS: "The Little Dry Dock" (Windmill End); "The Wheatsheaf" (Windmill End);

"The Neptune" (Powke Lane Bridge); "The Wharf" (north of Gosty Hill Tunnel);

"The Boat" (near tunnel mouth); "The Lighthouse" (on Gosty Hill – short walk up



Station Road from tunnel).

Additionally, there are a number of long-term and residential mooring sites available on the BCN. Please contact British Waterways (0121 506 1300) for further details.