



An invitation to

**South West Herts
Narrowboat Trust**

Registered Charity Number: 1177483

Open Day

Saturday 5th March 2022

Dear Friend,

We would like to extend a very warm welcome to you, as a member of the SW Herts Community, to our Narrowboat Trust. We encourage groups, of all ages and from many different walks of life, to sample life aboard our two narrowboats, Dick's Folly and Pickle's Folly. Many groups book time on our boats year after year, enabling people, both young and old, to experience the many pleasures available on and around the Grand Union Canal. On Saturday 5th March 2022, following the success of previous Open Days, we are opening our gates once again to anyone who is curious to have a go at narrowboating.

The invitation is open to any Group Leader/Organiser. Come along to find out if spending time on a narrowboat would be of benefit to your Group, or could form an interesting addition to your annual events programme. Below are some of the feedback comments from our previous Open Days.

"I think it's good for new people to be able to have a go, albeit a small one, as it may give them the confidence to take it further."

"A short go driving the boat was great and reassured me that learning the navigation skills would not be too onerous."

"To be able to work several locks, plus have a go at the helm, showed how a group on the narrowboats can work together."



What does it involve?

The Open Day involves joining us at our base near Hunton Bridge and spending the day on board either Dick's Folly or Pickle's Folly. You will be able to experience the sights and sounds along the Grand Union canal, and proceed through the locks towards Cassiobury Park. Refreshments will be provided on board, as well as a light lunch prepared in the boat's galley. If you wish, you can take a turn at the helm of the boat and will be taught how to work the locks. Members of our Trust will be on hand to answer any of your questions. You will return to our base in the afternoon.

What groups could benefit?

There are many groups of people who could benefit either from learning new skills or simply from experiencing the relaxed atmosphere of being close to nature and slowing down the pace of life. Groups can make use of the boats for any time period from just a few hours to a full week.

Here are some examples of groups who have benefitted in the past:

Young People's Groups: e.g. Cubs & Scouts; School Groups.

Young Adults: e.g. Church Groups; Disabled Groups.

Elderly Groups: e.g. outings for elderly folk who live alone;

Groups from Care Homes.

Interest groups, e.g. those interested in Narrowboating; Those wanting to do their RYA Inland Waterways Helmsman Qualification etc

Birdwatching Groups; Nature Enthusiasts.

Social Activity Groups: narrowboating could provide an unusual experience for any social group within the community as part of an activity programme.

Please note: Pickle's Folly has a platform lift installed to facilitate access for those who find steps difficult or for those who are wheelchair users.

It is not essential to be able to swim as buoyancy aids are provided for those who require them.



How do you book?

If you would like to join us for a day on a narrowboat, please e-mail your interest in the first instance to marketing@swhertsnarrowboat.org.uk. Places will be limited by the maximum number that can be carried (approximately ten persons) for each boat available on each day. You are encouraged to come in pairs so that you can discuss with your colleague the way in which our boats could contribute to your group, although it is perfectly acceptable for an individual representative to come alone.

How to find out more?

If you are still not sure, take a look at our website and be sure to ask any questions you may have. (QR Code or www.swhertsnarrowboats.org.uk)



We look forward to hearing from you.