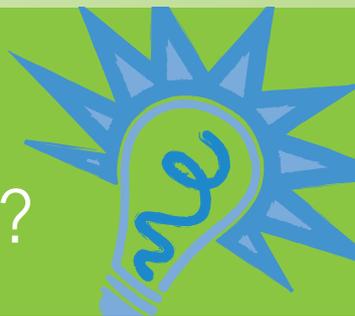


# Why don't you... take a trip on Kitty the Canal boat?



**See Woking from an entirely different perspective, as you cruise the canal on the narrowboat, Kitty. The Woking Magazine talks to Kitty's Operations Manager, Woking resident, Ian Moore.**

Named after the last horse to pull boats along the Basingstoke Canal, Kitty, a 12 seater trip boat, took her inaugural cruise on the Basingstoke Canal in 2016. She has quickly become established as part of the tourist scene, attracting 400 visitors in her first year, from Surrey and across the globe!

Ian talks about the canal's history: "Completed in 1794, it was used to convey agricultural produce from Hampshire to London. Today the majority of the canal is a Site of Scientific Special Interest (SSSI), with one of the largest varieties of aquatic plants and invertebrates in the UK. It is managed on a daily basis by the Basingstoke Canal Authority, supported by volunteers from the Canal Society."



Expressing his delight at Kitty's success so far, Ian explains: "It is very peaceful out on the boat and we get many excellent reviews. It is a fantastic opportunity to see the Borough from a totally different perspective and a great chance to relax."

"The surprise to us was that the boat was of so much interest to international visitors, who have chosen to combine a holiday or business trip with a cruise on Kitty, seeing Woking from the viewpoint of herons, kingfishers, ducks, swans and even turtles (yes we do have them!)."

Crewed by Royal Yacht Association qualified volunteers from the Canal Society, the scheduled trips run on Saturdays, Sundays and Wednesdays through the spring and summer (see website for dates) and the boat can also be chartered for private functions.

Contact [johnpinkerton.co.uk/booking](http://johnpinkerton.co.uk/booking) or call **01256 765889** between 10am and 8pm to book your trip.

**You can help keep the canal attractive so that more visitors enjoy our beautiful green space.**

- Contact the Basingstoke Canal Authority and volunteer by joining a litter pick, regular work parties, or crewing work and patrol boats.  
[www.basingstoke-canal.co.uk](http://www.basingstoke-canal.co.uk)
- Join the Basingstoke Canal Society and see where your skills can be of help.  
Visit [www.basingstoke-canal.org.uk](http://www.basingstoke-canal.org.uk)  
or call **07768 410920**
- Please take your litter home with you.
- Please pick up your dog poo and dispose of it responsibly in a waste bin.

