How you can help

Benefits of membership

Become a Member

This will really help us to keep the Canal alive. Regular subscriptions from members make a difference towards the conservation and sustainability of the Canal, not just for now but also to benefit future generations.

By supporting the Society in this way, you can benefit as well, and joining is simple.

Volunteer

The Society is always looking for people to help with 'front line' practical tasks along the Canal, and also with 'behind the scenes' roles to enable the Society to achieve its goals. Even if you can only spare a couple of hours, your time would be highly valued. Volunteering with the Society is a great way to meet new people, make friends and learn new skills.

Donate

If the Canal is important to you, please pop a few pounds in our fundraising pots, or donate online.

Go to our website to find out more: basingstoke-canal.org.uk



As a Member of the Society you will:

- Help towards the upkeep of the Canal and the work of the Society
- Receive a quarterly newsletter highlighting the activities of the Society and other Canal news
- Travel free on the members' monthly *John Pinkerton II* boat trips
- Obtain discounts on further boat outings and offers
- Attend exclusive member events
- Have access to member-only information on our web site

Members can also look forward to additional benefits which the Society will announce from time to time.

How to Join

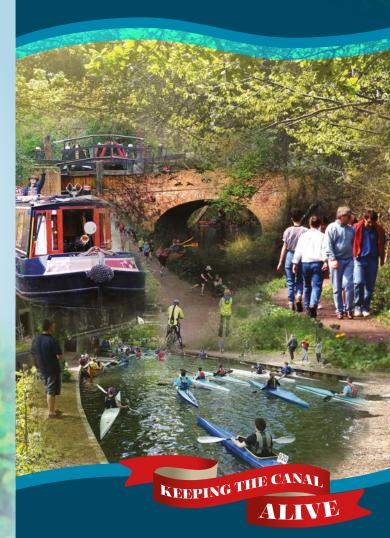
- hasingstoke-canal.org.uk/join
- ⊠ membership@basingstoke-canal.org.uk
- **2** 07305 340 547





The Society uses any personal data you give us, in any circumstance, carefully. Our Privacy Notice can be found on our website (a copy can be made available on request).

Join The Basingstoke Canal Society









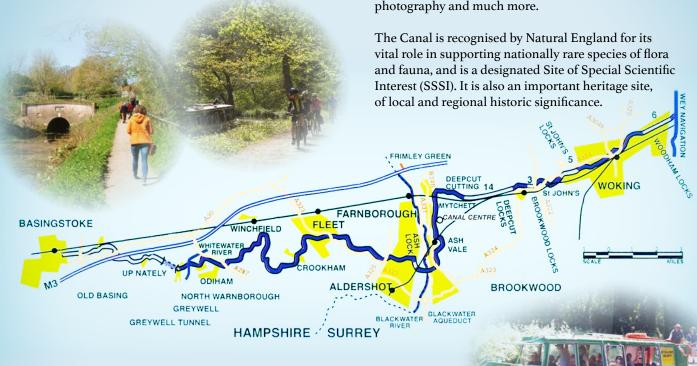
The Society has ambitious plans to keep the Canal alive for both present and future generations. Our current work and plans include:

- Continuing to run our passenger trip boats Kitty at Woking and John Pinkerton II at Odiham which offer a unique view of the Canal and raise funds to support it
- Adding to and upgrading them with more environmentally-friendly electric boats, along with improved facilities for disabled users
- Helping to improve the Canal for all by running regular volunteer working parties to undertake necessary maintenance and development work, all with training, and also building up our team of volunteers who undertake a wide variety of other tasks
- Getting the local community, clubs and users actively involved and supporting the Canal with such activities as boating, canoeing, walking, cycling and angling, all of which provide leisure, health and wellbeing benefits
- Generating income from membership, legacies, donations and corporate partners to fund a programme of projects including more visitor centres, increased information points, and an enhanced range of family events for users of the Canal
- Helping to identify reliable water supplies for navigation and the protection of the natural beauty of the Canal and its species a key environmental aim

About the Canal

The Basingstoke Canal was built over 200 years ago to provide a transport link between the farmlands of North Hampshire and London. Although it was never really a commercial success, from quite early in its history it became known for its beauty and was much valued as a recreational amenity for people living nearby.

Today, the Canal is a lovely stretch of water, towpaths and parks, winding its way for 32 miles through Hampshire and Surrey. It is enjoyed by thousands throughout the year, participating in a wide range of leisure pursuits – walks with the family and friends, trips on narrow boats, kayaking and canoeing, fishing, jogging, cycling, photography and much more.



The role of the Society

The Canal fell into decline and by the mid-1960s it was completely derelict and threatened with abandonment. A campaign by the then Surrey & Hampshire Canal Society persuaded both Surrey and Hampshire County Councils to buy it and, in partnership with an army of volunteers, to

restore it as a navigable waterway. It re-opened in 1991.

The partnership between the Canal owners, their agent the Basingstoke Canal Authority and the Basingstoke Canal Society, as it is now known, continues to this day. Volunteers still play a huge part in maintaining what is now widely recognised as a vital green corridor through this busy and built-up part of south east England. However, the tight budgets of recent years have taken their toll and now the Society is calling on local people and businesses to join them to boost the Canal's fortunes and future and help meet our aim of

