

INFORMATION FOR BOATS ATTENDING THE BICENTENARY RALLY AT MELBOURNE ON THE POCKLINGTON CANAL

General

The location of the rally is at Melbourne on the Pocklington Canal. The event starts on the evening of Friday 27th July and ends on Sunday 29th July. Boaters are invited to arrive in advance of the event, and boats arriving early are likely to be allocated moorings closer to the centre of activities.

Navigating to the Pocklington Canal

Boaters should be aware that approaching the Pocklington Canal by water requires passage through the tidal waters of the River Ouse. It is possible to approach from either Selby or from Goole, but in either case, arrival at the tidal barrage at Barmby Marsh at the entrance to the River Derwent should be timed to coincide with slack water, as it is difficult to enter the lock at other times. Also, less experienced boaters are advised to choose a neap tide for this passage. Use of both Selby Lock and Barmby Barrage should be booked in advance as neither is continuously manned.

Selby Tel 01757 703182

Barmby Tel 01757 638579

It is sufficient to advise Ocean Lock at Goole on Channel 14 an hour before the intended time of the passage. It is recommended that passage is booked for about one hour before high water, bearing in mind that it might take 30 minutes to transit the lock and there is 8 miles of tidal river to navigate. High water Barmby is approx 30 mins after high water Goole. Please note that boats will not be allowed to pass through Ocean Lock unless there is a crew of at least two and the boat is equipped with a VHF radio.

Those choosing the route via Selby are advised to enter the river at high water or a little bit before. The tide will be ebbing by the time Barmby is reached.

Equipment

Mooring at the rally will be to the bank on the towpath side, so all boats should be equipped with a gang plank and mooring pins. A standard windlass, a handcuff key and a CRT key are necessary to operate the locks on the Pocklington Canal.

Water and Sanitation

There is a water point in the Melbourne Arm, but boaters are asked not to move their boats to the basin to take on water during the rally. This should either be done on arrival before the event, or boats should have sufficient water in their tanks. There is also a sanitary station located in the Melbourne Arm, but boaters are asked not to attempt to move their boats there during the course of the rally as space is very limited and there will be a tripboat operating.

Mooring at the Rally

It will be possible for a few of the smaller boats to moor in the basin, but boats over 45ft will have to moor in the canal itself. Those selected to moor in the basin will be advised in advance. The moorings for the larger boats will be against the towpath at either side of the swingbridge at the entrance to the arm. The harbour master for the event is Richard Woodcock, and it would be helpful if boaters kept him up to date with their expected arrival time by telephone on 07913 047860 or by email at rhw611@gmail.com. He cannot be present throughout the period when boats are arriving, so boaters are asked to moor sensibly and close to the previous arrival either upstream or downstream of the swingbridge. If this is done, it should not be necessary for him to move anyone. Boaters should give consideration to turning on arrival, or before the start of the event, if they wish to depart promptly at the end.

Navigating the Newly Opened Section of the Canal

The official reopening of the newly restored section of the canal will take place around midday on Wednesday 25th July. After this has happened, visiting boats will be welcome to explore this section. However, due to the limited water supply on the canal, this will have to be done in a controlled fashion, with boats sharing the locks where possible. The harbour master will be taking bookings for boats wishing to do this, as the use of locks will be limited by the water supply, which is expected to be short. Since he cannot be present at all times, it may be preferable to contact him by telephone on 07913 047860 or by email at rhw611@gmail.com. It should be noted that there is only one place to turn round on this section and this is at the junction with the Bielby Arm, two miles and two locks beyond Melbourne.

Events and Activities

There will be a Barn Dance on the Friday evening, for which tickets have to be purchased, and a barbeque on the Saturday evening. On the Saturday and Sunday there will be a range of stalls and entertainments including a brass band and theatrical performances.