

**Tell Us
What You
Think**

Strategic Waterway Plan Engagement Prospectus

Looking forward to the next ten years

Kennet & Avon Waterway Partnership



**Canal &
River Trust**

Tell Us What You Think

Please read this document through the lens of your community, organisation or user interests.

Come back to us with comments by 20 December 2013 (contact details on the back cover) with how its objectives, priorities and actions fit with your aspirations - or how they could fit better!

Just a few steps away from our everyday lives, waterways give us a much-needed space where we can escape. Next to our canals and rivers we can relax and reconnect with ourselves, our environment and the people who matter to us. Our waterway network is a national treasure and the Canal & River Trust is here to ensure that it is protected forever.

Our mission is to inspire as many people as possible to connect with our canals and rivers and we will do this by:

- Being passionate about what we do
- Encouraging those with an interest in our work to become part of it
- Reaching out to those who have yet to discover this national treasure
- Ensuring our financial security by attracting sustainable income

We believe that the true potential of our canals and rivers and their long-term survival will only be secured if we fully engage with our visitors, neighbours and business partners. By harnessing goodwill, energy and expertise, we can widen the enjoyment of our waterways today while protecting them for future generations.

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Welcome

It was July 2012 when the Canal & River Trust was established as a charitable body to care for the waterways of England and Wales, holding them in trust forever for the nation. As a keen advocate and user of the nation's waterways, I relished the opportunity to play an active part in shaping their future for the enjoyment of everyone.

Personally, I love the Kennet & Avon Canal and I am passionate about sharing my enjoyment. When I'm paddling my canoe through early morning mist rising off the water, with herons, kingfishers and water voles for company, I feel privileged to be a part of this tranquil scene...the waterway provides a quiet sanctuary within our busy lives.

Our Partnership, The Kennet & Avon Waterways, is one of thirteen local waterway partnerships that operate across England and Wales. These Partnerships aim to engage locally with people, organisations, decision makers and communities. The Partnerships fulfil an advisory role and focus on local visions and aspirations that will complement routine operational matters; we are there to add value to the work of the Trust.

The Kennet & Avon Waterways Partnership covers two unique, largely rural waterways. Both waterways are already havens for wildlife but we aim to enhance the natural environment further with the help and support of local communities; the potential is huge! There is an opportunity through the Partnership's work to increase tourism, as well as supporting rural growth in the neighbourhoods that they pass through. Many of the top 100 Canal & River Trust visitor destinations are on the Kennet & Avon and we aim to make the most of our beautiful canal.

The Bridgwater & Taunton Canal is one of Britain's best kept secrets and although it is cut off from the rest of the system, it has well-maintained towpaths and fascinating lock structures which make for idyllic walking, cycling and peaceful boating.

The Kennet & Avon Canal (including the River Avon in the west and the River Kennet in the east) is well known for the restoration works that reopened the canal following a period of dereliction. Restoration is however by no means complete and this Partnership intends to continue to improve and enhance this waterway for the benefit of all.

I am pleased that we have strengthened our association with the well-established Kennet & Avon Canal Trust by signing a Partnership Working Agreement which helps to promote areas of cooperation in key areas such as volunteering and fundraising. We hope to promote this type of agreement to many more groups and societies that want to work with us to support the maintenance and improvement of our wonderful waterways.

The members of the Partnership have varied backgrounds and interests but all are committed to the aims of the Canal & River Trust in order to preserve and develop our two waterways. The Partnership recognises the real value the waterways bring to society so we have spent a significant part of our first year collectively and individually, out and about increasing our knowledge about the work of the Trust and the communities in which the Partnership's waterways pass through. This work will be continued with the completion and implementation of our strategic plan.

The publication of our ten year Strategic Waterway Plan will include local priorities and also greatly assist in helping to focus our efforts over the short, medium and long term. We are seeking your input and engagement in the development of this plan. Our plan will be published by the end of 2013 and we are determined that it should be shaped by external views and considered opinion which reflect the unique nature and diversity of the canal and river network in the Kennet & Avon Waterways Partnership area.

This document summarises some of the Partnership's aims and objectives as part of our Strategic Plan and we hope you or your organisation will wish to comment and suggest how we can make our waterway network an even better place to enjoy.

The Partnership very much looks forward to working with you!

Tamsin Phipps

Chair, Kennet & Avon Waterways Partnership

Canal & River Trust:

Our Role and Objectives

The Canal & River Trust was established by Parliament in July 2012. It has responsibility for canals, rivers, docks and reservoirs, along with historic buildings, archives and three waterway museums, including the National Waterways Museum.

These assets are recognised as a national treasure and a local haven for people and wildlife. They are held and managed by the new Trust on behalf of the nation. The principal role of the Trust is to care for this unique legacy, holding it in trust for the nation in perpetuity.

The new Trust will act as guardian for the canals and rivers of England and Wales - ensuring that history, nature and communities are central to everything it does.

Canal & River Trust:

Our Strategic Priorities

Almost 50% of the population of England and Wales live within five miles of our network of canals, rivers and towpaths. The network is cherished by millions of visitors, neighbours and communities, yet it has been difficult in the past for many people to get involved in shaping its future. We intend to change that.

The true potential of our canals and rivers and their long term survival will only be secured if the new Trust fully engages and works with visitors, users, neighbours, business partners and local authorities, including parish, town and community councils.

Our priority is to widen the enjoyment of our waterways today, whilst protecting them for future generations. The Trustees have set out in a document entitled '*Shaping our Future - Strategic Priorities - Keeping People, History and Nature Connected*' (July 2012) six strategic priorities aimed at unlocking this potential:



Ensuring our canals and rivers are open, accessible and safe



Inspiring more people to enjoy the canals and rivers and support our work



Earning financial security for our canals and rivers



Doing everything we can to deliver on our charitable objectives



Minimising the impact we make on scarce resources



Establishing the Trust as a respected and trusted guardian of our canals and rivers



Canal & River Trust:

Our Resources

Nationally, we have;

- an annual income of £120m
- 800 operational staff whose role it is to ensure that the physical infrastructure is maintained and developed
- 2,727 Listed Buildings, we are the third largest owner of Listed Structures in the UK
- 2,000 miles of historic urban and rural canals, rivers, reservoirs and docks
- 200 miles of waterways re-opened in the last decade
- 1,000 wildlife conservation sites and 400 miles of Conservation Area
- There are 35,200 licensed boats on the network - 2010/11 (more than at the height of the Industrial Revolution)

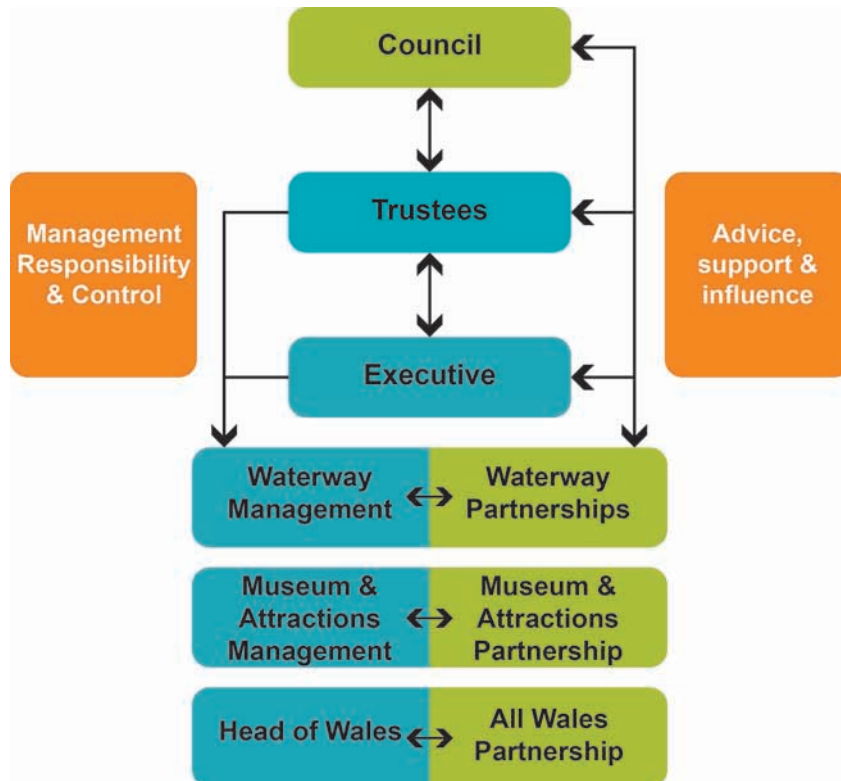
Kennet & Avon Waterways includes, or is adjacent to:

- 21 Conservation Sites
- 14 Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs) on, bisected, by or adjoining canals
- 7 Scheduled Monuments, 2 Listed Buildings Grade I, 9 Listed Buildings Grade II*, 118 Listed Buildings Grade II
- 1 World Heritage Site
- 2 Historic Parks and Gardens
- 1 Historic Battlefield

Our income is derived from a wide range of sources:

- individual donors and corporate sponsors;
- commercial income including revenue from the licensing of boats, moorings and angling; and revenue from property and utilities;
- grants from the other organisations; and
- our 15 year contract with the UK Government.

Canal & River Trust: Our Governance



The Council

The Council with a membership of around thirty, acts as the Guardian of the charitable purposes of the Trust. Its members reflect the wide appeal of waterways and are a mix of elected and nominated individuals. The Council helps to shape but not determine policy. It is vital in providing guidance and perspective, and acts as a sounding board for Trustees. It's also responsible for appointing, and dismissing Trustees.

The Trustees

The Trustees, of which there are ten, are legally responsible for directing all the Trust's business, policy and strategy, with the day to day management of the Trust delegated to the Chief Executive.

Advisory Groups

The Advisory groups provide technical/special advice on the environment, angling, heritage, navigation, freight, youth and education, volunteering but are not part of the governance of the Trust. Each group has eight to ten nationally recognised experts and help the Trust to develop capacity and capability in these important areas.

Waterway Partnerships

There are thirteen Waterway Partnerships. Each Partnership brings together a range of people with relevant skills, knowledge and expertise to support the waterways, museums and attractions and act in the best interests of the Trust.

Eleven are aligned to the operational Waterway Management units; the All Wales Partnership is focused on the particular needs and opportunities of the Waterways of Wales; and the Museums & Attractions Partnership supports the Canal & River Trust's visitor services activities. Partnership Chairs report to the Chair of Trustees and are members of the Trust's Council.

Each Partnership has around 10-12 members. The respective Waterway Manager or a senior manager in the case of All Wales and the Museum & Attractions, are also Partnership Members.

What are the Partnerships for?

The primary purpose of the Partnerships is to connect local people and communities with their waterways. In so doing, the Partnerships aim to add value to Trust, working closely with the management team providing advice, inspiration and leadership, acting as ambassadors, building influence, forging new local relationships, developing engagement and participation, and working to secure new funding and voluntary support for their waterways.

All the Partnerships are advisory and their work is strategic rather than operational. Nonetheless, they are all practically knowledgeable and action-orientated.

The Museums & Attractions Partnership has similar objectives but its members have specific expertise related to that sector.

The All Wales Partnership champions the current value and future potential of the waterways of Wales to the people and Government of Wales so they can fulfil their potential to contribute to Welsh life in line with the objectives and vision of Glandŵr Cymru – the Canal & River Trust in Wales.

Working Together

We need to manage our canals and rivers as one network, with common policies across England and Wales in order to allocate resources where they are most needed and to be most efficient and effective. However, the opportunities for joint working, as well as overcoming the obstacles to better use and enjoyment of our canals and rivers, lie in understanding individual stretches of waterway, and working with local needs and aspirations as well as local partners, agencies and companies.

That is why new Waterway Partnerships have been established, across England and Wales, to bring together representatives of local communities, businesses and organisations to work closely with the Canal & River Trust to influence and add value to what we do in each local waterway.

Canal & River Trust: Kennet & Avon Waterway Partnership

Who are we?

We are a group of volunteers from public, private and community organisations with a wide range of professional, community, waterway interests and skills. Among these are regeneration, environmental protection, strategic planning, marketing, physical and community development, heritage and sports such as cycling and angling, as well as boating and engineering. Find out more about our partnership members on page 19 and 20.

What are we for?

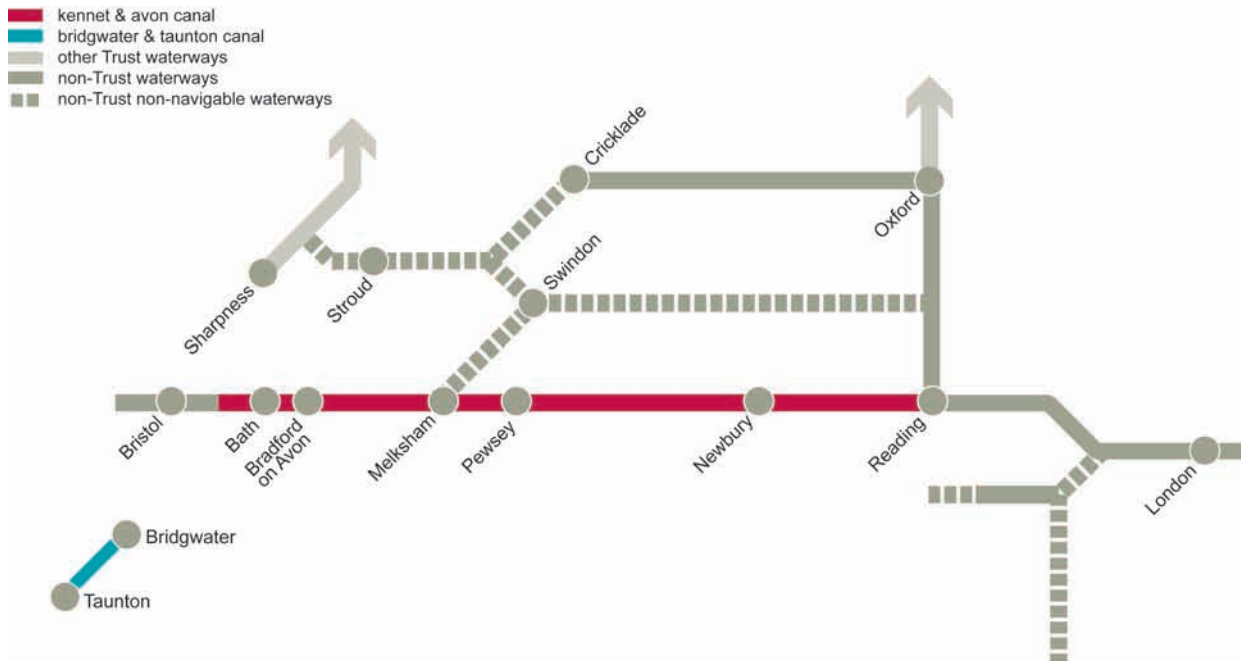
- Promoting knowledge and use of the waterways in the region.
- Understanding the issues facing communities and assessing how the waterways can play a role.
- Shaping future plans of the Canal & River Trust to deliver either on its own or in partnership with others.
- Securing the resources to deliver those plans.
- Ensuring that the job gets done.

How will we do that job?

- Liaising closely with complementary and neighbouring partnerships with whom we share partners and stakeholders.
- By analysing the evidence and data held by the Trust and others.
- By talking to as many people and organisations as possible who might have an interest in working with us (or may need some persuading that they do).
- By exploring opportunities for making the best return on investment.
- By capturing this in a long term plan, the Strategic Waterway Plan.
- By channelling the skills, expertise and resources of the Canal & River Trust, its partners, agencies and local communities towards its objectives.
- And, by implementing that plan on the basis of common purpose, shared benefit and mutual interest among partners and communities.

Kennet & Avon Waterways:

Our Waterways



The Kennet & Avon Waterway has an overall length of 87 miles (140 km), comprising two lengths of navigable river linked by a canal. The name 'Kennet & Avon Canal' is commonly used to refer to the entire length of the navigation rather than solely to the central, 'true' canal section.

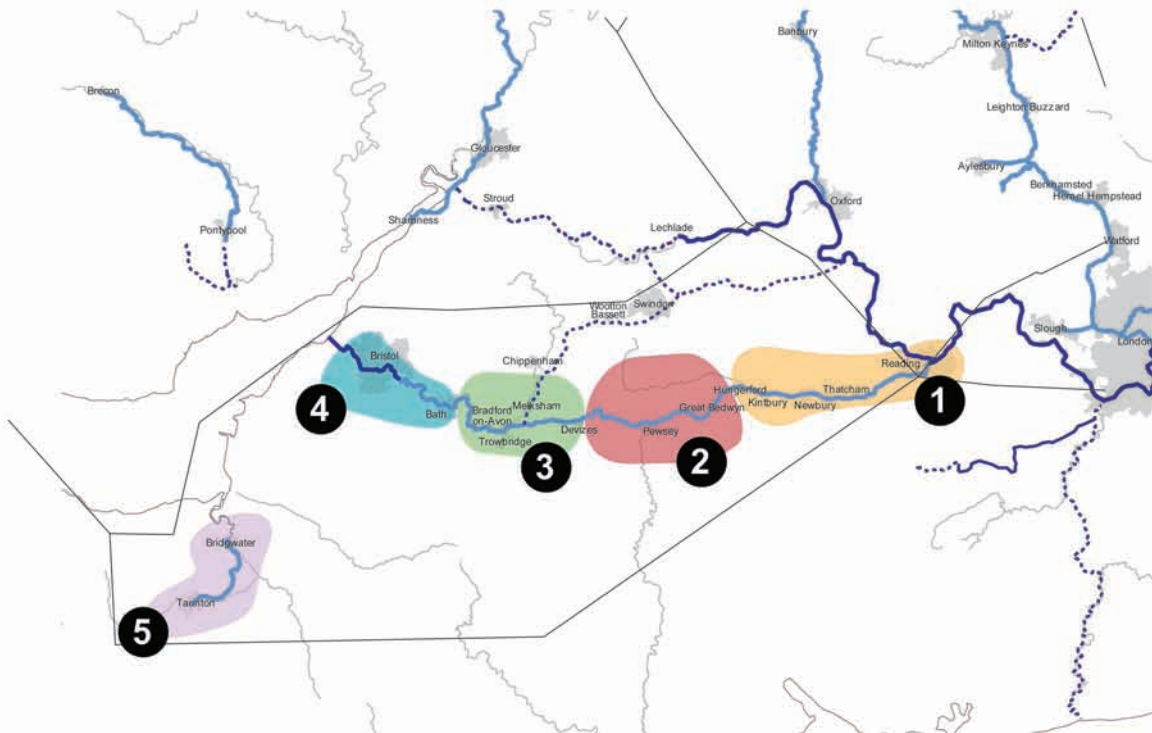
From Bristol to Bath the waterway follows the natural course of the River Avon before the canal links it to the River Kennet at Newbury. From Newbury the Waterway follows the course of the River Kennet to Reading and beyond that to the River Thames. In all, the waterway incorporates 106 locks and forms the only cross-country link for broad beam craft in the south of England.

In the latter half of the 20th century, after decades of dereliction, the canal was restored in stages, largely by volunteers from the Kennet & Avon Canal Trust and was reopened in 1990. Restoration was completed around the year 2000 when the Heritage Lottery Fund awarded what still remains the single largest funding contribution to a project. The diversity of Kennet & Avon waterways are partly reflected in five character areas each of which has a champion in the Partnership.

The Bridgwater & Taunton Canal opened in 1827, linking the River Tone and the River Parrett. Despite commercial traffic ceasing in 1907, the canal infrastructure was maintained in good order. Somerset County Council was instrumental in restoring the canal as a leisure facility, which was completed in 1994. Bridgwater Docks have been restored as a marina but there is no navigable connection to the River Parrett.

Kennet & Avon Waterways: Unique and Diverse

The diversity of Kennet & Avon waterways are partly reflected in five character areas each of which has a champion in the Partnership.



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1. River Kennet: Hungerford to Reading

The section of waterway between Kintbury and Reading is largely canalised river, winding its way through Newbury and onward to Reading where the Kennet & Avon Canal joins the River Thames. Given the almost exclusively rural setting of the Kennet & Avon Waterway, Reading provides a notable urban contrast with boats navigating through the centre of the Oracle shopping centre. The historic navigation meets a modern environment of cafes, restaurants and shops.

2. Kennet & Avon Canal: Devizes to Hungerford

The Long Pound winds its way through rural Wiltshire, eventually reaching the canal summit and Crofton beyond. The magnificent historic pumping station at Crofton still operates on Steaming Days throughout the summer months and is truly a sight to behold.

3. Kennet & Avon Canal: Bath to Devizes

Characterised by the awe-inspiring Caen Hill Lock flight in Devizes, this is an entirely man-made section of the canal, constructed 200 years ago. The Kennet & Avon is a rural canal, typically passing through small towns and villages. The broad gauge accommodates the large number of Dutch barges that frequent this canal. The canal climbs steadily from Bath in the west to Crofton where the magnificent historic pumping station still operates on Steaming Days. East of the summit, the canal has a less formal and more natural feel, more like the River Kennet that it eventually runs into. The canal banks are typically shallow and vegetated throughout, ideal for supporting diverse fauna and flora.

4. River Avon

The Canal & River Trust is the Navigation Authority between Hanham in the west and the World Heritage site of Bath in the east. The river meanders through agricultural floodplains and is of ecological and environmental importance. Although somewhat neglected for several decades, proposals have been put forward to regenerate and reinvigorate the river corridor. The City of Bath has re-engaged with its river and ambitious plans for Keynsham would bring the river back to prominence.

5. Bridgwater & Taunton

A delightful rural canal, winding its way through 15 miles of agricultural countryside between Bridgwater in the north and Taunton in the south. The Bridgwater & Taunton Canal connects the River Tone to the River Parrett although there is not currently a navigable connection onto either of these rivers. The canal is very lightly used by boat traffic although the towpath provides a beautiful traffic free route for pedestrians and cyclists between two of Somerset's largest towns.

The canal is isolated from the nation's network of navigable canals and rivers but has well maintained towpaths and fascinating lock structures which make for an idyllic walking, cycling or boating experience.

Relationship with Other Waterway Groups and Stakeholders

The Kennet & Avon Waterway Partnership has a mandate to work in partnership with existing supporters of the waterways and local groups. We will also engage new groups and sections of the community to develop and sustain the waterways. Within ten years we intend to ensure the waterways are well supported across the community.

Kennet & Avon Waterways:

Our first year

The Kennet & Avon Waterways Partnership have had a very busy first year. Whilst a significant amount of the Partnership's time in the first year has been spent developing a deeper understanding of the challenges and opportunities of the waterway area, members both collectively and individually have played an important advisory and ambassadorial role with our users, communities, businesses and public bodies.

A key piece of work the Partnership has undertaken this year has been to work with various groups, boaters and interested parties to establish a Draft Towpath Mooring Plan for the Kennet & Avon Canal between Bath and Devizes. The proposal supports the introduction of a pilot voluntary local agreement between the Trust and licence holders in the area and is aimed at establishing fair and equitable sharing of the canal. Subject to any changes in the plan as a result of consultation, the Canal & River Trust and the Kennet & Avon Waterways Partnership will undertake a 12 month pilot of the Kennet & Avon Towpath Mooring Plan beginning as early as feasible in 2014.

Having sought the views of Kennet & Avon boaters, other Kennet & Avon users, local residents, parish, district and county councils and canal side businesses, we hope that everyone will support a new plan for towpath mooring which respects the waterways and all the people that wish to use and enjoy this beautiful stretch of the canal.

One of the key attributes that the Partnership has also brought to the Trust, is the promotion of dialogue with key stakeholders to improve, develop, promote and care for the waterways.

Key successes have included:

- Assisting in making the Devizes to Westminster International Canoe Race successful.
- Supporting a funding bid to improve the section of towpath between the A36 in Bath and Bathampton which is regarded as one of the most heavily used sections of towpath on the Kennet & Avon Canal and a key route into the city.
- Monitoring the special wildlife and habitat on the Bridgwater & Taunton Canal.
- Installing lock gate fender plates throughout the canal and commencing a programme of lock winding gear refurbishment.
- Promoting a bid for funding to improve the towpath of the Bridgwater & Taunton Canal.
- Opening the Jubilee Woodland, Caen Hill, Devizes.
- Working in partnership with local authorities to help promote better maintenance of the canals.
- Constructing seven new lock by-weirs, funded via the Catchment Restoration Fund, to enhance water management and benefit the River Dun catchment.
- Writing canoe trails from Devizes to Reading and along the Bridgwater & Taunton Canal.
- Rebuilding a 500m stretch of the canal towpath and soft bank near Pewsey, Wiltshire, and a further 650m west of Newbury, West Berkshire, using an innovative design which creates the perfect home for water voles. The work benefits a range of other wildlife too, like dragonflies, butterflies and nesting birds. It also helps stabilise the canal bank securing the towpath, making it better for walkers and cyclists.

Kennet & Avon Waterways:

Looking forward: Our Strategic Waterway Plan

One of the principal roles of each Waterway Partnership is to produce a concise ten year plan (with a three year focus) with a clear shared vision and set of strategic priorities which when combined together create a national 'family' of plans. The Plan will be owned, promoted and monitored by each waterway partnership and will guide future business planning locally and nationally. The Kennet & Avon Waterway Partnership is now at the stage where it would like to share our early work and seek your views and ideas.

The focus of the plan

The Plan is being constructed to make sure that the waterways are used and developed in a way that has the maximum benefit for local people, places and the economy. The plan will be based around three key themes, people, places and prosperity and reflect the diverse character of the waterway area. Each theme will have its own priorities, actions and objectives resulting in defined projects contained within a three year rolling action plan.

The details below show our overall vision and priorities and some of the ways in which these will be achieved.

Vision

“Inspire our communities and visitors to explore the history, wildlife and beauty of their waterways”

We will work with a range of stakeholders to develop and sustain our most beautiful, well used, bio diverse and historic river and canals, ensuring they are open to everyone to enjoy. Within ten years they will be seen as even greater places to live, work and visit and will form an integral part of the rich character of contrasting and highly valued landscapes and townscapes.

Kennet & Avon Waterways:

Waterways priorities for people

- Develop a stronger sense of community ownership and responsibility to enhance local perceptions of the Kennet & Avon waterway and the Bridgwater & Taunton Canal.
- Make the Kennet & Avon waterway and the Bridgwater & Taunton Canal accessible, welcoming and relevant to all communities so that they become highly valued forms of green infrastructure.
- Provide the opportunity to improve the physical and mental health and well-being of different communities within the Kennet & Avon Waterway Partnership area.

Action plan examples

- Increasing adoptions and sponsorships of canal infrastructure by engaging with local businesses, youth groups, and special interest groups.
- Develop a strong volunteer base in all areas by building and expanding existing volunteer groups along the waterways.
- Increase the visible presence of the Canal & River Trust at events taking place along the waterways and, in time, develop our own.
- Improve the towpaths especially on the Bridgwater & Taunton Canal.



Kennet & Avon Waterways:

Waterways priorities for prosperity

- Make a significant contribution to local economies in urban and rural areas through sustainable growth of waterway related tourism and leisure.
- Work with others to realise the full economic potential that the Kennet & Avon waterway and the Bridgwater & Taunton Canal can deliver within their corridors.
- Work with others to secure a sustainable future for the Kennet & Avon waterway and the Bridgwater & Taunton Canal which generates the widest public benefit for local communities and economies.

Action plan examples

- Support and advise on implementation of the local towpath mooring plan for the Kennet & Avon.
- Produce user guidance aimed at everyone but specifically including information for boaters that supports greater enjoyment of the waterway and less damage to its infrastructure.
- Work with the River Avon Regeneration Trust to promote better use of the river.
- Engage local business, land owners and developers to support improved information boards for visitors.



Kennet & Avon Waterways:

Waterways priorities for places

- Make the whole of the Kennet & Avon waterway and the Bridgwater & Taunton Canal welcoming and interesting places to use and enjoy.
- Make the whole of the Kennet & Avon waterway and the Bridgwater & Taunton Canal attractive, accessible and safe.
- Conserve and enhance the key heritage and environmental qualities, rich landscape character and the amenity of the Kennet & Avon waterway and the Bridgwater & Taunton Canal that make them special and familiar.

Action plan examples

- Support completion of the restoration of Claverton Pumping Station in order to use a free, sustainable energy source.
- Develop circular routes and shared use paths with improved signage that connect people with places.
- Running a wildflower project: encouraging the public to buy and sow native wildflower seeds along the waterways.
- Identify specific areas for improvement and do everything possible to make a difference by engaging both the Canal & River Trust and local partners.



Our Partnership

The primary purpose of the Partnerships is to connect local people and communities with their waterways. In so doing, the Partnerships aim to add value to the Trust, working closely with the management team providing advice, inspiration and leadership, acting as champions and ambassadors, building influence, forging new local relationships, developing engagement and participation, and working to secure new funding and voluntary support for their waterways.

All the Partnerships are advisory and their work is strategic rather than operational. Nonetheless, they are all practically knowledgeable and action-orientated.



Tamsin Phipps, Chair

Tamsin has had a varied career from special needs teacher, army officer, and management development training manager to her present role of the British Canoe Union's Public and Government Affairs manager. Tamsin has always been passionate about the waterways and their use and place in people's lives. She has canoed since the age of 14 learning with the Girl Guides but is keen that the inland waterways should be promoted and used by the general public for walking, angling cycling and watching wildlife.

Tamsin's voluntary work includes being an active leader for both Brownies and Guides together with being actively involved with the Community Narrow Boat *Falcon Adam* based on the Kennet & Avon Canal at Aldermaston. This work shows her commitment to the inclusion of young people in society and the recognition that they have a voice that should be heard.

Andrew Harry

Completed a successful 23 years' service in the Royal Navy in the Executive Branch, driving ships and flying helicopters, finishing his career at the Strategic HQ of the Defence Logistics Organisation in Bath. Engineering graduate and Chartered Management Accountant. Board member of the UK Polarity Therapy Association. Living a low impact lifestyle along the Kennet & Avon Canal in an all-electric eco barge!

Alistair Millington

Sustrans' Area Manager for Wiltshire. Responsible for the National Cycle Network in the county. Worked for Sustrans for 4 years negotiating, building, maintaining and promoting cycle routes. His professional background is in housing development where he was regional development director for a large housing association.

Alan Aldous

Boat owner who has cruised most of the inland waterways system, chaired River Avon Users for 27 years, served on Bristol Avon Flood Defence Committee for 10 years, and for 25 years owned property adjacent to the Bristol Avon. Member of the IWA.

Emma Fearnley

Owner/operator of a pair of hotel narrow boats and wide beam barge for 20 years. MCA BoatMaster. Owns Newbury Boat Company with a marina within the River Kennet SSSI. Vice Chairman of the Kennet and Avon Trade Association and member of the Association of Pleasure Craft Operators National Committee. Qualified Support Worker for adults with learning disabilities and heads a supported employment catering project for West Berkshire Council.

Terry Fell

Former President National Federation of Anglers, Director of the Angling Trust and retired Wiltshire Magistrate.

Jan Gannaway

Primary School teacher who is semi-retired. A Volunteer Ranger for Sustrans, who keeps an eye on Route 3 of the National Cycle Network which runs along the Bridgwater & Taunton Canal. CRT volunteer and Ecology Records Co-ordinator for the Bridgwater & Taunton Canal. Recently helped put together and publish a Pictorial Guide to the canal.

Rob Dean

Rob has boated around the system over the past 10 years but his first love is the Kennet & Avon where he keeps his boat, Pukeko. He has been active with the Kennet & Avon Canal Trust for some years and was appointed Chairman of the Trustees in January 2013.

The K&A Trust has a long history of working with British Waterways to restore the Kennet & Avon, and Rob led the drafting of a Partnership Working Agreement with the new Canal & River Trust shortly after it was launched. He sees the Waterways Partnership as essential to maintaining ownership of the Kennet & Avon by the local community.

Rob spent 35 years with HM Diplomatic Service and lived abroad in Denmark and New Zealand. He's also a Chartered Management Accountant.

Ian Williamson

Chemical Engineer having worked with Unilever and ICI, and more recently as a business development specialist in the recycling industry with WRAP. Completed a MBA in 2004.

Now living next to the K&A Canal and in the process of developing a family business maintaining canal boats at Semington Dock.

Member of Cotswolds, Wey and Arun and the Wilts and Berks canal trusts. Was chairman of Kent and east Sussex canal restoration group for 10 years and have also been a very active Rotarian. Member of the K&A trade association

Mark Stephens, Waterway Manager

1994 Joined British Waterways as a Civil Engineer

1999-2000 Heritage Lottery Fund Project Engineer for works including channel lining at Semington, Bath Valley and Towney Lock restoration.

2002-2004 Senior Programme Manager for inland waterway civil engineering projects in the South of England.

2004–2009 Principal Project Manager, Olympic Project Team. Headed the design and construction of the tidal lock and barrage enabling the passage of freight from the River Thames to the Olympic Park.

2010 Appointed Waterway Manager, responsible for the operation, repair and maintenance of the Kennet & Avon and Bridgwater & Taunton canals.

Kennet & Avon Waterways:

Key Contacts

Tamsin Phipps, Chair

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enquiries.kennetavon@canalrivertrust.org.uk

**“A sustainable and
evolving canal and
river network that
is a national
treasure -
accessible to and
cherished by all”**

Canal & River Trust, 2012



Looking forward: Our Strategic Waterway Plan

A key role for each Waterway Partnership is the production of a ten year plan together with a focused three year action plan. After much deliberation we are now ready to share our vision and set of strategic priorities which, when combined with those of other partnerships, will create the national 'family' of plans which will shape the future activity of the Trust.



How to get involved

- What do you think about the broad strategy?
- What would you like to see prioritised in the strategy?
- What do you think about the proposed objectives and actions. Are there others we should be including?
- What plans or policies do you have that we could complement or enhance?
- How can we work together on community, economic or environmental projects?
- Would your local school, organisation or community like to get more involved in your local waterway's future?

Write to us, by 20 December 2013, at:

Email: enquiries.kennetavon@canalrivertrust.org.uk

Address:
Strategic Waterway Plan Feedback
Kennet & Avon Waterways
Canal & River Trust
The Locks
Bath Road
Devizes
SN10 1QR

Check our noticeboard for updates;
canalrivertrust.org.uk/kennet-and-avonboard

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Get involved