## **Caring for Oxford Canal**

We're the charity working to protect and bring to life this 250-year-old network of canals and rivers spanning England and Wales. Not so long ago many canals were abandoned, and some lost forever. Today, with your support, wildlife is recovering, history is alive, boats are plentiful and spending time in this environment is contributing to our health and happiness.

Our mission is to keep this extraordinary network of canals and rivers alive, teeming with wildlife, transforming places they run through and enriching all of our lives. Your support today could help us care for Oxfordshire's canals and many more places, for today and generations to come.



The task of protecting the finest examples of working industrial heritage including Banbury Lock, and the wildlife that calls it home, is growing all the time. As a charity we need you by our side more than ever. Please support our work today.





## Keeping history alive

While today, the picturesque Oxford Canal meanders slowly through the countryside, in the 18th century it had a very different feel.

Its arrival to Banbury in 1778 brought a cheap supply of coal from Warwickshire, and much prosperity to the town. The first delivery of 200 tons of coal was met by a large and enthusiastic crowd of spectators.

For the next 15 years, it was the most important and profitable transport link in Britain, with most commercial traffic travelling between the Midlands and London using the route.

**Discover** lots of fun things to do with the family by and on the water. Go to canalrivertrust.org.uk/explorers

Volunteer



# Welcome to **Banbury**

Connect with the town's fascinating history.



canalrivertrust.org.uk

Take Action

Registered charity no. 1146792

Enjou

March 2023

**Donate** 

We're the charity making life better by water



### 5 things to do in Banbury

- 1 Take a boat trip along the canal and learn more about its history.
- 2 Enjoy a stroll along the canal, you'll find a sculpture, a poem on a lockgate and a bridge named after waterways champion, Tom Rolt.
- **Visit** Banbury Museum and discover more about the Tooley family.
- Walk to Banbury Cross, in the centre of this historic town just a few minutes' stroll from the canal.
- **5 Make** the most of the towpath and enjoy a traffic-free cycle ride to Cropredy (7.7km/4.7 miles).

### Did you know?

Tooley's Boatyard is a scheduled ancient monument and the oldest working dry dock in Britain. Boats have been built and repaired in this boatyard since 1790.

