Member's Handbook

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IT'S GOOD TO HAVE YOU ON BOARD

Welcome to NABO

NABO's mission is to keep private boating on the UK's inland waterways possible, affordable and enjoyable. It does this mainly by getting the right messages to the right people at the right time. The founding members feared that boaters' voices were not being heard or being fully represented by other organisations at the time. So they formed NABO as an independent voice for boaters.

What NABO does:
NABO is dedicated to promoting the interests of private boaters on Britain's inland waterways, so that their voices can be heard when decisions which might affect their boating are being made. NABO will always challenge injustice, where necessary at the highest level, taking a stand on boating issues, including:

- unnecessary boat safety requirements
- excessive licence and mooring fees
- poor dredging or vegetation management, and
- any loss of freedom to navigate or moor on waterways.

NABO will support individual members with problems, as well as taking up local issues and matters of national concern. We try to represent all boaters regardless of how you use your boat. We are not for or against any type of boater and the diversity of the boating community is something we aim to defend.

What NABO does not do:
The Association does not cater for a broad spectrum of waterway interests, as so doing could prevent it from properly representing boaters' interests. Neither is it a social club, a cruising club, or a canal society.

NABO is the largest organisation to solely represent boat owners on the UK's inland waterways. NABO is regularly enrolling new members and reaches an estimated 3,000 boaters through its printed publications and presence on social media.

NABO has gained recognition from all the major navigational authorities, other waterway organisations and government bodies. Its arguments are listened to with respect, and it is frequently consulted on important waterway issues. Much of what NABO achieves is almost invisible and goes on behind the scenes, unseen by the waterways community, even by boaters. However, it has been instrumental in improving the waterways in many ways:

- It secured 28 amendments to the 1995 BW Act and concessions on the way it would be applied before it was passed. This Act affects all boaters on waterways controlled by CRT and the amendments brought valuable safeguards for boaters.
- It took BW to the Waterway Ombudsman over the lack of consultation on boat licence fee increases and the Ombudsman ruled in NABO's favour.
- It recommended that the Canal and River Trust (CRT) should appoint a Welfare Officer, which was taken up by the Trust in 2014.
- It has been a leading influence in securing a commitment to minimise the mandatory requirements of the Boat Safety Scheme and in securing changes to the appeals procedure. It is one of few boating groups with representation at both technical and advisory levels within the BSS scheme.
- It is working with CRT to find a legally sound means of combating abuse and overstaying on public moorings that has minimum impact on the freedom of movement of conscientious boaters.
- In 2015, it brought to CRT's attention inadequacies in its Licence and Mooring Permit Conditions, some of which were then corrected.
- In 2020, it responded in depth to a CRT consultation on revised licence terms and conditions. After seeking legal advice, it produced arguments against new requirements to cruise from a home mooring.
- It carefully reviewed CRT licensing documentation in the context of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and concluded that CRT was breaking data protection law.

Current Council members often describe what we do in practice as damage limitation. Sadly, this was very much our role in the final years of British Waterways and we remain cautiously vigilant in our dealings with CRT. We are, unashamedly at times, a pressure group, but we argue for a middle way. Our prime concerns are that navigation authorities should be fair and transparent and use resources most effectively for the common good.

This booklet was originally produced for NABO Council members and representatives. It contains basic information about the internal working of the Association and the original legal basis for British Waterways (and now CRT), and also contact details for inland waterways navigation authorities and a list of waterway acronyms. If you would like to see further information included in the handbook, or have any other comments on NABO and its work, please contact one of the council members. We would of course welcome any help you feel you can offer the Association, either as a member of NABO's Council, a regional representative, or doing a specific job that would help the Association's work.

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Caen Hill

1. NABO COUNCIL AND REPRESENTATIVES

NABO was formed in 1991 by a group of boat owners who felt that none of the existing organisations adequately put forward their views to the waterway authorities. It depends almost entirely on members' subscriptions for its income. NABO is run by a Council elected at an Annual General Meeting each November, consisting of up to 12 volunteers who meet every six weeks outside the summer months. There are no regional meetings or sub-committees, but each area of the country has a Regional Representative reporting back to the Council. The regional reps try, often with invaluable help from other members, to keep a watching brief on local waterways issues that affect boaters. This includes attending and contributing to local user group meetings with local waterway authorities and where relevant with local government and other bodies - especially keeping a watching brief on maintenance, towpath issues and moorings, and enforcement activity.

Sharing and combining information on different regional activities is invaluable and gives NABO a strong picture of what is happening nationally. It means that our national representations are strong and backed up with local evidence, knowledge and experience. This system of regional level representation also provides a valuable means of cross-fertilisation of ideas between different waterways - there have been many instances where NABO representatives have been able to cite productive thinking on one waterway to benefit others. For matters concerning a particular waterway please consult the regional representative for that area first.

Summit pound of the Rochdale Canal

The NABO Council 2026

Chair
Carolyn Green (CJ)
chair@nabo.org.uk

Vice Chair / Acting Chair
Andy Williams
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East Midlands Waterways
David Fletcher
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West Midlands Waterways
Peter Braybrook
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London Waterways
Rep vacancy — can you fill it?

Middle Level
Vacant—applications welcome

River Trent
Nick Roberts
07901 025391 yorks@nabo.org.uk

North East, Yorkshire and Humber
Jacqui Lund
jacqui.lund@nabo.org.uk

North West Waterways and Welfare
Ken Hylins
07852 911539 welfare@nabo.org.uk

River Severn and South West
Vacant—applications welcome

South East Waterways
Vacant—applications welcome

Southern Waterways, Welsh Waterways
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2. OTHER WAYS TO KEEP IN TOUCH

By Post:

National Association of Boat Owners
c/o 20 Oak Grove, Hertford, SG13 8AT.

Website: http://nabo.org.uk

Parts of the website can only be accessed by members, including the latest version of NABO News. You need to register to access the members' section. For this you will need your NABO membership number, your e-mail address and a password that you choose for yourself. First, you need to 'login'. Do this by clicking on the 'Members' link, which then brings up a 'Log in/out' menu. The 'Register' link is on the Login panel. When this has been completed and your registration has been approved, you will receive an email and you will then be able to login to the Members' Section. Further details of how to login and navigate the website are given in the 'FAQ' section.

Facebook:

NABO has a members' Facebook page at www.facebook.com/groups/NABOMembers/. Add it to your 'Friends' list and keep up to date with the latest news and views from other NABO members.

Twitter:

Follow what people are saying on NABO's Twitter feed @NABO_Official and add your own messages, up to 140 characters.

3. NABO COUNCIL MEETINGS

NABO's Council meets approximately every six weeks at boat clubs around the country*, as indicated in NABO News and on the NABO website. Meetings start at 10.45 am and normally finish by 3.30 pm. You are welcome to come to meetings; it would be appreciated if you let the Chairman or General Secretary know first. Hot and cold lunches, tea and coffee are available at NABO's expense, but you pay for any drinks bought at the bar. Lunchtime provides a good opportunity to chat and get to know each other. Travel expenses will be paid if you attend Council or other meetings on behalf of NABO, but other expenses should be cleared with the Hon. Treasurer or Chairman before they are incurred.

*Meetings are also being held by Zoom or teleconference. Please contact the Gen. Sec. for details of how to join the meetings.

4. NABO NEWS

The magazine is NABO's main way of keeping its members informed about waterway issues and for members to let the Association know their views. It also serves an important role in telling those in the corridors of power what boaters think. Concessionary copies go to all CRT Trustees and Directors, Environment Agency (EA) Directors, MPs with an interest in the waterways, and other influential parties, some of whom confess to reading it from cover to cover before starting their day's work! Through NABO News, a reader's letter or article can bypass the whole hierarchy of a navigation authority consultation mechanism, making it a very effective communication tool.

The Editor is pleased to receive articles by e-mail at any time, and on most subjects that are of interest to boaters. Don't worry about the layout as this will be changed to fit the magazine format. Articles or other contributions do not need to be long - little snippets picked up at meetings or on the towpath make ideal fillers and break up the 'political' news. Photos of any waterways-related subject are always very welcome.

The Editor is supported by graphic designer, Chris Pink, and a team of NABO members who are volunteer proofreaders (if you would like to assist, please let the Editor know).

The magazine publication dates are timed to follow NABO Council meetings, with copy dates usually a week after each meeting. It may be up to three weeks after copy dates before the magazine is in members' hands, but you can access the current issue sooner in the 'Members' section of the NABO website, together with past issues of NABO News.

Please let the Editor know if you would like to receive NABO News by email rather than a printed copy. This will reduce NABO's costs, but unfortunately, we cannot offer a discounted subscription for the email-only option.

Braunston Turn

5. NABO POLICIES

NABO Council develops policies from time to time and these form the basis of our consultation with navigation authorities and other user groups. These are periodically reviewed in consultation with the membership and are therefore the nearest we can get to a consensus of opinion within our Association. Please consult Council members if you feel unable to represent any of the policies shown below, or if you wish to propose an amendment to a policy. In summary, NABO's policies are as follows:

1.	**NABO's role**	To promote the interests of private boat owners on Britain's inland waterways. To work positively with all navigation authorities to represent boaters' views.
2.	**Relationship with CRT and other navigation authorities**	To campaign for CRT to place its obligations as a navigation authority at the top of its list of priorities. To campaign to ensure that other activities do not prejudice the maintenance and development of the waterways as routes for travel by water (e.g. property development, pub management, water distribution, communication data distribution, marinas, event organisation, nature conservation and development of the waterway corridors as linear public parks).
3.	**Waterways Ombudsman**	To support the Waterways Ombudsman and the scrutiny this brings to the activities of CRT. NABO would prefer the Ombudsman's remit to cover all inland navigation authorities.
4.	**Consultation**	To have meaningful consultation with navigation authorities on all significant issues that affect boaters. To seek to ensure that the views of boaters are taken seriously (for example on licence terms and conditions, priorities for maintenance expenditure, stoppages, mooring regulations and changes to waterside buildings and furniture).
5.	**Licensing, regulations and the law**	To monitor all legal cases made available to the Association and take legal advice on matters of interpretation and senior court judgements. To ensure that all regulations by navigation authorities are applied equally to all boaters and have national legality. To ensure that CRT has rules that are in accordance with the powers granted by Act of Parliament. To challenge CRT where, in NABO's view, CRT is exceeding its powers (e.g. NABO does not support 'Roving Mooring Licences' or 'Community Permits', which are not designated in BW Acts).
6.	**Licence and registration evasion**	To promote compliance on behalf of the navigation authorities. NABO will do all it can to help prevent licence/registration evasion.
7.	**Scope of licence and moorings terms and conditions**	To campaign for licence/registration permit terms and conditions to be restricted to those that are essential to the successful administration of the waterway system and are transparently based on the applicable laws.
8.	**Boating cost increases**	To seek justification and, wherever appropriate, to challenge any increase in licence/registration permits, mooring or other boating fees that exceeds the rate of increase to which pensions are linked.
9.	**Mooring fee justification**	To campaign for navigation authorities and service providers to offer written terms and conditions for boaters that includes a justification and breakdown of mooring fees. NABO does not support the auction of CRT moorings and prefers a waiting list system.
10.	**Visitor mooring charges**	To oppose charges being applied to visitor moorings (charges should only be applied where an additional service is provided, such as electricity). To support, by default, 7- or 14-day moorings and to only accept shorter times where the demand for mooring exceeds the supply and it is not possible to provide sufficient extra moorings to satisfy that demand. To support a mix of mooring durations. NABO believes that navigation authorities are not able, and should not attempt, to levy penalties in the event of a boater overstaying.
11.	**Mooring abuse**	To support a 'fair use' policy for all parts of the waterways. To encourage 'bona fide' navigation as set out in CRT's 'Guidance for boaters without a home mooring'.

	To ensure that enforcement is even-handed and not discriminatory.
12. Cycling	To campaign against any organised cycling or performance events on the towpath. To lobby to ensure that boaters and pedestrians have priority over cyclists on the towpath. NABO remains very cautious, on safety grounds, of the 'upgrade' of towpaths to create cycle-ways. To support any steps to ensure that cyclists slow down before passing moored boats and pedestrians. NABO believes that CRT should take responsibility for allowing cyclists on towpaths and enforce its bye-laws.
13. Angling	To oppose angling-only lengths of towpath. To lobby to ensure that boaters have sole use of lock landing stages and facilities mooring points, and priority at designated visitor mooring sites. Elsewhere, priority should be on a first-come-first-served basis.
14. Horse riding and vehicles on towpaths	To support Article 31 of CRT's General Canal Byelaws, which states that no person, unless authorised by the Board or otherwise, is legally entitled to "ride or drive any animal or vehicle, including electric scooters, over any towing path". The only exception to this is CRT-approved horse-boats.
15. Boater safety	To actively promote safety issues among boaters and other canal users, and contribute to the work of the Boat Safety Scheme. To support safety requirements that are limited to those that protect third parties from proven risks.
16. Environment	To actively protect the environment. NABO believes that boaters as a group are among the most environmentally aware in our society. To promote the 'right of navigation' in all matters where other bodies seek to limit use of navigable waterways for environmental reasons. To support the use of diesel engines to provide power for navigation and domestic power until such cheap practical alternatives are readily available and can be phased in. NABO will encourage navigation authorities to install waterside electric power supplies where this is appropriate. To actively encourage members to consider the environment in all aspects of boating activity, in particular regular engine maintenance, waste disposal, use of smokeless fuel, alternative energy sources etc.
17. Vegetation management	To campaign for vegetation to be managed so that it does not impede or prejudice the safety of activities concerned with navigation.
18. Dredging and channel dimensions	To campaign for all navigation authorities to recover the original profile of channel dimensions whenever dredging takes place (except where exceptional engineering or usage reasons exist). To campaign for dredging at designated mooring areas to be sufficient for deep-draught boats to come alongside the bank.
19. Widebeams on narrow canals	To campaign for CRT to take proactive measures to prevent widebeams navigating designated 'narrow' canals. To urge CRT to prevent widebeams mooring in marinas linked to narrow canals unless explicitly prohibited from leaving the marina. To campaign for sufficient dredging and vegetation management on 'wide' canals to allow two full-width widebeams to safely pass.
20. Continuous cruising	To support navigation authorities to define what distance is travelled for 'bona fide' navigation. To campaign for the principle of one licence fee, whether the boat has a home mooring or not. To support the creation of residential and non-residential moorings. To campaign against navigation authorities promoting a boating 'season' and to seek to ensure that stoppage programmes take the cruising needs of continuous cruisers into account. To support liveaboard boaters without a home mooring to access services and healthcare, despite having no residential postcode.
21. Crime and vandalism	To support all agencies to do whatever is necessary to reduce crime and antisocial behaviour on the waterways.

ANNEXES

6. THE 2005 NABO CONSTITUTION

1. NAME
The Association shall be known as the National Association of Boat Owners.

2. OBJECTS
The objects of the Association shall be as follows:
a) To provide effective representation for owners of vessels on Britain's inland waterways on any subject or matter which is relevant to the owners of such vessels.
b) To organise events, demonstrations, rallies or other activities which in the opinion of the Council will further the object in clause (a) above, but not to organise or actively engage in any event which would in the opinion of the Council bring the Association into disrepute.

3. POWERS
In furtherance of the above objects, the Association shall have the following powers:
a) To assist financially or otherwise any appropriate bodies whether official or otherwise;
b) To promote by visits, meetings, publications, exhibitions or lectures, any of the above objects;
c) To secure publicity for the promotion of the objects of the Association.

4. MEMBERSHIP
4.1 Classes
The Association shall have the following classes of member:
a) **Full** member, entitled to attend and vote at general meetings, subject to Clause 6.1 (c). Family members shall have full membership rights.
b) **Associated** member, entitled to attend, but not to vote at, general meetings.
c) **Affiliated** member, entitled to have a representative attend, but not to vote at, general meetings.

4.2 Eligibility
An applicant shall be eligible for membership of the Association only if the applicant supports the objects of the Association set out in Clause 2 and agrees to be bound by this Constitution. In addition:
a) An applicant shall be eligible for full membership only if the applicant is a person who owns a vessel capable of use on Britain's inland waterways.
b) An applicant shall be eligible for associated membership only if the applicant is an individual.
c) An applicant shall be eligible for affiliated membership only if the applicant is an organisation.

4.3 Becoming a Member
A person or organisation shall become a member of the Association only by:
a) Being admitted by the Council, having applied for membership using the application form prescribed by the Council, or being co-opted by the Council, and
b) Paying the applicable subscription fee.

The Council shall have the power to:
a) Refuse to admit any applicant as a member and need give no reason for such refusal unless a request for a reason is made by the applicant in writing.
b) Decide that an organisation and its representatives shall be ineligible for membership on the grounds that the organisation's aims may be incompatible with the objects of the Association.

4.4 Information for Applicants
The Association shall provide on request to each prospective applicant for membership:
a) A membership application form.
b) A copy of this constitution.

4.5 Period of Membership
Membership shall continue until one of the following occurs:
a) Fourteen months has elapsed from admission to membership or renewal of membership, whichever is more recent.
b) The member submits his resignation from membership to the Council in writing.

c) The membership is cancelled by the Council.

4.6 Renewal
A member may renew membership for a further year by applying to the Association and paying the required subscription fee.

5. THE COUNCIL

5.1 Composition

a) The management of the Association shall be carried out by a Council hereinafter referred to as "the Council".
b) The Council shall consist of not less than four and not more than twelve full members.

5.2 Becoming a Council Member

A person shall become a member of the Council only by being eligible and being either elected at a General Meeting of the Association or co-opted by the Council.

5.3 Eligibility

a) Only full members are eligible to be nominated for election to or to be members of the Council.

b) Any member seeking election or re-election to the Council who is, or has at any time in the previous 12 months, held any position of influence or authority in any organisation which is involved with the inland waterways, or has any personal interest which is likely to affect their dealings with outside bodies on behalf of the Association, shall declare their interest at the time of being nominated for the Council. In the event that no such declaration of interest has been made and such an interest is subsequently found to exist then that person will be debarred from continuing to serve on the Council**.**

c) Any member seeking election or re-election to the Council who is, or has been at any time in the previous six years convicted of any criminal offence, or involved in or threatened with litigation, or involved in or threatened with formal insolvency proceedings, or the subject of a formal inquiry, shall declare the full circumstances and current status at the time of being nominated for the Council. In the event that no such declaration has been made and such circumstances are subsequently found to exist then that person will be debarred from continuing to serve on the Council. If such a declaration is made and the member is elected to Council, then they shall inform Council promptly of any significant changes to their interest or the circumstances. In the event that Council considers that any of the matters disclosed are sufficiently serious they may apply the criteria and procedures set out in Clause 7(f) to exclude the member from Council or from eligibility for election to Council.

5.4 Election

a) Members of the Council shall be elected at the AGM for a term of one year from among those nominated.

b) Each nomination for election or re-election to the Council shall include the name of the person nominated, be signed by the nominee to indicate willingness to be nominated, be signed by a proposer and seconder who are both full members, and be received by the General Secretary not less than forty two days before the AGM.

c) In the event of a contested election a ballot shall be taken and two tellers shall be appointed to collect and count all the votes.

5.5 Period of Being a Council Member

a) The term of office of each member of the Council shall expire at the beginning of the succeeding AGM, or immediately upon resignation of the member from the Council, or upon the member of the Council ceasing to be a full member of the Association, or upon the member being excluded from Council.
b) Any member of the Council absenting himself or herself for three consecutive meetings without reason acceptable to the Council shall be deemed to have resigned from the Council.

5.6 Officers

The Council shall elect the Association's Officers who shall comprise a Chairman, Vice Chairman, General Secretary and Treasurer. An Officer's title, e.g. "Chairman", identifies the position, not the sex of the holder. The election shall be by secret ballot if this is requested. These elections shall take place during a formal Council meeting held as soon as practicable after the election of the Council. The General Secretary and Treasurer need not be Council members. In the event that they are not, Clauses 5.3 (b) and(c) nonetheless apply to them.

6. GENERAL MEETINGS

6.1 Annual General Meeting

a) An Annual General Meeting shall be held each calendar year to:
   - Receive the Chairman's report.
   - Approve audited financial statements for the previous financial year ending on 31st March.
   - Determine the annual subscription rates.
   - Elect the Council members.
   - Appoint an auditor.
   - Consider any proposed alterations to the Constitution.
   - Deal with business brought forward by the Council or members' resolutions.

Such resolutions duly proposed and seconded must be received by the General Secretary not less than forty-two days before the meeting and shall be distributed to all members before the meeting.

b) Council shall make arrangements for members to be able to submit postal or proxy votes in the event of an election being required under Clause 5.4 (c), or a vote under any of the sub-clauses of (a) above, if they so request.
c) Full members joining the Association less than forty-two days before an Annual or Special General Meeting, or under eighteen years of age, shall not be entitled to vote at that Meeting.

d) A notice convening the AGM together with an agenda shall be sent to all members no less than twenty one days before the date of the meeting. Council shall give adequate notice of meeting dates and deadlines for motions and nominations to enable members to put them forward within this Constitution's time limits if they so wish, and provide full details to members of any proposed motions or amendments to this Constitution.

6.2 Special General Meetings

A Special General Meeting may be called by sending to the General Secretary a resolution or resolutions signed by at least twenty five full members, or by resolution of Council**.**

a) The Special General Meeting is to be held within fifty six days of the General Secretary receiving such a resolution or resolutions.
b) Notice convening this meeting shall be circulated to all members not less than fourteen days before the date of the meeting.
c) The meeting shall consider the resolution or resolutions referred to above but shall conduct no other business.
d) Council shall make arrangements for postal or proxy votes, as in Clause 6.1 (b).

7 COUNCIL MEETINGS, POWERS AND PROCEDURES

a) The Chairman shall call a meeting of the Council as required but not less than once every three months. A special meeting of the Council may be called on the written application of at least three of the Council members.
b) The Chairman of the Association shall be the Chairman of the Council and shall chair all Council meetings unless absent or unwilling to do so, in which case Council shall elect one of its members to chair that meeting.
c) The quorum at a meeting of the Council shall be one third of the number of the Council members holding office at that time, but shall never be less than three, and shall include one of the Association's Officers.
d) The Council may co-opt full members on to Council, subject to Clauses 5.1 (b), 5.3 and 5.5 above. No individual shall be co-opted for more than two successive years.
e) The Council may make rules of procedure not at variance with this Constitution.
f) The Council is authorised to prepare a newsletter or magazine and other publications for members' benefit.
g) The Council may exclude from membership any member if there is evidence that the actions of the member are in opposition to the objects of the Association, or are likely to bring the Association into disrepute, providing that a resolution is passed by a two thirds majority of the Council. Prior to exclusion, the member shall be informed of the intention to exclude, and shall be given the opportunity to state his or her case at the next meeting of the Council.
h) Minutes of all the Council meetings shall be taken and shall be approved as a true representation at the following meeting of the Council. All minutes shall be available for inspection by any member of the Council and by any member of the Association except for minutes involving personal matters relating to individual members or matters falling under Clauses (g) above and 5.3 (b) and (c) which shall remain confidential.
i) Notice (including an agenda) shall be given to every member of the Council, and should be at least 14 days in advance of all meetings of the Council. In special circumstances shorter notice may be necessary but shall never be less than 48 hours. Where less than 14 days notice has been given, the reasons for the short notice shall be recorded in the minutes of the meeting.
j) Members of the Association shall be informed of the dates and venues of Council Meetings and shall have the right to attend, provided they advise the Chairman or General Secretary of their intention to do so. They may be allowed to speak, but may not vote.

8. FINANCIAL MATTERS

8.1 Bank accounts and Signatories

The Treasurer shall have charge of the funds of the Association. These shall be deposited in accounts in the Association's name with a clearing bank or other United Kingdom licensed deposit taker. Cheques or other withdrawals shall be signed or authorised by any two of the Officers of the Association. In the event that two or more Officers are related then Council shall designate alternative Council members as signatories.

8.2 Audits

The Association's financial statements shall be audited annually. The auditor shall be a member of a professional body recognised by the Companies Act 1985 as Auditors, but need not be currently registered as an Auditor. The auditor must not be an Officer of the Association or a member of the Council. Council may set the scope of the audit, but with the agreement of the auditor.

8.3 Subscriptions and Donations

The Association shall have the power to levy and collect membership subscriptions as they fall due.

The Association shall not accept donations or any other forms of benefit where such donations or benefits are given subject to conditions which would restrict the activities of the Association or where the donor may obtain influence over the Association in consequence of giving the donations or benefits.

8.4 Expenses

Members claiming expenses should submit the claim no later than one month after the end of the financial year in which they have been incurred.

9. GENERAL MATTERS

9.1 Alterations to the Constitution

Alterations to this Constitution can only be made at the AGM or at a Special General Meeting, notice of which must specify the proposed changes. Any alteration to the constitution must have a two thirds majority of those present voting in favour of the resolution, provided that no alteration is made to this clause, clause 2 or clause 9.3.

9.2 Honorary Officers

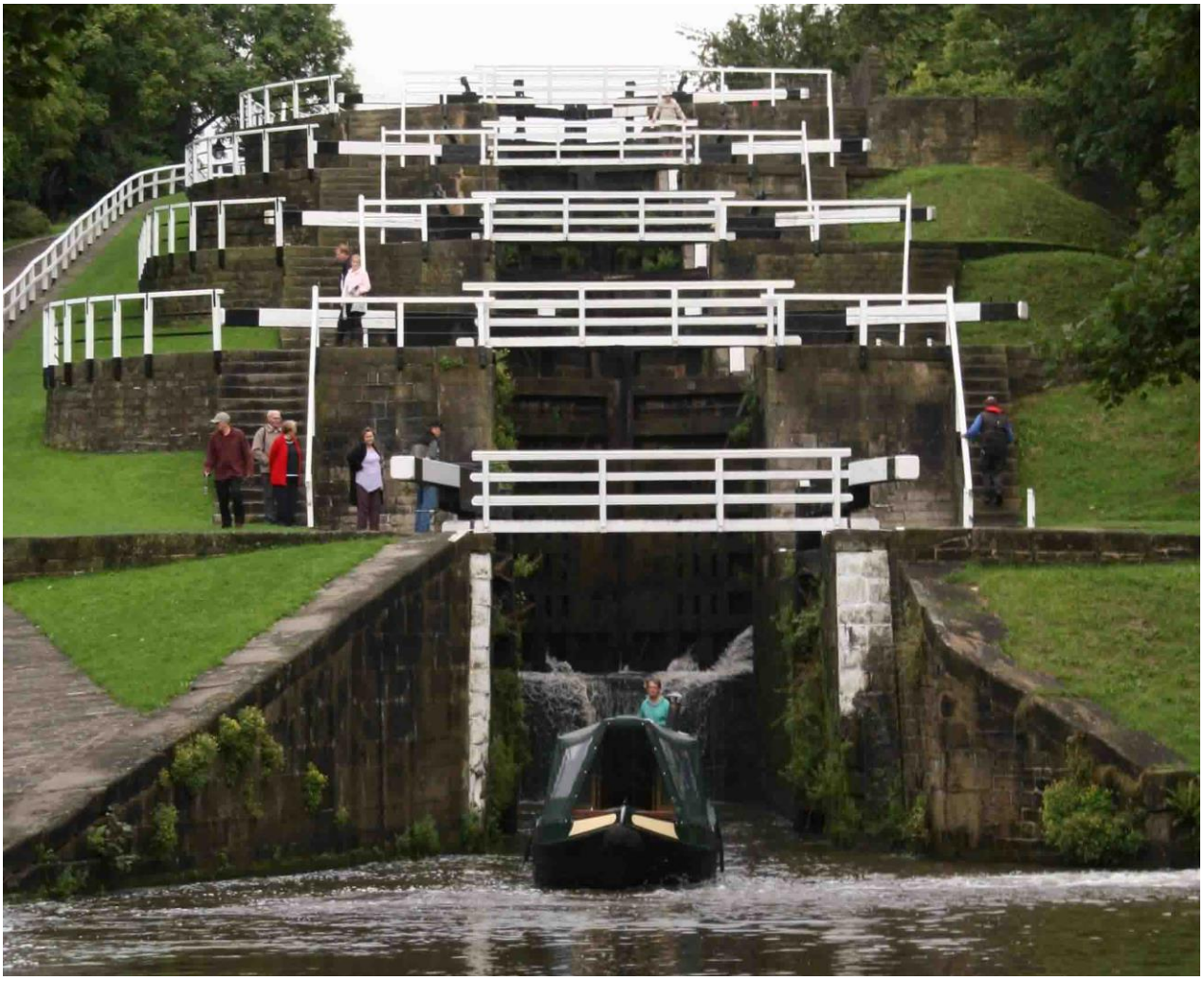
The Association may have an Honorary President and Vice-President(s) who shall be invited by the Council to hold office until either they or Council decide otherwise.

9.3 Winding Up

If on the winding up or dissolution of the Association there remains after the settling of all liabilities any property whatsoever, this shall not be paid to or distributed among the members of the Association, but shall be given to such a registered Charity or charities established for similar charitable purposes as the Association shall decide.

Accepted at AGM 15/10/03 - Amended after AGM 2005

Bingley Five Rise



7. The 1995 BW Act 17(3) extract

Undertakings and Statements of Intent

At the first reading of this Bill, several organisations, such as the IWA, RYA, British Marine Industries Federation and NABO, objected for various reasons. In order to make sure that the Bill would be successful at its second reading, British Waterways made assurances to these groups and to Parliament that it would behave in certain ways, adopt certain practices etc.Those made to Parliament are called “The Undertakings” we undertake to .....) those to organisations are called “Statements of Intent” (we intend to …….). The documents pertaining to The Undertakings and Statements of Intent run to about sixty sheets, so here is a summary of the most useful parts, together with the numbers:

Letter dated 11th May 1993 from BW to the RYA, which summarises the Statements of Intent.

1 (1) British Waterways is committed to the management of its inland waterways for navigation and other purposes in accordance with its statutory duties under the Transport Act 1968. It will maintain dredged depths to published standards, and seek wherever reasonably practicable and in a manner consistent with conserving the waterways heritage and the environment to preserve and enhance opportunities for navigation.

2 (1) British waterways recognises that the views of users need to be heard and taken into account at all levels within its organisation. It is committed to effective consultation and will seek to develop new means where appropriate to enhance effective dialogue and give users full confidence that their opinions and interests receive full and proper consideration.

2 (3) g British Waterways will take fully into account the views expressed through the consultation procedure.

3 (3) Where casual mooring is permitted, it will be without charge except where necessary to avoid monopolisation and/or facilitate access to popular locations and then only when mooring exceeds the permitted period.

The final paragraph of the letter states:

Although these Statements of Intent were given initially to the boating interests represented above, they will apply universally for the benefit of all our users. Whilst they have no direct legal effect, because changing circumstances will inevitably involve their reconsideration and revision, any change will only be made following consultation at the appropriate levels as stipulated in paragraph 1.6 of our revised draft Leisure and Tourism Strategy.

***Statements of Intent** issued by British Waterways dated 18th June 1993*

3 Clause 18 (Prohibition or control of mooring)

Where the Board exercise powers of clause 18 for the purposes specified in clause 18 (3)(c) (General availability) it will be the Board’s practice to provide so far as is practicable to do so and where there is a demand a mix of moorings of different durations.

4 While these statements of intent have no legal effect, the Board intend to observe them until changing circumstances require their reconsideration and revision, in which case changes will only be made following consultation with NABO and such persons and organisations as are stipulated in paragraph 1.6 of the Board’s revised draft Leisure and Tourism strategy.

All quoted verbatim. Should you wish to see the document the Treasurer and General Secretary have a copy.

1995 Act Licence Clauses (Section 17)

(3) Notwithstanding anything in any enactment but subject to subsection (7) below, the Board may refuse a relevant consent in respect of any vessel unless—

(a) the applicant for the relevant consent satisfies the Board that the vessel complies with the standards applicable to that vessel;

(b) an insurance policy is in force in respect of the vessel and a copy of the policy, or evidence that it exists and is in force, has been produced to the Board; and

(c) either—

(i) the Board are satisfied that a mooring or other place where the vessel can reasonably be kept and may lawfully be left will be available for the vessel, whether on an inland waterway or elsewhere; or

(ii) the applicant for the relevant consent satisfies the Board that the vessel to which the application relates will be used bona fide for navigation throughout the period for which the consent is valid without remaining continuously in any one place for more than 14 days or such longer period as is reasonable in the circumstances.

8. Canal & River Trust Governance and Advisory Groups

CRT Trustees are legally responsible for ensuring that the Trust works towards its Charitable Objects. Trustees are the unpaid board, taking decisions on policy and overarching strategy and providing oversight of the executive directors.

The governing Council has 35 nominated and elected members who reflect diverse aspects of the waterways. The Council helps to shape policy, raise and debate issues, provide guidance and perspective, and act as a sounding board for Trustees. The Council also has the responsibility of appointing and dismissing Trustees.

Executive Directors manage everyday operations of the Trust. They develop policy and strategy for approval by the Trustees and are responsible for management of the workforce. Richard Parry is CRT's Chief Executive.

CRT has established six Waterway Partnerships that reflect geographic waterway administration boundaries plus one dedicated to museums and attractions. The Partnerships help to shape plans for each waterway, guide the Trust's decisions about spending, develop local engagement and external funding, and champion the interests of the waterways. The Partnerships are made up of people who represent different waterways interests, such as boaters, walkers, cyclists and anglers. They also include people with relevant expertise in areas like volunteering, fundraising, environment, heritage and community engagement. The Chair of each Partnership has a seat on the CRT Council.

CRT is also supported by advisory committees:

1) The Environmental Advisory Panel steers and validates CRT's strategic direction in environmental management and provides the Trust with expert advice on specific nature conservation, water quality and use, environmental issues (e.g. carbon footprint management, helping to improve resource efficiency and climate change mitigation).
2) The Navigation Advisory Group comprises boaters from a variety of backgrounds and perspectives. The NAG (Operations) deals with advice relating to safety standards, waterway operation, maintenance and repairs, and customer service standards.
3) The Heritage Advisory Group provides advice and support on heritage and conservation issues, helping to inform CRT's heritage policies and procedures and shaping approaches to managing the heritage of the waterways.
4) The Volunteering Advisory Group advises on the Trust's strategic approach and best practice in managing volunteers.
5) The Learning, Children and Young People Advisory Group provides opportunities for engagement of young people through a formal education programme using web-based resources and volunteer-led sessions and a youth programme, Waterways Action Squad.
6) The Angling and Fisheries Advisory Group advises the Trust on angling and fisheries management issues.
7) The Freight Advisory Group helps to steer CRT's policies on waterway freight.

For more information, go to http://canalrivertrust.org.uk/about-us/governance.

Dundas Aqueduct

9. NAVIGATION AUTHORITIES

Basingstoke Canal
Basingstoke Canal Authority, Canal Centre, Mytchett Place Road, Mytchett, Surrey GU16 6DD Tel: 01252 370073 Fax: 01252 371758 info@basingstoke-canal.co.uk, Website: www.hants.gov.uk/basingstoke-canal.

Bridgewater Canal
The Bridgewater Canal Company Ltd, Venus Building, 1 Old Park Lane, Trafford City, Manchester M41 7HA. Tel: 0161 8556400, Email bridgewaterway@peel.co.uk, Website: www.bridgewatercanal.co.uk.

Canal & River Trust
Head Office: First Floor North, Station House, 500 Elder Gate, Milton Keynes, MK9 1BB. 01923 201304, Email: customer.services@canalrivertrust.org.uk, via website: https://canalrivertrust.org.uk/contact-us/ways-to-contact-us. Tel: 0303 040 4040 to reach any CRT office or person in England. Website: https://canalrivertrust.org.uk/about-us/our-regions.

Regions

1. **East Midlands**
   The Kiln, Mather Road, Newark, Nottinghamshire, NG24 1FB, Email: enquiries.eastmidlands@canalrivertrust.org.uk, Twitter, @CRT_EastMids.

   Waterways: Ashby Canal, Erewash Canal, Fossdyke Navigation, Grand Union Canal, Grantham Canal, Leicester Line (Grand Union Canal), Market Harborough Arm (Grand Union Canal), Northampton Arm (Grand Union Canal), Nottingham & Beeston Canal, River Soar, River Trent/Upper Trent, River Witham, Welford Arm (Leicester Line).

2. **London & South East**
   Docklands Office, 420 Manchester Road, London E14 9ST, Email: enquiries.london@canalrivertrust.org.uk, Twitter, @CRTLondon

   Waterways: Aylesbury Arm (Grand Union Canal), Bow Back Rivers, Grand Union Canal, Hertford Union Canal, Lee Navigation, Limehouse Cut, London Docklands, Oxford Canal, Paddington Arm (Grand Union Canal), Regent's Canal, River Stort, Slough Arm (Grand Union Canal), Wendover Arm (Grand Union Canal).

3. **North West**
   Trencherfield Mill, Heritage Way, Wigan, WN3 4BN. Email: enquiries.northwest@canalrivertrust.org.uk, Twittter, @CRTNorthWest

   Waterways: Ashton Canal, Glasson Branch (Lancaster Canal), Huddersfield Narrow Canal, Lancaster Canal, Leeds & Liverpool Canal, Leigh Branch (Leeds & Liverpool Canal), Llangollen Canal, Liverpool Canal Link, Macclesfield Canal, Manchester, Bolton & Bury Canal, Middlewich Branch (Shropshire Union Canal), Peak Forest Canal, Ribble Link, Rochdale Canal, Rufford Branch (Leeds & Liverpool Canal), Sankey (St.Helens) Canal, Shropshire Union Canal, Trent & Mersey Canal, Weaver Navigation.

4. **Wales and South West**
   The Dock Office, Commercial Road, Gloucester GL1 2EB. Tel: 01452 318047 - 01452 318023 - 01452 318008, Email: enquiries.southwalessevern@canalrivertrust.org.uk, Twitter, @CRTWalesandSW

   Waterways: Bridgwater & Taunton Canal, Gloucester & Sharpness Canal, Kennet & Avon Canal, Llangollen Canal, Monmouthshire & Brecon Canal, Montgomery Canal, River Severn Navigation, Swansea Canal.

5. **West Midlands Waterways**
   22 Cambrian Wharf, King Edwards Road, Birmingham, West Midlands, B1 2AN, Email: enquiries.westmidlands@canalrivertrust.org.uk, Twitter, @CRTWestMidlands

   Waterways: Anglesey Branch (Wyrley and Essington Canal), Birmingham Canal Navigations, Birmingham & Fazeley Canal, Bradley Arm (Old Main Line), Caldon Canal, Cannock Extension Canal, Coventry Canal, Daw End Canal, Droitwich Canals, Dudley No 1 Canal, Dudley No 2 Canal, Grand Union Canal, Llangollen Canal, Kingswood Arm (North Stratford Canal), Montgomery Canal, New Main Line, North Stratford Canal, Old Main

Line, Oxford Canal, Rushall Canal, Shrewsbury & Newport Canal, Shropshire Union Canal, South Stratford Canal, Staffordshire & Worcestershire Canal, Stourbridge Canal, Stratford Upon Avon Canal, Tame Valley Canal, Titford Canal, Trent & Mersey Canal, Walsall Canal, Wednesbury Old Canal, Worcester & Birmingham Canal, Wyrley & Essington Canal.

6. **Yorkshire and North East**
Fearns Wharf, Neptune Street, Leeds, LS9 8PB, Email: enquiries.northeast@canalrivertrust.org.uk, Twittter, @CRTNorthEast

Waterways: Aire & Calder Navigation Main Line, Calder & Hebble Navigation, Chesterfield Canal, Huddersfield Broad Canal, Huddersfield Narrow Canal, Leeds & Liverpool Canal, New Junction Canal, Pocklington Canal, Ripon Canal, River Aire, River Ouse, River Tees, Rochdale Canal, Selby Canal, Sheffield & South Yorkshire Navigations, Sheffield & Tinsley Canal, Stainforth & Keadby Canal, Ure Navigation, Wakefield Branch (Aire & Calder Navigation).

Environment Agency
You can register your boat on the waterway(s) where you use it, or buy a Gold Licence that allows you to use all EA and CRT waters. Postal address: EA Boat Registration Team, PO Box 544, Rotherham S60 1BY. Tel: 03708 506 506, email: boatreg@environment-agency.gov.uk, website: www.gov.uk/register-a-boat**.** River Thames annual registrations run from 1 January to 31 December. Other registrations run from 1 April to 31 March. The navigation authority is responsible for:

- Black Sluice Navigation (also known as South Forty Foot Drain) between Donington Bridge and the Boston Haven
- Harbour Authority for Rye and the Conservancy Authority for the Dee Estuary.
- Non-tidal River Thames (Cricklade Bridge to Teddington)
- River Ancholme
- River Great Ouse System, including:
  - Bedford Ouse below Kempston
  - Ely Ouse including the Forty Foot River below Horseway Lock, Old West River, Old Bedford River and New Bedford River (also known as Hundred Foot River/Drain or Relief Channel)
  - River Little Ouse (Brandon Creek), Ten Mile River, River Wissey, River Lark and River Cam (below Bottisham Lock)
- River Medway between Allington Lock and the Leigh Barrier (Tonbridge)
- River Nene from Northampton to Wisbech
- River Stour below Brundon, Sudbury (Suffolk)
- River Welland
- River Glen
- Royal Military Canal between West Hythe Dam and Iden Lock

Manchester Ship Canal
Manchester Ship Canal Company Ltd., Peel Ports Group. Tel: 0151 949 6286. Email: mail@shipcanal.co.uk. Website: https://www.peelports.com/port-locations/manchester-ship-canal. Website contact form at www.peelports.com/contact-us-2.

Middle Level Navigations
Middle Level Commissioners, Middle Level Offices, 85 Whittlesey Road, March, Cambs PE15 0AH. Tel: 01354 653232. Email: admin@middlelevel.gov.uk. Twitter via @MLCnavigation. Website: https://middlelevel.gov.uk.

Norfolk & Suffolk Broads
Broads Authority, Head Office, Yare House, 62-64 Thorpe Road, Norwich, Norfolk, NR1 1RY**.** Tel: 01603 610734 Fax: 01603 765710. Email broads@broads-authority.gov.uk or via website: www.broads-authority.gov.uk.

River Avon (Upper and Lower Avon, Warks)
Avon Navigation Trust, Mill Wharf, Mill Lane, Wyre Piddle, Pershore, Worcs WR10 2JF Tel: 01386 552517, e-mail: office@avonnavigationtrust.org, Website: www.avonnavigationtrust.org.

River Cam (between The Mill Pond, Cambridge to Bottisham Lock). Cam Conservancy, Clayhithe Office, Clayhithe Road, Waterbeach, Cambridge, CB25 9JB. Tel: 01223 863785. Email: river.manager@camconservators.org.uk, Website: www.camconservancy.org. Website contact form at www.camconservancy.org/get-in-touch.

Rivers Humber, Trent and Ouse (tidal)
Associated British Ports, Head Office: 25 Bedford Street, London, WC2E 9ES. Tel: 020 7430 1177. Email and contact details for individual rivers and ports on the website at www.abports.co.uk/Contact_Us.

River Thames (Teddington to the sea)
Port of London Authority, London River House, Royal Pier Road, Gravesend, Kent, DA12 2BG, Tel: 01474 562200,E-mail: access via http://www.pla.co.uk/Contact-Us.

River Wey
National Trust, Dapdune Wharf, Wharf Road, Guildford, Surrey, GU1 4RR. Tel: 01483 561389. Email: riverwey@nationaltrust.org.uk. Website: www.nationaltrust.org.uk/river-wey-godalming-navigations-and-dapdune-wharf.

Scottish Canals

Headquarters (Central departments inc. HR, Health & Safety, Finance), Tel: 0141 3326936. Email: enquiries@scottishcanals.co.uk. Website: www.scottishcanals.co.uk.

Caledonian Canal
Seaport Marina, Muirtown Wharf, Inverness IV3 5LE. Tel: 01463 725500

Crinan Canal
Pier Square, Ardrishaig, Lochgilphead, Argyll PA30 8DZ, Tel**:** 01546 603210

Lowland Canals (Forth & Clyde, Monkland and Union Canals)
Canal House, Applecross Street, Glasgow, G4 9SP, Tel: 0141 3326936

Bidford on Avon

10. WATERWAYS' ACRONYMS

- a glossary of waterway terms

Acronym	Name	Notes
ACC	Association of Continuous Cruisers	Formed in 2013 to represent boaters who continuously cruise or cruise for most of the year
AINA	Association of Inland Navigation Authorities	Promotes matters in common between navigation authorities
ANT	Avon Navigation Trust	Navigation Authority for the Warwickshire River Avon
APB	Associated British Ports	Navigation Authority for tidal Trent, Humber and Ouse
APCO	Association of Pleasure Craft Operators	Trade body for hire and hotel boat operators
APPWG	All Party Parliamentary Waterways Group	Special interest group for MPs.
ARA	Amateur Rowing Association	
AWCC	Association of Waterway Cruising Clubs	National body with cruising clubs as members
BCU	British Canoe Union	
BHCF	British Hire Craft Federation	Trade body for hire boat operators
BMF	British Marine Federation	Trade body for coastal and inland boating businesses
BSS	Boat Safety Scheme	Boat construction safety requirements
BSSAC	Boat Safety Scheme Advisory Committee	Committee of user and trade representatives Has NABO rep.
BSSMC	Boat Safety Scheme Management Committee	
BSSTC	Boat Safety Scheme Technical Committee	
BW	British Waterways	Previously BW Board (BWB)
CBA	Canal Boatbuilders Association	
CBOA	Commercial Boat Operators Association	
CC	Continuous Cruiser/Cruising	A boat/owner with no permanent mooring who is truly itinerant and complies with CRT's Guidelines
CM	Continuous Moorer	A boat/owner with no authorised mooring who does not comply with CRT's cruising guidelines
CRT	Canal & River Trust	Replaced BW in 2012
CSS	Customer Service Standards	Includes MSS, Minimum Safety Standards
CSSAP	Customer Service Standards Advisory Panel	Group with invited members including users, trade and CRT employees to advise on CSS
DBA	The Barge Association	For owners of bigger boats and smaller ships here and abroad

DCLG	Department for Communities and Local Government	Government department overseeing development and regeneration.
DEFRA	Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs	Government department overseeing waterways.
EA	Environment Agency	Navigation authority for the Thames, Medway and Anglian rivers
EFRACOM	Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee	Select Committee of MPs from all parties which investigates affairs of DEFRA
GOBA	Great Ouse Boating Association	
HBS	Horse-boating Society	
HNBOC	Historic Narrowboat Owners Club	
IWA	Inland Waterways Association	A charity promoting conservation, restoration and use of waterways.
LWP	Local Waterway Partnerships	13 have been set up by CRT to develop their local waterways
MAIB	Marine Accident Investigation Board	Investigates on fresh waters too
MCA	Marine & Coastguard Agency	
MLC	Middle Level Commissioners	Navigation Authority for the Middle Level Navigations
MSCC	Manchester Ship Canal Company	Navigation Authority for the Bridgewater Canal and the MSC
NABO	National Association of Boat Owners	Represents boat owners on inland and estuarial waters
NCBA	National Community Boats Association	National charity promoting and supporting voluntary and local authority projects, including recognised training courses.
NAG	Navigation Advisory Group	One of a number of advisory groups set up by CRT - this one possibly most relevant to boaters.
NNUF	National Navigation Users' Forum	EA's formal link with national boating user groups
NUF	National Users' Forum	Replaced the BW Advisory Forum, to provide two-way communication on national issues between users and CRT
NT	National Trust	Navigation Authority for the River Wey
PLA	Port of London Authority	Navigation Authority for tidal Thames and its estuary
RBOA	Residential Boat Owners Association	
RFERAC	Regional Fisheries, Ecology, Recreation Advisory Committee	Advises EA regions. Navigation only part of recreation remit
RYA	Royal Yachting Association	Promotes all boat-related activities in and around the UK
SOW	Save Our Waterways	A non-aligned pressure group for general waterway promotion
TBA	The Boating Association	Once stood for Trent Boating Association but now represents all river boaters
TBTA	Thames Boating Trades Association	
TWAO	Transport and Works Act Order	A means to get statutory powers.
TWT	The Waterways Trust	Charitable body overseeing museums and other waterway interests, now part of CRT

TYHA	The Yacht Harbour Association	Includes inland marinas
WO	Waterways Ombudsman	Independent arbitrator for unresolved individual complaints about CRT involving maladministration but not policy or legal matters.
WOC	Waterways Ombudsman Committee	Committee to appoint, oversee, facilitate and ensure independence of the Ombudsman
WRG	Waterways Recovery Group	Restoration arm of the IWA
WUSIG	Waterway User and Special Interest Group	Involves waterway interest and user groups, more specific and less strategic than NUF
WWG	Waterways Working Group	A Thames EA consultation group

A list of organisations/acronyms is provided by IWA at www.waterways.org.uk/information/administrative_info/waterways_abbreviation.

West Stockwith

11. MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

National Association of Boat Owners

Membership Application

Title First name Last name

Address

Postcode

Telephone

Home

Mobile

Profession / Expertise

Email address @

Additional (family) members at the same address

1 2

Boat Details Barge Cruiser Narrowboat Commercial Sail Other

Name of craft

Other details, eg length, make, style

Home navigation

Mooring

Annual Subscription

by cheque payable to 'NABO' or bank transfer to account number 50654175 sort code 20-37-13

Can you help us by paying future annual subscriptions by bank standing order?

Yes No

if Yes, we will send you the necessary form with your welcome letter

One **full member**: £25 £ :

Additional (family) members: £5 each £ :

Donation to NABO funds (optional) £ :

Total enclosed £ :

Please supply NABO car / boat window stickers

Signed

Date of application

Terms and conditions apply; we will write to you requesting acceptance when we process your application.

Where did you hear about NABO?

if from another member, please give their name

Send to NABO, 20 Oak Grove, Hertford, SG13 8AT

12. MEMBERSHIP RECRUITMENT FLYER

If you would like to receive copies of NABO's flyer to help recruit new members, please contact the General Secretary, giving your postal address and the number of copies that you would like to receive.