

# Narrowboat Badge

**BROWNIES** - To earn this badge Brownies must do all of section 1 and at least 5 in section 2 – section 3 is optional

**GUIDES AND ABOVE** – as above plus 3 from section 3

## **Section 1**

1. With the help of the skipper, learn how to steer the boat
2. Working with your team, learn how to work a lock

## **Section 2**

1. learn to work a swing bridge
2. show how you would warn the skipper of an approaching boat
3. help in the Galley by washing or drying up
4. Make something while on board
5. learn a new game
6. Spot and name 5 different birds, insects or animals
7. Look out for interesting boat names and write down your 3 favourites.
8. Learn the meaning of the following words

Windlass	Cill	Bilge pump	Boat hook
Tiller	Winding hole	Mooring	Galley
Gate paddle	Bow	Stern	Towpath
Lock beam	Fender	Ground paddle	Barge pole
Gongoozler			

## **Section 3**

1. **Water safety** – discuss the following statements in a group

### **TRUE OR FALSE**

Canal water is fresh and clean

It is ok to swim in a canal in the summer

It is safe to fish near overhead electric power cables

You should call for help if a person falls in the water

You should jump in to help if a person falls in the water

If you fall in the water you should try to swim towards the bank

It is never safe to walk on a frozen river or canal

You can stand up in the canal

## 2. Ropes and Knots

see [www.animatedknots.com](http://www.animatedknots.com)

### Coiling

It is important to coil rope correctly so that when you throw it, it does not get tangled.

Starting at one end of the rope, let it fall into a natural large loop from your outstretched arm, the rest of the rope runs through your other hand which you bring together to form the next loop – try to keep the loops the same size. Continue until you get to the end of the rope then lay the coiled rope on the deck or a hook, ensuring that there are no dangling ends.

### Rope throwing

Practice throwing a rope to someone else

- Straight - From the boat to the bank
- Upwards - From the boat to the lock side when in the bottom of a lock
- Downwards – from the lock side down to a boat in a lock.

**Do not let the rope fall in the water – never let the rope fall near the propeller, it may get tangled and need to be cut off.**

### Knots

Round turn and 2 half hitches



Bowline



cleat hitch



These are just some of the knots that can be used when boating.

## 3. Log book

Most boats carry a log book – design your own.

You can include;

- The weather
- Distance covered
- Locks and swing bridges
- Interesting boats passed
- Wildlife spotted
- Crew
- Interesting things that happened
- Funny things that were said

## 4. horn signals

### Horn Signals

The only signal that is generally known and used is;

ONE LONG BLAST – this is a warning given at tunnels, blind bends or junctions. You should listen out for an answering signal meaning that someone is coming the other way.

However, there are other signals that are used by commercial boats or seasoned boaters.

1 short blast = I am turning to the right (starboard)

2 short blasts = I am turning to the left (port)

3 short blasts = I am in reverse / going astern

## **5. look out duty**

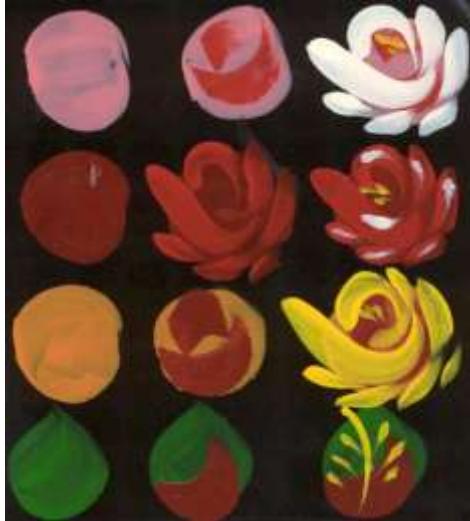
when sitting on the bow (front) you are certain to see hazards in the water or oncoming boats long before the skipper does, especially on a bend.

It is useful for this information to be passed on by hand signals.

(you may be able to hear what is being said at the back, but the skipper will not be able to hear you speak because of the engine noise)

- if a boat is coming towards you, stand up facing the back of the boat and make an inverted V shape with your hands above your head, stay there until the skipper gives you the thumbs up.
- When going round a bend, or at a junction, if you can clearly see that there are no boats coming, give the thumbs up sign.

## **6. canal art - decorate something with traditional barge painting**



**Badges are £1 each and can be bought on board Falcon Adam.**

**Or Email- [Julie.myers@narrowboattrust.co.uk](mailto:Julie.myers@narrowboattrust.co.uk)**

**website - [www.narrowboattrust.co.uk](http://www.narrowboattrust.co.uk)**