Batchworth Lock Canal Centre

Visit the

Batchworth

Lock Canal Centre.

and life on the canal.

1990s. It is a great place to

learn about Batchworth Lock

Why don't you...

Take a boat trip on the Grand Union Canal and enjoy the changing landscape. The Grand Union was once an important part of Britain's economic structure. Narrowboats delivered cargo to cities and towns using this impressive waterway. Visit:

Take a stroll along the Grand Union Canal towpath. Follow in the footsteps of horses and donkeys which towed narrow boats laden with cargos such as coal, wood, flour and paper between London and Birmingham.

Check out the Rickmansworth Festival at Rickmansworth Aguadrome. Usually held in May, come along and enjoy live music, food, stalls, entertainment and events on the Grand Union Canal, Fun for the whole family! To find out more visit: www.rwt.org.uk/festival

Watch boats go through Batchworth Lock many boats did you see? Were they all the same type... row boat, or wide-beam boat?



www.rwt.ora.uk

for boat trip details.

That this section of the Grand Union Canal was once called the Grand Junction Canal?

The Grand Junction Canal ran from Braunston (Northamptonshire) to the River Thames in Brentford and was built between 1793 and 1805 to connect London to the industries of the midlands and north.

In 1929 it joined with other canals to form the Grand Union Canal. The Grand Union Canal provided easy movement of cargo and was the first 'motorway' of its time even before the invention of the steam engine!

It was built 'broad' to allow barges as well as narrow boat to use it from London docks and the river Thames as far as Braunston.





In the Past...

Batchworth was something of an industrial centre in a mainly agricultural area.

There was a corn water mill here from ancient times, and in about 1750 a large mill was built next to it, where the water company's plant is now. It made various things, and from the 1780s to 1811 it was spinning cotton thread before being converted to make paper pulp from rags brought in by canal.

It was leased by John Dickinson from 1819 until 1878, and the pulp prepared there was made into paper and card at Dickinson's paper mills near Hemel Hempstead and Kings Langley.









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