



CHESHIRE RING RACE GUIDE

2013

Kayaking for Care

The Jolly Paddlers

Prepared by John Kamp



Number	Name of start point	Section miles	Section locks/tunnels	Guide minutes for 20 hrs	
1	Bridge 18	5		57	A – Steve/Matt
2	Marple	5	16 L 2 T	65	B – Stuart/Dan
3	Apethorn Lane, Hyde	3.25		37	C – JohnK/C
4	Dukinfield Junction, Ashton	6.25	18L	91	A – Steve/Matt
5	Ducie Street, Manchester	8	9L	95	B – Stuart/Dan
6	Marsland Road, Sale	6.75		71	C – JohnK/C
7	Burford Lane Underbridge, Lymm	6		70	A – Steve/Matt
8	London Road bridge, Stockton Heath	6	Half T	75	B – Stuart/Dan
9	Preston Brook Tunnel	3.5	Half T, 1 L	39	C – JohnK/C
10	Valley Farm, Little Leigh	7.25	2T	86	A – Steve/Matt
11	Broken Cross	5.5		64	B – Stuart/Dan
12	Middlewich Big Lock	6.75	9L	87	C – JohnK/C
13	Wheelock	4	14L	59	A – Steve/Matt
14	Rhode Heath	2.25	10L	35	B – Stuart/Dan
15	Red Bull, Hardings Wood	5	3L	65	C – JohnK/C
16	Bridge 77, Congleton	5.75	12L	75	A – Steve/Matt
17	Bosley top lock or locks	4		48	B – Stuart/Dan
18	Bridge 44, Bullocks Lane	3.25		37	C – JohnK/C
19	Bridge 29, Clarke Lane	3.75		43	A – Steve/Matt
	Total			1199 mins	

General rule ... left turns to go around the ring.

1. Bridge 18 Wood Lanes, near Poynton. Start and Finish, 5 Miles, no portages to first relay change (Steve / Matt) – 57 minutes

Post code: SK10 4PF - Parking on approach roads and at the Miners Arms



NOTES:

2. Marple, Relay Change Over Point, 5 miles, 16 locks, 2 tunnels to next relay change (Stuart / Dan) – 65 mins – 16 L 2 T

Post code: SK6 6BX

Bridge 1 Macclesfield Canal, Junction with Peak Forest Canal

This is a T junction of the two canals, TURN LEFT down the locks.

Limited Parking on Lockside and Brickbridge Lane

Hyde Bank Tunnel (308yds)

Get out left, compulsory portage, use towpath over tunnel, follow path upwards turn left at a T junction, and fork left at a Y back down to the canal.

Woodley Tunnel (176yds)

Get out left, compulsory portage of tunnel, use path through tunnel but take care as this can be slippery.

Portage all the way down past Lock 1



NOTES:

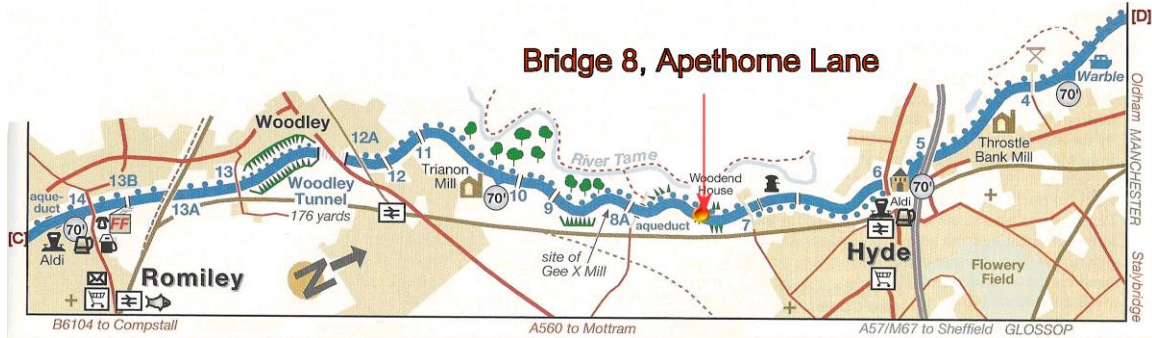
3. Apethorn Lane, Relay Change Over Point, 3.25 miles, no portages to next relay change (JohnK / JohnC) – 37 mins

Post code: SK14 5ET

Very limited parking at bottom of narrow lane

“All the way” support crews please avoid parking here

N.B. For relay teams, the paddling time to the next changeover is not long and the roads could be congested.



NOTES:

4. Dukinfield Junction, Relay Change Over Point. 6.25 miles, 18 locks to next relay change (Steve / Matt) – 91 mins – 18 L

Post code: SK16 4SQ

Junction with Ashton Canal

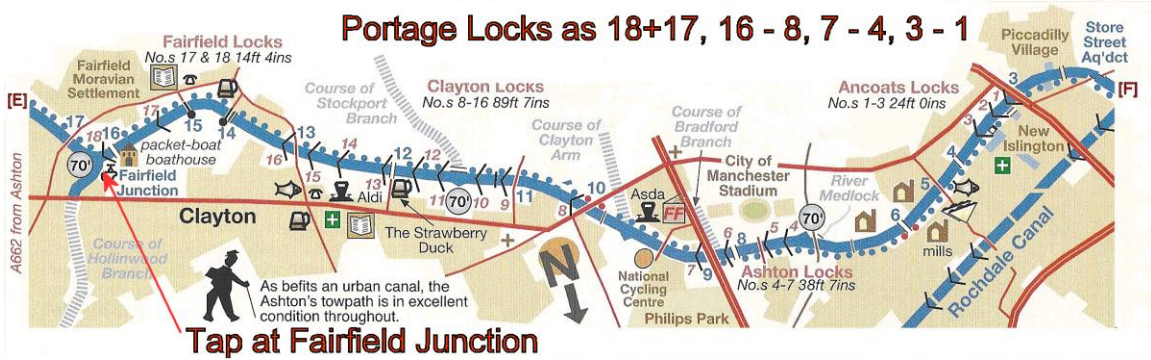
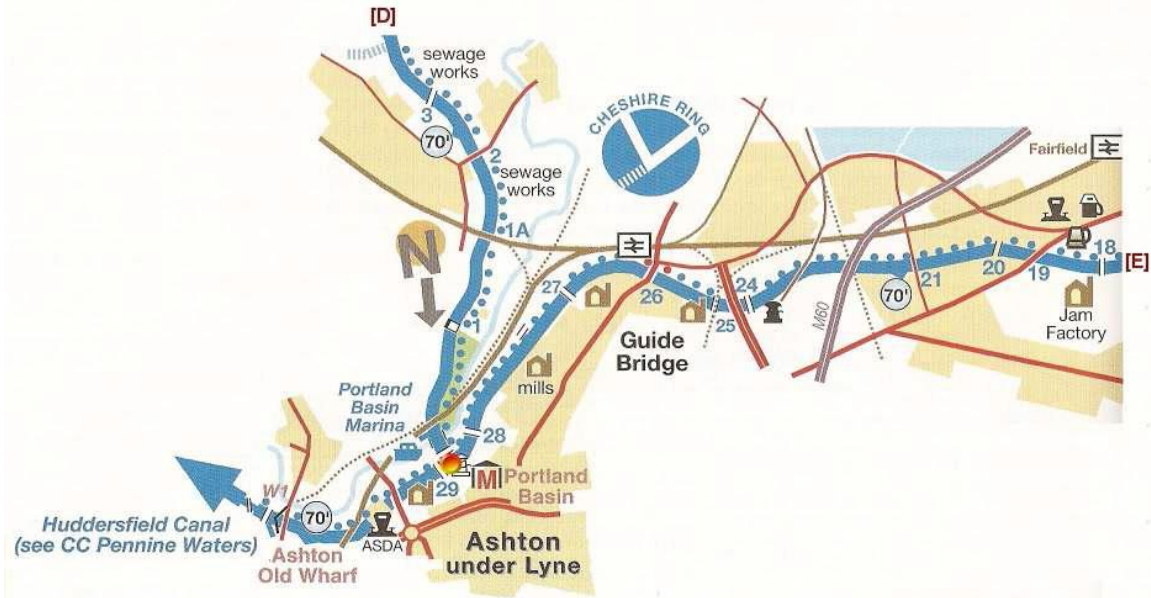
This is a T junction of the two canals, TURN LEFT

Plenty of parking behind museum

Lock 7

Towpath changes from left to right. There are two options.

1. Cross the foot bridge immediately after the lock and go down a spiral ramp. This is difficult to negotiate and you can have the help of your support team for this.
2. Cross the busy dual carriageway (Alan Turing Way). **Take care crossing**, a path on the right of the road bridge leads back to the towpath.



NOTES:

**5. Ducie Street, Relay Change Over Point, 8 miles, 9 locks to next relay change
(Stuart / Dan) – 95 mins – 9 L**

Post code: M1 2JL

Limited parking on roadside, pay and display or NCP car park

Crew taking over, pass under the bridge straight ahead, turn sharp right under another bridge and then sharp left, get out on the left hand side of the lock.

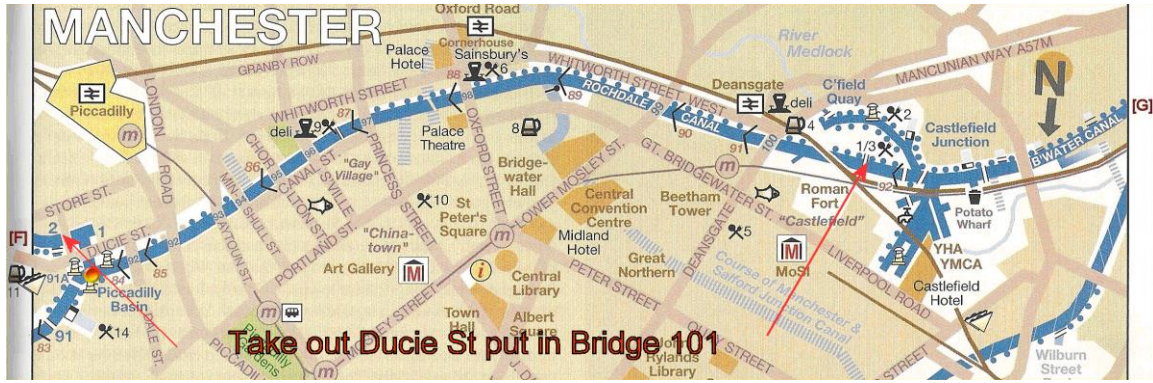
Portage options are to follow the towpath as the canal passes under some buildings (this passageway can attract some unsavoury characters and is not easy for larger, heavy boats).

The alternative is to follow the road route to avoid the underground section; these are busy streets in a city centre – see separate diagram at the end of this guide.

Castlefield Junction

After the 9 locks of the Rochdale Canal, the Ring joins the Bridgewater Canal. At the bottom lock the route is straight on, keeping the railway line to your right. Avoid the short branches to left and right.

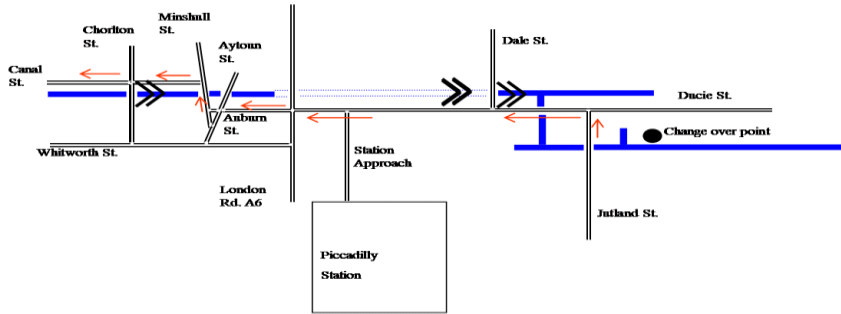
Follow the main canal out of Manchester. Soon after Man United's Old Trafford ground on your left, there is junction so turn left.





Alternative portage route on section 5 in Manchester.

Alternative route on road in Manchester, avoiding underground section

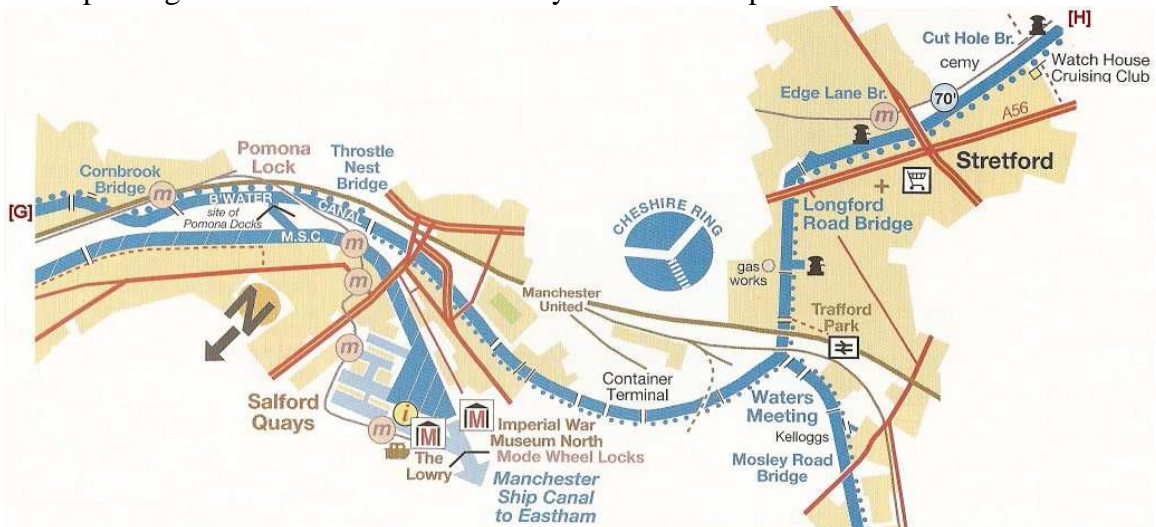


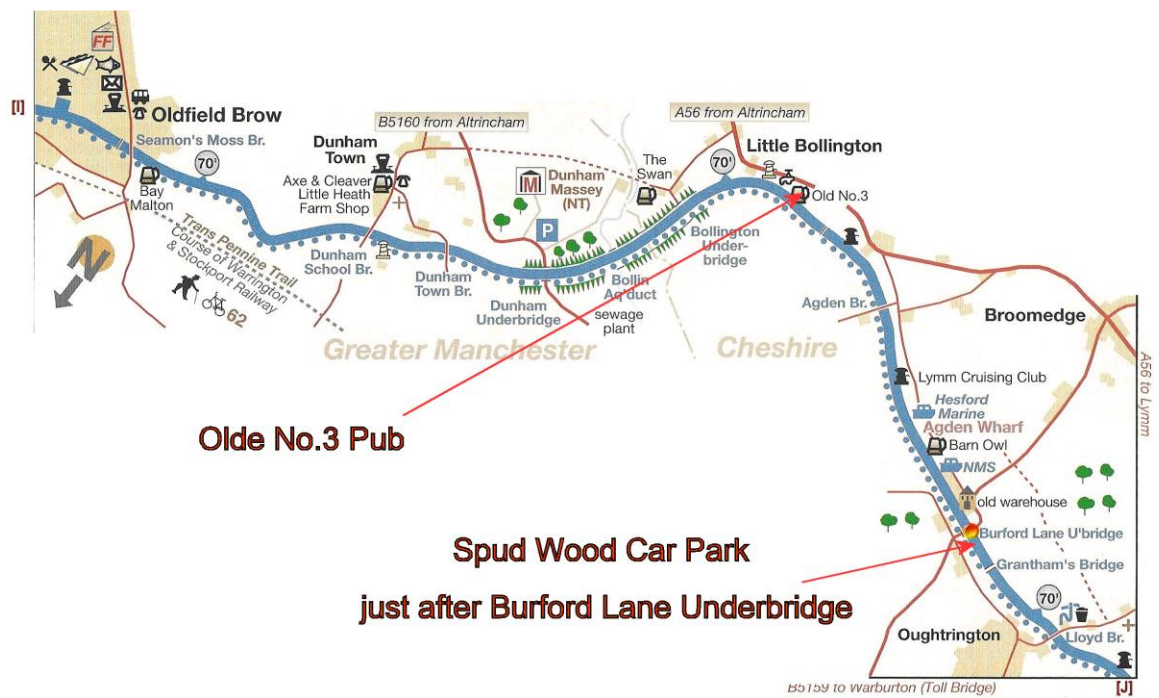
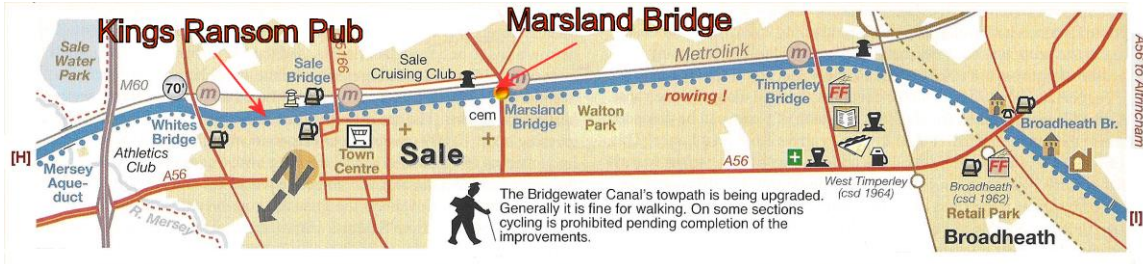
NOTES:

6. Marsland Road, Relay Change Over Point, 6.75 miles, no portages to next relay point (JohnK / JohnC) – 71 mins

Post code: M33 3SQ

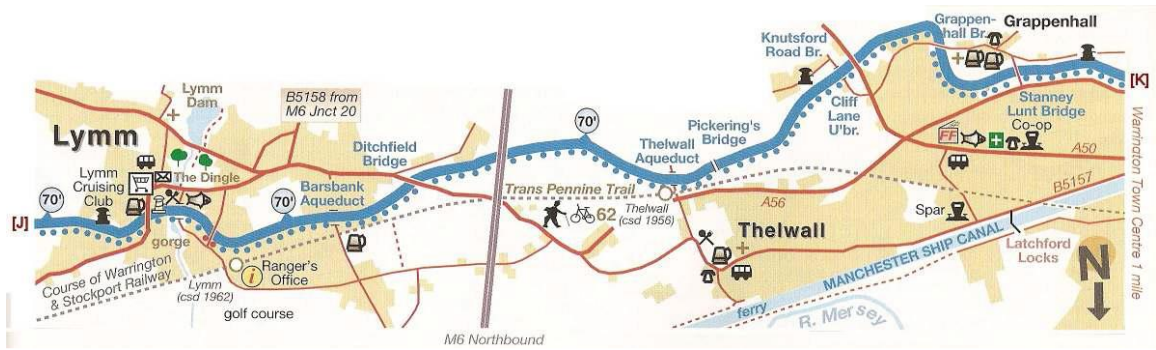
Good parking at station but this can be busy and short of spaces





NOTES:

7. Lymm (Burford Lane Underbridge), Relay Change Over Point, 6 miles, no portages to next relay change (Steve / Matt) – 70 mins
 Post code: WA13 9JB
 Small car park with height restriction on canalside.



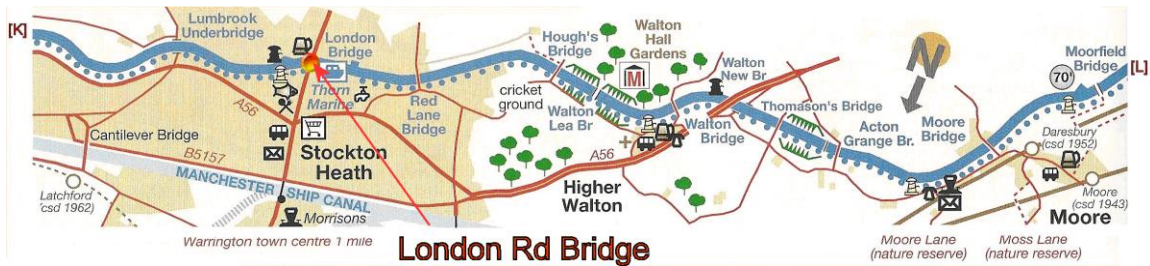
NOTES:

8. London Road Bridge, Relay Change Over Point, 6 miles, no locks, ½ a tunnel to next relay change (Stuart / Dan) – 75 mins – Half Tunnel

Post code: WA4 6LE

Parking on side road.

Toward the end of this section, just before passing under the motorway bridge, there is a branch off to Runcorn on the right. Keep left.



NOTES:

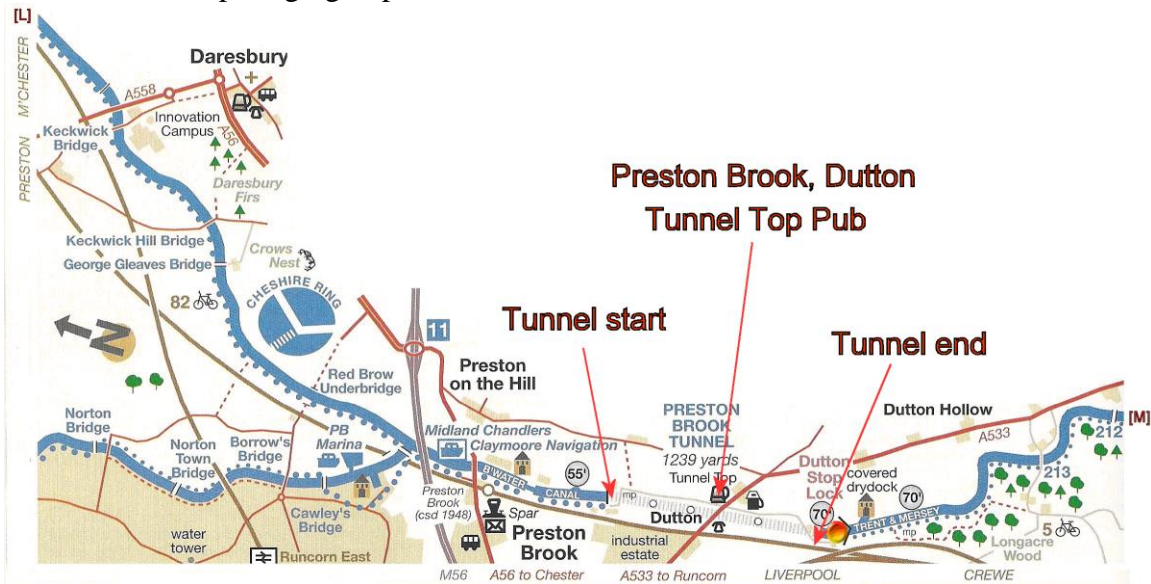
9. Preston Brook Tunnel, Relay Change Over Point, 3.5 miles, 1 lock, ½ a tunnel to next relay change (JohnK / JohnC) – 39 mins – Half T, 1 L

Post code: WA4 4JY

Parking at the pub, please make use of the pub to justify parking.

Compulsory portage over the tunnel, follow path on right up the hill. The tunnel is 1239 yards and the relay change over point is about half way, at the top of the hill. Take care

crossing the road. On reaching the canal again there is a small stop lock shortly after the tunnel; continue portaging to pass this lock.



NOTES:

10. Valley Farm, Little Leigh, Relay Change Over Point, 7.25 miles, no locks, 2 tunnels to next relay change (Steve / Matt) – 86 mins, 2 T
Post code: CW8 4QT

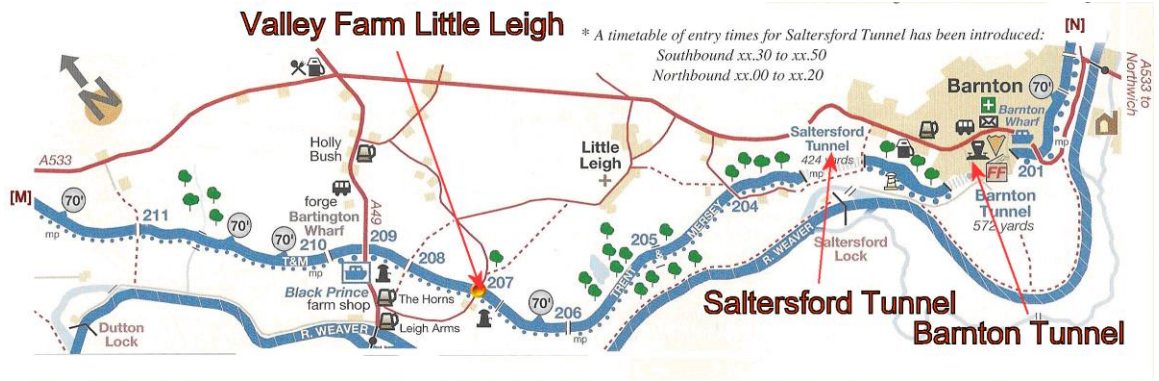
Limited roadside parking. “All the way” supporters, please avoid.

Saltersford Tunnel (424 yards) Compulsory portage, Get out on the right and follow the path over the tunnel.

Barnton Tunnel (572 yards) Compulsory portage, Get out on the right and follow the path over the tunnel, crossing straight over single track road at the top.

End of Barnton Tunnel

Some roadside parking, good for supporting “all the way” crews.



NOTES:

11. Broken Cross, Bridge 184, Relay Change Over Point, 5.5 miles, no portages to next relay change (Stuart / Dan) – 64 mins

Post code: CW9 7RT

Parking at the pub for customers

NOTES:

12. Middlewich Big Lock, Relay Change Over Point, 6.75 miles, 9 locks to next relay change (JohnK / JohnC) – 87 mins – 9 L

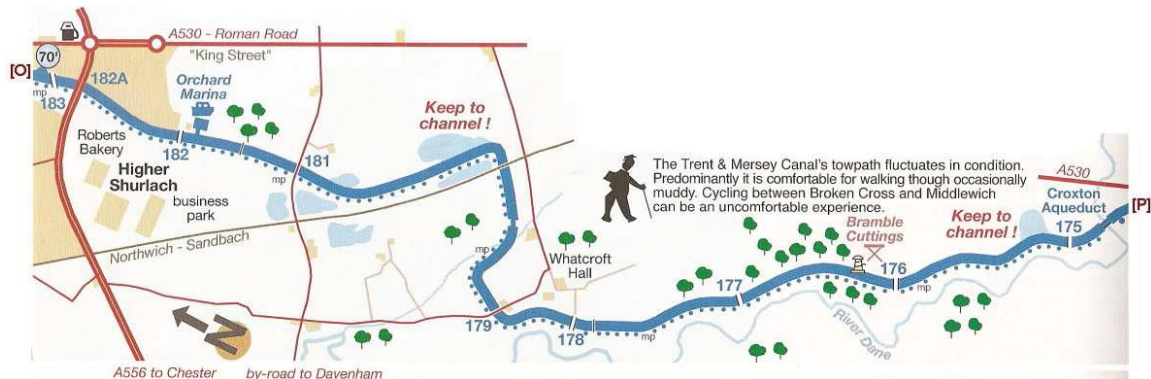
Post code: CW10 9DN

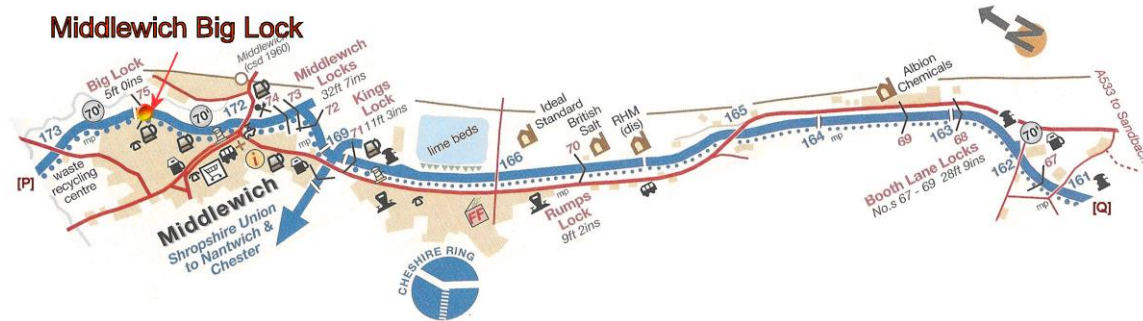
Roadside parking (or the pub for customers)

In Middlewich there is a branch to the right under a tow path bridge to the Shropshire Union Canal. If you are on the water do NOT turn right under the bridge into the branch, if you are on the tow path follow it over the bridge, do NOT follow the path under the bridge.

Lock 71, adjacent to A533 leaving Middlewich.

Roadside parking, an alternative support stop to Middlewich Big lock for “all the way” crews.





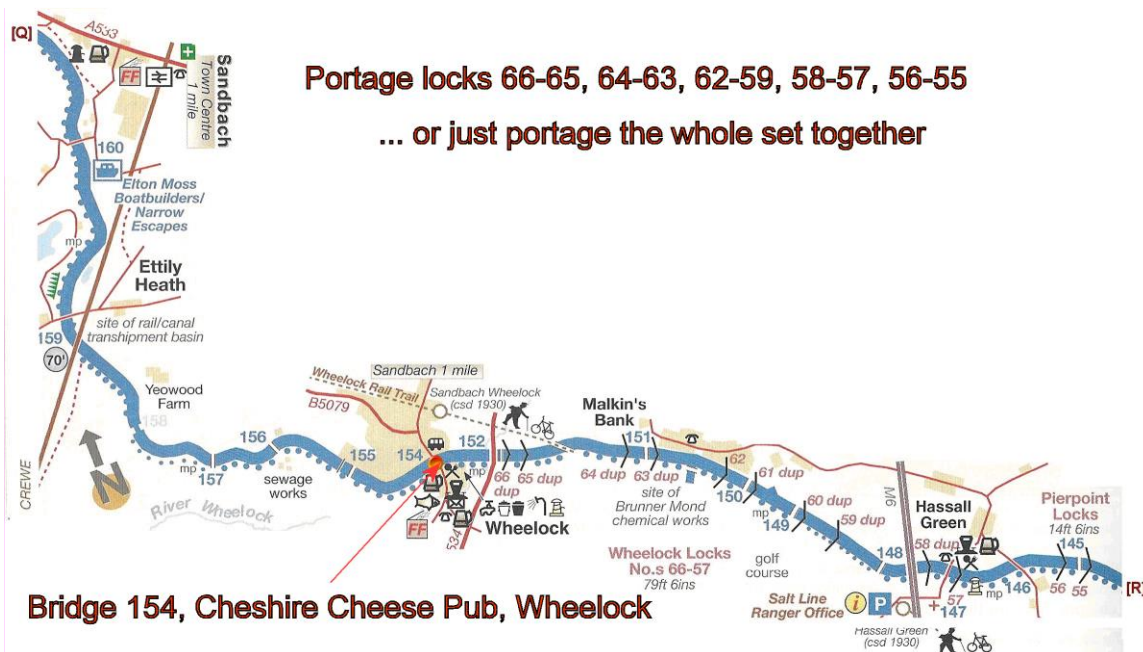
NOTES:

13. Wheelock, Relay Change Over Point, 4 miles, 14 locks to next relay change

(Steve / Matt) – 59 mins – 14 L

Post code: CW11 4QD

Change over just after the bridge on right bank.

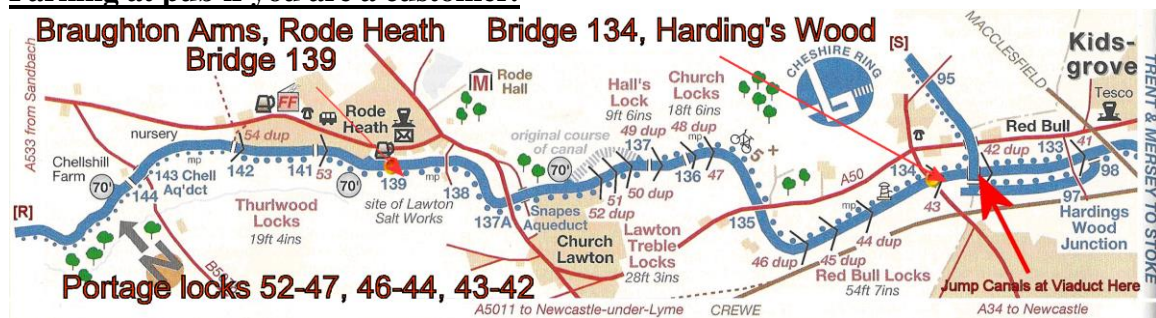


NOTES:

**14. Rode Heath, Relay Change Over Point, 2.25 miles, 10 locks to next relay change
(Stuart / Dan) – 35 mins – 10 L**

Post code: ST7 3RU

Parking at pub if you are a customer.



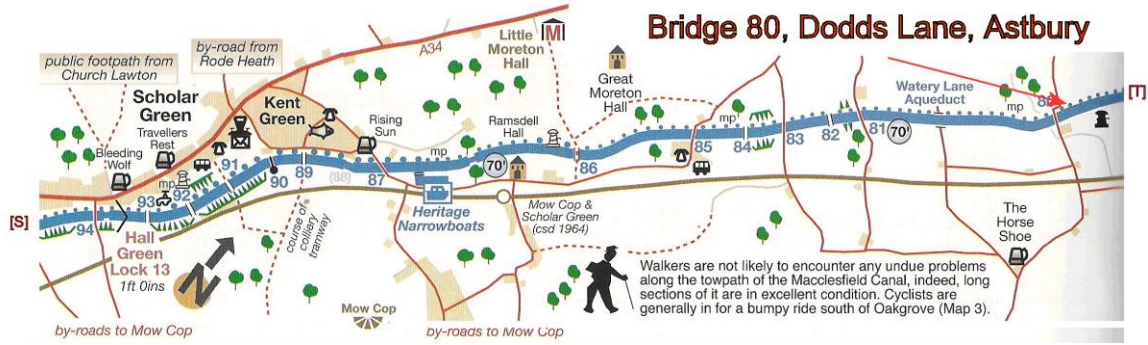
NOTES:

15. Red Bull, Relay Change Over Point, 5 miles, 4 locks to next relay change (JohnK / JohnC) – 65 mins – 3 L

Post code: ST7 3AH

Parking on roadside

The transfer from the Trent and Mersey Canal to the Macclesfield Canal is via some steep steps (this bypasses two locks). The incoming and outgoing crews can assist each other (for “all the way” crews their support team can help).



NOTES:

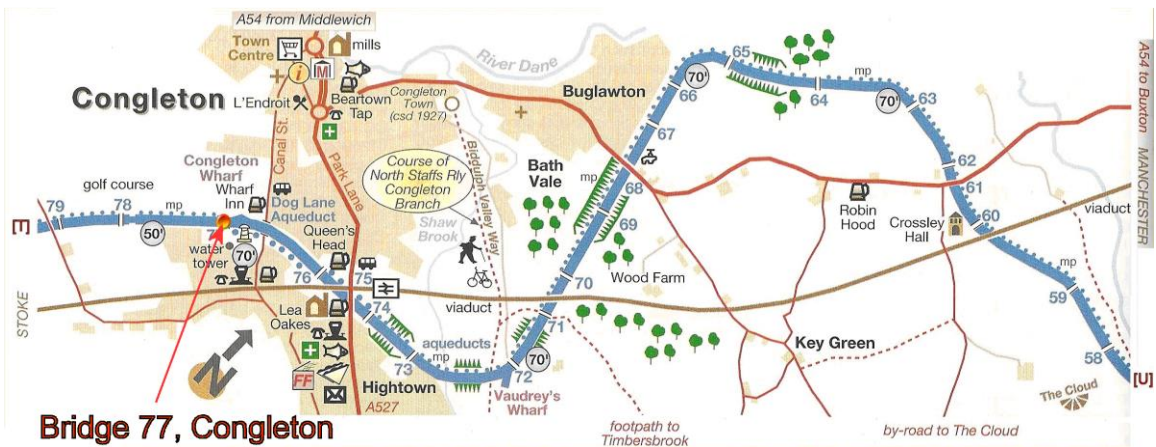
16. Bridge 77 Congleton, Relay Change Over Point, 5.75 miles, 12 locks to next relay change (Steve / Matt) – 75 mins – 12 L

Post code: CW12 3AU

Limited parking, supporters of “all the way crews” please consider alternatives such as near to bridge 76 and the railway bridge. Change over under the bridge on the right bank.

Bridge 56 on the A54

No parking on roadside here before 8:30 a.m.



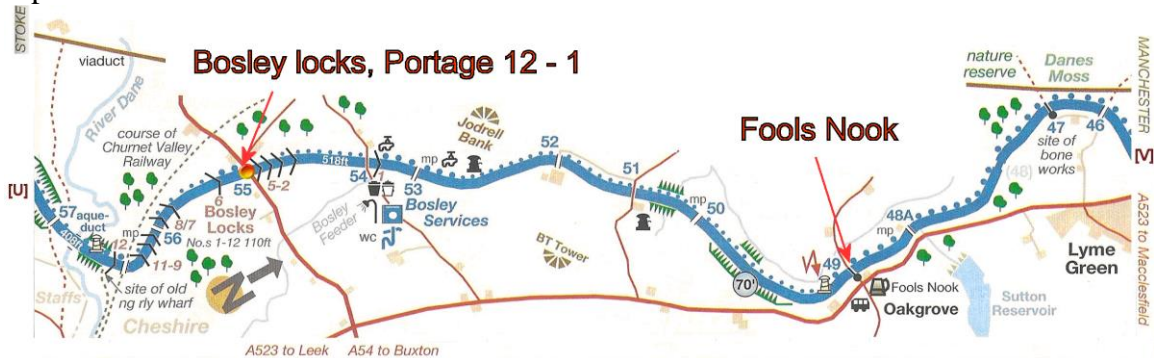
NOTES:

17. Bosley Top Lock, Relay Change Over Point, 4 miles, 0 portages to next relay change (Stuart / Dan) – 48 mins

Post code: SK11 0PP

Roadside parking

Relay team replacement crew may
Walk down to lock 5 to changeover
if preferred.

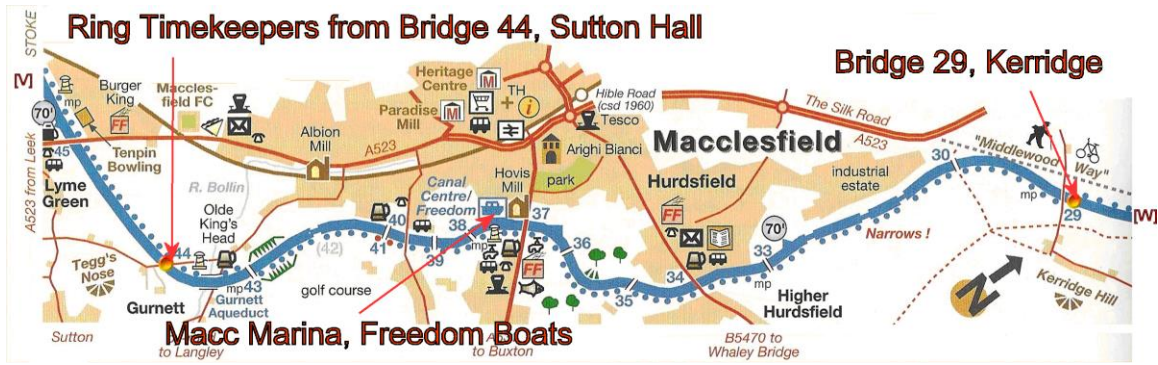


NOTES:

18. Bridge 44 Bullocks Lane, Relay Change Over Point, 3.25 miles, 0 portages to next relay change (JohnK / JohnC) – 37 mins

Post code: SK11 0HE

Roadside parking

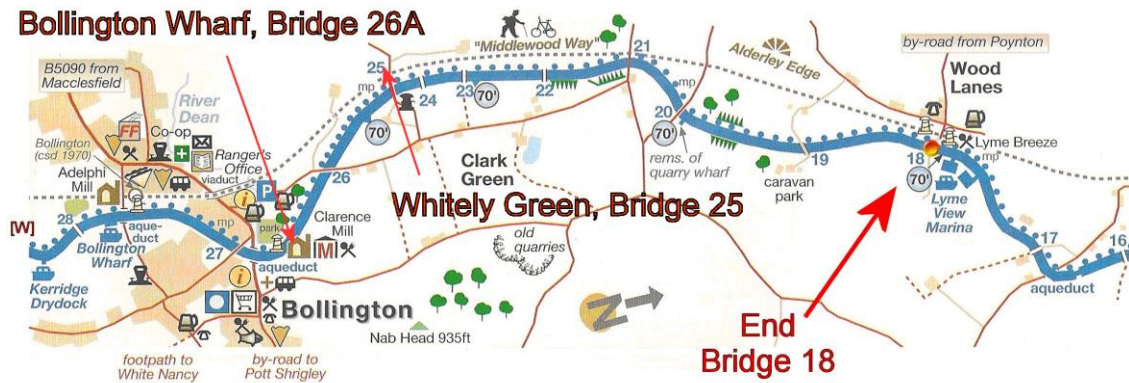


NOTES:

19. Bridge 29, Clarke Lane, Relay Change Over Point, 3.75 miles 0 portages to finish (Steve / Matt) – 43 mins

Post code: SK10 5AH

Roadside Parking. Change over under bridge on right bank or immediately after bridge on left bank.



Aqueduct over Grimshaw Lane (Bollington)

Good parking, suitable for “all the way” support crew.