



### Cycling clubs


**March Vintage & Veteran Cycle Club**


























Formed in 1983, the group enjoys meeting up and sharing their love of vintage cycling. They regularly attend local events and rallies and enjoy showing their cycles off and participating in local and national events which are all advertised locally.

**Chatteris Cycling Club**

[www.chatteriscycling.com](http://www.chatteriscycling.com)

Chatteris Cycling Club was founded in 2015 and attracts cyclists of all ages and disciplines. For more information, please contact using the contact form found on the above website, join their community Facebook page, or just go along to the Chatteris War Memorial at 8:30am (9:00am during winter months) on a Sunday morning and join one of their rides.



 National Cycle Network route Traffic-free / On-road	 Museums and attractions	 One way street
 National Cycle Network route number	 Community centres	 School / College
 Suggested local routes Traffic-free / On-road	 Library (E7 and inset)	 Parks, pitches and green spaces
 Fair weather route only	 Post office (E7 and inset, E5)	 Industrial areas
 Pedestrian streets / Footpaths No cycling. Useful walk your bike links	 Church	 Urban areas
 Station / Level crossing	 Theatre (E7 and inset)	 Shopping areas
 Take care	 Toilets	 Car parks
 Zebra crossing	 Refreshments	
 Cycle parking	 Accommodation	
Cycle shop	Camping / Caravaning	
	Boating	
	Canoeing	
	Fishing	

Map correct at time of production. Future updates will include improvements carried out as part of the March Future High Street Project being delivered by FDC (see [www.fenland.gov.uk/MFHS](http://www.fenland.gov.uk/MFHS) for further information).





www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/cycling

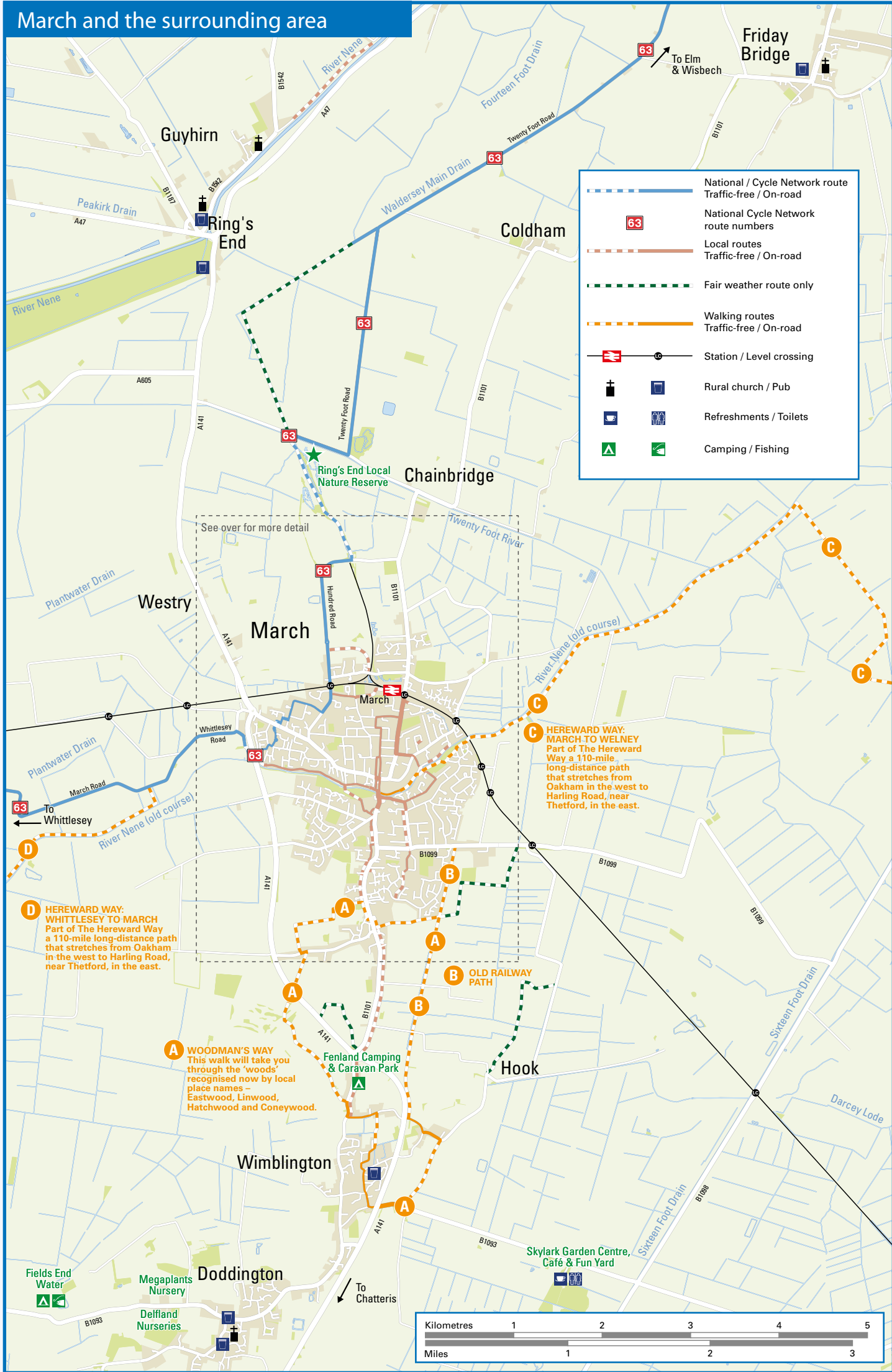
## A GUIDE TO WALKING & CYCLING AROUND MARCH

### Useful information and numbers

- Highway Maintenance**  
To report potholes, faulty traffic signals, overhanging vegetation, winter gritting etc:  
[www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/travel-roads-and-parking/roads-and-pathways/roadworks-and-faults](http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/travel-roads-and-parking/roads-and-pathways/roadworks-and-faults)
- Cycling UK**  
To find out more about how Cycling UK champions the cause for cyclists, as well as finding out information about local routes and events, visit:  
[www.cycling.org/about](http://www.cycling.org/about)
- Sustrans East of England**  
[eastofengland@sustrans.org.uk](mailto:eastofengland@sustrans.org.uk)  
[www.sustrans.org.uk](http://www.sustrans.org.uk)
- Fenland Tourism**  
[www.visitcambridgeshirefens.org](http://www.visitcambridgeshirefens.org)
- March Library and Learning Centre**  
City Road, March, PE15 9LT  
[www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/directory/listings/march-library](http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/directory/listings/march-library)  
0345 045 5225
- Cambridgeshire County Council: Cycling**  
[Transport.delivery@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:Transport.delivery@cambridgeshire.gov.uk)  
Cycling information and online maps: [www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/cycling](http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/cycling)
- Rights of Way**  
To report a problem:  
[highwaysreporting.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/](http://highwaysreporting.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/)  
Queries about public RoW:  
[highwaysassetmanagement@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:highwaysassetmanagement@cambridgeshire.gov.uk)
- Fenland Policing Team**  
101 (non-urgent)  
[www.cambs.police.uk](http://www.cambs.police.uk)
- Bus Services**  
For the latest bus information and operators etc, please visit:  
[www.fenland.gov.uk/article/15121/Local-Transport-Services](http://www.fenland.gov.uk/article/15121/Local-Transport-Services)

Produced by Cambridgeshire County Council in partnership with Fenland District Council and March Town Council March 2023

Designed by FourPoint Mapping for Fenland District Council.  
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### Why walk or cycle

- Parking your cycle is free and there is ample space to park up whenever you feel like it!
- The Fens naturally lend themselves to walking and cycling much more easily and to the less-abled as they are relatively flat and provide easy terrain for all abilities.



West End in March – one of several quieter “off-route” cycle trails



Campbell Leisure Centre pictured beyond the popular skate park

- Walking and cycling are both great for your health and can often be quicker than other modes of transport, especially around town.
- March is a great hub for starting and / or finishing a day trip, whether cycling or walking, with easy connections to the town by train and bus and easy and well-maintained links to NCN routes.
- The vast open Fenland landscapes and big skies are easily enjoyed when walking or cycling and, as well as the many formal routes which are set out, due to its easy navigation, March and the surrounding villages can also provide walkers and cyclists with easily enjoyable “off-route” trails.

### Index to streets and places on main map overleaf

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Acacia Grove	D5,E5	Chapel Street	E7,E8	George Campbell Leisure Centre	E7	Magnolia Close	D7	Percheron Drive	F8	Summer Gardens	B5
Acre Road	E7	Cherryholt Avenue	D8	George Street	E7	Maple Grove	C5,D5,D6,E6	Peterhouse Crescent	F4,F5	Summer Avenue	C7
Adelaide Place	D6	Cherrywood Avenue	C8,D8	Gold Street	D4	Maple Grove Primary School	D5	Peyton Avenue	C5	Swale Close	D7
Albert's Drive	C7	Cherrywood Green	C8	Gordon Avenue	E5	Marina Drive	B5,B6	Phillips Close	D6	Swallow Way	G6
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Alder Close	F4	Church Close	D10	Grays Lane	E6,E7	Marram Court	C6	Pis Lane	E10	Swanton Close	E3,E4
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Cawood Close	F4,F5	Foundry Way	E2	Locomotive Drive	D4	Park View West	D7	Strawberry Way	F8		
Cedar Close	F6	Fogloave Way	F5,F6	Longhill Road	D2,E2	Peas Hill Road	B5	St Thomas Drive	D8		
Century Way	D4	Gas Road	E8	Mallard Way	G6						

### Walking and cycling

#### Tips / general rules

- Always give your bicycle the “once over” before going out – check that tyre pressures are correct, the pedals turn easily, brakes and gears are in good working order and that the saddle is the right height.
- Wear a quality, well-fitted cycle helmet – whilst this would not prevent an accident, it would certainly minimise injury.
- Ride confidently – secure your spot on the road, well away from the kerb, and stay there; don't swerve to make room for vehicles to pass, as this can be a danger and is difficult for other road users to predict.
- Be aware of parked / stopped vehicle doors opening as you pass them.
- Check behind you regularly when planning to turn right or overtake and make sure you can do this confidently and without wobbling.
- Remember that large vehicles have blind spots on the inside, so don't try and overtake them on the left.
- During hours of darkness (including cloudy and less bright days), ensure you can be seen – hi visibility clothing and lights are essential for trips out at these times.
- Remember to be considerate to pedestrians, especially in areas of shared use; they have priority on shared paths. Use your bell if necessary.
- Road rules apply to cycles too - do not ride on paths (unless blue signs indicate that it is allowed) and always ride the correct way up one-way streets etc.
- Remember that weather conditions can change quickly, and especially in the Fens.
- Please remember to check the forecast and allow sufficient time if walking any distance, to return in the event of changing weather.
- Also, due to the peaty nature of the ground in the Fens, ground conditions can often be heavy, even after only a little rain, and so appropriate footwear is essential.
- Please take care when using roads to walk on and be especially careful when crossing sections of the busy main roads around March.

#### Know your signs

- No Entry** signs always apply to cyclists too ...  
...unless there is an exception shown underneath, or ...
- Except cycles**  
... you can bypass No Entry signs if there is a gap alongside with this **route for cyclists** sign.
- No cycling**  
Typically used on a footpath away from a road. You can still wheel your bike.
- No motor vehicles**  
A cycle is not a motor vehicle. Cyclists are allowed to pass these signs where motorists cannot.
- Shared route for cyclists and pedestrians together**  
The only time cyclists are allowed to ride on a pavement alongside a road is where you see this sign...
- Segregated route**  
... or this one indicating a **segregated route**, where you must keep to the side designated for cyclists.
- Direction sign** showing National Cycle Network route.

### March

**March is a bustling market town in the centre of Fenland, situated on the banks of the River Nene. At one point, shipping along the River Nene was crucial for the town's survival, but this changed as the popularity of the railway grew during the 19th Century and to this day, March remains an important destination for both passenger services as well as goods.**

During the 1920's and 30's, at their peak, the Whitmore marshalling yards were the largest in Britain and second largest in Europe and parts of the yard remain in operation today after redevelopment by Network Rail in 2002.

March was mentioned in the Domesday Book of 1086 and it is thought that it takes its name from the Ole English word “mearc”, meaning boundary. This is perhaps because March lies on the course of the Fen Causeway, an old Roman road, and there is evidence of Roman settlements in and around the town.

The town may also owe its origin to the ford on the course of the River Nene (where the road runs between Ely and Wisbech) where the river crosses the river.



Autumn on the River Nene in the centre of March

In 1850, a single arch bridge was built over the river, slightly to the north of the town. High Street continues over the bridge to Broad Street, which lies on the north side of the Nene and The Causeway is now a tree-lined route in and out of the town.

A Market Cross hints at there being existence of a market in the town from as early as the 16th Century, and whilst the existence of the market has varied across the centuries, to this day, the town's market remains a steady fixture on the weekly calendar. Held each Wednesday and Saturday in the Market Square, the small local market sits under the watchful gaze of the historic Town Hall's bell tower.

Within the centre of town there are an excellent selection of food and drink outlets, including cafés and tea rooms, takeaways, restaurants, and local pubs. There is also a good choice of options for local guest accommodation in the town, ranging from small guest houses to inns with rooms and hotels, so an ideal place to consider staying and using as a base to explore the local Fenland area from.



March Market

In addition to a large leisure centre and swimming pool, March has an array of sports clubs and groups, including football and rugby clubs, athletics and cricket.

Throughout the year, March plays host to several significant events, all of which attract large crowds both locally and from outside of the town.

St George's Fayre is held in April each year and forms one of the “Four Seasons” events held across the Fenland market towns. The Summer and warmer days play host to March's Summer Festival – a lively musical event bringing together lots of local musicians, groups and acts to put on a weekend long of music for all to enjoy: [www.marchsummerfestival.com](http://www.marchsummerfestival.com).

In late Summer, the town hosts March's Armed Forces Festival – a day event attracting many serving and ex-serving personnel along with local dignitaries and those wishing to join in the event and “Remember, Connect and Inspire”: <https://maff2023.com>.

As well as its much-loved Christmas Lights display, the festive season really comes to life at March's Christmas Market. The event attracts thousands of people who come along to enjoy the huge array of stalls, attractions and shows and soak up the festive atmosphere – the event now rivals any European market.

To the east of March lies The Ouse Washes Nature Reserve, the largest area of washland in the UK.

The Welney Wetland Trust occupies over 1000 acres at the northernmost part of the Ouse Washes and is a mecca for those wishing to enjoy a variety of wildlife species, including resident Skylark, Marsh Harrier, Godwit and Avocet, to name but a few. In Winter, many thousands more species join the residents and the area is home to thousands of migrating wintering birds including

Bewick and Whooper Swans – the night-time Swan Feeds are quite an experience; not to be missed. Details of the reserve, plus opening times, and events etc can be found on the website: [rspb.org.uk/reserves-and-events/reserves-a-z/ouse-washes](http://rspb.org.uk/reserves-and-events/reserves-a-z/ouse-washes)



Bird Watching at The Ouse Washes

#### Friends of March Railway Station

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/338840846205436/>

#### March Railway Station (map square E5)

The town boasts a quite unique group who “adopted” the railway station as their base in 2009.

The Friends of March Railway Station are an active social group who were formed to preserve and use the buildings on the disused side of March Railway Station. They not only tend to and manage the railway station and its planters and public areas etc, keeping them looking pristine all year round, but also gather together socially and put on a range of events for train enthusiasts and station visitors, often displaying their model railway sets.

#### St Wendreda's Church (map square E10)

St Wendreda's Church is the only known Church to be dedicated to the saint, an Anglo-Saxon princess who lived in March during the 7th century and who dedicated most of her life to ministry and healing. A papal indulgence enabled the Church to be rebuilt in 1343 when it became a shrine and place of pilgrimage, it was then that medieval carvers began work on making the Church spectacularly beautiful.

The building has a mix of 13th, 14th, 16th and 19th century architecture, though most of the Church dates from the 14th Century onwards with the famous roof being constructed during the early 16th century. Its tower is unusual in having a right of way running through its base and there is a sanctus bell turret, where the nave and chancel meet.

St Wendreda's Church has a fine steeple and the roof is famous and easily recognisable. It has a double hammer beam design featuring 118 beautifully carved angels, most of which are attached to the hammer beams and appear to be flying but others are in relief and it is believed to be one of the finest timber roofs in Britain. The entire roof is decorated with 2,700 fleur de lys.

The interior is light and spacious. The 12th century font pre-dates the main building and originally square, it was later re-cut to become octagonal. Also inside the building, visitors will find an interesting brass dedicated to Sir Anthony Hansart – this brass dates from 1507 and shows two figures in period dress.

Under the tower the visitor will find a memorial to Jim Hocking, a young 21-year-old Trainee Royal Australian Air Force Pilot who saved the town of March from obliteration towards the end of WW2. Whilst on a training flight, he was sadly killed when his aircraft crashed, though he bravely navigated it away from the town, having commanded his crew to evacuate to safety. The pilot officer's uniform and copies of his medals, including Australia's Star of Courage, posthumously awarded to him, can be found on display in the town's museum, in the North Room.

#### March & District Museum (map square E7)

A small museum in the centre of the town hosting an array of interesting collections including a Victorian kitchen, nursery and parlour set up, railway memorabilia, maps and formal documentation plus school memorabilia, details of the drainage of the Fens across the ages, as well as wartime memorabilia from The Boer, First and Second World Wars. The Jim Hocking display can also be seen in the museum.

The museum is free of charge to visit, but donations are welcome. Free car parking is available nearby and the museum is fully accessible. Check the website for opening times: [www.marchmuseum.co.uk](http://www.marchmuseum.co.uk).

#### Fox Narrowboats (map square B6)

A modern marina situated in the heart of The Middle Level Navigation System on the outskirts of the town and strategically centred between Peterborough, Ely and Cambridge.

As well as narrowboat building, servicing and sales services, the marina offers boats for day hire and holiday hire.

[www.foxboats.co.uk](http://www.foxboats.co.uk)



Narrowboats near the marina