

## ANDERTON BOAT LIFT & ELLESMERE PORT

6 hour cruise on the Weaver Navigation and Manchester Ship Canal

### On this cruise you will see:

- **Anderton Boat Lift** opened in 1875 to transfer narrow boats the 50ft between the River Weaver and the Trent & Mersey Canal - today the traffic is mainly pleasure craft. The area is a scheduled monument and award-winning visitor destination.
- **Anderton Basin** - where barges and small sea-going ships carried chemicals, coal, and salt as well china clay, and pottery via the canal.
- **Winnington works** - still operational, but under major re-development.
- **Winnington Swing Bridge** - the smallest of the river's five swing bridges, and electrically operated since 1909.
- **Wallerescote Island** the site of the former soda ash plant recently demolished to make way for housing. The course of the original river is behind the island.
- **Barnton Sluice and Weir**
- **Barnton Cut** and the tree lined Weaver Valley.
- **Saltersford Locks** (1877) - the old course of the river meanders south of the Weaver Navigation between here and Winnington.
- **Acton Bridge** - where the river forks at Acton Bridge island. To the south are the moorings of **Acton Bridge Cruising Club**, and the **original stone bridge**. The Danny passes the site of the old swing bridge which was replaced by the present **Acton Swing Bridge** in 1934.
- **Dutton Locks** (1880) and the large flood control sluices, close to the site of the old locks.
- **Dutton Horse Bridge** a unique twin span timber bridge and Grade 2 listed structure built in 1919 - one of the few remaining laminated greenheart bridges in the country.
- **Dutton Viaduct** which carries the West Coast main railway line over the river. Dating from 1836 it has 20 arches.
- **Pickering's O' the Boat**, a small village which was the limit of navigation until the first lock was built in 1758.
- **Frodsham cut** - now silted up led to the disused Frodsham Lock.
- **Sutton Level locks** closed in the 1950's and now largely overgrown.
- **Weston Canal** which joined the Weaver Navigation to Weston Point Docks (Runcorn)
- **Sutton Weaver Swing Bridge** (1926), which carries the A56, adjacent to the Danny's Sutton Weaver berth.
- **Frodsham - railway viaduct** (1850) and **M56 viaduct** (1970).
- **Rocksavage works** - owned by Ineos/Inovyn but under industrial redevelopment.
- **Marsh lock** (1895) - provides access between the Weaver Navigation and the Manchester ship canal.
- **Manchester Ship Canal** (1894)- passing farmland and grassy salt marshes with great bird life with views of **Frodsham and Helsby Hills** to the south.
- **Stanlow Refinery** built in 1924 and now owned by Essar Energy has its own berths where ocean going tankers are quite likely to be seen.
- **Ellesmere Port** - Our berth at Telford's Quay is close to the National Waterways Museum. The Danny was built in 1903 for the Shropshire Union Railway and Canal Company, who owned the docks at Ellesmere Port.

*This cruise also operates in the opposite direction so if starting from Ellesmere Port the sights mentioned will be passed in reverse order.*