

## **Linlithgow Union Canal Society (LUCS)**

### **INFORMATION for HIRERS of LEAMINGTON**

*Leamington* is a 35ft long day hire boat that can carry a maximum of twelve passengers. It is powered by a diesel engine and is capable of approximately 4 mph.

There is no cover at the stern, so it is advisable to have appropriate clothing for the driver.

As a guide, a day hire, (during hours of daylight and allowing for the return trip to the basin, and short breaks) could comfortably cover a return trip of around 13 miles. There are only two locks on the Union Canal (near the Falkirk Wheel) and Scottish Canals staff will always be on hand to assist boats navigating there.

The vessel's cabin contains toilet, sink, worktop, first aid kit and bench seat.

The forward seating area comprises an open area with bench seats on both sides. Blinds, with clear panels, can be rolled up or down as appropriate. There is also a table available for this area if required.

One car parking space is normally available at Manse Road Basin, but this cannot be guaranteed at busy times. The nearest off-site parking may be some distance away. Loading and unloading is almost always possible directly beside the boat, but under no circumstance can a car be left parked on the slipway.

A "Skipper" must be nominated on the day of the hire who will be responsible for driving, for the safety of the vessel and for all passengers aboard.

Full instruction on the boat and the "rules of the road" will be provided by a member of the Canal Society on the day of the hire. This can take up to half an hour, so this should be factored into your programme. Only the nominated Skipper is required to attend this, so you might wish to ask the other passengers to arrive some 20 minutes after the Skipper.

The nominated Skipper will be required to sign a handover checklist covering the training session and an inventory of equipment on board the boat.

You are welcome to bring aboard the vessel any food and drink that you wish, but the nominated Skipper must at all times remain in a fit state to handle the vessel. The limits for alcohol for the Skipper are the same as for car driving.

It is recognised that letting young people drive the boat is part of the fun and a useful learning experience, but any children (under the age of 16) must be properly supervised at all times.

Linlithgow Union Canal Society looks forward to welcoming you to the boat and wish you a very pleasant sail along the Union Canal.