

OLD UNION CANAL'S TIME LINE

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- 1793 Grand Junction Canal, between London and Braunston on the Oxford canal, commenced construction.
- 1793 The **Leicestershire & Northamptonshire Union Canal (LNU)** was also started. (Act of Parliament, 30 April 1793.)
- 1797 7 April - LNU temporarily halted at **Debdale near Gumley**.
- 1809 13 October LNU completed to **Market Harborough on a revised route**.
- 1810 A new company, the **Grand Union Canal Company GUCCo** came into existence.
- 1814 9 August - GUCCo opened including **Foxton Locks**. The **Welford arm** opened 3 months later.
- 1894 The Grand Junction Canal Company bought out the **Leicestershire and Northamptonshire Union**, for £6,500, and the **Old Grand Union canal**, for £10,500.
- 1894 The job of toll keeper at Foxton was abolished.
- 1896 Large scale model of Lift constructed at Bulbourne near Tring.
- 1900 The Lift opens for traffic.
- 1909 The Locks are refurbished for night use.
- 1911 The Lift is mothballed to save money. The GJCCo intend to reopen when things get better.
- 1914 - 1918 The canals come under government control and the Lift can't be scrapped in case it is needed for the war effort.
- 1927 Between 1927 and 1928 the Lift is scrapped.
- 1929 (*new*) **Grand Union Canal Company** formed, amalgamating the GJCCo and other canals including the LNU and (old)GU.
- 1948 1st January. Most of the canal system was nationalised. Traffic falls because of better road transport. Factories start to convert from coal to electricity for power, as coal mines adjacent to several canals are closed
- 1950 The first ever Inland Festival of Boats is held in Market Harborough to promote the retention and use of the canals.
- 1968 Transport Act classified canals into three categories: **Commercial, Cruiseway and Remainder, the Remainder to be treated in the most economical way**.
- 1980 The use of canals for leisure is established and the Incline Plane Trust is formed.
- 1989 Foxton Canal Museum opens
- 2008 First stage of Inclined Plane restoration is complete.