

GUIDE TO FISHING CLUBS

Great Ouse, Cam and Fenland Waters



NRA

*National Rivers Authority
Anglian Region*

INTRODUCTION

This booklet is a guide to some of the angling clubs controlling waters on the Great Ouse (also known as the Bedford Ouse) between Buckingham and Earith and on the Middle Level System, Bedford Levels, Ely Ouse and the River Cam downstream of Cambridge, with maps to show which club controls each stretch of water. The list of club names is not exhaustive and the Anglian Region of the National Rivers Authority would welcome any further information from angling organisations controlling stretches of water not listed. Every effort has been made to ensure that map details are as accurate as possible although given their scale the exact boundaries of club waters cannot be guaranteed. It is therefore important that before fishing the appropriate clubs are contacted to check membership details or the availability of day tickets.

The maps show the course of rivers and drains with major towns and villages marked for reference, as well as some of the important access roads. The stretches of water controlled by each club are marked alongside the river, with a name and a contact for the club they refer to listed alphabetically. The NRA is grateful to angling clubs for their help in compiling this guide and would appreciate any up-dates on waters controlled or changes in contact points for the club.

Fishing Licences

To fish the rivers shown in this guide every angler aged twelve years and older must possess a current National Rivers Authority Anglian Region Rod Licence. Licences are available from most fishing tackle dealers or may be obtained by writing to one of the following offices:

National Rivers Authority Anglian Region Central Area Bromholme Lane Brampton Huntingdon PE18 8NE	National Rivers Authority Anglian Region Kingfisher House Goldhay Way Orton Goldhay Peterborough PE2 0ZR
Telephone 0480 414581.	Telephone: 0733 371811.

Licences are valid for the calendar year. Concessionary licences are currently available to juveniles (12-15 years inclusive) and to retired or disabled persons. A 7-day licence is also available. A maximum of two rods may be used on any occasion and a valid licence must be held for each rod in use. It must also be remembered that it is important to obtain the necessary permission before fishing on privately owned waters or on fisheries controlled by angling clubs.

Anglers should take care to avoid damage to banks and must not discard litter, fishing line or weights.

Anglers must observe fisheries byelaws and relevant Acts at all times (copies of byelaws available from Area Offices by sending sae). Some of the principal regulations affecting anglers are:

Close Seasons – rod and line

- ★ Brown and rainbow trout: 30th October to 31st March inclusive except rainbow trout in enclosed waters which are exempt.
- ★ Salmon and migratory trout: 29th September to 28th/29th February inclusive.
- ★ Coarse fish: 15th March to 15th June inclusive except enclosed waters in the area of the former Lincolnshire River Authority where there is no close season for coarse fish.

Anglers must not

- ★ Introduce any fish without written permission from the National Rivers Authority.
- ★ Remove more than two trout from rivers or two coarse fish from any water in any one day, except for live-baiting where a maximum of ten is permitted (no limit for minnow and bleak).
- ★ Use live bait in any waters other than water from which the fish were taken.
- ★ Fish for eels during the coarse fish close season except as permitted in the byelaws.
- ★ Fish for salmon and trout during the coarse fish close season with any lure or bait other than an artificial fly.

The River Great Ouse Fishery

The River Great Ouse flows a distance of 148 kilometres between Buckingham and Earith offering an interesting variety of fishing with over twenty different species of coarse fish present.

The fish population of the river is surveyed every three years by the NRA Anglian Region Fisheries Department as part of the routine fisheries monitoring programme, and the latest surveys were carried out between 1988 and 1989. Results from the Buckingham to Newport Pagnell stretch indicate good levels of fish stocks with roach the dominant species by weight and chub locally important. Roach and dace populations exhibit healthy levels of recruitment which should support the fishery in forthcoming years. Towards Newport Pagnell good sized barbel are frequently reported in angling catches.

Between Newport Pagnell and Bedford the channel meanders extensively and contains a varied sequence of pools and riffles over a gravel bed. This section contains some good sized roach and chub and there is a successful breeding population of barbel. The last fish population survey highlighted the importance of shallow riffle sections as fish holding areas and recent spawning successes should continue to support excellent angling catches on this part of the river.

Downstream of Bedford the character of the river alters considerably as the channel becomes navigational and

there are numerous locks and weirs. Here the waters become deeper, wider and slower flowing creating a considerably different habitat for fish. Between Bedford and Huntingdon moderate fish stocks are dominated by roach, although where located shoals of common bream feature strongly in angling catches. Chub are locally important and tend to be concentrated in side channels and backwaters and occasional tench can be found associated with dense lily pads. Biomass estimates indicate moderate to good stocks for this section of river.

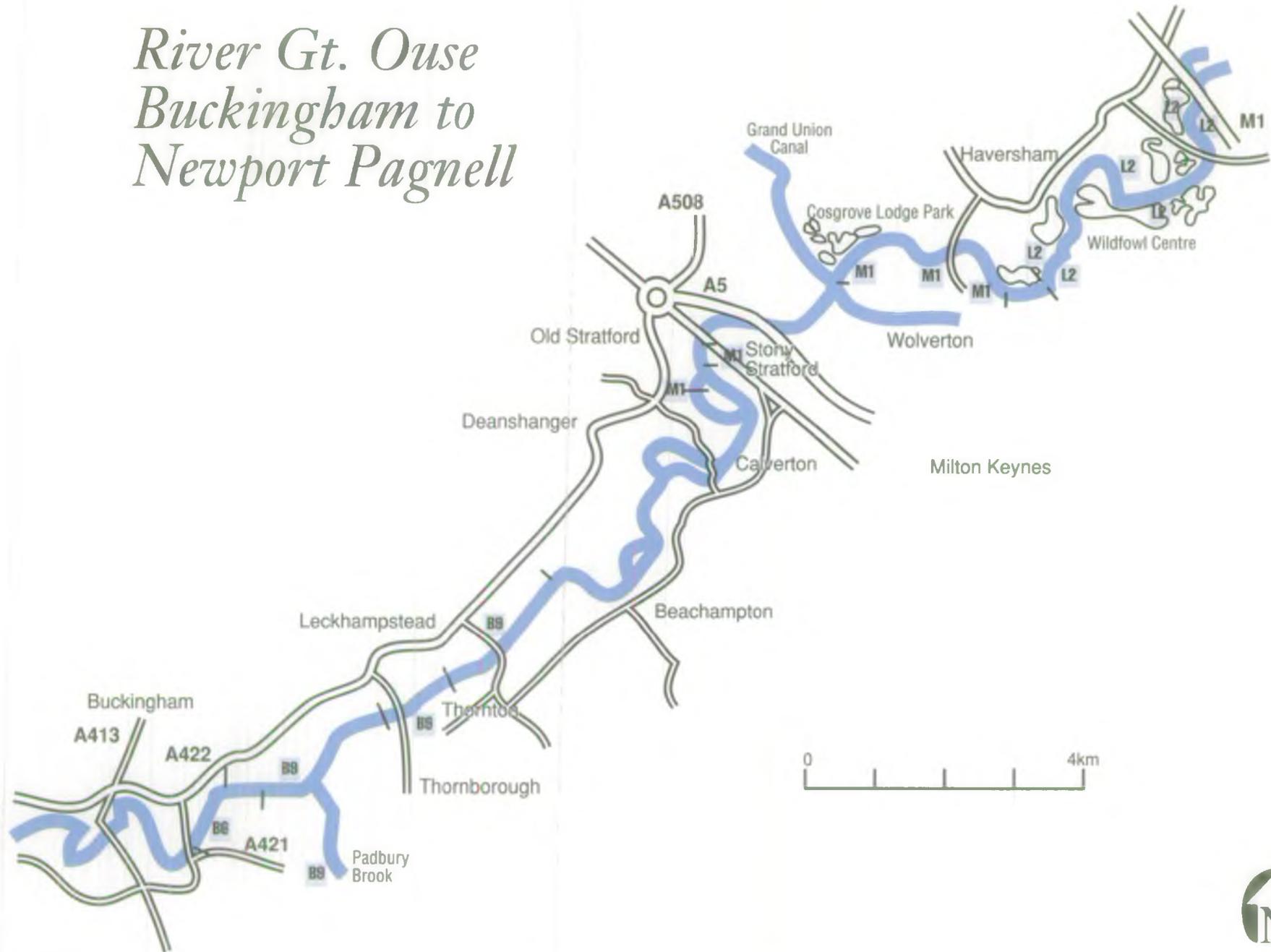
The waters downstream of Huntingdon perform well as a roach and bream fishery and have benefited from re-stocking with large specimens of both these species in recent years. Match fishing regularly occurs on these waters and recently the average winning weight has been over 9lbs.

LIST OF ANGLING CLUBS ON THE RIVER GREAT OUSE

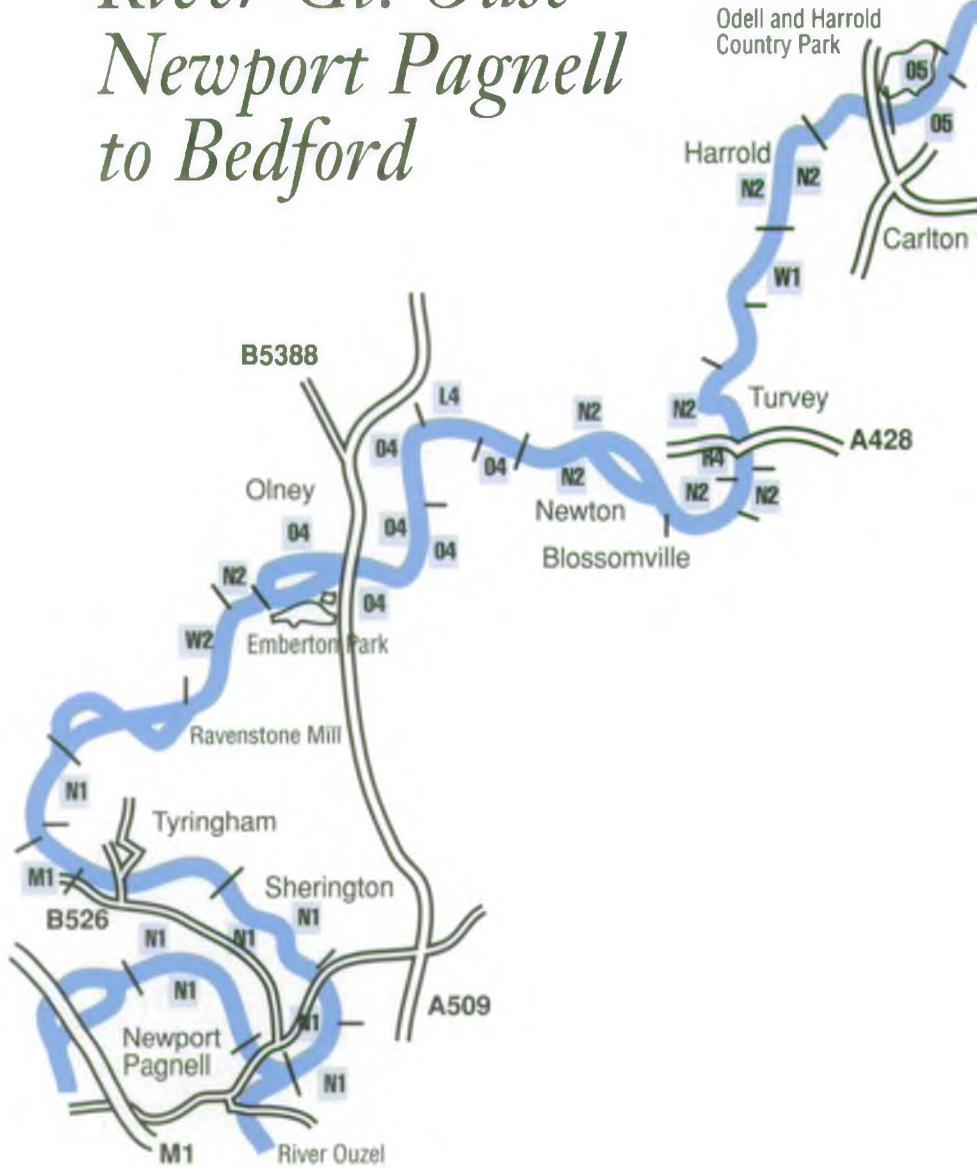
Key for map	Club Name	Contact
A1	ARC	Mr B Hunt 69 High Street Great Paxton Huntingdon, Cambs Tel: 0480 212815.
A2	Amptill and District Angling and Fish Preservation Society	Mr R Dempsey 34 Falcon Crescent, Flitwick Beds MK45 1LZ Tel: 0525 714743.
B1	Barnet and District Angling Club	Mr A H Druce 21 Arnos Road London N11 1AP Tel: 081-368 1020.
B2	Bedford Angling Club	Mrs M Appleton 18 Moriston Road Brickhill, Bedford Tel: 0234 354708.
B4	Biggleswade and Hitchin	Mr P Currell 10 Poplar Close Sandy, Beds Tel: 0767 82619.
B5	Blunham and District Angling Club	Mr G Palmer 22 Farsands Oakley, Beds Tel: 02302 3959.
B6	Bourton Fisheries	Mr S Martin 21 Foxway, Badgers Buckingham MK18 7EH Tel: 0280 817107.
B7	Brampton Angling Club	Mr S Clark 89 High Street Buckden, St Neots Cambs PE18 9TA Tel: 0480 810667.
B8	British Aerospace Space Systems Angling Club	Mr D Linford Tel: 0438 313456 ext. 6656.
B9	Buckingham and District Angling Association	Mr B Lewis 38 Queen Catherine Road Steeple Claydon, Bucks Tel: 0296 730702.
G1	Godmanchester Angling and Fish Preservation Society	Mrs L Christian 33 London Road Godmanchester Huntingdon, Cambs Tel: 0480 451260.
H1	Houghton Hemingford and Wyton Angling Society	Mr A Wilkinson 22 Erica Road, St Ives Cambs PE17 6AE Tel: 0480 66525.
H2	Huntingdon Angling and Fish Preservation Society	Miss A Wallis 8 Claytons Way Huntingdon, Cambs Tel: 0480 458935.
K1	Kempston Angling Club	Mr N Birdsall 66 Hastings Road Kempston, Beds Tel: 0234 272000 ext. 2569.
L1	Letchworth and District Angling Association	Mr C Pell-Walpole 12 Burwell Road Shephall, Stevenage Tel: 0438 350657.
L2	Linear Fisheries	Mr L Gurd Linear House 2 Northcroft Shenley Lodge Milton Keynes, Bucks Tel: 0908 607577.
L3	London Anglers' Association	Mrs Ellis Forrest Hall Road Hervey Park Road Walthamstow London E17 6LT Tel: 081-520 7977.
L4	Luton Angling Club	Mr G Buss 179 Tithe Farm Road Houghton Regis Beds LU5 5JF. Tel: 0582 864746.

Key for map	Club Name	Contact	Key for map	Club Name	Contact
M1	Milton Keynes Angling Association	Mr P Oxley 23 Breton Fairfield Estate Stony Stratford Milton Keynes, Bucks Tel: 0908 694022.	R3	Royston and District Angling Club	Mr D N Hellier 60 Heathfield Royston, Herts Tel: 0763 241762.
N1	Newport Pagnell Fishing Association	Mr R D Dorrill 7 Bury Street Newport Pagnell, Bucks Tel: 0908 610639.	R4	Rushden Angling Club	Mr D Parkin 31 Mountfield Road Irthlingborough Northants Tel: 0933 651400.
N2	Northampton Nene Angling Club	Mrs J Ringer Haddon House Guilsborough Road Ravensthorpe Northants NN6 8EW Tel: 0604 770001.	S1	Shefford and District Angling Association	Mr C Rose 120 High Street Stotfold Hitchin Herts SG9 4LH Tel: 0462 733373.
N3	North Bedfordshire County Council	Priory Country Park Barkers Lane, Bedford Tel: 0234 211182.	S2	St Ives Angling and Fish Preservation Society	Mr H Pace 48 Fairfields St Ives, Cambs Tel: 0480 69254.
O1	Club not currently active		S3	St Neots and District Angling and Fish Preservation Society	Ms D Linger Skewbridge Cottage Paxton Hill St Neots, Cambs Tel: 0480 216730.
O2	Club not currently active		V1	Vauxhall Angling Club	Mr R W Roulton 20 Leeches Way Cheddington Beds LU7 0SJ. Tel: 0296 668985.
O3	Offord and Buckden Angling Society	Mr A E Plumb 75 High Street Great Paxton, Cambs Tel: 0480 77252.	V2	Verulam Angling Club	Mr J Trew 128 Benson Close Luton, Beds LU3 3QR Tel: 0582 593748.
O4	Olney and Clifton Fishing Association	Mr K Osborne 10 Gilping Way Olney, Bucks Tel: 0234 713144.	W1	Wellingborough and District Nene Angling Club	Mr K J Billington 22 Hillary Road Rushden Northants Tel: 0933 53636.
O5	Olney Working Men's Club	Mr A R Wills 41 Bradshaw Way Irchester, Wellingborough Northants Tel: 0933 663947.	W2	Weston Underwood Angling Club	Mr D Adams 12 The Close Weston Underwood Nr Olney Bucks Tel: 0234 711418.
O6	Over and Swavesey District Angling Society	Mr D Cook c/o Happy Eater Red Lodge Nr Newmarket, Suffolk Tel: 0638 751670.	W3	Wyboston Lakes	Wyboston Golf and Leisure Centre Great North Road Wyboston Beds Tel: 0480 219200.
R1	Ramsey and District Angling Society	Mr P E Aldred 9 Blackmill Road Chatteris, Cambs Tel: 03543 2232.			
R2	Redland Aggregates Fishing Section	Mr I May 5 Hayling Avenue Little Paxton, Cambs Tel: 0480 212059.			

*River Gt. Ouse
Buckingham to
Newport Pagnell*

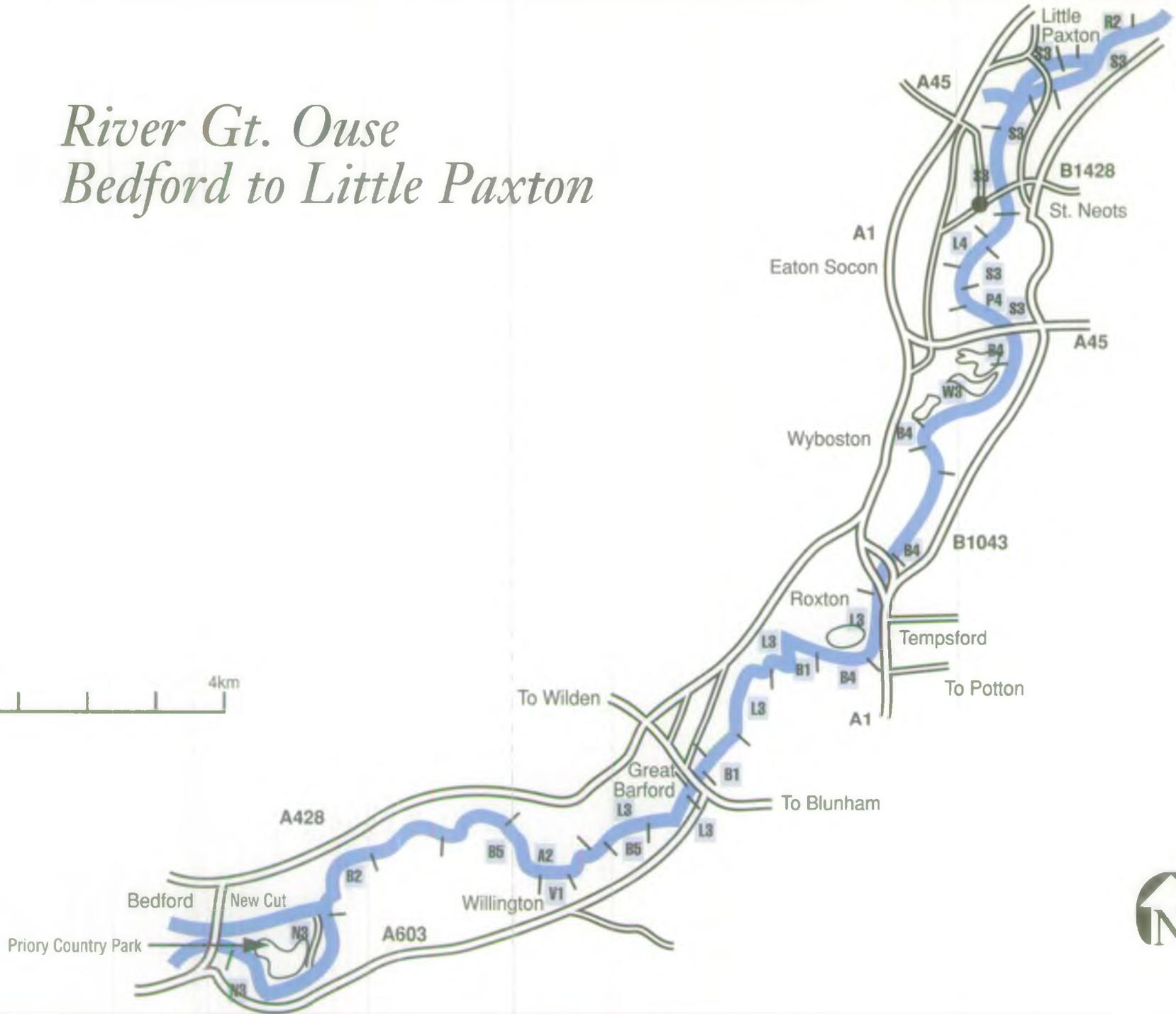


River Gt. Ouse Newport Pagnell to Bedford





River Gt. Ouse Bedford to Little Paxton



River Cam Downstream of Cambridge

This section of the River Cam flows downstream of Cambridge for approximately thirteen miles (21km) to its confluence with the Ely Ouse near Stretham. A recent fisheries population survey undertaken by the NRA indicates the River Cam to be an excellent fishery, dominated by roach and pike. Anglers over the past two seasons have seen particularly good sport with best catches invariably found in the section between Baitsbite Lock and Clayhithe Bridge. The Bottisham Lock area is also worth a visit.

Ely Ouse River

The Ely Ouse begins near Stretham where the Rivers Cam and Old West meet and continues for approximately nineteen miles (30km) to Denver where it joins the Tidal River Great Ouse. A recent fisheries survey indicates the Ely Ouse to be an excellent fishery, dominated by roach and common bream. The best angling catches in recent years have come from the areas around Ely and also Ten Mile Bank.

The Middle Level System

Forty Foot Drain	Old River Nene
Twenty Foot Drain	Well Creek
Sixteen Foot Drain	Yaxley Lode
Middle Level Main Drain	Kings Dyke
Pophams Eau	Whittlesey Dyke
Bevills Leam	Monks Lode
Twenty Foot River	Great Raveley Drain

The Middle Level system consists of a network of thirteen major drains in the Cambridgeshire Fenland, covering a distance of approximately eighty miles (130km). The most recent survey indicates a good fishery, dominated by roach, common bream and pike. The enormous area covered by the Middle Level system means good angling catches tend to depend on finding the whereabouts of shoals of roach and common bream, particularly when winter fishing.

The Bedford Levels System

River Delph	Counterwash Drain
Old Bedford River	Hundred Foot River

The Bedford Levels system consists of three rivers beginning at Earith and running parallel for approximately twenty miles (32km) to Denver. The most recent fisheries survey on the Old Bedford Rivers indicated an excellent overall fishery, dominated by roach and common bream. The best angling catches in recent years have come from the areas at Welney and Welches Dam.

The Hundred Foot river is not routinely monitored by the NRA because of its tidal nature and is only fished for approximately half its length. The Earith end is, however, a noted summer fishery.

ANGLING CLUB LIST

Key for map	Club Name	Contact
B1	Benwick Angling Club	Mr C Onyett 82 Ramsey Road Ramsey Forty Foot Nr Huntingdon Tel: 0487 814671.
B2	Blacksmiths Arms Angling Club	Mr M A Burrows 6 Sachwood Avenue Emneth, Wisbech.
C1	Cambridge Albion Angling Society	Mr D Turpin 79 Kings Hedges Road Cambridge CB4 23D Tel: 0223 425032.
C2	Cambridge Fish Preservation and Angling Society	Mr G Tweed 27A Villa Road Impington, Cambridge Tel: 0223 234616.
C3	Chatteris Working Men's Club and Institute Ltd	Mr B Kightley 18 West Street, Chatteris Tel: 0354 32015.
C4	Coopers Angling Club	Mr J Dickens 2 Witchford Road, Ely Tel: 0353-663398.
E1	Ely Beet Sports and Social Club	Mr R J Oakman 15 Berry Close Stretham, Cambs Tel: 0353 649451.
F1	Five Bells Angling Club	Mrs S J Archer 6 Glenfield Close Outwell, Wisbech Cambs Tel: 0945 772694.
H1	Histon and District Angling Club	Mr C Dodd 11 Rockmill End Willingham, Cambs Tel: 0954 60365.
H2	Holme and District Angling Association	Mr K Burt 55 Windsor Road Yaxley Peterborough Tel: 0733 241119.
I1	Isleham Angling Society	Mr A F W Mayes 88 Churchill Avenue Newmarket, Suffolk. Tel: 0638 662665.

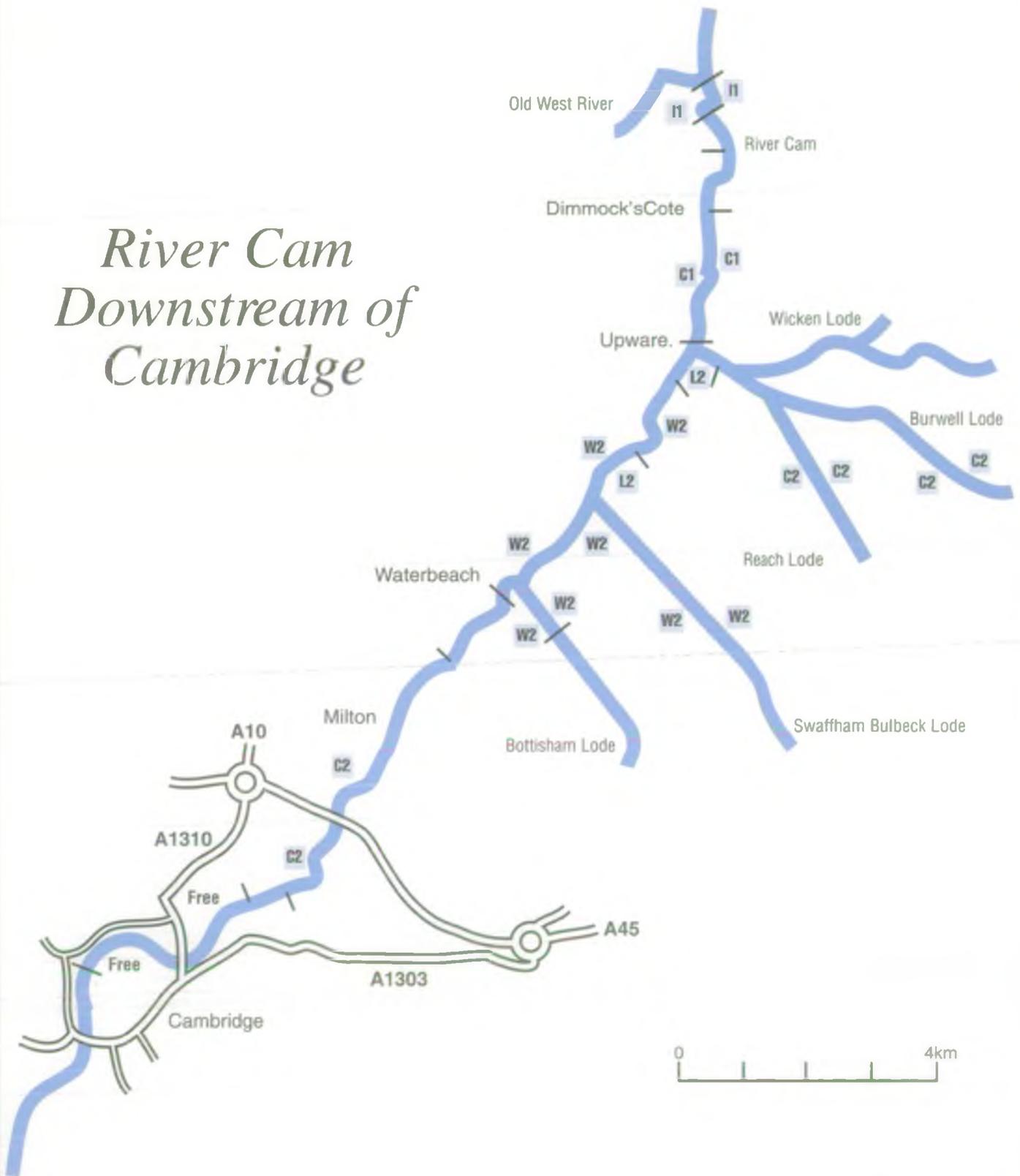
Key for Club map Name	Contact
K1 Kings Lynn Angling Association	Mr R Grief 67 Peckover Way South Wooton Kings Lynn Tel: 0553 671545.
L1 Littleport Angling Club	Mr J Shelsher 8 Victoria Street Littleport Ely, Cambs Tel: 0353 860787.
L2 London Angling Association	Mrs Ellis Forrest Hall Hervey Park Road Walthamstow London E17 6LT Tel: 081-520 7477.
M1 Manea Angling Club	Mr R Dent 1 Lynford Cottages Fodder Fen, Manea Cambs PE15 0HH Tel: 0354 78411.
M2 March Working Men's Angling Club	Mr R Fitzjohn 43 North Street March, Cambs PE15 8LS Tel: 0354 53223.
P1 Peterborough and District Angling Club	Mr M Yates 75 Lawn Avenue Dogsthorpe Peterborough PE1 3RA Tel: 0733 67952.
P2 Prince Albert Angling Club	Mr R Fitch 54 Dunstan Street, Ely Tel: 0353 666047.
R1 Ramsey and District Angling Society	Mr P E Aldred 9 Blackmill Road Chatteris Tel: 0354 32232.
S1 Saffron Walden Angling Club	Mr N Roberts 55 St Marys Road Sawston Tel: 0223 836773.
S2 Sutton Angling Club	Mr M Day
W1 Walton Highway Angling Club	Mr C Coulson 270 Elm Low Road Wisbech, Cambs.

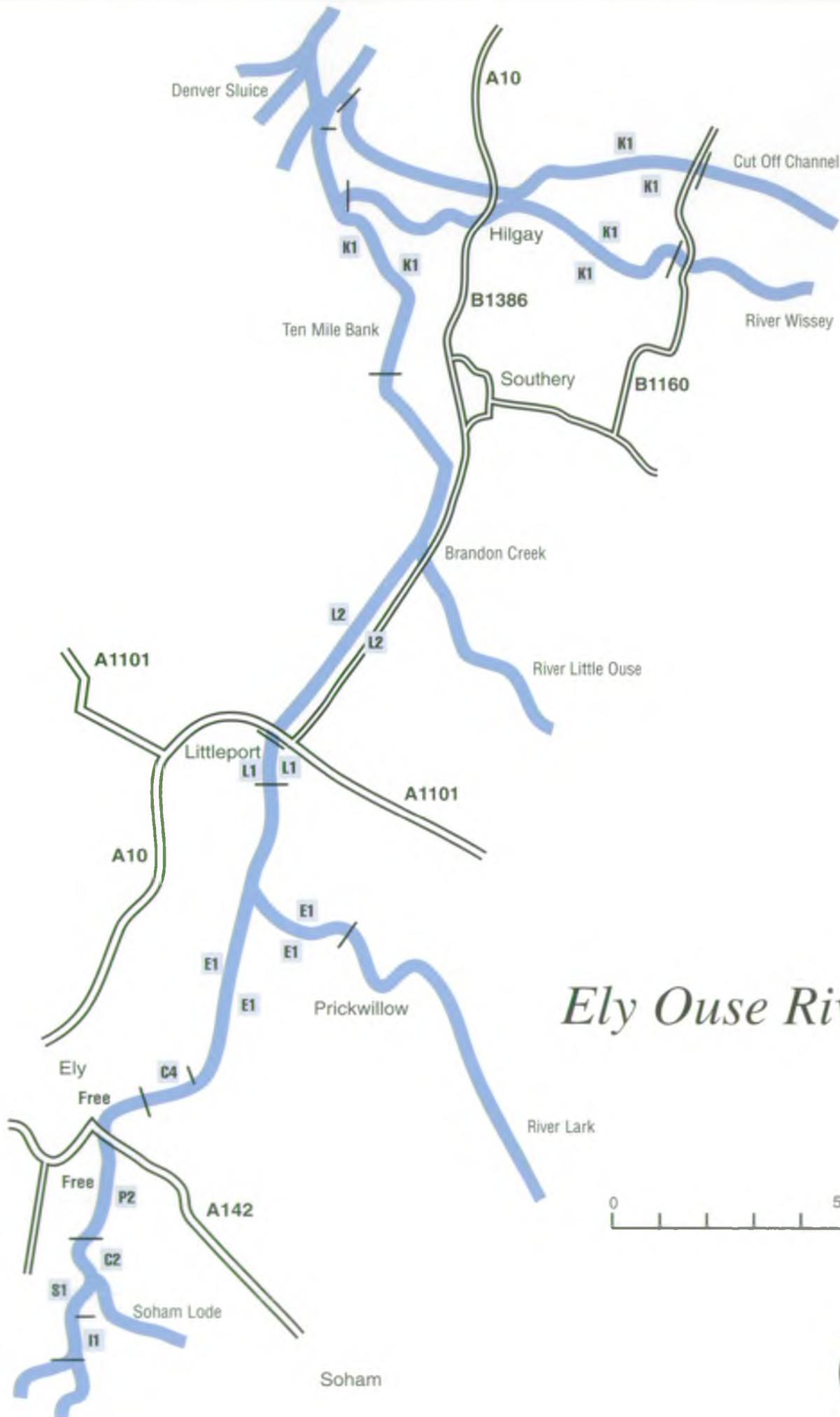
Key for Club map Name	Contact
W2 Waterbeach Angling Club	Mr H Reynolds 3 Crosskeys Court Cottenham, Cambs Tel: 0223 351696.
W3 Well Creek Trust	Mr C Brown Pamolin Wisbech Road Outwell, Cambs Tel: 0945 773342.
W4 Welney Angling Club	Mr P H Redman The Post Office Stores Welney Wisbech PE14 9RA Tel: 0354 71201.
W5 Whittlesey Angling Association	Mr R Palmer 11 Crescent Close Whittlesey Peterborough Tel: 0733 351037.
W6 Wildfowl Trust	
W7 Wisbech and District Angling Association	Mr B Lakey 28 Hill Street Wisbech, Cambs Tel: 0945 585278.
Y1 Yaxley Angling Club	Mr K Burt 55 Windsor Road Yaxley Peterborough Tel: 0733 241119.

FREE FISHING

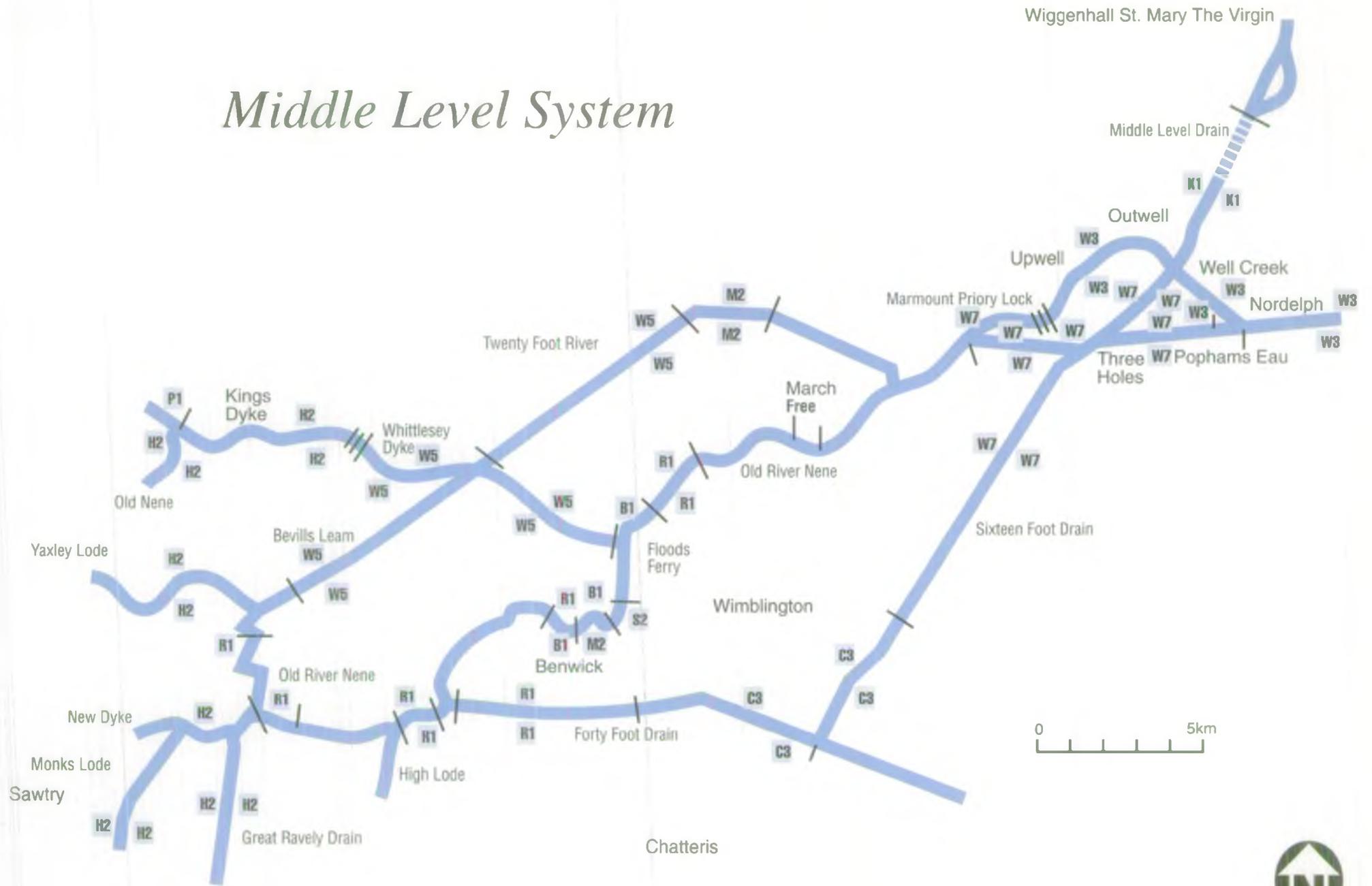
Ely Ouse (Ely)	East Cambs District Council Tel: 0353 665555
River Old Nene (March)	Fenland District Council Tel: 0354 54321
River Cam (Cambridge)	River Cam Conservancy Tel: 0223 860484

River Cam Downstream of Cambridge

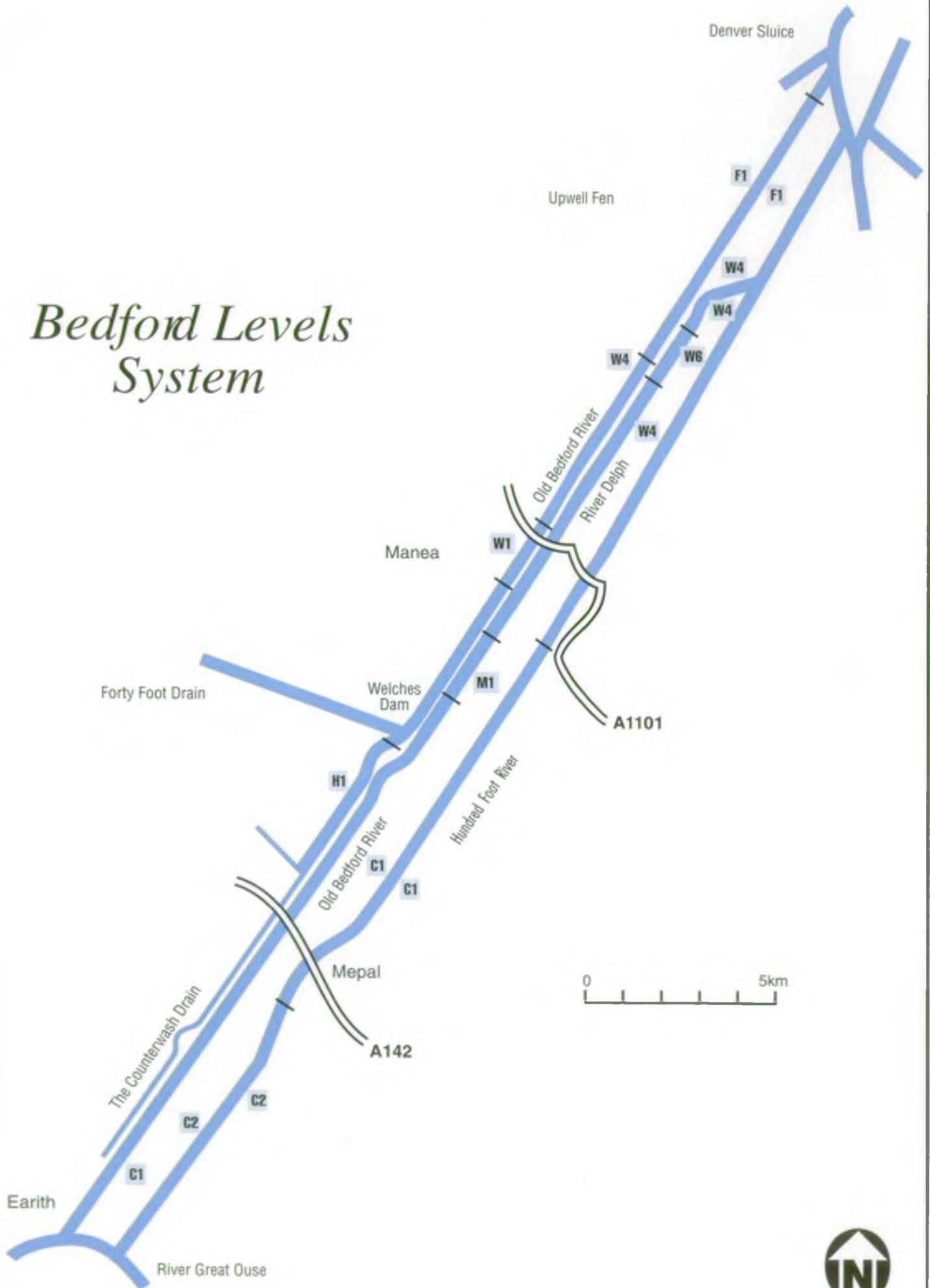




Middle Level System



Bedford Levels System



ADVISORY COMMITTEES

Three Area Fisheries Advisory Committees serve the Anglian region of the NRA. They provide a direct link between anglers and the regional organisation.

The Committees are consulted on a wide variety of policy and local fisheries matters and are represented on the main Regional Fisheries Advisory Committee, a statutory committee of the NRA.

Local Advisory Committee representatives for the Great Ouse area are:

Mr C J Clare (Chairman)	Mr K Ball (Vice Chairman)
1 Mount Pleasant Road	48 Little Linford Lane
Wisbech	Newport Pagnell
Cambs PE13 3NF.	Bucks MK16 8DL.

POLLUTION

Anglers who see any pollution or notice dead fish on the Great Ouse system should call or notify the NRA immediately either at the Central Area Office, Bromholme Lane, Brampton, Huntingdon, Cambs (Tel: 0480 414581) or Regional Headquarters, Kingfisher House, Orton Goldhay, Peterborough PE2 0ZR where there is a 24 hour call facility (Tel: 0733 371811).

LEAD WEIGHTS

REMEMBER — It is **ILLEGAL** to sell or use lead weights of greater than 0.06 grams and less than, or equal to, 28.35 grams. Maximum penalty for illegal use is £1,000.

BEWARE OF POWER LINES

Overhead power lines are extremely dangerous. Please check before choosing where to fish and do not take unnecessary risks.

The National Rivers Authority

Guardians of the Water Environment

As Europe's leading environmental and protection agency the National Rivers Authority is responsible for a wide range of regulatory and statutory duties connected with the water environment.

Created in 1989 under the Water Act it comprises a national policy body co-ordinating the activities of 10 regions in England and Wales.

The main functions of the NRA are:

- Water resources – the planning of resources to meet the water needs of the country; licensing companies, organisations and individuals to abstract water; and monitoring the licences.
- Environmental quality and Pollution Control – maintaining and improving water quality in rivers, estuaries and coastal seas; granting consents for discharges to the water environment; monitoring water quality; pollution control.
- Flood defence – the general supervision of flood defences; the carrying out of works on main rivers; sea defences.
- Fisheries – the maintenance, improvement and development of fisheries in inland waters including licensing, re-stocking and enforcement functions.
- Conservation – furthering the conservation of the water environment and protecting its amenity.
- Navigation and Recreation – navigation responsibilities in three regions – Anglian, Southern and Thames and the provision and maintenance of recreational facilities on rivers and waters under its control.



ENVIRONMENT AGENCY

NATIONAL LIBRARY &
INFORMATION SERVICE

HEAD OFFICE

Rio House, Waterside Drive,
Aztec West, Almondsbury,
Bristol BS32 4UD

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