

## River Thames – emergency river closure

### **Botley Road Bridge, (Osney Bridge) immediately upstream of Osney Lock**

**Tuesday 2 February 2016 until further notice**

### **Sunken narrowboat blocking river channel**

Yesterday, Monday 1 February, two unoccupied boats broke free of their moorings above Botley Road Bridge in Oxford. One lodged against the overspill adjacent to the bridge, took on water and sank in a position blocking the navigation.

We have had two officers at Botley Bridge overnight to ensure the two boats stayed secure. River levels are not affected by the boats at the present time.

We are currently working with the owner and our partners to determine the best way to have the boats removed. Until then boat passage through the Botley Road Bridge is impossible and the river is therefore closed at this point. We will issue a further Harbourmaster's notice as soon as we have an update.

We apologise for any inconvenience this emergency closure causes and thank you for your patience during this time.

**Andrew Graham  
Harbourmaster  
2 February 2016**