

## River Thames – river restriction

### Reading Bridge

### Immediately upstream of Caversham Lock

**July 2015 to August 2015**

### Reading Bridge strengthening works - update

Reading Borough Council's contractors are progressing the strengthening works to Reading Bridge during the above period. This essential work will inevitably have impact on the navigation channel but we are working with them to make sure that impact on boaters is minimised.

Scaffolding will continue to encapsulate the outer two thirds of the bridge leaving a 20 metre wide central navigation channel overnight and at weekends. Between 07.00 and 19.00 on weekdays there will be additional scaffold towers underneath the bridge and the navigation channel will be reduced to only 8 metres wide. During the time of this channel width restriction the navigation channel will be one-way only. There will be a safety boat stationed upstream of the bridge which will be in radio contact with Caversham Lock. Therefore, you may be asked to wait by the safety boat for a few minutes before being allowed to proceed through the bridge. Please listen to and follow the instructions given by the safety boat as they are acting in the interests of everyone's safety.

The available headway through the navigation channel will be affected; a minimum headway of 4.57 metres, the same clearance provided by Caversham Bridge, will be maintained. River users are reminded that **Headways are measured above standard head water level of the lock below**. Allowance must therefore be made for the gradient of the river at any given time because this will reduce, to a varying extent, the figures above.

Please follow directional signage, follow any directions given by the safety boat and/or officers of the Environment Agency and navigate slowly and with caution in the area of these works.

**Andrew Graham**  
**Harbourmaster**  
**1 July 2015**