

Along the Cotswold Canal Audio Trail Script

Location Name:	The Ocean
Music	Fade In
Introduction	Along the Cotswold Canals. Welcome to The Ocean, one of the places on the Canals Trail. This is one of a series of recordings made up of local people's experience that you can listen to at different places along the Cotswolds canals.
Music	Fade Out
Narrator	This area of the Stroudwater Navigation Canal is known as The Ocean. It is well known as a area of beauty and was thought to be one of three fishponds serving the old manor house, now Stonehouse Court Hotel, before it was incorporated into the canal. When operational the Ocean included a repair yard and turning point for larger boats as Norman Hall explains.
Norman Hall	The main traffic that we saw in the later years, in the '40s, was the boats going to the gas works. They extracted the tar content from the coke and brought it back down. They used to come back down in reverse and turn at The Ocean and go on their way to Sharpness or Bristol.
Narrator	The gas works Norman Hall is referring too were on Cainscross Road in Stroud.
Narrator	Following the closure of the canal, this area was left to deferrent and by 1960's the whole area was overgrown. As you can now see, this area is now restored and here Iris Capps explains why its her favourite place to visit.
Iris Capps	<p>I enjoy visiting the length of the canal close by St Cyrs Church, partly because I can park there and then there's a relatively short walk nice and flat to the canal bank. But also because that particular length of the canal both looking towards Stroud and looking towards Framilode is exquisitely beautiful. You have to your right, the Cotswold Hills and the valley of the river Frome lying between that and the canal. The canal is slightly above the level of the river because when the canal was built a local landowner in Eastington wouldn't permit the canal to run though his land. Consequently the canal had to be placed on a spur of land which is where you find it at Blunder Lock and which it is almost coming to the end of at St Cyrs.</p> <p>It is absolutely idyllic and a wonderful place to escape to just for a few moments because it's just perfectly peaceful.</p>
Clip One	
Clip Two	
Music	Fade In
Close	Thank you for listening, other recordings are available along the towpath or can be downloaded on our web site www.alongthecotswoldcanal.co.uk
Music	Fade Out