

Water Safety

Float to Live & Respect the Water

The Facts!

- Every year, in the UK, around **400** people die from drowning as a result of an accident in or around water.
- 1000's of others are left with severe, **life-changing** injuries.
- Search, rescue and emergency services respond to over 100,000 water-related events each year.



That's more
than one
death per
day per year!

The Facts!

- Some of these deaths and injuries are the result of risky activities such as 'tombstoning' and gathering in groups to swim in locks or reservoirs but many are the result of simple accidents.
- Around 50% of people who die never intended to go in the water.



Drowning is the **THIRD** most common cause of death in young people.

The risk increases significantly from age 15.

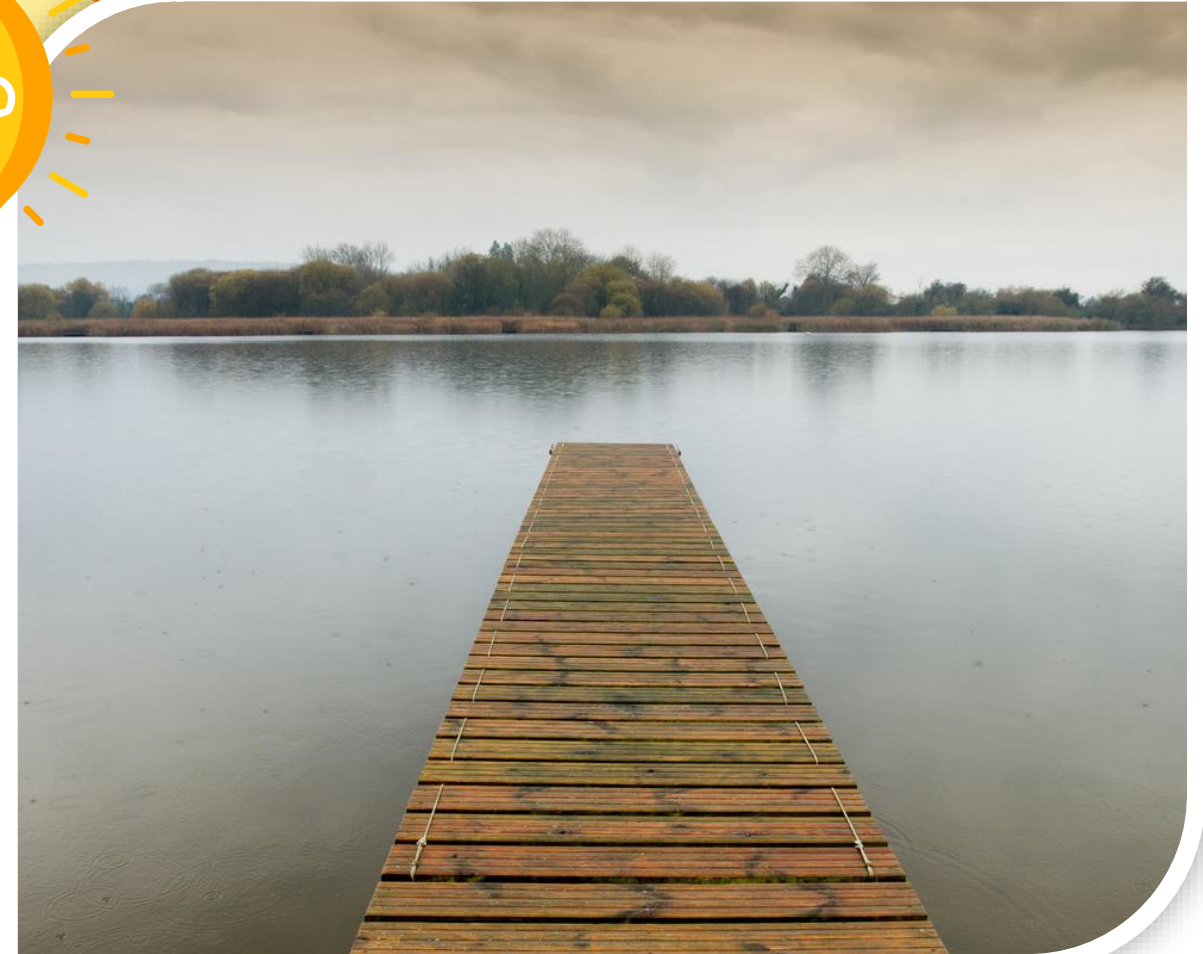


Time to Think

Is there anything James or his friends could have done **differently** to prevent his death?



If you had witnessed this incident, what could you have done to help?



Be Aware

Low water temperatures can cause the body to go into **Cold Water Shock** and can claim your life in minutes, even if you are a strong swimmer.

Float to Live! Fight the urge to swim hard, instead try to float on the surface until the shock passes.

Float to Live!



Other Dangers

There is no way
of knowing what
lies **beneath** the
water

It's difficult to
estimate the
depth of the
water

Reeds and other
plant life can get
tangled around
your limbs

Mud makes it
difficult to walk
even if you can
stand up

Litter and waste
can **trap** your
feet as well as
cause injury

There may be
underwater
machinery for
example sluices

Swimming in
open water can
expose you to
serious **diseases**

There may be
hidden
currents,
especially in
locks



Safe to swim?



Where is it
safe to
swim?



 **Canal &
River Trust**

Sparth Reservoir

Swimming at Sparth reservoir
Sparth reservoir is an operational reservoir that feeds the Huddersfield Narrow Canal. Water is drawn from the sluice and levels can vary greatly from day to day.

The reservoir is not supervised by lifeguards.

Keep yourself safe. In the event of a life threatening emergency dial 999, ask for the Fire Service and quote your location.

Park Gate Lane, Sandhill Cottages, Marsden, Huddersfield, HD7 6NB

Grid reference: 405621 412545

Please read the safety sign so that you are aware of all the hazards

 Danger Underwater currents	 Danger Underwater hazards and sharp objects	 Danger Steep/high banks	 Danger Deep water
 Danger Cold water	 Danger Strong swimming	 Danger Swimming whilst under the influence of alcohol or drugs	 No alcohol beyond this point

Produced in collaboration with Friends of Sparth Swimming
facebook.com/groups/119437134823180





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Explorers

Any questions?

