

## **SAFETY EQUIPMENT CARRIED ON BOARD 'Theo' and 'Merlin'**

### **Lifejackets and buoyancy aids – all to BSI standard**

Each boat is equipped with a mixture of Lifejackets and Buoyancy Aids.

#### **Usage:**

Automatic inflatable lifejackets for Children / young people and Adults when operating the locks – non swimmers – on rivers. (160 Newtons)

Automatic / Manual inflatable Lifejackets for skippers. When in a lock or operating on rivers  
(150 Newtons)

Buoyancy Aids for children and young people when on the towpath or outer parts of the vessel. (50 Newtons)

#### **Newton Ratings**

##### **150 / 160 N Automatic and manual lifejackets**

- 33Ibs 16kg Buoyancy
- Suitable for swimmers and non swimmers
- For use in all but the most severe conditions –
- They will give reasonable assurance of safety from drowning, to a person not fully capable of helping themselves
- May not immediately self right an unconscious user wearing heavy waterproof clothing
- Equivalent performance to previous BSI approved lifejackets

##### **50 N**

- 11lbs / 5kg buoyancy
- Only suitable for competent swimmers
- Sheltered water use where help is close at hand
- Only provides support to a conscious person who cannot help themselves

All lifejackets and buoyancy aids undergo a full inspection four times a year. The dates are recorded on each individual jacket and in a central safety log along with any action needed. At the end of each cruise skippers report to the co-ordinator any defects found or lifejacket discharged.

#### **Each vessel also carries:**

Two life rings with heaving line

One roll up rescue ladder  
One first aid kit  
One accident recording book