

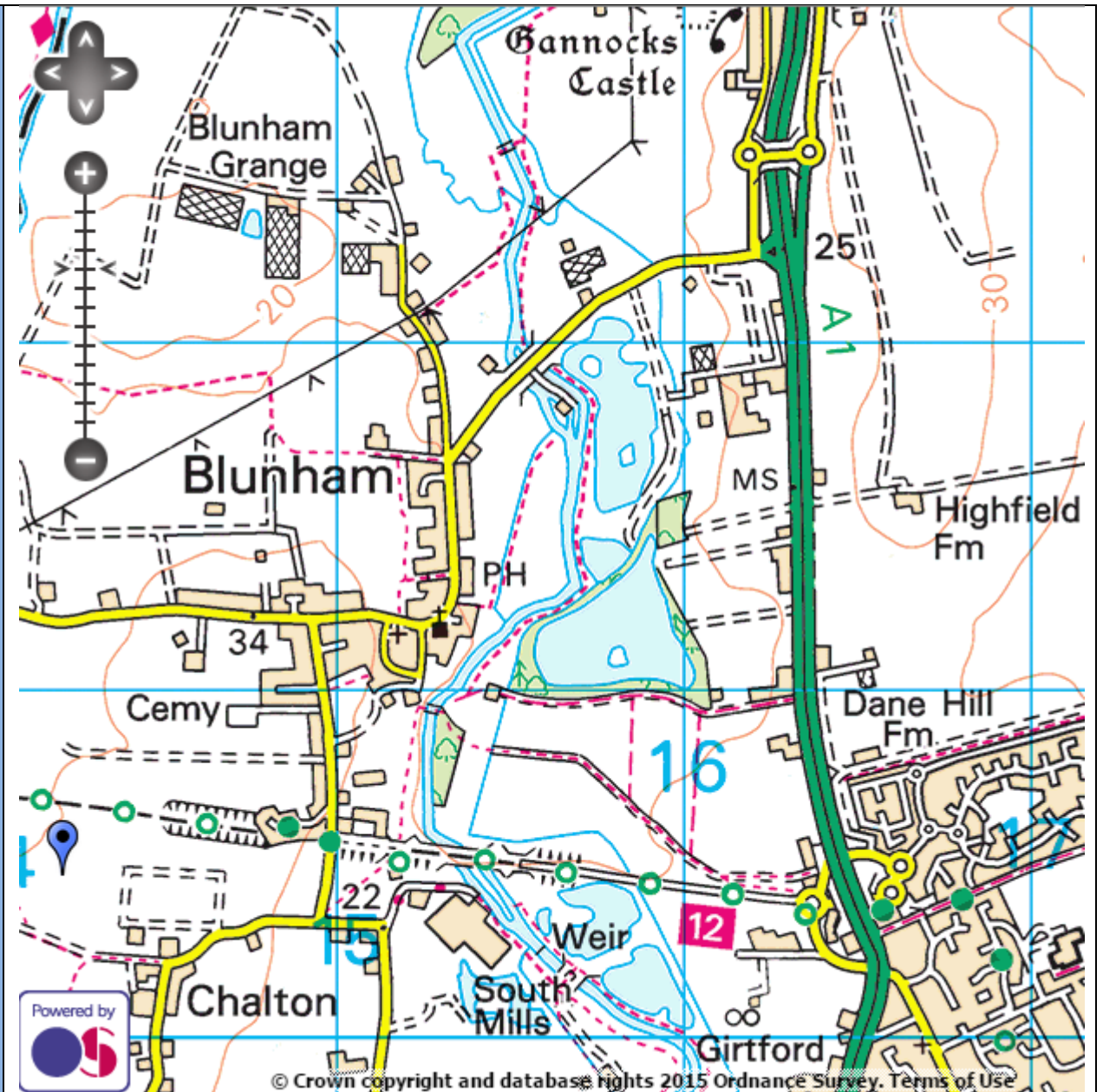


Site Name	Blunham Lake	Grid Reference	TL1551
Details	<p>This site is a mature, tree lined lake in the Ivel Valley, resulting from gravel extraction in the 1960s, now owned by the Zwetsloot family who as a result of bird ringing, have supplied wildfowl counts to the Bedfordshire Natural History Society over the years. In fact some of the UKs highest counts of ringed Pochard came from this site.</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;">   </div> <p>Access/Viewing is from the footpath (shown on O/S map 153) along south side of the lake (TL157509) which can be accessed from Blunham village by crossing the Ivel by the weir, following the river on the east side for 50 metres when the footpath splits. Take the right hand fork across the rough field, over the stile and view the lake on the right. This section of the footpath can also be accessed from Sandy by following the old railway line west (now a cycle track), until the footpath heads north through fields to the lake.</p> <p>Viewing is best October to March from a number of vantage points around the lake.</p> <p>Key birds</p> <p><i>Winter</i> The best site for Gadwall, on average, as revealed from bird records (peak count of 306, January 2009) Smew, Wigeon and Pintail.</p> <p><i>Autumn</i> Shoveler</p> <p><i>Occasional birds</i> Red-throated Divers, Red-necked Grebe, Black-necked Grebe, Bittern, Bewicks and Whooper Swan, Brent, Pink-footed, Brent and White-fronted Goose, Ring-necked Duck, Ferruginous Duck, Scaup, Red-breasted Merganser, Grey Phalarope and Kittiwake. Since 2000, it has hosted Great Northern Diver, Bittern, Little Egret, Whooper and Bewicks Swan, Scaup, Pink-footed, Brent and White-fronted Geese and several Garganeys including the infamous wintering individual.</p>		
		Text Contributor	Richard Bashford
Recording Areas	None but lake to the north is 'Twin Bridges Lake' and a separate site.		



Map



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