



PRESS RELEASE

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REPAIRS COMPLETED ON NORTHAMPTON CANAL

The Canal & River Trust, the charity that cares for 2,000 miles of canals and rivers in England & Wales, has recently completed of a six-week project to repair and replace a number of lock gates along the Grand Union Canal in Northamptonshire.

In total the Trust have replaced two worn out sets of locks gate and repaired a further two sets. The brickwork within some of the lock chamber walls has also been repaired.

Each new lock gate weighs several tonnes and is hand crafted using seasoned oak in a specialist workshop in the Midlands. Every lock gate is unique and will only fit the lock chamber it was made for and normally last 25 years before it needs replacing.

The work is part of the Trust's annual maintenance programme and normally part of the canal is closed for several weeks over the winter so that essential repairs can take place. This winter season the Trust is spending £43 million across the country carrying out much needed repairs to the 200-year-old canal network.

Charlotte Wood, from the Canal & River Trust, said: "This work is essential if we want our canals to keep in good working order so boaters can navigate along the waterways. The work we do ensures the canal runs smoothly whilst preserving their unique heritage to ensure they work and look exactly like they did when first built."

For more information on the work of the Canal & River Trust visit www.canalrivertrust.org.uk

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For further media requests please contact: Sarah Rudy, National Press Officer on 01908 302 584 / 07788 691 219 or email sarah.rudy@canalrivertrust.org.uk

Notes to editors:

Canal & River Trust, Station House, 500 Elder Gate, Milton Keynes, MK91BB

T: 0203 204 4514 **E:** press.office@canalrivertrust.org.uk **W:** www.canalrivertrust.org.uk **Twitter:** [@CanalRiverTrust](https://twitter.com/CanalRiverTrust)

Patron: H.R.H. The Prince of Wales. Canal & River Trust is a charitable company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales with company number 7807276 and registered charity number 1146792, registered office address: First Floor North, Station House, 500 Elder Gate, Milton Keynes MK9 1BB

The Canal & River Trust is the guardian of 2,000 miles of historic waterways across England and Wales, caring for the nation's third largest collection of listed structures, as well as museums, archives, and hundreds of important wildlife sites.

We believe that *living waterways transform places and enrich lives* and our role is to make sure there is always a place on your doorstep where you can escape the pressures of everyday life, stretch your legs and simply feel closer to nature.

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