



## **PRESS RELEASE**

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24 January 2017

### **REPAIR WORK COMPLETED AT CAEN HILL LOCKS**

A three-week project to repair a set of lock gates at Caen Hill in Wiltshire was completed last week.

Specialists from the Canal & River Trust – the charity that cares for the waterway - have been busy carrying out essential works to lock 27 which marks the start of the famous Caen Hill Lock Flight which carries boats 237 feet up the hill at Devizes.

Each lock holds around 200,000 litres of water – the equivalent of around 2,000 bath tubs - and the Trust has refitted the gates to ensure they create a tight seal when closed, and so reduce water loss.

This winter, the Trust is spending £43 million across the country carrying out much needed repairs to the 200-year-old canal network.

Roger Baines, construction supervisor from the Canal & River Trust, said: “Visitors come from miles around to see the famous Caen Hill flight and watch as boats navigate up and down the 29 locks. We need to carry out repairs to the locks every now and then to ensure they keep working properly. The work can be fiddley as the gates weigh as much as a small car but our team are skilled and strive to keep the flight in the best condition possible.”

For more information on the work of the Canal & River Trust visit [www.canalrivertrust.org.uk](http://www.canalrivertrust.org.uk)

**ENDS**

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#### **Notes to editors:**

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.

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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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