



## **PRESS RELEASE**

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24 January 2017

### **REPAIR WORK STARTED ALONG KENNET & AVON CANAL**

A three-week project to repair a set of lock gates on the Kennet & Avon Canal near Kintbury has started this week.

Specialists from the Canal & River Trust – the charity that cares for the waterway – will be refitting the lock gates at Benham Lock to ensure they create a water tight seal when closed. The water in the lock will also be lowered so the brickwork can be repaired and repointed.

This winter season 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: “The locks on the Kennet & Avon Canal are used many times every day and they do get a bit of a pounding from passing boats. The gates at Benham Lock need some repairs and adjustment as they’re not closing properly and are wasting precious water.”

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

#### **ENDS**

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](mailto:sarah.rudy@canalrivertrust.org.uk)

#### **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.

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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