



Canal &  
River Trust

## PRESS RELEASE

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4 September 2017

### KENNET & AVON CANAL'S DUNDAS BASIN RECEIVES MAJOR TRANSPORT HERITAGE AWARD

Canal's 'big four' heritage sites all now recognised

**Media opportunity:**

**What:** Historic Dundas Basin, on the Kennet & Avon Canal outside Bath, will be honoured with a *Red Wheel* plaque from the Transport Trust, attended by the Canal & River Trust, Cherry Beath, chair of Bath and North East Somerset Council, and Sir William McAlpine, president of the Transport Trust

**When:** Midday Wednesday 6 September

**Where:** Dundas Basin. Car parking is available at Brassknocker Basin, Monkton Combe, BA2 7JD. 400 metres from Dundas Basin.

**Contact:** Jonathan Ludford, 020 320 444 20

The historic Dundas Basin, on the Kennet & Avon Canal outside Bath, will be honoured with a *Red Wheel* plaque from the Transport Trust on Wednesday 6 September. The unveiling marks the significance of the Basin which has a Grade I Listed aqueduct, built by John Rennie, and forms an important junction with the Somerset Coal Canal.

The *Red Wheel* scheme is similar to English Heritage's blue plaque scheme and recognises Britain's greatest transport heritage sites. The award for Dundas Basin means that the 'big four' heritage sites on the canal are now all celebrated, with Caen Hill Lock Flight, Claverton and Crofton pumping stations all carrying the accolade.

The Canal & River Trust will be joined for the unveiling by Cherry Beath, chair of Bath and North East Somerset Council, and Sir William McAlpine, president of the Transport Trust.

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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

David Viner, heritage advisor at the Canal & River Trust, comments: "Dundas Basin was a vital connection along the Kennet & Avon Canal which opened in 1810 and was used by barges transporting coal, stone and agricultural produce between the Bristol Avon and the River Thames at Reading. The junction the Basin formed with the Somerset Coal Canal ensured that the Somerset coalfields could supply the city of Bath by boat at a fraction of the cost of transporting the goods by road.

"*Red Wheels* are awarded by the Transport Trust to sites of outstanding significance in transport heritage and this recognition for Dundas Basin and its aqueduct completes the set for the Kennet & Avon Canal. Today Dundas Wharf and the Kennet & Avon Canal are looked after by the Canal & River Trust, with great support from volunteers and all the people who enjoy the waterway. We're all delighted that this special place has been awarded a prestigious *Red Wheel*."

The plaque will be unveiled at midday and will be mounted on the front of the canal company toll house facing the wharf.

Car parking is available at Brassknocker Basin, Monkton Combe, BA2 7JD, 400 metres from Dundas Basin.

## **Ends**

For more media information please contact Jonathan Ludford on 020 320 444 20  
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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.

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.

[www.canalrivertrust.org.uk](http://www.canalrivertrust.org.uk)

For more information about the **Transport Trust** visit [www.transporttrust.com](http://www.transporttrust.com) and about the Red Wheel scheme [www.transportheritage.com](http://www.transportheritage.com)