



PRESS RELEASE

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CHARITY REPLACES LOCK GATES ON GRAND UNION CANAL

Two locks gates – each weighing approximately three tonnes – have been craned out and replaced from the Grand Union Canal near Tring this week.

The work was carried out by the Canal & River Trust – the charity that cares for the region’s waterways - and also included brickwork repairs to the historic 200-year old Seabrook Lock.

Each gate weighs the equivalent to a small family car and, at over 20 years old, had reached the end of their working lives. The replacement gates are hand-crafted from English oak and made to measure to ensure they fit snugly and are watertight.

These works are part of £38million the Trust is spending across the country to carry out much needed repairs to keep the nation’s canals open for the thousands of visitors who boat, walk and cycle along the waterways each year.

Charlotte Wood, Canal & River Trust construction manager, said: “The Grand Union Canal in this area is a really popular spot for people wanting to enjoy the waterways and escape the hustle and bustle.

“During the summer months, the locks are used many times every day and do get a lot of wear from passing boats. The gates at Seabrook Lock had been in place for over 20 years and, over time will have been used thousands of times by boaters as they navigate along the waterways. The time had come to change them for a lovely brand-new set, which should last just as long.”

For more information on the work of the Canal & River Trust including finding out how you can volunteer and donate money to support the work we do visit www.canalrivertrust.org.uk

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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.

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