

# PRESS RELEASE

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6 March 2019

## Llanthony Lift Bridge inspected ahead of Gloucester Tall Ships Festival

Ahead of the Gloucester Tall Ships Festival in May, the Canal & River Trust is today (6 March) carrying out an important inspection of Llanthony Lift Bridge in Gloucester Docks.

The principal inspection, which happens once every ten years, will see the Canal & River Trust's specialist bridge engineers get a close up look at the whole of the structure to ensure that it is in top working order and to plan any repairs that might be identified.

The inspection, which will take almost a full day to complete, requires a temporary road closure for the buses and taxis that use the bridge.

Rob Eaton, customer operations manager at the Canal & River Trust, comments: "This is a very important inspection of the bridge which will ensure that it is in good working order for the Tall Ships Festival in May and the years to come after that. We apologise for any temporary inconvenience whilst the inspection takes place, but with a bridge that's nearly fifty years old, it's important that we check that it's working as well as the day it was built."

Llanthony Bridge is a steel lift bridge installed in 1972 replacing an earlier swing bridge. The bridge occupies an impressive position at the entrance to Gloucester Docks and originally provided rail and road access over the water. Today Llanthony Bridge provides pedestrian, bus and taxi access to the Docks and Gloucester Quays and sits in the shadow of the Llanthony Warehouse and the National Waterways Museum.

Canoeists can pass underneath the bridge without it being opened, but larger vessels, including narrowboats and those attending the Tall Ships Festival, require the bridge to lift open.

**ENDS**

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**Notes to Editors**

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The Canal & River Trust cares for and brings to life 2,000 miles of canals and rivers across England & Wales. We believe waterways have the power to make a difference to people's lives and that spending time by water can make us all healthier and happier. By bringing communities together to make a difference to their local waterway, we are creating places and spaces that can be used and enjoyed by everyone, every day.

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