

## Guided Canal Walks for Cainscross Residents

We will be hosting two **guided walks** along the works mentioned in the attached letter. Led by three members of the Cotswold Canals Partnership including the project engineer and the project ecologist, they will be specifically provided for residents living close to the canal route to see what the works will look like on the ground and to ask any questions they may have:

- **25th October, 5.30pm.** Works to the west of Ebley Mill, walking to Ryeford Locks and back along the towpath. Meet at Oilmills Bridge (Snow Business).
- **26th October, 5.30pm.** Works to the east of Ebley Mill, walking to Dudbridge Upper Lock (adjacent to the Lawns) and back along the towpath. Meet outside the entrance to the council offices.

These will not be advertised elsewhere, but nevertheless, numbers will have to be restricted for health and safety reasons – Please call James Blockley on 01452 318500 to book your place.

## New Website

A new website for the Partnership has been created and will be the first port of call for all information about the project, linking in with all the partners as appropriate. Visit it on: <http://www.cotswoldcanalsproject.org> and let us know what you think.

## Living Memories

The Cotswold Canals Trust are leading a project to record people's memories of the canal through Cainscross. With funding from the Local Heritage Initiative, volunteers from the project will be recording people's thoughts and getting together historic photographs over the winter, aiming to represent these memories on the towpath with interactive panels, guided trails and events.

**If you are aware of anyone neighbouring the canal through Cainscross parish that may not have received this information, please pass it on. Thank you.**

# Stroudwater Canal Restoration



## Year One Works Cainscross Parish

## Information for residents

<N.b: Duplex printed on A4 and folded for A5 leaflet>

### **The Lawns Site**

In the run up to Christmas, work will also take place in The Lawns Pond site, by Tricorn Roundabout, partially dredging the pond and installing bank support. Some overhanging trees will be removed and others trimmed to improve the light reaching the pond and encourage reed growth.

### **Bridge Road Diversion**

Bridge Road will be closed at some point in the new year, to allow the new bridge to be reconstructed. Some restrictions may also be necessary before Christmas, to allow gas mains, electricity cables and other utilities to be relocated.

An alternative access is being negotiated currently. The option we believe to be the most convenient for residents and businesses is through the former Ebley Saw Mills site, to the west of Bridge Road. We would build a temporary road from the Saw Mills, over the canal and across the land opposite, to join with Holly Tree Garden. It is appreciated that this will still be inconvenient and we will endeavour to minimise disruption for all concerned.

If you have any concerns or wish to know more about how the traffic diversion will affect you, please contact the Project Engineer for these works, Andy Goss ([Andrew.Goss@britishwaterways.co.uk](mailto:Andrew.Goss@britishwaterways.co.uk))

### **Frome Gardens Oak Trees**

The Partnership sees the oak trees alongside Frome Gardens as a fundamental part of a successful canal restoration scheme, and as such, *they will not be felled*. However, as part of their preservation, there may be a need to carry out some tree management, the extent of these works is unclear at this stage, but we will be endeavouring it to keep to a minimum.

### **Contact Us**

Cotswold Canals Partnership, Harbour House, The Docks, Gloucester,  
GL1 2LG

Telephone: 01452 318000

e-mail: [cotswolds.feedback@britishwaterways.co.uk](mailto:cotswolds.feedback@britishwaterways.co.uk)

### **Works to Start in New Year**

The main canal restoration work to the Oil Mills Bridge and the canal channel restoration are planned to start soon after Christmas. The towpath and adjoining footpaths will be closed whilst the works take place, but alternative routes will be clearly signed.

Work will then continue through 2007 between Ebley Mill and Dudbridge locks. This will include archaeological work at Dudbridge Wharf, the site of an original crane for loading and unloading the boats. In order to facilitate this section of the project, some tree works will be required (Starting towards the end of this month) to avoid the bat hibernation period and bird breeding seasons, in preparation for the restoration of the channel.

When completed, the canal may appear a little stark before the new vegetation growth is fully developed. The water level will also be slightly lower than the final designed level until the new discharge weirs have been constructed.

There will also be some works to lower a pipeline crossing the canal to the east of Ryeford Lock. These are likely to be carried out by Severn Trent Water prior to Christmas.

### **Volunteer Opportunities**

There will be a wide range of volunteer opportunities and projects for which we are encouraging people to help out and get involved. These will be open to all and designed to cater for and reflect the varying abilities, skills and time that volunteers can offer. Several tasks and projects will have the added benefit of enabling access to free accredited training, varying from one day courses through to NVQ Level Three qualifications.

Examples include archaeology, coppicing, hurdle making and stone masonry. Over the autumn and winter period, volunteer projects will include:

- Coppicing and hazel hurdle/faggot making for bank protection and stabilisation at Ryeford
- Towpath works and surfacing – Ryeford to Oilmills
- Archaeological works at Dudbridge wharf