



www.cromfordcanal.org.uk

**FRIENDS OF THE
CROMFORD CANAL**
Registered Charity 1100700

IN CONJUNCTION WITH



The European Agricultural Fund for Rural
Development: Europe investing in Rural Areas



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

PRESS RELEASE

The Friends of the Cromford Canal are pleased to announce the award of a grant for £27,966.40p. This project is supported by the Rural Development Programme for England (RDPE) for which Defra is the Managing Authority, part funded (or financed) by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development: Europe investing in rural areas'

This sum has been awarded toward the purchase and refurbishment of a traditional narrow boat. When a suitable boat can be found it will be adapted to take passengers along the northern section of the Cromford Canal; from Cromford Wharf to High Peak Junction and back.

It is the intention of the 'Friends' to not only take tourists, but to use it as an educational means for schools.

In the late 1970's to early 80's a similar trip boat cruised this length and was popular with tourists.

Chairman, Pat Morriss said, "This is splendid news! We have been able to convince not only Defra but the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development that the visitor potential of a canal trip boat operating from Cromford would make a viable contribution to the local economy. The Friends look forward to providing the boat during the summer of 2013, and to play its full role in attracting and retaining both existing and new visitors to the Cromford Cluster of the Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site. I would like to acknowledge the unstinting help and cooperation the Friends received from Derbyshire County Council and the Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Team to name but two, these are exciting times."

President - Brian Blessed; actor, adventurer and personality

Patron – Julian Richards BA., FSA., MIFA.; Archaeologist, Writer and Broadcaster

NOTES

FOR

EDITORS:

The Friends of the Cromford Canal is a charitable organisation whose aim is to see the restoration of the great historic structure, the Cromford Canal, for the benefit of the general public. We advocate and promote its restoration to navigation, connected to the national inland waterway system, and the conservation, use, maintenance, and development of the canal, buildings, towing path, structures, craft and environment now or previously associated with the canal to its fullest use for appropriate commercial and recreational purposes and to preserve this valuable historical heritage.

The Friends of the Cromford Canal was formed in March 2002 and currently has around 800 members. The FCC is a founding member of the Cromford Canal Partnership and an active member of the Derwent Valley World Heritage Site Forum.

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