Burbage Wharf Crane
Also being carried out at Claverton is the restoration of the Burbage Wharf crane, a unique timber fixed jib slewing crane. This is a joint project with The Inland Waterways Association, British Waterways and The Crown Estate. The remains of the existing crane have been removed from Burbage, which is situated south of Marlborough on the summit pound and brought to Claverton. When the volunteers have completed the crane, the plan is to return it to Burbage by canal transport.

Claverton is four miles south of Bath nestled in the Avon Valley off the A36 Warminster road, 400 yards down Ferry Lane across the uncontrolled level crossing. You could park at Dundas and walk along the towpath, the pump is approximately 30 minutes walk from the aqueduct through the beautiful Limpley Stoke valley.
The Kennet and Avon Canal was completed in 1810 to link the Kennet Navigation in Newbury with the Avon Navigation in Bath. A direct waterway thus ran from Bristol to London.

At Bath, the western end of the canal drops down to the river Avon by means of a flight of 6 (formerly 7) locks. Every time a boat passes through this flight thousands of gallons of water are lost from the canal into the Avon.

It was to help replace this water that in 1810 the engineer John Rennie sited a pumping station at Claverton, capable of raising up to 100,000 gallons an hour from the river Avon into the canal 48 feet above it. The pump is operated by a giant waterwheel driven by the river itself.

The pump and waterwheel worked continuously (apart from occasional interruptions for repairs) for some 140 years until 1952, when a log trapped in the waterwheel caused some of the wooden teeth on the 16 foot pitwheel to be torn off.

In 1969 restoration work was started by Bath University students and the Kennet and Avon Canal Trust. The pump was fully restored by 1978.

All proceeds from admissions and gift shop sales go towards the improvement of the canal and its environment through The Kennet & Avon Canal Trust helping to Protect - Enhance - Promote

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**Opening 2009**

**Days and Times**

The pump is open every Wednesday, Saturday, Sunday and Bank Holiday from April 11th until November 1st

- Wednesdays: 10am until 4pm (last admission 3.30pm)
- Other open days: 10am until 5pm (last admission 4.30pm)

**Pumping Days**

Subject to river conditions and serviceability

- April 12th, 13th
- May 4th, 24th - 25th
- June 14th, 28th
- July 12th, 26th
- August 9th, 30th - 31st
- September 13th, 27th
- October 25th

To confirm pumping date telephone or check website.

**Admission**

On open days admission is £2.50

On pumping days admission is £4.00

Children under 16 are admitted FREE but must be accompanied by an adult

Admission FREE to K&A Trust members on production of a valid membership card

All dates, times and prices subject to revision.

**Group Bookings and Exclusive Visits**

Special rates are available for group bookings made in advance.

It is possible to open the pumphouse and run the pump on non public days for groups to visit.

Please contact us for more information:-

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