

Stockingfield Bridge Update



Bridge on schedule for Autumn 2022 opening

The iconic new Stockingfield Bridge is on schedule for a grand opening in Autumn 2022.

The structure itself will be complete early in the New Year, with landscaping and art installations taking the project to completion in Autumn 2022.

The bridge will link the communities of Maryhill, Gilshochill and Ruchill in the city for the first time since the waterway opened in 1790.

As an important piece of national infrastructure, the bridge will also provide the last link in the canal towpath creating a continuous active travel route along the canal.

As part of the project, which is being delivered by Scottish Canals with funding from Sustrans, through Transport Scotland and Glasgow City Council's Vacant Derelict Land Fund, a new green space will be created on the site with artwork designed by local people installed on-site.

Scottish Canals' project manager, Alasdair Hamilton, said: 'This is a significant landmark in the progress of this project that continues to be on schedule which is great news. With most in place people will really begin to see what the final bridge will look like.'

'When complete this will be an iconic structure helping to attract people into the area while encouraging even more people to use the canal as a means of getting around the city and beyond.'



**Scottish
Canals**



Balfour Beatty

Stockingfield art projects confirmed

Scottish Canals has selected eight art projects that were put forward by local communities for the new Stockingfield Bridge site.

ANOUSHKA HAVINDEN – “A river of names on the granite lock stones” ariverofnames.com

Anoushka, a poet and artist based in Dunoon, looked at the plans and identified the granite lock stones as the site for her artwork. She formerly lived on a houseboat at Applecross Basin and is keen to work with the community to make “A river of names” that will identify the important ideas, places, folk and history of the area. She will attempt to make the words flow from the community into the etching onto the granite lock stones. Anoushka has already run several very successful “Zoom cafes” talking about the words and ideas that surround Maryhill, Gilsochill and Ruchill.

BOOM! COMMUNITY ARTS – “Community designed paving stones incorporating recycled drinks cans.”

boomcommunityarts.com/stockingfield-bridge-project-1

Boom! Community Arts is a charity working mainly in the North of Glasgow to deliver community art workshops and activities. They are working with three local artists and the local communities with a view to making paving slabs that reflect both the history of the area and the changing seasons. They are running drawing workshops to capture the different flora of the canal area throughout the year, which will be incorporated into the final design of the paving stones. They are also organising litter picks with a view to melting the tin cans in a forge, to make metal sections in the paving slabs. It is envisioned that the paving slabs will land in the centre of the nodes on the site.

DAVID GALBRAITH – “Landscaping showing Nature reclaiming the industrial past”

David Galbraith is a former mixed martial artist who runs a gym on Lochburn road. He is also works as a landscape artist specialising in vivariums. His proposal is to alter and bury a car and possibly other industrial detritus and arrange planting to physically show nature taking over our industrial past. He would do this in conjunction with members of his gym and fight club and would possibly talk about this with local schools.

LAMBHILL STABLES – “Ceramic panels and tiles based on community artworks” lambhillstables.org

Lambhill Stables is a community hub just north along the canal from Stockingfield. They are going to make ceramic artworks based on a previously commissioned community artwork. (The Shangie) They will work with their existing communities and with a ceramicist and a painter to make a series of on glaze transfer ceramic tiles. These will form a large mural on the retaining wall on site.

LOUISE McVEY – “Sculptural ceramist making a mixed media sculpture and living benches within an orchard”

A ceramic graffiti artist based in Glasgow. She is proposing two artworks, one a large sculptural celebration, inspired by the canal wildlife and modelled on her guerrilla ceramic work in Glasgow. This would be situated under the main deck. The other piece would involve three benches combined with planting and fruit trees. She would work with the local community to make a series of ceramic panels that would then decorate the benches. These would be located at the top of the site.

LOUISE NOLAN

“Artist in residence making ceramic panels and pieces based on community engagement and historical research”

The artist in residence for the Maryhill, Louise is one of the most connected folk in the area. A professional ceramicist and builder of networks she provided invaluable help with the community engagement. Her proposal is to make a series of handmade ceramic panels reflecting the historical and natural landscape of the location. This would be combined with colourful tiles and commissioned commemorative tiles made in conjunction with the community groups. These works will be situated in several locations on site.

NICOLA McHENDRY – “Heritage officer interpreting the district in a visual manner to show the history and landscape of the district”

Nicola McHendry is a freelance heritage officer specialising in multimedia storytelling. She will lead community engagement with local groups to understand the stories behind the geography of the district and will then work with an artist to create an artwork that will allow the district to be understood from the deck below the mast. This will also lead to an exhibition at Maryhill Burgh Halls.

POSSOBILITIES – “A series of metal panels celebrating the disabled community in Glasgow”

Possibilities is a disability charity based in Possilpark. They are proposing to make a series of metal panels celebrating the role of disabled folk in the community and hopefully inspiring disabled folk to use the canals for active travel. They will design the artworks within their own communities, and they will then hand over the designs to be jet cut out of metal panels. It’s hoped these will be on either side of the two gates on Currie Street.

Richard Millar, Scottish Canals Chief Operating Officer said: “Getting local people involved in this project was a key aim for us; the bridge is a critical part of the national cycle network but has also been born from local enthusiasm growing over the last 10 years to reconnect their local communities. The bridge is a massive investment in north Glasgow and hopefully symbolizes the local peoples ambition to celebrate their area through quality design and art. Artwork is great way of promoting ownership of the project locally and I’m delighted that there has been so much interest and enthusiasm for what we are trying to achieve here. The art designs and ideas that have come forward will really raise this project to a whole new level, making this bridge much more than a piece of infrastructure, it will become a destination in its own right.”

Bridge opening celebrations

Scottish Canals is keen for community involvement in the organisation of the official opening of the Bridge next Autumn.

If you have any ideas that you would like considered as part of these plans or if you have any questions about the project please get in touch with craig.cowbrough@scottishcanals.co.uk

Further information and updates around the Stockingfield Bridge project can be found at scottishcanals.co.uk/stockingfield-bridge/