

A View from the Bridge

for the Friends of the Union Chain Bridge

Restoration Progress Supplement – No 6 – April 2021

View the latest drone footage on:

10th March : <https://youtu.be/zpPzqtjwlyw>

18th March: <https://youtu.be/E1ijlmk11e0>

24th March: <https://youtu.be/YNEnyz0Elb8>

March 29th 2021 – the Union Bridge completely dismantled



SEPTEMBER to DECEMBER 2020

Phase 1 - Preparation

JANUARY to APRIL 2021

Phase 2 - Dismantling

The following work was completed during the second phase:

Construction of English-side abutment access platform – to assist in chain removal, anchor installation and masonry restoration

Removing the 1903 cables and their hangers **completed week-ending 22 January**

Removing the entire handrailing and balustrades **completed on 2 March**

Removing the entire timber bridge deck **completed on 2 March**

Removing all the hanger rods **completed on 2 March**

Removing all the suspension chain **completed on 29 March, well ahead of programme**

Secure, logged storage of re-useable components at Honey Farm, awaiting refurbishment.

APRIL to JULY 2021

Phase 3 - Restoration

The following work will be undertaken during the restoration phase:

Refurbishment of Bridge components at the Chain Bridge Honey Farm compound
Works of restoration to the English and Scottish towers and the Rose and Thistle plaques

Installation of ground anchors on the English side

Anchorage works and construction of anchor inspection chamber on the Scottish side



On the 26th March 2021, the Woodliner cable crane lowers a bundle of dismantled chains on to a waiting wagon on the English side of the Bridge, next to the temporary access and accommodation tower, for refurbishment at Spencers' depot.



The next talk organised by our colleagues at the Union Chain Bridge project (visit them at unionchainbridge.org) is on **Tuesday APRIL 20th at 7.00pm** ("doors open" at 6.45pm) on **palaeobiology of the Rivers Whiteadder and Tweed** by **Dr Nick Fraser** from National Museums Scotland. The free ticket link is at <https://www.wegotickets.com/UnionChainBridge>



Friends will know that our planned Bicentenary Celebration Concert by *Concerto Caledonia* on the 26th July 2020 was cancelled when Covid-19 forced the abandonment of last year's *Music at Paxton* Festival. We are delighted to be able to sponsor the concert this year, on Sunday July 25th. Full details are on the Festival website – www.musicatpaxton.co.uk

The Project Team

The Spencer Group Northumberland County Council Scottish Borders Council Museums Northumberland The Friends of the Union Chain Bridge
The National Lottery Heritage Fund

Supported by

Historic England Historic Environment Scotland BCCF Environmental Scottish Landfill Communities Trust Clyde Wind Farm/SSE Renewables Sustrans
Roxburghe Estates Fallago Environment Fund EDF Renewables Hermes Infrastructure The Wolfson Foundation The Joicey Trust Fallago Community Fund
The Catherine Cookson Charitable Trust Berwick Preservation Trust

The Friends of the Union Chain Bridge- registered as a Charity 1162867 (England) SC046208 (Scotland) – A Charitable Incorporated Organisation under the Charities Act 2011 – Chain Bridge House, Horncliffe, Berwick-upon-Tweed TD15 2XT – 01289 382541

www.unionbridgefriends.com