

Slipper Millpond Sluice, Emsworth

HMG received this email and picture from Nick Gates:

I understand your group repaired the sluice around fifteen years ago. I thought you may be interested to know we have just rebuilt it as it was, with new timber. More info on our link here:

https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=3553614844858548&id=1634397023447016

Editor: *This reminded me that a report of the earlier work appeared in the Winter 2004 newsletter. Angela Smith has kindly dug out these original colour pictures for me.*



HMG Working Party on 14 November 2004 *by Nigel Smith*

After an excellent lunch courtesy of the Yowards at Slipper Mill, we constructed temporary scaffolding next to the sluice at the Slipper Millpond whilst the tide dropped. The objective was to complete earlier repairs to the sluice gates done over a year ago and specifically to fix a thick rubber strip onto the bottom of the gate and add some plastic strips to the side bearers to reduce leakage. The gate was raised to its full by a pulley block and cleaned of marine life before the rubber strip was fixed in place – this required the gate mechanism to be dismantled which was a time consuming job. All the while, walkers on the public footpath were asking us what we were doing. Due to the short daylight, the job had to be completed under floodlights and torches, but it was all finished by 6:30pm. Hopefully, a job well done and good for at least 20 years or so.





And from John Silman's chairman's notes in earlier newsletters:

Autumn 2001: We hope shortly to carry out restoration work on the sluice at the Slipper Millpond at Emsworth.

Winter 2001: The drainage sluice gate was badly eroded and leaking so badly that the pond was becoming nearly empty between tides. Of course what seemed like a simple repair turned out to be quite a major restoration with the rack mechanism supports having to be replaced. Hopefully one more session should see the sluice watertight again.

Spring 2002: We have almost completed the repair of the sluice. It has been a very popular job, mainly due I think to the delicious lunches laid on by Mary Yoward.