



View from Wantage Bridge -1890's

## The Wilts and Berks Canal

**Martin Buckland**

The Wilts and Berks was a latecomer to the canal network, opening in 1810. It linked the Kennet & Avon Canal from near Devizes to Abingdon, passing between Hanney and Grove. Most early traffic was coal from Somerset and grain from the Vale of White Horse, often for Abingdon's breweries. Trade was boosted by carrying materials for the construction of the Great Western Railway in the 1840s, but this also contributed to its decline and it closed in 1901. However, the route passed through open country and so much was not filled in. As a result, locks, bridges and canal lengths have been restored over the last 40 years.



Ardington Lock 2012

# Hanney History Group

**8.00 P.M**  
**WEDNESDAY**  
**29<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY**

**War**  
**Memorial**  
**Hall**  
**East**  
**Hanney**

**OX12 OJL**

**VISITORS AND NEW**  
**MEMBERS ARE VERY**  
**WELCOME**

**N.B.**  
**THIS TALK IS ON**  
**A WEDNESDAY -**  
**NOT OUR USUAL**  
**TUESDAY**