Hello and welcome to the November volunteering bulletin for the London Waterway

The winter works and ‘stoppage’ season may have started but things are certainly not slowing down in the London volunteering team. This month we have a bumper ebulletin full of events and opportunities, so grab a cup of tea and read on for more information about what’s coming up this month and beyond....

Regent’s Canal Clean Ups
Those of you who have visited the Regent’s Canal around Mile End in the past few days may have noticed something missing…..the water! The canal is currently drained between Old Ford Lock and Mile End Lock to enable us to undertake essential repairs to the waterway walls. Excitingly for us in the volunteer team, we’ve again been given permission to organise some clean up events on the bed of the canal during the works. The events will see teams of staff and volunteers descend onto the bed to collect litter and other rubbish which is usually well out of reach. The first Canal & River Trust event will take place on Saturday 21 November (details in the Towpath Taskforce section below). The Lower Regent’s Coalition will also be organising some events so keep an eye on their Facebook page for more information.

November Towpath Taskforce Events
Our November Towpath Taskforce events will be the last ones of 2015 as we take our usual December break. This year we’re ending on a high with a chance to descend onto the bed of the Regent’s Canal (drained of water of course!) to get to all that litter we can’t usually reach. We’ll also be at Bow, Southall and Stanstead Abbotts for our final clean ups of the year, fuelled by a few end of season treats! More information on each of these events can be found by clicking the links below. All tools, equipment and instruction will be supplied, please wear old clothes and hard-soled footwear and if the weather forecast is looking wet, don’t forget the waterproofs!

- **Saturday 7 November, 10am – 3.30pm** – Buddleia and Litter Blitz on the Limehouse Cut between Bow and Limehouse. Meet us by Bow Locks (a few minutes walk south from Three Mill Lane bridge), E3 3JY. Nearest station Bromley by Bow.
- **Tuesday 17 November, 10am – 3.30pm** – Boat Painting and free end of season BBQ at Adelaide Yard, Southall. Meet us at Adelaide Yard, Endsleigh Road Industrial Estate, Endsleigh Road, Southall, UB2 5W. Nearest station Southall (20 minute walk away).
- **Thursday 19 November, 10am – 3.30pm** – Towpath Tidy Up on the River Lee at Stanstead Abbotts followed by an end of season drink at the local pub on us! Meet us by Stanstead Lock (a few minutes north of High Street), SG12 8DR. Nearest station St Margarets (Herts.)
- **Saturday 21 November, 10am – 12.30pm and 1.30pm – 4pm** – Canal Clean Up on the bed of the Regent’s Canal near Old Ford Lock. **Booking is essential for this event – to book your place please email Enquiries.London@canalrivertrust.org.uk**, with your shoe size (for safety footwear) and stating...
whether you would like to do the morning session, afternoon session or both. Further details of the event will be sent with your booking confirmation.

**Boat Painting at Southall: 24 November – 4 December**

Over the coming weeks we are looking for volunteers to help with the refit and paint of two of our London work boats – the Hanwell and the Enfield. Both boats are in serious need of some TLC, and once restored to full glory will be used around London to support a variety of volunteer events and activities. We will be making a start on the boats as part of the West London Towpath Taskforce event on Tuesday 17th November, and are hoping to complete the work by early December. Tasks will include stripping out internal fixtures, preparing surfaces, painting and fitting new furniture. Work will take place at our boat yard in Southall, which is off Endsleigh Road, UB2 5QW. If you are interested in finding out more or able to help please get in touch – Deborah.vidler@canalrivertrust.org.uk.

**Camden’s Community Narrowboat is on the Lookout for Volunteers**

If you’re looking for even more ways to help support your local canal then this could be for you. You may have spotted Tarporley, Camden’s Community Narrowboat, out and about on the Regent’s Canal. Tarporley is a converted 1937 working boat which is now used for community trips and private hire, giving the community in Camden and beyond the chance to experience London’s fantastic canals. The boat is looked after by Camden Canals & Narrowboat Association, a charity operated entirely by volunteers, and they are looking for more people to get involved. Volunteer roles range from crewing and skippering through to boat maintenance, marketing and governance so there’s something for everyone. If you are interested in finding out more please click here to visit the volunteering pages on their website.

**Dates for Your Diary**

- Sunday 8 November – Hedgerow planting on the Slough Arm at Langley – see the Friends of Slough Canal Facebook Page for more information
- Saturday 14 November, 10am – 12pm – Friends of Brent Reservoir monthly clean up. Meet 10am at the West Hendon Playing fields car park, off Goldsmith Avenue, approximate postcode NW9 7EU. Click here for more information.
- Sunday 22 November - Discover the Regent’s Free Guided Walk from Islington to Camden. Meet at Angel tube station at 10am, walk will last approximately 2 hours.
- Sunday 6 December, 11am – 1pm – Lower Regent’s Coalition and Moo Canoes Canoe Litter Pick from Limehouse Basin. For more information take a look at the Lower Regent’s Coalition Facebook Page.
- Sunday 6 December – Friends of Slough Canal monthly mini clean-up – see the Friends of Slough Canal Facebook Page for more information

**And finally…London’s canals in starring role again!**

If you’re going to see the new Bond film this month then keep an eye out for the Regent’s Canal. The eagle eyed amongst you might spot the appearance of ‘Dead Dog Basin’ at Camden, which features as the Thames-side entrance to Q’s underground workshop. Cassie Clarke, who handles filming on our canals, has more details on our website here. And for those of you who prefer the small screen, don’t forget to tune in to the new series of Great Canal Journeys with Prunella Scales and Timothy West. Series 3 is currently showing on Sunday nights on Channel 4 and episodes are also available to view here on the Channel 4 website.
Thank you for volunteering with the Canal & River Trust. We look forward to seeing you out on the waterways soon!

Best wishes
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