



PRESS RELEASE

12 September

Local community encouraged to visit Hayes canal for annual Festival

People in west London are being encouraged to find out more about their local canal at the Hayes Canal Festival, on Sunday 24 September.

The event is being held by the Canal & River Trust, the charity that cares for the Grand Union Canal which runs through the town.

Among the activities on offer for people to try are boat trips, canoeing, paddle boarding and fishing. There will also be live music, children's entertainment, displays, food and stalls.

The Festival, now in its fourth year, will be running from 12noon-5pm on the Grand Union Canal by High Point Village adjacent to Station Road Bridge.

Jeannette Brookes, Canal & River Trust's community & engagement manager, says: "We're delighted that so many people are coming together to showcase the huge amount of activities available to try on the canal. The canals in London are arguably more popular now than in anytime in living memory. We're seeing increasing numbers of people using them to exercise along, boat or try water sports like paddle boarding and canoeing. This is a great chance to try some of those activities for free. In previous years thousands of people and their families have come along and joined in the fun, and I definitely encourage you to pay us a visit this year."

David Brough, Chairman of Hillingdon Canal Partnership, said: "The Grand Union Canal runs through the centre of Hayes town centre but people could still be making more of it than they currently are. The Festival is all about raising awareness of the canal and encouraging more people to use and enjoy it in a variety of different ways – from walking to cycling, boating to fishing, watching wildlife to running or just simply relaxing and escaping the hustle and bustle of everyday life."

The event is being supported by Access Self Storage, Hayes Town Partnership, Inland Waterways Association, High Point Village, Hillingdon Community Trust and Minuteman Press, Uxbridge.

For more information about the Festival and the Canal & River Trust, including how to volunteer or donate to the charity visit canalrivertrust.org.uk/

Ends

Notes to editors

For more media information contact joe.coggins@canalrivertrust.org.uk 020 3204 4410

The Canal & River Trust is the guardian of 2,000 miles of historic waterways across England and Wales, caring for the nation's third largest collection of listed structures, as well as museums, archives, and hundreds of important wildlife sites. We believe that *living waterways transform places and enrich lives* and our role is to make sure there is always a place on your doorstep where you can escape the pressures of everyday life, stretch your legs and simply feel closer to nature. www.canalrivertrust.org.uk / @CanalRiverTrust / @crtcomms