



PRESS RELEASE

26 September

Thousands turn out to enjoy Hayes Canal Festival

Over 2,500 people attended this weekend's Hayes Canal Festival on Sunday 24 September, with attendees enjoying a range of water-based activities and entertainment on the Grand Union Canal.

The event, run by the Canal & River Trust, the charity that cares for the waterway, aimed to introduce people to everything the canal has to offer.

Activities included boat trips, canoeing, paddle boarding and fishing. There was also live music, dance, children's entertainment, displays, food and stalls.

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

Jeannette Brooks, Canal & River Trust's community & engagement manager, says: "We're delighted with the support the community gave to the Festival, it was great to see people paddle boarding, dancing, fishing and on boat trips. The atmosphere on the day was absolutely brilliant. I'd like to thank everyone who came to the event, and the local organisations who took part and made it such a great day. Hopefully those attending will be inspired to use the canal more regularly in future and help us make it thrive for future generations."

David Brough, Chairman of Hillingdon Canal Partnership, said: "It was great to see so many people, of all ages and backgrounds, enjoying the Festival. The aim of the Festival is to raise awareness of the canal, which runs right through the middle of the town. Not everyone knows it is here, or that there is so many ways to enjoy it. Hopefully, the weekend has been a helpful introduction and people and their families will continue to make the most of everything the canal has to offer."

The event was supported by Access Self Storage, Hayes Town Partnership, Inland Waterways Association, Highpoint 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: www.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