



## **PRESS RELEASE**

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11 December 2017

# **CHARITY OFFERS FREE ENTRY TO CANAL MUSEUM THIS DECEMBER AS PART OF UK-WIDE THANK YOU TO NATIONAL LOTTERY PLAYERS**

The Canal & River Trust, the charity that looks after the Canal Museum at Stoke Bruerne, is inviting people to enjoy a free visit to the museum as part of a nationwide campaign to thank National Lottery players.

The museum is housed in a restored corn mill at the top of a flight of canal locks on the Grand Union Canal and has been opened to the public since 1963. Visitors to the museum, which is run by Canal & River Trust staff and volunteers, can follow the story of Britain's canals, from the great engineers and navvies who created them to the boat families, leggers and lock keepers who lived and worked on the canal.

The Canal & River Trust will be opening its doors between the 13 and 17 December between 11am and 3pm with entry to the museum being for free to anyone who brings a National Lottery ticket with them when they visit.

The Stoke Bruerne Canal Partnership recently received £67,000 from the Heritage Lottery Fund to pay for a canal side interpretation project which aims to tell the historic significance of the site to visitors to the waterway.

Louise Stockwin, museum manager at the Canal & River Trust said: "Stoke Bruerne is a wonderful place to visit throughout the year and we are delighted we can offer free visits to the museum to the supporters of the National Lottery.

"Once you've had a trip around the museum you can pop to the café and enjoy a warming cup of tea and a slice of delicious cake before heading off for a nice stroll along the canal."

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Patron: H.R.H. The Prince of Wales. Canal & River Trust is a charitable company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales with company number 7807276 and registered charity number 1146792, registered office address: First Floor North, Station House, 500 Elder Gate, Milton Keynes MK9 1BB

Ros Kerslake, Chief Executive of the Heritage Lottery Fund, said: “December is a wonderful time to experience the UK’s rich, diverse and exciting heritage, which has been transformed by more than £7bn National Lottery funding since 1994. This is a small gesture of thanks and a way of giving something back to the people who buy tickets.”

For information about the Heritage Lottery Fund *Gem in the Landscape* project, visit [www.canalrivertrust.org.uk/pocklington-canal](http://www.canalrivertrust.org.uk/pocklington-canal)

For details of how to support the Canal & River Trust by volunteering visit: <https://canalrivertrust.org.uk/volunteer/opportunities>

## Ends

**For more media information contact:** Sarah Rudy, National Press Officer T: 01908 302 582 M: 07788 691 219 or email [sarah.rudy@canalrivertrust.org.uk](mailto:sarah.rudy@canalrivertrust.org.uk)

## Notes to editors:

**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](http://www.canalrivertrust.org.uk) @CanalRiverTrust @crtcomms

**Heritage Lottery Fund** - Thanks to National Lottery players, we invest money to help people across the UK explore, enjoy and protect the heritage they care about - from the archaeology under our feet to the historic parks and buildings we love, from precious memories and collections to rare wildlife. [www.hlf.org.uk](http://www.hlf.org.uk). Follow us on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) and use #NationalLottery and #HLFsupported.