



PRESS RELEASE

3 January

People in Alperton urged to join 'Towpath Taskforce' to improve Grand Union Canal this new year

Alperton residents are being encouraged to roll up their sleeves and help improve their local canal this new year.

The Canal & River Trust, the charity that cares for the Grand Union Canal, is on the lookout for volunteers to join its Towpath Taskforce – a regular group that gets out by the water to clear vegetation, tidy the towpath and paint bridges.

Taskforce volunteers will be supported by staff from the Trust, who want to spruce up the waterway so it's in top condition for the thousands of boaters, walkers, runners and cyclists who use it.

There is an event on Saturday, 6 January, that will include a litter pick and tidying up vegetation. Trust staff will be meeting volunteers on the towpath behind Sainsbury's (HA0 1PF) at 10am, with the day running till 3pm.

Jack Newman, Canal & River Trust volunteer leader, says: "The Grand Union Canal is a really unique place, a bit of an antidote to the busy streets of the city. We want to keep it in top condition and as a charity we rely on local people's support to do this. It's amazing how much can be achieved when people help us out. Volunteering with us is a great way to get outdoors, do some physical work in a nice location, and meet like-minded people. So if you are looking for a challenge this new year, then do come and join us."

No experience is required to join the Towpath Taskforce, you just need to be willing to get stuck in. Please wear old clothes appropriate for the weather conditions (e.g. waterproof jacket, warm layers) and sturdy footwear or wellies.

For more information about the canal, the Towpath Taskforce events and the Canal & River Trust visit www.canalrivertrust.org.uk.

Ends

Notes to editors

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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