



Canal &  
River Trust

## PRESS RELEASE

9 April

### Enfield river to become site for artistic exchange

People throughout Enfield are being encouraged to help shape a new arts project that aims to bring creative and cultural projects to the River Lee.

*Hinterlands* will launch this April and is being run by the Canal & River Trust, the charity that cares for the Lee, as part of its Arts on the Waterways programme.

Between late April and early June, *Hinterlands* will offer local communities in Enfield and children and young people from Oasis Academy and Prince of Wales Primary School, the opportunity to take part in creative river walks and boat trips, performance, spoken word and filmmaking activities with renowned and local artists.

Residents are also invited to share their ideas on how to make the river in Enfield a warm and welcoming space, by taking part in a 'Talkaoke' - a fun and informal mobile chat-show and platform for creative exchange, led by arts collective The People Speak. Talkaoke will be visiting Palace Gardens Shopping Centre in Enfield Town, **on 21<sup>st</sup> April (12-4pm)** and Forty Hall Village Fete, **13<sup>th</sup> May (11am-5pm)**.

*Hinterlands* is a national arts programme that aims to reinvigorate five areas of canal and river where there is low engagement with the waterways and the arts. In addition to the project in Enfield the other locations are: Sheffield/Doncaster; Leicester; Smethwick/Sandwell; and Pontypool/Torfaen in Wales.

Tim Eastop, producer of the Canal & River Trust's *Arts on the Waterways* programme says: "The River Lee is a fantastic place, loved by those who know it, but still undiscovered by many. It's a wonderful environmental space, and it has the potential to be a great cultural space as well, a place that brings communities together and swells people's pride in the area. This creative consultation is aimed at giving local people, working with artists and the Canal & River Trust, an opportunity to come together and express themselves. The river is such a perfect canvas for creativity and we can't wait to hear what ideas people come up with. Everyone is welcome, anyone can get involved and we hope as many people as possible take part."

If you would like to know more about the *Hinterlands* programme in Enfield and get involved either as a participant or partner, please contact creative producer, Clare Moloney: [clare.moloney@canalrivertrust.org.uk](mailto:clare.moloney@canalrivertrust.org.uk)

For more information about *Hinterlands* and the Canal & River Trust, including how to volunteer or donate, visit

<https://canalrivertrust.org.uk/enjoy-the-waterways/waterway-arts/hinterlands>

## Ends

### Notes to Editors

For more media information contact [joe.coggins@canalrivertrust.org.uk](mailto:joe.coggins@canalrivertrust.org.uk) 020 3204 4410

*Hinterlands* is conceived by the Canal & River Trust as part its Arts on the Waterways programme and is funded by Arts Council England and the Arts Council of Wales. The funding supports five freelance creative producers to carry out initial research, curate an artist-led programme of creative consultation activities in the target areas, and develop an ambitious touring arts programme along waterways. Building on the success of socially engaged arts programmes such as *Super Slow Way* and *The Ring*, the producers will nurture compelling and relevant artistic themes within these underserved areas, helping to make lives better by water and inspire reimagined futures.

The Canal & River Trust is a registered charity formed in 2012 to care for 2,000 miles of historic inland waterways across England and Wales. We work in partnership with others to support the health and wellbeing of millions of local people, offering sustainable routes which connect communities, and providing access to learning and education for thousands of children and young people. We believe that *living waterways transform places and enrich lives* and the role of the Trust is to ensure 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.