



PRESS RELEASE

10th May 2018

GET CLOSER TO NATURE IN POCKLINGTON THIS SPRING/SUMMER

Find out about the wildlife that lives in Pocklington this spring/summer with a series of events hosted by Canal & River Trust as part of the Pocklington Canal bicentenary celebrations.

The charity, which cares for 2,000 miles of waterways across England and Wales, has organised four nature-themed sessions that are suitable for all ages, taking place between May and July. They will give people the chance to find out about the flora and fauna of the area, from flowers and trees to birds and bees.

The events are:

- **Brilliant Birds**
Monday 28th May, 10am to 12noon at Melbourne Arm
Games, activities and birdwatching to help you find out more about the area's feathered friends. Learn how to identify birds by their songs and plumage. This is a family-friendly workshop.
£2 per person (adults accompanying a child go free); book at <http://pocklingtoncanal.eventbrite.com/>
- **Plant and Tree Identification Walk**
Sunday 10th June, 10am to 12noon at Melbourne Arm
Join naturalist Phil Taylor for a guided walk along Pocklington Canal and learn how to identify common species by looking at flowers, leaves and bark. You'll also learn about the importance of local species to the ecosystem. This event is suitable for accompanied children but is aimed at adults.
£2 per person; book at <http://pocklingtoncanal.eventbrite.com/>
- **Go Wild – Nature Open Day**
Sunday 24th June, 10am to 4pm at Melbourne Arm
Learn about the wildlife of the Pocklington Canal through guided walks and talks from specialists and activities for the family. Build your own bird box to take away. There will be the chance to get on the water aboard a kayak, and the *New Horizons* boat trips will be running all day.

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Free event; drop in any time.

- **Invertebrate Identification Workshop**
Sunday 15th July, 10am to 12noon at Melbourne Arm
A practical introduction to the world of invertebrates, where you'll get to know fascinating creatures such as bees, butterflies and beetles. Learn basic identification skills, examine living and preserved specimens, and try out various techniques including sweep-netting and pitfall trapping. This event is aimed at adults and isn't suitable for small children.
£2 per person; book at <http://pocklingtoncanal.eventbrite.com/>

Lizzie Dealey, Pocklington Canal project officer at Canal & River Trust, said: "When you stop and look it's amazing to discover how many species of plant and animal live in, on or beside Pocklington Canal. We know lots of people enjoy walking along the towpath as it helps them feel happier and healthier, and these sessions will help them find out more about the local wildlife and learn some practical identification skills that they can use along the way."

To find out more about the Pocklington Canal bicentenary celebrations and how the Canal & River Trust cares for the waterway, visit: <https://canalrivertrust.org.uk/places-to-visit/pocklington>

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For further information, images, and interviews, please contact:

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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.

Find out more about our work at: www.canalrivertrust.org.uk