

PRESS RELEASE

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New towpath for River Lee in Clapton

A half-mile stretch of towpath along the River Lee in Clapton has been given a makeover to provide a better surface for the thousands of people who use it each year.

The project has been a partnership between the Canal & River Trust – the charity that cares for river – and euNetworks, a UK and European bandwidth infrastructure provider. euNetworks completed the improvements as part of their work to install fibre optic cables under the towpath from Dobb’s Weir to Stratford.

The newly widened surface runs from the Lea Rowing Club to Markfield Park and has ridden the towpath of potholes and reduced the risk of puddles forming. The towpath is used every day by boaters, runners and cyclists, as well as teams from the nearby Lea Valley Rowing Club.

Ros Daniels, Canal & River Trust regional director, said: “We’re delighted that the towpath has been resurfaced. It makes a much better route for everyone who uses it. We were really pleased to work with the local community to ensure the work took place, and a big thanks to euNetworks who really got onboard with what was needed and adapted their plans to make these vital improvements.

“The River Lee is a beautiful location. It’s a home to people and wildlife and just a wonderful place to escape the busy streets. We know from other locations that whenever we’re able to make improvements then it can really benefit people who use the towpath and water. We hope this is the case with this project and would certainly recommend a trip down to the water to anyone who has not yet tried it.”

Gary Jordan, Chief Operations Officer from euNetworks, said: “The infrastructure we install is important to the digital economy. When we undertake these development projects we strive to work closely with the community to also deliver direct improvements. The Canal & River Trust were key in making this project a success, and they do fantastic work maintaining the canal ways for all to enjoy.”

For more information about the Canal & River Trust visit canalrivertrust.org.uk

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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

To learn about euNetworks go to eunetworks.com

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Notes to editors

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The Canal & River Trust cares for and brings to life 2,000 miles of canals and river navigations across England & Wales. We believe waterways have the power to make a **difference to people's lives and that spending time by water can make us all healthier and happier**. By bringing communities together to make a difference to their local waterway, we are creating places and spaces that can be used and enjoyed by everyone, every day. www.canalrivertrust.org.uk @CanalRiverTrust @crtcomms

There are over 400 miles of fibre optic cables buried beneath the Trust's towpaths across the country, providing vital services to communities such as phone and internet connections. The Trust reinvests the money it receives for providing access to the towpath back into maintaining and improving the waterways.