

PRESS RELEASE

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CANAL CHARITY MAKES CANOEING EASIER AND SAFER ON THE LLANGOLLEN CANAL

Canoeing on the Llangollen Canal is set to become easier and safer thanks to a new canoe guide and three new slipways created by Glandŵr Cymru, the Canal & River Trust in Wales.



Canoeists are increasingly joining the thousands of people who each year enjoy visiting the Pontcysyllte Aqueduct and Llangollen Canal World Heritage Site, which is cared for by the Trust.

Y Lanfa, Gofilon, Y Fenni, Sir Fynwy, NP7 9NY The Wharf, Govilon, Abergavenny, Monmouthshire, NP7 9NY

T 0207 985 7263 E press.office@canalrivertrust.org.uk W www.canalrivertrust.org.uk Twitter @CanalRiverTrust

Patron: H.R.H. The Prince of Wales. Glandwr Cymru 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

This stunning 11 mile stretch of waterway is one of the busiest and most popular canals in the country. Protecting the canal banks, looking after the wildlife and making sure everyone stays safe and happy is a key priority for the charity.

In a project funded by Natural Resources Wales and public donations to the Trust, two new canoe slipways have been constructed at the top end of the canal close to the Horseshoe Falls at Llantysilio. These provide free access to canoeists to enter and exit the Llangollen Canal and also link into the fast-flowing and more challenging River Dee.

Further down on a canal bank opposite the Llangollen Pavilion near the town centre, a third canoe access point has been created for organised groups only, by advance agreement. Email the local Canal & River Trust office at enguiries.northwalesborders@canalrivertrust.org.uk.

Nicola Lewis-Smith, Enterprise Manager with the Trust, explained: "Canoeing is growing in popularity on the Llangollen Canal and it's great to see more people out enjoying the beautiful waterway. The 11 mile World Heritage Site takes you across two countries, along two aqueducts and through two tunnels – it would be hard to find a more interesting and spectacular journey.

"We believe these new canoe slipways will help to stop bank erosion at the busiest locations and make it easier for less experienced canoeists to enter the water.

"We have also produced a new canal canoe guide and map which offer top tips on paddling along the waterway safely. With so many boaters, walkers, anglers and canoeists all using the same space it can get a little congested at times, so we appeal to everyone to treat the environment and other people with respect."

Nick Thomas, Natural Resources Wales Operations Manager said: "The Llangollen Canal and river Dee are great places for people to enjoy being active outdoors with all the health benefits that this can bring.

"This project will help ensure safe, well managed and responsible access to the waterways by canoeists, which will benefit other recreational users and local wildlife as well."

You can download the free canoe guide "Paddle the right way" from the Canal & River Trust website. Versions are available in both English and Welsh. Leaflets are also available from the Trevor Basin visitor centre.

For more information about the Llangollen Canal and the Canal & River Trust, including how to volunteer and donate, visit www.canalrivertrust.org.uk.

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Notes to editors

Glandŵr Cymru, the Canal & River Trust in Wales, cares for Wales' historic canals, made up of the Swansea, Llangollen, Montgomery and Monmouthshire & Brecon canals. Our canals are a haven for people and wildlife and a national treasure. Built over 200 years ago as part of the world's first industrial revolution, the waterways continue to play an important part in the life of Wales today, making an annual contribution of £34m and supporting 800 jobs in local businesses.

Canal & River Trust cares for 2,000 miles of canals, rivers and docks across England and Wales. It is our job to care for this wonderful legacy – holding it in trust in perpetuity and giving people a greater role in the running of their local waterways.

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