

PRESS RELEASE

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CANAL CHARITY GOES QUACKERS WITH SECOND INTERNATIONAL DUCK RACE - OVER CHIRK AQUEDUCT

The Canal & River Trust charity is to host its second international, cross-border duck race over Chirk Aqueduct on Sunday 7 October.

Competitors do not need to register in advance but simply arrive at Chirk Basin, near Wrexham, on the day of the race from 10.30am and register their name against a duck number.

Chirk's stunning 70 feet high aqueduct, built by Thomas Telford more than 200 years ago, marks the boundary between England and Wales and is part of the Trust's impressive 11mile Pontcysyllte Aqueduct and Llangollen Canal World Heritage Site.

The event, jointly organised by Wrexham County Council, is free but competitors will be invited to make a donation to the well-being and waterways charity Canal & River Trust, which cares for 2,000 miles of the nation's canals, and Nightingale House Hospice, which provides the ducks.

Trust mascot Vinnie the Vole will wave off the duck race at 11.15am from the Welsh side of the aqueduct and join spectators in cheering on the ducks as they float 710 feet over the aqueduct to England, with the help of a few kayakers.

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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

Ani Sutton, Canal & River Trust Development Manager, said: “Last year’s duck race was a great success, attracting more 150 people on this rural site, and this year we hope it will be even more popular. It’s a fabulous way to showcase Chirk Aqueduct which is part of the wonderful Pontcysyllte Aqueduct and Canal World Heritage Site.

“We know from research that people who visit the canal are healthier and happier so what better way to get out having fun than taking part in a duck race.”

First prize for the winner is a family ticket to Chirk Castle. Parking at Chirk Basin is limited so visitors are asked to walk or cycle to the site and use the event as an opportunity to explore the wider World Heritage Site.

For more information about visiting the Llangollen Canal or how to volunteer or donate to the Canal & River Trust, check out www.canalrivertrust.org.uk or call the customer services team on 0303 040 4040.

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For further media requests please contact:

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Notes to Editors

The Canal & River Trust cares for and brings to life 2,000 miles of canals and rivers 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.

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