



The North West Canal Restoration Showcase Moves to the Anderton Boat Lift

With the 1903 built steamship the “Danny” as once again the centre piece , the successful waterway restoration showcase held in its present form last September in Liverpool’s Albert Dock complex, will now take place at the Anderton Boat Lift on the weekend of August 22nd and 23rd 2020.

The Chester and Merseyside Branch of the Inland Waterways Association (IWA) will partner with Canal & River Trust (C&RT) and volunteers from the “Danny” to put on an even more impressive show aimed at bringing the benefits of restored vibrant waterways to both enthusiasts and general public alike.

In addition to those societies invited to have stands last year , six more restoration projects have been invited to attend those being Burslem Port (Stoke) , Uttoxeter Canal, Stafford Link, Hollinwood, Stockport and Plas Kynaston (Llangollen Canal). In total some 15 societies have been invited plus the IWA and “Danny” stands.

Giving even greater appeal to the event, the IWA will be hosting a boat gathering on the Weaver and the River Weaver Navigation Society annual cruise will include the showcase in its week long itinerary.

The event will be focussed around the Weaver waterfront and admittance once again will be free whilst currently the team are looking at ideas to attract an even wider audience including music and refreshments. It is planned by C&RT to increase public access to the site with another gate and footbridge over the canal storm weir overflow at the river mooring level adjacent to the Anderton Nature Reserve.

Jim Forkin, C&M Branch Chairman (IWA) , said “Despite atrocious weather on the second day of the event in 2019 it was successful with some 500 plus people coming on board the “Danny”, many of whom had little understanding of the value of a restored waterway. The Anderton Boat lift as a venue for our next event will give us a lot more space to expand the event and hopefully to bring the economic and well being benefits of restored waterways to local communities”

Kevin Lincoln (Attractions & Destinations Manager) said “ We are delighted at C&RT to be working on this event with the Inland Waterways Association and the team at the “Danny”, putting together two icons of the waterway world and thereby combining the ideal exhibition space on board the ship against the magnificent backdrop of the boat lift. The event will demonstrate to the public what has been saved from the nation’s heritage and what is now being achieved by these wonderful voluntary organisations for all to enjoy”

Jim Forkin, Chairman, IWA Chester & Merseyside Branch

Notes for Editors

About the Inland Waterways Association

The Inland Waterways Association is the membership charity that works to protect and restore the country's 6,500 miles of canals and rivers. IWA is a national organisation with a network of volunteers and branches who deploy their expertise and knowledge to work constructively with navigation authorities, government and other organisations. The Association also provides practical and technical support to restoration projects through its expert Waterway Recovery Group