PRESS RELEASE

LNBP at Braunston celebrates ‘first fiver’ 35 years on!

A Braunston-based charity has celebrated its 35th birthday by reliving the ‘first fiver’ donations which heralded its beginnings with the social media trend of donating your first new-look five pound note to charity.





LNBP at Braunston, formerly known as the London Narrow Boat Project, are a non-profit charity who offer community groups, uniformed organisations and schools the opportunity to experience life on the Oxford and Grand Union Canals via short break canal boat holidays and trips.

The organisation, which has two canal boats operating during March to November from Braunston near Rugby and Daventry, was started in October 1981 when two teachers and a Scout master – Richard Brierley, Keith Standley and Alan Till, recognised the benefit of introducing children and young people, particularly from the inner cities, to the enjoyment of canals and inland waterways. At the time all three committed to donating five pounds into a piggy bank to kick-start the project. Thirty five years and over 2600 trips later, it all happened again at LNBP at Braunston’s recent birthday celebrations.

(Continued)

(Continued)

Inspired by the recent '#first fiver' social media trend of donating your first new five pound note to charity, the Executive Committee team of LNBP at Braunston recreated history by each donating a new £5 note to the organisation's Bursary Fund.

As well as commemorating the anniversary of the organisation's founding with the 'First Fiver' donations, a birthday cake was made for invited guests to enjoy during the celebrations.

Derek Edwards, Chairman of LNBP at Braunston, said: "The timing of our birthday celebrations and the release of the new £5 note could not have been any better.

"We have always been conscious to remember our beginnings all those years ago, and it seems ironic that 35 years on from our first founders donating their 'first fiver', history with the help of social media has repeated itself again. It is as if it was meant to happen".

LNBP at Braunston, who were once again Charity Partner's at this year Crick Boat Show and Waterways Festival, set up a Bursary Fund over 30 years ago to help those groups interested in a canal boating holiday experience but may not necessarily be in a position to afford it. The Fund is financed by membership to the organisation, a variety of fundraising and through the kind generosity of donors.

Edwards added, "Whilst many of us running the project are now getting older, we hope our donations and others will continue to see the LNBP at Braunston welcome even more groups and schools in years to come, as well as potential new volunteers to its operation."

For more information about LNBP at Braunston, and to find out more about the groups they welcome and also check availability for 2017, go to their website at www.lnbp.co.uk

-ENDS-

Notes to Editors and Reporters

- LNBP at Braunston, formerly known as the London Narrow Boat Project, is a registered charity and non-profit making voluntary organisation.
- The organisation was founded in 1981 by a group of teachers, youth workers and canal enthusiasts who recognised the benefit of introducing children and young people - particularly from the inner cities, to the enjoyment of canals and inland waterways.
  To coincide with their 25th Anniversary, LNBP at Braunston was awarded The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service (The MBE for volunteer groups) in 2006.

- Their two canal boats, called Guinevere and Lancelot, are based at the historic junction of the Oxford and Grand Union Canals at Braunston, Northants, located three miles from Daventry and eight miles from Rugby (Warwickshire)

- LNBP at Braunston extends an invitation to all local and regional media and press contacts to enjoy a free-of-charge trip out on either of their community boats in 2017, in lieu of potential features and coverage.

  If this is something of interest, please do not hesitate to contact and they will be pleased to make suitable arrangements.

Press/Media contact on behalf of LNBP at Braunston

Karl Quinney Copywriting
(Rugby, Warwickshire)

Telephone: 07775 883 102
Email: karl@karlquinney.co.uk