



September's Canal News - Judith Paris

September is a wonderful month to visit the canal. The summer holidays are over, the crowds of visitors have gone home and you can wander at your own pace along the towpaths and explore the woodland and lakes that compliment the waterways.

We have two events this month to help you discover or re-discover the Nantes to Brest Canal, both on the same weekend, the 17th and 18th September. This is the national Patrimony celebration in France or *Fête de Patrimoine*. On Saturday 17th the Friends of the Canal in 22 will be holding an event in Gouarec next to the lock to celebrate the canals of France. The sailors, ecologists, actors, writers and poets will be reflecting on our past and our future in an often irreverent way.

'Forgotten Canal ways Revived Canals' runs from 12 midday to 6pm on Saturday 17th of September. Entry is free and there will be a food stall and bar.

Our friends Save Victor will also be celebrating the *Fête de Patrimoine* in Finistère on Sunday 18th September. After a five year struggle their members succeeded in the Herculean task of unearthing a 100 year old freight canal boat that had been abandoned when it broke it's back in a flood. The 30 metre long 'Victor' was then craned out of the mud and has place of honour on the banks of the canal at 29120 Goazec. Part testament to the great days of the Canal and part party venue the 'Victor' will be the centre of a programme of activities on Sunday 18th starting at 8:30 in the morning with a cross-country race followed by a Car Boot sale and market and a four course lunch served under the awning of 'Victor' for just 12€. The afternoon will be filled with games, music and sea shanties with a paying bar and crêpes for tea.

So, see you on the banks of the canal.

