

RIVER TIMES

Summer 2018

BERMONDSEY • DEPTFORD • GREENWICH LEWISHAM • SHADWELL • WAPPING











This is the latest issue of Tideway's community newsletter, produced especially for our neighbours in the eastern section of the project.

This newsletter will feature upto-date news on our events, our progress and many other exciting things happening in your area.

GET IN TOUCH





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WELCOME MESSAGE

Thank you for picking up the latest edition of the River Times, your update on London's new 'super sewer'.

Work is well under way at our sites in the eastern section of the Tideway project as we prepare to begin tunnelling next year.

At our Chambers Wharf site in Bermondsey, we hit a key milestone in the spring with the completion of the shaft walls using the state-of-the-art electric 'hydrofraise'.

We also completed work on the shaft walls at Greenwich Pumping Station and have kicked off the works at our site on Deptford Church Street, too – you can read more about this on page 5.

We're also busy volunteering and improving the environments in which we're working. You can read about our staff tackling plastic litter on the Thames foreshore (also on page 5) and inspiring the next generation of engineers (page 4).

You'll also read about our recent 'Oarsome Challenge' (page 6), which saw more than 100 rowers from Tideway row 11 miles down the Thames to raise money for the Shadwell Basin Outdoor Activity Centre, which does great work to improve the lives of young people through on-water activities.

My team and I are passionate about cleaning up the River Thames and leaving a legacy for Londoners.

I hope you enjoy reading about some of the ways we are working hard to do this, and we'd love to know your views, so please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Jim Avant, Delivery Manager

ABOUT US

London relies on a 150-year-old sewer system built for a population less than half its current size.

As a result, millions of tonnes of raw sewage overflow the system each year and end up in the River Thames.

That's where we come in...

We're building a 25km 'super sewer' under the Thames to intercept those nasty overflows and clean up our river.

The project will also bring thousands of new jobs, as well as new public space, creating a better environment for Londoners.





LOCAL NEWS

Watch out for a new three-part BBC Two documentary about Tideway, 'The Five Billion Pound Super Sewer', due to air in the autumn

NEW PLAYGROUND NOW OPEN IN KING EDWARD MEMORIAL PARK



A new playground built by Tideway for children and families in King Edward Memorial Park in Shadwell is now open.

The bespoke play equipment was designed to enhance its setting, using Portland Stone and curved red brick walls to echo the historic Rotherhithe tunnel 'Rotunda'.

Developed with the London Borough of Tower Hamlets (LBTH), the playground embodies Play England's best practice recommendations for 'inspiring play spaces'.

The playground has been designed by accredited play safety specialists to offer challenge and risk to young people while allowing them to play safely, and has been approved by LBTH.



PUPILS VISIT DEPTFORD CREEK FOR BRITISH SCIENCE WEEK

Children from Wyborne Primary School in southeast London visited Deptford Creek during Science Week to learn about Tideway.

Barbara Lantz and Ian Bentley, who work on the eastern section of the Tideway project, fielded enthusiastic questions from the group at the Creekside Discovery Centre in Deptford.

Sophie Amos, from the centre, said: "Thank you all for contributing to British Science Week at Creekside – we hope you enjoyed it as much as we did!"



LOCAL NEWS

SHAFT WALLS COMPLETE AT TIDEWAY BERMONDSEY SITE

A huge milestone for the Tideway project was reached in Bermondsey recently as the final 'diaphragm wall' panel was completed.

These panels make up the wall of the shaft at our Chambers Wharf site and are built 72 metres below ground.

The 36th and final panel was poured in April before the team began excavating the ground within the shaft.

An electrically-powered 'hydrofraise' was used in the construction of the panels, which significantly reduced noise and air pollution locally.

Around 35,000 tonnes of material was removed during excavation – all of which was removed from site by barge to reduce the number of lorries on local roads.

A hydrofraise was also used in Greenwich to build the shaft walls and is now working at Tideway's site in Deptford.



PLASTIC LITTER PROBLEM TACKLED



Discarded plastic dominated the Thames foreshore when Tideway volunteers attended for a litter-pick in the Spring.

More than a dozen volunteers were stunned to see the banks of the Isle of Dogs 'paved' with litter, most of which was plastic bags.

James Baker, a Civil Engineer at Chambers Wharf, said: "I was shocked. We live in one of the most advanced cities in the world, yet we pollute our river as if it were a bin.

"No amount of volunteering will remove it if we don't stop it in the first place, which is why I'm proud to be working on a project like Tideway."

The team found bottles, bags, bins, clothes and even a memorial wreath during the trip.



To find out how you can get involved with Thames21, go to thames21.org.

NEWS IN BRIEF



Two giant tunnel boring machines (TBMs) have been lowered 60m down the shaft at Kirtling Street in Battersea. The twin machines, Millicent and Ursula, will be used to dig the central section of the Thames Tideway Tunnel. Site Manager Paul Hallows said: "This is a massive milestone for us."

MAYOR VISITS CHAMBERS

Sadiq Khan, the Mayor of London, came to Tideway's Chambers Wharf site in Bermondsey to launch an

initiative to help tackle the unemployment levels of young black men in London. The Mayor's Workforce Integration Initiative aims to address under-representation in London's workforce.

TIDEWAY GOES GREEN

Three sites in the eastern section of the project have switched to 'REGO'-backed energy suppliers (renewable energy guarantees of origin), meaning all the energy used at these sites is from renewable sources.

TIDEWAY NEWS

£36,000 RAISED IN 11 MILE THAMES ROWING CHALLENGE



One hundred and twenty eight rowers working on the Tideway project rowed 11 miles down the Thames to raise money for four charities, including Shadwell Basin Outdoor Activity Centre (SBOAC).

Sixteen teams of eight set off from Fulham Reach Boat Club and rowed through central London before finishing at SBOAC.

Most of the money raised will pay for a new full-time fundraising officer for the centre, ensuring sustainable future income, with the rest split between London-based charities Drive Forward Foundation, South London Cares and the Single Homeless Project.





THOUSANDS OF COCKLES AND WINKLES FOUND

Thousands of cockles and winkles have been unearthed in the shaft at Chambers Wharf, leaving archaeologists puzzled about the 'unexpectedly high' concentration.

Archaeologists from the Museum of London

Archaeology (MOLA) had been working in the site of the shaft at Tideway's Bermondsey site when the discovery was made.

Antony Francis, MOLA Project Officer, explained: "We don't know whether they're dumped food waste, or whether they grew here naturally.

"There might have been a dock here that would have provided the right environment for them to thrive." A sample has been sent for testing.

Other finds included tobacco pipes, pottery and wooden 'revetments' – river wall structures on which it was still possible to read workers' marks written over a hundred years ago.



NEW TREES PLANTED IN DEPTFORD BY 999 CLUB

Tideway has planted more than 200 trees in London including a dozen more in Deptford as the charities Trees for Cities (TfC) and 999 Club teamed up with Tideway.

A number of trees must be removed due to Tideway's work across London, but we're committed to planting two for every one we remove during the project.

By the end of April, TfC and Tideway had planted 201 trees in London – the equivalent of those felled due to our works.

Tideway also works with the Deptford-based 999 Club, which works to support those who sleep rough or are vulnerably housed with assistance and advice as well as employment support.



And in April, the two charities came together as clients from the 999 Club worked to plant a dozen trees. Dahlia Parkinson, Employability Coordinator at 999 Club, said: "A huge thank you for inviting us to be part of the TfC activity. Everyone had a great time.

"They enjoyed the activity itself, along with the idea of giving back to the community in this way."

OPPORTUNITIES

At Tideway, we're always on the lookout for new people to join our team and are committed to recruiting from the boroughs in which we work.

Whether you're looking for work on site or in an office, we regularly have a wide variety of roles to fill, ranging from site operatives to communications officers.

If you're interested in working with us, get in touch and watch out for a Tideway jobs fair in your area.



To apply, and for the latest jobs in your area, go to www.tideway.london/about-us/jobs

MEET THE APPRENTICE

One in 50 of the 4,000 jobs the Tideway project will create will be an apprenticeship.



ELLIE BROOKES

Quantity SurveyorChambers Wharf, Bermondsey

Learned at Tideway

My personal skills have really developed at Tideway. The working world is so different from school and the change is massive, but Tideway has supported me through this transition. Being an apprentice, there is so much you need to take on board; you're learning something new every day, and I've developed skills to retain that knowledge and am able to reflect on it when I'm on a certain task. I have also become an ambassador for Thames21, the environmental charity with which Tideway works very closely.

Enjoyed at Tideway

Since starting my apprenticeship in October, I have participated in many events promoting the project and being an apprentice. I attended the SkillsLondon Excel Careers Fair and enjoy trying to encourage more young people to take the apprenticeship route as I think it is more effective than it used to be and would recommend it to anyone thinking about it. I never thought I would be in construction but here I am!

Future aspirations

After I finish my apprenticeship, I want to progress within quantity surveying and study it at university. Then I'm hoping to progress even further and complete my chartership.



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