

BATTERSEA • BLACKFRIARS • CHELSEA • VAUXHALL • WESTMINSTER

# RIVER TIMES

YOUR UPDATE ON LONDON'S SUPER SEWER

Barges remove equivalent of 55,000 lorry journeys from local roads Page 4



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

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

#### **GET IN TOUCH**



08000 30 80 80



helpdesk@tideway.london



www.tideway.london







@TidewayLondon



# WELCOME MESSAGE FROM VIV JONES

Another year has flown by and the central section of London's new super sewer is now truly taking shape. At the end of November Millicent, our westbound tunnel boring machine (TBM), completed her five-kilometre dig. This is a huge achievement, and we're delighted to be able to report it (page 6).

Ursula, our eastbound TBM, continues her journey deep beneath the Thames. She passed the Houses of Parliament and Westminster Bridge early in November and will complete her journey at Chambers Wharf, near Tower Bridge next year.

As part of the tunnelling process we bring tonnes of clay and earth to the surface. This is then sent to Kent where it is used to return land to agricultural use. In mid-October our 710th barge of tunnelling spoil left our jetty, marking 1 million tonnes of spoil moved by river. By doing this, we've kept the equivalent of 55,000 lorries off the roads (page 4).

Summer may seem but a distant memory now, but the change in seasons brought a pungent reminder as to why we're building the sewer. Back in autumn unexpectedly heavy rains caused the current sewer system to overflow, sending raw sewage directly into the Thames. Discharges from London's sewer network will be diverted to our tunnel when it's complete, keeping it out of the river.

And we're doing more than simply improving the capital's waterway. From skills and employment workshops at Brixton prison to monitoring plastic waste on the Thames foreshore, we're committed to leaving a positive legacy.

I hope you find this edition interesting and informative, and if you'd like to get in touch with us about anything, our contact information is opposite.

Viv Jones
Project Director

## **ABOUT US**

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

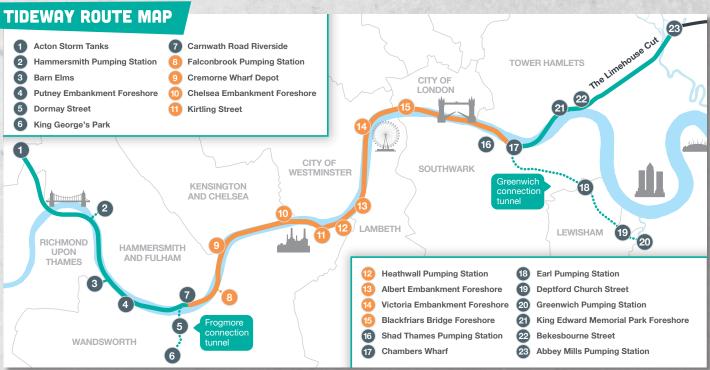
As a result, tens of millions of tonnes of raw sewage overflow the system each year and end up in the River Thames.

#### That's where we come in...

We're building a 25km 'super sewer' under the Thames to intercept those nasty spills 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.





# TIDEWAY HELPS CYCLISTS GEAR UP FOR WINTER

For the third year in a row, Tideway joined forces with the City of London's Active City Network and City of London Police to host a 'Clocks Go Back' safety event on Blackfriars Bridge.

Taking place during the first post-work commute after the clocks went back an hour, the event was aimed at encouraging cyclists to become more aware of the various dangers associated with travelling at night.

Accidents and collisions involving cyclists increase in frequency during commuting hours, and the injury numbers increase further when journeys are made in darkness.

During the event, hundreds of passing cyclists were given free emergency bike lights and high-vis vests to make them visible when cycling home.



The City of London Police were also marking and registering bikes for free as part of its initiative to reduce bike theft and assist in owner recovery.

## ONE MILLION TONNES OF SPOIL AND COUNTING

The team working on the Central section of the Thames Tideway Tunnel has now removed one million tonnes of spoil by barge from our Kirtling Street site in Battersea.

This milestone was achieved thanks to the efforts of those working with Millicent and Ursula, two of the project's main tunnel boring machines (TBMs).

Much of the spoil is sent to Rainham in Kent for beneficial reuse. By using the river, Tideway has removed the need for over 55,000 lorry movements to date.





### **LOCAL NEWS**

## ÜBER DIVERS

Divers working at Victoria Embankment Foreshore, Blackfriars Bridge Foreshore and Chelsea Embankment Foreshore have hit the milestone of completing 1,000 dives without encountering an incident.



The divers carry out various tasks essential to the project such as welding, mud-sucking, inspection work and assisting with a diverse range of construction tasks.

Visibility in the water is often nil, meaning divers must rely on touch and sound to manoeuvre themselves.

Alex Wood, Dive Supervisor, said: "I'd like to pass on my thanks and congratulations to all the site teams and support staff who have contributed to this fantastic achievement. Everyone has worked with enthusiasm, and we look forward to safely completing many more dives across the project."

#### BIG BOTTLE COUNT HIGHLIGHTS EXTENT OF THAMES LITTER PROBLEM

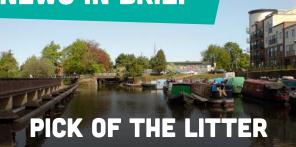
London's largest mass census of river plastic, the annual Big Bottle Count, has found that around 27,000 single-use plastic bottles have been removed from the Thames in the last year.

The latest count, organised by Environmental charity Thames21 and carried out by a group of dedicated volunteers, means that over 85,000 bottles have been removed from the capital's river since 2016.

The Big Bottle Count forms part of an ongoing monitoring programme run by Thames21, empowering Londoners to collect crucial plastic data and to champion the health of the Thames.



## **NEWS IN BRIEF**



Ten Tideway apprentices recently travelled to the Leaside Trust Canoe Club in Clapton to collect litter from a 2.5-mile stretch of the River Lea.

Nicole Jalas, Project Management Apprentice, said: "Activities like this get us away from our desks and sites and allow us to use our skills in a way which helps local communities and the environment."



Millicent has become the first tunnel boring machine on the Tideway project to complete her section of the super sewer.

Her 5km journey started in November 2018 and came to an end 12 months later. Ed Lewis, Project Manager for Kirtling Street, said: "This is a huge achievement as we work towards cleaning the River Thames."

### **TIDEWAY NEWS**

# 100 YEARS OF FEMALE FELLOWSHIP OF THE GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

2019 marks 100 years since the radmission of the first female geologists as Fellows of the Geological Society.

Founded in 1807, the Geological Society of London is the oldest geological society in the world. However, women were only able to become fellows following an amendment to the society's bylaws in May 1919.

Tideway has committed to gender equality within the lifetime of the project and works closely with the organisation Women into Construction (WiC) to increase the number of women on the project.



# HEAD ABOVE WATER SCULPTURE HIGHLIGHTS TIDEWAY'S COMMITMENT TO MENTAL HEALTH

A large wooden sculpture designed to raise awareness of mental health issues has been erected at Tideway's Northfleet site near Gravesend in Kent.

The artwork is named Head Above Water and was designed by furniture maker and sculptor Steuart Padwick. It is gender, age and ethnicity neutral, and is intended to stand as a symbol of hope, bravery, compassion and positivity for people who have come through—or are currently confronting—mental health issues.

Speaking after his sculpture was unveiled, Steuart said: "I'm thrilled. I hope Head Above Water continues to promote mental health awareness for years to come." Head Above Water previously stood at Gabriel's Wharf beside the Oxo Tower in central London.



# TIDEWAY'S AHOY! CAMPAIGN ENCOURAGES GREATER AWARENESS OF WATER SAFETY

Tideway's Ahoy! Campaign, designed to inform people about the changing shape of the River Thames and the increased number of barges working on the water, has gone live.

Huge banners now adorn a number of Tideway's locations, while leaflets and posters have also been created to spread the message.

Adam Smith, Tideway Creative Lead, said: "We wanted a message that was big and bold. We needed to ensure the message could reach river users while they were actually using the river, so keep your eyes open if you're travelling along the River Thames!"



## **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 lookout for a Tideway jobs fair in your area.

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



#### **MEET THE APPRENTICE**



#### **REBECCA DALGARNO**

**Assistant Quantity Surveyor** *Kirtling Street* 

#### What have you learned at Tideway?

Tideway is my first project, and that means I'm learning new lessons and skills every day. For example, I've become far better at personal organisation skills and time management. Balancing work alongside studying can be challenging due to deadlines and time constraints, but by focusing on organisation and planning I've been able to hit deadlines, no matter how challenging.

#### What have you enjoyed about being on Tideway?

I've enjoyed working on a project that has so many connections with the city. The fact that we are mostly working on the river that runs through the heart of the capital, and given that we're changing the shape of the Thames while cleaning it up, means we're leaving a legacy that people will understand and appreciate for years to come.

#### What are your aspirations for the future?

The next year and a half of university will be vital to ensure I achieve the grades that I want when I graduate in the summer of 2021. I will also be working towards membership to RICS soon after I finish my degree.

For more information about Tideway, our language interpretation service or for Braille and large print:

08000 30 80 80 www.tideway.london helpdesk@tideway.london





