



Tideway

# RIVER TIMES

YOUR UPDATE ON LONDON'S SUPER SEWER



## NHS Headley Court Hospital, Surrey

A partnership between



*Tideway employees' volunteering efforts*



# Tideway



VINCI  
INFRASTRUCTURE  
GRANDS PROJETS



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

This newsletter will feature up-to-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 JIM AVANT

**Hello and welcome to the latest edition of the River Times, your update on London's new super sewer. I hope it finds you well.**

Everyone reading this will be very aware that we are living through an unprecedented period. Many people have been compelled to stay at home, daily routines have altered dramatically and the vast majority of companies have had to adapt in any number of ways. Tideway is no exception.

We are still encouraging those who can operate from home to do so, but much of our work cannot be done remotely; the development of the Thames Tideway Tunnel requires workers to be located on our sites across London, but rest assured that everyone is very aware of the government's regulations. We have introduced strict social distancing rules, increased the number of handwashing stations and encouraged all staff to avoid using public transport at peak times if possible.

However, though we have only recently started operating again, we already have a number of positive stories to report. We have completed main channel dredging works at Deptford Creek, river wall diaphragm walling is back underway at King Edward Memorial Park and shaft services installation commenced at our Chambers Wharf site in Bermondsey.

I would also like to take a moment to say how proud I am of the employees that have been volunteering their time to make a positive difference during this difficult time.

If you have any questions about the work we are currently doing, how we are dealing with the coronavirus pandemic, or simply fancy getting in touch, please do so. We are always happy to talk to people interested about the project.

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

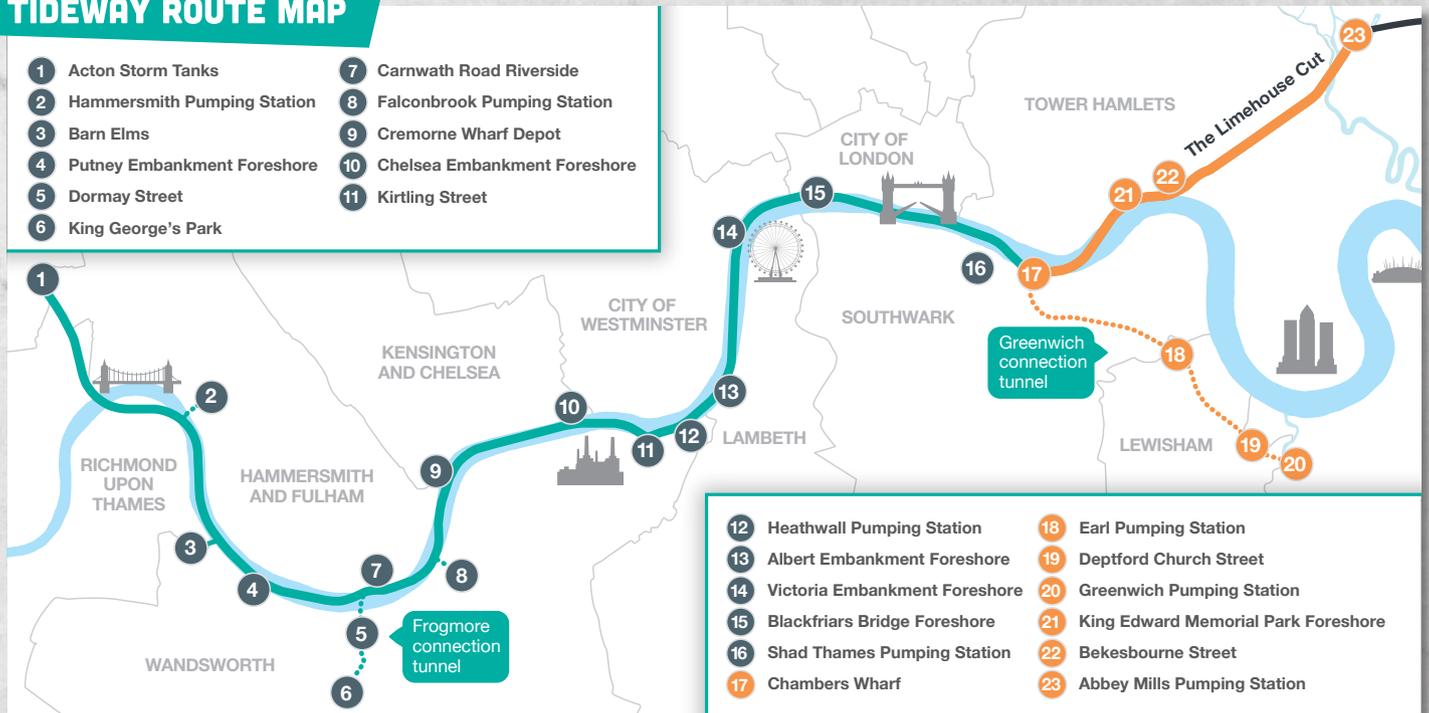
## *That's where we come in...*

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 ROUTE MAP





## TIDEWAY STAFF EMBRACE VOLUNTEERING INITIATIVES

**People from across the Tideway project have been donating their time and resources to help those most at risk during the COVID-19 crisis.**

Sarah Linney, Tideway Public Affairs Lead, has been volunteering for a charity called Brixton People's Kitchen, operating out of Brixton Recreation Centre, which supplies food packages to people in need in the wake of the coronavirus crisis.

Speaking about her efforts, Sarah said: "About 300 boxes of food are sent out each day from the Brixton hub and a similar number from the Vauxhall hub. It is a staggering amount of food that is going to people in need in just one London borough. It has really opened my eyes to the problem."

Rebecca Oyibo, East Community Relations Officer, previously worked for Public Health England as a

Business Engagement Officer, and in recent weeks she has been providing her own telephone support service to NHS staff working on the frontline.

Elsewhere, Major Dave Richmond, a Tideway Logistics and Traffic Manager and Major in the 3rd Battalion the Princess of Wales' Royal Regiment, formed part of the team that helped convert Headley Court in Surrey into a temporary hospital to treat patients suffering with COVID-19.

Headley Court, outside Leatherhead, was formerly used as a rehab centre for injured members of the Armed Forces. The premises had been earmarked for conversion into retirement homes, but when the pandemic struck, the decision was made to use it to provide extra capacity for the NHS.



## LOCAL NEWS

### REVEREND AND THE TUNNEL MAKERS

In February Revd Canon Michael Rawson ventured 200ft beneath London's streets to bless a statue of Saint Barbara, the patron saint of miners and tunnellers, as part of a tradition that is said to protect those working underground.



Revd Rawson, Sub Dean and Canon Pastor at Southwark Cathedral, conducted the ceremony at the bottom of a shaft at Chambers Wharf in Bermondsey. Many of the workers, and the machinery they will utilise to create the next section of the tunnel, were also blessed.

Rev Rawson said: "St Barbara was a third-century Christian martyr who rejected her father's paganism and embraced Christianity.

"As punishment, her father locked her up before lunging at her with a sword. Miraculously, Barbara was transported through a small opening in the stone and into a distant mountain gorge—hence becoming the patron saint of tunnelling."

During the service he also said he believes the Tideway project will 'make a huge difference to the life of the city and those who live here'.

### TALK TO ME SCULPTURE MOVED TO NEW HOME WITH TIDEWAY HELP

Talk to Me, a sculpture created by renowned artist Stuart Padwick to raise awareness of mental health, has been relocated to Cody Dock in east London with help from Tideway staff.



The sculpture, which was previously situated in King's Boulevard, King's Cross, made use of Tideway's site at Northfleet during its construction. Once fully installed at Cody Dock it will form part of The Line, London's first dedicated public art walk.

Stuart and the Northfleet team have formed a close working relationship in recent months, with one of Stuart's other pieces, Head Above Water, relocated to the site in 2019. The sculpture was modified slightly upon its arrival to give it the appearance of wearing a Tideway-coloured hard hat.

## NEWS IN BRIEF



### SELINA ARRIVES!

Tunnel boring machine Selina—the sixth and final TBM to be delivered to a Tideway site—has successfully completed her journey from Kehl in Germany to Chambers Wharf in Bermondsey. She will soon begin her 5.5km subterranean journey to Abbey Mills Pumping Station. TBM Selina is named in honour of Dr. Selina Fox, who founded the Bermondsey Medical Mission in 1904.



### URSULA ON THE MOVE AGAIN

Ursula, Tideway's eastbound tunnel boring machine (TBM) launched from Kirtling Street, has resumed her journey towards the Chambers Wharf site in Bermondsey.

She had been safely stopped at Blackfriars Bridge Foreshore since February. The planned stoppage allowed the team to reconfigure the machine and prepare for different ground conditions below London.

## TIDEWAY NEWS

### TIDEWAY SUPPORTS MATES IN MIND MENTAL HEALTH WORKSHOPS

Mates in Mind, a charitable programme which aims to improve and promote positive mental health in the workplace, is rolling out free mental health workshops for those most at risk during the global pandemic with the support of Tideway.



The workshops will offer advice around mental health, guidance to help small business owners navigate the weeks and months ahead, and information that will allow individuals to offer support to those around them.

Given the numerous challenges that individuals are currently facing due to the current COVID-19 crisis, Mates in Mind is doing what it can to help as many people as possible understand more about mental health issues, especially those related to the workplace, and provide guidance and support.

For the construction industry this is particularly critical given that the suicide rate within the sector is already three times the national average.

Tideway has donated £15,000 to Mates in Mind's COVID-19 Relief Fund Appeal to ensure these workshops can go ahead and to support those people that are struggling most.

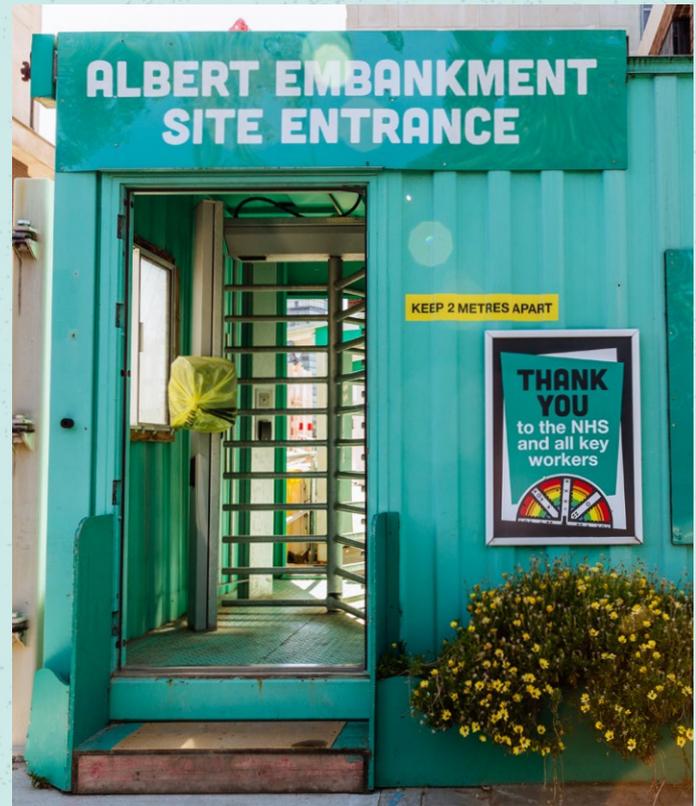
# SOCIAL DISTANCING ON OUR CONSTRUCTION SITES

Tideway has restarted tunnelling work after all but essential and safety-critical activities were put on hold at the start of the COVID-19 lockdown.

The reopening of sites across the project has only been possible after a series of comprehensive safety reviews enabled Tideway and the main works contractors to implement measures to protect workers and the wider community.

“It was absolutely right that we paused our activity at the start of the pandemic,” CEO Andy Mitchell said, in an official statement released as works began to resume across the project.

‘Green zones’ have been introduced to indicate areas where people can easily work while adhering to social distancing guidelines, while red areas require people to be closer than two metres apart.



An increased number of handwashing facilities have been introduced, additional hand sanitiser products have been delivered to all sites and numerous signs have been put up to reinforce the need for social distancing compliance.

Thorough assessments have been made to make sure staff can work as safely as possible with hygiene arrangements in place and the provision of additional PPE.

The heavy emphasis on health and safety throughout the project, including solid emergency response plans, gave Andy and the rest of the management team confidence that the project was prepared for any eventuality, even in the face of a crisis such as this.

# 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](http://www.tideway.london/careers)



# MEET THE APPRENTICE



## MARIE PURRMANN-CHARLES

**Construction Engineer Apprentice**  
*King Edward Memorial Park Foreshore*

### What have you learned at Tideway?

Since joining the project in September 2019 as a Construction Engineer Apprentice at King Edward Memorial Park I have also learned about the sheer magnitude and complexity of the project, from the amount of work it takes to select the correct door handle for the permanent works, to the massive machinery we use on a daily basis. Many of the tasks undertaken by my team are fascinating, complex and challenging even for the most experienced members of the team.

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

Working with skilled engineers and operatives on my site is a joy. Having them take the time to explain exactly what every piece of machinery does and helping me to understand how the construction methods are carried out is probably what I enjoy the most.

### What are your aspirations for the future?

I've always wanted to help people. Every day I'm learning about new and exciting projects and entire fields of engineering that I was not even aware existed. I hope I will be helping people while working in an engineering field.

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

08000 30 80 80

[www.tideway.london](http://www.tideway.london)

[helpdesk@tideway.london](mailto:helpdesk@tideway.london)



#SuperSewer



@TidewayLondon