



Tideway

Summer 2024

BATTERSEA • BLACKFRIARS • CHELSEA • VAUXHALL • WESTMINSTER

RIVER TIMES

YOUR UPDATE ON LONDON'S SUPER SEWER



A view of recently completed Chelsea Quay



Tideway



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

This newsletter features up-to-date news on our events, our progress and other exciting things happening in your area.

GET IN TOUCH

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WELCOME MESSAGE FROM EAMONN DOLAN

Work on this vital piece of infrastructure has been progressing well, and with construction complete, testing is underway to get the system operational later this year.

We're proud to say the super sewer has been successfully connected to the existing tunnel network, and now each local connection will be made across the route of the tunnel over the summer months.

In this edition you'll be excited to see that the soon to be opened Chelsea Quay was officially unveiled by none other than Her Royal Highness The Princess Royal. Read all about this on page four.

Also included is a link to Tideway's latest video on the completion of the last piece of major construction, when a 1,200-tonne concrete lid was lifted on top of a deep shaft at Abbey Mills Pumping Station. This can be found on page six.

Elsewhere in the edition, you'll see how construction is progressing with updates from our Cremorne Wharf and Albert Embankment sites.

On the back page you'll have the opportunity to learn more about the hard-working people who work on the project. Idris has been on a fantastic journey with us at Tideway and has some great insights to share.

Thank you for taking the time to read this edition. You can expect another newsletter next year when we'll have some exciting updates about the project as we get closer to completion.

Eamonn Dolan

Project Director, FLO Tideway Central

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...

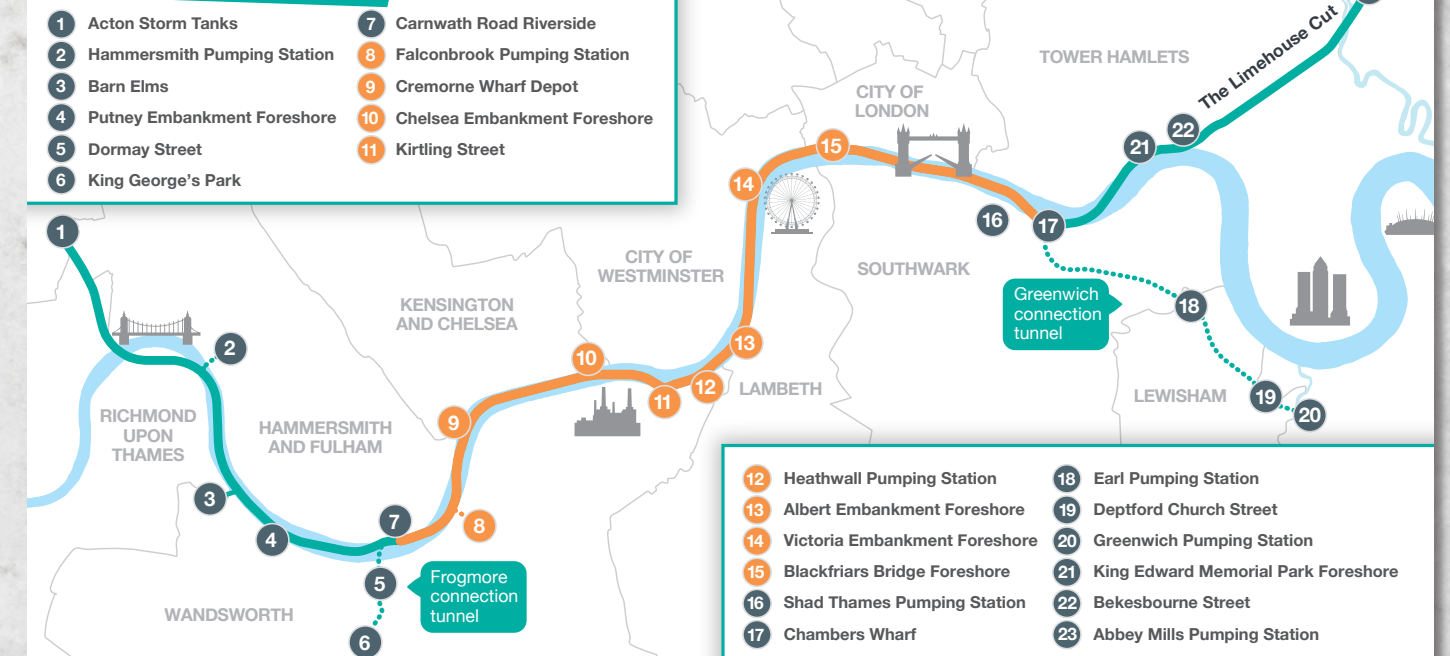
We've built a 25km 'super sewer' under the Thames to intercept those nasty spills and clean up our river.

The project has provided thousands of new jobs, and is also creating new public spaces along the riverside for Londoners to enjoy.

Work nearing complet at Kirtling Street in Battersea



TIDEWAY ROUTE MAP



FINAL PIECE OF PUZZLE IN PLACE



Work to build London’s super sewer, including its tunnels and shafts, is now fully complete below ground following the lifting of the final piece of the puzzle into place in east London. And now, the project is closer than ever to its ultimate goal of improving the health of the River Thames.

See how the 1,200-tonne concrete lid was lifted on top of a deep shaft at Abbey Mills by scanning the QR code below.



▶ Scan me!

TIDEWAY NEWS

TIDEWAY TUNNEL COMPLETE

The teams working on the super sewer are getting ready to start testing the tunnel now that the super sewer has been successfully connected to the existing tunnel network. A thick wall separated the 25km super sewer from the 6.9km Lee Tunnel, which links Abbey Mills Pumping Station to Beckton Sewage Treatment Works.

Now, those two tunnels are connected for the first time, creating the London Tideway Tunnels network and paving the way for the new system to begin its protection of the River Thames.

With the construction of the heavy engineering completed, the system commissioning phase has now started and will take away flows of polluting sewage into the tunnel to protect the river for the first time.

Roger Bailey, Tideway Chief Technical Officer, said: “The Tideway and Thames Water teams have worked brilliantly to get these jobs done and I’d like to offer my sincere thanks for their collaboration and professionalism in getting us to this stage without incident. Our focus is now on bringing this newly-live asset into full operation – and looking forward to a cleaner, healthier river environment for generations to come.”



VOLUNTEERS TACKLE WET WIPE ‘REEFS’

Tideway staff helped to assess the scale of plastic pollution on a stretch of the Thames in West London as they volunteered for the Big Wet Wipe Count.

The event is run by our charity partner Thames21 as part of Thames River Watch, a ‘citizen science’ programme which Tideway has supported since the start of the project and which engages communities to collect and count plastic litter on – and in – the Thames foreshore.

The survey site, situated on a bend in the river on the south side of Hammersmith Bridge, has several wet wipe ‘reefs’ caused by wipes which have spilled from Combined Sewer Overflows and sunk into the river bank. The Thames Tideway Tunnel will intercept these CSOs and the data collected at Big Wet Wipe Counts and other Thames River Watch survey sites will form a baseline to help track the benefits of the tunnel in terms of reduced sewage-derived litter.

10 Tideway volunteers took part and Felicity Rhodes of Thames21 said: “It is great to complete our baseline data at this site – many thanks to the Tideway team who took part.”



ACTIVE THAMES BOOSTED TO SUPPORT 11 PROJECTS

Boat clubs, walkers and scouts’ groups are among those being supported in a new partnership initiative with Tideway.

The Active Thames programme is co-ordinated by the Port of London Authority (PLA) and encourages communities to get active – on (or beside) the River Thames and its inland waterways.

It had previously allocated funds to 23 projects across London, Kent and Essex earlier this year.

Now, Tideway has added its involvement to the campaign to mark the year in which the project begins protecting the river from pollution for the first time after eight years of construction.

The 11 projects that will benefit from Tideway’s

involvement represent a range of groups from across London and the Thames estuary – and include eight on-water groups (rowing, paddling, sailing) hailing from as far west as Fulham and as far east as Leigh-on-Sea in Essex and three walking groups.



LOCAL NEWS

For the latest updates visit
www.tideway.london/news



THE PRINCESS ROYAL PRAISES TEAM EFFORT AT CHELSEA QUAY

Her Royal Highness The Princess Royal was the first person to officially step foot on London's newest riverside vista as she was welcomed to Chelsea Quay, a brand new area of land built by Tideway above London's super sewer.

In April Her Royal Highness met with project staff as well as artist Florian Roithmayr and poet Dorothea Smartt, who have created beautiful pieces for the new space. Roithmayr's piece - Moving In - is a tactile artwork formed of brickwork integrated into the vertical surfaces of the public space, steps, intertidal terraces, and the river wall. HRH laid the final bricks to complete the work. Smartt has created a series of bespoke poems for our ventilation columns at Chelsea and seven other Tideway sites.

Chelsea Quay sits above the 45-metre deep shaft. This is connected to the main super sewer via a 50m long connection tunnel. As part of the new riverwall, species such as rushes, grasses, sedge, sea aster and irises make up the planting for the new 'floodable' terraces.

At this site we will intercept the Ranelagh combined sewer overflow, which previously spilled over 280,000 tonnes of sewage into the Thames in a typical year.

Watch The Princess Royal's visit to Chelsea Quay by scanning the QR Code.



Scan me!

LOCAL NEWS

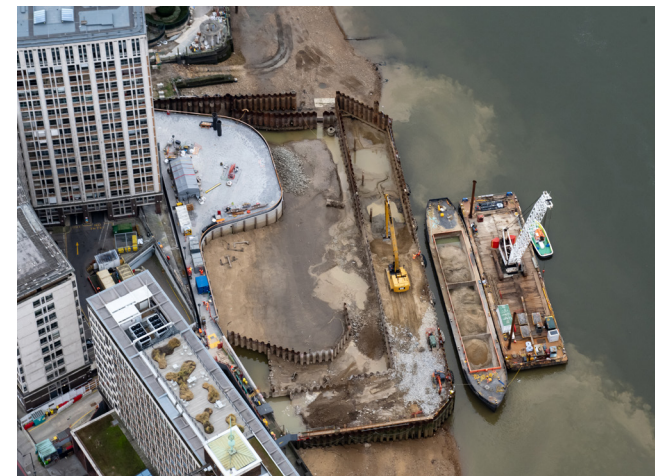
NEW SHAPE OF RIVERSIDE SPACE VISIBLE

The temporary areas of land built out into the Thames to enable Tideway to build the super sewer have now effectively been removed revealing two new areas of public land.

The 'cofferdams' along Albert Embankment were created by building a wall of steel piles out into the river. Water was then pumped out and the void backfilled to create a solid platform to allow construction to take place.

Over the last few months, the team has been gradually removing these temporary structures and exposing the new public spaces on the Thames for the first time.

Work at Albert Embankment Foreshore will soon involve the interception of two combined sewage overflow (CSO) points – the Clapham Storm Relief and the Brixton Storm Relief CSOs – in the river wall on the southern bank of the Thames. In a typical year, these two CSOs previously discharged a total of 278,000 tonnes of untreated sewage into the River Thames. When complete, Effra Quay and Isle of Effra will be open spaces for the public to enjoy with bespoke art and landscaping.



This aerial image shows the size of the new public space and the much larger area taken up by the temporary cofferdam, which is currently being removed.

CENTRAL POINT OF SUPER SEWER SEALED OFF FOR GOOD

The Cremorne Wharf Depot site at Lots Road is now substantially complete and the works underground completely sealed over. No longer visible is the 45m-deep shaft and interception chamber. The new chamber to intercept the sewage that currently overflows into the Thames from the Counter's Creek sewer and Lots Road Pumping Station.

The team have built a 147m long connecting tunnel linking the Cremorne site to the main sewer tunnel beneath the Thames.

The gates are designed by artist Jo Chapman. The artwork, Ascent, uses a balloon design in painted steel, with the colourway reflecting the colours of the river. The new gates will create a better relationship to Lots Road for the Pumping Station whilst celebrating the history of the area. The work references local leisure activities and locations including the historic Cremorne Pleasure Gardens where balloon racing was once a very popular past-time.



Scan me to learn more!

MEET THE PEOPLE BEHIND THE TUNNEL

Idris Sarwar started on the Tideway project as a Graduate Planning Engineer working on the central section including at our Cremorne Wharf Depot site.



 Watch the interview!

“LUCK IS WHAT HAPPENS WHEN PREPARATION MEETS OPPORTUNITY. IF YOU’RE WILLING TO PREPARE AND PUT IN THE HARD WORK AND DEDICATE YOURSELF TOWARDS YOUR CRAFT OR WHATEVER IT IS YOU’RE LOOKING TO GET INTO, EVENTUALLY THE OPPORTUNITIES DO PRESENT THEMSELVES.”

*Meet more people working on the Tideway project by visiting:
www.tideway.london/our-people/people-behind-the-tunnel*

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

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#SuperSewer



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