



Summer 2024

BARNES • FULHAM • HAMMERSMITH • PUTNEY • WANDSWORTH

RIVER TIMES

YOUR UPDATE ON LONDON'S SUPER SEWER

The completed super sewer below ground at Carnwath Road Riverside



Tideway



MORGAN SINDALL

Balfour Beatty

This is the latest issue of Tideway's community newsletter, produced especially for our neighbours in the western 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

08000 30 80 80

helpdesk@tideway.london

www.tideway.london

@TidewayLondon



WELCOME MESSAGE FROM ALEXEI BOND

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.

As we continue to reopen areas of land that have been used as construction sites whilst we've been building the tunnel, in this edition we can report the progress of King George's Park in Wandsworth, and the striking pieces of art installed down the road by Dormay Street.

Also included is a link to Tideway's latest video on last piece of major construction where 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 can read about local community investment in West London and the completion of the support programme at Sands End Arts and Community Centre in Fulham.

On the back page you'll have the opportunity to learn more about the hard-working people who work on the project. In this edition we've spoken to Amy, who has been on an amazing journey with us at Tideway.

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

Alexei Bond

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...

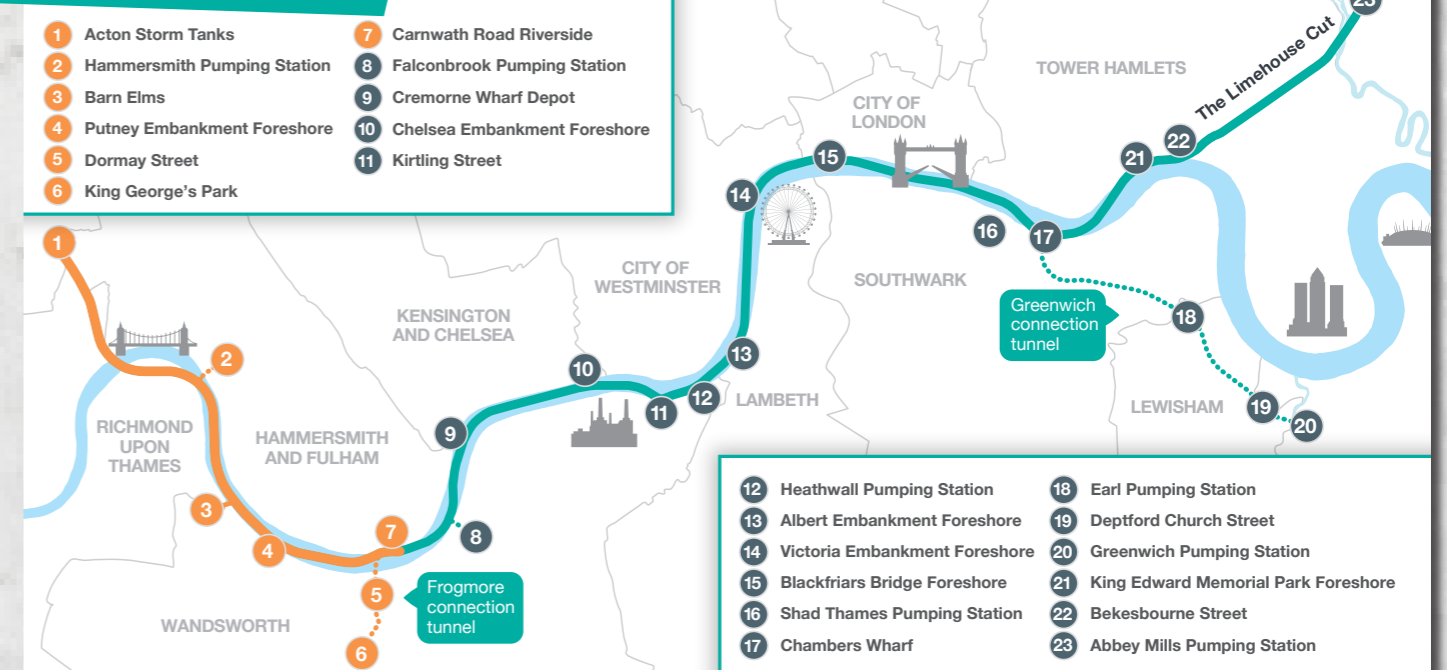
We've built a 25km 'super sewer' under the Thames to intercept those nasty spills and clean up our river.

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

Aerial view of our Dormay Street site



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

COMMUNITY PARK REOPENED IN WANDSWORTH

Tideway has been able to reopen King George's Park after its work on the super sewer is nearly complete.

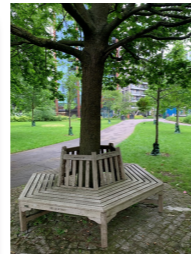
A new entranceway has been created in the north-eastern park corner near Buckhold Road and Neville Gill Close. Some of Tideway's team were at the park on the day of opening and heard from residents just how pleased they were to regain access in this area of the park.

The newly-opened section includes the park name inlaid in bronze to welcome visitors. Within the park itself, a range of tree species from Liquidambar to Flowering Cherry have been planted in addition to more than 5,000 newly-planted bulbs.

The memorial bench that was removed during our

construction work has also been reinstated. The area will now be managed and maintained by Enable who look after the rest of the park.

Works will continue on the paving in the adjacent egg-shaped area, which once completed will have new seating. The new seating area will also include a bronze artwork by artist Yemi Awosile and poetry by Dorothea Smartt.



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



LOCAL NEWS

PUTNEY CENTRE STAGE FOR BOAT RACE

In March, Tideway's new riverside space at Putney saw the start of the annual University Boat Race for the first time since it opened to the public in September 2023.

Supporters of the Oxford and Cambridge teams, local residents and race officials came together to watch the event and soak up the atmosphere of the new area, as it was intended.

The bronze marker boat race start line, the oars that form the balustrade looking onto the river and the sculptural reliefs on the kiosk walls by artist Claire Barclay, tell the story of the area's rich cultural heritage. The ventilation column with poetry by Dorothea Smartt looked iconic and monumental against the water. Smartt has been commissioned to create a series of poems for eight Tideway sites under the theme – London's 'lost rivers.'

Rosie, a Putney resident and young rower who went to watch the race commented: "The setting was very natural and relaxed, it feels as if it had been part of the area forever."



CHILDREN AT CENTRE STAGE



Primary schoolchildren read from an anthology they created as part of a Tideway-supported youth programme at the Sands End Arts and Community Centre in Fulham.

The centre held an event to mark the completion of the programme and to say thank-you to the project for our support in its rebuild and launch.

Tideway supported the build of the centre, which has won awards for its sustainable design, and the youth programme was a key part of exploring new community activities now that it is up and running. The programme delivered a range of free arts, sports and STEM activities for more than 100 local young people, including the creative writing course run by Write-London and local charity Sands End Associated Projects in Action.

Write-London created a book of the young people's work called the "Sands End Young People's Anthology". One parent said: "Thanks again for the book, Albane felt so happy and proud of her published work."

WELCOMING NEW ART AS SITE COMPLETES

A brand-new art installation has been completed in Wandsworth by acclaimed artist Yemi Awosile.

Dormay Street, SW18, sits between King George's Park and Carnwath Road Riverside and has been given a bright and thought-provoking addition. Extract and Distil sits within Bell Lane Creek, off the River Wandle. The commission celebrates the cultural heritage of the site by looking at its connection to medical research and science.

Yemi said: "This is a really important site historically and culturally because of the connection to Henry Wellcome. This was the original site of his first factory and I wanted to take aspects from Henry Wellcome's personal archives." You can find the art using What3Words - [///labels.miles.drips](https://www.what3words.com/labels.miles.drips)

Scan the QR code to watch the interview.



Scan me!



SITE HIGHLIGHT: CARNWATH ROAD

Not far from Dormay Street, the development of the new area of public park land at Carnwath Road Riverside is taking shape with new paving and planting around the architecturally designed ventilation column.



Inside the ventilation column looking up

MEET THE PEOPLE BEHIND THE TUNNEL

Construction Manager Amy Hogg has worked on the King George's Park and Dormay Street sites on the western section of the Tideway project, including as part of an all-female team.



Watch the interview!

“IT’S REALLY IMPORTANT FOR ANY CIVIL ENGINEER TO LEAVE A MARK. I SUPPOSE IT’S ONE OF THE BENEFITS OF HAVING A CAREER IN CIVIL ENGINEERING, YOU CAN ACTUALLY SEE WHAT YOU’VE BUILT AND SEE THAT YOU’VE MADE A DIFFERENCE.”

*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:

08000 30 80 80

www.tideway.london

helpdesk@tideway.london



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