Autumn 2017

# Image: Second system RIVER TIMES BERMONDSEY • DEPTFORD • GREENWICH LEWISHAM • SHADWELL • WAPPING

PETER

YOUR UPDATE ON LONDON'S NEW SUPER SEWER

Tideway

From homelessness to full-time employment Page 6



COSTAIN

This is the first issue of Tideway's new regular 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.

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#### WELCOME MESSAGE

Hello and welcome to the first edition of the River Times. My name is Mike Sawyer, and I am the Deputy Project Director for the team delivering the eastern section of the Thames Tideway Tunnel.

In this newsletter you can read about why we are building the tunnel and the work that we are doing in your community. We are focussed on delivering the finished tunnel, while increasing the opportunities for local people, using local suppliers and upskilling local young people.

We want to promote the great range of roles available in the construction industry and are working with five councils to highlight jobs at our sites.

I know construction sites are intrusive, which is why we are doing everything we can to mitigate the impact of our work on our neighbours.

At our main site, Chambers Wharf in Bermondsey, we recently began operation of an electric 'hydrofraise' that will reduce noise, pollution and disturbance compared with a typical hydrofraise.

This machine, which is used to excavate the shaft for the tunnel, is the first in the world to run from mains electricity, demonstrating our commitment to minimising disruption for our neighbours – you can read more about this on page 4.

We're also making good progress at our sites in Greenwich, Deptford and at King Edward Memorial Park, where we recently built a brand-new slipway for access into the river for the Shadwell Basin Outdoor Activity Centre, which you can also read about on page 4.

London's new 'super sewer' will create a cleaner, healthier River Thames for more than a century to come. But we're also committed to leaving a legacy for London that far outlives the construction lifetime of the project.

Mike Sawyer, Deputy 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 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.





## **NEWS IN BRIEF**

## WORLD-FIRST AT SITE

A new hydrofraise, used for excavating the shaft at our Chambers Wharf site, has begun work. The first in the world powered by mains electricity, this machine will massively reduce the impact of noise on our neighbourhood.



#### WADE HALL REFIT

Wade Hall, the community centre near Tideway's Chambers Wharf site in Bermondsey, has been completely refurbished thanks to a donation from Tideway, creating a lasting legacy for locals.



Turf lifted from Tideway's site on Deptford Church Street has been reborn and repurposed at the Creekside Discovery Centre. The patches of turf will be replanted and act as a soil conditioner, contributing to a healthier ecosystem.

## TIDEWAY NEWS

#### NEW SLIPWAY OPENS FOR SHADWELL SPORTS CLUB

Gold medal-winning Olympian Andrew Triggs-Hodge officially opened a brand-new slipway for the Shadwell Basin Outdoor Activity Centre this summer, providing a huge boost to the local area.



As part of Tideway's work in the nearby King Edward Memorial Park, it was agreed that a new slipway would be built for the centre.

This summer, it was formally opened by Andrew Triggs-Hodge, who now works as a Project Manager at Tideway.

Guests had the chance to try their hands at all the activities the centre

has to offer – including sailing, kayaking, canoeing, bell-boating, rowing, climbing and high-ropes.

Tideway has also sponsored the delivery of these activities for the last two summer holidays for children.

Project Manager Jeff Alchin said: "This was not the most complex part of our work, but it is what gives me most satisfaction.

"Our motto at Tideway is to reconnect London with the River Thames, and this does exactly that."

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## **DEPTFORD HOMELESS GIVEN EMPLOYMENT BOOST**

The homelessness charity 999 Club teamed up with Tideway this summer to offer vulnerable people the chance to learn real-life job skills and help them back on their feet.

The 999 Club is based in Deptford and helps those on the streets and those at risk of becoming homeless by offering advice, laundry facilities, showers and, in the winter months, shelter.

Led by Tideway's Communications Officer June Saunders, a five-week programme was developed, allowing the participants to learn interview skills, CV tips, and hear from some of Tideway's best and brightest.

June said: "I'm really pleased, and pleasantly surprised with how well it all went.

"The aspiration, ultimately, is to get these people back into work, so hopefully what we've done has made a difference."

Wayne Carrington, who attended the course, said: "I think Tideway is one of the best companies when it comes to equal opportunities.

"They are great at confidence-building and a company that instils self-worth in individuals.

"Respect was always shown to the trainees no matter what race, gender and background. It was a totally amazing experience for me.

"I think the course should have been longer, with more modules as it was so educational and enjoyable."

## LOCAL NEWS



#### FROM THE STREETS TO THE SITE: PETER'S STORY

Lewisham resident Peter Cheasman thought he had lost everything. After spending three months on the streets, hope was in short supply.

But thanks to Tideway and the homelessness charity Thames Reach, Peter is now back in fulltime work and looking to the future.

The 54-year-old was forced to live on the streets after being released from a six-month stint in prison, and was referred to Thames Reach, which helps homeless people get back on their feet.

From there, he was referred to Tideway's preemployment programme, a programme for people who live in the boroughs in which Tideway's works.

The programme provides interview preparation, safety training, work experience and the chance to apply for full-time work on the Tideway project.

Peter now works full-time as a General Operative at Tideway's Chambers Wharf site in Bermondsey.

He said: "I went from having a full-time job to losing everything. You have just got to get the help and take the advice you're given.

"It's not going to come to you – you've got to go to them and help yourself."

Virginia Croft, from Thames Reach, added: "Peter repeatedly says how grateful he is for the support he has been given by Tideway and Thames Reach.

"We offered him opportunities, but the hard work and determination to get his life on track came from him. We are so proud of what he has achieved." Jeremy Galpin, Legacy Lead for the eastern section of the Tideway project, said: "As we build our tunnel to help clean up the Thames, we are dedicated to providing job opportunities for people who live in the boroughs where we're working, and opening up doors to careers in construction.

"Following our first pre-employment programme, we are delighted that two people from these boroughs have started in full-time roles with us here at Tideway."



## LOCAL NEWS

#### FAMILIES IN GREENWICH JOIN TIDEWAY FOR RIVER FUN DAY



Families and local people in Greenwich joined Tideway staff and the Thames Explorer Trust for a family fun day to reconnect with the River Thames.

Dozens of members of staff and their families joined locals on the foreshore for an active afternoon learning about the history of London's iconic waterway.

Guests had the opportunity to scour the foreshore for artefacts, bits of broken pottery and roof tiles – and were told to look out for old animal bones related to a tannery that existed upstream hundreds of years ago.

Neil Clarke, a tutor from the Thames Explorer Trust, shared his encyclopaedic knowledge of the river and made sure all the findings were left on the foreshore according to the legislation.

All those present had a great time finding out about the history and ecology of the Thames, and showed their friends and family the importance of the project.

#### BROWNIES VISIT FOR WOMEN IN ENGINEERING DAY

Girl Guides and Brownies took part in a fun-filled day of activities at Tideway's Chambers Wharf site in Bermondsey this summer for Women in Engineering Day.

The girls were given the opportunity to meet staff working on the project, including female engineers, and worked on building a volcano, a spaghetti and marshmallow tower, and a lava lamp.

After helping the girls to make parachutes, Delivery Manager Jackie Roe said: "There is a need to inspire and encourage more people, especially young women, to chose a career in engineering."

Rowena Scott, Brownie Leader, thanked Tideway and said: "Our Brownies had a fantastic time and were talking about the different activities all the way home!"



## **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 *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.



#### **ABDUL SADIQ**

Accounts Apprentice Chambers Wharf, Bermondsey

#### Learned at Tideway

I've learned what it feels like to be part of a professional family who really care about each other. The most important thing for every single person in the office and on site is safety. Tideway doesn't shy away from expressing its importance. From day one I've been to health and safety training workshops; there is a real emphasis on how important each individual is on this project.

#### **Enjoyed at Tideway**

I am a growing accountant so getting hands-on with all the numbers! I always enjoyed maths at school so I really couldn't wait to get involved with all the serious numbers and take my understanding to the next level.

#### **Future aspirations**

To be a fully qualified accountant and work on different projects after this one is successfully completed. I would love to become a Finance Manager one day and it all starts from the position I'm in now; my career journey has only just begun.

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