



**Tideway**

Summer 2022

**BATTERSEA • BLACKFRIARS • CHELSEA • VAUXHALL • WESTMINSTER**

# RIVER TIMES

**YOUR UPDATE ON LONDON'S SUPER SEWER**



*Tideway celebrates end of tunnelling  
with unique performance*

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# Tideway

**ferrovial**  
construction



**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 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 VIV JONES

**Welcome to the latest edition of The River Times – a progress update for residents living near the Tideway Super Sewer project, being undertaken to clean up the River Thames.**

At the end of June, our executive team and I ventured to St Mary's Foreshore in Battersea to conduct a litter pick. Our project routinely holds litter picks on this stretch of the foreshore and there's no shortage of cotton buds and wet wipes washed up by the river. It's certainly testament to London's need for its new sewer.

The start of the summer has seen significant advances for the Tideway Central section. Our tunnelling launch site at Kirtling Street - next to Battersea Power Station - has concluded all tunnelling operations, including secondary lining. The secondary lining is a 250mm thick sleeve of concrete applied to the internal circumference of the tunnel 60 metres below the Thames bed.

With 12.5km of tunnel constructed and secondary lined in the Central section, the infrastructure upon which those operations depended is now being decommissioned. We've dismantled our conveyor system which loaded excavated tunnelling soil onto barges. Tunnelling operations required us to work 24 hours a day. To reduce the impact of noise, we erected an acoustic shed, which is now being dismantled.

Elsewhere on the project the six new areas of public realm, which will be a permanent and accessible feature above our engineering structures, are taking shape.

We're excited at the progress we're making as we move closer to delivering this new infrastructure for London. You can read more on what we've been up to in this update. I hope you enjoy it.

**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...*

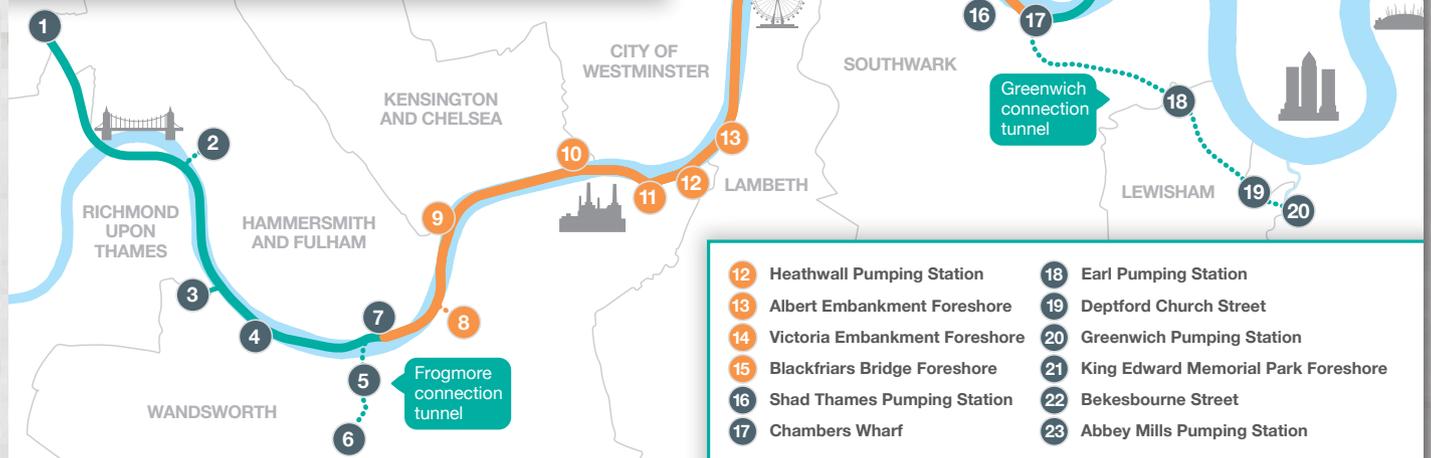
We're building a 25km 'super sewer' under the Thames to intercept those nasty spills and clean up our river.

The project will also bring thousands of new jobs, as well as new public space, creating a better environment for Londoners.



## TIDEWAY ROUTE MAP

- |                               |                                 |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1 Acton Storm Tanks           | 7 Carnwath Road Riverside       |
| 2 Hammersmith Pumping Station | 8 Falconbrook Pumping Station   |
| 3 Barn Elms                   | 9 Cremorne Wharf Depot          |
| 4 Putney Embankment Foreshore | 10 Chelsea Embankment Foreshore |
| 5 Dormay Street               | 11 Kirtling Street              |
| 6 King George's Park          |                                 |





## END OF TUNNELLING: UNIQUE PERFORMANCE

**To commemorate the end of tunneling, a live performance took place 70 metres underground in the depth of the tunnel itself.**

The performance, from London-based composer and musician Rob Lewis, was streamed and is available on Tideway's YouTube channel and fuses multi-instrumental music with the sounds of the sewer construction, capturing the unique acoustic properties of the space.

Tideway Chair, Sir Neville Simms, said: "Completion of tunnelling for London's new super sewer is testament to the hard work and contributions of thousands of people and organisations, over many years – and it brings us closer to the ultimate goal of a cleaner River Thames. This performance celebrates a significant milestone in our efforts to

create a more sustainable London for our growing population and we are pleased to commemorate the end of tunnelling in such a unique way."



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## CONCRETE ROOF POURED AT ALBERT EMBANKMENT

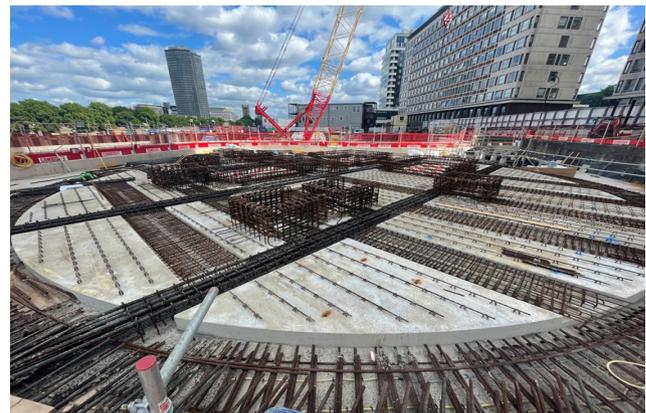
The Tideway team at Albert Embankment in Vauxhall successfully poured the concrete that forms the roof of the 49m-deep shaft.

This key milestone marks the second shaft 'closure' on the central section following the closure of the shaft at Victoria Embankment a mile or so down river at the end of last year.

Pouring the 74m<sup>3</sup> of concrete took around eight hours and used 30 precast concrete planks sitting atop three giant roof beams that were installed at the beginning of March.

Albert Embankment is one of a number of sites on the Tideway project that will leave an all-new piece

of carefully landscaped public space once the project is complete in 2025.



## LOCAL NEWS

# RIVER THAMES TRANSFORMS AS NEW RIVERSIDE SPACES TAKE SHAPE



Aerial photographs show the new riverside spaces taking shape along the River Thames as construction of London's super sewer continues.

The new sewer, from Acton in west London to Stratford in east London, is designed to capture more than 95 per cent of the sewage spills that enter the river from London's Victorian sewer system.

As part of construction, seven new areas of embankment are being created along the Thames, including at Blackfriars, Chelsea Embankment and Victoria Embankment.

Andy Mitchell, Tideway CEO, said: "It is hugely exciting to see these pieces of embankment taking shape and we look forward to when Londoners and visitors can enjoy these new spaces and get closer to the River Thames."

## SECONDARY LINING EQUIPMENT TRAVELS FINAL 5.5KM

A range of machinery and equipment used to create the secondary lining on the central section of the super sewer project is set to be reused on the eastern 5.5km of the tunnel.

Unlike primary lining, which is comprised of precast concrete segments, the concrete for the secondary lining is poured wet in-situ, and is needed to give the tunnel extra strength and to create a smooth surface over which the flows can travel once the tunnel is operational in 2025.

Secondary lining was completed in the central section in May, and the tunnelling team at Kirtling Street in Nine Elms has been busy demobilising shutters, gantries and other associated equipment ahead of shipment to Chambers Wharf in Bermondsey.



## NEWS IN BRIEF



Tideway proudly walked in the parade to stand up for LGBT+ equality and to celebrate our diverse workforce. Sergio Sciamanna said: “This was my first Pride and it was a colourful and happy experience which made me understand that diversity can only enrich ourselves.”

## IMPACT OF CHARITY PARTNERSHIP REVEALED

The impact of our partnership with Thames21 to engage communities up and down the tidal Thames and highlight the problem of plastic pollution has been shown in a new report.

The Thames River Watch programme was set up in 2014 to create a network of citizen scientists to collect essential data on the health of the River Thames. Tideway project staff alone have volunteered more than 3,300 hours.

## TIDEWAY NEWS



## 27 NEW COMMUNITY-LED, ‘CLEAN AND GREEN’ INITIATIVES IN LONDON

A series of 27 London-based projects designed to ‘clean and green’ the city have been given a helping hand to turn into reality with support from a new ‘Our Space’ initiative, which is backed by Tideway.

The Our Space Awards aim to help Londoners improve their communities through active local engagement and increase a sense of ownership over shared spaces.

Work on the winning projects will soon begin, with awards going to a wide range of local initiatives, ranging from tree planting, to improving air quality, to reducing social isolation.

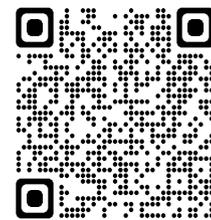
Tideway’s mission to improve the communities in which it works saw the super sewer project get involved to help further protect the city. The awards will be administered and delivered by Groundwork London, a federation of charities mobilising practical community action on poverty and the environment across the UK.

# MUSIC ACADEMY BACKED BY TIDEWAY RELEASES FOUR NEW SONGS

A music academy in London – one of five community groups to receive support from the Tideway project – has now produced and released four beautiful songs, including one celebrating the River Thames.

Last year, Tideway committed funding to five local groups to deliver positive and impactful projects in the local community. One of the projects, Ebb and Flow, aimed to connect young people from the World Heart Beat Music Academy with residents of Nine Elms to celebrate the Thames and the local area through music.

The four songs are: River, Step Inside, Tread Lightly – and Go with the Flow, which you can listen to by scanning the QR code on the right.



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## SECONDARY LINING PROGRESS IN CENTRAL SECTION

**Great progress has been made with the construction of the Super Sewer. Secondary tunnel lining has finished and shaft lining is 82% complete in Central section.**

The secondary lining is required to give the super sewer extra strength and to create a smooth surface over which the flows from the sewer network can travel once the tunnel is operational.

In the picture to the right, you can see the segmental primary lining and the poured secondary concrete lining, which gives the tunnel an internal diameter of 7.2m – which is the width of three London buses side-by-side.



## GO BEHIND THE SCENES

In episode 11, Sarah takes us on a tour of Chelsea, where the team is busy building infrastructure to intercept the River Westbourne – one of London's lost rivers. Scan the QR code below to watch!



**TUNNEL  
VISION**

# WOMEN IN ENGINEERING



**PATRICIA P. SANCHEZ**

**Project Manager**

### **What made you want to become an engineer?**

I chose to work in the industry because I love the idea of formulating a plan from conception through to the actual design and build. The industry is challenging and being able to see breath-taking structures being built from nothing, fascinates me.

One of the best feelings is to see all that passion and hard work you put through the years and see that Project being used by the public; that is one of the most rewarding moments and the feeling of achievement is huge.

### **What advice would you give to women who are thinking about becoming engineers?**

Do it! Listen, observe, learn from others, be patient, hardworking and strive for success. If you come across a challenging situation, try to overcome the problem and never give up. When you walk out of a room always be sure you have given it your best.

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

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**#SuperSewer**



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