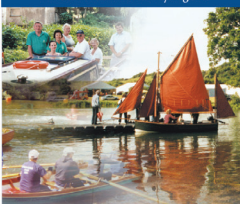




River Thames Society

Membership Leaflet

<p>Membership Form & Gift Aid</p> <p>Subscriptions: £20 Individual £25 Family £50 Corporate £15 Amenity Societies/Clubs £10 Junior/Student</p> <p>Date of Birth if under 18 / / /</p> <p>Mr/Mrs/other: _____ Name: _____ Address: _____ _____ _____ Postcode: _____</p> <p>Telephone No: _____ Email: _____ Occupation: _____</p> <p>Please treat my subscription and all future payments as Gift Aid donations until I notify you otherwise (see note).</p> <p>Signed: _____ Date: _____</p> <p><i>giftaid it</i> Note: Gift Aid applies if you pay income tax or capital gains tax at least equal to the tax deducted from your payment. If you are NOT a taxpayer please tick here <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If you cease to pay tax please inform us. If you pay tax at the higher rate you can claim further relief on your self assessment form.</p> <p>Charity No. 288380 Company Limited by Guarantee No. 1747301</p>	<p>Bankers' Order Form</p> <p>Name of Bank: _____ Address of Bank: _____ _____ _____ Postcode: _____</p> <p>Account name of: _____ Account No: _____ Sort Code: _____</p> <p>Please pay to the River Thames Society Account Number 28811529 Natwest Bank (60 05 11) the sum of £ _____ now and annually thereafter until further notice. Please cancel any previous orders made by me in favour of the Society.</p> <p>Signed: _____ Date: _____</p> <p>Please tick the branch you wish to join:</p> <p>Upper Thames - Source to Mapledurham <input type="checkbox"/> Middle Thames - Mapledurham to Old Windsor <input type="checkbox"/> Teddington to Old Windsor <input type="checkbox"/> Upper Tideway - Teddington to Putney <input type="checkbox"/> Central Tideway & Estuary - Putney to Estuary <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Please return completed bankers' order or a cheque payable to River Thames Society to: Membership Secretary, River Thames Society 23a Cushman Road, Watlington, OX49 5AW. Tel: 01491 612456</p>	<p>River Thames Society www.riverthamesociety.org.uk</p>   
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River Thames Society *Voice of the river from source to sea*

The Society was founded in 1962 to conserve the river for future generations and to represent walkers, fishermen, boat owners and all other users of the river and is represented on the River Thames Alliance, the Mayor of London's Waterways Commission, the Port of London Authority's River Users' Consultative Forums, the Thames Estuary Partnership, River User Groups and the Waterways Working Group.

Current Campaigns

Tidy up the Thames
 The Society is working with organisations along the river, including local authorities, clubs, schools and Thames 21, to remove litter from the river, for the benefit of water quality, wildlife and visual appearance. The RTS wardens play a key role in this campaign.

Slipways and stairs
 We are continuing to monitor the condition of slipways and stairs in the tidal Thames. A survey has been undertaken and will be posted on our web site in due course.

Conservation - Bondig Bank
 The RTS has designated Bondig Bank near Marlow a conservation area. Advice has been obtained from the Environment Agency and work is commencing on a programme of coppicing and pollarding to maintain the willows in good condition and to encourage wildlife.

Paddle & Rhyme Weirs
 The Society is concerned that the Environment Agency is intending to replace these historic wooden weirs at Biddot, Rushey & Northmoor Locks. They are the last remaining examples of their type and English Heritage have also expressed their concerns. We obtained useful media exposure, featured the campaign at river-related rallies and meetings, issued leaflets and posters and raised the issue on many occasions at the Environment Agency and other forums.

Benefits of Membership


Branches
 The Society has five branches covering the river from source to sea. Each branch providing a programme of social and informative events.

Thames Guardian
 Members receive this quarterly magazine which provides a unique insight into all the latest news and views about what is happening on the river.

Conference
 The Society holds conferences at different venues along the river. The Thames are chosen to reflect concerns or interests of the moment.

Annual Awards
 The Society makes an annual award to the most significant contribution to the well being of the river during the calendar year. The Society is also working alongside the Thames Heritage Trust with their new award to encourage Volunteer Youth Activities for the under 25s.

River Wardens
 Our volunteer wardens monitor the condition of the Thames, both its banks and the water, in the tidal and non-tidal areas. Their work includes recording the condition of footpaths, banks, vegetation, fences, countryside furniture and safety equipment.




Upper Thames Branch Newsletter

RIVER THAMES SOCIETY

Upper Thames Branch Newsletter Autumn 2010

Dear Branch Member

By the time you receive this newsletter it will be the beginning of Autumn. There are three more branch events this year - the visit to the Ashmolean Museum in September, Fireworks at Rose Island in November and finally our Christmas Lunch at the George in Watlington in December. Full details are on the back of the newsletter.

We are delighted to welcome four new members to the branch; Roger Redknapp, Christina Hardymont, Piers Young and Nigel Poole and hope to meet you at one of our events.

Alix Horne, Editor

RUG Report

Mary Coates reported that the Babcock Hythe Slipway Project has now been given consent and is expected to be completed by September. The Oxford Clean was a great success with a lot of rubbish being removed. The full report can be downloaded from our website www.riverthamesociety.org.uk Margherita Davidson (Upper Thames Branch Vice Chairman) is taking over as Chairman of the Group.

New moorings at Wallingford

The £260,000 moorings at Wallingford were officially opened in July. The River Thames Mooring Group reported that "Users and traders have hailed Wallingford's new moorings as a great success, reporting an increase in business as day-trippers, holiday-makers, and other river users stop off at the 136-meter long moorings." John Dalton, a member of the RTS Upper Thames Branch played a key role in the scheme and kept the branch informed at all stages of the project.

Sandford Lock Re-opens in record time

Following a routine maintenance inspection in May, cracks were revealed in the lock gates. In order to empty the lock, a bespoke dam was made and craned into position. Around 1,000 young fish were removed from the lock before it was completely emptied of water, providing dry conditions for the specialist team to carry out further inspections on the massive 6 tonne steel gates. Metal plates and extra support sections were welded in place to strengthen the damaged sections. Once the temporary repairs were complete and thoroughly checked, the lock re-opened. Simon Hughes.

Work being carried out Environment Agency area manager said "I am very proud that our team was able to complete this staggering amount of work in less than 72 hours." He thanked boaters and local residents for their patience. The Environment Agency are now investigating the cause of the cracks and the long term solution will be to install newly fabricated gates as part of their Winter Works Programme 2010/11. Boaters can be kept informed by visiting www.visitthames.co.uk/restrictions and on the Environment Agency's information line 0845 9881188.

www.riverthamesociety.org.uk

Summer Events

Bonfire Night!
 Saturday 6 November
 At Rose Island

Ashmolean Museum
 Tour and lunch (optional)
 Wednesday 29 September at 11.00

Christmas Lunch
 Saturday 4 December 2010

The Midsummer lunch at Rose Island hosted by Prue and Colin Reynolds and Victorian Tea Party hosted by Margherita Davidson and Robert Heavens were a great success. The Victorian Quiz was very challenging but we all did our best!

Come and enjoy an evening of fireworks and fun at Rose Island. Colin will be lighting the Bonfire at 6:00pm - let's hope for a fine evening! Fireworks and food will be provided for just £5 a head. All you will need to bring is a torch, a warm woolly hat and gloves. If you wish to come along let Colin know on 01865 779241 by Wednesday 2 November to ensure there will be enough food.

The Upper Thames Branch Newsletter is edited by Alix Horne and issued three times a year, Spring, Summer and Autumn. Items for inclusion preferably supplied by email to: publicity@riverthamesociety.org.uk Tel: 01491 410477

Copy date for the next issue (Spring 2010) 18 February 2011

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Map for RTS Publications

