

ATYC NEWSLETTER – FEBRUARY 2024

This is the ATYC Newsletter which will be sent out to Clubs on a regular basis for onward publication to all club members. It can be used as an ATYC Club Noticeboard and can carry such items as a Club's major event or a short news story. Contributions should be sent to me. Happy reading and stay safe.

Mike Chambers

Chertsey Lock Update. The EA have appointed contractors and site inspections have been carried out. The work will involve relocating butterfly plates, redrilling and then fixing new bolts to hold the lock gate. Work should start soon, subject to the contractor's availability. Work will be completed by the Easter weekend if not sooner.

Diesel Afloat Again. Following the retirement of Chris of fuel barge 'Merchant' fame, the boat has now been bought by Tony Woollard and will be operating out of Platts Eyot in the near future. A further fuel barge believed to be called 'Kenny and not in any way related to Merchant is already operating in the lower non Tidal Thames area and supplies 'fully treated' (whatever that means) red diesel fuel. Kenny is operated by Thames Fuels and owner Jack states that the supplier 'treats' the fuel and he adds Derv Control 6000 which is both a diesel bug preventative and can also remove small quantities of existing bug.

Broom Boats of Brundall is on the market. Broom Boats, which has a 78-berth [marina](#) and hire fleet on the Norfolk Broads, is to be sold. The sale is taking place on behalf of the Broom Marine Group which owns the 8.6 acre site on the River Yare. Established in 1898 by Charles John Broom, Broom Boats originally built "beautifully crafted sailing cruisers for gentlemen" at its Brundall yard.

River Thames Scheme. The River Thames Scheme is launching a statutory consultation. A 6-week consultation which started on Monday 22nd January and ends at 11:59pm on Monday 4th March 2024.

The project aims to prevent the flooding of thousands of homes and businesses along the River Thames which in Surrey runs through one of the biggest areas of undefended, developed flood plain in England. The area has suffered significant flooding in recent years and due to climate change this risk is growing.

It will involve a new flood channel in two sections, through the boroughs of Runnymede and Spelthorne. There will also be increases in capacity at three weirs and downstream of the Desborough Cut.

The channels will carry excess rainfall and prevent the Thames from bursting its banks and flooding communities. More than 11,000 homes and businesses in Surrey and London as well as roads, railways, drinking water networks and electricity supplies will be protected

from flooding. Planners are confident the scheme will also bring environmental, social, health and economic benefits. For full details see the [River Thames Scheme](#).

ATYC Spring Ball. Preparations are well underway for the Spring Ball to be held at the Richmond Hill Hotel on 24 Feb. The cut-off date for bookings is rapidly approaching – to date over 152 members from 14 clubs will be attending. Clubs are asked to provide a suitable raffle prize and to bring a club burgee for their table. As well as the big raffle there will be a separate raffle for a crane package kindly donated by Penton Craning.

Diary Dates

Summer Rally 24 - 26 August 2024 at West India Dock, London booking details to be announced but see website for details.