

## ATYC NEWSLETTER – MARCH 2023

This is the ATYC Newsletter which will be sent out to Clubs on a regular basis. 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**

**Michael Shefras Retires.** Having represented boaters since 1983 Michael has decided to retire. He has been involved at all levels including the RYA, the EA's committees NNUF and TNUF and the pressure group TUGn and provided the secretariat to the All Parties Parliamentary Group for the Thames. In 2009 he was awarded the MBE For voluntary service to Boaters in the Thames Valley. We wish both Michael and Barbara a long and well-deserved retirement.

**ATYC Rally Cancelled.** Due to restrictions being placed on the use of the land and the cost the ATYC have reluctantly decided to cancel the Henley rally which was being scheduled for the late May Bank holiday. The venue in Remenham is still available to all individual boats at £12.00 per night so you can use it over the same weekend if you choose to..

**River Thames Guide App.** The free guide to all leisure activities on the River Thames (tidal and non-tidal) and the Way Navigation is updated and will roll out to users over the next day or so.

Changes include:

1. New maps for easier reading
2. Maps now include Points of Interest near the river
3. Lite. version can be magnified to a greater extent
4. Map overlay colours improved for better readability
5. Thames Journey Planner overlay on maps is now much clearer

**Thames Water Fined.** Thames Water has been fined £2million after raw sewage polluted two Oxfordshire streams, killing almost 150 fish. The sewage also flooded a nearby garden. Judge Peter Ross, at Oxford Crown Court on 21 December, ruled the incident in 2015 as a high-end, category three harm offence. Judge Ross later reduced the £2m fine to £1.8m after directing Thames Water to pay the remaining £200,000 to three local charities, the Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire Wildlife Trust, the Evenlode Catchment Partnership and the Wychwood Project.

**Lock Manning Details.** The weekly details of Thames lock manning can be found from this link: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/river-thames-lock-keeper-service>. The EA state that once the rota has been published it will not be updated

**ATYC Meetings.** We hope to see representatives from your club and any other attendees who wish to come along on 17th April in person at The Windsor Yacht Club or via Zoom where, apart from the business agenda, we will receive a presentation from the Harbour Master of West India Docks about future rallies there.