



ATYC NEWSLETTER – OCTOBER 2026

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

Chiswick RNLI to Wandsworth. Mariners are advised that from 22nd September 2026, Chiswick RNLI has moved operations to Wandsworth Riverside Lifeboat Station, Wandsworth Reach in association with the move the call sign is Wandsworth Lifeboat. Chiswick RNLI is now closed.

MEMBERS OPEN MEETING MONDAY 19TH OCTOBER 2026 AT THE WINDSOR YACHT CLUB 7 FOR 7.30

AGENDA NOTICE-

Please note our original speaker is now unable to attend for urgent family reasons. We are very pleased to advise that Cecilia Holman has agreed to speak on a subject that she is passionate about - "messaging about on boats on the river"

Cecilia spoke at our annual ball 3 years ago and was very amusing. She is a resident and historian at Eel Pie Island as well as a member of Middle Thames YC.

A finger buffet, teas and coffee will be available without charge and the club bar will be open. PLEASE ADVISE hon.sec@atyc.org if you are attending so we do not over or under supply the food.

ATYC Spring Ball. Our annual ball will be held on Saturday 27th February at The Richmond Hill Hotel. Full details and booking information will be available via our website shortly. Despite price increases we are holding ticket prices at this years level of £75pp.

Tidal Thames app closes, replaced by mobile website

The PLA Tidal Thames App was decommissioned on 1 October 2026 and is no longer available.

All essential resources including live tides, ebb tide flag, Notices to Mariners, ship movements and more can now be found on our dedicated PLA mobile website.

[Instructions here on how to add the shortcut to your mobile device](#)

[Mobile website can be found here](#)

The last masts of a bomb-laden shipwreck in the Thames Estuary have been removed.

The three poles have been visible from the Kent and Essex coasts since the SS Richard Montgomery sank with 1,400 tonnes of explosives onboard in 1944.

Engineers began [a major bid to remove them](#) earlier in September, after fears were raised about them toppling onto and detonating the explosives. The last masts were removed on Wednesday.

CRT Funding and Volunteer Support. In their annual report the Canal and River Trust made the following statement regarding the funding they receive and the volunteer hours they achieve. EA figures alongside would be useful to compare.

Alongside this vital work, fundraising and public support continued to grow. Income from donations and legacies increased to a record £10.3 million, while the number of regular supporters rose to 38,355 and volunteers contributed a record 776,242 hours helping to care for the waterways.

During the year, we also secured important additional public funding to support the long-term future of the canal network. The Welsh Government announced it would contribute to increased costs of water supply for the Monmouthshire & Brecon Canal over the next five years, while Defra announced extra financial support of £6.5 million for projects to build long-term resilience across the network.

Upper Thames Motor Yacht Club celebrates 80 years.

The Commodore Andy Wilson and Chrissie together with Vice Commodore, Gary Turner, Rear Commodore, Guy Jones, and the officers, UTMYC welcomed members of their club and invited guests from clubs up and down the River to be a part of this landmark celebration. I was there with the ATYC Chair hat on.

On arrival we found three marquees on their beautiful grounds overlooking the moorings with lots of tables and chairs, there must have been 80 of us.

We were treated to a really plentiful and delicious barbecue lunch prepared and served by members under one marquee as we all sat chatted and mingled with friends new and old under the marquee housing the dining area.

The bar was quite popular as one might expect and a plethora of deserts were laid out in the club house. A third marquee remained empty.....

Commodore Andy spoke thanking everyone for being there and proposing the important toast to the club.

Commodores from Albany Yacht Club, Thames Motor Yacht Club and Penton Hook Motor Yacht Club also took the microphone.

Having dined the “Blue Sky Big Band” arrived and occupied the third marquee and what a fabulous band they are, an absolute treat. You could close your eyes and pretend you were in the Royal Albert Hall listening to their Big Band music. The drizzle during the afternoon didn’t stop the dancing in the rain.

Upper Thames Yacht Club have, for all their years, shown great hospitality to members of other boat clubs. The sincerity of their welcome is renowned along the length of Old Father Thames.

Way back in the early years the club was one of the 3 clubs on the river to come together and form the Association of Thames Yacht Clubs. UTMYC involvement with the association has been consistently supportive throughout its history.

UTMYC members have attended the rallies and dinner dances, sat on the managing committee, run the competitions and provided a number Association Officers, indeed we are grateful to have Linda Crocker as treasurer.

So it's Happy 80th Birthday to the memory of the founding members, all the members and friends – present and passed, who have served over these 80 years, and today's members and officers from all your friends in the ATYC.

