



ATYC NEWSLETTER – MARCH 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

Spring Ball .The Association's 2024 spring ball was declared an outstanding success by the 157 persons present from 14 clubs seated at 16 tables (close to the venues maximum). The banqueting venue at the Richmond Hill Hotel was a superb venue with its own dedicated bar and lounge area. After a complimentary glass of bubbly members could use the bar and lounge area for pre-dinner drinks

The evening began with a welcome speech from Chairman Andrew, followed by an impromptu competition to find the noisiest club on the river, and the presentation of the old Father Thames trophy went to Richmond YC with 47 noisy members present !

The three course meal was excellent and the service very good; the after dinner, speech was very interesting and informative.

The band Semi Detached prove very popular with dancing until the very end

The raffle contained many valuable prizes and raised a very considerable sum as did the craning package donated by Penton Craning

We will be returning to the Richmond Hill hotel next year and we expect a sellout evening; the date is Saturday, 22 February 2025 and bookings will be on a first come first serve basis with a maximum of 17 tables.

Annual general meeting and social event. This will be held on Monday 15th April at the Thames Motor YC Hampton Court, starting at 7:30.

After the AGM business, there will be a talk by Maria Herlihy Thames waterways manager followed by questions from the floor.

This will be followed by the social event with snacks and drinks from the club bar.

This event is open to any member of our member clubs but you are asked to notify us in advance of how many will be attending so that we can properly cater for you . Please notify ATYC events through the website.

Easter weekend 2024. Please be aware that the university boat races will be taking place on Easter Saturday 30th March and the river will be closed to navigation throughout the day. Also, there will be practice sessions and racing being held over the boat race course

throughout the preceding week. Clubs should check the PLA website for full details and timing .

Harbourmaster launches will be present throughout, so please take care and watch your wash.

EA Temp Staff Reduction. All of the dozen or so 'temp' relief lock keepers, employed via an agency, who were kept on for the winter have been told today that they will not be employed past the end of February and there are no plans to employ any 'temps' for this year's summer season. Last year there were 20+. Suspect unhappy boaters and lots of very unhappy residents lock keepers this summer.

TMBA Membership. The Thames Motor Boat Association (AKA Tony Riley) are offering free membership to new and existing boaters - not sure why.

Lithium Battery Extinguishers. Sea-fire are marketing fire extinguishers designed to put out lithium battery fires. The extinguishers deliver a fine spray of water which contains the mineral Vermiculite – the combination not only cools the fire but forms a seal over the fire thus reducing its oxygen supply.

River Thames Guide Updated. The River Thames Guide has been updated. The Guide which is free contains a wealth of information for both the Thames and the River Wey. Included in the Guide are instructions on how to access the widgets which give interactive information on a number of topics

Diary Dates

ATYC AGM and Social Event – 15 Apr 2024

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