

## ATYC NEWSLETTER – MARCH 2025

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**



President: The Rt. Hon. The Lord Mayor and Admiral of the Port of London

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

**To be held at  
Penton Hook Yacht Club**

**on Monday 14th April 2025  
at 19.30 hours**

### **AGENDA**

1. Welcome and Introduction
2. Apologies for absence
3. Minutes of the AGM held on 15th April 2024
4. Chairmen's report
5. Presentation of Accounts for 2024
6. To appoint an Independent Examiner
7. To elect the ATYC Committee for 2025-2026
8. Any Other Business\* – see Note 1 below.

## **MEMBERS' MEETING TO FOLLOW THE AGM**

1. Presentation by Simon Shepherdson from Hambleden Lock
2. Chairmen's closing remarks.

### **\*Note 1 – Any Other business**

We will endeavour to make time available for any other business raised by delegates.

Please assist us by notifying topics for inclusion by email to [hon.sec@atyc.org.uk](mailto:hon.sec@atyc.org.uk)

### REPRESENTING CRUISING YACHT CLUBS ON THE RIVER THAMES

ALBANY MOTOR YACHT CLUB, BENFLEET YACHT CLUB, BRAY CRUISING CLUB, BRENTFORD CRUISING CLUB, BROOM OWNERS CLUB, BROXBOURNE CRUISING CLUB, CITY LIVERY YACHT CLUB, DOCKLAND SCOUT PROJECT, HURLINGHAM YACHT CLUB, INTERNATIONAL YACHTING FELLOWSHIP OF ROTARIANS GB & I (THAMES FLEET), ISLAND YACHT CLUB, LITTLE SHIP CLUB, LONDON RIVER YACHT CLUB, MIDDLE THAMES YACHT CLUB, OXFORD DITCH CRUISING CLUB, PENTON HOOK YACHT CLUB, RICHMOND YACHT CLUB, ROCHESTER CRUISING CLUB, ROYAL SOCIETY OF ST. GEORGE, SMALL BOAT CLUB, STARCRAFT OWNER'S CLUB, ST. PANCRAS CRUISING CLUB, THAMES MOTOR YACHT CLUB, THAMES SCOUT CRUISING CLUB, THAMES VALLEY CRUISING CLUB, THAMES VINTAGE BOAT CLUB, THE SEAMASTER CLUB, THE SWAN (RADCOT) CRUISING CLUB, THE CRUISING ASSOCIATION, THE LEE AND STORT CRUISING CLUB, THE WINDSOR YACHT CLUB, TWICKENHAM YACHT CLUB, UPPER THAMES MOTOR YACHT CLUB, WEST LONDON MOTOR CRUISING CLUB, WEYBRIDGE MARINERS CLUB



#### **Current Officers standing for election to the 2025 Committee nominated by their clubs**

**Andrew Bernstein** (Thames Motor Yacht Club): Co-Chair ATYC, and responsible for Development and Training

**Chris Turner** (The Windsor Yacht Club): Co-Chair ATYC, and responsible for External Affairs

**Dennis van Wonderen** (Middle Thames Yacht Club): Communications

**Pamela Chart** (Richmond Yacht Club): Events

**Peter Scrutton** (Thames Vintage Boat Club): Deputy Chair for the Non-Tidal Thames

**Theresa Scrutton** (Thames Vintage Boat Club): Secretary

**Roger Haile** (Middle Thames Yacht Club): Treasurer

The following wish to join the committee

**Penny Phelps** (London River Yacht Club)

**Dennis Nissen** (Penton Hook Yacht Club)

**Teddington Lock Closures** - On Wednesday 19 March to Wednesday 9 April between 8am to 12pm and 1pm to 5pm Teddington Barge Lock will be closed to navigation to enable divers to undertake essential repair works. As Teddington Launch Lock remains out of service, navigation through Teddington will not be possible between the above times.

**River Rage Fines.** An appalling incident of river rage on the River Thames at Kingston-upon-Thames in July 2024 has ended with £4,334.54 in fines, compensation and costs at Staines magistrates' court on 28 January 2025.

The perpetrator had navigated his boat dangerously and used abusive language at other river users. He was also found guilty of obstructing a boat race and interfering with the safety of persons gathered, failing to comply with a harbour master's notice, and failing to register his boat for use on the Thames.

Scott Keen, of Morden, Surrey, steered his boat, Barney McGrew, along the Thames into a closed area of the river being used for Kingston Amateur Regatta, an event established in 1852, narrowly avoiding colliding with and swamping rowers.

The court heard how Keen was advised by an umpire that the river ahead was closed and he should return to a navigation channel. He ignored the request and continued past the umpire, cutting across the racing line and narrowly missing one of the boats, which had to take last-minute evasive action to avoid a collision. His cruiser then caught the anchor rope of a race stake boat, before he stopped and launched a foul-mouthed tirade against participants, yelling that 'they did not own the (expletive) water.

His actions and the way he navigated his vessel endangered the safety of those present at the Regatta, included young scullers in rowing boats. An eyewitness captured the full extent of the drama on a mobile phone.

**EA Enforcement Action.** The ongoing autumn and winter crackdown on unregistered vessels in the Thames has now resulted in 40 boaters having to pay a combined total of over £55,000 for their offences.

Whilst on river patrols, Environment Agency enforcement officers discovered the unregistered boats during spot checks at Penton Hook Marina.

This latest inspection showed unacceptably high levels of registration evasion with a quarter of the boats in the marina - around 125 vessels - failing to have been registered. Every boat owner was traced and given ample warning and opportunity to register their boats correctly.

Staines magistrates' court was told in the most recent round of cases that 26 owners had skipped the annual registration fee, determined by the length and width of the boat.

The highest charges were issued to Jess Rugeris, of Molesey, for their boat Le Petit II – more than £3,371 including fines, costs, compensation and victim surcharge.

#### **Diary Date**

*SUMMER RALLY 23/24/25 Aug 2025 at Shepperton Marina*