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Gravesend's pontoon official opening

Last Updated: 15 Oct 2012 2:06pm

Water cannon were set off by six tugs to salute the Mayor of Gravesham Cllr Lyn Milner as she officially opened the £2.1m Gravesend Town Pier Pontoon today (12 October).

Guests and partners in the project went on a short cruise on the Waverley paddle steamer - one of the vessels already using the new pontoon.

This development was funded by the iTransfer project through the European Interreg IVB North Sea Region Programme and the European Regional Development fund, as well as Kent County Council and Gravesham Borough Council.

It is intended to run the Gravesend-Tilbury ferry from the new pontoon and iTransfer, which champions sustainable ferry links, has supported the pontoon.

Leader of Gravesham Borough Council Cllr John Burden said:

"We welcome the pontoon as another regeneration project helping to re-establish our historic links to the Thames. Clearly the announcement this week of the Paramount Park development add impetus to all our plans to turns even more attention to the exciting future development of Gravesend riverside."





The pontoon is a part of the Gravesend's Riverside and Heritage Quarters restoration and regeneration and is joined to the Town Pier by a 45m gangway. The fully accessible new pontoon is the only way the public can travel by river from Gravesend.

Dr Martin Gibson, Delivery Director at the Institute for Sustainability - iTransfer's lead partner said:

"I am delighted to witness the opening of this splendid new


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landing stage which will help secure the longer term future of the Gravesend to Tilbury passenger service as well as allowing additional ferry services to be pursued and developed. Travelling by ferry is often quicker, cheaper, more reliable and more relaxing."

"And, importantly, it takes cars off the road and is kinder to the environment. This new facility will encourage more people to travel by water-based transport. iTransfer is a partnership of local authorities and ferry operators from seven European countries who are working together to promote sustainable ferry transport. The design of this pontoon has included best practice input from many of iTransfer's partners and has resulted in a less expensive but more efficient design. It is a great example of how the public and private sectors can work together."

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Gravesend Town Pier Pontoon Opening Attendance List

Cllr Lyn Milner - The Worshipful The Mayor of Gravesham
Cllr John Burden - Leader Gravesham Borough Council

Cllr Tanmanjeet Singh Dhesi - Gravesham Borough Council
Cllr Susan Howes - Gravesham Borough Council
Cllr Brian Sangha - Gravesham Borough Council
Cllr Harold Craske - Gravesham Borough Council
Cllr Lesley Boycott - Gravesham Borough Council
Cllr Senja Compton - Gravesham Borough Council
Cllr John Cubitt - Gravesham Borough Council
Cllr Greta Goatley - Gravesham Borough Council
Cllr Glen Handley - Gravesham Borough Council
Cllr William Lambert - Gravesham Borough Council
Cllr Sara Langdale - Gravesham Borough Council
Cllr Derek Shelbrooke - Gravesham Borough Council
Cllr David Turner - Gravesham Borough Council
Cllr Michael Wenban - Gravesham Borough Council
Cllr Valerie Ashenden - Gravesham Borough Council
Cllr Jean Averibou - Gravesham Borough Council
Cllr Colin Caller - Gravesham Borough Council
Cllr Peter Rayner - Gravesham Borough Council
Cllr Derek Sales - Gravesham Borough Council

Cllr Bryan Sweetland - Cabinet Member for Environment, Highways and Waste
Kent County Council
Cllr Leslie Christie - Kent County Council
Tim Read - Kent County Council
David Joyner - Kent County Council
Stephen Pay - Kent County Council
Charlotte Owen - Kent County Council

Matt Nichols, Project Development and Communications Officer - Interreg IVB North Sea
Region Programme
Alex Macaulay - SEStran
Claudia Harms - Magistrat Bremerhaven
Detlef Golletz - Institute for Sustainability
Franziska Stenzel - BIS Bremerhaven Touristik
Ginny Mackean - Institute for Sustainability
Ian Mathie Sestran - SEStran
Harro Koebnick - Hal över
Laurienne Tibbles - Institute for Sustainability
Lisa Black - SEStran
Martin Gibson - Institute for Sustainability
Stephen Bournier - Institute for Sustainability
Berte de Jonge - TESO

Sam Broome - Port of London Authority
Martin Garside - Port of London Authority
Chris McQueen - Port of London Authority
Paul Hanson - Port of London Authority
John Ball - Port of London Authority
Andrew McKay - formerly Port of London Authority
Geoff Buckby - Port of London Authority

Graham Galpin - GHg Consultancy
Stephen Sadler - Radius Regeneration Ltd
David Liston Jones - Thames Gateway
David Brooks - Cambria Trust
Stephanie Valentine - Top Sail
Kevin Diver - English Heritage
David Kampfner - KDC London
Martin Easdown - Nation Piers Society
Captain Potter - Lower Thames and Medway Passenger Boat Company
Les Woollends - Gravesend Property Company
Nicola Liles - Manor Hotel
Phil Hales - True Hair & Beauty
Jane Hales - True Hair & Beauty
Chris Bentley - London River Moorings
Sharon Brokenshire - London River Moorings
Richard Exley - Port of Tilbury
The Revd Cannon Chris Stone

Jonathon Catton - Thurrock Council
Clare Lambert - Thurrock Council
John Pope - Thurrock Council
Tracey Ashwell - Thurrock Council

Geoff Holland - Tilbury Cruise Terminal

Mary Orton, Chief Executive - Waverley Borough Council
Robert Tinlin - Southend on Sea Borough Council

Paul Sharrock - Thomas Ford & Partners
Simon McCormack - Thomas Ford & Partners

Nick Clarke - Ramboll
Graeme Walker - Ramboll
Graham Pavey - Ramboll
Richard Bloyce - Red 7 Wharf

Gerry Ferguson - Gardiner & Theobald

Geoff Dunn - GWE Smith
Steve Lloyd - Tema
John Berry - Opus
Anton Roszynski - Balfour Beatty

Richard Green-Morgan - Balfour Beatty

David Hughes, Chief Executive - Gravesham Borough Council

Mrs Chris Hughes

Kevin Burbidge - Gravesham Borough Council

Nick Brown - Gravesham Borough Council

Melanie Norris - Gravesham Borough Council

Mike Hayley - Gravesham Borough Council

Sue Lord - Gravesham Borough Council

Simon Hookway - Gravesham Borough Council

Peter Price - Gravesham Borough Council

Alan Kew - Gravesham Borough Council

Elizabeth Straupmanis - Gravesham Borough Council

Lisa Martin - Gravesham Borough Council

Vikki Finneran - Gravesham Borough Council

John Miller - Gravesham Borough Council

Mark Nash - Gravesham Borough Council

Daniel Killian - Gravesham Borough Council

Paul Gibbons - Gravesham Borough Council

Graham Cole - Gravesham Borough Council

Chris Inwood - Gravesham Borough Council

Virginie Whittaker - Gravesham Borough Council

Graham Long - Gravesham Borough Council

Sarah Knight - Gravesham Borough Council

Sean Collins - Thames Clippers

Chris Livett - Livett's Launches & City Cruises

John Megoran - Kingswear Castle

Ian Dunkley - RNLI Gravesend Lifeboat

Mrs J Dunkley - RNLI Gravesend Lifeboat

Cindy Mary Betley - City Yacht Club

John Paul Burham - Sailing Club

Past Master David Allen - The Company of Watermen & Lightermen
of the River Thames

Kevin Boyd - Svitzer Tug Company

Andrew Bain - Waterman

Mrs Gladys Bain

Katharine Harvey - TGKP

Charities

Peter Finch, Chairman - River Thames Society

Leisure Users

Lionel Willis - Greenwich Yacht Club

Rear Commodore Mike Harris - Gravesend Sailing Club

Captain David Freeman - Royal Thames Yacht Club

Jack Diaper - Medway Cruising Club

Brigadier Setphen Hodder - Royal Engineers Yacht Club

Commercial

Bob Ludlow - Swanning About

Charter Barges

Geoff Gransden - Edith May Barge Charter

Gerald Gadd - Sailing Barge Association

Michael Everard - Thames Sailing Barge Match

Press

Andrew Parkes Editor - News Shopper

Chris Carter Editor, - Bromley & Bexley Times & The Reporter

Anna Dubuis- Gravesend and Dartford Reporter

Bob Bounds - KM Group

Waverley

Martin Longhurst, Board of Directors of Waverley Excursions Ltd

Mrs Jenny Longhurst



sustainable ferry travel

**The Interreg IVB
North Sea Region
Programme**

*Investing in the future by working together
for a sustainable and competitive region*



**European Regional
Development Fund**
Investing in your future

The Worshipful The Mayor of Gravesham
Councillor Lyn Milner
cordially invites you to the opening of Gravesend's Town Pier Pontoon
on Friday 12 October 2012

Please arrive at the Civic Centre, Windmill Street, Gravesend DA12 1AU by 10.30am for light refreshments, a welcome by the Mayor and introduction to the Borough of Gravesham.

Guests will walk through the town to Town Pier for the remainder of the event.

Following the opening of the pontoon by the Mayor, guests are invited aboard the historic paddle steamer Waverley for a trip on the River Thames whilst enjoying a buffet lunch. Waverley will return to Town Pier pontoon at 2.30pm where guests will disembark.

RSVP

lisa.martin@gravesham.gov.uk

Phone 0044 (0)1474 337406

European Union  The European Regional Development Fund

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The Interreg IVB
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Gravesham
Borough Council



The Worshipful The Mayor of Gravesham
Councillor Lyn Milner
cordially invites you to the opening of Gravesend's Town Pier Pontoon
on Friday 12 October 2012

Please arrive at the pontoon by 11.30am

Following the opening of the pontoon by the Mayor, guests are invited aboard the historic paddle steamer Waverley for a trip on the River Thames whilst enjoying a buffet lunch. Waverley will return to Town Pier pontoon at 2.30pm where guests will disembark.

RSVP

lisa.martin@gravesham.gov.uk

Phone 01474 337406

Please bring this invitation with you

European Union  The European Regional Development Fund

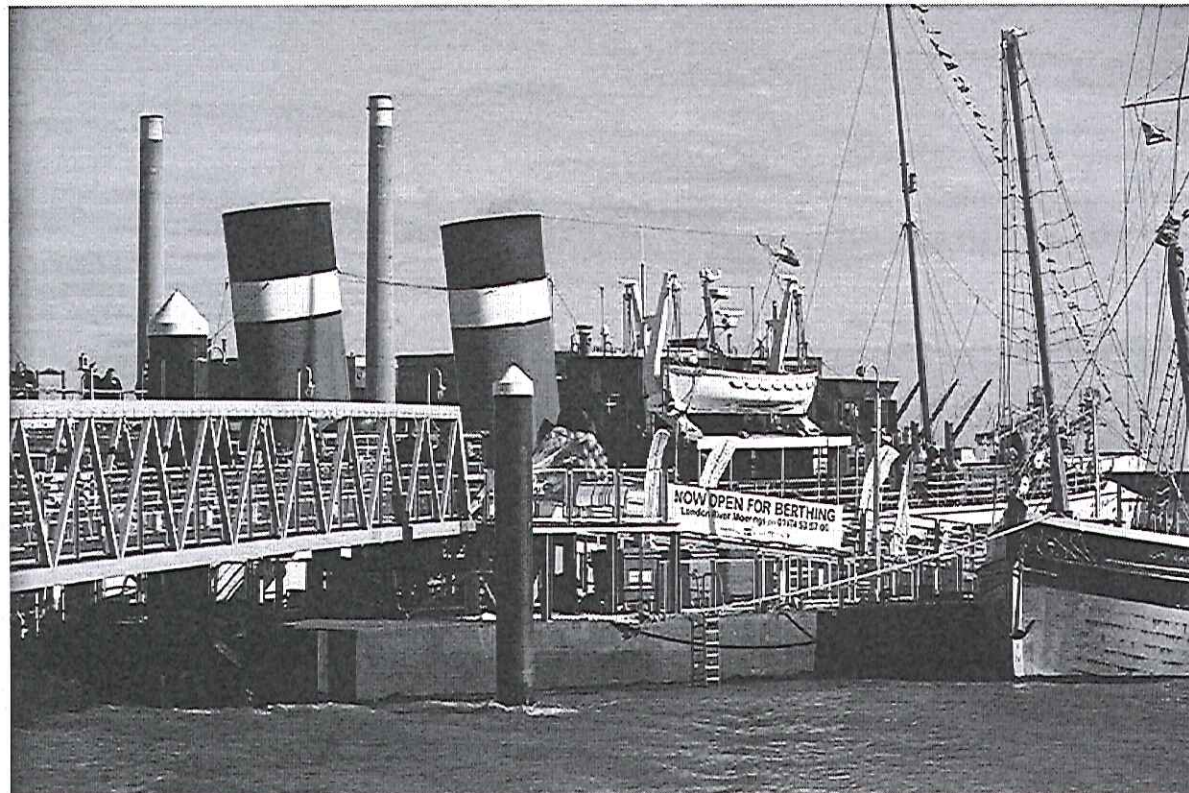
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Gravesend's Pontoon official opening (54)

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Gravesend's Pontoon official opening (88).JPG

The mayor and guests at the ceremony aboard the Waverley

Comments and faves



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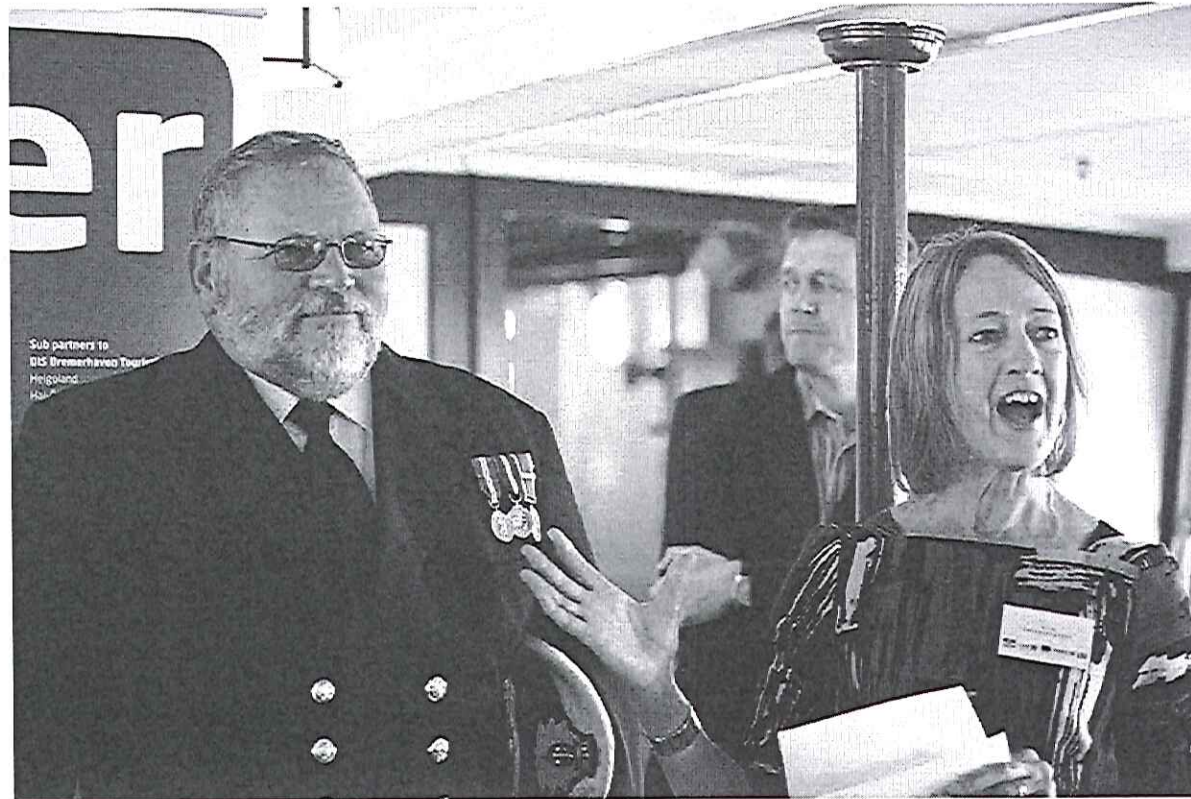
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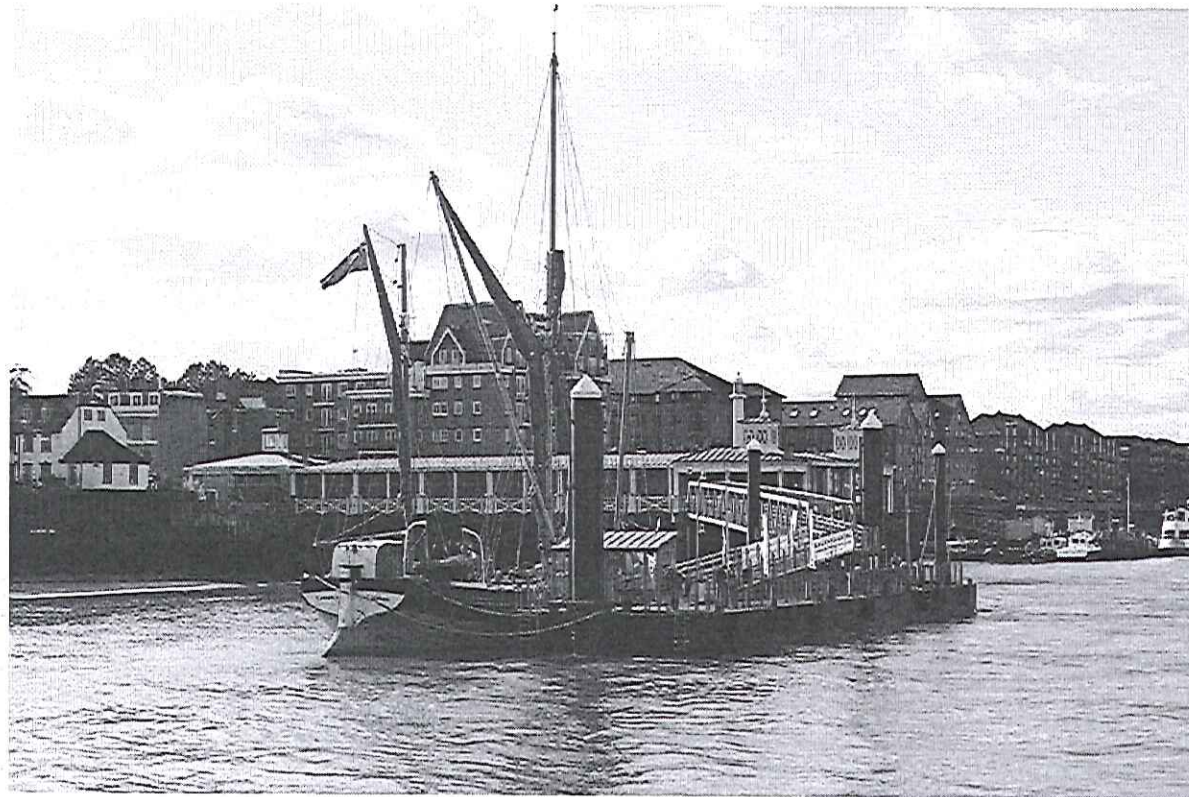
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Gravesend's Pontoon official opening (1).JPG

The pontoon

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Gravesend's Pontoo...



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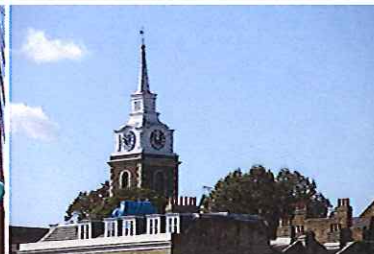
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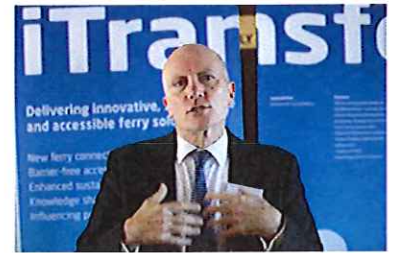
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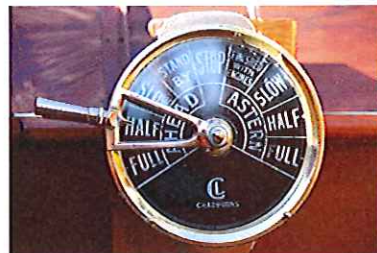
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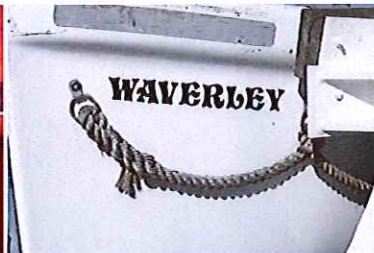
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Gravesend's Pontoon Launch


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Officials over the rainbow as new pontoon opened

by Thom Morris
tmorris@thekmgroupp.co.uk

A £2.1 million pound pontoon has been officially opened on the River Thames.

A host of dignitaries were welcomed aboard the paddle steamer Waverley for a trip along the Thames down to Medway.

The pontoon is part of Gravesend's riverside and Heritage Quarter restoration and regeneration project and is joined to the Town Pier by a 45m gangway.

Ribbon

Mayor of Gravesham Cllr Lyn Milner cut a ribbon to formerly mark the opening as a sea of colour from balloons whipped across the river.

A rainbow then formed in the spray as a tug gave the mayor a water salute.

It will be the only way the public can travel by river from Gravesend.

Gravesham Borough Council leader Cllr John Burden said: "We welcome the pontoon as another regeneration project helping to re-establish our his-



Caption: Matt Nicols from the EU North Sea region programme at the opening ceremony of the pontoon

toric links to the Thames.

"The announcement of the Paramount park development turns even more attention to the exciting future development of Gravesend riverside."

The pontoon was funded by European cash as well as financial support from Kent County Council and Gravesham council.

The Gravesend to Tilbury ferry

is due to run from it and iTransfer, which champions sustainable ferry links across Europe, has supported the idea.

Dr Martin Gibson from the Institute for Sustainability, a charity that works with iTransfer, said: "I am delighted to witness the opening of this splendid new landing stage.

"It will help secure the future



Gravesham mayor Lyn Milner made the official opening

of the Gravesend to Tilbury passenger service as well as allowing additional ferry services to be pursued and developed.

"This new facility will encourage more people to travel by water-based transport."

The pontoon is already being used.

Young carers spent a weekend



A tug makes a rainbow welcoming the opening of the new pontoon

on the historic sailing barge Cambria after setting off from the floating platform.

The Young Carers Project was the brainchild of Lynn Mitchell from the Rotary Club of Dartford.

Joining forces with other Rotarians across the county, groups of young carers are given the opportunity to spend a weekend on board the Cambria, learning the ropes of operating the barge.

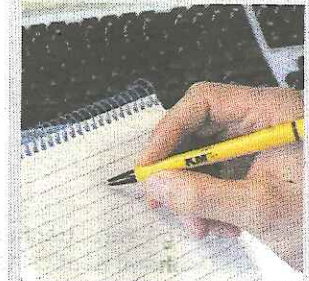
Since September 2011, dozens of children from across the county have enjoyed life onboard.

The Cambria was built at Greenhithe in 1906 and used to carry commercial cargo under sail alone until 1970.

It is now owned by the Cambria Trust which has restored and preserved the vessel.

GOT A STORY?

Do you have an event you want to publicise or a burning issue you want to tell us about?



Contact the newsdesk on:

TELEPHONE: 01474 564327

Email: gravesendmessenger@thekmgroupp.co.uk

WEBSITE: www.kentonline.co.uk

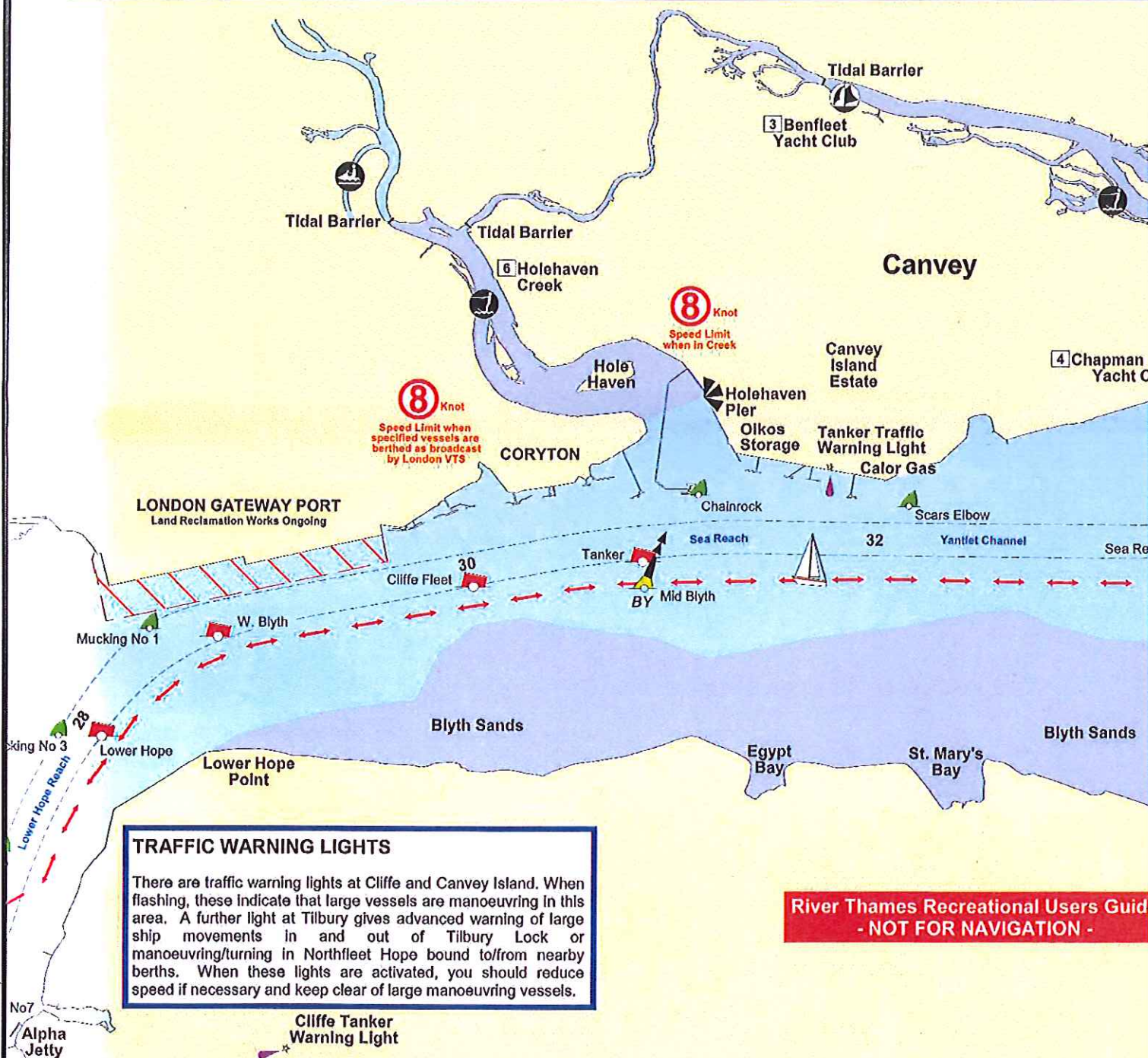


Overnight A2 closures for maintenance

Carpet Time

issues on the river Thames. Whilst mooring controls have changed due to the "Passport for Pets" scheme, the presence of any animals on board vessels must be reported to us and the animals must be kept properly secured on board at all times.

to drink plenty of fluids to prevent dehydration and to observe good personal hygiene following contact with the river water, particularly in the upper reaches. Telephone: 0208 8582751 outside normal working hours: 07050 389861 or www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/porthealth



TRAFFIC WARNING LIGHTS

There are traffic warning lights at Cliffe and Canvey Island. When flashing, these indicate that large vessels are manoeuvring in this area. A further light at Tilbury gives advanced warning of large ship movements in and out of Tilbury Lock or manoeuvring/turning in Northfleet Hope bound to/from nearby berths. When these lights are activated, you should reduce speed if necessary and keep clear of large manoeuvring vessels.

Cliffe Tanker
Warning Light

**River Thames Recreational Users Guide
- NOT FOR NAVIGATION -**

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Providing Leisure and Commercial boat owners with secure and convenient moorings close to central London.

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Contact: LONDON RIVER MOORINGS 01474 53 57 00



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2



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- Large hard standing area
- High pressure boat washing facilities



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