

THAMES VALLEY NETWORK



SWEET THAMES STUDY DAY

The history of the river, its boats and wildlife

The River & Rowing Museum, Henley-on-Thames RG9 1BF
Wednesday, 18th March 2020

Fee £13 for TVN members, £15 for non-TVN U3A members

This event takes place in the appropriate setting of the stunning Thames Room of the River & Rowing Museum in Henley, looking out across the river. The intention of the day is to deepen our understanding of many aspects of the river which has formed the area in which we live. We are fortunate to have knowledgeable and enthusiastic speakers to lead us through the day.

Entry to the museum is free (normal entry fee £10) and refreshments are provided on arrival. Lunch is **NOT** included: a ninety minute lunch break is built into the programme to enable participants to explore the museum, enjoy a picnic lunch by the river or take a meal in the museum restaurant or in one of the local pubs.

PROGRAMME

- 10.00 Registration and refreshments
- 10.30 Welcome and introduction
- 10.40 "The River Thames - How it Shaped our Region" - Steve Capel-Davies
- 11.30 BREAK
- 11.40 "Traditional Unpowered Boating on the Thames" - Cliff Colborne
- 12.25 "The Wildlife and Ecology of the Thames" - Graham Scholey
- 13.00 LUNCH BREAK
- 14.30 "The Tough Brothers' Boatyard in Teddington, and Operation Dynamo"
- John Tough
- 15.25 PANEL
- 16.00 Close

These events usually become booked quickly. If you are interested in attending, you are advised to send in your application without delay. For further information, please contact Patsy Thornton, patsy@thorntac.co.uk 01344 774812

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THE SPEAKERS

Steve Capel-Davies is a river engineer, with strong links to Wallingford Museum. He has had a life-time's involvement with the Thames, during which time he developed a great interest in all aspects of its history. He has also been involved with the Wallingford Historical and Archaeological Society for more than 30 years. He will set the scene for us, by describing how the Thames has shaped our region.



Wallingford Bridge

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Watermen's Cutters at Richmond

Cliff Colborne is a long-term member of the Thames Traditional Boats Society, and will talk about the development of unpowered boating on this river.

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Graham Scholey is the biodiversity technical specialist for the Thames Area Environment Agency. He will be talking to us about the wildlife and ecology of the Thames area, including a discussion of its less visible denizens (fish, invertebrates, otters, etc) as well as the more visible, as they are essential to how the river works.



Wildlife on the Thames

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MV Havengore

John Tough will be giving us a history of Tough's Boatyard in Teddington, looking at six generations of the Tough family on the Thames. The yard was involved with the Dunkirk evacuation, built motor torpedo boats during the War, and many motor yachts and commercial vessels, including the Havengore that carried Winston Churchill's coffin upriver in 1965.