

Chiswick Pier Trust newsletter - June/July 2017

Hello!

Summer has arrived and with it some beautiful weather at last! As usual, we have a variety of different ways for you to enjoy the Thames over the next few weeks. Firstly, leaving the Pier next week will be the 'Queen Elizabeth' taking a boat-load of very lucky people for a sunset cruise to Tower Bridge and back, to celebrate the Summer Solstice on 21 June. Next up it's the best party on the Thames, our very own Party on the Pier, with an action-packed day of family fun, on and off the water. And finally, for those feeling a little more creative, there is the chance to practice your brushstrokes by the water with our tutor-led Watercolour Painting Day. We hope to see you by the river very soon – give us a wave as you pass!



Here at the Pier

Wednesday 21st June, 7.00pm
[Summer Solstice Jazz Cruise](#)

Sunday 16th July, 11:30 to 4pm
[Party on the Pier](#)

Wednesday 26th July, 10:00am
to 3pm
[Watercolour Painting Day](#)



Upcoming events at the Pier

Celebrate the Longest Day of the Year with our Annual Jazz Cruise

Our popular sunset Jazz Cruise is back, offering the chance to celebrate the wonder of the Summer Solstice on the water! Where better to see the sun dip below the horizon on the longest day of the year than on the water, with the bridges and buildings along the Thames as a fabulous back-drop? Our boat will depart Chiswick Pier at 7pm and cruise past the sights and sounds of central London to Tower Bridge. On board, we will be serving a two-course cold supper plus there will be a bar to purchase beverages and further refreshments. There will be live jazz too of course, courtesy of the ever-popular band 'Anacousis'. We'll return to Chiswick Pier around 10:00pm. Tickets are just £40 each (including supper) and can be booked on Tel: 020 8742 2713 or Mobile: 07594 596729.

Party on the Pier

Our annual party at Chiswick Pier takes place this year on Sunday, 16 July from 11:30 – 4:00pm, with fun to be had both on and off the river. There will be the chance to take to the water on board 'Princess Freda', a boat that proudly took part in the evacuation of Dunkirk during WWII. The first boat trip sails from the Pier at 11.30 and will be sailing every 45 minutes throughout the event. The boat trips are free, thanks to kind sponsorship from Fuller's. More fun on the water will come courtesy of the Chiswick Pier Canoe Club who will be running canoe taster sessions from 12:00 onwards.

Our friends at the Thames Explorer Trust will be on the foreshore at 1:30 to help any children wanting to try their hand at river-dipping. Make sure they have their wellingtons and water-proofs with them and they could find anything from a European Eel to a baby Flounder lurking in the water! Back on dry land the kids will be able to join in with music and dancing from Amanda's Action Club. Amanda will be doing three interactive fun sessions with the children at 12.00, 1.00 and 2.30 (kindly sponsored by Sworn & Co). Also guaranteed to keep the children happy will be face-painting by Cheeky Chops.

The Pier House will officially open at 11.30 and visitors will be able to browse a great selection of stalls, enjoy the delicious BBQ from Will of Barn Bacon, and grab a drink from the Fuller's bar. Helping us to relax and soak up the atmosphere by the river will be live music from local band Shenanigans. As 16 July is also Wimbledon Finals Day we will be showing the matches on our big screen. So there is no need to miss out on any of the action in SW19 or W4. Put the date in your diary now!

Painting at the Pier

Have you ever fancied trying your hand at water-colour painting? Or perhaps you are an enthusiast looking for some fresh inspiration? Janet Weight-Reed, a successful and popular artist, will be holding a workshop for beginners and more experienced painters on Wednesday 26 July from 10:00am – 3:00pm. The workshop will focus on the Pier's river-life, and promises to be a lively and inspirational day. The fee for the session will be £30 (or £27 for Chiswick Pier Trust members). Please bring your own materials and a packed lunch. Refreshments will be available to purchase. A list of suggested materials required will be circulated in due course to those enrolled. Please call 020 8742 2713 to book your place, as numbers will be limited.



Past events at the Pier

Capturing the Wonder of Wildlife on Film

On a slightly over-cast day in May, the Pier played host to a day of photography tuition with

expert wildlife photographer Iain Green, of 'Wildlife Wonder'. The session started with a tutorial from Iain in which he encouraged us to move from the 'auto' setting on our cameras and start to experiment with aperture and shutter speeds. "Gulp!" According to Iain, the taking of a great photo starts with planning and research. He recommended keeping a nature diary and noting what animals are where, on what days. For example, Iain told us there are currently 20 breeding pairs of Peregrines in the City, and seals can be regularly seen in the Thames by Canary Wharf. There were further wise-words on composition and framing, when to capture the best light and how to choose the correct lens. As the sun brightened, we headed outside to put it all into action with a walk along the Thames Path to the haven of flora and fauna at the Leg of Mutton nature reserve in Barnes. Although no Peregrine Falcons or seals were spotted, there was much to photograph and Iain was always on hand to guide and encourage. We hope to welcome Iain back again to the Pier soon for more inspiration and tuition.

Other News and Events

Henley Regatta – 28 June till 2 July – Henley-on-Thames, Oxfordshire

Founded in 1839, the Henley Regatta is famous both as a great sporting occasion and as a social event. A wonderful way to enjoy the Thames. More info at <https://www.hrr.co.uk/visit>

The Great River Swim: Practice Swim – 29 June – Steps by Black Lion Pub, Hammersmith

The Great River Swim will take place this year on Saturday 2nd September at 12pm, and will be part of the Totally Thames Festival. There will be a free practice swim for the event on Thursday 29th June, and registered swimmers should meet at the steps by the Black Lion Pub, Hammersmith at 7.40 pm. There will be further swims over the summer including a one-way swim from the Black Lion Pub to Chiswick Pier. For details visit the outdoor fitness collective website.

The Great River Swim takes the form of an escorted wild swim round Chiswick Eyot (at high tide) starting and finishing at the steps by the Black Lion Pub in Hammersmith. Please note, it is not a race, and there will be no prizes for being the fastest. The entry fee is £7.50 and all swimmers will receive a souvenir swimming hat. Any surplus funds generated will be donated to Chiswick Sea Cadets. To register online visit the website www.outdoorfitnesscollective.co.uk

Giffords Circus 'Any Port in a Storm' – 29 June till 10 July – Chiswick House & Gardens W4.

A 'village green' style circus which tours the UK every summer. This year it features a candle-lit, international gymnastic show with dancing horses, a live band and Tweedy the clown. More info at <http://www.chgt.org.uk>

Super Saturday of Sport – Saturday, 8 July, 10:30am – Turnham Green, Chiswick W4.

One of Chiswick's biggest community events. Come and try your hand at a new sport or recreational activity, from rowing to free-running, from rugby to Pilates. More information at <http://www.supersaturdayofsport.co.uk/chiswick-.html>

Doggett's Coat and Badge Race – Wednesday, 25 July – London Bridge to Cadogan Pier.

The world's longest-running rowing challenge takes place on Wednesday 25 July, starting at London Bridge and finishing at Cadogan Pier, Chelsea. No timings announced at time of going to press. More info and live streaming of the event on the day at www.doggettsrace.org.uk.

'Movies on the River' with Time Out & City Cruises – various dates – embark Tower Bridge

Unique chance to watch movies on the top deck of a boat as it cruises along the River Thames. More info at <https://www.timeout.com/london/shop/event-time-out-live-presents-movies-on-the-river>

And finally..

Our friends at The Wildlife Trusts have launched a campaign to get everyone more involved with nature. Called '30 Days Wild' it is encouraging people to engage with nature every day, for the month of June, by doing something 'wild'. The hope is that it will get people outside and connecting with nature, whether it be watching the sun rise, planting a seed or counting the bees in the back garden. The campaign comes at a time when we have stronger evidence than ever before that nature is good for us and makes us happy. However, people are also feeling increasingly disconnected from nature, and not enough is being done to ensure that the places where most people live and work - our cities - have thriving wildlife. The campaign has been launched to address this, and is doing an admirable job of raising awareness of these issues. So, we could like to challenge as many Londoners as possible to join in and find a daily moment of 'wildness' in the Capital. The Thames, for example, provides us with many opportunities to engage with nature. There is, for example, the chance to spot river-birds (and we have a beautiful new bird poster up outside Pier House to help you), watch the tide roll in and out, and photograph wild flowers along the towpath. If you want to challenge yourself and see if you can find a daily wild moment you can join in at <http://www.mywildlife.org.uk/30dayswild> - we promise you will feel better for it!
