

The Hampton Society

The residents' association of Hampton, est.1956 Spring newsletter 2023



▲ Thames Water proposed plans include increasing the amount of treated water it releases to our waterways and the sea.

The prospect of serious drought, especially in the Lee River Valley in East London, has led Thames Water to propose extracting water from the Thames at Teddington. It will be replaced with highly treated recycled water from Mogden Sewage Treatment Works (STW) in Isleworth.

A new site at Teddington Weir will extract the water from an existing underground tunnel to supply the Lee Valley reservoirs needing more drinking water.

At all costs the proposed scheme must be working within eight years "helping to achieve resilience to a one-in-200 year drought by 2031" claims Thames Water. "This is deemed to be the most cost-effective solution within that eight-year timescale".

So what happens to treated water now?

Treated wastewater is already currently released into local waterways and the sea. Presumably the treated water from the Hampton STW will have already entered the Thames before it is extracted down river.

The 'anaerobic digestion' treatment of the remaining 'sludge' naturally raises its temperature, creating biogas that can be burned to create heat, which in turn creates electricity.

However, a prime concern of the proposed scheme is the cost it will have on environmental and river life with its implementation resulting in a change in the water temperature and its chemical make-up. Talking to the BBC last week, Teddington Bluetits Swimming Club founder Marlene Lawrence, said: "it couldn't be more vital for us as a community directly affected by this scheme to hold the company to a standard where they aren't looking at every opportunity to pump effluent into our rivers."



▲ Teddington Bluetits Swimming group targeted Thames Water with a protest at Teddington Lock in February

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Notice of The Hampton Society 2023 AGM

St Mary's community hall,
7.30pm for at 8.00pm start.

THU
27
APRIL

Agenda

1. Minutes of AGM held on 28 April 2022 (available on our website).
2. Matters arising from the minutes
3. Presentation and approval of accounts for 2022/23
4. Appointment of Independent Examiner for 2023/24
5. Chair's report
6. Elections of officers and committee in accordance with the rules
a) Vice-Chair; b) Secretary;
c) Committee members

Please submit your application no later than Friday 14 April if you would like to stand for any of the positions on the committee.

7. Any other business.

This is not an impromptu part of the meeting. If you would like to raise an issue please submit it in writing no later than Friday 13 April to have it added to the agenda.

We are unable to discuss issues without prior notice.



Notes from the Chair

We appear to be doing something right!

Event organiser Rosemary Hill has produced a short survey asking members what they think of the Society's events.

The questions requested feedback about our talks, walks, lunch, the quiz night and summer party. She also asked for any other suggestions that members would like us to consider adding to our calendar of events.

We are very pleased that the survey endorsed that our interesting talks are enjoyed by members. Suggestions for other events included more organised walks throughout the year; a music evening; a poetry recital; a country dance; litter picking; and organising a local market.

The Hampton Society's aims are to preserve and enhance the area's beauty and interest and to encourage a strong sense of community by sharing information and arranging interesting talks and events throughout the year.

Whilst we will always maintain an eye on planning applications and continue to improve the channels of communication with members through this newsletter and regular emails, we will strive to build on the success of the talks and events we organise.



▲ Packed lunch at the Jolly Coopers



▲ Quiz master Andy Smith



▲ The tickled purple winning team led by Ros Cash.

January Lunch & Quiz Night

Our January lunch was held at the Jolly Coopers this year. By all accounts the food was delicious and as you will see from the picture it was a cosy affair and will take some beating. Back after too many years of pandemic postponement, the quiz night was a resounding sell-out success. Proceedings were conducted by our new quiz setters, Andy Smith and Margaret Lamb. My thanks go to them for such an enjoyable evening. It was a pleasure to see the whole hall singing along to one of the songs in the music round!

Planning applications are sometimes not what they seem

Towpath pontoons by Thames Close. Applicant had said they were working closely with local residents and that they were very positive about the improvement plans. The reality was that the residents had no such relationship with the developers and were largely against any plans as they would challenge the privacy and endanger the Sea Scouts who operate from a hut close to the proposed moorings.

Request for newsletter deliverers

Do you live on or near Broad Lane? Would you like a little exercise four times a year and help distribute this newsletter? We are also looking for anyone who can help step in when any of our deliverers are away

or unable to. Please contact **Linda Brignall** on **020 8979 9499** if you are able to help.

AGM in April

I would like to encourage as many members as possible to attend the next AGM. Not only will we be hearing from a representative of the Hampton Fund (formerly the Hampton Fuel Allotment Charity). We also hope to introduce some new committee members. See you on 27 April.

Kind regards, **William Redfern**, Chair

Obituary

Denzil Isaaks

Everyone who knew him will regret the loss of Denzil, who died recently at the age of 86.



A retired Patent Attorney at the Ministry of Defence, his legal knowledge benefited Hampton in so many of our activities, from Hampton Pool, the White House, the Greenwood Centre and the Heathrow Third Runway Inquiry.

A sociable character who delighted in greeting friends and neighbours on his daily constitutional around Acacia and Nightingale roads, he died in hospital after spending Christmas with his daughter Carolyn and her family in Nottingham.

Denzil was born in Bombay in 1936 and came to London aged 17 in pursuit of an apprenticeship in the aircraft manufacturing industry. His father had given him the £25 he thought was the necessary cost. Happily, a bystander at his local employment office enlightened him – apprenticeships were free to under-18s in post-war Britain. He joined aircraft manufacturer Handley-Page and duly won the Apprenticeship Prize. Two years at City University followed, then a further qualification in Aeronautics led him in 1964 to the Ministry of Defence's patent division where he qualified as a patent attorney, and later became Director of Intellectual Property.

During this period, he married Pat who sadly died 16 years ago. They had two children, Chris and Carolyn and four grandchildren. Denzil and Pat served as governors for Hampton Infants and Hampton Junior School.

Outside his busy professional life, Denzil was one of our early members when we were known as The Hampton Residents' Association. In his professional capacity he was able to give evidence at the Heathrow Third Runway Inquiry and became involved in the purchase of the Greenwood Centre site in Hampton Hill.

After retirement he joined Teddington and Hampton Probus Club and enjoyed their circular rural monthly walks, starting and ending at a pub serving a decent lunch!

Latterly he joined the Richmond National Trust supporters' group which organises London visits and day-outings to country houses. Happily, he attended their latest event, a Christmas lunch at Charlecote Park near Stratford Upon Avon, accompanied by his friend and neighbour, Eileen Jones.

Denzil once described his reaction on attending a social event at Richmond Council's York House. "Do you know, I knew every single person there!" he said. Of course he did. **MW THS**

Heat Pumps and Insulation – The Low Down

When his seven-year old boiler gave up in November of 2020, Society member Tim Lester knew how he was going to cope with the Covid years. He concentrated on planning the installation of a ground source heat pump in his Victorian house in Hampton. As there is a lot of discussion about more widespread use of heat pumps he has decided to pass on his experience so far.

“Given the need to reduce the use of fossil fuels I decided it was unethical to install another gas boiler” explained Tim. “I quickly homed in on a ground source heat pump (GSHP)”.

To put Tim’s plans into context, his house was built in 1865 with single glazing and solid 9-inch walls. He and his wife Frances moved there in 1980, improving the insulation wherever possible.

Insulate! Insulate! Insulate!

Alongside work to dig a trench in the back garden, further insulation needed to be installed – 100mm of stone wool insulation under the suspended floors and between ground and first floors, for instance. Secondary and double glazing followed, then bigger radiators because of the lower water circulating temperature.



▲ The heat pump, the size of a domestic dishwasher, has been installed along with the ancillaries in Tim’s garage

“We are now enjoying having a heated house following two years running on fan heaters in the rooms we were using” says Tim, because of work being held up by the pandemic. He admits “The capital costs were much higher than they would have been for a gas boiler at around £56,000, but I hope that the completely new house heating system is now ‘future proofed’ for many years”.

Later in the winter he plans to compare the actual kilowatt hours used with those of earlier years.

“If I can see opportunities I will add further insulation – indeed to misquote Tony Blair – “Insulate! Insulate! Insulate!” and don’t stop when you match the current Building Regulations!”

As our architect on the Society’s committee, Iacopo Sassi, has confirmed, masonry in older stock housing leaks a lot of heat, not just the windows. If you want to save money, consider improving the amount of insulation around your house walls first.

Warm & Cosy?

But does it meet his heating expectations? Tim replies “The unit we have has a slightly lower rated output compared to the calculated heat need for the whole house. However, cold snaps are still handled by the heat pump alone rather than supplementing it with the immersion or fan heaters when not all rooms are in use.”

Is it worth the high costs? Tim continues “Yes, the capital cost is high. Many people will not be able to afford it and for some it will be a matter of priority: reduce one’s carbon footprint or build a conservatory.” Iacopo concurs “I am regularly asked to design conversions of poorly built conservatories that are too hot in the summer and cold in winter back into more energy efficient extensions’.

If you are considering a similar change of energy source, why not contact Tim at tim_lester@deftech.co.uk? Thanks to Tim Lester for the account. MW



▲ Two 100 metre deep boreholes were drilled and a 1 metre deep trench dug the length of the garden in 2021

About your committee

The committee is the governing body of The Hampton Society. It consists of elected officers and up to six committee members. We meet four times a year to discuss current issues that affect the community to see where we can make a contribution. We also organise talks, visits and events for our members.

Any member of the Society is eligible to join the committee and can stand for election at our Annual General Meeting in April or be co-opted during the year. If you are interested in joining the committee and playing a part in the Society and Hampton’s development, please contact the secretary below.

Committee members

Chair

William Redfern 020 8286 7071

Deputy chair

Iacopo Sassi 07761 670911

Secretary

Lesley Cesenek 07540 342813

Treasurer

Brian Brignall 020 8979 9499

Membership

Linda Brignall 020 8979 9499

Newsletter editor

Maura Waters 020 8979 9654

Event organisers

Alice Fordham 020 8979 3543
Rosemary Hill 020 8973 3604

Newsletter production: Edited by Maura Waters. Designed and produced by William Redfern www.williamredfern.co.uk

Update on Membership

Over 95% of our members now pay by annual Standing Order

We would really appreciate it if you do not currently pay by Standing Order to consider doing so when you come to renew your membership.

A warm welcome to our 21 new members

New Proposed River Abstraction

continued from front page

Consultation

Accordingly, a series of public meetings are planned to inform the public of the scheme's progress. "We're in the very early stages of consultation and design" says Thames Water. "We will answer customers' questions on the draft plans and how the scheme would work." So far only one such consultation has taken place online.

Twickenham MP Munira Wilson slammed Thames Water's failures in the House of Commons, saying that "before 'recycling' water at Teddington, Thames Water should focus on fixing the leaks that lose them a quarter of their daily supply" and called on the Minister to increase fines for leaky pipes and tie executive bonuses to environmental performance.

Our local MP also expressed that although Thames Water had finally heeded her calls for additional public engagement events, she was disappointed that the online Q&A was so heavily managed – not quite the 'open' public meeting that had been asked for. She has pledged to engage with local groups concerned about these plans and to hold Thames Water and the Government to account to ensure the plans are thoroughly scrutinised.

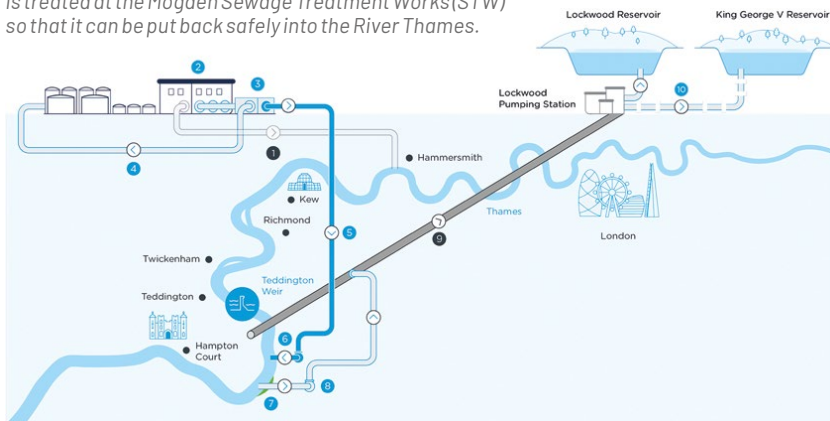
The second consultation event is a public drop-in event at York House, Twickenham, from 2pm to 8pm on Friday, 3 March.

Don't delay to have your say

There is more information on the Thames Water website: bit.ly/3SF6PqI, Munira Wilson's website: bit.ly/3J7Bnym; and an article in *The Guardian*: bit.ly/3y46JiR. The consultation will close on 21 March 2023. **MW/WR** **THS**

Diagrammatic explanation from Thames Water's proposal:

▼ The wastewater collected from houses and businesses is treated at the Mogden Sewage Treatment Works (STW) so that it can be put back safely into the River Thames.



1. The treated water is put safely back into the River Thames.
2. Upgrade the STW storm tanks to provide the space needed to build a new advanced (tertiary) treatment plant.
3. Some of the treated water is diverted and undergoes further treatment at the new advanced (tertiary) treatment plant.
4. The waste stream from the further treatment returned to the main STW for re-treatment.
5. The further treated water is pumped via an underground tunnel upstream of Teddington Weir.

6. It is put into the River Thames upstream of Teddington Weir. This allows us to take water from the river for drinking water supply whilst making sure there is enough water left in the river to protect the fish and wildlife.
7. New abstraction on the River Thames. The abstraction point will have screens to protect fish and eels.
8. Water is transferred via a new pipeline connection to an existing underground tunnel.
9. Existing underground tunnel to transfer water to the Reservoirs in the Lee Valley.
10. Potential new underground tunnel to King George V Reservoir.

Talks & Events 2023

Do we have your current email address?

If you are not receiving regular notices by email on breaking information and events that we manage to organise between printed newsletters, it may be because you have not notified us of your email address or that it might have changed from what we have on record. If you think this is the case, please send your details to enquiries@thehamptonsociety.org.uk, or contact **Linda Brignall** on **020 8979 9499**. You can also find a link to our latest email newsletters at the bottom of the home page of our website, www.thehamptonsociety.org.uk. Thank you.

March

Turner & Turnips

Thursday, 23 March, at St Mary's community hall, 7.30pm for 8.00pm

A talk by Laurence Shafe exploring the interaction between some of the major landscape artists of the 19th C, such as John Constable and J M W Turner and the political and social exploitation of the countryside. Turner was one of the few artists who even hinted at social problems at the start of the century.

April

Annual General meeting of The Hampton Society

Thursday, 27 April, at St Mary's community hall, 7.30pm for 8.00pm

Followed by a talk about the work of Hampton Fund's work, formerly known as Hampton Fuel Allotments Charity.

June

The Hampton Society Summer Party

Friday, 23 June, at Hampton Sailing Club, 7.30pm

July

Bushy Park during World War II

Thursday, 13 July, at St Mary's community hall, 7.30pm for 8.00pm

A talk by David Ivison.

Events calendar

Our talks are free to members but please bring your membership cards to meetings

Due to the popularity of our talks and events and the size of our venues, we may have to turn people away if we run out of room. Arrive early to avoid disappointment.

No email address?

If you want to be informed of the latest event information but don't have access to a computer, please contact William Redfern on 020 8286 7071 and he will try to call you directly.