



Participants in the Trust's Thames boating course, gaining practical experience on the river under the watchful eye of boat-builder Mark Edwards. Photo courtesy Tricia de Courcy Ling.

ENVIRONMENT TRUST FOR RICHMOND UPON THAMES

Autumn Newsletter 2009



Autumn already; where has 2009 gone? I'm already beginning to need a 2010 diary for the growing list of dates lined up for next year, and we've still got plenty more on offer this year – see the back page of this newsletter for all of the upcoming activities that we've got planned. Hopefully, you'll find something of interest to you, and we look forward to seeing you at one or more of the events. As always, if you would like more information, do get in touch with the office on 020 8891 5455 or office@environmenttrust.co.uk. But please remember that there are only two of us in the office and we both work part time, so we may not be able to respond at once, although we'll do our best to get back to you as soon as we can if you leave a message.

In the meantime, as the leaves on the trees start to turn to gold and we all begin to think about getting our boilers repaired for winter, sit back and enjoy a recap of the summer, which was really quite sunny and gave us plenty of opportunities to enjoy the outdoors.

*Sara Black
Office Coordinator*

Upcoming Environment Trust Events

**RIVER CENTRE MEETING
Tuesday 15th September**

**AUTUMN MEMBERS MEETING
Monday 21st September**

**Sir David Attenborough:
CELEBRATION OF THE THAMES
Friday 9th October**

**ART AUCTION
Thursday 5th November**

Everyone welcome
Further details on back page

BETWEEN THE LOCKS IN FULL FLOW!

The Trust's intergenerational oral history project to record and preserve the memories and experiences of people who made their living from the Thames is well under way.

The twelve Year 8 students from Christ's School, who will conduct the oral history interviews, were trained in interview techniques by Roger Kitchen from the Oral History Society in June. They developed the skills of questioning and listening in interview settings and learnt how to operate audio and film recording equipment.

In July, the students enjoyed a jam-packed day of learning and fun in Richmond. First, they visited the Local Studies Room, researching the history of the river and learning about the role of archive repositories. Afterwards, they spent time with Phillippa Heath at the Museum of Richmond, where they were able to handle artefacts related to the river, such as photo-

graphs and pottery, as well as exploring the museum's permanent exhibitions. Finally, Mark Edwards from Richmond Bridge Boat Houses talked the students through the evolution of the boats on the Thames, before the students took to the water themselves for a row down the river.

This autumn will see the beginning of the oral history interviews and, to kick-start the process, Between The Locks is hosting a reminiscence session, River-niscence, in Richmond (see back page for details). The event is an opportunity for those who worked on the river or who were and are part of the river community to reminiscence about life and work and exchange stories with old friends and our young interviewers! You supply the story; we'll supply the tea! We hope to see you there!

*Fiona Cosson
Heritage Project Officer
fiona@environmenttrust.co.uk*





CORPORATE VOLUNTEERING

In July, the Trust was delighted to work once again with staff from Garnier as part of their Take Care day, helping to clear some of the encroaching brambles and lay woodchip on paths in Ham Common Woods to make them more accessible for locals and visitors to enjoy this tranquil spot on the edge of the borough.

If you would like to find out how your organisation can get involved in corporate volunteering events with the Trust, then call the office on 020 8891 5455 or e-mail office@environmenttrust.co.uk.



WHAT MAKES US CHANGE? RESULTS FROM AN ONLINE SUSTAINABILITY SURVEY

As part of my PhD research between Kingston University and the Environment Trust, investigating the development of the River Centre as an environmental education resource, I conducted an online survey to help identify effective opportunities and interventions that could encourage personal sustainable behaviour; this will inform future initiatives for environmental education at the River Centre. A total of 160 completed surveys have been returned and have enabled me to identify the following influences on people's lifestyle.

Friends have most positively influenced respondents in their environmental behaviour (at 37%), with teachers second most influential (29%). More than a quarter of respondents (27%) feel that no one individual has influenced their behaviour. In further comments elaborating on the answers, work/colleagues and having a family were also mentioned as having a positive influence.

Individuals who have a positive influence included George Monbiot, Sir David Attenborough, Caroline Lucas, Dr Iain Stewart, Satish Kumar, Al Gore, Rachel Carson, Jonathon Porritt and David Bellamy, whereas Edwina Curry and John Gummer

were cited as having a negative influence.

Nearly half of the respondents (48%) indicated they had been influenced by environmental groups, with universities (37%) and social groups (27%) also playing a major role. At the lower end of the scale were religious and spiritual groups, schools and political groups, with 13% of respondents indicating that they had not been influenced by any groups.

Particularly influential groups mentioned were Friends of the Earth, the Green Party, the Schumacher Institute, the BBC, Boy Scouts of America, local councils, Greenpeace, food cooperatives, Oxfam and the Centre for Alternative Technology.

Two thirds (66%) of respondents indicated that global events significantly influenced their lifestyle, and 46% were influenced by local events, whereas 10% of respondents stated that they were not influenced by any events. From 33 comments, the top 10 specific events were global warming and weather change, mind-altering experiences and connection to nature, speakers, new job, landfill, acid rain, food scares, local industrialisation, regional biodiversity and Thatcherism.

KILMOREY MAUSOLEUM

Kilmorey Mausoleum will be open to the public on **Saturday 19 September** as part of the London-wide Open House weekend. Record numbers have visited the mausoleum and its wildlife garden already this year at an earlier open day in June and special events such as an activity day for families organised by the Richmond Library Service in August.

The garden has again won an award in the environmental section of the Richmond Borough in Bloom competition, reflecting the hard work and knowledgeable gardening that has been undertaken by the Trust's team of volunteers in the 7 years since the Trust took responsibility for maintaining the mausoleum grounds.

This year has seen considerable changes to the garden, with fresh areas planted and new features created such as a den for children. The garden's recycling opportunities continue to develop, with a second water butt and wormeries added to the facilities in the grounds.

Many visitors have commented with approval on the contrast between the garden as it is today and the almost derelict site that the Trust inherited when it first took over the task of maintaining the grounds. It was particularly satisfying to see so many children enjoying the space during the library activity day last month.

The mausoleum, which is a grade II* listed building located roughly opposite the Ailsa Tavern on St Margarets Road, Twickenham, will be open on 19 September between 1 and 5pm. Admission is free and we will be offering refreshments to visitors this year (in return for a small donation, of course!)

Derrick Mercer on behalf of the Kilmorey Mausoleum volunteer group

In the media, books showed the greatest influence at 51%, followed by films and documentaries at 48%, newspapers at 45%, magazines at 36% and television at 34%. Specific influential books mentioned were *Silent Spring*, *The Age of Gaia*, *Heat*, *My Life*, *My Trees* and *Seven Years to Save the Planet*. Films and documentaries included *The Age of Stupid*, *Limits to Growth*, *An Inconvenient Truth*, *Silent Running* and Channel 4 documentaries. Newspapers and magazines included *The Guardian*, *Ethical Consumer*, *The Ecologist* and the *New Internationalist*.

Most people are active in waste recycling, followed by energy, purchasing, transport and food but are less active in terms of biodiversity and are least active politically. Respondents also cited study, teaching, volunteering, gardening, vegetarianism, cycling, carbon offsetting, water, not flying, and using public transport as personal activities that have a positive effect on the environment.

A full report of the research findings will be available soon. If you would like a copy please e-mail me on k0639064@kingston.ac.uk.

John Clarke

VINEYARD PASSAGE BURIAL GROUND

HEADSTONE REPAIR

The headstone of Elizabeth Morden and Melliora Hollier, although in good condition, unweathered and with the inscription clearly legible, had been removed at some time in the past from its original location and split into two pieces. The Vineyard Passage Burial Ground group arranged for the rejoining of the two sections and the resiting of the headstone to a place close to its original location.

Rejoining of two sections of a headstone is normally achieved by drilling a series of very carefully aligned holes in both the upper and lower sections, joining them using strong rods placed in these holes, and applying a sealant.

Nothing is known of Melliora and little of Elizabeth, other than that she was living in Hill Street, Richmond at the time of her death, and that a death notice appeared for her in the *Acadian Recorder*, a weekly newspaper

published in Halifax, Nova Scotia, which recorded "Aug. 15 at Richmond, England, Mrs Morden aged 80 years, widow of James Morden Esq. formerly Ordnance Storekeeper in this Garrison". One of our members is researching James Morden and we hope to discover more of him in the future.

SUMMER CAKE SALE

Thanks to everyone who made this year's cake sale in July another successful event, enabling us to raise £437.84 towards the Vineyard Passage Burial Ground.

MONTHLY GARDENING

If you would like to get involved in the group's work, then come along to one of the gardening and tidy-up sessions. These take place on the first Saturday of every month starting at 10.30am.

Angela Hoggarth on behalf of the Vineyard Passage Burial Ground group



PROJECTS ROUND-UP

Sir Richard Burton's tomb in Mortlake has received listed-building consent for the proposed restoration work, which should start in the autumn. The Trust is grateful to English Heritage for funding, and the Heritage of London Trust has also promised financial support.

The Heritage of London Trust has already provided a grant towards the restoration of the **Terrace Gardens watchman's hut**; stage 1 of this work was completed in time for the Duke of Windsor's visit in July, and stage 2 of the work is currently under way.

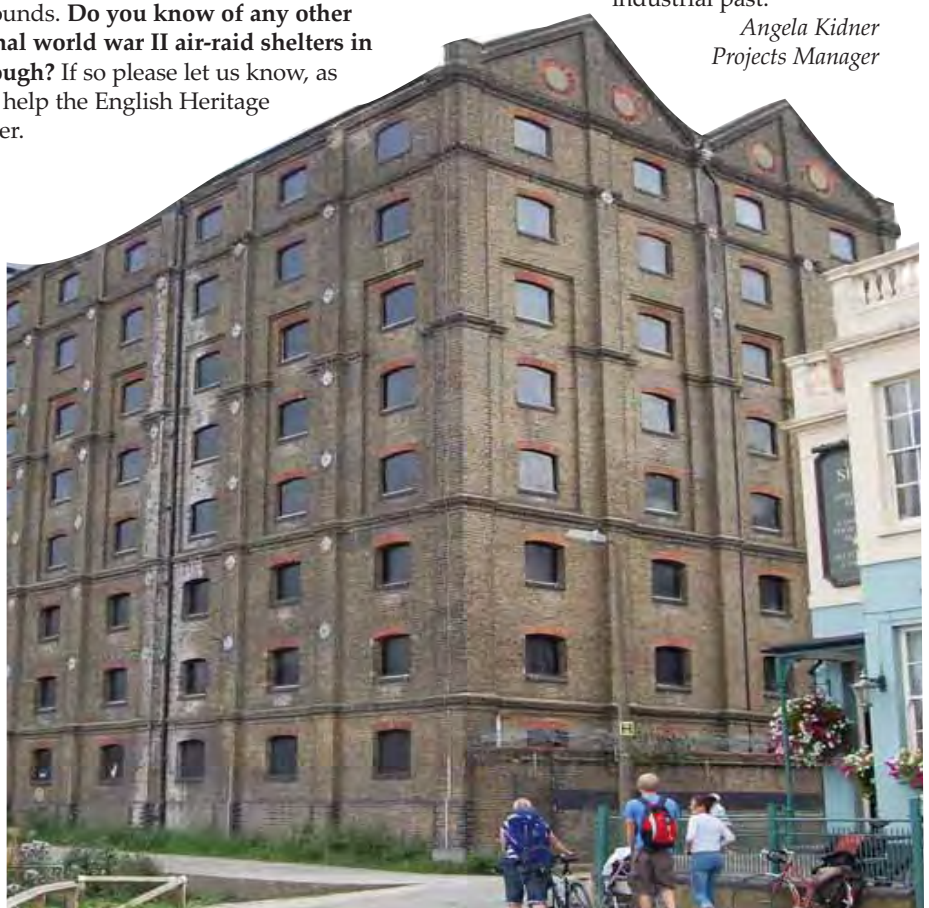
We were delighted to hear from the estate manager of **Lichfield Court** in

Richmond (photo below left) that restoration work has been successfully completed, including installation of new windows that reflect the original 1930s frames; both the original frames and the modern double-glazed replacements were made by Crittalls. The Trust was involved in the campaign, led by the 20th Century Society, for this residential block to be listed in 2003.

We are working with residents of another 1930s apartment block in East Sheen, St Leonard's Court, to gain listed-building status for the communal air-raid shelter in their grounds. **Do you know of any other communal world war II air-raid shelters in the borough?** If so please let us know, as this will help the English Heritage researcher.

Finally, Anheuser-Busch InBev has announced that the brewery in Mortlake is to close and that a residential redevelopment scheme is intended for the area; we understand that an application for planning permission for the proposed redevelopment is imminent. The Trust is supporting the Victorian Society in its application for the **Malthouse** (photo below right) to be given listed status, because it is a rare example of an important industrial building type, a building with social and economic history significance, and an important and rare link with the river's recent industrial past.

*Angela Kidner
Projects Manager*



WHAT'S IN STORE FOR THE AUTUMN?

GREAT RIVER RACE

This popular rowing marathon will be run in reverse this year, starting in Docklands and finishing at Ham. Six intrepid volunteers are hoping to raise £500 for the Trust by rowing a replica of one of the lifeboats from Shackleton's Endurance expedition. Please sponsor them by sending a cheque to the office or making a secure online donation at <https://www.charitychoice.co.uk/donation.asp?ref=154207>.



CELEBRATION OF THE THAMES

Sir David Attenborough, patron of the River Centre, will host a reception and introduce a series of presentations on the natural history of the river, at Kingston University, Penrhyn Road, Kingston upon Thames, Surrey, KT1 2EE.

The event on 9th October will start at 6.30pm with a drinks reception, followed by presentations on the diversity of life in this prime wildlife corridor. The speakers will be Mark Davison (Environment Agency), Paul Leonard (Brunel University) and Joe Pecorelli (Environment Trust). Tickets cost £20. There are also a limited number of £50 tickets for an exclusive champagne reception hosted by Sir David before the event. Contact Hazel Bull on 020 8997 9804 or thames@environmenttrust.co.uk for more information.



ART AUCTION

The biggest annual fundraiser for the Trust will be held on Thursday 5th November at York House in Twickenham. Viewing from 6.30pm; auction starts at 8pm. Tickets £5 (incl. refreshments). Contact Ros (rosnewby@aol.com; 020 8977 9224) for more information.

SEPTEMBER

Saturday	5th (10.30am)	Vineyard Passage Burial Ground volunteering
Saturday	5th (from 1pm)	Great River Race
Monday	7th (lunchtime)	Gardening at Kilmorey Mausoleum
Monday	14th (lunchtime)	Gardening at Kilmorey Mausoleum
Tuesday	15th (7pm)	River Centre meeting
Saturday	19th (1-5pm)	Open House, Kilmorey Mausoleum
Sunday	20th (11am)	Art picnic at Hampton allotments
Sunday	20th (1-5pm)	Open House, Grove Gardens Chapel
Monday	21st (lunchtime)	Gardening at Kilmorey Mausoleum
Monday	21st (7pm)	Members Meeting
Wednesday	23rd (10.30am)	River-nisence, Vestry Hall, Richmond
Saturday	26th (9.30am)	Willow spiling on Kew towpath
Monday	28th (lunchtime)	Gardening at Kilmorey Mausoleum

OCTOBER

Thursday	1st (10am)	Drawing the Buildings of Richmond
Saturday	3rd (10.30am)	Vineyard Passage Burial Ground volunteering
Monday	5th (lunchtime)	Gardening at Kilmorey Mausoleum
Thursday	8th (10am)	Drawing the Buildings of Richmond
Friday	9th (6.30pm)	Celebration of the Thames
Saturday	10th (11am)	Tree Walk, Terrace Gardens
Monday	12th (lunchtime)	Gardening at Kilmorey Mausoleum
Thursday	15th (10am)	Drawing the Buildings of Richmond
Thursday	15th (11am)	Tree Walk, Terrace Gardens
Sunday	18th (11am)	Art picnic at Brentford Dock
Monday	19th (lunchtime)	Gardening at Kilmorey Mausoleum
Thursday	22nd (10am)	Drawing the Buildings of Richmond
Monday	26th (lunchtime)	Gardening at Kilmorey Mausoleum
Saturday	31st (9.30am)	Practical volunteer on Richmond riverside

NOVEMBER

Monday	2nd (lunchtime)	Gardening at Kilmorey Mausoleum
Thursday	5th (6.30pm)	Art auction
Saturday	7th (9.30am)	Riverbed clean-up, Twickenham
Saturday	7th (10.30am)	Vineyard Passage Burial Ground volunteering
Monday	9th (lunchtime)	Gardening at Kilmorey Mausoleum
Monday	16th (lunchtime)	Gardening at Kilmorey Mausoleum
Saturday	21st (9.30am)	Riverbed clean-up & walk, Richmond
Sunday	15th (11am)	Art picnic in Richmond (Christmas theme)
Monday	23rd (lunchtime)	Gardening at Kilmorey Mausoleum
Monday	30th (lunchtime)	Gardening at Kilmorey Mausoleum

RIVERBED CLEAN-UP AND WALK

Each November, the Port of London Authority raises the barriers at Richmond lock for maintenance, so the river level is much lower than normal (flood water permitting!)

This is an ideal opportunity to get onto the riverbed, clear out the rubbish and examine the archaeology and ecology of the Thames.

This year on the 21st, we are also organising a walk along the foreshore from Richmond Lock to

Richmond Bridge in the company of experts in the physical management of the river and its archaeology, ecology and history.

Come along and explore with us. Everyone welcome, so bring the whole family!

REGULAR EVENTS

Please contact the office for more details on any of the events not highlighted above. In particular, we run monthly art picnics and volunteering mornings that everyone is welcome to attend.

ART PICNICS

Don't let lack of experience or doubt about your ability put

you off – each session is supervised by an experienced tutor who will guide and encourage you. Bring lunch; we provide the art materials. Tickets: £15 (discounts for Trust members and groups). Advance booking essential.

VOLUNTEERING

Vineyard Passage Burial Ground, Richmond (behind Vestry Hall): first Saturday of

the month.

Kilmorey Mausoleum, St Margarets Road, Twickenham: Monday lunchtimes. Call 07955 172 940 to check details.

Various locations around the borough: usually last Saturday of the month. Everyone welcome (under-17s must come with an adult). Please let the office know beforehand if you intend coming.

RIVER CENTRE MEETING

An open meeting to be held on Tuesday 15 September at Duke Street Baptist Church, Richmond. Presentations by the people and organisations involved in the project, followed by a Question and Answer session chaired by our patron Vince Cable MP. 7pm for 7.30pm. Entry £1 at door.

RIVER-NISCENCE

Between the Locks is hosting a reminiscence session, River-nisence, on Wednesday 23rd September at Vestry Hall, Paradise Road in Richmond. The event will run from 10:30am to 12:30pm and is an opportunity for those who worked on the river or who were and are part of the river community to share their experiences with the next generation.



LEISURE COURSES

DRAWING THE BUILDINGS OF RICHMOND

Emily Burton will be running a 10-hour course over 4 sessions in October. Themes will include panorama and detail, inside and outside, old and new, buildings of different purpose, and arches and doorways. Tickets cost £45 for Environment Trust members, £50 for non-members.

TREE WALK, TERRACE GARDENS

Led by Carole Ritchie, a member of the Terrace Gardens Restoration Group and an experienced tree guide at Kew. The course will be run twice: Saturday 10 October and Thursday 15 October (11am to 12.15pm each day). Tickets cost £6.50 for Environment Trust members, £7.50 for non-members.

SUSTAINABLE HOME REFURBISHMENTS

Led by Steve Pretlove from the School of Architecture at Kingston University, a course for anyone concerned with making improvements to their home using principles of sustainability. Dates to be confirmed. Cost: £45/£50. For more details contact the office.

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