



NEWSLETTER

Although the recent heatwave may be over for now, forecasts suggest that one final spell of hot weather could still be on the way. With hotter summers likely to become more frequent, this month we have included some practical tips for conserving water on board, together with an important reminder about the dangers of swimming in the Thames—no matter how tempting the water may look.

With less than a week remaining, we would also like to remind you to vote for Shepperton Marina and help us win Marina of the Year once again. If you would like us to submit a vote on your behalf, simply nominate a member of staff and reply to this email.

Elsewhere in this issue, you will find a stunning vessel recently taken on by Boat Showrooms, special offers and expert advice from Lindon Lewis Marine, and details of our upcoming training courses.

Finally—but certainly not least—this is your last opportunity to register for the Berth Holders' Party. Each boat receives two complimentary tickets, with additional tickets available for £12 per adult and £6 per child. If you have any dietary requirements that you have not yet shared with us, please contact the Marina Office no later than 28 August.



[Berth Holder Party](#)

[2026/27 Training](#)

[Conserving Water Aboard](#)

[Steve's Naturalist Bits](#)

[Swimming In The Thames](#)

[The Log Book](#)

[Inland Marina Of The Year](#)

[Lindon Lewis](#)

[Boats for Sealed Bid](#)

[Cruise Control](#)



VOTE FOR US

IN THE TYHA MARINA AWARDS 2026!

We're delighted to be taking part in The Yacht Harbour Association (TYHA) Marina Awards 2026, anchored by Haven Knox-Johnston – and we'd love your support!

The annual awards celebrate outstanding marinas and the people who make them such special places to berth, visit and enjoy.

If you've enjoyed your time with us at Shepperton Marina, received great service from our team or simply think we deserve some recognition, please take a few moments to cast your vote.



HOW TO VOTE

Voting is quick and easy:

- 1 Visit the TYHA Marina Awards 2026 voting page.
- 2 In the Find a Marina section, start typing **Shepperton Marina** and select us from the list.
- 3 Complete the ratings and tell TYHA why you're voting for us. Your comments really matter, so please share what you enjoy about the marina, our facilities and, most importantly, the service you receive from our team.
- 4 Complete your details and submit your vote.



Voting closes at midnight on **Friday 28 August 2026**, and TYHA limits voting to **one vote per person**, so please make yours count!



VOTE FOR US HERE

www.tyha.co.uk/marina-awards#form



NOMINATE ONE OF OUR TEAM FOR MARINA EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR

The awards aren't just about marinas – they're also an opportunity to recognise the fantastic individuals who help make them what they are.

If a member of our team has gone the extra mile for you, made your day a little easier or simply provided consistently brilliant service, you can nominate them for TYHA Marina Employee of the Year.

Our team members are:

- 🚢 **Kelly** – Office Manager
- 🚢 **Michelle** – Administrator
- 🚢 **Isla** – Administrator
- 🚢 **Freya** – Dock Master
- 🚢 **Jayde** – Dockmaster
- 🚢 **Steve** – Grounds Supervisor
- 🚢 **Darryl** – Yard Services
- 🚢 **Aaron** – Marina Assistant
- 🚢 **Tim** – Yacht Broker
- 🚢 **Harry** – Yacht Broker



To nominate someone, simply include their full name, the marina and your reason for choosing them in the comments box when completing the voting form.



EVERY VOTE MEANS A LOT TO US

Awards are lovely, but what makes them particularly special is knowing that the votes have come from the people who actually spend time at our marina.

Our whole team works hard throughout the year to make Shepperton Marina a welcoming, enjoyable and well-run place for our berth holders and visitors.

Receiving your vote – or seeing one of our team nominated for Employee of the Year – would mean a great deal to all of us.

So, if you think we deserve it, please vote for Shepperton Marina in the TYHA Marina Awards 2026 before midnight on 28 August.

Thank you for your continued support – and fingers crossed!



Please tell TYHA why your chosen team member deserves the award. For the Employee of the Year category, the judging panel considers the comments provided when deciding the winner, so a few words about a great experience or how that person has helped you could make a real difference.

Please note that TYHA's rules state that verbal permission must be received from the employee before they are nominated, so please check this is OK with your chosen team member.



BERTH HOLDER COUNTRY PARTY

SATURDAY 5TH SEPTEMBER
1PM-4PM



- LINE DANCING
- FREE BAR
- INFLATABLE GAMES
- CHARITY RAFFLE
- BUCKING BRONCO
- ALL YOU CAN EAT BBQ
- CHARITY AUCTION

REGISTER YOUR INTEREST NOW



UPCOMING TRAINING COURSES

ENGINE ESSENTIALS

RYA Diesel Engine Maintenance

Perfect for beginners, this practical one-day course explains how a diesel engine works, how to prevent common failures, and how to get underway again after a breakdown. No detailed mechanical knowledge is needed.

- One-day course
- 9.30am to 5pm
- Thursday 22 October 2026
- £160 per person
- Tea and coffee throughout, breakfast pastries and a light lunch included
- RYA handbook and certificate upon successful completion included

THEORY & NAVIGATION

RYA Day Skipper Theory

- Navigation and chartwork: use paper charts, plot positions and calculate headings
 - Tides: understand tidal heights, streams and predictions
 - Meteorology: read forecasts and understand basic weather patterns
 - Collision Regulations: learn the rules of the road at sea (IRPCS)
 - Safety and passage planning: prepare equipment and plan short routes
-
- Five-day course, 9am to 5pm daily
 - 20-22 & 28-29 November 2026
 - £645 per person; tea and coffee available throughout
 - RYA course pack and certificate upon successful completion included
 - Bring your own Portland plotter and single-handed dividers

RADIO QUALIFICATION

RYA VHF SRC Radio Course & Exam

- Understand the legal requirement for a qualified operator aboard any boat fitted with VHF
- Use VHF DSC radios in emergency and routine situations
- Learn the wider GMDSS scheme
- Practise sending DSC and VHF voice messages on real radios

-
- Course: 9 am to 5pm; exam: 9.30am to 3pm
 - Course: Saturday 27 February 2027
 - Exam: Sunday 28 February 2027
 - £175 per person, plus the RYA exam fee (currently £76), payable directly to the RYA before the exam
 - Tea and coffee throughout; breakfast pastries and a light lunch on the course day
 - RYA handbook and certificate upon successful completion included

LOCAL RIVER KNOWLEDGE

Tidal Thames Introduction

A focused introduction to planning and navigating the Tideway with confidence.

- Rules and regulations for leisure boaters
- Timing calculations - when to leave Teddington and when to arrive back
- Routes and passages on the Tideway, including bridges and localised hazards

-
- One-day course
 - 9.30am to approximately 4pm
 - Saturday 6 March 2027
 - £160 per person
 - Tea and coffee throughout, breakfast pastries and a light lunch included

READY TO BOOK?

Reserve your place online

<https://forms.gle/3j3USRhJzQMQ4jvp7>



Think Before You Swim: The Hidden Dangers of The Thames

Both the tidal and non-tidal Thames can look calm while concealing cold water, strongflows, submerged hazards and boat traffic. Entering from a boat can become life-threatening before anyone can react.

Tidal and non-tidal Thames: different hazards

The river changes character at Teddington Lock. Downstream, the tidal Thames is managed by the Port of London Authority: powerful tides, eddies and heavy commercial and leisure traffic make swimmers hard to see. The Port of London Authority's guidance says most of this reach is unsafe for swimming; permitted areas still require strict precautions and swimmers must stay out of the fairway. Upstream, the non-tidal Thames is managed by the Environment Agency. It has no tide, but levels and currents can change quickly, especially near locks, weirs and sluices. Check the Environment Agency's current river conditions and local signs; never assume a quiet reach is safe.

Cold water shock can strike immediately

Both the tidal and non-tidal Thames remain cold even in hot weather. [RNLI cold-water guidance](#) warns that water at 15°C or below can seriously affect breathing and movement. Sudden immersion may trigger an involuntary gasp, rapid breathing, panic and a sharp rise in heart rate and blood pressure. Coordination can deteriorate within seconds. If you fall in, float, control your breathing and call for help before trying to swim.

Currents are stronger than they look

The surface does not reveal every tide, eddy or undertow. Flow can carry someone away from the boat and towards bridges, pontoons, moorings or another vessel. Wash makes breathing and visibility harder, while a drifting or moving boat may separate from the casualty quickly. Reboarding can be extremely difficult where sides are high, there is no ladder or the crew has not practised recovery.



Propellers and hidden hazards

Never approach the stern while an engine could be engaged. Keep the propeller safely away from anyone in the water and follow the skipper's recovery procedure. Below the surface may be debris, rocks, weeds, chains or sudden changes in depth. Jumping or diving risks severe head, neck or spinal injury; steep or slippery banks can also make escape impossible.

Clear water is not necessarily clean

Bacteria, sewage and other pollution may be present, especially after heavy rain. Open-water exposure can cause stomach illness and skin, eye, ear or respiratory infections. Neither tidal nor non-tidal water should be assumed clean, and sites that are not designated bathing waters may not be routinely monitored. Read the official [Swim Healthy guidance](#) before using any recognised open-water venue.

Make safety part of every trip

Check weather and local restrictions. On the tidal river, check PLA tides and notices; on the non-tidal river, check Environment Agency stream warnings, restrictions and lock notices. Brief everyone before departure and [wear a correctly fitted lifejacket or suitable buoyancy aid](#). Carry an accessible lifebuoy or throwline, a charged phone or suitable radio, and a practised person-overboard plan. Know how you would recover someone onto the boat. Keep alcohol separate from swimming and safety-critical boating duties.

If somebody falls into the river

Raise the alarm, keep the person in sight and encourage them to lie back, control their breathing and Float to Live. Throw a lifebuoy, throwline or other floating object, but do not enter the water and create a second casualty. Call 999 with the clearest possible location. On the tidal Thames ask for the Coastguard; on the non-tidal Thames ask for Fire and Rescue. Follow the boat's person-overboard procedure and keep the propeller away from the casualty.

Tidal or non-tidal, enjoy the Thames from the deck and use a properly assessed swimming venue.



SHEPPERTON
MARINA
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DANGERS OF SWIMMING IN THE THAMES

LOOKS CALM. CAN BE DANGEROUS.



**COLD
WATER SHOCK**



**BOATS
AND WAKES**



**STRONG
CURRENTS**



**HIDDEN
OBJECTS**



POLLUTION



Conserving Water on a Boat During a Thames Heatwave

Hot weather makes a dependable fresh water supply essential: boats warm quickly, crews drink more and popular taps become busy. A simple plan keeps everyone safer and more comfortable - and helps crews comply with local restrictions.

THE NON-NEGOTIABLE: conserve water by cutting waste, never by drinking less. Reserve clean water first for drinking, food, essential hygiene, pets and medical needs.

Start with a realistic water plan

Know your tank capacity and measure what the crew actually uses in a normal day; gauges are not always accurate. Confirm marinas, boatyards and public taps along the route, including opening times, and refill while there is still a comfortable margin. On the Tideway, where stopping options are fewer, planning ahead matters even more. Carry at least one day of drinking and cooking water in separate food-safe containers.

Protect drinking water first

Keep filled bottles within reach and store them away from sun and hot engine spaces. Never assume clear-looking Thames water is safe: it may contain microorganisms, chemicals or sewage contamination. Ordinary jug and carbon filters do not make river water potable. Use it for drinking only through a properly designed onboard treatment system.

Stop leaks before they drain the tank

Check taps, shower fittings, hose connections, the toilet system and accessible pipework. A pressure pump that runs when nobody is using water can signal a leak; so can an unexplained rise in bilge water. A loose connection or worn washer may be the quickest water-saving fix aboard.

Wash with less

Take a short boat shower: wet, switch off, wash, then rinse. Use marina facilities or a flannel wash between showers, and catch the cold run-off before the shower warms for cleaning or toilet use where suitable. Hand sanitiser helps when hands are not visibly dirty, but it does not replace handwashing after the toilet or before food preparation.

Use less in the galley

Wipe food and grease from cookware before washing in a small bowl, cleanest items first. One-pot meals, steaming and batch cooking reduce both washing-up and cabin heat. Reuse clean vegetable-rinse water for another suitable job. Put scraps ashore, choose considerate cleaners and follow local rules for disposing of washing water.

Reduce toilet use safely

Use the shortest effective flush your system allows, following the manufacturer's guidance; too little water can cause blockages or damage. Use river-water flushing only where it is an existing, properly installed system. Never improvise a cross-connection to the freshwater supply, and always take cassette or holding-tank waste to an authorised disposal point.

Cool the boat, with shade

Fit awnings, reflective covers or curtains on the sunny side; ventilate when safe; and cook early or late. Fans, a damp cloth on the neck and time ashore in shade use little water. Choose non-tidal shaded moorings considerately. On the Tideway, safety comes first: wash, tidal range and commercial traffic make casual stopping hazardous.

Hosepipe bans: fill tanks, do not wash boats

Where a watersupplier's Temporary Use Bans covers private leisure boats, using mains water through a hose to clean the exterior is prohibited. Do not use a drinking-water hose - or an onboard hose connected to the freshwater system - for washing down. Essential tank refills for drinking, cooking and sanitation are different: use a clean hose, fill efficiently and leave the shared tap free. Some notices allow bucket use, non-mains water or limited exceptions for health and safety, enclosed areas, certain residential-boat needs or invasive-species control. Always check the supplier's current legal notice and the marina's rules before cleaning.

Watch for a genuine shortage

Check the tank each morning. If use is higher than expected, stop non-essential washing and cleaning - but keep drinking normally. Change course for a confirmed refill point instead of hoping an uncertain tap will work farther ahead.

Good conservation is not about discomfort. It is about planning refills, stopping waste and reserving clean water for what matters most.

Help us help you

Time-saving tips for boat repair, service and troubleshooting

Supply boat & engine data

We can only quote when we know the make, model, serial number, service history, engine hours and modifications.

Take photos and videos

If a fault is intermittent or cannot be seen/heard on demand, a photo or video helps us advise on the course of action.

Optimise access

Clear access to service areas, remove clutter and provide ALL keys and security codes to avoid delays.

Check fuel and batteries

Have sufficient fuel for testing and ensure batteries are charged (unless they are the issue!)

Clean up

Heavy fouling, dirt, dust and water ingress can slow down diagnostics and labour, as can severe corrosion or seized fittings.

Stay available

We may need a fast response to authorise work, order parts or update you on findings ahead of supplier cutoff times.

Boat Service Team: 01932 247 427

Steve's Naturalist Bits: Dragonflies & Bumblebees



Dragonflies

- Dragonflies were flying around 300 million years ago, long before the dinosaurs. In the oxygen-rich Carboniferous period, ancient relatives called griffinflies grew to extraordinary sizes, with wingspans of more than 70cm.
- Dragonflies and damselflies belong to the order Odonata, meaning 'toothed jaws'.
- They are fearsome hunters of gnats, mosquitoes and other small insects, but they pose no threat to us. Dragonflies do not sting, and they help by eating many of the pesky bugs around the water.
- Dragonflies spend most of their lives underwater as nymphs. Unlike butterflies, they have no pupal stage; instead, the nymph grows gradually, moulting many times before emerging as an adult. Nymphs have six legs, developing wing pads and superb camouflage. Their hinged lower lip shoots forward to catch prey. When ready, they climb out of the water, shed their skin one final time and unfold their wings.
- Few insects can match their flying ability. Four long wings can beat together or independently, allowing them to hover, fly backwards and change speed or direction in an instant. Some species reach around 36km/h, while the largest can grow to about 9-10cm long.

Bumblebees

The UK is home to 24 bumblebee species. Unlike honeybees, they do not store large quantities of honey or keep a whole colony alive through winter. At summer's end, only newly mated queens survive. Each queen hibernates alone, usually underground, before emerging in spring to begin a fresh nest. Worker bumblebees may live for only a few weeks. Only females can sting, and unlike honeybees, they do not die after stinging - although they usually sting only when threatened. With furry bodies and the ability to warm their flight muscles by shivering, bumblebees can fly in cooler temperatures and lower light than many other bees.

Their deep buzz is more than a sound. Bumblebees use their flight muscles to vibrate flowers and shake loose trapped pollen - a skill known as buzz pollination. Their wings beat roughly 130-200 times a second!

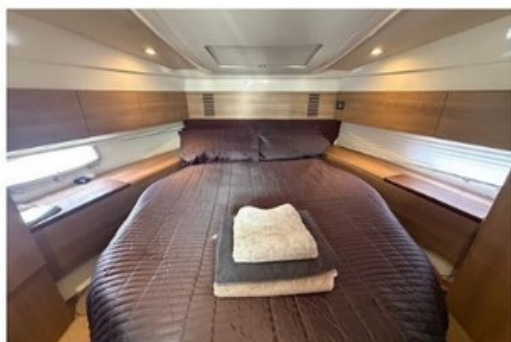
How to help

In hot, dry weather, keep drought-tolerant, nectar-rich flowers well watered. A tired bee is best placed on a bee-friendly flower. If none are nearby, offer a drop of equal parts white sugar and water as a one-off boost. Never use honey or brown sugar, which can make bees unwell.



SHEPPERTON MARINA

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Cruise Control: Isla's Boating Playlist

Isla has been busy curating a collection of her favourite songs to build the perfect boating playlist for 2026. Carefully chosen to suit long days on the water, relaxed cruises along the river, and sunny afternoons moored up with friends, the playlist is designed to become the soundtrack to your time afloat this year. Whether you're setting off early in the morning, enjoying a gentle cruise, or winding down as the sun sets over the marina, Isla's selections aim to capture the laid-back spirit of the boating season and add a little extra atmosphere to every trip.



This month's song of the month is 'Late in the Evening' by the great Paul Simon - a brilliant song to round off the summer with. It's particularly interesting that the drummer on the song, Steve Gadd, used two drumsticks in each hand to create the effect of two drummers playing together, when really it was just him! Enjoy.



SHARE YOUR BOATING MOMENTS

Join the Shepperton Marina shared photo album

Share life at the Marina - and wherever the river takes you!

Our shared album is for all your favourite moments:

- Life around the Marina
- Days out on the Thames
- Wildlife and riverside views
- Adventures beyond the Marina



SCAN TO JOIN



FROM THE MARINA TO ADVENTURES ON THE RIVER

Wherever your boat takes you, share the journey with fellow berth holders.

Please only upload photos you are happy for other album members to view.

The Log Book

★ Best customer photo



🚤 Boating Tip of the Month

Prolonged dry weather may result in restricted lock operating hours and overnight closures. Check current Environment Agency notices before setting off and allow extra time for your journey.

🍹 Next Event

Berth Holder Party
5/9/2026
Two free tickets per boat!
Dust off your cowboy boots!

Windsor Flotilla
11-13 /9/2026
Regsiter your interest in the
Marina office - more info to
follow!

🦆 Wildlife Spotting of the month



📍 Where is this spot?



🚦 Safety Reminder of the Month

Fuelling a boat on the pontoon creates a serious risk of fire, fuel spills and harm to people, vessels and the environment. All boats must be taken to the Marina's designated fuelling area, where refuelling can be carried out safely.



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SHOTBLASTING

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coatings carried out
on-site by Lindon Lewis
Marine engineers**

**Book your boat in before the
autumn weather arrives**

Get a quote: 01932 247 427





SHEPPERTON
MARINA



Boat for Sale



Vessel Name: 'Tillie'

Make: Broom Aquarius

Engine: 40HP Honda Outboard

Length: 6 metres

Location: Shepperton Marina

Other Information: Accompanied Viewing welcome prior to bid by appointment only.

Sealed Tender addressed to Oice Manager should be sent to Shepperton Marina
Oice, Shepperton Marina, Felix Lane, Shepperton, TW17 8NS no later than 5pm on
Tuesday 1st September 2026.

Payments accepted by Bank Transfer only. Vessel is sold as seen, Payment is required
immediately along with removal of the vessel within 7 days.



Vessel Name: 'Starlight IV'

Make: Bates Starcraft 40

Engine: Diesel Inboard

Length: 12.2 metres

Location: Shepperton Marina

Other Information: Accompanied Viewing welcome prior to bid by appointment only.

Sealed Tender addressed to Oice Manager should be sent to Shepperton Marina
Oice, Shepperton Marina, Felix Lane, Shepperton, TW17 8NS no later than 5pm on
Monday 7th September 2026.

Payments accepted by Bank Transfer only. Vessel is sold as seen, Payment is required
immediately along with removal of the vessel within 7 days.

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≡ **COME JOIN US!** ≡

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MUSIC
GOOD PEOPLE
GREAT CAUSE!



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WE CAN
MAKE A
DIFFERENCE!



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& RAISE MONEY FOR THE BRAIN TUMOUR CHARITY!**