

River Thames - river closure

Henley Reach Henley Royal Regatta Course

Saturday 18 July 2015 – 16.45 to 17.15 Sunday 19 July 2015 – 11.45 to 12.15

Thames Traditional Boat Festival – Bluebird K3

The Traditional Boat Festival have a very special exhibit this year, Bluebird K3, the British built, 1937 and 1938 world water speed record holding boat, built on the Isle of Wight. Her top speed was 130.93 mph in 1938.

Since the completion of Bluebird's restoration three years ago she has only been on public display on three occasions, at the Lord Mayor's Show in London, at the National Motor Museum Boat Show, and at the Goodwood Festival of Speed. At all of these she has only been a static exhibit.

Her appearance at the Traditional Boat Festival will be the first time she has been seen in public on the water since her historic appearances in 1937/8 when she took the World's Water Speed Record for Great Britain with Sir Malcolm Campbell at the helm. At 17.00 on Saturday and 12.00 on Sunday she will make a run along the regatta course. Due to her very unique design and construction and for the safety of everyone the river will be closed to normal boat traffic whilst she makes her runs.

Directions for navigation and general information during this event:

- On Saturday 18 July at 16:45 Hambleden Lock will stop locking through all traffic heading upstream and Marsh Lock will stop locking through all traffic heading downstream for a period of 20 minutes. Any traffic on the reach will not be permitted to navigate anywhere on the river from Temple Island to the finish of the Henley Royal Regatta course for a half hour period.
- Mooring to the regatta course booms or piles is not permitted. Therefore, if you wish to view Bluebird
 we suggest you moor at Mill Meadows and catch the ferry to Leander or Fawley Meadows.
- All boats must be navigated in accordance with any instructions given from Environment Agency and/or the event safety team control points or patrol launches.
- Those in charge of boats should be aware that they are responsible for avoiding collision and should
 use all available means appropriate to the circumstances and conditions to decide if there is a risk of
 immediate danger and avoid it.
- Bathing is not allowed in the above described stretch of the river during the above times.

Andrew Graham Harbourmaster 10 July 2015

PTO:



Nothing contained in these directions shall supersede those parts of the Thames Navigation Licensing and General Byelaws 1993 as may be relevant.

And Notice is hereby given, that it is provided by Byelaw 52 of the Thames Navigation Licensing and General Byelaws, 1993 that:

The master of any vessel shall except in an emergency not pass any boat-race regatta public procession or gathering for the launch of a vessel or any other event or function which may cause a crowd to assemble on or by the river nor station his vessel thereon in such a manner as would risk obstructing impeding or interfering with such boat-race regatta procession launching event or function or endangering the safety of persons assembling on the river or preventing or interfering with the maintenance of order thereon.

The maximum penalty for breach of the Byelaws is £1,000

Environment Agency, South East Region, Kings Meadow House, Kings Meadow Road, Reading, Berkshire, RG1 8DQ