



THE THAMES21 STORY

Emma Harrington, Senior Programmes Manager

RIVER THAMES CATCHMENT



CENTRAL LONDON AREA



CENTURIES OF USING THE RIVER - FOR EVERYTHING



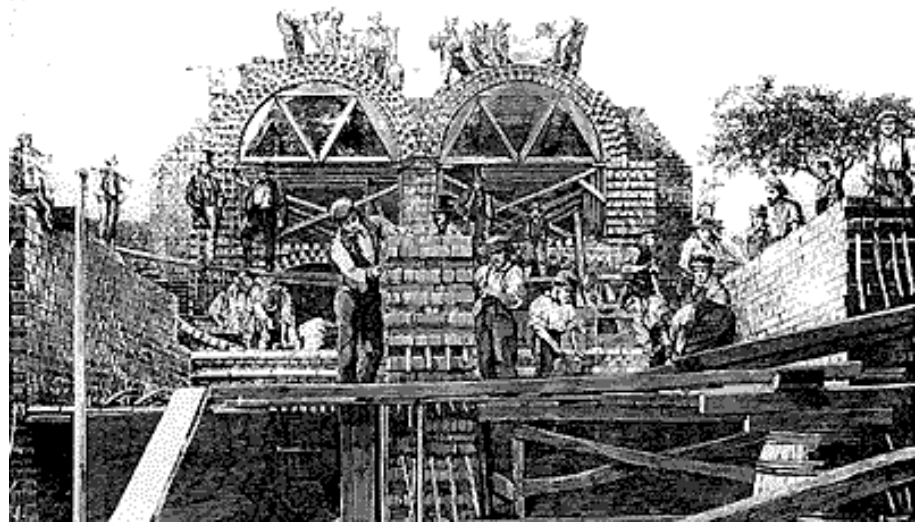
LONG HISTORY OF WORKING TOWARDS A CLEANER RIVER



1853: Cholera kills
10,000 in London

1858: “Great Stink”
closes Parliament

1866: Joseph Bazalgette
completes sewer
system diverting
overflows from the river



SIR JOSEPH BAZALGETTE'S GREAT WORK – LONDON'S SEWAGE SYSTEM



1957 : THAMES “BIOLOGICALLY DEAD”



THE ENVIRONMENTAL CHARITY FOR THE RIVER THAMES IN LONDON



- Tackling pollution;
- Involving the community;
- Using practical activities to bring people together around the river;
- Changing attitudes;
- Changing behaviour;
- Inspiring community responsibility, pride and river stewardship.



THAMES21 IN ACTION



Making plans with the community



Getting people involved



Training courses

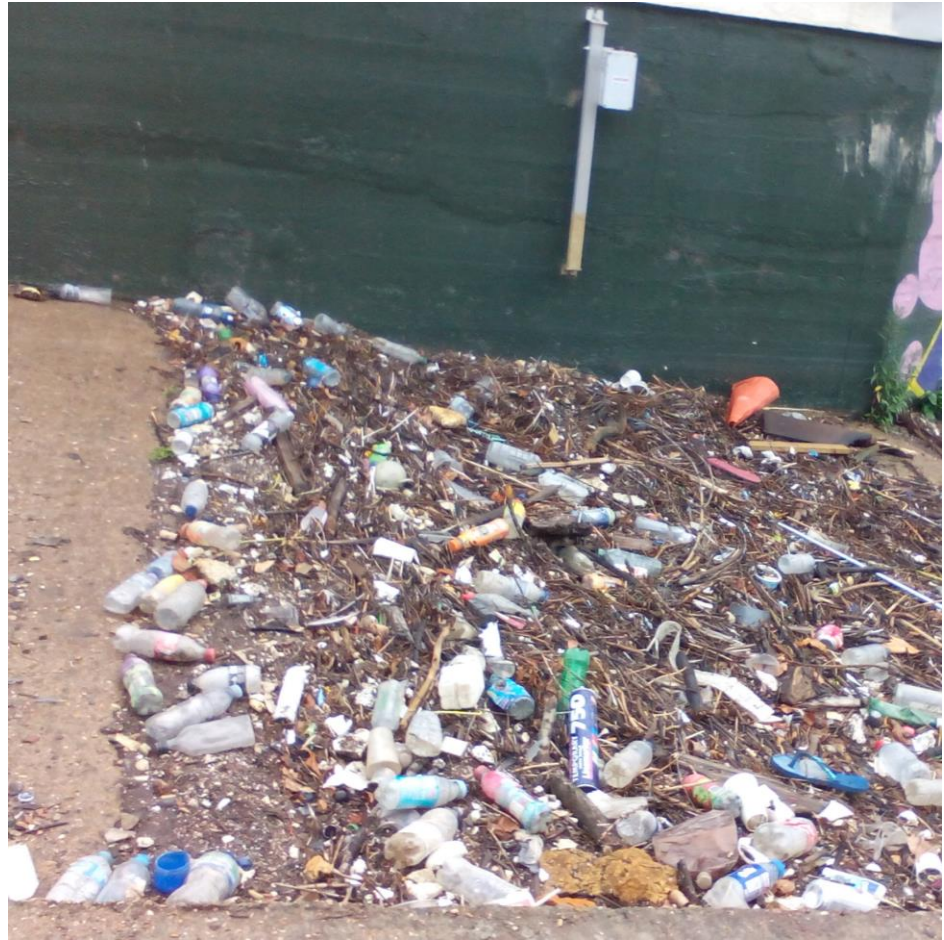


Improving habitat for wildlife



Creating sustainable urban drainage systems

THE NEED FOR A NEW APPROACH



THAMES RIVER WATCH

Understanding the health of the tidal Thames

- Rallying groups, individuals, schools & businesses along the Thames
- Training and supporting a new network of volunteers
- Testing and monitoring the health of the river, leading to a new public dataset
- Increasing public understanding - more Londoners connected to, caring about and benefiting from the river



WOULD PEOPLE HELP ?



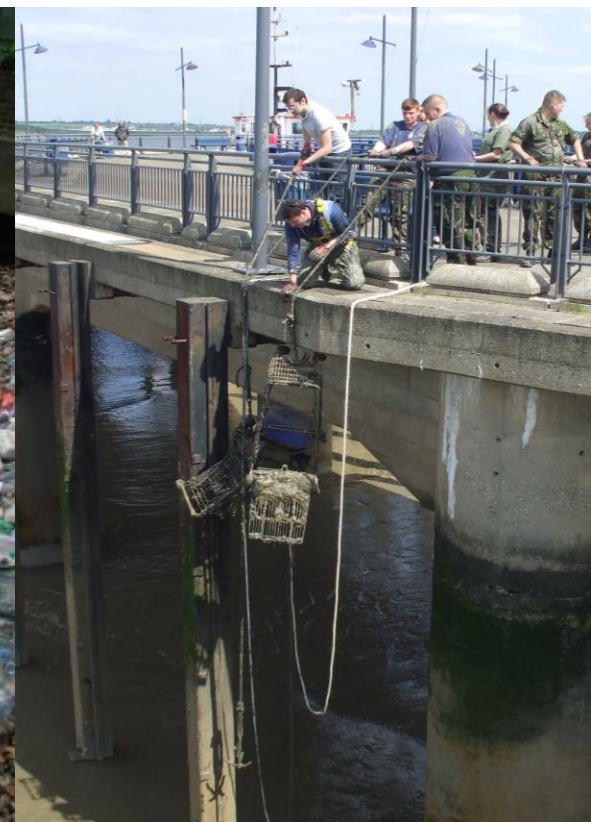
ACTION



LOCAL VOLUNTEERING ACTION



THE VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE



EVENT EQUIPMENT



COMMITTED VOLUNTEERS

“What I like is the way people start taking pride in the Thames once they get involved.”

L Balding

“Volunteering shows the community that they can organise themselves to do something about local problems.”

U Sharma

“We’ll keep at it until we can find a way of stopping inconsiderate people dumping rubbish in the first place!”

R Sheppard



SOLUTIONS & ACTION



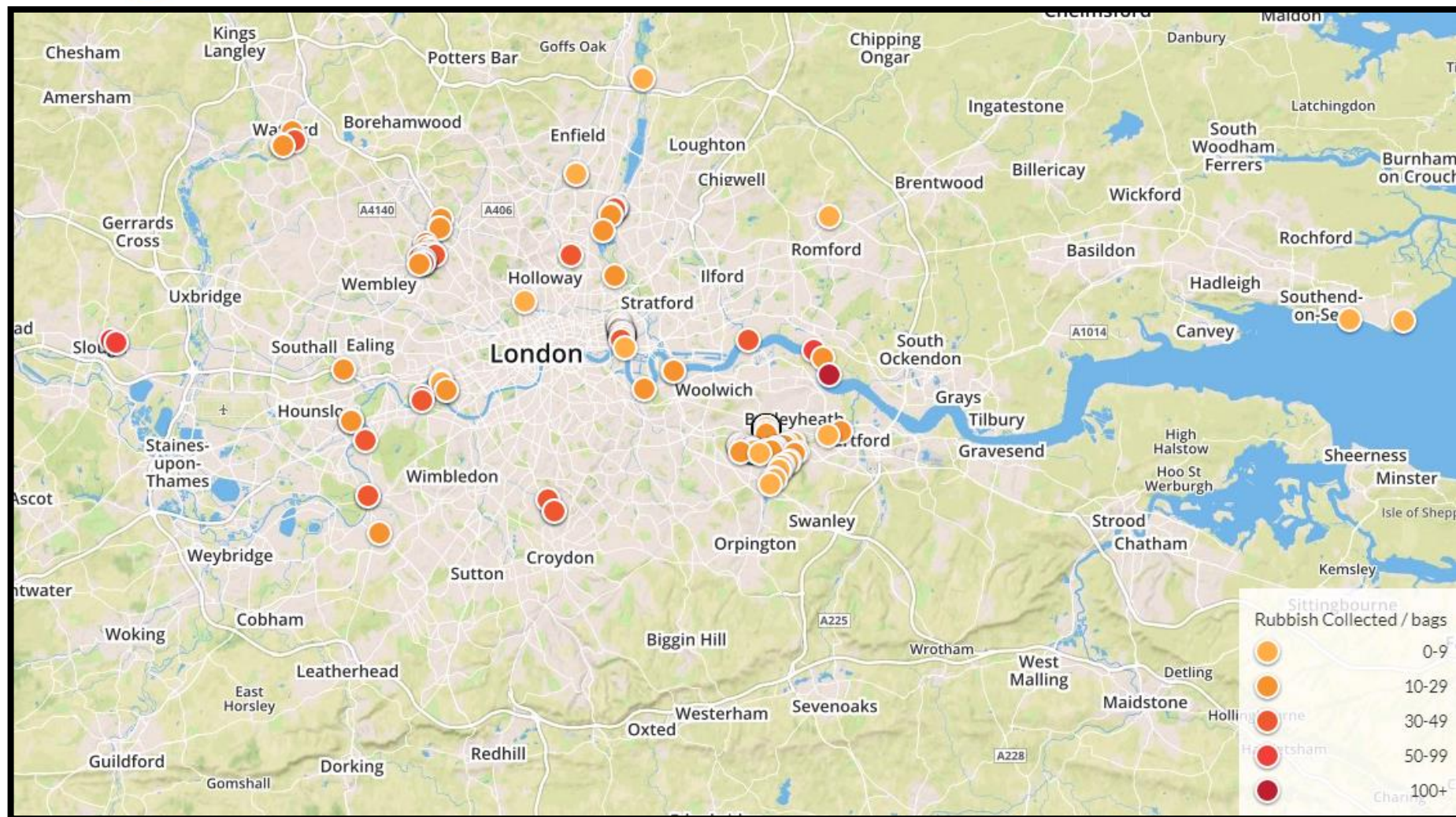
COLLECTION OF FLOATING LITTER



VOLUNTEERING ACHIEVEMENT



LOCAL GROUP ACTIVITY



COMMUNITY HUBS ON THE THAMES

Local store for equipment



Community
Hub

Communications

Litter monitoring



Litter clean-up events



Water quality surveys



Working together to
improve and monitor
the tidal Thames



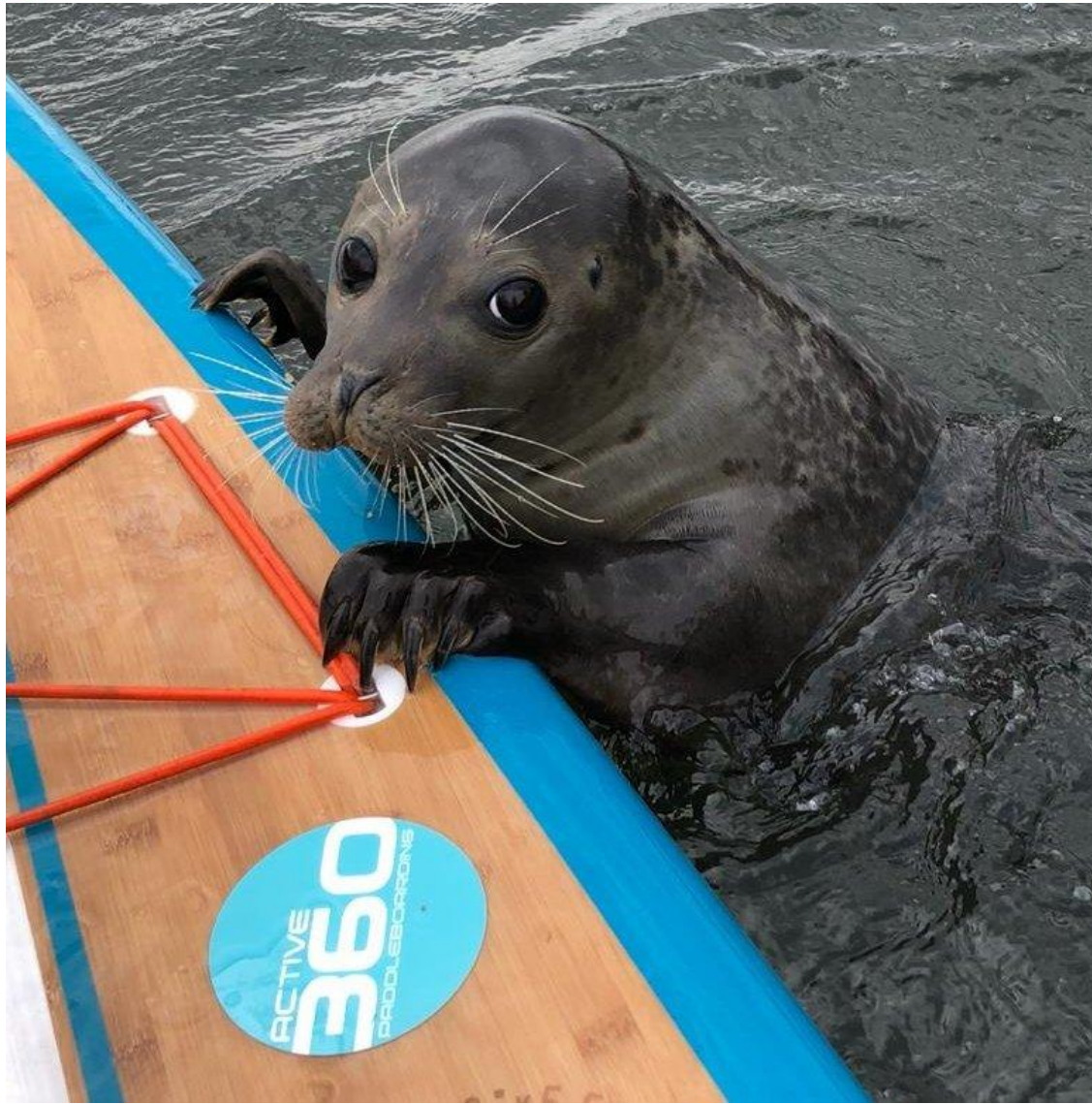
PARTNERSHIPS



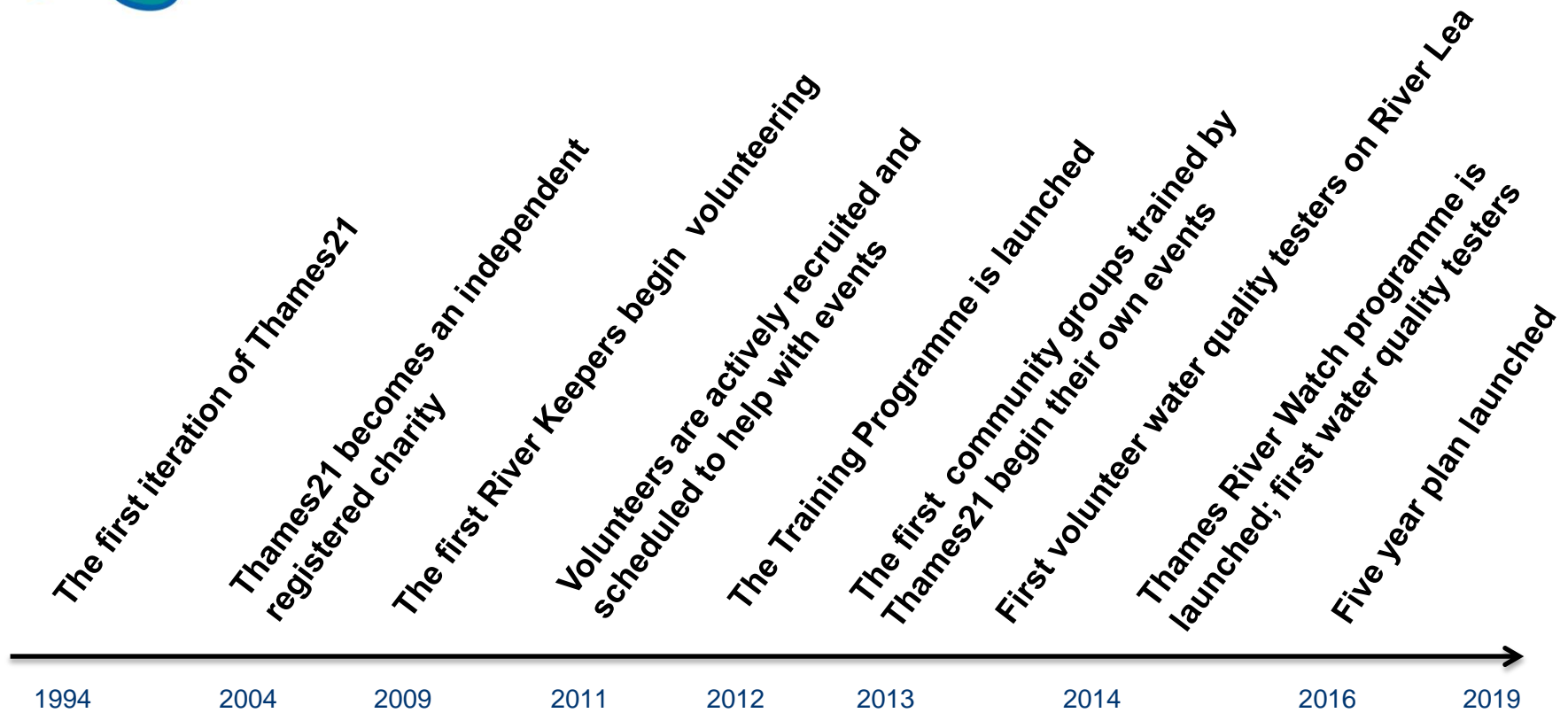
CAMPAIGNING



WILDLIFE



THAMES21 EVOLUTION



**A river is more than an amenity,
it is a treasure.**
**Um rio é mais que uma amenidade
é um tesouro.**

Oliver Wendell Holmes
(American physician, 1809-94)





THANK YOU

@Thames21

#CleanerThames