

## Our success

is due in the first place to our staff. Their hard work and fresh thinking has widened the scope of our operations and they have ensured that the *Venturer* is ready for all the calls which are made upon us.

Secondly, we are greatly indebted to our volunteers who crew and maintain the boat under the direction of our professional skipper. They also help in the office and with our fundraising events and open days. We are a volunteer organisation and without their unpaid help we simply could not function. Just to give you some idea of their commitment, we calculate that our volunteers give over 5000 hours of their time in the course of the year.

Thirdly, we are dependant in no small measure on the financial support given to the Charity by the Friends and other donors, in addition to the grants we seek and the fees we charge. The Boat Project is a costly business. We work to high professional standards. Our staff must be adequately paid and the *Venturer* kept in good condition. If we are to continue to serve an increasing number of people - as we would like – our costs may well have to rise.

## Join us and become a Friend

The Trustees of our Charity believe that what we do benefits some very deserving people and would like to help more of them. The Friends have an important role to play here because they bring long-term financial commitment to underpin our work. We keep the Friends in touch with Boat Project activities and developments and hold at least one Friends day each year involving the *Venturer* – this year our 21<sup>st</sup> anniversary party.

You can become a Friend by making a regular donation to the work of the Boat Project. A Banker's Order and Gift Aid form are included. We hope you will decide to join. Please return the completed form to the RTBP office.

River Thames Boat Project  
66 Hill Street, Richmond  
Surrey TW9 1TW  
020 8940 3509

info@thamesboatproject.org  
www.thamesboatproject.org  
Company no. 3953201  
Registered charity no. 1080281



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### Friends of The River Thames Boat Project - Banker's Order

To: The Manager..... Bank plc

Address .....

..... Post Code .....

On ..... and monthly/annually thereafter until further notice,  
(delete whichever is not appropriate) please pay to:

CAF Bank Ltd, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent ME19 4JQ (sort code 40-52-40)  
for the credit of the River Thames Boat Project (a/c no. 00007014)

The sum of: £25 £50 £100 Other £ .....

Please cancel any previous Standing Order in favour of the River Thames Boat Project.

Account to be debited ..... Account Number .....

Signed ..... Date .....

*Please return the completed form to the RTBP office.*

### Declaration of Gift Aid

Full Name ..... (Please print)

Home Address .....

..... Post Code .....

I want the River Thames Boat Project to Gift Aid this donation and all future donations. I confirm that the amount I have paid in income tax and/or capital gains tax in the tax year will at least equal the amount the charity will claim (25p for every £1 given).

Signed ..... Date .....

**Please notify RTBP if you:** 1) want to cancel this declaration, 2) change your name or home address or 3) no longer pay sufficient tax on your income and/or capital gains.

# Thinking of becoming a Friend of the River Thames Boat Project?

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## Introducing the Friends of the River Thames Boat Project

*Making the Thames Accessible*

### *Our Friends*

are a group of committed supporters who help the Charity to fulfil its aim of giving people who would not otherwise get out on the river the chance to experience the Thames aboard the *Richmond Venturer*.

Many of our clients have disabilities; many are elderly; some have learning difficulties; some are ex-service men and women, among them a number suffering from combat stress. Getting out of the house or residential home, doing something new, relaxing, chatting, drinking and eating in the company of people similarly situated but in the unfamiliar surroundings of our suitably equipped boat, experiencing the river, its wildlife and the history along its banks - all these activities add up to a day out of the ordinary to be treasured and if possible repeated. We hope that for all of our clients it is enjoyable; they usually tell us that. For some, we believe it is definitely therapeutic.

We take out teenagers for a day or overnight stay, not ordinary teenagers, but young people who care for a parent day in day out and need a break. Our work with young carers is growing. For many of them the boat and the river are a revelation, and the only summer holiday they have.

We run School on the River for schoolchildren of 8, 9 and 10, providing a serious, interesting day course on the aquatic environment. Environmental education has always been one of our core activities. School on the River is practical, varied, properly taught and fun.

In recent years we have been very successful in expanding the work we do. The number of voyages undertaken by the *Venturer* and the range of our clients has grown very substantially. We also take part in events on the river, like the Kingston River Festival and the Great River Race.

