



11<sup>th</sup> September 2017

THE QUEEN'S ROWBARGE

NEWS RELEASE

**Announcing expanded 'Gloriana Achievers' Day'**  
**4th October 2017, Royal Docks Adventure – London's Royal Docks.**  
*#GloRoWin'*

Gloriana Achievers' Day is an event that was established in 2016, to reward schools that have achieved a real turnaround in their results during the previous academic year, with the ultimate prize of a crew from the winning schools rowing Gloriana, The Queen's Row Barge\* (see Notes for Editors attached).

Due to the success of the first Gloriana Achievers' Day in 2016\* (see over for 2016 results), more schools will be involved in this, its second year. Five Academies from riparian and London boroughs, which have achieved a tremendous improvement in their pupils' results, will be rewarded by taking part. It will be an educational, yet fun-filled day to reward the pupils who have worked so hard, and it will play a key role in introducing these youngsters to the sport of rowing.



*Students at Achievers' Day 2016*

Lord Sterling, Chairman of The Gloriana Trust, said, 'Sir Steve Redgrave and I were delighted that our first Gloriana Achievers' Day last year was so successful. The Queen has approved the principle that "Gloriana will be used to promote better use of The Thames. This will be achieved through providing opportunities for Royal-supported, and other charities, to play their part in occasions and celebrations upon the Thames, with a particular emphasis on events involving young people". Gloriana Achievers' Day certainly helps fulfil Her Majesty's wish.'

The Gloriana Trust\* (see Notes for Editors) is coming together with British Rowing, Royal Docks Adventure, Skerries 4 Schools, London Youth Rowing, Port of London Authority, Thames Skills Academy and Shadwell Activity Centre, to deliver this event on 4th October 2017.



## THE QUEEN'S ROWBARGE

The five schools selected this year are from Harris Federation Academies, as they have been recognised as a 'top performer' in primary and secondary education by the Department of Education, and their success has been highlighted in four separate sets of independent research\* (see Notes for Editors).

Within the Harris Federation, there are five Academies that have shown the greatest improvement in the last academic year. These are Harris Academy Battersea, Harris Girls Academy Bromley, Harris Girls East Dulwich, Harris Boys East Dulwich and Harris Academy Chafford Hundred who are the current holders of the Achievers Blade trophy.

80 youngsters from these Harris Federation Academies will come to the Royal Docks Adventure, Royal Albert Dock, London, on 4th October 2017 where they'll be welcomed by Malcolm Knight, well known River Thames record holder, who is managing the event.

The students will spend the morning learning how to row and then take part in The Gloriana Achievers' Regatta and the top two crews will go on to row 'Gloriana' in the Achievers' Day Flotilla, with all participants receiving a 'Gloriana Achievers' Day' scroll. The overall winning Academy will be awarded the splendid 'Gloriana Achievers' Blade' at the presentation ceremony at the end of the day.

Lord Harris, Chairman of The Harris Federation, said, 'I am delighted that our Harris Academies will be taking part in this year's Gloriana Achievers' Day. It's a great opportunity for our students and teachers to meet and learn from some of Britain's sportsmen and women. And the winning crews will be so proud to say they've crewed HM The Queen's Row Barge.'

Sir Daniel Moynihan, Chief Executive of the Harris Federation, said, 'Our students that took part last year not only had great fun, but learnt a lot about team spirit, enhancing their own self esteem. We look forward to this year's event!'

-ENDS-



## THE QUEEN'S ROWBARGE

For further information visit the website [www.glorianaqrb.org.uk](http://www.glorianaqrb.org.uk)

For comment, please contact Lord Sterling, Chairman, The Gloriana Trust, 0207 647 8522.

For logistics regarding the day contact [events@glorianaqrb.org.uk](mailto:events@glorianaqrb.org.uk)

The event on 4<sup>th</sup> October will take place at Royal Docks Adventure ([www.royaldocksadventure.org](http://www.royaldocksadventure.org)), Royal Albert Dock, 1012 Dockside Road, London E16 2QT. Plenty of free parking on site, opposite 'Albert Dock' DLR station.

**\*2016 Gloriana Achievers' Day** winner was **Harris Academy Chafford Hundred**, Grays.

Participating students described the day as:

'Amazing, life changing.' 'Awesome.' 'Brilliant fun.'

Results of research undertaken with the students after the event showed:

- Over half of participating students had never been out on the river before, in spite of going to school in a riparian borough.
- Whilst less than 20% of participating students had considered taking part in rowing prior to Achievers' Day, over 80% of students wanted to get back out on the river again after the day, to row more.
- 100% of participating students thought the day had helped them to learn to work as a team and to communicate more effectively.
- 100% would recommend taking part to friends or family.

\*Notes for Editors:

**Gloriana, The Queen's Row Barge**, was conceived and commissioned by **Lord Sterling**, and built in 2012 with generous support from Eyal Ofer, The Gosling Foundation, The Weston Foundation and Lloyds Register. It was built as a lasting legacy from HM The Queen's Diamond Jubilee Pageant. The Gloriana Trust was set up by Lord Sterling in 2016, to enable Gloriana to continue to be a source of pleasure and inspiration to those using The Thames for many years to come. The barge itself was built in just over 18 weeks by over 60 craftsmen project managed by Damian Byrne and master boat builder Mark Edwards of Richmond. Measuring over 90 feet from bow to stern, made almost entirely of wood and weighing just under ten tonnes, this was the first time in nearly 200 years that a vessel such as this had been built. The coach-house was decorated by leading names in the British interior furnishing and textile design industry – Hare and Humphries for the decoration and gilding, The Rug Company for floor coverings, and George Smith for the upholstery, with special design input from Kate Woods of Woods' Silver Fleet. **Lord Sterling** ran the London Celebrations for HM The Queen's Silver and Golden Jubilees. For 25 years he was Executive Chairman of the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company (P&O), and continues as Life President of P&O Cruises. **Sir Steve Redgrave**, five times Olympic Gold Medal winner, is a Trustee of the Gloriana Trust.



## THE QUEEN'S ROWBARGE

**Harris Federation Academies** ([www.harrisfederation.org.uk](http://www.harrisfederation.org.uk)). The success of Harris Academies is shown by the fact they have 23 Outstanding Academies plus 11 Good ones, from 34 inspected, which compares very well with 205 nationally judged outstanding. Harris Federation Academies have also been highlighted in four separate sets of independent research:

Data experts *Watchsted* ranked the Harris Federation first out of 26 sponsors for improving Ofsted outcomes in schools. The analysis, which you can read about on the Schools Week website, included all of the major academy trusts. In their research report, *Watchsted* say: "The data shows that the Harris Federation has improved its sample of 14 schools by a total of 28 grades. This gives an average improvement of two grades per school, indicating that Harris is effectively adding value to (i.e. improving) its academies."

*Department of Education Performance Tables for Multi Academy Trusts* has recognised Harris Academies as a 'top performer' in primary and secondary education in the Department for Education's first set of performance tables comparing MATs in England. They are one of just three MATs to be recognised as a top performer across both primary and secondary education.

*Sutton Trust 'Chain Effects'*, is the fourth annual report in a series that reviews how well disadvantaged students achieve in academies. The researchers found that as well as outperforming the national average for the attainment of disadvantaged students, Harris academies also outperform the London average which is higher. They highlight that the Harris Federation is one of 'a handful of chains (that) have performed consistently and significantly above the mainstream average for attainment across the last three years'.

*Education Policy Institute*, an education think tank, compares the performance of MATs and Local Authorities in their first and second reports. They state: 'At primary level the Harris Federation is the highest performing school group in England – the improvement it has made is equivalent to pupils making around one and a half terms more progress than average'.

**Other participating organisations:** British Rowing ([www.britishrowing.org](http://www.britishrowing.org)), London Youth Rowing ([www.londonyouthrowing.com](http://www.londonyouthrowing.com)), Skerries 4 Schools ([www.skerries4schools.org](http://www.skerries4schools.org)), Royal Docks Adventure ([www.royaldocksadventure.org](http://www.royaldocksadventure.org)), Shadwell Activity Centre ([www.shadwell-basin.co.uk](http://www.shadwell-basin.co.uk)), Port of London Authority ([www.pla.co.uk](http://www.pla.co.uk)), Thames Skills Academy ([www.thamesacademy.london](http://www.thamesacademy.london)).



THE QUEEN'S ROWBARGE

**Gloriana Achievers' Day 2017  
Schedule**

<b>09.30</b>	Students arrive – Welcome and objectives of the day
<b>10.30 – 12.30</b>	Learning to row
<b>12.30</b>	Lunch Visit Gloriana
<b>13.30</b>	Gloriana Achievers' Regatta commences
<b>13.45</b>	Time Trial – to find overall winning Academy
<b>14.30</b>	Side by Side race – to find the two winning crews to row Gloriana
<b>15.15</b>	Break
<b>15.30</b>	Crews board boats for Gloriana Flotilla, with winners crewing Gloriana
<b>15.45</b>	Gloriana Flotilla proceeds down Albert Dock
<b>16.30</b>	Flotilla returns to moorings
<b>17.00</b>	Prize Giving & debrief – 'Your Future in Rowing'
<b>17.30</b>	Students depart