

24th October 2017



NEWS RELEASE

**The Queen's Row Barge '*Gloriana*'
to lead
The Armistice Day Flotilla
11th November 2017**

For the first time *Gloriana*, Her Majesty The Queen's Row Barge, will take part in The River Thames Act of Remembrance, by leading the Armistice Day Flotilla on **Saturday 11th November 2017 in London.**

Gloriana, with guests from The Royal Navy and Royal Naval Reserve on board, will lead a flotilla of vessels under Tower Bridge, which will open in salute at 10.20a.m., and on up to the Palace of Westminster, where she will take part in a Service of Remembrance on the River Thames at 10.55a.m., led by the Chaplain to HM The Queen and the Tower of London, The Rev Canon Roger Hall MBE, along with music and hymns from *MV Havengore*.

At 11am, after the two minutes silence has been observed, *MV Havengore* will lay a wreath and *Gloriana* will release poppies on to the river.

Lord Sterling, who commissioned *Gloriana* in 2012 as a lasting legacy from The Queen's Diamond Jubilee River Pageant, said 'I am delighted that *Gloriana* will lead The Armistice Day Flotilla for the first time. This continues to fulfil Her Majesty's wish for *Gloriana*, that the vessel will be used to promote better use of the Thames, by taking part in occasions upon the river.'

-ENDS-

For further information please visit the website www.glorianaqrb.org.uk or call The Gloriana Trust on 07801 039736

For logistics regarding the day please contact events@glorianaqrb.org.uk or 07973 562038



THE QUEEN'S ROWBARGE

Timetable for The Armistice Day Flotilla event on 11th November 2017:

- 10.10 *Gloriana* departs HMS President and takes up position below Tower Bridge with mv Havengore and flotilla forming up astern
- 10.20 Tower Bridge lifts in salute as flotilla passes below
- 10.50 *Gloriana* and flotilla arrives at Palace of Westminster
- 10.55 Service of Remembrance commences aboard mv Havengore
- 11.00 Two minute silence with full salute, Havengore moves to midstream for laying of wreath
- 11.00 Poppies released from *Gloriana*
- 11.20 Service complete
- 11.25 – 12.15 Flotilla passage downstream, *Gloriana* to moor at HMS President

Best viewing places

10.15 – 10.30 on London Bridge to see Tower Bridge open and *Gloriana* and the Armistice Day Flotilla pass under, and then pass under London Bridge

OR

10.50 – 11.20 on South Bank by St Thomas's Hospital, looking over towards the Houses of Parliament, to see Flotilla arrive and Service of Remembrance on the river

*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.