

9th January 2018



**NEWS RELEASE**

**Announcing 'Gloriana Achievers' Day' 2018,  
hosted by Sir Steve Redgrave  
18<sup>th</sup> April 2018 Royal Docks Adventure – London's Royal Docks.  
*'#GloRoWin'***

Gloriana Achievers' Day is an exciting event for youngsters 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 The Queen's Row Barge Gloriana\* (see Notes for Editors attached).

Due to the success of the two Gloriana Achievers' Days in 2016 and 2017\* (see over for details), a broader selection of schools will be involved in this, its third year. Five schools from riparian 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.



Lord Sterling, Chairman of The Gloriana Trust, said, 'Sir Steve Redgrave and I were delighted that our first two Gloriana Achievers' Days were 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, The Port of London Authority and Thames Skills Academy, to deliver this event on 18<sup>th</sup> April 2018.



## THE QUEEN'S ROWBARGE

The schools invited to take part this year have all achieved a significant improvement in their Ofsted Progress 8 Score, and will be challenging the 2017 winners, The Harris Academy, Chafford Hundred, to take home the coveted Gloriana Achievers' Blade trophy.

80 youngsters from these schools will come to the Royal Docks Adventure, Royal Albert Dock, London, on 18<sup>th</sup> April 2018, where they'll be welcomed by Sir Steve Redgrave, five times Olympic rowing gold medal winner, along with Malcolm Knight, well known River Thames record holder, and Matthew Gordon who are managing the event.

The students will spend the morning learning how to row and then take part in The Gloriana Achievers' Regatta. 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 school will be awarded the splendid 'Gloriana Achievers' Blade' by Sir Steve Redgrave at the presentation ceremony at the end of the day.

Sir Steve Redgrave said, 'I'm thrilled that we can give so many youngsters the opportunity to get out on the river. I'll be helping them with some tips on how to get the most out of learning to row, plus of course cheering on the crews as they compete for this fabulous prize.'

-ENDS-

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, via 07801 039736.

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

The event on 18<sup>h</sup> April 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.

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)),

The 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

\*Notes for Editors:

**\*2017 Gloriana Achievers' Day** winner was **Harris Academy Chafford Hundred, Grays.**

Participating students described the day as:

"Brilliant, fun, amazing"

"Fantastic! Great opportunity"

"Amazing, exciting, surprising"

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

- Over two thirds of participating students had never been out on the river before, in spite of going to school in a riparian borough.
- Whilst only 5% of participating students had considered taking part in rowing prior to Achievers' Day, 88% of students wanted to get back out on the river again after the day, to row more.
- 98% of participating students thought the day had helped them to learn to work as a team and to communicate more effectively.
- 98% would recommend taking part to friends or family.

See more of Gloriana Achievers' Day 2017 here:

[www.glorianaqrb.org.uk/gloriana-achievers-day-2017](http://www.glorianaqrb.org.uk/gloriana-achievers-day-2017) or visit the website and click on 'Gallery'.

**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 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 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

## **Gloriana Achievers' Day 2018 Schedule**

<b>09.30</b>	Students arrive – Welcome and objectives of the day
<b>10.00 – 13.00</b>	Learning to row
<b>13.00</b>	Lunch Visit Gloriana
<b>14.15</b>	Gloriana Achievers' Regatta commences – Time Trial – to find overall winning Academy
<b>14.45</b>	Side by Side races – 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>16.45</b>	Prize Giving & debrief – 'Your Future in Rowing'
<b>17.30</b>	Students depart