



Organised by Wokingham U3A

**Tuesday, 22<sup>nd</sup> November at 2.00 p.m.**

**The Venue** is St. Paul's Parish Rooms, Reading Road (A329) Wokingham, RG41 1EH This is ½ mile north-west of the town centre and there is free parking on site – including two disabled spaces.

**The Speaker: Douglas Irvine B.Sc., C.Eng., F.I.C.E.** is uniquely qualified to talk about the Thames Barrier being a Chartered civil engineer and Fellow of the Institution of Civil Engineers. He has worked for both consulting engineers and contractors on a wide range of projects. The contractors included Tarmac Construction Ltd., which was one of the three partners forming the consortium that built the Thames Barrier. He was Technical Services Manager for TCL and had a particular interest in the temporary works designed by the consortium and the ground conditions encountered during construction. He has been the author of a number of technical papers including the construction of the shiplift at Rosyth dockyard, and a section for the Civil Engineer's Reference Book.

**The Subject:** Historically, London has been a major seaport and records show that it has been flooded by the sea on several occasions. Following the disastrous flooding caused by a surge tide in 1953, works were constructed to protect London in the future. The main features of the works were a movable barrier across the Thames at Woolwich Reach, together with bank raising and other works downstream.

**The Programme** 14.00 Arrival and registration

14.15 The programme for the talk will be:-

1. **Flooding in London – history and causes**
2. **Evolution of the design of the Thames Barrier**
3. **Construction of the Barrier and the downstream works**

A cream tea will be served following the talk – everything will finish by 17.00 at the latest.

**The Cost** is £2.50 per person, which includes a cream tea.



*Photo: Len Smith*

Any questions or requests for further details should be addressed to the Chairman of the meeting, Les Roland [ldroland@gmail.com](mailto:ldroland@gmail.com) 0118 978 0092 (N.B. not bookings)

[www.u3atvnetwork.org.uk](http://www.u3atvnetwork.org.uk)

**Booking and Payment:** Please book as soon as possible and send your cheque for £2.50 made payable to **U3A Thames Valley Network** to:

Mrs. P. A. Thornton, 6 Highway, Crowthorne, Berkshire, RG45 6HE (queries: [patsy@thorntac.co.uk](mailto:patsy@thorntac.co.uk))

**Name:** ..... **U3A** .....

**Tel. no.** ..... **Email** .....

*If you require acknowledgement and do not have email, please enclose an s.a.e.*