

Crossrail works dig up the past

A series of books showcasing the historical artefacts discovered during the construction of Crossrail, which will be known as the Elizabeth Line, are set to be published.

THE ten books will explore the many objects unearthed from 40 locations since work began in 2009, with discoveries dating back over 55million years.

The first two books to be published look at Worcester House, a late medieval and Tudor moated manor house in Stepney Green and The Thames Ironworks, one of Britain's great

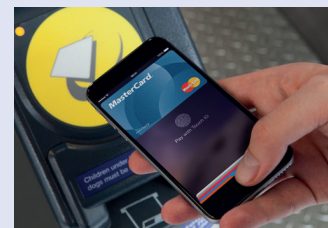


and innovative shipbuilders located on the River Thames between 1837 and 1912.
The railway's lead archaeologist Jay Carver

said: 'The construction of Crossrail has given archaeologists a rare and exciting opportunity to excavate and study areas of London that would ordinarily be inaccessible.'

'Our aim is to shine a light on the past, and make sense of a jig-saw of evidence to tell a story that takes the reader on a journey of discovery about this incredible city and its people.'

The books will be published over the next 18 months and will cover a wide range of periods and locations. They cost £10 and are available to buy on the Museum of London Archaeology website. To find out more, visit mola.org.uk/publications.



Contactless soaring

MORE than 300million journeys have been made using contactless technology since its launch in 2012, with more than a million journeys now made each day using this method.

All Tube, bus and most National Rail services now accept contactless payments as a way of travelling. There's no need to buy a ticket beforehand – you just touch in and out with your credit or debit card.

The world-leading technology, which provides quicker and more convenient journeys, was developed in-house by TfL to make life easier for customers. It removes the need to top-up, and fares are capped – with the best value contactless fares calculated automatically.

From October 2016, all black cabs in London will be required to accept card payments, including contactless, helping make travelling by taxi even more convenient.

Contactless payments have been accepted on London Buses since December 2012, with the technology

expanded to cover Tube, tram, DLR, London Overground, and most National Rail services in London in September 2014. Along with providing customers with the best value fare on TfL services, as well as on the vast majority of National Rail services, contactless payments provide 'Daily' as well as 'Monday to Sunday' capping, which automatically limits the cost of travel over this period to the price of a weekly Travelcard.

TfL's director of customer experience Shashi Verma said: 'This is just one of the many projects we are working on to make paying for transport easier for everyone travelling in the capital and beyond.'

'Over 25 per cent of our pay as you go customers use contactless payment already because it is so quick and easy. There's no need to top-up, you just touch in and out with your credit or debit card.'

Customers are now also using other methods of payment, such as mobile device ticketing technology. Around 3.5 per cent of all contactless journeys are now made using mobile technology, with around an extra 7,000 devices now seen on average every week.

Since July 2015, more than 3.2million journeys have been made using mobile devices on London's transport network. This is predicted to further increase throughout 2016 as more devices come on to the market and more people adopt them and other contactless technologies such as watches and wristbands.

■ For more information, visit tfl.gov.uk/contactless

TfL consultations

Have your say

TfL is consulting on proposals across London to help improve our city, including:

Hammersmith gyratory Closes March 15

A proposal for a safer and more direct segregated cycle route through Hammersmith gyratory, plus a bus lane on Beadon Road.

Highbury Corner Closes March 20

Proposals to improve Highbury Corner for pedestrians and cyclists, and make changes to bus services.

King's Cross gyratory Closes March 20

Initial ideas to improve the road network in the King's Cross area.

North-South Cycle Superhighway (Stonecutter Street – King's Cross) Closes March 20

To continue the North-South Cycle Superhighway (CS6), from Stonecutter Street to King's Cross.

CS11 (Swiss Cottage – West End) Closes March 20

Proposals include removing the

Swiss Cottage one-way system and improving pedestrian and cyclist facilities along the route.

East-West Cycle Superhighway (Paddington – Acton) Closes March 20

Extending the East-West Cycle Superhighway along the A40 Westway and Western Avenue.

■ To find out more information on these and other proposals TfL is consulting on, visit consultations.tfl.gov.uk

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London Travelwatch

London's transport watchdog
call 020 3176 2999, or visit
www.londontravelwatch.org.uk

*Service and network charges apply.
See tfl.gov.uk/terms for details.



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Take your newspaper with you or put it in a recycling bin.

The views expressed are those of TfL only and are not those of Metro.

My dad works on the Tube.

Yesterday someone shouted at him.

He said he would look at my drawing another time.



Our staff are here to advise you in a polite and helpful way. Abusing or swearing at them is offensive, unacceptable and TfL will prosecute offenders. So consider the consequences.