



Pier improvements in the pipeline

TRANSPORT for London (TfL) has commissioned a study to look at boosting capacity at three central London piers — Bankside, Embankment and Westminster.

It forms part of a commitment that the Mayor and TfL have made, as part of their River Action Plan, to increase the number of people who travel on the river to 12 million a

year by 2020.

Existing piers will also be transformed with new ticketing facilities, real-time arrivals information and contactless 'wave and pay' technology.

Piers will also be better integrated with the rest of the capital's transport system, with improved cycle parking and hire facilities nearby.

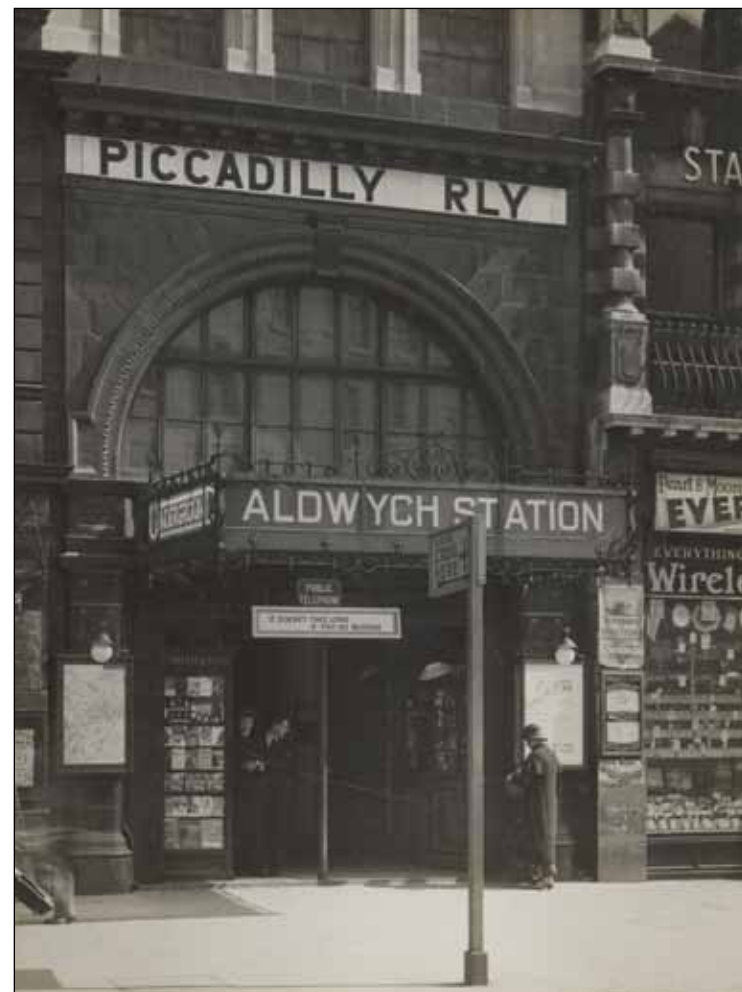
Take a step back in time

THERE will be a rare opportunity to sample Underground history when the disused Aldwych Tube station opens for public tours next month.

The station was opened in 1907 as a branch of the Piccadilly line, but closed in 1994. Since then it has become a popular film location, featuring in blockbusters such as Atonement and V for Vendetta.

The station tours are being organised by the London Transport Museum and will run from November 7 until December 1. Groups of up to 40 people will be escorted by volunteer tour guides into the ticket hall and then down to the platforms and inter-connecting walkways.

■ Tickets are priced £25 (£20 concessions) and must be booked in advance at www.ltmuseum.co.uk or by calling 020 7565 7298. The ticket includes free entry for one person to the London Transport Museum in Covent Garden, to be used within one month of your Aldwych station tour date.



'All Aboard' for accessibility training

BUS drivers are being given extra training to get a better understanding of the needs of older and disabled passengers.



The new Transport for London (TfL) 'All Aboard' scheme has been developed in partnership with disabled and older bus passengers, campaign group Transport for All and charity Age UK London.

Using the personal experiences of customers with accessibility needs, the training is designed to encourage the best customer service possible.

The capital's bus fleet is the most accessible in the UK, but TfL's buses director, Mike Weston, is aware drivers can make a big difference to passengers who experience challenges using the network.

He said: 'This training demonstrates that a driver taking a little time, using respect and their own initiative, can make all the difference in the world to many older and disabled passengers.'

All of London's 24,500 bus drivers will receive the training by the end of next year.

■ For more information on bus accessibility, visit tfl.gov.uk/gettingaround

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London's transport watchdog
call 020 3176 2999, or visit
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