

Travel advice for today

WHETHER travelling to Baroness Thatcher's funeral today, or for other journeys in and around central London, people are advised to check the Transport for London (TfL) website.

Road closures will be implemented from at least 7.30am today. The procession will travel from The Palace of Westminster via Whitehall, Trafalgar Square, Strand, Fleet Street and Ludgate Hill, finishing at St Paul's Cathedral. These roads, and those in the surrounding area, are subject to closures and parking restrictions.

Roads west of Aldwych are expected to be fully reopened by midday, Aldwych and roads to the east are expected to be fully reopened by 3pm. They will be lifted as soon as possible following the funeral, but road users are advised to avoid this part of central London throughout the day.

Waterloo Bridge is closed to large vehicles. Blackfriars and Westminster Bridges will remain open for access to Victoria Embankment, other routes from the bridges will be closed.

A number of bus routes are on diversion from 6am. Tickets will be accepted on alternative Tube routes. Underground services will run as normal, although stations along the procession route are expected to be busy. TfL Travel Ambassadors are also available at locations across central London to help anyone who needs travel advice.

■ The TfL website (tfl.gov.uk) will help you to plan your route and provide updates on service changes that may affect your journey. TfL's social media channels also provide up to the minute information on services – tfl.gov.uk/socialmedia

Woolwich Ferries celebrate 50 years of passenger service

IN 1963 three new diesel powered boats named after prominent London politicians were launched running a free ferry service between Woolwich and North Woolwich.



The James Newman, John Burns and the Ernest Bevin replaced side-loading steam paddlers that had been in use since 1922, continuing a service that dates back to the 14th century.

Fifty years on, the three ferries continue to play an important part in East Londoners' lives, carrying one million vehicles and 2.5 million passengers across the Thames each year. The service operates every day of the year

except December 25 – Christmas Day.

Over the next seven years a £50million contract will ensure each boat is overhauled and upgraded to increase reliability and extend its working life. They will also be more environmentally friendly thanks to new filters

which cut particulate matter emissions by 90 per cent.

Andy Thompson, general manager for London River Services, said: 'These three ferries have worked tirelessly for the past 50 years so the time is right to give them, along with the infrastructure, a new lease of life.'

More places on graduate scheme

TRANSPORT for London (TfL) is backing a graduate scheme to find the next generation of industry experts. High-quality workers will be essential to ensure London's transport network continues to improve.

The scheme, launched last year by Network Rail, involves rail

companies across the UK, including TfL. There are 50 positions available for the 18-month paid work placement, which targets young people who have graduated in the last two years and not been able to find a job in their local area.

Anyone who has graduated in the last two years and is not in a

graduate-level role can apply. Applications must be in by May 13 at www.trackandtrain.org.uk and graduates need to be available to start work on October 1.

TfL took on 13 'Track and Train' graduates in the first year of the scheme, with five of them already receiving permanent job offers.

Traffic information for the capital

For a full list of traffic information, go to tfl.gov.uk/trafficnews

Westminster area
Today, 7am to 5pm

Closures in place for Baroness Thatcher's funeral procession from Westminster Palace to St. Paul's Cathedral (see above).

Hammersmith Broadway
Until April 21, 5pm

Lane restrictions in place clockwise

at the junction with King Street for telecoms works.

Westminster area
April 21, 7am to 5pm

Delays possible owing to a march from Millbank to St. James's Square via Parliament Square (east), Trafalgar Square and Pall Mall.

South, East and central London
April 21, 7am to 7pm

Road closures in place for the

London Marathon from Greenwich to St James's Park, including all approaches to Upper Thames Street, Tower Hill and Victoria Embankment. The Rotherhithe tunnel as well as Tower, Southwark and Westminster bridges will be closed.

Newham area
April 21, 1.30pm to 3pm

Road closures in place for a parade from Rosebery Avenue to Shelley Avenue.

London travel advice: plan your journey now

tfl.gov.uk

24 hour travel information
0843 222 1234*

tfl.gov.uk/socialmedia

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

*You pay no more than 5p per minute if calling from a BT landline. There may be a connection charge. Charges from mobiles or other landline providers may vary.

Newspapers left on the Tube can jam doors and cause delays to your journey. Take your newspaper with you or put it in a recycling bin.