



Conservation, Access and Recreation

Your ref
Our ref
Name Karen Sutton
Phone 07747 643958
E-Mail karen.sutton@thameswater.co.uk

Dear Friend

Friends of Crossness Nature Reserve – Adult Membership Application Invitation

I am pleased to announce that we have now launched the 'Friends of Crossness Nature Reserve Scheme'.

Due to the sensitivity of the site's wildlife, parts of the reserve are not open to the general public except via occasional site manager-led guided walks and activities. Through the Friends Scheme, we offer you the opportunity to visit the protected area of the reserve in order to enjoy birds and other wildlife, everyday¹ from dawn to dusk. You will have the opportunity to use the bird hide and boardwalk, and you will be able to view wildlife using the wader scrape, bat cave, artificial sand martin wall, reedbeds, ponds and ditch networks.

Recent improvements to the reserve have seen a new, two-storey, octagonal, bird hide overlooking a wader scrape, sand martin bank and artificial bat hibernaculum, as well as an artificially-flooded paddock. We have installed wildlife viewing screens overlooking wildlife rich areas; and pond-dipping and mini-beasting facilities for educational visits. We have also created a new reedbed and deep water lagoons.

On the 30ha Crossness Southern Marsh, we have a 1.5km footpath, a new wetland scrape along with a purpose-built viewing screen, and we have recently created a new pond and boardwalk/dipping platform.

Membership will not only give you access to the 'Protected Area' of the reserve, but it will also offer you the chance to attend special events (e.g. bat walks, moth trapping evenings, bird ringing demonstrations, birdsong identification workshops, dragonfly and butterfly walks); help in the practical conservation management of the reserve through wildlife monitoring and volunteer task days; and receive newsletters and regular information on wildlife sightings.

In order to cover administration and event costs, there is a small, non-profit making fee to join the scheme, details of which can be found below.

¹The Reserve may be closed at certain times at the discretion of Thames Water.

Single membership:

£10.00 for lifetime membership.

Joint membership (two adults living at the same address):

£15.00 for lifetime membership for both persons.

Membership of the Friends Scheme is also subject to compliance with the Scheme's Conditions² and site information³.

If you would like to become a member, simply send the following to the address printed on the back of the application form:

- a) A completed and signed application form
- b) A cheque or postal order (payable to Thames Water Utilities Ltd) for the relevant fee
- c) Two colour passport sized photographs per person (for the permit scheme & records)

After we have processed your application, issued you with your individual permit and informed you of the access code for the security keycode panel on the gate to the protected area, you will then be free to visit the reserve.

Friends of Crossness Nature Reserve - Junior Membership Application Invitation

I am pleased to announce that junior membership to the Friends Scheme is entirely free. This applies to children under the age of 16.

For a child to become a junior member he/she must be nominated by an existing adult member (membership forms are supplied with this letter and can be submitted in conjunction with the adult application form). All junior members visiting the protected area of the reserve must be accompanied at all times by an adult member.

I do hope that you decide to become a Friend of this exciting award-winning reserve and I look forward to welcoming you to the scheme. If you have any queries about the scheme or the application process, please do not hesitate to contact me.

With kind regards

Karen Sutton

Crossness Nature Reserve Manager, Thames Water, Crossness Nature Reserve,
Crossness Sewage Treatment Works, Belvedere Road, Abbey Wood, London, SE2 9AQ.
Tel: 07747 6439578. Email: karen.sutton@thameswater.co.uk

Crossness Nature Reserve

Crossness Nature Reserve is an oasis within an industrialised urban environment, providing a unique opportunity to escape city life and enjoy one of the last remaining areas of grazing marsh within the Greater London area.

The reserve is part of the original Thames floodplain known collectively as the Erith Marshes. With much of the marshland complex having been developed to provide business and residential opportunities, the creation of Crossness Nature Reserve has secured part of this important, declining habitat for nature conservation and public access. As a result of the regionally important communities of wetland birds, plants, mammals and invertebrates, the site has been awarded Local Nature Reserve status and has been designated as a Site of Metropolitan Importance for Nature Conservation.

The nature reserve is located immediately east of Thames Water Crossness Sewage Treatment Works, with access being provided via a number of public footpaths from Eastern Way (A2016), Norman Road and Belvedere Road, as well as the Thames Pathway which runs north across the reserve (please note that there is no access via the Sewage Treatment Works). Unfortunately, other than street-parking in the local areas, there is no parking available specifically for the nature reserve.

The public footpaths that cross the nature reserve will allow visitors to view the grazing fields, a wet meadow, ditches, ponds, and the Great Breach Lagoon. The lagoon was created to drain the marsh after the devastating floods of 1953, this body of open water now attracts good numbers of wintering wildfowl including teal, wigeon, gadwall and shoveler, in addition to typical species such as coot, moorhen, mute swan, grey heron and little grebe.

The reed-fringed ditches on the reserve support a healthy water vole population, and the wet meadow – managed by a prescribed horse grazing programme and a water level regime controlled artificially by a windpump – provides a high tide roost for impressive numbers of lapwing, dunlin and redshank. At low tide, the mud flats of Halfway Reach Bay, which can be viewed from the sea wall, provide feeding grounds for huge numbers of wetland birds.

Thames Water has undertaken a wide range of work to improve Crossness Nature Reserve for both wildlife and visitors. This has included the excavation of a wader scrape and the creation of a shingle island. A little ringed plover reared one chick on this island, becoming the first successful breeding wader on the site since the early 1980's. The wader scrape can be viewed from a timber, two-storey, octagonal bird hide, which also overlooks an artificial sand martin wall, and bat hibernaculum. These unusual structures have been constructed using reclaimed concrete pilings and other materials that were found in the surrounding industrial area.

From the bird hide, visitors can then explore the largest reedbed in the London Borough of Bexley. This reedbed provides excellent breeding habitat for an impressive number of reed warblers and whitethroat. There is also a chance to view water rail, sedge warbler, Cetti's warbler and reed bunting. A pond-dipping platform and mini-beast area is also provided for educational visits. In order to minimise disturbance, the wader scrape complex and reedbed are contained within a 'Protected Area'. This area is not open to the general public, but can be accessed by joining the 'Friends of Crossness Nature Reserve Scheme' and via other public open days and events. Through the 'Friends Scheme', members will be provided with newsletters providing regular updates on wildlife sightings and they will be invited to attend a number of community events and become involved in the active management of the site through survey and monitoring, leading guided walks and helping with practical conservation tasks.

Over 200 different species of bird have been recorded at Crossness Nature Reserve. Species of interest include little egret, sanderling, ring ousel, Cetti's warbler, marsh warbler, Dartford warbler, Temmick's stint, wood sandpiper, blue-headed wagtail and red-backed shrike. Currently we are the only site within Greater London to support breeding barn owls.

Important species of flora present at the reserve include knotted-hedge parsley and Borrer's saltmarsh grass (species characteristic of closely grazed grassland), and marsh dock – a Kent Red Data Book species confined to the northwest Thames Marshes from Shorne to Erith. It is believed that Crossness may be this species' most westerly distribution.

A number of rare aquatic and terrestrial invertebrates are present on the reserve. One Red Data Book 3 (RDB3) and five Nationally Notable B (NNB) water beetles were recorded in the ditches, and several RDB3 and NNB terrestrial invertebrates were recorded from the ditch margins. Within the reedbed, four NNB and four regionally notable (London) invertebrates are present, as well as a RDK3 moth – the twin-spotted wainscot – a reedbed specialist with larvae that feed internally on reed stems. A NNB leaf hopper and chrysomelid beetle were recorded in a survey of the ungrazed grassland, alongside Roesel's bush-cricket which is common in the Thames Estuary but believed to be rare or absent from the rest of the UK.

In recognition of the enhancements and management practices that have taken place on the nature reserve, the site was awarded the 2003 Bexley Business Environmental Challenge Award and was national runner-up in the 2003 Green Apple Awards. Following our recent enhancement programme on the nature reserve and southern marshes, we won first place in the conservation category of the 2006 BTO Business Bird Challenge Award, and received a commendation in the 2006 RSPB/CIWEM Living Wetlands Award.

In order to find out more about the reserve or become a member of the 'Friends of Crossness Nature Reserve Scheme' please contact the Crossness Nature Reserve Manager:
Karen Sutton, Thames Water, Crossness Nature Reserve, Crossness Sewage Treatment Works, Belvedere Road, Abbey Wood, London, SE2 9AQ.

Tel: 07747 643958

Email: karen.sutton@thameswater.co.uk



Crossness Nature Reserve



Access to Crossness Nature Reserve

Travelling from London (rail and buses)

Travel from London Bridge station, via Greenwich or Blackheath, to Abbey Wood station (25 minutes). Take a 229 bus to Crossway, alight at the Lister Walk stop and walk to Summerton Way. Follow this road to Fairway Drive. Walk north and then turn right, following signs to the Thames Path and Belvedere/Erith. This enables you to enjoy a 20 minute Thameside walk along the National Cycle Route and public footpath where you can join the reserve from the Thames Pathway entrance by the viewing platform.

Alternatively, from Abbey Wood train station, take a 180 bus to Eastern Way (ask for Belvedere Industrial Estate) via Harrow Manor Way and Yarnton Way (approx. 20 minutes). Follow the public footpath across Norman Road Field from the south-east entrance and enter Crossness Nature Reserve near the lagoon.

Travelling from London (by car)

To Thames Pathway entrance: Travel from Greenwich towards Erith on the A206 following signs for the M25. Leave the A206 following signs for Thamesmead (A2041). From the roundabout, take the first exit (left) towards Thamesmead Central (A2041). At the next roundabout, turn right (third exit) onto Crossway and then right again (2nd exit) at the next roundabout to Summerton Way. Head straight down to Fairway Drive where you will be able to park. Walk north where you will join the National Cycle Route and public footpath. Follow the Thames riverside walk until you reach the Thames Pathway entrance to Crossness Nature Reserve.

To Norman Road/Eastern Way entrance: Travel from Greenwich towards Erith on the A206 following signs for the M25. The A206 joins the A2016 (Eastern Way). Continue along this road until you reach a roundabout, turn left and take the immediate left turn which is Norman Road where cars can park before or after the cycle lane. Join the reserve from the Norman Road entrance at the south-east of the reserve, or walk west to enter the site from Eastern Way.

To Belvedere Road entrance: Travel from Greenwich towards Erith on the A206 following signs for the M25. Leave the A206, following signs for Abbey Wood (A2041). Drive down Harrow Manor Way and take the fourth exit at the roundabout so that you are coming back up Harrow Manor Way. Take the second left (you will see signs for Thames Water) and follow the road to the end, turn right on to Belvedere Road. The footpath is located on the right approximately 100m back from the Thames Water Crossness Sewage Treatment Works site entrance. You may park in Belvedere Road. Please note that there is no access to the reserve through the main sewage treatment works.

Travelling from Kent (rail and station buses)

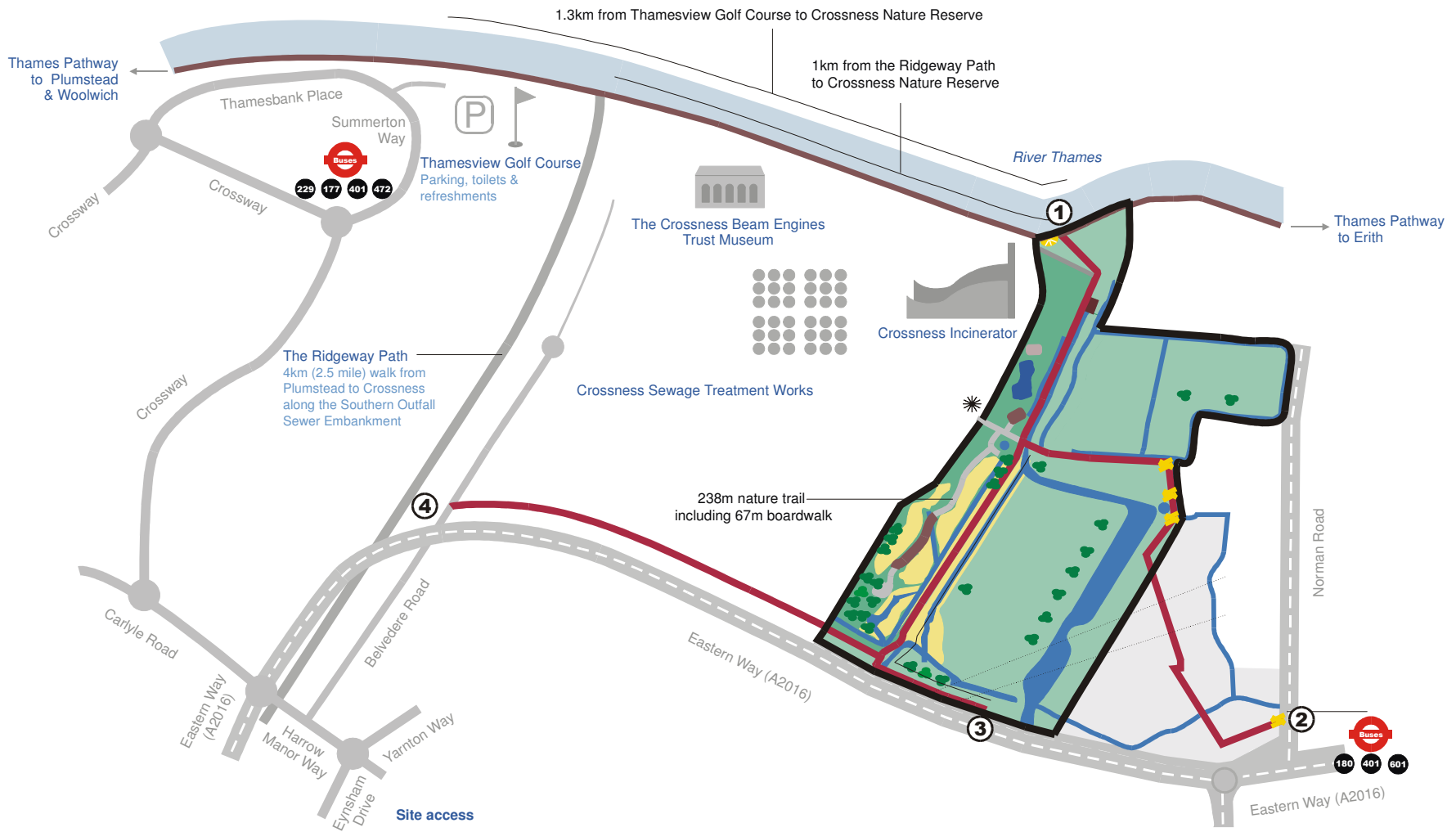
Join the London bound train from Dartford to Belvedere (10 minutes). Take the 401 bus to Eastern Way via Picardy Manorway and enter from the Norman Road entrance. Alternatively, stay on and alight at Crossway to join the reserve from the Thames Path, taking in the 20 minute riverside walk.

Travelling from Kent (by car)

To Thames Pathway entrance: From Dartford, follow the signs towards Plumstead, Woolwich and Greenwich. Join the A2016 at Erith (Bronze Age Way). Go straight over the first roundabout (you will see a metal horse sculpture). At the second roundabout take the second exit (turning right) where you will join Eastern Way. Continue along the A2016 where you will see the Thames Water sludge powered generator on your right. Come off at the first exit and at the roundabout, take the third exit (A2041) towards Thamesmead (Carlyle Road). At the next roundabout, turn right (third exit) onto Crossway and then right again (2nd exit) at the next roundabout to Summerton Way. Head straight down to Fairway Drive, turn right and park. Walk through the car park to the north where you will join the National Cycle Route and public footpath. A 20 minute riverside walk leads you to the sea wall entrance to Crossness Nature Reserve.

To Norman Road/Eastern Way entrance: From Dartford, follow the signs towards Plumstead, Woolwich and Greenwich. Join the A2016 at Erith (Bronze Age Way). Go straight over the first roundabout (with a metal horse statue on it). At the second roundabout take the third exit where you will come back on yourself and be travelling back down Eastern Way. Take the turning immediately on your left (Norman Road North) where you can park before or after the cycle lane. Follow the public footpath across fields from the Norman Road south-east entrance and enter Crossness Nature Reserve near the lagoon. Alternatively, take the short walk west to enter from the Eastern Way entrance.

To Belvedere Road entrance: From Dartford, follow the signs towards Plumstead, Woolwich and Greenwich. Join the A2016 at Erith (Bronze Age Way). Go straight over the first roundabout (you will see a metal horse sculpture). At the second roundabout take the second exit (turning right) where you will join Eastern Way. Continue along the A2016 where you will see the Thames Water sludge powered generator on your right. Come off at the first exit and at the roundabout, take the first exit (A2041) towards Abbey Wood. Drive down Harrow Manor Way and take the fourth exit at the roundabout so that you are coming back up Harrow Manor Way. Take the second left and follow the road to the end, turn right onto Belvedere Road. The footpath is located on the right approximately 100m back from the Thames Water site entrance. You may park on Belvedere Road. Please note that there is no access to the reserve through the main sewage works.



Site access

- | | | |
|--|--|---------------------------|
|  Public footpath |  Viewing platform | ① Thames Pathway Entrance |
|  Path in protected area |  Protected area | ② Norman Road Entrance |
|  Public footpath & cycleway |  Crossness Nature Reserve | ③ Eastern Way Entrance |
|  Stiles |  Boardwalk | ④ Belvedere Road Entrance |

Crossness Nature Reserve – Site information

LOCATION

- Crossness Nature Reserve is located in Thamesmead, within the London Borough of Bexley. It is situated between Crossness Sewage Treatment Works and Norman Road, to the north of the A2016 (Eastern Way).

ACCESS

- There is no access to Crossness Nature Reserve through Crossness Sewage Treatment Works.
- All access is via the three public footpaths indicated as red lines on the map. These footpaths provide people with free access to much of the reserve.
- The permit obtained by joining the Friends Scheme provides access to the Protected Area, including bird hide and reedbed trail.
- Thames Water does not provide car-parking facilities for the reserve and therefore all roadside parking is at the owners risk.
- Thames Water is committed to improving the reserve for wheelchair access, however, there are only certain sections of the reserve that are currently suitable for un-powered wheelchairs. Access to many parts may be possible with the help of an accompanying person. Wheelchair users who are interested in becoming a 'Friend' should telephone prior to applying to discuss access arrangements.
- Please do not allow people without a valid permit into the Protected Area for any reason.
- You are welcome to bring up to three guests on site for a one-off visit (with the prior consent of the site manager) provided that you warn them of the hazards listed below and supervise them at all times. Subsequent visits will require membership of the Friends Scheme. Please ensure that visitors adhere to the Friends conditions and please do not provide them with the security access code.

GENERAL

- There is a male and a female composting toilet located in the Protected Area of the reserve.
- Please wear suitable clothing and footwear when visiting the reserve.
- If you have access to a mobile phone you should carry this during your visit.
- If you are visiting the reserve on your own, you should inform a friend or relative of your movements.
- Be aware of certain hazards that occur throughout the Nature Reserve that can be avoided by obeying signs and staying on designated pathways. Please take particular care with respect to the following:
 - Open water (which may be deep)
 - Steep-sided ditches
 - Grazing animals
- Please report any sightings of undesirable behaviour or activities by other members/non-members of the Friends Scheme to Karen Sutton, Crossness Nature Reserve Manager.

EMERGENCY

- In case of an accident, the nearest Accident & Emergency unit is Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Stadium Road, Woolwich, SE18 4QH. Tel. 020 8836 6000.
- In case of emergency dial 999 or contact the Thames Water Customer Centre on 0845 9200 800.
- If you experience any other problems whilst visiting the Nature Reserve please contact the Crossness Nature Reserve Manager, Karen Sutton.

INTERESTING WILDLIFE SIGHTINGS

- If you spot any interesting wildlife sightings or have any questions regarding a sighting please contact the Crossness Nature Reserve Manager.

**Contact: Karen Sutton, Crossness Nature Reserve Manager on 07747 643958
or email karen.sutton@thameswater.co.uk**

Crossness Southern Marsh

Crossness Southern Marsh, a 30ha grazing marsh also forming part of the Erith Marsh complex, is located south of Crossness Nature Reserve and Crossness Sewage Treatment Works. The site runs south of, and parallel to, the A2016 (Eastern Way).

This area has undergone a large enhancement project in recent years, which has enabled us to open the area to the visiting public for the first time in generations. A 1.5km footpath enables visitors to walk right through the site following the ditch network, and offering panoramic views of the marshes and the area beyond. The path begins at the west end of the site, where it borders Southmere Park and links to the Green Chain path to Southmere Lake, and finishes in the east where the path then joins Public Footpath 1. You can follow this footpath north, across the A2016 (please be very careful!), where you pick up the footpath that takes you through Crossness Nature Reserve, or you can walk south, which will eventually bring you to Waldrist Way and Yarnton Way.

On route, you will find a number of features, such as a new wetland scrape and purpose-built viewing screen to enable visitors to watch wildlife while minimising disturbance. This feature was put to good use in 2007 when a very rare Squacco Heron arrived on the southern marsh wader scrape and stayed for nearly two weeks. This unusual heron winters in Africa and breeds in the Mediterranean, so its arrival at Crossness caused quite a stir among the birding community. Hundreds of bird watchers came from far and wide, and, having not been recorded in London since 1866, the story found its way onto the BBC London News, and in many national newspapers, websites and magazines.

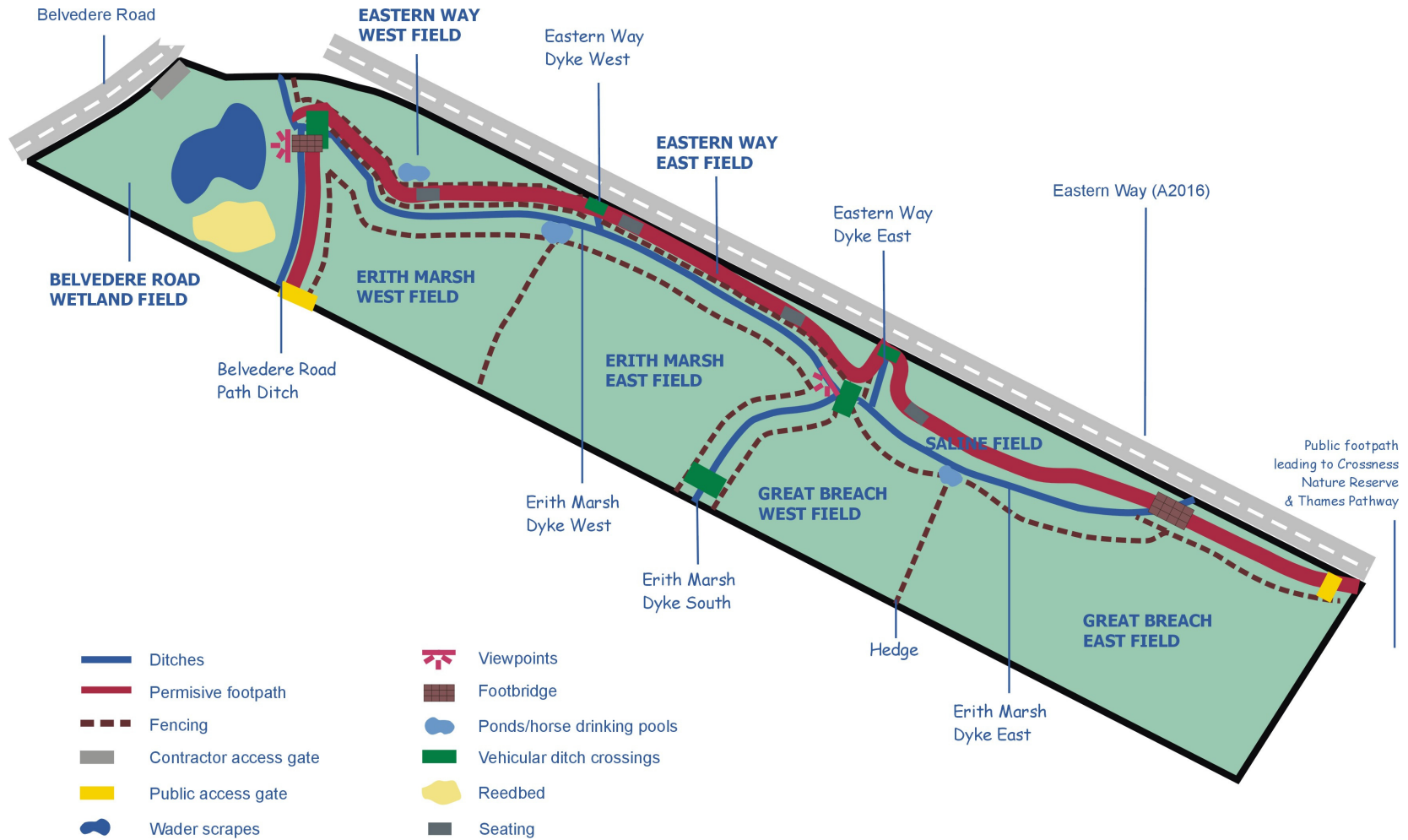
As you continue along the path, you will cross a number of footbridges that take you over reed-fringed ditches that are home to hundreds of water voles – the UK's fastest declining mammal. A viewing platform provides views of open water and ditch intersections where various species of waterfowl can be frequently seen. It is also a favoured area for bats which feed over the open water at night. Dragonflies, damselflies and butterflies can be seen in great numbers here during the summer months.

From the South-east London Green Chain route on Belvedere Road, it is possible to undertake a circular route incorporating both sites. From Southmere Lake, heading north, you will arrive at the Crossness Southern Marshes. Walk east through the site until you reach Footpath 1 (crossing Eastern Way dual carriageway). Pick up this path on the nature reserve on the other side of the road, and follow it north to the River Thames, stopping to take in the wildlife in the protected area along the way. A 1km walk heading west will provide some great birding opportunities on the Thames foreshore and eventually lead to the Ridgeway Path. Follow the Ridgeway south until you are back at Belvedere Road and Southmere Lake.



Squacco Heron pic by Dave Hutton

Crossness Southern Marsh



Access to Crossness Southern Marshes

Travelling from London (rail and buses)

Through Crossness Nature Reserve: Travel from London Bridge station, via Greenwich or Blackheath, to Abbey Wood station (25 minutes). Take a 229 bus to Crossway, alight at the Lister Walk stop and walk to Summerton Way. Follow this road to Fairway Drive. Walk left to the Thames Path and turn right. This enables you to enjoy a 20 minute Thameside walk along the National Cycle Route and public footpath where you can join the reserve from the Thames Pathway entrance by the viewing platform. Walk south through the reserve down to the Eastern Way entrance. Cross the dual carriageway (A2016 Eastern Way) following Public Footpath 1. Go through the kissing gate, turn right (at which point you will need to climb a sharp slope over a bund) and through the metal kissing gate where you will join Crossness Southern Marshes.

To Eastern Way entrance: Alternatively, from Abbey Wood train station, take a 180 bus to Eastern Way (ask for Belvedere Industrial Estate) via Harrow Manor Way and Yarnton Way (approx. 20 minutes). Pick up Public Footpath 1 as above.

Travelling from London (by car)

To Belvedere Road entrance (preferred route): Travel from Greenwich towards Erith on the A206 following signs for the M25. Leave the A206, following signs for Abbey Wood (A2041). Drive down Harrow Manor Way and take the fourth exit at the roundabout so that you are coming back up Harrow Manor Way. Take the second left (you will see signs for Thames Water) and follow the road to the end, turn right on to Belvedere Road. Park at the Lakeside Complex (Southmere Lake). Follow the path round the lake and go up and over the large hill on the left (if mobility problems make this difficult, keep following the path, turn left at the end, left again and then follow the small path to the right). This will bring you to Southmere Park where you will see rustic chestnut fencing securing a paddock of horses. Head north-east towards the kissing gate entrance to Crossness Southern Marsh. If you have difficulty seeing the kissing gate, just head straight towards the post and rail fencing in front of you and follow it to the right until you come to the entrance gate.

To Thames Pathway entrance: Travel from Greenwich towards Erith on the A206 following signs for the M25. Leave the A206 following signs for Thamesmead (A2041). From the roundabout, take the first exit (left) towards Thamesmead Central (A2041). At the next roundabout, turn right (third exit) onto Crossway and then right again (2nd exit) at the next roundabout to Summerton Way. Head straight down to Fairway Drive, turn right and park. Walk to the north where you will join the National Cycle Route and public footpath. Follow the Thames riverside walk until you reach the Thames Pathway entrance to Crossness Nature Reserve. Walk south through the reserve down to the Eastern Way entrance. Cross the dual carriageway (A2016 Eastern Way; please take special care) following Public Footpath 1. Go through the kissing gate, turn right where you will need to climb a short, but steep slope, and through the metal kissing gate where you will join Crossness Southern Marshes.

To Eastern Way entrance: Travel from Greenwich towards Erith on the A206 following signs for the M25. The A206 joins the A2016 (Eastern Way). Continue along this road until you reach a roundabout, turn left and take the immediate left which is Norman Road North. Park along here, either before or after the cycle lane and walk back (west) along the dual carriageway to join the Southern Marshes at Eastern Way entrance (Public Footpath 1), or do the circular route through the nature reserve to reach the Southern Marsh.

Travelling from Kent (rail and station buses)

Join the London bound train from Dartford to Belvedere (10 minutes) and take the 401 bus to Eastern Way via Picardy Manorway or stay on and alight at Crossway to join the reserve from the Thames Path, taking in the 20 minute riverside walk. Walk south through the reserve down to the Eastern Way entrance. Cross the dual carriageway (A2016 Eastern Way), with care please, following Public Footpath 1. Go through the kissing gate, turn right and through the metal kissing gate where you will join Crossness Southern Marshes.

Travelling from Kent (by car)

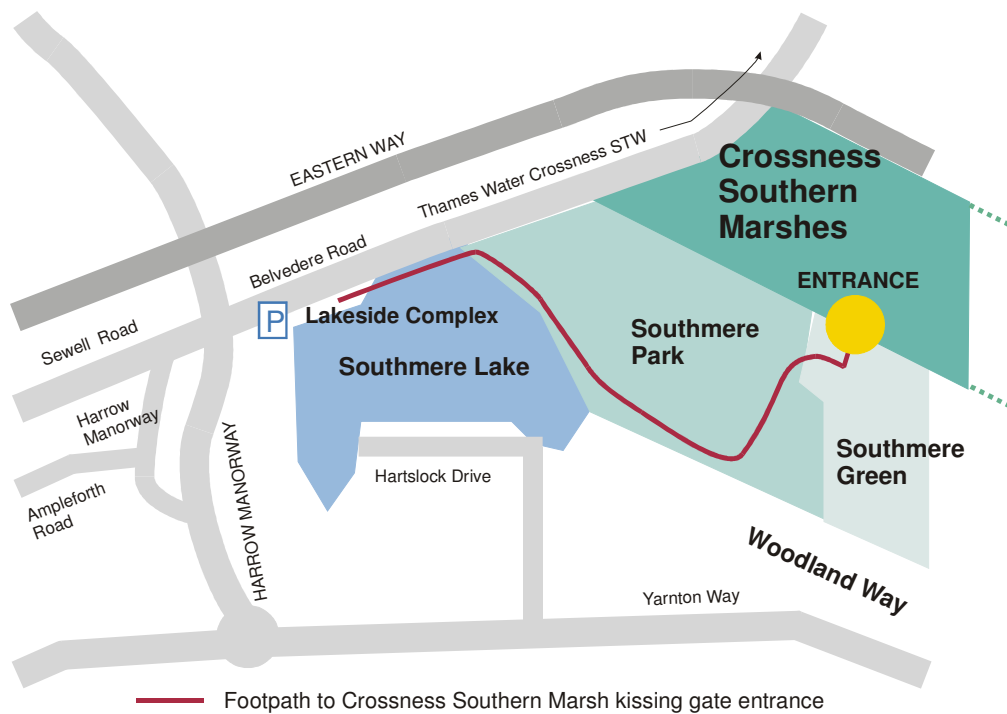
To Belvedere Road entrance (preferred route): From Dartford, follow the signs towards Plumstead, Woolwich and Greenwich. Join the A2016 at Erith (Bronze Age Way). Go straight over the first roundabout (with the metal horse sculpture), at the second roundabout take the second exit (turning right) where you will join Eastern Way. Continue along the A2016 where you will see the Thames Water sludge powered generator on your right. Come off at the first exit and at the roundabout, take the first exit (A2041) towards Abbey Wood. Drive down Harrow Manor Way and take the fourth exit at the roundabout so that you are coming back up Harrow Manor Way. Take the second left and follow the road to the end, turn right on to Belvedere Road. Park at the Lakeside Complex (Southmere Lake). Follow the path round the lake and go up and over the large hill on the left (if mobility problems make this difficult, keep following the path, turn left at the end, left again and then follow the small path to the right). This will bring you to Southmere Park where you will see horses in a field. Head north-east towards the kissing gate entrance to Crossness Southern Marshes. If you have difficulty seeing the kissing gate, just head straight towards the post and rail fencing in front of you and follow it to the right until you come to the entrance gate.

To Thames Pathway entrance: From Dartford, follow the signs towards Plumstead, Woolwich and Greenwich. Join the A2016 at Erith (Bronze Age Way). Go straight over the first roundabout (with the horse sculpture on it), at the second roundabout take the second exit (turning right) where you will join Eastern Way. Continue along the A2016 where you will see the Thames Water sludge powered generator on your right. Come off at the first exit and at the roundabout, take the third exit (A2041) towards Thamesmead (Carlyle Road). At the next roundabout, turn right (third exit) onto Crossway and then right again (2nd exit) at the next roundabout to Summerton Way.

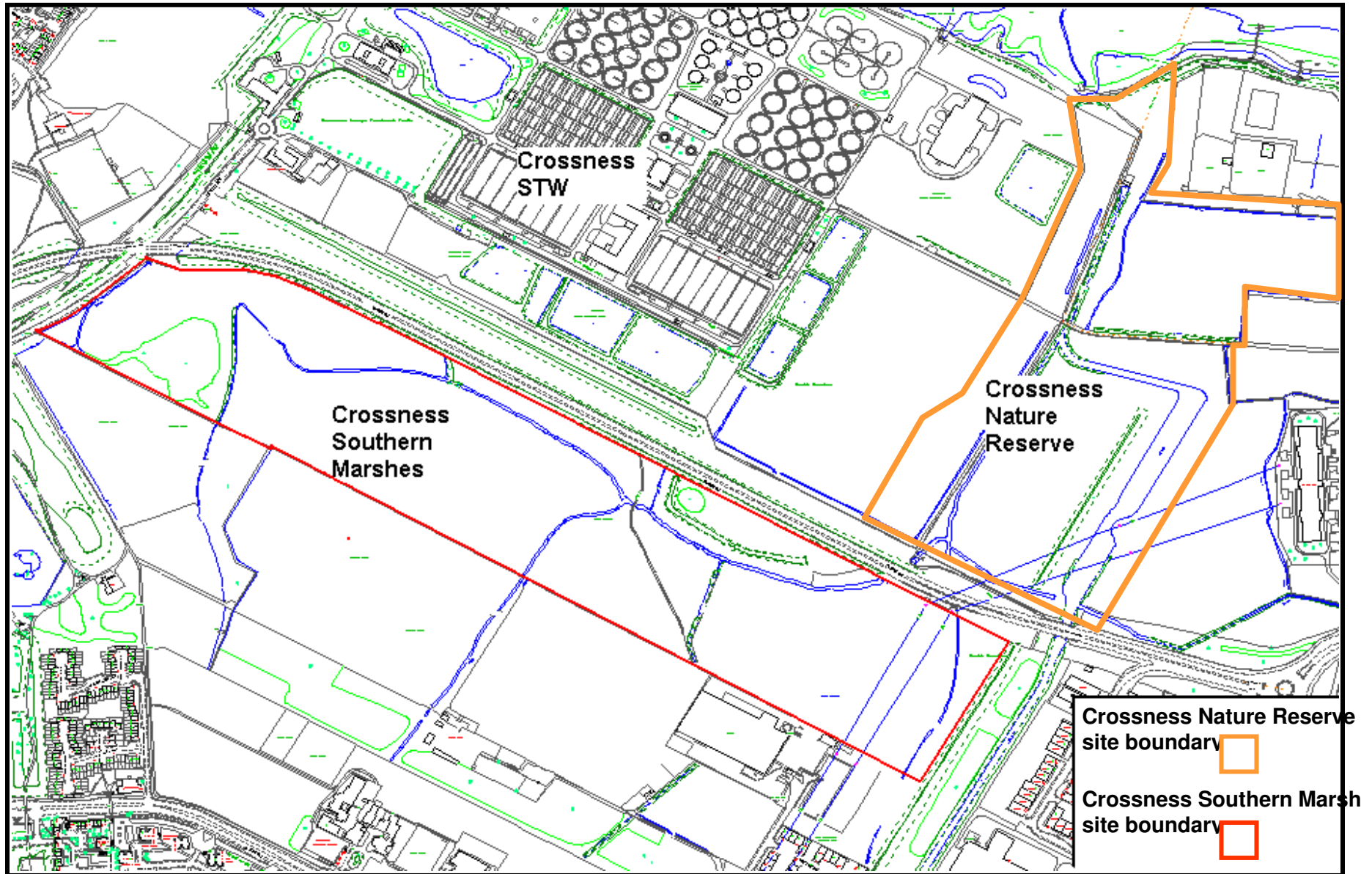
Head straight down to Fairway Drive, turn right and park. Walk north to the Thames Path where you will join the National Cycle Route and public footpath. A 20 minute riverside walk leads you to the sea wall entrance to Crossness Nature Reserve. Head south through the reserve to the Eastern Way entrance as above.

To Eastern Way entrance: From Dartford, follow the signs towards Plumstead, Woolwich and Greenwich. Join the A2016 at Erith (Bronze Age Way). Go straight over the first roundabout (with a metal horse sculpture), at the second roundabout take the third exit where you will come back on yourself and be travelling back down Eastern Way. Take the turning immediately on your left (Norman Road North) and park before or after the cycle lane. Join the Southern Marshes at Eastern Way entrance (Public Footpath 1).

Getting to Crossness Southern Marsh



Site boundary of Crossness Nature Reserve and Crossness Southern Marsh



Completed application forms should be returned along with two colour passport photographs (per person applying) and a cheque or postal order for the relevant amount to:

Karen Sutton (Crossness Nature Reserve Manager)
Thames Water's Crossness Nature Reserve
Crossness Sewage Treatment Works
Belvedere Road
Abbey Wood
London, SE2 9AQ

If you are experiencing any difficulties in completing this application form or require further information please contact me at the above address or:

Telephone: 07747 643958
E-mail: karen.sutton@thameswater.co.uk

For official purposes only:

Permit number: Expiry date:

Application for Adult Membership

Please complete in capital letters using blue or black ink.
Please fill out all relevant information and tick boxes where appropriate.

Personal details

Full name: _____

Full name of second person:
(For joint membership purposes only - two adults living at one address.)

Address: _____

Post code: _____

Telephone no: _____

Mobile no: _____

Email address: _____

* Email users: What is your preferred means of contact (for newsletter etc.);

Email address

Postal address

Please list your membership of other Wildlife & Conservation organisations

The information contained within this application form is to be used for the sole purposes of the Friends of Crossness Nature Reserve Scheme and will not be passed on to other sections of Thames Water or external organisations.

As a Friend of Crossness Nature Reserve I might be willing to:

Report interesting sightings to the site manager

Record sightings of each visit in the bird hide log book

Help in the planned monitoring of:

Birds

Invertebrates

Reptiles & Amphibians

Mammals

Flora

Other (please state) _____

Help in practical conservation tasks

Help with guided walks

Help in planned school educational visits

Become a volunteer warden

Other (please specify) _____

Adult application details

I am applying for the following adult membership:

Life membership:

Single membership
Total payment of £10.00

Joint membership (two adults living at one address)
Total payment of £15.00

I enclose the following:

- A cheque/postal order (payable to Thames Water Utilities Ltd) for the relevant amount.
- Two colour passport sized photographs per person applying (please write names on back).

I have read the accompanying Conditions for membership of the Friends of Crossness Nature Reserve Scheme and agree to abide by them at all times, and have read and understood the site information sheet:

Signed:

Date:

First person _____

Second person _____
(Joint member)

Friends of Crossness Nature Reserve

*Application for Junior Membership
(children aged under 16 years old)*

Please complete all relevant information in capital letters using blue or black ink

Nominee details:

Name of nominee: _____

Friends of Crossness Nature Reserve adult membership no. (*):

Address: _____

_____ Post code: _____

Telephone no: _____

Mobile no: _____

E-mail address: _____

Relationship to Junior applicant _____

Junior Member Details:

Name: _____ Date of birth: _____

Name: _____ Date of birth: _____

Name: _____ Date of birth: _____

(*): Will be completed by Thames Water if adult membership application is being jointly submitted with this application form.

Details of next of kin:

(Please complete if different from nominee details)

Name: _____

Relationship to applicant: _____

Address: _____

_____ Post code: _____

Contact no's Day: _____

Night: _____

To be signed by the Nominee: As nominee I have read the enclosed conditions for membership to the Friends of Crossness Nature Reserve and will seek to ensure that the junior member(s) stated above will abide by them at all times. I can verify that the date(s) of birth for the nominated junior member(s) are correct and that they will only visit the Reserve under the supervision of myself or another responsible member of the Friends scheme

Signed: _____

Date: _____

To be signed by the next of kin (Please complete if different from nominee); As Next of Kin I am happy for my child (children) to become Junior members of the Friends of Crossness Nature Reserve scheme under the supervision of the nominee or another responsible member of the scheme

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Please send 2 colour passport sized photos of each child wishing to join the scheme with their names written on the back.

Friends of Crossness Nature Reserve

Member's permit conditions

This Reserve is designated as an Area of Metropolitan Importance for Nature Conservation and a Local Nature Reserve. It performs an important function as a wildlife refuge because of the relative lack of disturbance as a result of controlled public access. Access to the Protected Area is only permitted to members of the 'Friends of Crossness Nature Reserve' and other invited guests. Throughout the wider area of the nature reserve, access is provided by three public rights of way, as indicated in the accompanying map.

Through the 'Friends Scheme' we provide opportunity for educational and recreational bird watching and general nature study. The purpose of these Conditions is to ensure that the nature conservation integrity and refuge qualities of the Reserve are not compromised by unsympathetic access.

As a Member of the Friends of Crossness Nature Reserve you must comply with the conditions set out below when visiting the Reserve. Failure to comply with these conditions may make it necessary for us to remove offenders from the Reserve and cancel their membership. Please let us know of any cases in which these conditions are infringed by others.

1. All persons entering the Protected Area of the Reserve must be in possession of a valid 'Friends of Crossness Nature Reserve' Member's Permit for which a fee has been paid, or have specific authorisation from Thames Water.
2. Except where public footpaths cross them, there is no general access to the grazing land. Please stay on the paths.
3. The Reserve is accessed on foot or bicycle (no vehicles) via three public footpaths as indicated in the accompanying map. There is NO access via Crossness Sewage Treatment Works.
4. Access to the Protected Area is permitted all year from dawn to dusk, except when closed for one day per year as published. We reserve the right to close all, or sections, of the Protected Area at any time for any reason.
5. Permit holders under the age of 16 years must be accompanied by a permit holder aged 16 years or over, who will be responsible for their conduct.
6. Access to the Protected Area of the reserve is gained via security key code panels on the entrance gate. Security codes on this gate will be changed regularly, however all members will be notified at least seven days in advance of such changes. Please ensure that all gates are kept closed and locked at all times. It is forbidden for members to pass on security code details to non-members of the Friends Scheme or allow entrance to non-members of the scheme.
7. Crossness Nature Reserve is part of the Constant Effort Sites (CES) scheme (a national standardised ringing program) which involves obtaining valuable scientific data on changes in bird population size, changes in breeding success and adult survival rates. As part of this scheme, the Dartford Ringing Group, with the permission of Thames Water, carry out licensed ringing activities in the Protected Area; visitors will be notified of their presence on site by way of signs and visitors are requested not to interfere with this procedure or any equipment (such as mist-nets) associated with it.
8. The 'Friends of Crossness Nature Reserve' permit allows use of the facilities at this Reserve. For access to other Thames Water sites where bird watching is permitted, contact Thames Water's Customer Center 0845 9200800 or visit our website: thameswater.co.uk.
9. Permits shall be produced for inspection at any time when requested by our Staff, Wardens or other Friends. Permits are not transferable.
10. Whilst on the Reserve you must comply with all directional signage and any directions and instructions given by our Staff or Wardens relating to our land, buildings and property.
11. Please notify us of any change of address or new e-mail address (for correspondence – newsletter, updated security codes etc.).
12. We reserve the right to refuse admission to any Member or withdraw membership for any reason, including non-compliance with the Scheme Conditions. If your membership is withdrawn by Thames Water, you will not be entitled to a reimbursement of any fees.
13. Except in respect of our own negligence, we will not be liable for any loss, damage or injury to members or their property.
14. All persons entering the Reserve must abide by the Byelaws as specified in the accompanying document, with particular respect to the following: -
 - Leaving litter or other items that may contaminate the Reserve.
 - Interference with any apparatus, wildlife or grazing animals.
 - No dogs or other animals within the Protected Area of the Reserve (other than guide dogs).
 - Entering the water for any purpose.
 - Entering upon any part of the Reserve other than by the public and permissive paths or by other means of access provided and signposted.
 - The lighting of any fire.
 - Any other activity inconsistent with the quiet enjoyment of the nature reserve and the protection of its wildlife interest.