

‘SECRETS OF THE SEVERN’ Severn Estuary Forum 2008 Friday 19th September, Paget Rooms, Penarth

The Severn Estuary Forum is an annual conference hosted by the Severn Estuary Partnership. Initiated in 2006, the Forum has been extremely well received with over 140 delegates last year. This year, the Forum will once again provide delegates from around the Severn Estuary with an opportunity to hear from a wide range of excellent speakers for informed debate on current issues.

A lively day of formal and informal presentations & talks, interactive debate and an opportunity for viewing the estuary first-hand. The Forum will guide the work of the Severn Estuary Partnership, which works all year round to encourage people to work together, through a wide range of services and projects.

There are many organisations responsible for managing activities based on or around the estuary. To ensure that we make decisions today that are in the interests of future generations, we need to share information and work together. Perspectives from a wide range of estuary users will be shared. The Forum is an opportunity to learn from others, share your views and hear about the secrets of the Severn Estuary!

BALMORAL CRUISE around the Holm Islands Friday 19th September, Penarth & Clevedon

Cruise from Penarth to Clevedon via the islands of Flatholm and Steepholm - these secret islands are seen for many miles across England & Wales. The Forum will provide an opportunity to see the islands close-up and benefit first-hand from cruising the distance across the estuary which is under the spotlight for offshore renewable energy development.

Accompanied on-board by politicians, government spokesmen, local people and the general public, the cruise is a great opportunity to experience and learn more about the Severn Estuary.

The cruise departs from Penarth Pier at 1pm and returns at 7pm with the option to join or depart from Clevedon at 2pm and 5pm - transport will be provided to Bristol Temple Meads. Lunch, refreshments, information and speakers will be on board.

Who should attend?

Severn Estuary Forum

The Severn Estuary Forum brings together people from all interests and backgrounds to work together for the future of the Severn Estuary. Representatives from government, industry, local clubs and societies share information & experiences about the Severn Estuary.

Balmoral Cruise

People from the communities of England & Wales will join the conference and forum delegates to reveal ‘secrets of the Severn’ and talk with representatives of government, industry, local clubs & societies.

The Benefits of Participation

Participants will benefit from the chance to:

- Meet people with similar and different interests in estuary affairs and management;
- Debate topical issues related to marine energy generation and learn something new about new technologies;
- Consider the regional and local implications of topics which have been under the spot light nationally and internationally.
- Learn more about the Severn Estuary;
- Share information and promote awareness of your interests.

Display Space will be provided on a first come first served basis:

Free to funding partners/members of the Severn Estuary Partnership.

Open to non-members.

Please contact us to discuss your requirements by **12th September 2008**

Publicity materials from any organisation/group with interests in the Severn Estuary are welcomed and there will be a space for leaflets and flyers. Please advise us if you have any large items.

Further details of the Programme for the Severn Estuary Forum and Balmoral Cruise are available at: www.severnestuary.net and from the SEP Office 02920 874713

PROGRAMME

9.00	Registration and coffee Welcome and opening speeches
9.45 - 10.45	Renewable energy and energy policy for the Severn Estuary
10.45	Coffee
11.00 - 12.00	Secrets of the Severn
13.00	Afternoon cruise aboard the Balmoral. The cruise will include lunch, informal networking, talks and displays on the secrets of the Severn.
17.45	Return to Clevedon Pier. Transport will be provided to Bristol Temple Meads.
19.00	Return to Penarth.