



# LAND & WATER

Innovation. Inspiration. Results.

## BLACKFRIARS MILLENNIUM PIER TIDEWAY ENABLING PROJECT

As part of the Thames Tideway Tunnel project, the new Blackfriars Millennium Pier was re-sited a few hundred meters downstream to allow for an access area to the new tunnel. A new pocket required dredging, not just in a short completion time, but also in a shallow section of the river also impeded by short and at times no slack water windows of opportunity and unpredictable tides.

This was a difficult and potentially dangerous project making it impossible to send divers down to support the construction. VolkerStevin has worked with Land & Water Services in the past and knew that we could be relied upon to find an alternative solution to a tricky and difficult piece of work.

### Project Delivery

- Land & Water were required to dredge a pocket for the new pier
- Project delivery needed to be completed in a short window – within 8 weeks of start – as it was not possible to dredge the Thames after June 1st (to protect wildlife)
- To complete the project in the timescales, work was carried out 24 hours days, 5 days a week (via 2 x 4 person teams)
- A frame with geotextiles [fabric which lines the bottom of the pocket onto which the scour protection rock is laid] was attached as a method to create the pocket
- However removal of the frame was a different problem to be resolved. After several months research and development, the Land & Water team hit upon Velcro as a potential solution
- The idea worked. The geotextile was attached with Velcro and removal was quick and easy

**Developing the necessary pocket for the new Blackfriars Millennium Pier had the potential to put divers at risk unless an alternative solution could be found. Land & Water embraced the challenge and found an innovative and ingenious solution. The project was finished on time and budget with a new and creative removal process added to the Land & Water portfolio.**



Find us on the internet at  
[www.land-water.co.uk](http://www.land-water.co.uk)

Contact us on 0844 225 1958

The Land & Water Group are award-winning inland waterway and coastal project specialists based in the UK. Throughout their 37-year history, they have become synonymous with finding creative and effective solutions to complex challenges in the specialist environment where land and water meet. Often working in difficult or unpredictable landscapes, their work is always completed with attention to the local surroundings, people and environment.



### Project Particulars

- Project was carried out for VolkerStevin in 8 weeks from April – May 2016
- Dredging and safety innovation project
- 40 ton long reach excavator employed
- Land & Water innovation of Velcro for geotextile frame removal



PROJECT  
VALUE:

£900,000