

Spring 2020



Photo: Pete Edwards

Your support

Whether it's by volunteering and/or by way of an annual subscription your support is greatly valued. We could not achieve our vision of *making the River Wye and its tributaries special places for wildlife and people* without you.

Volunteering

Have a look at the range of opportunities on the next pages and if you feel able to help please [do let us know](#).

Funding

If you're not already supporting us with an annual membership donation and would like to help cover our expenses, such as:

-  insurance
-  training
-  equipment & tools, and
-  room hire,

please [look here](#) for details.

Welcome

We hope you are keeping well and making the most of the difficult times during the Covid-19 restrictions.

Like other organisations we've had to put our activities on hold but we're taking this opportunity to prepare for the better times to come. It's very important that we all remember the bigger picture of climate change, the pressures on the natural environment, and for us to 'do our bit' once we can get 'back out there'.

In normal times our **River Wye Conservation Volunteer** work parties would be busy clearing excess vegetation, invasive species (especially Indian Balsam) and litter, our **River Wardens** would be reporting on the condition of the river, and the **Riverfly Monitors** recording invertebrate populations.

We'd also be taking our message to open days and fetes and arranging our AGM and other activities, such as our popular bat and bird walks.

As we wait for Covid-19 restrictions to be relaxed we want to use this time to strengthen our resources so that we're well placed when we can resume our activities.

Please read on and let us know if you're able to expand your support – there will be plenty to do when the restrictions are over.



Photo: Pete Edwards

Volunteering on the river

River Wye Conservation Volunteers

We're looking to increase the number of [River Wye Conservation Volunteers](#), including a few more work party leaders, so if you like being active and meeting like-minded people let us know.

River Wardens

Our volunteer Wardens let us know the condition of the river and report matters needing attention. We're looking for someone to Coordinate the [River Warden](#) team and an additional small number of volunteer Wardens. Could you help?



Photo: Friends of the Wye



Photo: Judy Sonley



Photo: Jean James



Photo: Rupert Davies & Annabel Thomas

Riverfly Monitors

We have a small team of [Riverfly Monitors](#) and there is scope to build on this. The role is undertaken in pairs at strategic locations along the river. A one-day training course is provided to all prospective riverfly monitors, but you can join us beforehand for a taster session – let us know if you'd like to come along.

You can see data already recorded [here](#).



Photos: Jane Beaton



Management and leadership

Friends of the Wye is a small charity, registered with HMRC for Gift Aid, and is run by an Executive Committee (the Board of Trustees) responsible for its governance and for setting its aims, direction, and development.

Please [get in touch](#) if you'd like to have an informal chat about joining the Committee, we're particularly looking for volunteers with the skills to take on the Treasurer, Activities Coordinator, and Communications Secretary roles.

We're also keen to recruit volunteers into leadership/coordinator/champion roles in the key activities of **River Wye Conservation Volunteers** and **River Wardens**. Details of these roles can be found [here](#) and full briefing and training will be provided, so do [contact us](#) if you feel you can help with these.

Support activities

An important part of what we do is undertaken 'behind the scenes' and we're seeking volunteers with the skills to develop [Promotion and Publicity](#) roles, including attending outside events, creating and maintaining a web site & social media, and liaison with print and broadcast media.



Photo: Jane Beaton

Other activities

We would also like to develop the following additional activities. Please [let us know](#) if you have an interest in Heritage, building links with Community Groups, or looking out for Planning Applications which are likely to have an impact on the river and its environs. Click [here](#) for further details.

Thank you

Much was achieved last year - a big '**thank you**' again for your support.

We'll be in touch as soon as Covid-19 restrictions are sufficiently eased and look forward to seeing you then.

Very best wishes, stay well.

James Donald

Hon. Chairman, Friends of the Wye.



Friends of the Wye
is a
Revive the Wye Partner



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<https://revivethewye.org.uk/friends-of-the-wye/>

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