

The aim of this newsletter is to share information on initiatives and evidence across the Broadland rivers catchment.

The Broadland Catchment Partnership is seeking to provide a clear understanding of the catchment issues, an idea of what is already happening to address these, what more can be done and who can help.

The Partnership is mid-stage of involving communities, organisations, companies and farmers in working together to improve the catchment. If you want to join the partnership and to help in any way please get in touch. We want to hear your views, suggestions to make the catchment a better place.

Contact: Neil Punchard, Catchment Partnership Officer.  
[neil.punchard@broads-authority.gov.uk](mailto:neil.punchard@broads-authority.gov.uk)



## Updates

### Evidence workshop success

Over fifty stakeholders attended the second partnership workshop at the Assembly House, Norwich on 10th July, that focussed on evidence around catchment wide issues. Most attendees found the event valuable and felt that their views were acknowledged and will make a difference to future decisions. Most thought the event helped achieve a common view of the problems but less so for agreeing actions, which will be the focus of the next workshop. Rob Wise, Regional Adviser, NFU is joining the Steering Group along with Lucinda Gilfoyle, Catchment & Bathing Water Strategy Manager, Anglian Water.

### CSF and Agri-Environment latest

The current Rural Development Programme is due to finish at the end of this year but the next one will not start until 2015. Pending agreement on the legal basis and rural development budgets, Defra are planning to offer these packages of support in the transition year 2014 covering ELS, HLS and CSF.

<http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/ourwork/farming/funding/transition2014-2020.aspx>

### Invasive species

Help with the fight against invasive non-native species thanks to the launch of a new Smartphone 'App'

developed by the RINSE (Reducing the Impact of Invasive Non-native Species in Europe) project. The App has been developed to allow anyone to report sightings of invasive plant and animal species. It is free to download from the Apple App Store, Google Play or the project website: [www.rinse-europe.eu](http://www.rinse-europe.eu)

## Request for information and assistance

### Evidence

A list of all evidence sources is currently being compiled for Steering Group review. Please send anything that you have or are aware of relating to catchment issues. Any further evidence relating to water quality will be considered in the next Broads Water Quality Partnership meeting on 17th September.

### Case studies

Many of you have stressed to focus on the positive and suggested case studies of good practice – again, if you have information relating to this please provide.

### Potential solutions

We are also listing potential projects and pilot studies for potential catchment wide measures to resolve issues. Suggestions for innovative solutions are encouraged, particularly if a funding source could be explored or aligned – solutions need to be realistic (cost-effective and practicable) and sustainable!

### Potential funding sources

We are aiming to work with industry such as water companies, food and drink processing companies and also explore national and European funding routes such as Rural Development funding and Lottery funding. If you are aware of other forms of funding available within our area please provide details.

### Working groups

If you would like to be involved in, or lead, a working group and collate evidence around key issue areas and their solutions then please contact Neil Punchard, who can provide assistance in arranging such groups.

## Consultations

### Challenges & Choices

The Environment Agency Challenges and Choices consultation gives communities and partners the opportunity to tell the EA what they think are the most significant issues for the water environment, the best ways to tackle these issues, and what the priorities should be.

<http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/research/planning/140076.aspx>

### Anglian Water Business Plan for water and wastewater services

Help decide the best possible future for your local water and wastewater services:

<http://www.discoverdiscussdecide.co.uk/>

## Sub-catchment focus

**New area for the newsletter – your chance to provide updates in the future.....**

'We are listening': Working at a sub-catchment level steering group representatives will be contacting local community/wildlife groups and parishes to hear their issues, evidence and ideas for potential solutions regarding their nearby water bodies and wetlands.

## River Care

This campaign celebrates the importance of rivers to local people – for their health, well-being, leisure and sport. It also recognises the great work that local groups already do to look after their rivers.

<http://www2.keepbritainty.org/Programmes/RiversAndCanals/RiverCare/About/Default.aspx>

Contact: [Andrew.Walters@keepbritainty.org](mailto:Andrew.Walters@keepbritainty.org)

## Catch-up on news from your patch

### Yare

Link to the South Yare Wildlife Group:

<http://southyarewildlife.wordpress.com/>

### Wensum

Himalyan balsam is being tackled from the top down –

<http://www.norfolkbiobiodiversity.org/nonnativespecies/>

### Bure, Ant and Trinity

Link to the newly formed Bure Navigation and

Conservation Trust: <http://aylsham-navigation.norfolkparishes.gov.uk/>

Essex & Suffolk Water preparations are underway for mud pumping on the Trinity Broads to increase capacity for water storage and remove nutrients.

### Thurne

The Brograve partnership is monitoring the realignment of ditches to try to improve ochre and salinity issues of the Brograve level coastal marshes.

### Waveney

*Reviving old skills to improve access for canoes – sustainable rush harvest is being investigated by the Broads Authority working with local artists, Waveney Rush Ltd, the River Waveney Trust and the EA.*

*What lurks beneath* - earlier this month volunteers from the River Waveney Trust Association

<http://groupspaces.com/riverwaveneytrust> took part in a fantastic one-day course at the River Waveney Study Centre and various locations in the river to learn how to identify and carry out in-river surveys for key riverfly and freshwater invertebrate species. These species serve as a bio-indicator of the health of a river. The course was run by Stuart Crofts of the Riverfly Partnership and was funded by an "Awards For All" Lottery grant and the Environment Agency. The day also saw volunteers receive some induction training for using dissolved oxygen meters by Graham Gamble of the EA. It is hoped that the River Waveney Trust will

now be able to establish a long term monitoring programme to help contribute towards the evidence base on the water quality in the River Waveney.



River Waveney monitoring - courtesy of Barry Bendall

## Recent events

### Wensum Demonstration Test Catchment

The Year 4 conference was held at Hunters Hall, Swanton Morley on 4th July 2013. Around 70 members of the Wensum Alliance attended to hear about the progress of the experimental work and farm surveys, and to see schemes to restore floodplain function, and HLS measures aimed at improving water quality. For further information visit:

[http://www.wensumalliance.org.uk/events/event\\_04jul13.html](http://www.wensumalliance.org.uk/events/event_04jul13.html)

## Upcoming events

### Broads Water Quality Partnership Meeting

Tuesday 17th September - 10:00-16:30 - Broads Authority, Waveney Room, Yare House - contact Andrea Kelly if you would like to attend.

### Broadland Catchment Partnership Steering Group Meeting

Thursday 19th September - 10.00 to 13:00 - Environment Agency - Dragonfly House.

**Broadland Catchment Partnership Stakeholder Workshop – Solutions and Action.** Wednesday 16th October – Easton College 10.00 to 16:00 (TBC)

## Links

### Misconnections

<http://www.connectright.org.uk/>

### Water efficiency awareness

Anglian Water Drop 20:

<http://www.anglianwater.co.uk/environment/using-water-wisely/waterwise/>

Essex & Suffolk Water: <http://www.eswater.co.uk/your-home/using-water-wisely.aspx>

### Community biodiversity projects

A host of projects and groups in Norfolk:

<http://www.norfolkbiobiodiversity.org/communityprojects/Default.aspx>