

Summer 2022

The Valley

News from the Tamar Valley AONB



Busy and promising times for AONBs



Dan Cooke
Manager, Tamar Valley AONB

These are busy and promising times for AONBs. It was great to be able to hold our Annual Forum as a face-to-face event again in June this year – a chance to catch up with friends and partners old and new.

There is clear and growing momentum from Government, our partners and, most importantly, from residents and local communities, for more to be done to conserve and enhance our precious and important landscapes. Awareness of the real value of these landscapes is growing. We are learning more about the economic value of the essential things we all rely on nature to provide – clean air, clean water, good food, carbon storage, pollinators and biodiversity – as well as health and well-being benefits.

We now know that the total value of natural capital in the Tamar Valley AONB is £39 million per annum. This includes, for example, the value of climate regulation

(natural carbon capture and storage) at over £8 million, and air pollution removal services that trees and plants provide is valued at £2.5 million. The stock of biodiversity alone is worth £2 billion! Further details will emerge as we begin to report on the outcomes of our Natural Environment Investment Readiness Fund project.

Defra has made it clear that it wants to see Protected Landscapes (AONBs and National Parks) working together to deliver more clear benefits for nature, climate, people and place. It is also prepared to back this up, by strengthening our purpose and powers, and by providing more resources to enable us to 'do more good stuff' for the benefit of the Tamar Valley. It seems likely that these changes will also be marked by a change in our branding to become a new Tamar Valley National Landscape, a move supported by our executive board. Busy times ahead!

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More from us...

Sign up to receive monthly ebulletins from the Tamar Valley AONB - a great way to keep up to date with progress on projects and calls for volunteers in between issues of The Valley newsletter. Please visit: www.tamarvalley.org.uk and scroll down to 'ebulletins'. Alternatively, email Charlotte at cdancer@tamarvalley.org.uk

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Coming soon:



Daily images of the ongoing war in Ukraine, raging inflation in food, fuel and energy hitting every household budget and now threatened strikes across public services. All of this, set against a backdrop of political divide, has created for many a sense of despair as one crisis follows another in what can surely be termed a 'summer of discontent'.

Chair's Welcome

However, in contrast it would be wrong to erase the positive memories and measures of true community engagement in returning to simple pleasures post the pandemic, and of the widespread celebrations experienced over the Queen's Platinum Jubilee weekend. Taking in the panoramic view from Kit Hill Beacon of the many smaller village bonfires scattered across the entire valley at the launch, through to the concluding Big Lunch as street parties brought together a genuine carnival atmosphere, with everyone demonstrating a rekindling of a spirit of unity.

This is a legacy we trust we can capture through our 'theme of re-engagement' in many aspects of our ten National Lottery Heritage funded projects that make up the Tamara Landscape Partnership Scheme. As the varied programme continues to roll out this summer, we encourage everyone to participate in many of the organised events, and maybe even sign up to become Citizen Scientists and help to deliver for nature.

One such initiative already delivering for our natural environment, as well as improving farm productivity, is the Farming in Protected Landscapes programme. Now in its second year, we have 26 successful approvals to date, some of which were showcased at the recent Tamar Valley AONB Annual Forum, which also included an unofficial celebration of the River Tamar Walkway & Wetland Project in Calstock.

Facing the many challenges of the world today, whilst encapsulating the genuine goodwill and combined spirit we can all offer, together we can continue to build those bridges and deliver exciting times ahead for the Valley community.



Martin Howlett, Chair, Tamar Valley AONB Partnership

TAMAR VALLEY 
AREA OF OUTSTANDING NATURAL BEAUTY



Above: Calstock School pupils and staff cutting the ribbon

Tamar Valley AONB Annual Forum celebrates Calstock Wetland & Walkway

Blue skies, a new bridge and wetland habitat, and a number of inspirational speakers welcomed over 70 delegates to Calstock earlier this summer, as the Tamar Valley AONB team held its first in-person Annual Forum for three years.

Representatives from local organisations, businesses and the community were welcomed to Calstock Arts, for talks and a site visit to the newly-created wetland.

The theme 'Working Partnerships for a New National Landscape?' highlighted the achievements of productive partnership projects and the continuing need to work together in order to continue to conserve and enhance the natural beauty of the Tamar Valley.

Chair of the AONB Partnership, Martin Howlett, welcomed all to the Forum and introduced speakers from a range of partner organisations who spoke about

their roles within the Tamara Landscape Partnership Scheme, the benefits of the AONB's Farming in Protected Landscapes programme and the progress of the River Tamar Walkway & Wetland Project partnership, that includes the recent installation of a footbridge to retain the section of the Tamar Valley Discovery Trail that passes through the wetland.

A celebration of the walkway and wetland project was held on the footbridge, with Calstock School pupils and staff cutting the ribbon, followed by the cutting of a specially-commissioned cake back at Calstock Arts. The official opening of the project will be held in due course.

Former Chair of the Tamar Valley AONB, Neil Burden, was presented with gifts, including a local apple tree 'Tamar Beauty' grafted by Mary Martin, for the support and dedication he has given to the Tamar Valley AONB over the past 25 years.

Valley Champions

The Forum continued with a new Valley Champions Awards presentation. The award recognises those individuals who go above and beyond in their contribution towards the conservation and enhancement of the AONB.

Congratulations to this year's Valley Champions: **Jane Kiely (Tamar Community Trust)** for her unstinting work with the River Tamar Walkway & Wetland Project
Pat Gould for the many years he has dedicated to both the Tamar Community Trust and Tamar Valley TLC as Treasurer.
Local artist, Gudrun Taresch, produced this year's awards.

Above/Right: Jane and Pat receiving their awards





Above: One of several inspirational talks at the Annual Forum



Above: Specially-commissioned cake celebrating the walkway and wetland

What is the River Tamar Walkway & Wetland Project?

- New £3.1 million flood defence scheme to manage the risk of flooding to properties and critical infrastructure in Calstock
- 11-hectare intertidal habitat created;
 - to offset impacts of climate change
 - to provide a richer environment for people and nature
- New footbridge will maintain access along the river, which is part of the Tamar Valley Discovery Trail.

Find out more here - <https://tamarcommunitytrust.wordpress.com/wetlands-and-walkway/>



Above: Dan Cooke leads the way to the footbridge

Exciting sightings on the wetlands

Just some of the wildlife seen at Calstock wetland so far. Calstock Wetlands Bird Watchers Group on Facebook is a fantastic resource for keeping up to date with what you may be lucky enough to see when visiting.





TAMARA

LANDSCAPE PARTNERSHIP

The Tamara Landscape Partnership Scheme aims to create a brighter future for the Tamar Valley and its communities. Bringing together partners from a wide range of backgrounds, this partnership finds its strength in its diversity. Farmers, landowners and communities manage and enhance landscapes that are rich in wildlife, as well as cultural and historic heritage. The Partnership also helps improve access to special places and promote ways for people to enjoy the landscape while improving their health, wellbeing and access to training.

With match-funding commitments from other partners, over £3 million is being invested across the Tamar Valley up until 2025.

Steps underway for new coast-to-coast walking route

This spring, consultation into the creation of a new 90-mile Cornish walking route, got underway.

Reaching from the south to the north Cornwall coast, the project aims to join together existing rights of way in the Tamar Valley to create a footpath which establishes a new circular walk around the coast and county boundary of Cornwall. If the path is given the go-ahead, it could open in spring 2023.

Will Darwall, Tamara Landscape Partnership Scheme Manager said, "This is an exciting phase for the proposed Cornish coast-to-coast footpath and could be another great way to enjoy some of the most stunning views and hidden corners of the South West."

The proposed new trail will run through a special and protected landscape defined and shaped by the Rivers Tamar, Tavy and Lynher, famous for its mining heritage landscape, and market gardening history and a haven for wildlife.

Partnership Scheme, including Cornwall Council and Devon County Council have worked together with the help of external consultants Countryside Creation Services to develop the proposal.



Above: Cornish Trails route map



Our greatest asset for both local residents and visitors is the coast and our amazing coastal path, so I welcome this proposal to link our two world-class coasts through the stunning and intriguing Tamar Valley, which is so rich with beauty and history.

Malcom Bell,
Chief Executive of
Visit Cornwall

Pioneering training project for the Tamar Valley

The first of over 20 apprenticeship, foundation and internship training opportunities has been announced as part of the Tamara Trainees project.

The project aims to improve job prospects of those living in and around the Tamar Valley and provide support for local businesses.

The first role is a National Trust assistant ranger apprenticeship, which has been jointly funded in partnership with the National Trust. The apprenticeship will last 18 months, and the successful applicant will work to protect and improve the health and wildlife richness of the Trust's Cotehele Estate. It is hoped that over five apprenticeships will be made available as Tamara Trainees over the next three years, three of which will be with the National Trust.

Chris Harris, Finance and Monitoring Officer says, "We're delighted to be working with the National Trust to provide our first apprenticeship. It's vital that everyone is given the chance to access excellent training, learn skills and build confidence to improve their prospects of employment and ensure they have happy, fruitful careers."

Further opportunities, including a Level 3 Business Administration Apprenticeship, are also being developed and barriers to participation will be removed, enabling anyone from any background to participate.

If you'd like to get involved, please contact Chris Harris at charris@tamarvalley.org.uk



Above: Helping to keep the Tamar Valley special

The Tamara Landscape Partnership Scheme is looking for over 250 volunteers to support a host of innovative events.

Volunteers sought for innovative community events

The events and activities, which will range from yoga for wellbeing to monitoring the water quality of the Tamar Valley and supporting school visits will be a first for the Valley. Although many volunteers already give their time in the AONB, one of the priorities of this new scheme is to improve the wellbeing and job prospects of people living in and around the Valley.

It is hoped that in total over 250 volunteers will get involved over the five years of the Scheme. Currently, the Tamara Scheme is recruiting for Walk Leaders, Event Assistants and Citizen Scientists.



For more information, contact Sammy Fraser, Community and Volunteering Officer, 07522 709428, samantha.fraser@cornwall.gov.uk

This new broader range of volunteering opportunities and events means that everyone - children, young people and adults - can get involved with something fun, educational or enriching.

Sammy Fraser, Tamara Landscape Partnership Community and Volunteering Officer





Carrots © Good Earth Growers

The Tamar Valley's market garden industry is set to be revitalised thanks to a new project launched by the Tamara Landscape Partnership Scheme and Tamar Grow Local.

Exciting 'green growth project' set to revive market garden industry

The 'Promoting our Produce' project aims to rejuvenate the industry by supporting existing and new market gardening enterprises and community groups in a number of ways. This includes the creation of new community allotments, specialised training and demonstration sites and a network of local food ambassadors. A new 'brand' to market the produce will also be explored.

Tamar Grow Local has been commissioned by the Tamara Landscape Partnership Scheme to lead the Promoting our Produce project, which will see over 200 people complete one of the new husbandry courses; 180 people take part in a demonstration at one of the three new demonstration allotment plots and over 20 volunteers sign up as ambassadors.

Rachael Forster from Tamar Grow Local explains, "The Promoting our Produce project will offer opportunities for people to share knowledge, get involved in growing food and develop new skills for recreational and commercial growing. We'll also be providing a signposting service for local people wanting to find local food, or to get involved with volunteering and community projects."

As part of the project, Tamar Grow Local is looking for some brilliant folk with a passion for local food to support others to get growing, to help out at events and courses and to share knowledge with others. If you have a few hours available and would like to get involved as a volunteer, or would like any further details on Promoting our Produce, please contact Rachael Forster on 01579 208412 or info@tamargrowlocal.org.



This is an exciting and important project for the Tamar Valley and its communities. The Tamar Valley, until relatively recently, supported a significant market gardening industry and this project will not only help to preserve the character of this special place, but will also support and grow the number of local enterprises.

There are lots of opportunities for people to get outdoors and involved in growing, with all the associated benefits for wellbeing, too.

**Will Darwall,
Tamara Landscape
Partnership Scheme
Manager**



Tree restoration within the Valley



Above: Sarah Richardson,
Land Management Officer

Farming update

Working in partnership with Farming in Protected Landscapes, colleagues at the AONB have been busy engaging with farmers and landowners.

With the appointment of our new Tamara Landscape Partnership Land Management Officer, Sarah Richardson, over the coming months we will be focusing on identifying further sites for hedge planting and restoration and tree planting.

Alongside this, working with our colleagues at the Environment Agency, Westcountry Rivers Trust, Devon Wildlife Trust and Duchy College, we will continue the Lockett stream catchment improvement monitoring and action, and get work on the Upper Tavy catchment underway.

See pages 20-21 for more information on the Farming in Protected Landscapes programme.

Seeking miners, growers and forestry workers!

Do you know anyone who worked in the mines, the market garden industry, forestry or the ferries in the Tamar Valley in the distant past?

We are keen to create an oral history of what life was like working in the Tamar Valley in years gone by. We want to create a Heritage Hub, which will store a wealth of historical information about the Valley in an online resource that schools, academics and researchers can use. So, if you have any information that can help, please get in touch.

Meanwhile, we have been working with the World Heritage Site (WHS) and Exeter University to map the mineworkers' smallholdings in the Valley to inform the WHS Management Plan. During the mining boom in the Valley, some mineworkers were given land to

grow their own vegetables, but there isn't a clear picture of where these plots are.

Work has also continued with Historic England across the five mining sites in the Valley - Gunnislake Clitters Mine; New Consols Mine; Okel Tor Mine; Holmbush Mine and Tamar Canal Lock, and we now have a completed Conservation Management Plan for Gunnislake Clitters Mine. The Plan has prioritised and costed the work that needs to take place to consolidate the mine, which is a scheduled monument in the WHS. We will now work with the landowner and Historic England to agree next steps.

For further information, please contact Gary Lewis, Senior Heritage Officer, gary.lewis@cornwall.gov.uk

Community, schools and wellbeing

Spring was particularly busy, with numerous art, heritage, nature, local produce and water-based events taking place. Thanks go to the team at Pentillie Castle and Estate for working with us to host our first large-scale school event. Over three days in March, 232 pupils and staff from four local primary schools took part in a BioBlitz – nature-based activities, including bird ringing, bug hunting, land art, yoga and willow tepee creation.

River Explorers

As part of our support for the Westcountry Rivers Trust Citizen Science Investigations (CSI) volunteering programme, we're delighted to say that we've had lots of local interest and sign up.

The scheme aims to educate and engage people with the water environment, produce data that can be used to target work and identify degrading water bodies and spot pollution events which can be dealt with as quickly as possible.

In support of the CSI scheme, we'll be running local events for people to learn more about the aquatic life living in their rivers and how to take part in CSI. Our first event in Buckland Monachorum was sold out and we have more planned. Haven't signed up yet? Don't worry, there are still plenty of places that need monitoring. Check out <https://wrt.org.uk/westcountry-csi/> to find out how.

We've also been working with the Trust to launch the school element of this project. This aims to equip teachers with the knowledge and confidence to take pupils to their local watercourses to carry out surveys to look for aquatic life and find out more about the CSI scheme. Our first pilot session with Calstock Primary and Callington Community College launched in May. We're still looking for local secondary and SEN schools to be involved, so please do get in touch.



Above: Event at Buckland Monachorum

For more information, contact Sammy Fraser, Community and Volunteering Officer - 07522 709428, samantha.fraser@cornwall.gov.uk

Welcoming new team members

We are delighted to have recently welcomed two new members to the Tamara Team – Will Darwall, who is the new Scheme Manager and Sarah Richardson, the new Land Management Officer.

Tamara team photo:
Back row l-r Gary Lewis (Senior Heritage Officer), Chris Harris (Finance & Monitoring Officer), Will Darwall (Scheme Manager).
Front row l-r Sarah Richardson (Land Management Officer), Sabina Eberle (Communications Officer), Sammy Fraser (Community & Volunteering Officer).



Helping the community to grow and heal

We've been working in partnership with Battling On, delivering outdoor sessions for young people and adults with partners such as local farms, community interest companies and Westcountry Rivers Trust. These sessions have focused on engaging people with nature and their local landscape, running activities such as butterfly habitat creation, footpath maintenance, litter picks, orchard care and water quality surveys.



Above: Battling On

Foraging expeditions

Thanks to the Tavistock Health & Wellbeing Alliance, we have paired up with staff at Tavistock Youth Café to run sessions for local teenagers to get out and enjoy the Valley.



Above: Foraging walk activities

Activities planned include farm visits, water quality investigations, litter picks and practical conservation work. In May, the group enjoyed their first session with a foraging walk run by Incredible Edible using local footpaths in Bere Alston.

We continue to run our Yoga wellbeing sessions at Bere Alston and are

collaborating with Drawn to the Valley to run local art workshops for those suffering from isolation, mental or physical health issues or in need of a respite from care.

To find out more, contact Sammy on 07522 709428 or samantha.fraser@cornwall.gov.uk



Above: Dandelion clock

Wellbeing Walks

In collaboration with Plymouth Community Homes and Devon and Cornwall Rail Partnership, we've been working with the wellbeing hubs across Plymouth to organise visits into the Tamar Valley using the rail networks and more are being planned.

In Plymouth, we have also been working in partnership with Trevi, a nationally award-winning women's and children's charity that provides safe and nurturing spaces for women in recovery to heal, grow and thrive. Our first trip took place in May at Cotehele and included a picnic, pond dipping and bug hunting. A particular favourite with the children was finding tadpoles and blowing dandelion clocks. We'd like to thank the National Trust team at Cotehele for their support in planning and running the session and are looking forward to more.

Events

Here's a selection of events, activities and volunteering opportunities for you to enjoy throughout the Tamar Valley. New events are added regularly to our online Events Calendar. Visit tamarvalley.org.uk/events for your up-to-date guide.

Please note: events may be subject to change. Please contact the event organiser in advance, to check if plans have changed. Persons who participate in events do so at their own risk. Neither the Tamar Valley AONB team, other organisers, nor landowners shall be liable for any death, loss or damage sustained. Participation in events is at the discretion of the leader. Whilst every care has been taken, no responsibility can be taken for inaccurate information in the newsletter.

August

Until 29th

Guided Canoe Trips on the River Tamar

A truly relaxing way to enjoy the stunning scenery and wildlife that the Tamar Valley has to offer. 2.5 hour trip, including picnic break at private riverside wild meadow.

Notes: suitable for complete beginners aged 3 years+.

Cost: £30 adult, £24 child (under 5s free)

Meet: Cotehele Quay, nr St Dominick, Saltash, PL12 6TA

Information: tamartrails.co.uk/events for dates & times available

Booking: info@tamartrails.co.uk, 01822 833409

Organiser: Canoe Tamar

Until 4th September, 10am – 5pm

Come Out and Play

Join us at Cotehele as we get creative and interact with nature in new ways this summer. There is lots of fun to be had as you complete the trail and explore the gardens, orchard and mill on your way.

Cost: normal admission charges apply

Venue & Organiser: National Trust Cotehele, nr St Dominick, Saltash, PL12 6TA

Information: www.nationaltrust.org.uk/cotehele, 01579 351346

Until 15th September, 10:30am – 5pm daily (except Mondays)

Fairies & Dragons Trail

Explore the gardens and keep an eye out for mischievous fairies and friendly dragons! The circular walk takes approximately two hours, culminating in a visit to the wishing tree.

Venue & Organiser: The Garden House, Buckland Monachorum, PL20 7LQ

Information: www.thegardenhouse.org.uk

Wednesday 3rd

Valley Volunteers Working Party

Come and help the team of Valley Volunteers with maintenance tasks at the Tamar Trails, Gulworthy.

Information: for details of when and where to meet, and further information on tasks to be undertaken, please contact Phil Harwin - greenwood.music.plus@gmail.com, 07971 768147

Organiser: Tamar Community Trust

Wednesday 3rd – Sunday 7th, 10am – 4:30pm

Tavistock Annual Summer Exhibition

Drawn to the Valley's main summer exhibition, with many artists participating, presenting a diverse range of artwork influenced by our beautiful and inspiring Tamar Valley.

Venue: Butchers' Hall, Bedford Square, Tavistock, PL19 0AU

Information: www.drawntothevalley.com

Organiser: Drawn to the Valley

Friday 5th, 7pm (gardens open at 5:30pm)

Peter Pan – Outdoor Theatre

Award-winning outdoor theatre company Illyria bring their fabulous production of Peter Pan to The Old Tennis Lawn.

Notes: please bring a rug to sit on, or low-backed seating. Please dress warmly. Suitable for all ages 5 years+.

Cost: tickets £18 adult, £10 child (under

12), £50 family (2 adults, 2 children)

Venue & Organiser: Pentillie Castle & Estate, St Mellion, PL12 6QD

Booking: www.pentillie.co.uk and follow the links

Saturday 6th, 10am – 4pm

Cornish Makers Market

An eclectic mix of Cornish makers who will share their wonderful work in a day of art and craft. Local musicians, great food, all-day outdoor bar.

Venue & Organiser: Tre, Pol & Pen Farm Shop & Restaurant, Lezant, PL15 9NN

Information: www.trepolandpen.co.uk, 01566 706527

Sunday 7th

Valley Volunteers Working Party

Come and help the team of Valley Volunteers with maintenance tasks at Wacker Quay, near Antony.

Information: for details of when and where to meet, and further information on tasks to be undertaken, please contact Phil Harwin - greenwood.music.plus@gmail.com, 07971 768147

Organiser: Tamar Community Trust

Sunday 7th, doors open 7pm, performance starts 7:30pm

Jazz Divas Night

The Jazz Divas, under the guidance and tuition of vocal coach and singer Helen Porter, are eager and ready to croon, swing and scat for you once again. Eight solo singers, accompanied by Jonathan Taylor on piano and James Budden on double bass, sing jazz standards.

Venue & Organiser: Calstock Arts, The Old Chapel, Calstock, PL18 9QX

Information: www.calstockarts.org, 01822 833183

Wednesday 10th

Valley Volunteers Working Party

Come and help the team of Valley

Volunteers with maintenance tasks at the Tamar Trails, Gulworthy.

Information: for details of when and where to meet, and further information on tasks to be undertaken, please contact Phil Harwin - greenwood.music.plus@gmail.com, 07971 768147

Organiser: Tamar Community Trust

Thursday 11th, 9:30am – 1:30pm

Bracken Pull & Litter Pick

Join Countryside Ranger, Jenny Heskett, on Kit Hill to keep this invasive plant in check.

Meet: Kit Hill Adit Car Park (2nd on left of road to summit)

Information: jenny.heskett@cormacltd.co.uk, 07973 813843

Organiser: Cormac Solutions Ltd

Thursday 11th, 6:45pm – 8:45pm

Drawing & Exploring – Tamara Landscape Partnership Event

We will be taking a relaxed walk through the woods with artist explorer Karen Howse, stopping as we go to try out a variety of drawing exercises. This is an experimental drawing walk that is as much about learning to look, slowing down and experiencing the place afresh as drawing.

Notes: suitable for anyone who likes walking and is curious! Beginners very welcome. Suitable for older children with an adult.

Meet: Cotehele Quay Car Park, nr St Dominick, Saltash, PL12 6TA

Booking & Information:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/drawing-and-exploring-tickets-377147096117>

Organiser: Tamara Landscape Partnership Scheme and National Trust Cotehele.

Thursday 11th – Friday 12th, 10am – 4pm

Art for All – Watercolours: Cling Film Textures

Experimental course with watercolours, inks and cling film textures.

Cost: £8 per course

Venue: Callington Methodist Hall

Booking: essential as places are limited – westdevonartworkshops@gmail.com, 07724 153381

Organiser: West Devon Art Workshops

Thursday 11th – Friday 12th, 10am – 4pm

Art for All – Have Fun Drawing People

Learn the basics of drawing clothed figures, taking inspiration from loose and expressive fashion drawing and illustration. Suitable for adults and teenagers.

Cost: £8 per course

Venue: upstairs room, Launceston Ambulance Hall, PL15 7AE

Booking: essential as places are limited – westdevonartworkshops@gmail.com, 07724 153381

Organiser: West Devon Art Workshops

Saturday 13th, 10:30am – 1:30pm

Wild Hedgerow Spice Trail

This walk, led by Leon Frey, sets out to illuminate the best wild ingredients of the season and demonstrate why summer can be a brilliant time to get creative with the flavours of summer.

Cost: £25 (children free)

Venue: The Wild Spice Trail, Maker Heights

Booking: www.familyforagingkitchen.co.uk (please let us know of any dietary requirements you may have)

Organiser: Family Foraging Kitchen

Saturday 13th, 2:15pm

Stoke Climsland Show

Lots of children's entries, bouncy castle, stalls and bar.

Venue: Stoke Climsland Village Green

Information: schedule booklet available from Stoke Climsland Post Office & Stores

Saturday 13th, 10am – 3pm

Dry Stone Walling

Join tutor, Robbie Ryder, for a day of learning, building stone walls at a relaxed pace, using only a few hand tools and without the aid of cement or mortar.

Notes: all essential equipment will be supplied. Please dress appropriately for the weather and wear strong shoes.

Cost: £50

Venue: Horsepool Apiary, Sheviock

Booking: www.familyforagingkitchen.co.uk

Organiser: Family Foraging Kitchen

Saturday 13th, 8pm – 9:30pm

Bats with Stuart

An evening discovering how many bats are around. Some bat detectors will be available.

Notes: bring binoculars and cameras and wear suitable clothing and footwear.

Meet: outside St Stephen's Church, Saltash, PL12 4AS (by The Cecil Arms)

Information: marylangworth@btinternet.com

Organiser: Churchtown Farm Community Nature Reserve, Saltash

Saturday 13th, doors 6pm, starts 8:30pm

Outdoor Cinema

Immerse yourself in an outdoor cinema experience like no other with an outdoor bar, BBQ and stonebaked pizza oven.

Cost: tickets £12.95 adults, £9.95 children

Venue & Organiser: Tre, Pol & Pen Farm Shop & Restaurant, Lezant, PL15 9NN

Booking: www.trepolandpen.co.uk

Sunday 14th, 9:30am – 4:30pm

Willow Weaving – Irish Trug

This course, led by Lynn Kentish, will teach you how to make your own Irish trug that is perfect for gathering flowers and harvest.

Notes: all equipment and materials will be provided

Cost: £45

Venue: Horsepool Apiary, Sheviock

Booking: www.familyforagingkitchen.co.uk

Organiser: Family Foraging Kitchen

Tuesday 16th – Weds 17th, 10am – 4pm

Art for All – Watercolours: Cling Film Textures

Experimental course with watercolours, inks and cling film textures.

Cost: £8 per course

Venue: Yelverton Memorial Hall

Booking: essential as places are limited – westdevonartworkshops@gmail.com, 07724 153381

Organiser: West Devon Art Workshops

Saturday 20th, 7:30pm

Brainfools – Lucky Pigeons

Brainfools' 'Lucky Pigeons' is now touring rural areas across the country. Daring aerials, acrobatic feats, a soulful story.

Cost: pay what you can £8 - £12

Venue: St Germans Priory Church, PL12 5NP

Booking: www.carntocove.co.uk/event/

Organiser: Carn to Cove

Sat 20th – Sun 21st, 10:30am – 4pm

Great British Summer Fete

Live music, bouncy castles, children's entertainment, Pimms bar, street food, dog show, gift stall and lots more.

Cost: £5 adult (online, plus booking fee), £7 adult at the gate, children under 12 free.

Venue: Mount Edgcombe Country Park, Cremyll, PL10 1HZ

Booking: www.missivyevents.co.uk

Organiser: Miss Ivy Events

Weds 24th & Friday 26th, 10am – 4pm**Art for All – Wire & Modroc Figures**

Build your confidence in sculpture.

Cost: £8 per course

Venue: Bere Alston Parish Hall

Booking: essential as places are limited – westdevonartworkshops@gmail.com, 07724 153381

Organiser: West Devon Art Workshops

Saturday 27th**Introduction to Green Woodwork**

One-day course with Andy Morton, covering the properties of green wood, cleaving techniques and production of simple craft objects from a greenwood log using traditional hand tools, such as draw-knives and pole lathes.

Cost: £85

Venue & Organiser: Sallerton Wood, south east of Launceston (nearest postcode PL16 0HH)

Booking: www.sallertonwood.org.uk

Saturday 27th – Sunday 4th September**Drawn to the Valley Open Studios**

Annual event where the Drawn to the Valley artists throw open the doors of their studios, hire space within the community and welcome visitors to see, enjoy and buy their work.

Venues: various, throughout the Tamar Valley. Pick up a directory nearer the time for full details.

Information: www.drawntothevalley.com

Organiser: Drawn to the Valley

Sunday 28th**Make a Shave Horse**

Two-day course with Andy Morton, teaching a wide range of green woodworking techniques whilst making your own traditional greenwood shaving horse using timber sourced within the woodland.

Cost: £195

Venue & Organiser: Sallerton Wood, south east of Launceston (nearest postcode PL16 0HH)

Booking: www.sallertonwood.org.uk

September**Friday 2nd, doors 6pm, starts 7:45pm****Mad Dog Mcrea**

You are invited to a night of music, dancing and all out fun with local live music favourites, Mad Dog Mcrea.

Cost: tickets £19.95 adults (over 18s only)

Venue & Organiser: Tre, Pol & Pen Farm Shop & Restaurant, Lezant, PL15 9NN

Booking: www.trepolandpen.co.uk

Saturday 3rd, doors 6pm, starts 8:30pm**Outdoor Cinema**

Immerse yourself in an outdoor cinema experience like no other with an outdoor bar, BBQ and stonebaked pizza oven.

Cost: tickets £12.95 adults, £9.95 children

Venue & Organiser: Tre, Pol & Pen Farm Shop & Restaurant, Lezant, PL15 9NN

Booking: www.trepolandpen.co.uk

Tuesday 6th**Stool Making**

Three-day course with Andy Morton, covering all the green woodworking skills and processes needed in order to construct your own sturdy stool from a green Ash log.

Cost: £265

Venue & Organiser: Sallerton Wood, south east of Launceston (nearest postcode PL16 0HH)

Booking: www.sallertonwood.org.uk

Wednesday 7th**Valley Volunteers Working Party**

Come and help the team of Valley Volunteers with maintenance tasks at the Tamar Trails, Gulworthy.

Information: for details of when and where to meet, and further information on tasks to be undertaken, please contact Phil Harwin - greenwood.music.plus@gmail.com, 07971 768147

Organiser: Tamar Community Trust

Friday 9th, 7:30pm**Daniel Smith Blues Band**

Foot-tapping, good-time, old-style, rip-roaring boogie woogie, blues and jazz delivered with a healthy dose of dry on-stage humour. Recommended for audiences aged 15 years+.

Venue: Launceston Town Hall, PL15 7AR

Information: www.carncove.co.uk/event/

Organiser: Carn to Cove

Saturday 10th, 10am**Special Tamar Valley Walk**

A 14-mile circular walk from Gunnislake to Horsebridge, led by walk leader Rob Blakiston. Stopping for lunch at the Royal Inn, Horsebridge, and another rest stop at the Rising Sun Inn, Gunnislake (so please bring money).

Notes: please bring water and snacks, dress for the weather and wear suitable walking boots. Good level of fitness necessary. Sorry no dogs.

Meet: Tamar Valley Centre, Drakewalls, PL18 9FE

Booking essential/information: enquiries@tamarvalley.org.uk

Organiser: Tamar Valley AONB/Tamara Landscape Partnership

Saturday 10th, 10:30am – 1:30pm**Foraging & Feasting**

This walk, with Vix Hill-Ryder, will guide you across Maker, exploring the diverse landscapes and flora it has to offer, focussing on the variety of wild food ingredients that can be found as summer ends and autumn begins to appear.

Cost: £25 (children free)

Venue: Maker Heights

Booking: www.familyforagingkitchen.co.uk (please let us know of any dietary requirements you may have)

Organiser: Family Foraging Kitchen

Sat 10th – Mon 19th, 10am – 4pm**Apple Picking**

Come and take part in our apple harvest. The Mother Orchard is home to more than 300 trees and 125 different heritage varieties of apple. You can take a selection of these special varieties home with you. Apples are priced at £2.50 (small bag) or £5 (large bag).

Cost: normal admission charges apply

Venue & Organiser: National Trust Cotehele, nr St Dominick, Saltash, PL12 6TA

Information: www.nationaltrust.org.uk/cotehele, 01579 351346

Sunday 11th**Chair Making**

Six-day course with Andy Morton, using skills such as steam-bending.

Cost: £450

Venue & Organiser: Sallerton Wood, near Launceston (nearest postcode PL16 0HH)

Booking: www.sallertonwood.org.uk

Monday 12th, 3pm – 5pm**Macramé Workshop**

Daniella from Shoreside Macramé will teach basic macramé knotting skills to enable you to create an impressive wall hanging to take home.

Cost: £34.95 per person, includes all materials plus coffee & cake

Venue & Organiser: Tre, Pol & Pen Farm Shop & Restaurant, Lezant, PL15 9NN

Booking: www.trepolandpen.co.uk

Tuesday 13th, 7:30pm**A talk on Calstock Roman Fort**

Dr Chris Smart will highlight the recent discoveries at Calstock.

Cost: free to members, non-members welcome £3.

Venue: Parish Centre, Tavistock, PL19 8AU
Information: www.tavistockhistory.co.uk/contact-us
Organiser: Tavistock Local History Society

Thurs 15th Sept – Sun 16th Oct, 11am – 4pm Autumn Art Exhibition

An exhibition celebrating the work of local artists and the impact and influence of the surrounding landscape on their work.
Cost: normal admission charges apply
Venue & Organiser: National Trust Cotehele, nr St Dominick, Saltash, PL12 6TA
Information: www.nationaltrust.org.uk/cotehele, 01579 351346

Wednesday 21st

Valley Volunteers Working Party

Come and help the team of Valley Volunteers with maintenance tasks at the Tamar Trails, Gulworthy.
Information: for details of when and where to meet, and further information on tasks to be undertaken, please contact Phil Harwin - greenwood.music.plus@gmail.com, 07971 768147
Organiser: Tamar Community Trust

Thursday 22nd

Greenwood Carving

Two-day course with Andy Morton, teaching the techniques of carving by hand, which will enable you to create your very own beautiful and unique vessels and spoons. You will be using traditional tools and techniques, and will start with a freshly-cut greenwood log.
Cost: £170
Venue & Organiser: Sallerton Wood, south east of Launceston (nearest post-code PL16 0HH)
Booking: www.sallertonwood.org.uk

Saturday 24th

Introduction to Green Woodwork

One-day course with Andy Morton, covering the properties of green wood, cleaving techniques and production of simple craft objects from a greenwood log using traditional hand tools, such as draw-knives and pole lathes.
Cost: £85
Venue & Organiser: Sallerton Wood, south east of Launceston (nearest post-code PL16 0HH)
Booking: www.sallertonwood.org.uk

Sunday 25th

Valley Volunteers Working Party

Come and help the team of Valley Volunteers with maintenance tasks at Wacker Quay, near Antony.

Information: for details of when and where to meet, and further information on tasks to be undertaken, please contact Phil Harwin - greenwood.music.plus@gmail.com, 07971 768147
Organiser: Tamar Community Trust

October

Saturday 22nd, 10:30am – 1:30pm

Foraging & Feasting

This walk, with Vix Hill-Ryder, will guide you across Maker, exploring the diverse landscapes and flora it has to offer, focussing on the variety of wild food ingredients that can be found throughout the autumn season.
Cost: £25 (children free)
Venue: Maker Heights
Booking: www.familyforagingkitchen.co.uk (please let us know of any dietary requirements you may have)
Organiser: Family Foraging Kitchen

Saturday 22nd, 10am – 3pm

Willow Hurdle Making

This course teaches you how to control willow, how to source it and use it, creating your own natural and traditional hurdles, which you will be able to take home with you.
Cost: £60 (adult and child £80)
Venue: Horsepool Apiary, Sheviock
Booking: www.familyforagingkitchen.co.uk
Organiser: Family Foraging Kitchen

Saturday 22nd – Monday 31st, 10am – 4pm

Cheeky Piskies and Cornish Tales

Cotehele's resident piskies have been up to no good this Halloween. Can you find all of the hidden doors and discover some Cornish mysteries along the way? You can also try your hand at making some leaf crowns to wear.
Cost: normal admission charges apply
Venue & Organiser: National Trust Cotehele, nr St Dominick, Saltash, PL12 6TA
Information: www.nationaltrust.org.uk/cotehele, 01579 351346

November

Sunday 13th, 9:30am – 4:30pm

Willow Weaving – Christmas Decorations

Join Lynn Kentish to learn how to create your own Christmas decorations, such as angels and stars, just in time for the

festive season.

Notes: all equipment and materials provided.

Cost: £45

Venue: Horsepool Apiary, Sheviock
Booking: www.familyforagingkitchen.co.uk

Organiser: Family Foraging Kitchen

Saturday 19th – Saturday 7th January 2023, 11am – 4pm

Cotehele's Garland

This year, our traditional garland will be back in full flower. Enjoy the festivities with us as the Great Hall is dressed in greenery and candlelight, enjoy outdoor musical performances, a family trail and lots of other touches that make Christmas at Cotehele so special.
Cost: normal admission charges apply
Venue & Organiser: National Trust Cotehele, nr St Dominick, Saltash, PL12 6TA
Information: www.nationaltrust.org.uk/cotehele, 01579 351346

Weekly Walks in the Tamar Valley AONB

Every Monday, Wednesday & Thursday, join a FREE walk in the Tamar Valley near you.

Every Monday - Saltash Walk & Talk

Areas to explore include Latchbrook, Trematon and Cargreen, and a little further afield, Plymbridge Woods and Golitha Falls

Every Wednesday - Tamar Valley Walk & Talk

Two-hour walks including Luckett, Weir Quay, Bere Ferrers and Calstock

Every Thursday - Tamar & Bere Wellbeing Walks

A mixture of walks of varying lengths, including Kit Hill, Cadsonbury, Tamar Trails, Harrowbarrow and the Bere peninsula

<https://www.tamarvalley.org.uk/explore/walking/>

Calstock Footpath Society

Why not join Calstock Footpath Society on their monthly walks in and around Calstock and the Tamar Valley area.

Most walks are circular routes, mainly on footpaths, off road and quiet lanes. Yearly membership £6, or pay-as-you-go £3 per walk.

www.calstockfootpathsoc.org.uk/

Wacker Quay trail celebrates 10th anniversary

June marked the 10th anniversary of the opening of the riverside walk from Wacker Quay to the village of Antony.

The trail, which follows the route of a 19th century military railway, is situated on the River Lynher. Steeped in history and rich in wildlife, the walk is a popular destination for both local residents and visitors. The trail was cleared and developed by local volunteers, who continue to maintain the site through the Tamar Community Trust.

The quayside provides a great spot to picnic, launch a canoe or kayak, or cast a fishing line. The footpath is perfect for bird watching and learning about the history of the place, while strolling through the woodland.

This spring saw the start of an extensive programme of improvements, including renewing benches, boardwalks and information boards, along with clearing vegetation from the historic features. Activities will continue into the autumn, with working parties led by the Tamar Community Trust's Volunteer Coordinator, Phil Harwin.

During May, Phil was joined by the Torpoint and Millbrook Explorer Scouts who camped overnight and established new steps, a bench and cleared up the

overgrown railway turntables.

Phil was pleased with progress over the weekend; "They were a good team of lads to get the job done," he said. Local history enthusiastic, Roy Roseveare, also helped and thought the volunteer scouts had "learnt a lot of practical skills and worked really hard putting the new steps in."

The Wacker Quay Improvements scheme celebrates the beautiful natural setting and rich history of Wacker Quay. The project is funded by the Tamar Valley AONB through its Sustainable Development Fund. If you would like to volunteer at Wacker Quay, please contact Phil through the Valley Volunteers programme at enquiries@tamarvalley.org.uk.



Two of the team getting stuck in to some hard graft



It's good to give something back to the site which we have enjoyed over the years and especially to uncover the archaeology. It was a very rewarding experience.

Scout Leader
Adam Terry



Helping Hands for Heritage visit to Antony House 2014

70 ancient trees unveiled

The Queen's Green Canopy, a unique tree planting initiative created to mark Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee, has unveiled 70 ancient trees which have been dedicated in celebration of 70 years of service. We are delighted to reveal that one of these special trees is in the Tamar Valley AONB.

Estate records show that the Antony House Black Walnut was planted in 1785 and it was one of the trees recorded during a training workshop with Cornwall Ancient Tree Forum's Tim Kellett as part of the Tamar Valley AONB's Heritage Lottery Fund supported Helping Hands for Heritage project in 2014.

Cornwall Ancient Tree Forum is still very actively recording trees across Cornwall to add to the Woodland Trust's Ancient Tree Inventory as well as providing management advice and training. If you would like to know more about the group and to subscribe to the e-newsletter, please contact cornwall@ancienttreeforum.co.uk

Sweet success for SHARE Recycling

Remember all those Quality Street and Celebrations sweet tubs we collected over Christmas, and during January and February?

Devon Contract Waste processed them into picnic benches at their Exeter site ... it takes 3,466 tubs to make just one picnic bench!

They also raised £5,736.28 to be split 50/50 between Dartmoor Zoological Society and Mind charity.

The list of items for which we can raise money for charity is always changing. Check here www.south-hill.co.uk/charity-recycling for an up-to-date list and where to drop your items.

We can now accept all brands of coffee plastic bags and sachets.

If you have any questions, please email SHARE@south-hill.co.uk or text/phone Ali on 07305 044049.

Thank you for your continued support and to the amazing volunteers.



For a number of years, the Tamar Valley has been home to a very problematic, invasive, non-native plant. Now, after more than two decades, the number and distribution of giant hogweed have been radically reduced on the Rivers Tamar and Lyd.

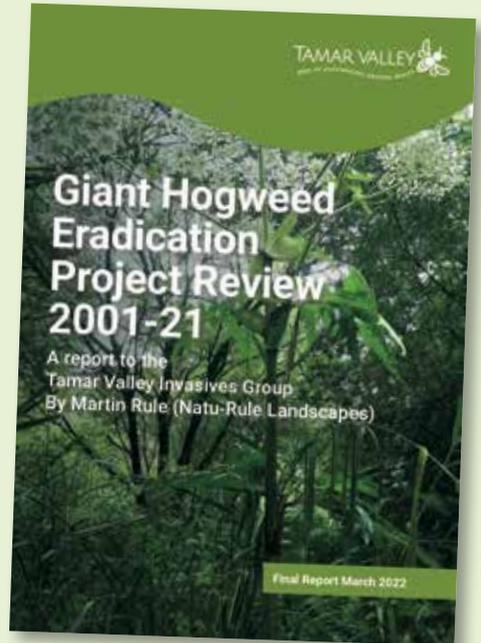
Milestone achieved in tackling invasives

In 2001, the Tamar Invasives Plant Project partnership, later renamed the Tamar Valley Invasives Group, was formed with the aim of eradicating the plant from the catchment. The partnership, led by Tamar Valley AONB, the Environment Agency, Natural England and Cornwall Council, and with the support of almost 90 landowners, has remained committed to this aim for over 20 years.

The giant hogweed eradication project has now reached a milestone after two decades of constant effort. To mark this, thanks to Water Environment Grant funding through Natural England, a review of the project's success, its challenges, lessons learnt and good practice has now been published. The Giant Hogweed

Eradication Project Review 2001-2021 which can be viewed online at tamarvalley.org.uk/tamar-invasive-plants-project will not only help plan the project as it moves forward, but will also inform other invasive non-native species work in the Valley and beyond.

The review outlines the historical, legislative and geographic context within which the project was designed and developed. It also discusses the plant's serious concerns for people's health as well as its capacity to outcompete native flora and to create physical land and river management problems. The various methods used to eradicate giant hogweed are described, such as applying herbicides, cutting and uprooting the plant as well as



The Tamar Valley catchment
 (© Crown Copyright,
 Environment Agency
 100026380. Map copied from
 Tamar Catchment Flood
 Management Plan 2012)



Above: Digging up giant hogweed to remove tap root
 (Inset) Essential use of specialist contractors



Above: A heavily infested site near Gunnislake in 2005, with some regrowth visible in 2009 and finally clear of giant hogweed in 2012

the essential use of boats in some locations. The importance of finding and retaining good contractors is also highlighted.

Figures on giant hogweed numbers in each year are provided, mainly from around 2009 onwards. Brief reference is made to efforts to carry out the survey and limited control of Japanese knotweed and Himalayan balsam, but giant hogweed has remained the primary focus over the last 20 years.

The findings demonstrate a dramatic reduction in giant hogweed numbers and distribution as the project has progressed (from around 4,000 plants in 2009 to a project low of 174 in 2019 and 336 in 2021).

Other, private efforts to control giant hogweed are taking place in the Tamar Valley, most notably the efforts of a single landowner on an organic holding in the tidal river section. Working since 2002, he initially removed thousands of giant

hogweed plants by hand, with this figure now reduced to double figures. More information on this incredible work is available at <https://calstock.org.uk/elf/aliens/>.

With only 17 plants found on the non-tidal river corridor in 2021, the Tamar Valley Invasives Group is very close to succeeding in its key aim of eradicating giant hogweed in this area. However, survey and control efforts need to continue in some form, not least because of the potential for giant hogweed to appear at new sites.

The review concludes with recommendations to help take the project forward into a 'maintenance' phase to ensure the positive outcome is not reversed. Key among these are to continue to develop and expand the communication network with landowners and other river users, and to retain a budget to enable quick action to be taken should any new giant hogweed plants be discovered.



Giant hogweed infesting a riverbank



Mixed stand of giant hogweed and Himalayan balsam



Tamar Valley Centre, May 2022 - landowners, the general public and local organisations met to learn about the giant hogweed project. This event was held in partnership with South West Lakes Trust and South West Water.



Giant hogweed guidance and control leaflet



Above left: Bohetherick Farm visitor area, St Dominic
Above right: Harlings Farm bluebell woods in Bere Alston

Over the last year, along with AONBs and National Parks across England, the Tamar Valley AONB team has been busy delivering the Farming in Protected Landscapes programme.

Farming in Protected Landscapes

This three-year Defra-funded programme awards grants to farmers and landowners to carry out projects under four themes, climate, nature, people and place. Here in the Tamar Valley, we were awarded £700,000 over the three years.

Supported by a full-time Farming in Protected Landscapes Officer, Alice Lewthwaite, and the wider AONB team, the programme has had enquiries from over 100 farmers and landowners and carried out more than 60 farm visits. Applications are reviewed by a panel of local farmers, business owners and representatives from the National Farmers' Union (NFU), Woodland Trust and Natural England. To date, 26 projects have been awarded grants, which will be implemented between now and the end of March 2024.

What kind of projects have been approved?

We have been delighted by the range of projects that farmers and landowners have put forward. Rosie Walker of the Woodland Trust said, "Projects have

ranged from woodland and hedgerow creation, to creation of wetlands, ponds and wildflower meadows, which will help support the local wildlife, mitigate climate change and provide opportunities for people to get close to nature."

Here are just a few of the projects to give you a flavour:

Harlings Farm – Bere Alston

Inspired by her disabled son, Abbie Richardson wanted to be able to provide better access onto her farm for people with disabilities. Her grant has funded wide path access, along with wildlife boxes and wildflower meadow margins, which will enable groups like 'Riding for the Disabled' to safely enjoy time outdoors. Harlings Farm is working towards becoming a Care Farm, which will enable Abbie to provide services to disadvantaged and excluded young people.

Tamar Grow Local – Mill Lane Acres, Metherell

Tamar Grow Local is a successful

Projects approved so far will see:

over 1,200m of new hedges planted

548 new fruit trees in hedges and orchards

2 new permissive paths supported

57 bird and wildlife boxes installed, 1 sand martin nesting site extended

1 wildlife tower and 1 bird hide being built

75 hectares of improved habitat connectivity



Above left: Apple tree grafts ready for planting at Facey's Meadow
Above right: New hedge planting at Clamoak Orchard



community interest company, which has been supporting growers and the local community through its Food Hub, Farm Start and allotment projects for the last 15 years. Its project sees it partnering with the Tamara Landscape Partnership to provide a new demonstration market garden site at Mill Lane Acres. This will enable volunteers and future growers to learn field-scale horticultural skills.

Facey's Meadow - Metherell

Dr Andrew Ormerod is passionate about preserving and studying local apple varieties across Devon and Cornwall. His project is a trial orchard to study how trees are adapted to local conditions within the area.

Boheterick Farm – St Dominic

Jess and Will Jeans, National Trust tenants on the Cotehele Estate, are passionate about connecting people to the food they eat by spending time on their farm. Their grant has enabled them to create a farm nature trail and information centre so they can host visits from schools, charities and local interest groups, as well as encouraging visitors to Cotehele to see more of the beautiful Estate.

Higher Woodley Farm – Gulworthy

At Phil and Sally Blowey's family dairy farm near Gulworthy, their project focuses on improving and restoring habitats and water quality. They have restored and are enhancing the landscape around their sheds by replanting hedges and adding fruit and other native species trees. These will provide a better habitat for pollinators and connect pockets of woodland habitat across their farm. By roofing over part of their yard they will improve the separation of clean water from slurry, reducing the volume of slurry to be managed annually.



Above left: Species rich wildflower meadow at Harewood Farm
(Inset) Deer fencing
Right: View across South Hooe



Where to find out more...

For details of Farming in Protected Landscapes and to view the full list of projects approved, visit our website tamarvalley.org.uk/farming-in-protected-landscapes-projects-approved. The programme has been very popular so our remaining funding is limited. However, we are keen to connect with farmers and landowners across the Valley, so please get in touch so we can signpost you to other sources of funding and free events. Contact Alice Lewthwaite, Farming in Protected Landscapes Officer - 07599 101626, alice.lewthwaite@cornwall.gov.uk



Landulph Parish Climate Action Group tree planting with the local community

The Landulph Parish Climate Action Group (LPCAG) is a community-led initiative based in the heart of the Tamar Valley AONB. It is actively working alongside the local community to tackle some of the very real challenges posed by climate change.

Climate action in the Tamar Valley

In response to Cornwall Council's Climate Emergency declaration in 2019, Landulph Parish Council set up the Climate Action Group, bringing together local residents with different skills and interests to identify how we can tackle climate change and, most importantly, listen to the needs of the local community to guide our actions.

Recognising the importance of working together to value and protect the local environment, the Action Group has forged links with partners such as the Tamar Valley AONB, Westcountry Rivers Trust and the Environment Agency.

The community activities initiated so far include water testing through the Citizen Science project, local nature trails, tree planting, participation in 'No Mow May' and regular river clean-up days. The Group also involves local school children in its work whenever possible. Members also actively volunteer in environmental awareness events with the Tamara Landscape Partnership Scheme.

For further information on LPCAG's work, please contact: clare.tagg@landulph.org.uk



'Saving Energy' – Children of Landulph Parish working with LPCAG to tackle climate change



(Above) Bug hotel prize for the winner of our Nature Trail!

Understanding the Challenges

LPCAG understands the challenges households are currently facing with the increasing cost of living, and have invited experts into the community to provide information on saving energy in the home and electric car charging. Moving forward, the needs of the community and how everyone can take positive action locally to tackle climate change and protect the natural environment is a focus for the Group's ambitious plans. These include developing community-based initiatives to reduce car journeys and protecting and enhancing natural habitats.



A Preventing Plastic Pollution litter pick carried out with volunteers from Plymouth City Council, Plymouth University and Queen Mary University on the River Tavy

Tamar-based businesses can help to protect the River Tamar by accessing free plastic waste audits from environmental charity, Westcountry Rivers Trust.

Businesses to Prevent Plastic Pollution in the River Tamar

As part of the charity's EU-funded Preventing Plastic Pollution (PPP) project, small and medium-sized companies in Cornwall and Devon can access advice to help them cut down on single-use plastics (SUP) in the workplace and implement sustainable alternatives.

PPP Officer, Perry Burns, said; "We have helped food production firms replace plastic food packaging with biodegradable alternatives and installed special bins for anglers to place their plastic waste in, such as fishing line and spools.

"We want to assist a range of industries, as the audit provides a clear view of how much waste a business is producing, allowing us to provide solutions to help reduce waste and potentially save the business money."

In 2020, the WRT PPP team collected more than 1,200 food-related SUP items in just seven catchment-based litter picks, while in 2021, in just one day at four highway locations, they cleared 26kg of SUP, all of which could have ended up in the River Tamar and then out to sea.

Eligible Tamar-based companies will also

receive social media promotion, a chance to appear in a project film, and other promotional benefits.

Visit wrt.org.uk/project/ppp-business-engagement, email plastics@wrt.org.uk or call Perry Burns on 07807 116545 to apply.

The WRT PPP team will also be running litter picks for members of the public to get involved in throughout the rest of the year – follow WRT on Facebook (@WestcountryRivers), Twitter (@WestcountryRT) and Instagram (@westcountryrivers) to stay up to date with the latest PPP events.



A Preventing Plastic Pollution litter pick on the River Tamar with Plymouth University lecturers



When plastics get into our freshwater environments it can lead to wildlife being harmed, the pollution of land and groundwater, negative effects on human health, and the contamination of our oceans.

Perry Burns
PPP Officer

By taking part, businesses have the opportunity to benefit the long-term health of the River Tamar and support the wider PPP aims.



About Us

The Tamar Valley AONB Partnership helps to conserve and enhance the natural beauty of the Tamar Valley Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, by offering advice and assistance to community groups, landowners, farmers, residents and visitors.

There are 38 AONBs in England and Wales. The Tamar Valley itself covers an area of 75 square miles (195 sq km) and is the youngest of all AONBs, designated in 1995.

Tamar Valley AONB
Tamar Valley Centre
Cemetery Road, Drakewalls
Gunnislake, Cornwall PL18 9FE

t: 01822 835030
e: enquiries@tamarvalley.org.uk
w: www.tamarvalley.org.uk

Help us keep the AONB special

We hope you enjoy exploring the Tamar Valley. Please follow the Countryside Code when you're out and about, to keep this living, working landscape special.

Your Valley, Your Views

If you have a story that you would like to be considered for the next issue of The Valley (winter 2022/23), or would like to discuss advertising opportunities, please contact Charlotte Dancer, Information & Communications Officer for the Tamar Valley AONB – cdancer@tamarvalley.org.uk

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While every effort has been made to ensure accuracy within this newsletter, no responsibility will be accepted for any omissions.

Please pass this newsletter on to a friend before recycling.



Tavistock Guildhall WHS Key Centre Presentation

Tavistock Guildhall receives World Heritage Site Key Centre Status



The Tavistock Guildhall which lies within Area 10 “The Tamar Valley and Tavistock” of the Cornwall and West Devon Mining Landscape World Heritage Site (CMWHS), has been awarded Key Centre status within the WHS; one of only three sites to receive this distinction.

The Guildhall is Grade II* Listed and has recently undergone extensive renovation to conserve and restore the historic building, thanks to funding from the National Lottery Heritage Fund, Tavistock Town Council, the CMWHS and other funders. The renovations have included an extensive overhaul of the interpretation within the building, resulting in a brand-new immersive range of interpretation covering the building and surrounding areas' wide-ranging history of mining, town development, Dartmoor connections, crime and punishment and much more. The building has also been made more accessible with the addition of lifts and accessible entrances, allowing greater access for the public.

The CMWHS Partnership Board consequently decided to award the Key Centre status to the Guildhall as the eastern gateway to the World Heritage Site. There are three Key Centres located across the area covered by the CMWHS; Tavistock Guildhall in the east, Heartlands in the middle and Geevor in the west of Cornwall. The Key Centres form gateways into the wider Site and provide information and interpretation about the Site to support discovery and understanding by visitors to the Site. They offer a network of local facilities, features and events that relate to specific or local aspects of mining heritage within the Tavistock area, as well as signposting to the wider Site.

The new interpretation and renovations allow the Guildhall to tell not only its own fascinating story, but also that of the wider Area and World Heritage Site.

You can learn about Area 10 of the World Heritage Site here; <https://www.cornishmining.org.uk/areas/tamar-valley-mining-district-with-tavistock>. Guildhall opening times and visiting information can be found here; <https://tavistockguildhall.org/>