

## Maintenance Report

Well. Yep I guess you can say we've done a bit. After many years, many meetings and much talking we finally got the first phase of the improvement works done at Peshurst and despite the scepticism the E.A. did put up £5000 in funding for the project and we did get a slap on the wrist for some of the work but at the end of the day the work was done. Notwithstanding the E.A. 's involvement phase 2 and 3 are in planning but due to the strings and delays caused by the E.A. we will be undertaking the works without their help. I can't say anything about phase 2 as yet but phase 3 takes us through the wood and on up to the weir. The biggest items in phase 3 are to complete the narrowing of the top corner of the wood which should give us more flow and more depth and then the reinstatement of the backwater at the top of the field above the wood. The aim of this backwater is twofold firstly to act as a nursery for young fish to mature in and then a off channel backwater for fish to hole up in during floods. So this area will be dug out and connected back to the main river. We have to look at schemes like this for replenishing fish stocks as the E.A. consider the water to have sufficient biomass (enough fish) so they will not stock any fish.

As mentioned Nursery Fields has seen a bit of work and the carnage that followed from the collision on the new path resulted in the new speed limit, but on a serious note John has been working hard in clearing back the brambles and trees along with opening up the swims, some ask why? And the answer is simple, short grass is easy to maintain and difficult to hide rubbish in so the whole place will be cleaner and tidier.

Chittenden is also set for a transformation the rough areas are being tamed the overgrowth is being cut down. We are aware that the banks are in need of attention and although some work was done it didn't work out as well as we had hoped, the plans are being worked on at the moment and several options are being discussed. For now please be careful some of the bank is unstable but we don't want to shut the banks down, as every member should be aware that any river or lake bank could potentially collapse due to undercutting.

As mentioned Somerden does need some work but that is on hold until negotiations have been finalised the worse it looks the better for us.

The Hop Farm is such a good water but has so many problems, not least the apathy shown by the management in agreeing terms, however we have had some progress in that they have said that they are planning some clearance work along the river and we will endeavour to be involved in the work for our benefit.

Christmas Mill will have a working party during the close season as usual this usually involves clearing holly and brambles and taking out fallen trees, some swims do need opening up.

Please let us know if there is anything that needs our attention all feedback is useful especially if you come across anything that looks like it has only just happened.