

PROGRESS REPORT 2023

Projects | Governance

Governance

We are grateful to our board members for their continuing support.

How did we do?

We carried out:

14 clean ups;
24 Fish & Chip cruises with speakers;
10 workshops and 8 craft sessions;
4 surveys;
4 Business Blitzes engaging with local voices;

And a volunteer conference, bringing active individuals and our friends together.

We worked with:

Volunteers;
Local Businesses;
Local artists;
Researchers and students from Brunel University and many more amazing individuals.

We are grateful for support from Sea-Changers, Thames Water, Rochester Rotary Club, Jetstream Tours, Chatham Maritime Trust, MDL Ltd., our volunteers and colleagues at Brunel University for ongoing collaboration.



This year's progress

Living River Foundation is committed to advancing improvements of marine estuaries and tidal rivers across Medway. Working towards this goal, we have continued pioneering several projects across 2023:

Litter Free Maritime

Litter Free Maritime is a 2-year long project run in partnership with Chatham Maritime Trust and MDL Marinas. In January 2023, each Sunday afternoon a group of volunteers went out to the local marina to conduct clean ups from the water, ensuring safety and prosperity of the local environment. Working with businesses at the peninsula, we are happy to share that we achieved a reduction of unnecessary waste from the shore as well. Most importantly, the data has been collected to analyse and attempt to solve the issue of appearing litter in the waters and on the streets of Medway shoreline. Some of the findings included:

- *Coffee cups;*
- *Gloves;*
- *Nerf Gun Bullet;*
- *Shower Cap;*
- *Dummy;*
- *Penalty notice;*
- *Plastic drum, and many more surprising items.*

Get involved!

We are continuously working on improving our existing projects and contributing to better marine environment for everyone. If you are interested in participating in our events, please fill out the newsletter form linked below, along with the updated calendar of events.

We are happy to get involved with new projects or participate in related workshops as well. Please contact us using this email if you have any questions regarding events:

@: info@living-river.co.uk

We are looking forward to meeting you at our events in 2024!

Newsletter sign up form

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Events calendar

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LRF Facebook

The project concluded in 2023, contributing towards mapping out the results using the GIS system to contribute to potential projects in the future. We are discussing future activities with the project partners, Chatham Maritime Trust and MDL Marinas.

Thames Manta

Thames Manta aims at establishing a scientific consensus on the state of microplastic pollution in river Medway and Thames. 2023 has been the final year of surveying, with all samples collected throughout 5 years of running the project currently being analysed in a laboratory of Brunel University.

Fish of the Medway

Fish of the Medway focuses on the Medway no-take zone (NTZ) and support and preservation of its local species. Estuarine intertidal areas act as an important refuge and feeding areas for juvenile fish, therefore it is essential to ensure places of shelter in these zones. Fish of the Medway works on gathering data and water samples since 2020 in order to understand distribution of young fish species and the current conditions of the estuary. We hope that the results of this project will contribute to the wider knowledge of estuarial conditions across the country.

