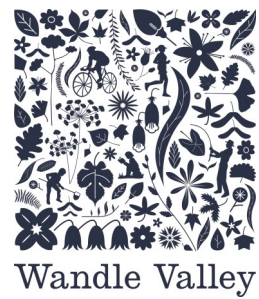


# WANDLE WATCHERS

August 2016



Wandle Valley

## Project News:

The Living Wandle Partnership is happy to announce the addition of **8 NEW COMMUNITY [projects](#)** to the programme!

### Mitcham Community Orchard and Gardens Pond Project:

[MCOG](#) has transformed a derelict site into a community resource. With Living Wandle funding the project will install a durable interpretation board with information about the wildlife visitors might see in the pond. It will also enable the purchase of a projecting stereo microscope to capture videos and stills of wildlife in the ponds, for use by local schools and residents.

### Replacing the viewing platform on the lake at Ravensbury Park:

The current viewing platform has degraded beyond repair, the funding will enable the installation of a new platform and path to provide safe access to the lake for viewing wildlife and admiring the tranquil lake.

### Fish Habitat Improvements near Phipps Bridge Road:

The aim of this [Environment Agency](#) led project is to increase habitat variability and provide a planted refuge area on this straight section of the river next to Deen City farm. The project will make the channel more natural and improve its value to biodiversity, especially fish.

### Learning at Morden Hall Park Wetlands:

The learning team at Morden Hall Park will be able to provide equipment for river dipping, moth monitoring, bat detecting and bird watching to schools and local communities. This will make the most of the new wetland boardwalk in the park, which will improve access in the wetlands area

### Living River performance Art:

In 2017 an original outdoor promenade performance along the River Wandle, led by local teenagers will animate the story of the Wandle through song, story telling and poetry. The Project will be coordinated by [Battersea Arts Centre](#).

### Wandle Vistas and skylines:

Still under development, this project will involve volunteers researching and documenting viewpoints and skylines of the Wandle basin.

### River Wandle Wetlands Tools:

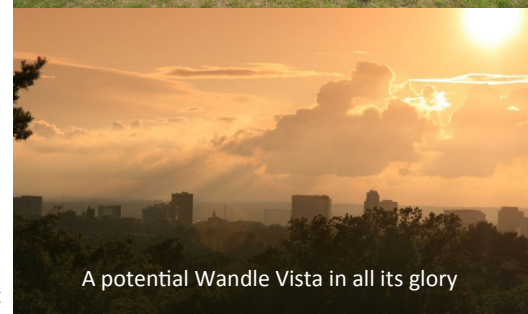
A small boat and motor will be purchased to help aid the management of the River Wandle and Wetlands by the National trust and other conservation groups, including the management of invasive species.

### Wandle Celebration:

This money has enabled the [Wandle Valley Forum](#) to provide 9 Wandle community groups with funding to aid the delivery of events and activities in Wandle Fortnight between the 10th - 25th September this year.



A visit to Mitcham Community Orchard to discuss the new project



A potential Wandle Vista in all its glory

### Last chance to have your say....

The Wandle Valley Regional Park Trust are conducting a [survey](#) to develop its future strategy and business plan. It closes on the 19th August [wandlevalleypark.co.uk/news/wandle-valley-regional-park-strategy-consultation/](http://wandlevalleypark.co.uk/news/wandle-valley-regional-park-strategy-consultation/)



**Keep up to date**

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Living Wandle  
Landscape Partnership

### Dates for the Diary—Events along the Wandle

- 17th August** - Xplorer challenge for all ages 11am - 1pm @ Beddington Park
- 21st August** - Wandle Walk 11am @ Wilderness Island
- 27th August** - Wandle Park Bandstand Cinema 9pm @ Wandle Park
- 27th August** - Bat Walk with Sutton Nature 8 - 10pm @ Beddington Park
- 29th August** - Carshalton Environmental fair 10:30am - 8pm @ Carshalton Park

### WANDLE FORTNIGHT 10th - 25th September

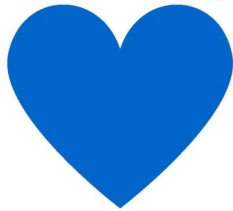
**13th September** - Bringing the park to life: Strategy Workshop  
[www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/bringing-the-park-to-life-wandle-valley-regional-park-strategy-workshop-tickets-26752303861](http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/bringing-the-park-to-life-wandle-valley-regional-park-strategy-workshop-tickets-26752303861)

### Regular events:

**Tuesdays** - Free [Get Active Wandle](#) Yoga in Morden Hall Park @ 11am meet at the National Trust Café - Visit [Our Parks](#) sign up

**Wednesdays** - [Get Active Wandle](#) Skateboarding @ [Kimber Skate Park](#) SW18 4NY 3pm Onwards

# wandle fortnight



10-25 September 2016

**Wandle Fortnight** is nearly here! With **over 50** different events across the fortnight in **September** there is something for everyone. Highlights include:

**10th** - Wandle Cycle Ride - 10am meet on bridge @ end of The Causeway, SW18 1ER

**10th** - Baltic Close Opening festival - Noon - 7pm @ Baltic Close entrance to Wandle Park SW19 2BN

**11th** - River Wandle Clean up - 11am, location TBC

**24th** - Youth Fishing event - 10am - 3pm, location TBC

**25th** - Pledge a Picnic - Celebrate World Rivers day by hosting a [picnic](#) along the Wandle

For all event details and more information visit the [Wandle Fortnight Webpage](#)

[wandlevalleypark.co.uk/projects/wandle-fortnight-coming-soon/](http://wandlevalleypark.co.uk/projects/wandle-fortnight-coming-soon/)

Running any activities in **September** between 10th - 25th? [Add it](#) to the **WANDLE FORTNIGHT** programme of events

**Morden Hall Park Wetlands:** Keep an eye out in **September** in the wetlands as works will start on an impressive **boardwalk** through the wetlands. It will give a chance for the public to get up close and personal with all the wetland wildlife. There will also be 2 new bridges making it easier to pass through the wetlands. The [National Trust](#) are also working with [The Wandle Trust](#) to improve the river that runs through the wetlands.



## Volunteering Opportunities:

There are so many ways to get involved with all the **Living Wandle Projects** - take a look at our volunteering pages to see what might suit you...[wandlevalleypark.co.uk/volunteering/](http://wandlevalleypark.co.uk/volunteering/)

Currently there is a FABULOUS opportunity for 16-24 yr olds with the National Trust. A [Habitat Management Traineeship](#) at Morden Hall Park, the deadline for applications is **12th September** - contact Hattie for more details [Hattie.Clayton@nationaltrust.org.uk](mailto:Hattie.Clayton@nationaltrust.org.uk)

**Wandle Watchers:** A chance for **everyone** (you do not have to be an expert) to tell us about the **plants and wildlife** in the Wandle Valley. Record **whenever and wherever** on the [online form](#). An exciting record from this month was a bank vole.



**Documenting the changes at Merton Priory** [Groundwork London](#) volunteers have been working with [Merton Priory Trust](#) to document the Chapter House before changes are made to open up the site. [Read](#) about the project from our volunteer **Ameachi's** perspective. The volunteers are currently in the editing process and are slicing together the material they have gathered.

## Coming Up....

### River Education:

Project Kingfisher is shut for the summer holidays, but will **open again in September**. This project has already been **connecting schools with the Wandle** and its wildlife. If you want to get your school involved contact [education@wandletrust.org](mailto:education@wandletrust.org) to find out more!

### Discovering the Source

**of the Wandle:** This Autumn the Wandle Trust will be looking for volunteers to help investigate the source of the Wandle. [Sign up](#) to make sure you don't miss out!



**Climate Change:** The Living Wandle Climate Change project will commence in October 2016! [London Wildlife Trust](#) will be engaging with communities near the Wandle to make practical changes to build resilience to Climate Change, and reduce the impact it is having on the river. The project will focus on the impacts of flooding and drought.



**Merton Priory:** Works on the [historic site](#) will start in Early **2017**, installing facilities and a large glass wall to make the site more welcoming for visitors.

**Wandle Treasures:** Help the [Building Exploratory](#) share the beautiful illustrated map of historic treasures with communities along the River Wandle. If your community wants to display the map, get in touch [katie@buildingexploratory.org.uk](mailto:katie@buildingexploratory.org.uk)



**River Guardians:** There are still plenty of chances to get in the river and haul out tonnes of rubbish! Check the [Wandle Trust calendar](#) for the dates of the next clean up. In the mean time check out the **POLLUTION leaflet**, giving tips on how to reduce pollution and report it.

**Invasive Species Project:** The volunteers worked hard on the 27th July to pull the Parrots Feather from a source of the River Wandle in Beddington Park. The [Wandle Trust](#) need the help of volunteers to systematically tackle the 4 main invasive species in the river. [Sign up](#) to avoid missing a **balsam bash** or **pennywort m pulling session**. Learn more about Invasive Species here.

