

# **NEW FOREST NON-NATIVE PLANTS PROJECT**

## **REPORT TO STEERING GROUP MEETING ON 19 SEPTEMBER 2019**

**Report covering the period  
1 May 2019 – 31 August 2019**

**Catherine Chatters  
New Forest Non-Native Plants Officer  
1 September 2019**

**Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust  
Charity No. 201081  
Registered Company No. 676313  
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## Publicity

### Press releases

The following press release was issued between 1 May and 31 August 2019:-

- On Tuesday 13 August 2019 HIWWT issued a press release titled ‘Two Wildlife Trust projects shortlisted for Countryside Awards’ highlighting the New Forest Non-Native Plants Project as a finalist in the Community and Voluntary category of the CPRE’s Hampshire Countryside Awards 2019 and to encourage people to vote for NFNNPP in the Hampshire’s Choice Award

### Publications and websites

- The nineteenth OPOF Volunteers’ Newsletter, issued on 3 May 2019, included information about the NFNNPP, highlighting Invasive Species Week and encouraging people to participate in Himalayan balsam pulls during summer 2019
- On 9 May 2019 the HIWWT website featured a news item to promote Invasive Species Week and encourage people to pull Himalayan balsam with NFNNPP in 2019. See <https://www.hiwwt.org.uk/news/pledge-your-support-invasive-species-week-2019>
- The Herald No 372 (9 – 30 May 2019) included an article titled ‘Pledge your support during Invasive Species Week’ to highlight the problems caused by invasive non-native plants and encourage people to volunteer to pull Himalayan balsam with the NFNNPP in 2019
- On 17 May 2019, on the final day of Invasive Species Week, The Lymington Times published an article titled ‘Helpers needed to beat invader plants’ based on the press release issued by HIWWT in April 2019
- The New Forest National Park Authority’s Annual Review 2017 - 2018 includes photographs taken by Catherine on pages 12 and 19 to illustrate volunteers pulling Himalayan balsam with the ‘Our Past, Our Future’ (OPOF) Landscape Partnership Scheme and the New Forest Higher Level Stewardship scheme. The infographic on page 13 refers to 1,000 days spent by volunteers removing Himalayan balsam through OPOF.
- The New Forest National Park Authority’s Annual Review 2018 – 2019 includes a photograph on page 30 of NFNNPP volunteer Patsy Baverstock speaking to a visitor on the NFNNPP stand at the New Forest Volunteer Fair on Sunday 27 January 2019.
- Brian Matthews (NFNNPP volunteer) attended the Wood and Local Produce Fair at Roydon Woods on Sunday 9 June 2019 and wrote a report for the Lymington and District Naturalists’ Society website in which he referred to the NFNNPP stand.
- The twentieth OPOF Volunteers’ Newsletter, issued on 2 July 2019, included information about the NFNNPP and highlighted the awareness-raising session that Jo and Catherine will be hosting for OPOF volunteers on 6 November 2019.
- The Summer 2019 edition of the Netley Marsh Parish Council publication ‘The Outlook’ included a note by Catherine urging people to dispose of their garden waste responsibly. (Unfortunately Catherine’s title as New Forest Non-Native Plants Officer was appended to her note about litter picking which she wrote in her capacity as a local resident).
- The Lymington Times (5 July 2019) included an article titled ‘Projects in finals for countryside awards’ which referred to the NFNNPP being shortlisted for the CPRE’s Hampshire Countryside Awards in 2019
- On 14 August 2019 the HIWWT website featured the New Forest Non-Native Plants Project in a news item titled ‘Two Wildlife Trust projects shortlisted for Countryside Awards’ to highlight the NFNNPP as a finalist in the Community and Voluntary category of the CPRE’s Hampshire Countryside Awards 2019 and to encourage people to vote for NFNNPP in the Hampshire’s Choice Award. See <https://www.hiwwt.org.uk/news/two-wildlife-trust-projects-shortlisted-countryside-awards>
- The Lymington Times (30 August 2019) included an article on page 7 titled ‘Public can vote for trust projects in rural awards’ as a result of the press release issued by HIWWT encouraging people to vote for the NFNNPP in the CPRE’s Hampshire Countryside Awards.

Dan Eatherley, author of the recently-published book (ISBN 978-0-00-826274-7) titled ‘Invasive Aliens: The Plants and Animals From Over There That Are Over Here’, had contacted Catherine during his research and acknowledged her help (on page 293) and referred to attempts to control New Zealand pigmyweed *Crassula helmsii* in the New Forest (on page 204 – 205). An extract from this book is appended to this Steering Group report.

During June 2019 Brian Matthews, a volunteer with the NFNNPP, mentioned that the NFNNPP is referred to in a book by Mathew Conway titled ‘The New Forest’ which was published in 2010 (ISBN 978 0 7524 4932 6). An extract from the book is appended to this Steering Group report.

### **Liaison with landowners and managers**

The following landowners/managers were met between 1 May – 31 August 2019:-

- John Whitlock (Cadnam River) on 20 May, 15 July, 29 July 2019
- Dawn Imlach (Cadnam River) on 22 May 2019
- Mrs Villiers (Avon Water) on 23 May 2019
- John Playle (Lymington River catchment) on 4 June 2019
- Ashley Proctor, Manager of The Mill at Gordleton (Avon Water) on 10 June 2019
- Stuart Parsons, gardener at The Mill at Gordleton (Avon Water) on 10 June 2019
- Gary Roote, gardener at The Mill at Gordleton (Avon Water) on 10 June 2019
- Shaun Clark (Avon Water) on 14 June 2019
- Ray Thoday and Wendy Benwell (Avon Water) on 20 June 2019
- Matthew Roche (Fleet Water) on 21 June 2019
- Stephen and Sue (graziers along the Avon Water) on 2 July 2019
- Anna Bruce (Avon Water) on 4 July 2019
- Sue Sommerin (Avon Water) on 26 July 2019
- Phil Hollister (grazier along Avon Water) on 26 July 2019
- Deborah and David Robinson (Avon Water) on 26 July 2019
- Anne Theron (Cadnam River) on 29 July 2019
- Chris and Julie Nairn (Cadnam River) on 29 July 2019
- Hilde Gill (Avon Water) on 2 August 2019
- Reg Winslade (Cadnam River) on 8 August 2019
- Peter Graham (Cadnam River) on 8 August 2019
- Annabel Stocchetti (Cadnam River) on 8 August 2019
- Sue Harridge (Avon Water) on 16 August 2019

### **House of Commons Environmental Audit Committee Invasive Species Inquiry**

On 9 July 2019 Lord Gardiner (Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Rural Affairs and Biosecurity) gave evidence at the Environmental Audit Committee Invasive Species Inquiry together with Dr Niall Moore (Chief Non-Native Species Officer, DEFRA) and Professor Nicola Spence (Chief Plant Health Officer).

During his answers to questions put by Caroline Lucas MP about the role of Local Action Groups (LAGs) and the need for funding, Lord Gardiner specifically referred to his visit to the New Forest to pull Himalayan balsam with Catherine and the volunteers.

Lord Gardiner said he is ‘very ‘supportive’ of the contribution made by LAGs as they are ‘very successful and very committed’ and he considered that ‘ideally we should have more of them’.

Mary Creagh MP (Chairman of the EAC Invasive Species Inquiry) commented on funding for LAGs, saying ‘the reality is they don’t go on fresh air. They need cash’.

An extract from the transcript of part of the evidence given by Lord Gardiner is appended to this report.



### **Meeting with DEFRA staff**

Tony Hockley, Chairman of the New Forest Commoners’ Defence Association, invited Catherine to meet DEFRA staff involved in the management of common land and the development of agri-environment schemes during their two-day visit to the New Forest on 1 and 2 May 2019.

Tony had arranged a programme of site visits and meetings with a variety of people and organisations involved in the management of the New Forest. Catherine attended the meeting at the Verderers’ Hall on 2 May where Lord Manners (Official Verderer), Alison Barnes (Chief Executive, New Forest NPA), Julie Melin-Stubbs (New Forest NPA) and Diana Westerhoff (Verderer) spoke about the need to maintain the commoning system through future support schemes to deliver the public goods provided by the New Forest. Catherine gave a brief talk about the NFNNPP, focussing on effective partnership working and the value of commoning in the control of invasive non-native plants.

In the afternoon Catherine had an opportunity to talk to DEFRA staff during a buffet lunch at a commoners’ holding and a site visit to Acres Down, guided by practising commoners Robert and Lyndsey Stride who emphasised the importance of commoning in maintaining the New Forest’s internationally important habitats.

“Many thanks for helping to make the DEFRA visit a great success, at very short notice. I am confident that we have won new friends in DEFRA and spread some understanding of how this landscape works and of its immense value”

e-mail dated 3 May 2019 from Tony Hockley, Chairman New Forest Commoners; Defence Association.



## Steering Group meeting

The Steering Group meeting was held on 7 May 2019.

To celebrate nearly 10 years of the NFNNPP (which was officially launched on 22 May 2009 after Catherine started work at HIWWT on 11 May 2009) Steering Group members enjoyed a chocolate cake decorated with 10 American skunk cabbage 'candles' emerging out of the 'mud'.



'Morning Catherine, a quick note to say 'congratulations' (on 10 year anniversary) and also thank you for all of your help and support over the years. I really admire your dedication to the project and the energy you input, it is really inspiring. Catch up soon.

Kind regards, Lucy'

e-mail dated 10 May 2019 from Lucy Andrews, HLS Terrestrial Officer, Forestry England

## Liaison with Wildlife and Countryside Link Invasive Non-Native Species Group

Catherine attended a briefing arranged by Wildlife and Countryside Link's Invasive Non-Native Species Group at the House of Lords during Invasive Species Week on Tuesday 14 May 2019.

The event titled 'Invasive Species and Brexit: Responding to an Intensifying Environmental Threat' was held in Committee Room 1 and hosted by Lord Teverson, Chair of the House of Lords EU Energy and Environment Sub-Committee which in October 2018 published its report on 'Brexit: Plant and Animal Biosecurity'.

Further details about the event are given on pages 52 and 53 of this Steering Group report.

## Liaison with RAPID LIFE Project



Andrea Griffiths, Senior Partnership Officer of the Medway Valley Countryside Partnership, invited Jo Gore to give a presentation on the control of Creeping Water Primrose at Breamore Marsh during the workshop she has organised for the RAPID LIFE project at Brockenhurst on 19 September 2019.

**Non-Native Invasive  
Alert Species Workshop**



Medway Valley  
**COUNTRYSIDE**  
protect / explore / enjoy

**Thursday 19th September**

**Careys Manor & SenSpa  
Brockenhurst, New Forest, Hampshire**

What are the alert species which threaten our biodiversity, habitats, economy and health? How can you report them and help stop their arrival? Learn from and network with professional guest speakers from various conservation and land management organisations.

Includes refreshments and lunch.

Free conference but booking is essential. Search for High Alert Workshop on Eventbrite to reserve your space or email [andrea.griffiths@kent.gov.uk](mailto:andrea.griffiths@kent.gov.uk)



Background image (killer Shrimp) © Environment Agency. Bullfrog and Water Primrose Images @ GBNNSS

## **Control work by contractors**

### Golden Club

- Turf Hill. Purchase Order POR003390

### Yellow Azalea

- West of A337, south of Lyndhurst. Purchase Order POR003391 (Purchase Order subsequently cancelled as herbicide treatment undertaken previously has been successful)
- Near entrance to 'Graham Lodge', Linwood. Purchase Order POR003392 (Purchase Order subsequently cancelled as herbicide treatment undertaken previously has been successful)

### Pickerel Weed

- Pond near Hatchet Moor car park. Purchase Order POR003424

### Bog Arum

- Ipley. Purchase Order POR003411

### Montbretia

- Open Forest by Woodlands Road. Purchase Order POR003425.  
Invoice dated 17 June 2019.
- Pondhead Inclosure (Montbretia and Bamboo) Purchase Order POR003432

### Variiegated Yellow Archangel

- Along Inclosure fence near Woodlands Road. Purchase Order POR003425

### Bamboo, giant hogweed, variegated yellow archangel, golden rod and Spiraea

- Pennington Common. Purchase Order POR003409

### Parrot's Feather

- Hinchleslea Bog, Castle Hill, East End (early summer). Purchase Order POR003439.  
Invoice dated 11 July 2019
- Hinchleslea Bog, Castle Hill, East End (late summer). Purchase Order POR003440

### American skunk cabbage

- HIWWT Lymington Reedbeds Nature Reserve herbicide treatment. Purchase Order POR003435.  
Invoice dated 17 June 2019
- Privately-owned land in Lymington Reedbeds SSSI . Purchase Order POR003492  
Invoice dated 17 June 2019
- Mill Lawn, Burley (and Montbretia) Purchase Order POR003393
- Below Harcourt Wood (Montbretia & Japanese knotweed). Purchase Order POR003394
- Harcourt Wood (OPOF). Purchase Order 20007477 issued on 14 February 2019; contract letters and accompanying documentation issued on 14 February 2019. Invoice received by New Forest NPA on 14 May 2019.
- Harcourt Wood (OPOF). Purchase Order 20007583 issued on 26 April 2019; contract letter and accompanying documentation issued on 26 April 2019

### Iris laevigata

- Lyndhurst. Purchase Order POR003412
- Latchmoor Pond. Purchase Order POR003413. Invoice dated 17 June 2019.
- Pond near Hardley Bridge. Purchase Order POR003685

### Cotoneaster

- East Boldre former WWI airfield Purchase Order POR003415
- Beaulieu Heath former WWII airfield Purchase Order POR003416
- North side of A35 between Lyndhurst & Ashurst Purchase Order POR003418
- Road near Slufers, by A31 Purchase Order POR003419
- Eastern side of Lyndhurst Purchase Order POR003420
- Crockford Purchase Order POR003421
- Greenmoor Purchase Order POR003423
- Stoney Cross former WWII airfield Purchase Order POR003417
- Thrown-open Inclosure near Acres Down Purchase Order POR003429
- Open Forest near Bramble Hill Hotel Purchase Order POR003430

### Gaultheria

- South of Rhinefield Purchase Order POR00343  
Invoice dated 17 June 2019.  
Purchase Order POR003434

### Sheep Laurel *Kalmia angustifolia*

- Open Forest near Ashurst Lodge Purchase Order POR003683

### Japanese knotweed

- Mill Lawn Brook by Turf Croft Farm, Burley Purchase Order POR003395
- East side of Lymington Reedbeds Nature Reserve Purchase Order POR003436
- East side of Lymington Reedbeds NR (under alders) Purchase Order POR003437
- North West Lymington Reedbeds Nature Reserve Purchase Order POR003438
- Ditch near Bartley Lodge Hotel Purchase Order POR003396
- Crown Land along Woodlands Road Purchase Order POR003397
- New Park Purchase Order POR003398



- Pondhead Inclosure/Limewood Hotel Purchase Order POR003399
- Crown Land near The Pig Hotel Purchase Order POR003400
- Broughton Road area, Lyndhurst (and ‘Pantiles’) Purchase Order POR003401
- Broughton Road area, Lyndhurst (Area 2) Purchase Order POR003402
- Emery Down Purchase Order POR003403
- Crown Land, Lyndhurst and ‘Holmfield’ Purchase Order POR003404
- Mill Lane, Burley Purchase Order POR003405
- Norleywood Inclosure Purchase Order POR003406
- Gravel track off Beechwood Lane, Burley Purchase Order POR003407
- Open Forest adjacent to Hillview, Linwood. Purchase Order POR003408
- Buskett’s Lawn Inclosure Purchase Order POR003431
- Pennington Common Purchase Order POR003410
- Cadnam River (OPOF)  
Purchase Order 20007444 issued on 30 January 2019; contract letters and accompanying documentation issued on 31 January 2019.

#### Giant hogweed

Avon Water (OPOF) early summer and late summer treatments:-

- Treatment below Efford Bridge. Purchase Order 20007443 issued on 30 January 2019; contract letters and accompanying documentation issued on 31 January 2019. Invoice for early summer treatment dated 17 June 2019.
- Treatment between Efford Bridge and Wainsford Bridge. Purchase Order 20007446 issued on 30 January 2019; contract letters and accompanying documentation issued on 31 January 2019. Invoice for early summer treatment dated 17 June 2019.
- Treatment between Wainsford Bridge and Flexford Bridge. Purchase Order 20007446 issued on 30 January 2019; contract letters and accompanying documentation issued on 31 January 2019. Invoice for early summer treatment dated 21 June 2019.
- Treatment upstream of Flexford Bridge. Purchase Order 20007443 issued on 30 January 2019; contract letters and accompanying documentation issued on 31 January 2019. Invoice for early summer treatment dated 17 June 2019.
- On Crown Land near entrance to Roydon Woods nature reserve Purchase Order POR003428. Invoice dated 17 June 2019.

## Control by Project Officers

### Control of Pink Purslane

On 20 May 2019 Jo pulled up three Pink Purslane *Claytonia sibirica* plants along the Passford Water behind Travis Perkins.

During the Himalayan balsam pull last year along the Beaulieu River on 21 June 2018, Catherine pulled up two Pink Purslane plants growing in wet alder woodland to the west of the river at SU 38277 05580.

On 25 June 2019, whilst patrolling for balsam with the Forestry England Voluntary Rangers, Catherine noticed that Pink Purslane was still growing in that area so she returned on 5 July 2019 and pulled up 952 Pink Purslane plants in the vicinity of SU 38271 05582.



Pink Purslane plants from an area west of the Beaulieu River on 5 July 2019

## Volunteer activity – practical control

### American skunk cabbage control

On 22 May 2019 volunteer Brian Matthews helped Jo dig up American skunk cabbage in the vicinity of the Lymington River at The Shallows.

On 5 June 2019 Brian Matthews and Mark Glover volunteered to help Jo dig up American skunk cabbage plants in wet woodland in the grounds of 'The Pheasantry' near Boldre. About half the woodland area was tackled; approximately 30 large plants and a host of smaller plants were dug up.

The work was undertaken to prevent seeds being carried downstream towards the Lymington River SSSI and Lymington River Reedbeds SSSI.



Brian Matthews and Mark Glover helping Jo tackle the American skunk cabbage in wet woodland at 'The Pheasantry' in the Lymington River catchment on 5 June 2019



Jo led another volunteer work party to dig up American skunk cabbage at The Pheasantry on Monday 8 July 2019.

With the help of five volunteers, approximately 60 - 80 large plants and the same number of smaller plants were dug up.

The photo on the left (taken by Patrick Carroll) shows a rather muddy Mark Glover helping Jo to dig up an American skunk cabbage plant.

Jo is extremely grateful to the volunteers who accepted the challenge of tackling these plants.

### Pink Purslane control

On 19 July 2019 Pam Reading (Forestry England Voluntary Ranger) helped Catherine pull up Pink Purslane to the west of the Beaulieu River in the vicinity of SU 38271 05582.



Pam Reading during the Pink Purslane pull along the Beaulieu River on 19 July 2019

### Pitcher Plant control

On Monday 12 August 2019 volunteers David Smart and Richard Hughes helped Catherine monitor Pitcher Plants at Two Bridges Bottom and in the Matley area. Only a single small Pitcher Plant was found at Two Bridges Bottom (at SZ 34320 99831) and only a single small Pitcher Plant was found at Matley (at SZ 32531 08000). Both plants were dug up.

Dr Ben Rushbrook of HIWWT had informed Catherine that a Pitcher Plant had been discovered by Tom Selby at Acres Down on 10 July 2019 whilst undertaking a Southern Damselfly survey at SU 27039 08573. Catherine visited the site on 12 August 2019 with Richard Hughes and David Smart who dug up the plant. The plant had no flowers or seed pods and no small plants or seedlings were found in the vicinity so hopefully this Pitcher Plant has been removed in time to prevent a colony becoming established at this particular part of Acres Down.



Pitcher Plant dug up from Acres Down at SU 27039 08573 on 12 August 2019

#### Himalayan balsam control

Himalayan balsam pulls for the 2019 season started in May. A list of balsam pulls led by Jo and Catherine during this reporting period is appended to this Steering Group report (at Appendix D).



“Thanks Catherine for a lovely insect inclusive balsam pull. We saw both male and female scorpion flies, but I refuse to dissect them to find out which type they were! Mother Shipton was the moth. See you soon, Tracy”

e-mail message dated 20 May 2019 from volunteer Tracy Welsh who helped with Catherine’s first balsam pull of the season along the Cadnam River at Newbridge where people were delighted to see a diversity of invertebrates within part of the New Forest SSSI on land belonging to Keeper’s Cottage

“Dear Catherine, thank you very much for sending me the photos of today's pull and the insects. I had never knowingly seen either the Scorpion fly or that moth before. I shall be interested to hear the opinion about the red and black beetle, when you have had the opportunity to check it further.

The contrast between the balsam today and 2015 is dramatic, but also shows the importance of continuing the work in coming years to maintain the excellent results.”

e-mail message dated 20 May 2019 from volunteer David Smart

“Thanks Catherine, I enjoyed it and the change from four years ago is impressive. Best wishes, Steve”

e-mail message dated 20 May 2019 from Steve Hewitt after his first balsam pull with NFNNPP



Grace Hervé (left) and Emma Tomlin of Forestry England who helped with the balsam pull along the Avon Water on 23 May 2019

“Thanks Catherine, enjoyed being out with lovely people too, and the success of the project was very evident- you must be proud”

e-mail message dated 23 May 2019 from volunteer Grace Hervé

“It was lovely to meet you and the other volunteers the other day. I really enjoyed myself and it was great to hear about the wonderful progress your project has made.”

e-mail message dated 30 May 2019 from Emma Tomlin



“Hi Catherine, we really enjoyed ourselves today down on the Avon Water. The weather was just about perfect for balsam pulling, warm and sunny with a gentle breeze. Hopefully we didn’t miss too many of the little ones! Kind regards, Graham and Jo. PS Great Photos!”  
e-mail message dated 23 May 2019 from Graham and Jo Chillcott (on far right of photo above) who pulled balsam on 23 May 2019



On 29 May 2019 14 people (staff and President) associated with the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM) pulled balsam along the Cadnam River.



Elizabeth O'Reilly (left) and Jade Hemsley (CIEEM) pulling balsam along the Cadnam River



Staff from CIEEM on 29 May 2019





Volunteers at end of balsam pull with CIEEM staff on 29 May 2019



Mimi Stanwood, Elizabeth O'Reilly and Max Wade (President of CIEEM)

“Hi Catherine, thank you so much for having us yesterday. It was an absolutely brilliant day out and I hope we managed to make something of a dent in the endless amounts of balsam! I thought we were doing a great job until you showed us the farmer’s field... Thanks again. BWs”  
e-mail message dated 30 May 2019 from Mimi Stanwood, CIEEM Marketing Officer

“Dear Catherine, I learned loads. Nothing like coal-face experience! It was also good to be working with the CIEEM team. Thanks for a memorable day! Max”  
e-mail message dated 10 June 2019 from Dr Max Wade, President of CIEEM



Sally Hayns, Chief Executive CIEEM

“Hi Catherine, it was a great day and thank you for organising it. Everyone I have spoken to really enjoyed it. The photos are lovely. I will share them tomorrow. Very best wishes, Sally”  
e-mail message dated 29 May 2019 from Sally Hayns, Chief Executive, CIEEM

“Hi Catherine, thanks again for having us! It was great to get stuck in. And thank you for recommending the New Forest Area Conservation Volunteers and others. I will look them up today! Best wishes, Amber”  
e-mail message dated 30 May 2019 from Amber Connett, CIEEM Policy & Communications Officer

“Hi Catherine, thank you for a great day! Kind regards, Krystie”  
e-mail message dated 30 May 2019 from Krystie Hamilton, CIEEM

“Hello Catherine, thanks very much for organising the day so well and for giving us the opportunity. It was good to meet you and see just what an impact you’re making! Thanks again, Stuart”  
e-mail message dated 30 May 2019 from Stuart Parks, Head of Membership and Marketing, CIEEM



Championing a sustainable  
natural environment.



David Caals pulling balsam on 29 May 2019

“Hello, my thanks in return - I had great fun! Best wishes, David”  
e-mail message dated 30 May 2019 from David Calls who pulled balsam along the Cadnam River on 29 May 2019

“Thanks Catherine. I do enjoy it. Good to be doing it again. I’ll miss the balsam when it’s gone!!!”  
e-mail message from Clare Heather who pulled balsam along the Cadnam River on 29 May 2019



Chris, Mark, Jill, Patsy, Brian and Judy at end of balsam pull at Gordleton Rise along the Avon Water on 31 May 2019 when we managed to clear all the balsam we could see there in a single day.



Photographs taken on 30 May 2014 of some of the balsam growing at Gordleton Rise before pulling started in summer 2016. Catherine sent these photographs to the volunteers who helped on 31 May 2019 to show them the density of balsam that existed here previously.

“Good afternoon Catherine, we had a good day yesterday; it's a great feeling looking at what we've all achieved.”

e-mail message dated 1 June from Judy Labram who pulled balsam at Gordleton Rise on 31 May 2019



The photo on the left shows Kerry Trueman who helped Catherine pull Himalayan balsam on Crown Land in the allotments and adjacent ditches at Lyndhurst on 6 June 2019. Very few balsam plants were found and, as requested, the allotment holder who keeps bees had kindly controlled the vegetation in the vicinity of his beehives.

“Hi Catherine, I know that there is a chance that seeds will still germinate over the next couple of months, so will keep an eye out for them and pull/trim any that I find around my plot. Regards, Richard”  
e-mail message dated 7 June 2019 from Richard Madder, bee keeper and allotment holder



Local residents Anna Lawrence and Mo Williams with Geoff Moore (Forestry England Voluntary Ranger) who helped Catherine check for Himalayan balsam along the Mill Lawn Brook on the Open Forest downstream of Burley on 11 June 2019. Only four balsam plants were found during the entire search (3 ½ hours).

“Thank you, Catherine, for your lovely manner in rallying your volunteers and kindly keeping us together. I’m slightly disappointed that I found no Himalayan Balsam but it’s a good thing on balance. A joy to spend time with you and thanks for the plant ID help. I look forward to seeing you again some time and of course to seeing Jo if she’s checking our stream (I’ll do some checks myself very soon). Thanks for sharing your penguins!

Mo x’

e-mail message dated 11 June 2019 from Mo Williams, local resident, who volunteered to help with the search for Himalayan balsam along the Mill Lawn Brook downstream of Burley



“Hi Catherine, I have again enjoyed helping with volunteering in my area, and working with such friendly and knowledgeable folks. Cheers Julia”

e-mail message from Julia Hurdidge (on the right, wearing blue fleece, in adjacent photo) who helped with the balsam pull along the Avon Water on 12 June 2019



Peter Hancock pulling balsam along the Avon Water on 12 June 2019

“Hi Catherine, thanks for the email and the photos. It was great to see you and the team again. It is amazing the impact we’ve all had on reducing Himalayan Balsam. Best wishes, Peter”  
e-mail message dated 14 June 2019 from Peter Hancock who pulled balsam along the Avon Water on 12 June 2019



John Read, Steve Hiscock (HSBC), Ian Sampson, Jo Chillcott at Paultons Park on 13 June 2019

“Dear Catherine, it was A Grand Day Out today - my pleasure. Quite an impressive difference in the amount of growth - real evidence that the project is delivering a huge difference.”  
e- mail message dated 13 June 2019 from Ian Sampson who pulled balsam at Paultons Park



Phil Wells demonstrating the characteristics of Himalayan balsam at the start of the volunteer work party on 13 June 2019



Steve Hewitt pulling balsam at Southbrook Farm, Newbridge on 17 June 2019

“Catherine, it's heartening to see the clear ground, where once there would have been nothing other than trifids. I'm even finding the ‘after-pull’ nettle rash to be quite satisfying, similar to the ache after a hard day's work (as far as I can remember). I look forward to next week. Best wishes, Steve”  
e-mail message dated 17 June 2019 from Steve Hewitt who pulled balsam along the Cadnam River at Southbrook Farm on 17 June 2019



Staff from SSE who pulled balsam below Efford along the Avon Water on 19 June 2019





Inga Lambert and James Veal who pulled balsam with a group of their colleagues from SSE on 19 June 2019

“Hi Catherine, I am so happy we could help. I really enjoyed the day. I will definitely be coming back next year. Thank you very much for having us and thank you for photos. Inga”  
e-mail message dated 19 June 2019 from Inga Lambert of SSE who pulled balsam along the Avon Water

“Thanks for taking us out. It’s a popular day and every year around spring time people start to approach me to set a date. Thanks for the pictures too. The tall grass and surrounding woodland make for a pleasant setting. I’m sure there’ll be a crew available for next year, and if balsam has been contained, if there’s another project you want us office based softies to work on, let me know. Thanks again, James”  
e-mail message dated 21 June 2019 from James Veal of SSE who arranged for his colleagues to help with the balsam pull on 19 June

“Hi Catherine, thank you for sending over the pictures. It was great to help out today and hopefully we made a bit of a difference. Looking forward to coming back again next year. Many thanks, Dave”  
e-mail message dated 19 June 2019 from Dave Hooper-Massey of SSE who pulled balsam along the Avon Water



Jo pulling balsam along the Avon Water downstream of Efford Bridge on 19 June 2019



Yvonne Skinner and Sue Smith of BDO who pulled balsam along the Avon Water on 20 June 2019



Staff from GE Aviation who pulled balsam along the Cadnam River at Ower on 24 June 2019

“Thanks Catherine. I hope we made a good impact on the balsam. My wrists are still tingling but I think I will sleep well tonight! Cheers, Jim”

e-mail message dated 24 June 2019 from Jim Wink of GE Aviation who pulled balsam along the Cadnam River on 24 June 2019

“Hi Catherine, fantastic photos of a thoroughly enjoyable day. Thanks, Chris”

e-mail message dated 25 June 2019 from Chris Ormesher of GE Aviation who pulled balsam along the Cadnam River on 24 June 2019

“Hi Catherine, thank you very much for your email and the pictures, it was as usual a great pleasure to be there and try to help out as we could. The weather was quite challenging, but being all together and knowing that uprooting those plants was going to make an impact made everything easier. Thanks, Livio”

e-mail message dated 25 June 2019 from Livio Pizzi, Software Engineer with GE Aviation, who pulled balsam along the Cadnam River on 24 June 2019



Craig Gillam, Staff Technical Project Manager with GE Aviation, who pulled balsam along the Cadnam River on 24 June 2019

“Hi Catherine, thank you for helping to organise this, it was great to see that the area has actually improved since we last did it. It was rather hot and humid. We just need to build a bridge and tackle the other side now. Thanks for the photos. Best wishes, Craig”

e-mail message dated 25 June 2019 from Craig Gillam of GE Aviation, who pulled balsam along the Cadnam River on 24 June 2019



Staff from GE Aviation during balsam pull on 24 June 2019



Sue and Nik Mundy who volunteered for the first time with the NFNNPP on 28 June 2019

“Dear Catherine, many thanks for the photos. The amount of balsam in the photos from 2017 compared with Friday is unbelievable. A job well done and it just goes to show what can be achieved.

Kind regards, Sue & Nik”

e-mail message dated 30 June 2019 from Sue and Nik Mundy who pulled balsam along the Avon Water on 28 June

On the evening of 3 July 2019 sixteen Explorer Scouts and their leaders from Copythorne and Testwood helped Catherine and a couple of NFNNPP volunteers to pull Himalayan balsam along the Cadnam River.



Jon Rowsell and Alexis Jones (Testwood Explorer Scout leader) pulling balsam along the Cadnam River on 3 July 2019

EXPLORERS<sup>+</sup>



Clare Heather, pulling balsam with the Explorer Scouts on 3 July 2019

“It was certainly different!! But very satisfying. See you again soon. It’s all good fun 🙌😊”  
e-mail message from Clare Heather who helped with the Explorer Scouts’ balsam pull on the evening of 3 July 2019



Photo on left shows Charlotte Lodwidge (Copythorne Explorer Scout); photo on right shows Paul Stubbington (and other leaders of Copythorne Explorer Scouts) during balsam pull on evening of 3 July 2019



Alexis Jones (left) and Keith Giles (right) who helped with the Explorer Scouts' balsam pull on 3 July 2019

Two young people doing work experience with the New Forest National Park Authority, under the guidance of NFNPA Ranger Claire Sherwood, helped with the balsam pull along the Avon Water on 4 July 2019.



The photo on the left shows Callum Olden and Bethany Awcock during their work experience with the New Forest National Park Authority, pulling balsam along the Avon Water on 4 July 2019

“Dear Catherine, thank you for the photos. I really enjoyed last Thursday and it was great to meet you and your volunteers to see what a wonderful job you do. Kind regards, Callum”  
e-mail message dated 7 July 2019 from Callum Olden



Gabby Burns during her first balsam pull on 8 July 2019

“Dear Catherine, we had a great day today! It was lovely to have met you and other members of our team today. Best wishes, Gabby and Jonathan”  
e-mail message dated 8 July 2019 from Gabby and Jonathan Burns





Staff from BT who helped with the balsam pull along the Avon Water downstream of Efford on 10 July 2019



Paul Middleton (left) and Martin Liversage (right) of BT pulling balsam on 10 July 2019

“Thanks Catherine and Jo. Really good day. Very therapeutic! Thanks for all your guidance and help. Take care, Paul”

e-mail message dated 11 July 2019 from Paul Middleton, BT

“Thanks Catherine, I had a fab day in the great outdoors! Cheers, Martin”

e-mail message dated 11 July 2019 from Martin Liversage, BT

Five Southern Co-op Board Members joined forces with National Trust volunteers and regular NFNNPP volunteers on 24 July 2019 to pull balsam along the Cadnam River at Wigley Barn.



Southern Co-op Board Members Helen Jackson and Beverley Wyatt who pulled balsam along the Cadnam River at Wigley Barn on 24 July 2019

“Hi Catherine it was a great pleasure to meet you yesterday, and I thoroughly enjoyed helping with the Himalayan balsam pulling. Thank you for organising us all so effectively. I’d love to join you again as a volunteer, and will look at dates. Thanks for sending the newsletter”  
e-mail message dated 25 July 2019 from Helen Jackson, Southern Co-op Board Member who pulled balsam on 24 July 2019



Southern Co-op Board Members Elizabeth Rogers (above) and Jason Crouch (below) pulling balsam along the Cadnam River on 24 July 2019



Roy Arnold and Southern Co-op Board Member Elizabeth Rogers pulling balsam along the Cadnam River on 24 July 2019



National Trust volunteers Hazel Johnson and Kev Bushell pulling balsam along the Cadnam River on 24 July 2019



Michael Handley of the National Trust who accompanied the NT's volunteers on the balsam pull along the Cadnam River on 24 July 2019



Gill Rowlands, Patsy Baverstock, Brian Matthews and Claire Benton on the Avon Water on 26 July 2019

“We look like we were having fun. And we were!”  
e-mail message dated 26 July 2019 from Gill Rowlands



Julie Nairn, a landowner along the Cadnam River, kindly provided afternoon tea for everyone after the balsam pull on 29 July 2019 (thanks to Richard Field for taking the photo on the right)



Viv Chaffey pulling balsam along the Avon Water at Gordleton Rise on 2 August 2019



“It was an enjoyable day, good company and satisfying”  
e-mail message from Gill Rowlands who pulled balsam  
along the Avon Water on 2 August 2019



The perils of balsam pulling! Patsy Baverstock emptying her boot during balsam pull along the Cadnam River on 6 August 2019.



Jo Chillcott, Jo Butcher and Graham Chillcott during balsam pull at Paultons Golf Centre on 14 August 2019





Volunteers John & Helen Read and Patsy Baverstock still smiling despite heavy rain during balsam pull at Cadnam on 30 July 2019

During May, June, July and August 2019, Jo and Catherine led a total of 80 balsam pulls during which volunteers gave 2,076 hours of their time and Network Rail employees contributed 51.75 hours.

In addition to the help given by ‘regular’ volunteers, help was also given by the National Trust’s volunteers, Forestry England’s Voluntary Rangers, Explorer Scouts, youngsters undertaking work experience and a number of corporate groups as detailed in the table below.

| <b>Organisation</b>                | <b>Date of balsam pull</b>             |
|------------------------------------|--|
| CIEEM                              | 29 May 2019                            |
| National Trust volunteers          | 29 May 2019, 3 July 2019, 24 July 2019 |
| HSBC                               | 13 June 2019                           |
| SSE                                | 19 June 2019                           |
| BDO                                | 20 June 2019 and 9 August 2019         |
| GE Aviation                        | 24 June 2019                           |
| Forestry England Voluntary Rangers | 25 June 2019 and 19 July 2019          |
| Explorer Scouts                    | 3 July 2019 (evening)                  |
| Work Experience youngsters         | 4 July 2019                            |
| BT                                 | 10 July 2019                           |
| Southern Co-op Board Members       | 24 July 2019                           |

## Volunteer activity – research, survey and monitoring

### Monitoring by Southampton University Placement Students

On 3 June 2019 Catherine spent the day with Sophie Minns and Rachael Anderson who have been appointed as the two placement students to undertake monitoring of work funded by OPOF during Summer 2019. Catherine met the students at Testwood Education Centre to give them a briefing on methodology and health and safety in the morning and then showed them the ten research sites along the Cadnam River, Avon Water, Lymington River and in Harcourt Wood. Sophie and Rachael will be monitoring Harcourt Wood to assess the effect of herbicide treatment on American skunk cabbage, three sites to assess control of Himalayan balsam by hand-pulling, three sites along the Cadnam River to assess the control of Japanese knotweed by herbicide treatment and three sites along the Avon Water to assess the control of giant hogweed by herbicide treatment.



Sophie Minns and Rachael Anderson on 3 June 2019 at Wigley Manor, one of the three sites selected for monitoring Himalayan balsam control

Sophie and Rachael submitted their draft report on 31 July 2019. Catherine read the report on 1 August and submitted detailed comments to the students on 5 August. A meeting has been arranged for Sophie and Rachael to meet Catherine at Testwood on 3 September to discuss their draft and enable them to submit the final version of their report by the end of November.

### American skunk cabbage in wet woodland on Mill Lawn, Burley

During the search on 11 June 2019 for Himalayan balsam along the Mill Lawn Brook downstream of Burley volunteers also helped Catherine to search for American skunk cabbage. Local resident Anna Lawrence had taken photographs of skunk cabbage plants she had seen in April so was able to find those (and other) plants. Mo Williams, another local resident, found more skunk cabbage plants. In total skunk cabbage was found growing at four separate locations. GPS readings and photographs were taken and sent to the contractor to help him find the plants when he undertakes the herbicide treatment.



Local resident Mo Williams taking a GPS reading of one of the American skunk cabbage plants she found in the vicinity of the Mill Lawn Brook downstream of Burley on 11 June 2019

## **Monitoring by Project Officers**

### Monitoring of Creeping Water Primrose

Jo visited Breamore Marsh Site of Special Scientific Interest four times since mid May 2019 to monitor the Creeping Water Primrose population. The results of the monitoring visits are as follows:-

- 17 May 2019 - one possible seedling Creeping Water Primrose plant was found in Round Pond. It was impossible to check the lower pond due to water levels.
- 13 June 2019 – no Creeping Water Primrose was found in Round Pond. It was impossible to check the lower pond due to water levels.
- 19 July 2019 - two sprigs of Creeping Water Primrose were found in Round Pond. Two x 30cm circular patches of Creeping Water Primrose and one sprig of Creeping Water Primrose were found in the lower pond.
- 15 August 2019 - one sprig of Creeping Water Primrose was found in Round Pond.

Jo observed large amounts of *Crassula helmsii* in Round Pond and noted that the amount of *C. helmsii* in the lower pond is increasing.

## ‘Our Past, Our Future’ Landscape Partnership Scheme

### Request for quotes from volunteers

On 30 May 2019 Richard Austin e-mailed Catherine to explain that OPOF has reached a milestone with 100 volunteers having given 100 hours to OPOF projects. Richard intends to write an article and asked Catherine to contact relevant volunteers to request a quote to sum up their experience of volunteering with the NFNNPP (and other OPOF projects if relevant). Catherine sent e-mails to 20 volunteers that day and asked them to submit quotes in time for her to send them to Richard by 14 June.

*‘Being a volunteer is very satisfying. We get out in the open air, meet like-minded people and help improve the local environment. Over time the level of camaraderie has grown and it is a real pleasure to work with the other volunteers and staff from the local trusts. Over the years we have seen the marked impact we have made to improving the environment (in my case the removal of invasive Himalayan Balsam). Our collective efforts are making a real difference.’*

Quote dated 2 June 2019 from Peter Hancock

*‘It’s great to wallow in mud with a lovely bunch of folk, and know that having fun makes such an important difference! As a result of our efforts last year, the river bank looks like a river bank again!’*

Quote dated 5 June 2019 from Ant Allen



*‘I was already a HIWWT volunteer when the "Our Past, Our Future" Landscape Partnership Scheme was launched in 2015 and so have been involved in the project from the outset. Whilst majoring on the NFNNPP, I subsequently volunteered for other projects, including ‘Nature’s Stepping Stones’ and ‘Better Boundaries’ (led by NFLAS). Outside the OPOF umbrella, I have undertaken beach clean and litter surveys, a shoresearch, a bioblitz, water quality testing and other conservation tasks besides belonging to a number of conservation organisations. As well as addressing my environmental concerns, an additional personal benefit is that I have had tinnitus for many years and find that working outdoors is very therapeutic. In my opinion OPOF has been an unqualified success.’*

Quote dated 5 June 2019 from Brian Matthews (as shown in photo on the left taken during balsam pull along the Avon Water on 14 June 2019)

*‘I love balsam picking, from the tiny inches-high seedlings to the 2 metre plants at the end of the summer, but the idea is to get rid of them; so after several years of picking Himalayan balsam it is so rewarding to return to areas that were just covered in it to find bluebells, stitchwort and foxgloves flowering in its place. With all the talk about mental health and keeping active, balsam picking covers both bases as well as helping our environment. Being out in the countryside, in the fresh air, clambering over tree trunks, crawling under brambles; who needs the gym? And we get rid of the balsam!’*

Quote dated 5 June 2019 from Lesley Hancock

*'I have thoroughly enjoyed being part of the team helping to remove Himalayan Balsam from our local areas. It is amazing to see the difference that it has made to our woods, now that our native flowers such as bluebells and stitchwort have reappeared. Returning each year to the same sites, they are almost unrecognisable, which shows what a huge difference our efforts have made. The work has been very satisfying and enjoyable.'*

Quote dated 7 June 2019 from Patsy Baverstock



*"Being able to:*

- Enjoy the company and camaraderie of like-minded people with the satisfaction of knowing that our individual efforts in pulling Himalayan Balsam are all contributing to a worthwhile common purpose;*
- Enjoy visiting places not normally accessible to the public where there are often interesting wild plants, birds and invertebrates;*
- Enjoy exploring stretches of the Cadnam River in particular, sometimes both banks, before it loses its individual identity in the Blackwater;*
- Appreciate and enjoy Catherine's and Jo's very competent yet 'benevolent' management of the task in hand and of our various groups;*
- Appreciate the value of, and learn how best to use a stout stick as a 'third leg' and as a useful tool for certain aspects of the job!"*

Quote dated 10 June 2019 from John Read (in photo on left taken during balsam pull along Cadnam River on 20 May 2019)

*"Ridding an area of Himalayan Balsam is so fulfilling. It is good for the soul and it is great for our native plants and wildlife as it opens up areas previously overrun with balsam. Pulling up 2 metre high plants is easy: the roots are 2 inches deep"*

Quote from Chrissie Whiffen 11 June 2019

On 26 June 2019 Richard Austin e-mailed Catherine to say "Regarding the upcoming article on volunteering, thank you for the quotes from Ant Allen, Peter Hancock, Brian Matthews, Patsy Baverstock, Lesley Hancock, John Read and Chrissie Whiffen. I will be putting together the article to be sent out after the NF Show (with selected quotes) and creating a blog piece with a picture slide show of all quotes. I have photos of Patsy and Brian, but I am looking for photos for the other volunteers – I was wondering whether you had some photos of the others?" Catherine sent Richard photographs of all the relevant volunteers on 26 June 2019.

### 'Legacy' beyond OPOF

Encouraging landowners and land managers to take responsibility for controlling invasive non-native plants on their land beyond the expiry of OPOF funding is an important element of OPOF.

Mike Urwin, of Brokenhurst Manor Fly Fishing Club, e-mailed Jo on 5 August 2019 to say:-

“We have a Club Committee meeting in a couple of weeks and I have put balsam on the agenda. My basic intention is to form a sub-group of the maintenance team with the sole agenda of completely eliminating balsam from our part of the river and preventing any re-infestation. I'm comfortable that is wholly achievable in a reasonable time for the stretch from the gauging weir all the way down to Boldre Bridge. The potential difficulty I foresee is that if Network Rail cannot be persuaded to comprehensively deal with their land, we may get re-infestation.

The East bank from Boldre Bridge down to the Shallows is also I think OK with the exception of the high ground near the Shallows covered in brambles. The West bank from Boldre Bridge down to the bottom of the reserve and the East bank from the Shallows down are perhaps more difficult because it is so difficult to cover properly. But we can only try.

One thing that would make life easier was if between you and me, we could put together a map of known locations. Distributing that around all the members, as well as the balsam sub-group, could be of significant benefit.”

### Submission of quarterly grant claims

The OPOF grant claim relating to the period April to June 2019 was collated by Catherine and submitted to the New Forest National Park Authority on 12 July 2019.

### OPOF Volunteer Newsletters

On 25 June 2019 Richard Austin requested text for the next OPOF Volunteer Newsletter (July and August 2019). Catherine submitted text and a selection of photographs to Richard on 25 June 2019.

On 14 August Catherine sent Richard some text and recent photographs for inclusion in the September and October edition of the OPOF Volunteer Newsletter.



## Promotional Events and awareness-raising

### New Forest Higher Level Stewardship Scheme celebration on 22 May 2019

Catherine manned a display about the work of the NFNNPP that is funded by the New Forest Higher Level Stewardship (HLS) Scheme on the evening of Wednesday 22 May 2019 at the celebratory event in Minstead Village Hall. The display featured volunteer activity to control Himalayan balsam along the Beaulieu River and Pitcher Plants in wetland habitats; it also featured the plants which the NFNNPP commissioned contractors to control with approved herbicide on the Crown Land. Lord Manners, Official Verderer, gave a speech and presented certificates to the volunteers.



Volunteer Patsy Baverstock with her certificate by the NFNNPP display at the celebratory event on 22 May 2019

“On behalf of the HLS Board and myself please can I send a massive thank you to you all for your hard work and support at the HLS Celebration Evening. It was a great success with a huge attendance and a wonderful opportunity for people to see the many important projects that the Verderers Higher Level Stewardship Scheme has supported over the last nine years. Again many thanks for all your help in making the evening such a success. Kind regards, Tina”

e-mail message dated 24 May 2019 from Tina Woodley, Verderers’ Grazing Scheme Administrator



Catherine with NFNNPP volunteers Patsy Baverstock, Jane Smith, Martin Rand and Anna Lawrence (photo by Hilary Makin, New Forest National Park Authority)

Wood Fair on Sunday 9 June 2019

Catherine manned a stand to promote the NFNNPP during the Wood Fair at Roydon Woods nature reserve on Sunday 9 June 2019. This was a good opportunity to recruit potential volunteers for balsam pulling and to talk to people about the location of invasive non-native plants in the New Forest area. Some very useful contacts were made.



Ann Durnell, Isobel Durnell and John Durnell by the NFNNPP display at the Wood Fair on 9 June 2019





Rupert Voremborg by the NFNNPP display at the Wood Fair on 9 June 2019

### Promotion of the 'Be Plant Wise' campaign and 'Check, Clean, Dry' campaign





Oliver Cook, Lucy Fairman and Ben Dolbear standing by the Be Plant Wise and Check, Clean, Dry banners at the awareness-raising session hosted by NFNNPP for young commoners on the evening of 10 May 2019



On Wednesday 15 May 2019 Catherine promoted the Be Plant Wise campaign at local garden centres. The photo shows Kevin Baroney, a member of staff at Southern Aquatics & Pets, in Cadnam.



The Be Plant Wise campaign was promoted on the NFNNPP stand at the Wood Fair on Sunday 9 June 2019. The photo shows Jane White, a visitor to the Wood Fair, holding a Be Plant Wise leaflet

### **Invasive Species Week 2019**

The Invasive Species Week 'postcard' produced by the GB Non-Native Species Secretariat featured the photograph taken by Catherine of NFNNPP volunteer Alexander Bridges standing amongst American skunk cabbage in Lymington River Reedbeds SSSI (top row, third picture from left).



Monday 13 May

Jo spent Monday 13 May with Network Rail staff on the railway embankment where the railway line crosses the Lymington River Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). Jo helped the lineside inspectors identify and map the Himalayan balsam and then they pulled up the balsam plants.



Photos taken by Jo Gore of Network Rail staff along the main line railway at Brockenhurst in the vicinity of the Lymington River on 13 May 2019

“Hi Lucy, I have been out working in partnership with Network Rail today to tackle a Himalayan Balsam problem on the railway embankments where the track crosses the Lymington River SSSI. I was joined by 5 staff members to map the extent of the problem and then we carried out the first balsam pull of the season for the New Forest Non-Native Plants Project. I hope Invasive Species Week is a success. Kind regards, Jo”

e-mail message dated 13 May 2019 from Jo Gore to Lucy Cornwell of GBNNSS

Catherine spent Monday 13 May undertaking reconnaissance visits along the Cadnam River at Paultons Park and Paultons Golf Course to assess the extent and distribution of Himalayan balsam. Very few balsam plants were found at these sites so the work undertaken in previous years has clearly been successful. Catherine will probably need to find an alternative site further downstream for volunteers to work on during the days when large corporate groups are scheduled to help at Paultons Golf Course during summer 2019.



Tuesday 14 May

On Day 2 of Invasive Species Week Brian Matthews (volunteer) helped Jo pull Himalayan balsam in the HIWWT's Lymington Reedbeds Nature Reserve within Lymington River Reedbeds SSSI.

“Dear Lucy, carried out a balsam pull today with my volunteer Brian. Fantastic results. From a 5 hectare woodland with 100% coverage of balsam 3 years ago, today we found just 500 plants. Attached a picture of my volunteer Brian with the biggest balsam of the day. Cheers and hope INNS week is going well, Jo”

e-mail dated 14 May 2019 from Jo Gore to Lucy Cornwell of GBNNSS

“That’s fantastic! I’ve just been on a visit with Lord Gardiner and he was very pleased to hear the news! Best wishes, Lucy”

e-mail message dated 14 May 2019 from Lucy Cornwell to Jo Gore



Brian Matthews, volunteer, on Tuesday 14 May 2019, in Lymington Reedbeds Nature Reserve (left) holding the largest Himalayan balsam plant found that day and (right) standing by a large American skunk cabbage plant which has been treated with herbicide by contractor during May 2019 (photos by Jo Gore)

On Tuesday 14 May Catherine attended the briefing at the House of Lords which had been arranged by Wildlife and Countryside Link's Invasive Non-Native Species Group. The event titled 'Invasive Species and Brexit: Responding to an Intensifying Environmental Threat' was hosted by Lord Teverson and chaired by Paul Walton who is Head of Habitats and Species for RSPB Scotland and the Chairman of the Wildlife and Countryside Link Invasive Non-Native Species Working Group.

Presentations were given by Lord Teverson (Chair of the House of Lords EU Energy and Environment Sub-Committee), Lord Gardiner of Kimble (Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Rural Affairs and Biosecurity, with responsibility for invasive non-native species) and Professor Helen Roy (Ecologist and Group Leader on invasive species at the NERC Centre for Ecology & Hydrology, Visiting Professor at the University of Reading, and Chair of the Citizens Sciences Investigate on alien species.)

Adam Diep, Lord Gardiner's Assistant Private Secretary, introduced Catherine to Lord Gardiner again following his visit to the New Forest during August 2017 to pull Himalayan balsam with the NFNNPP.

During Lord Gardiner's presentation he urged people to take direct action to tackle invasive non-native species and twice referred to his visit to the New Forest to pull balsam.

The event was a good opportunity for Catherine to meet staff from *inter alia* DEFRA, the GB Non-Native Species Secretariat, The Angling Trust, Wildlife and Countryside Link and South West Water.



### Wednesday 15 May

On the third day of Invasive Species Week, Lucy Cornwell of GBNNSS sent an e-mail to Local Action Group staff which referred *inter alia* to Jo's work in the New Forest the previous day:-

“Good morning all, we're already on day three of Invasive Species Week 2019! Another fantastic day yesterday, a few of the highlights below for you, thank you to everyone for the continued enthusiasm:

- Wildlife and Countryside Link's debate in Parliament, 'Brexit and Invasive Species: Responding to an intensifying environmental threat'
- After speaking at the debate, Rural Affairs and Biosecurity, Defra Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Lord Gardiner, then travelled down to Kent to help volunteers pull American skunk cabbage <https://twitter.com/DefraGovUK/status/1128312486338469888>
- **We've heard of lots of other invasive species management taking place this week, including the New Forest Non-native Plants Project local action group who have done a fantastic job in reducing coverage of a 5 ha stand of Himalayan balsam to 500 plants over three years!**

A huge thanks for all your support so far, please do keep sharing your photos and updates, we love seeing them! Best wishes, Lucy”

On Wednesday 15 May Catherine visited local garden centres to check they were not selling plants which have been banned from sale and to promote the Be Plant Wise campaign. At Romsey World of Water she was mistaken for a member of the garden centre staff by two of the customers so she took the opportunity to speak to them about planting up their garden pond and gave them some Be Plant Wise literature and stickers!



Gill Sprinks and Stuart Jones, customers at Romsey World of Water, on Wednesday 15 May 2019



Rob Barber, a member of staff at Romsey World of Water, on 15 May 2019

Catherine then visited Southern Aquatics & Pets at Cadnam and was pleased to see a sign proclaiming certain plants have been banned from sale (in accordance with the Invasive Alien Species Regulation).



Kevin Baroney at Southern Aquatics & Pets on Wednesday 15 May 2019

#### Thursday 16 May

On the fourth day of Invasive Species Week, Catherine gave a talk to an audience of approximately 20 people at Redcliffe Garden Centre in Bashley. The talk described the work of the NFNNPP and explained to gardeners how they can help to stop the spread of invasive non-native plants. Invasive Species Week 'postcards' were given to everyone who attended.



Jackie Thorpe works at Redcliffe Garden Centre and arranged for Catherine to give a talk there during Invasive Species Week



Catherine then visited Everton Water Gardens and spoke to Andrea Lovell. Catherine gave Andrea a supply of Invasive Species Week postcards and a Be Plant Wise leaflet, lanyard and poster. Catherine offered her a Be Plant Wise sticker but Andrea was aware that there was already a sticker on the office door as a result of Catherine's visit during 2018. Catherine and Andrea had a useful discussion about the Water Fern which was floating on the surface of the container in which water lilies were being offered for sale; Andrea realised the potential risk of Water Fern being transferred through contamination of the water lily pots.



Andrea Lovell, a member of staff at Everton Water Gardens on 16 May 2019

#### Friday 17 May

On the final day of Invasive Species Week, Lucy Cornwell of GBNNSS sent an email to stakeholders highlighting selected events and ended her message by saying:-

**'A few final words from Jo Gore from the New Forest Non-Native Plants Project which I think sum up the week perfectly:**

***"Two years ago a 5 hectare area of wet woodland on the Lymington River was a site that I thought would be impossible to take volunteers due to the conditions, and what was the point as there was so much balsam. However, having run out of balsam in other areas and having keen volunteers on my hands we ventured in. Now it is year 3 and we are having to search for the last remaining few plants. It is so lovely for myself and the volunteers to see the woodland come back to life - it is awash with wildflowers and other wildlife. We even spotted signs of otter today."***

**Huge thanks again for a brilliant week'.**

On 21 May, Lucy sent a summary of events held during Invasive Species Week which featured the American skunk cabbage that Catherine had made – see below:-



## Training provided by the New Forest Non-Native Plants Project

### Training for young commoners on 10 May 2019

Following discussions with Lyndsey Stride and Oliver Cook of the Commoners' Defence Association during 2018, Jo and Catherine led an awareness-raising session for young commoners on the evening of Friday 10 May 2019 at Lyndhurst Community Centre. The event attracted 21 people. Presentations included definition of invasive non-native species, identification of invasive non-native plants, problems caused by invasive non-native plants, control methods, legislation and biosecurity. A quiz helped people identify invasive non-native plants found in the New Forest area.



Some of the young commoners doing the identification quiz on the evening of Friday 10 May 2019

“Dear Catherine, thank you very much for arranging the evening. Virtually every attendee approached me afterwards and said that it was a lot more interesting and relevant to them than they anticipated, which was great. I found the evening very informative and feel that I definitely sharpened up on my invasive weed ID!

Best wishes, Ollie”

e-mail message dated 12 May 2019 from Oliver Cook, young commoners’ representative for the Commoners’ Defence Association

## Liaison with Network Rail

As mentioned on page 51 of this report, Jo met five Network Rail employees on Monday 13 May 2019 (during Invasive Species Week) to identify and pull the Himalayan balsam along the railway embankment at Brockenhurst in the vicinity of the Lymington River SSSI.

On Tuesday 18 June 2019 Jo led three members of Network Rail staff to pull some Himalayan balsam along the branch line in the vicinity of the Passford Water; they then walked along the railway track towards Brockenhurst and in the other direction towards Lymington to map the extent of the balsam growing on Network Rail's land.

Jo contacted Sam Rooney of Network Rail to give him a progress report following the work undertaken on 18 June 2019; Sam replied to Jo saying:

'Jo, that's great to hear, just a shame the weather didn't play along as well! Yes 19th July sounds good, we'll add it to our plan and hopefully the weather is better and we may be able to put a few more staff there as well and hopefully we'll be able to pull a whole section clear! It's always good to have these partnerships as it does keep everyone happy and even more than the direct neighbours as the good work does travel. Kind regards, Sam'

e-mail message dated 18 June 2019 from Sam Rooney, Section Manager Off Track, Wessex Outer DU



Photos taken by Jo Gore on 18 June 2019 during balsam pull along the branch line with Network Rail

On Thursday 18 July 2019 Jo worked with three Network Rail employees for four hours to tackle the Himalayan balsam growing along the railway line.



## **Other work**

### Advice to DEFRA

On 9 May 2019 Lucy Cornwell of GB Non-Native Species Secretariat e-mailed Local Action Groups to say

“Defra, on behalf of Biosecurity Minister Lord Gardiner, have asked whether you have any success stories from recent work you have been doing to control Japanese knotweed. Lord Gardiner is keen to celebrate progress in this area.”

Lucy apologised for the short notice as she required answers by 14 May. Catherine responded to Lucy on 9 May and provided four examples of locations where Japanese knotweed appears to have been successfully treated by contractors on behalf of the NFNNPP. Later that day Joseph Payne (Policy Adviser, Invasive Non-Native Species Team) of DEFRA e-mailed Catherine with some questions about these sites and Catherine responded to him the same day.

‘Catherine, thank you very much for the speedy and detailed reply to my further questions, it’s really appreciated. Kind regards, Joe’

e-mail message dated 10 May 2019 from Joseph Payne, Policy Adviser, Invasive Non-Native Species Team, DEFRA

On 14 May 2019 Angela Taylor, Policy Adviser in DEFRA’s Non-Native Species Policy Team, rang Catherine seeking information about the Community Protection Notice that PC Scott Graham issued in accordance with the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act on behalf of NFNNPP on the land adjacent to the Cadnam River where no owner could be identified. Angela requested the information in preparation for a Parliamentary Question on Thursday 16 May. Catherine replied via telephone on 14 May.

### Advice to The Angling Trust

On 15 May 2019 Dr Emily Smith, Environment Manager for The Angling Trust, e-mailed Catherine to seek advice about the procedures relating to use of herbicides near water. Catherine suggested she contacted Kevin Ackerman of Food and Environmental Ltd as Kevin has detailed knowledge of the relevant procedures.

### Advice to BEACON Bollin

On 20 May 2019 Sally Potts, Project Manager for Bollin Environmental Action and Conservation contacted Catherine to say:

“I was just emailing because I am back on the case of Network Rail down here as my stakeholder group brought it up again at the last meeting (not surprisingly!). I was just wondering if you had been able to get volunteers onto the railway embankments to do some work at all? Some of the stakeholders would be happy to do this but we’re not sure if it is possible? The line itself is quite busy, but the bank must be 40 feet so if they work even half way up they’re still miles from a passing train. Many thanks for your help as ever! Sal ☺

Catherine suggested to Sally that Jo would be the most appropriate person to provide her with advice. Jo responded to Sally on 30 May 2019.



### Advice to GB Non-Native Species Secretariat

On 5 June 2019 Olaf Booy, Deputy Chief Non-native Species Officer at GBNNSS, e-mailed Catherine with an urgent request for information he required for a piece of work he was doing for DEFRA in relation to the Environmental Land Management scheme. Olaf needed to know a) what invasive non-native species cause issues in the New Forest, b) what environmental issues they cause, c) species likely to be a threat in the future, d) current management activity. Catherine responded to Olaf on 5 June; Olaf replied saying 'Extremely helpful, thanks for getting back to me so quickly!'

### Information request from Dr Max Wade

Max Wade (President of CIEEM) e-mailed Catherine on 10 June 2019 seeking information for an article he is writing. He was keen to obtain some statistics about the extent of the work undertaken by NFNNPP. He had found some information on a website relating to balsam-pulling undertaken in connection with OPOF and Catherine provided him with additional information relating to giant hogweed control, other work undertaken by contractors and non-OPOF work to control balsam. Max replied saying "Brilliant Catherine... That's an awesome amount of time, effort and achievement! Thanks, Max."

### Advice to Yorkshire Wildlife Trust

On 14 June 2019 John Cave, Project Officer (West) at Yorkshire Wildlife Trust e-mailed Catherine to ask for the report she wrote summarising the NFNNPP's control of American skunk cabbage in 2010. John was keen to obtain information on the use of herbicide to control large American skunk cabbage plants, in particular the type of herbicide used, application rates and time of year when it should be applied; Catherine sent the report to John on 14 June as requested and suggested he could contact the contractor who has undertaken very successful control of American skunk cabbage on behalf of the NFNNPP to seek technical information regarding herbicide use.

### Report for New Forest Higher Level Stewardship Board

Catherine prepared a report for the New Forest HLS Board meeting held on 3 July 2019 and submitted it to Tina Woodley on 11 June 2019. The report summarises the relevant activities of the NFNNPP since the previous report which was prepared during March.

### Liaison with Hampshire Highways

During summer 2019 Catherine had continued to send Hampshire Highways staff her GPS readings of Himalayan balsam, Japanese knotweed and giant hogweed growing in road verges. On 14 June 2019 Lea Davidson, Senior Officer (Asset Management) of HCC e-mailed her to say:

"Dear Catherine, my team manages data that feeds into the main Hampshire Highways Service Contract. As such, I work closely with Mike Court and David Richardson with whom you have recently been in contact. In order to get the contractors to the right locations to treat the invasive weeds you found, we need to accurately map them in our system. I'd be grateful if you would check through the attached images to see if we have located them properly. We have tried to keep to your grid coordinates where possible but some were a notable distance from the road (this is probably due to tree cover throwing out your GPS device... we get that too!). Where that is the case, we've used your description to confirm the position. If you are happy with the locations we have marked then I'll have the team transfer them to the main system which will be passed on to the contractors by Dave and Mike. If there are any inaccuracies, please get in touch and we'll correct them. I note in your correspondence that you have offered to take the contractors to the right places. Hopefully, if my team has done its job properly, that won't be necessary but I'm sure Mike or Dave will be in touch if the contractors need help. Kind regards, Lea"

Catherine checked the maps and sent comments to Lea on 15 June. On 19 June Catherine confirmed to Lea that the revised maps he had subsequently provided were correct.

Unfortunately on 24 June 2019, Jo emailed Catherine to let her know that she had noticed the verges along the A337 had been mown and the giant hogweed plants north of Lymington had been cut. Catherine informed HCC Highways and asked them to put measures in place to ensure that their contractors do not cut other road verges where giant hogweed is growing. Lea Davidson of HCC Highways emailed Catherine later that day to say:-

“Hi Catherine, thanks for raising this. Mike Court and I have just discussed the issue. We are putting a process in place so that existing and new invasive weed records will also be highlighted in the verge cutting map. Mike is going to discuss with the contractor how best we provide the maps so that they avoid cutting these sites. Kind regards, Lea”



#### The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service

Although the NFNNPP had been nominated for The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service, the nomination was unsuccessful. An e-mail from the Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport was forwarded to Catherine on 31 May 2019 to say:

*Dear Catherine Chatters, New Forest Non-Native Plants Project*

*We were delighted to receive a nomination for New Forest Non-Native Plants Project for The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service 2019. I am writing to let you know the outcome.*

*The work your group does for the community was very much admired by the Independent Assessment Committee. Unfortunately, given the large number of nominations and the very high standards throughout, I am sorry to say that in the end New Forest Non-Native Plants Project was not among those selected to receive the Award this year.*

*However, on behalf of The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service Team, please convey to your volunteers and other staff our warm appreciation of the excellent work they do and the enormous benefit it represents to the local community. The Award is the highest accolade given to local volunteer groups and your nomination represents a tremendous achievement for your organisation. Everyone involved, and particularly your volunteers, should feel immensely proud of this and we wish you all the best for the future.*

*The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service Team*  
[queensaward@culture.gov.uk](mailto:queensaward@culture.gov.uk)

The NFNNPP is very grateful to Diana Westerhoff (Verderer) for taking the time to make the nomination and to local residents Sara Cadbury and Alison Bolton for writing supporting letters.

## CPRE Countryside Awards 2019

On 17 June 2019 Penny Hudson of Campaign to Protect Rural England (CPRE) telephoned Catherine to say that her application on behalf of the NFNNPP for the CPRE Countryside Awards had been shortlisted (along with four other applicants) in the 'Community and Voluntary' category. The other applications shortlisted in this category were Bishop's Waltham North Pond Conservation (volunteers' pond restoration); Headley Down Nature Reserve Trust (restoration of a landfill site); Grainger Plc and Fleet Beekeepers Association (Wellesley Bee Hives); The Watercress Way (establishing a 26 mile circular leisure route). Penny explained that the judges would be in touch to arrange a visit.

The judges visited on 3 July during the balsam pull along the Cadnam River on Wednesday 3 July when Jake White of the National Trust and his volunteers helped NFNNPP with the balsam pull. It was very pleasing to be working jointly with the NT's volunteers that day as the NT's Foxbury restoration project had also been shortlisted for the Awards, fortunately in a different category (the 'Making Places' category) so we are not directly competing with each other.



From 12 August 2019 the Hampshire Choice Award opened the finalists up to a public vote, with a chance of winning £500 towards their work. The winners will be announced at the awards ceremony at Littleton Millennium Memorial Hall near Winchester on 17 September.





### Sheep Laurel *Kalmia angustifolia* in the New Forest

The Botanical Society of Britain and Ireland's BSBI News 141 (April 2019) referred to *Kalmia angustifolia* (Sheep Laurel) growing in the New Forest near Ashurst Lodge at SU 33265 08933. This species is a native of eastern North America and was first recorded here by Andy Cross and Neil Sanderson in 2016. It was also recorded by D. Leadbetter on 12 June 2018. Catherine located the plant on 3 May 2019 and took a GPS Reading (at 3 metres accuracy) at SU 33265 08935. The plant appeared to have been treated with herbicide (but perhaps it had been damaged by frost) although approximately 9 shoots were still alive. It covered an area approximately 2.5 metres x 1 metre.



*Kalmia angustifolia* growing near Ashurst Lodge at SU 33265 08935 on 3 May 2019

### DEFRA consultation relating to EU Invasive Alien Species Regulation

During July 2019 DEFRA's Invasive Non-Native Species Team launched a consultation on management measures for widely spread invasive alien species in England and Wales. The consultation period started on 18 July and ended on 12 September 2019. Catherine submitted a response on behalf of NFNNPP to DEFRA on 22 July 2019. This informed Wildlife and Countryside Link's response to the consultation.

### Lord Gardiner's visit to The New Forest and Hampshire County Show

Lord Gardiner (Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Rural Affairs and Biosecurity) visited the New Forest Show on Wednesday 31 July 2019. Richard Austin of the New Forest National Park Authority e-mailed Catherine on 5 August 2019 to say "He did mention you in his speech; he said he really enjoyed his day in the Forest pulling Himalayan balsam."

### HIWWT staff meetings

The staff meeting scheduled for 26 June was cancelled.

### HIWWT Sub-Team meetings

Jo and Catherine attended the last Sub-Team meeting on Tuesday 21 May 2019, prior to re-organisation of HIWWT.



Left: Photo of Himalayan balsam sent by Claire Benton, volunteer, to Catherine Chatters on 5 August 2019 with a message to say “On cycling holiday in Germany. I had to stop and take a photo and send it to you! See you next week. Claire”

Right: Catherine on holiday in Wales on 22 August 2019, unable to resist the temptation to pull up some Himalayan balsam along the Afon Ystwyth

**Press release– see attached**

**Media coverage – see attached**

**Appendix A – extract from ‘Invasive Aliens: The Plants and Animals From Over There That Are Over Here’ by Dan Eatherley**

**Appendix B – extract from ‘The New Forest’ by Mathew Conway**

**Appendix C – extract from transcript of evidence given by Lord Gardiner on 9 July 2019 to House of Commons Environmental Audit Committee Inquiry into the impacts of invasive species and their management**

**Appendix D – Himalayan balsam pulls led by NFNNPP during May, June, July and August 2019**

Report compiled by Catherine Chatters  
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Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust  
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1 September 2019

The New Forest Non-Native Plants Project is hosted by  
Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust.  
The Project is grateful for support provided by a partnership of organisations:-



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## **Appendix D – Himalayan balsam pulls led by NFNNPP during May, June, July and August 2019**

### **Himalayan balsam pulls with Network Rail**

#### **Monday 13 May 2019 – with Network Rail**

8am – 1.15pm

Leader: Jo Gore

5 Network Rail staff x 5.25 hours = 26.25 hours

Running total (Network Rail) 26.25 hours

#### **Tuesday 18 June 2019 – with Network Rail**

8.00 – 12.30

Leader Jo Gore

3 Network Rail staff x 4.5 hours = 13.5 hours

Running total (Network Rail) 39.75 hours

#### **Thursday 18 July 2019 – with Network Rail**

8am – 1pm

Leader: Jo Gore

3 Network Rail employees x 4 hours = 12 hours (Network Rail only worked from 9am)

Total (Network Rail) 51.75 hours

### **Himalayan balsam pulls with volunteers**

#### **Tuesday 14 May 2019 – Lymington River**

9.30am – 2.30pm

Leader Jo Gore

1 volunteer x 5 hours = 5 hours

Running total 5 hours

#### **Wednesday 15 May 2019 - Lymington River**

9.30 am – 2.30pm

Leader Jo Gore

2 volunteers x 5 hours = 10 hours

Running total 15 hours

#### **Monday 20 May 2019 – Cadnam River**

10am – 3pm

Leader: Catherine Chatters

9 volunteers x 5 hours = 45 hours

Running total 60 hours

#### **Monday 20 May 2019 – Lymington River**

9.30am – 2.30pm

Leader: Jo Gore

3 volunteers x 5 hours = 15 hours

Running total 75 hours

**Wednesday 22 May 2019 – Lymington River**

9.30am – 2.30pm

Leader: Jo Gore

3 volunteers x 5 hours = 15 hours

Running total 90 hours

**Wednesday 22 May 2019 – Cadnam River**

10.30am – 3pm

Leader: Catherine Chatters

4 volunteers x 4.5 hours = 18 hours

Running total 108 hours

**Thursday 23 May 2019 – Avon Water**

10am – 3pm

Leader: Catherine Chatters

12 volunteers x 5 hours = 60 hours

Running total 168 hours

**Friday 24 May 2019 – Cadnam River**

10am – 3pm

Leader: Catherine Chatters

5 volunteers x 5 hours = 25 hours

Running total 193 hours

**Tuesday 28 May 2019 – Cadnam River**

10am – 3pm

Leader: Catherine Chatters

16 volunteers x 5 hours = 80 hours

Running total 273 hours

**Wednesday 29 May 2019 – Cadnam River**

10am – 3pm

Leader: Catherine Chatters

25 volunteers x 5 hours = 125 hours (including staff from CIEEM)

2 volunteers x 3 hours = 6 hours

Running total 404 hours

**Friday 31 May 2019 – Avon Water**

10am – 3pm

Leader: Catherine Chatters

6 volunteers x 5 hours = 30 hours

Running total 434 hours

**Monday 3 June 2019 – Passford Water**

9.30am – 2.30pm

Leader: Jo Gore

1 volunteer x 5 hours = 5 hours

Running total 439 hours

**Thursday 6 June 2019 – Beaulieu River (Crown Land and adjacent road verges at Lyndhurst)**

10am – 11.30am

Leader: Catherine Chatters

1 volunteer x 1.5 hours = 1.5 hours

Running total 440.5 hours



**Monday 10 June 2019 – Lymington River**

9.30am – 2.30pm

Leader: Jo Gore

2 volunteers x 5 hours = 10 hours

Running total 450.5 hours

**Tuesday 11 June 2019 – Mill Lawn Brook**

10am to 1.30pm

Leader: Catherine Chatters

3 volunteers x 3.5 hours = 10.5 hours

Running total 461 hours

**Tuesday 11 June 2019 – Lymington River**

9.30am – 2.30pm

Leader: Jo Gore

3 volunteers x 5 hours = 15 hours

Running total 476 hours

**Wednesday 12 June 2019 – Avon Water**

10am to 3pm

Leaders: Catherine Chatters and Jo Gore

12 volunteers x 5 hours = 60 hours

Running total 536 hours

**Thursday 13 June 2019 – Cadnam River**

10.30am to 3pm

Leader: Catherine Chatters

11 volunteers x 4.5 hours = 49.5 hours (including one person from HSBC)

Running total 585.5 hours

**Friday 14 June 2019 – Avon Water**

9.30am to 4pm

Leader: Catherine Chatters

1 volunteer x 6.5 hours = 6.5 hours

Running total 592 hours

**Monday 17 June 2019 – Cadnam River**

10am to 3pm

Leader: Catherine Chatters

2 volunteers x 5 hours = 10 hours

Running total 602 hours

**Monday 17 June 2019 – Passford Water**

9.30 – 2.30

Leader: Jo Gore

3 volunteers x 5 hours = 15 hours

Running total 617 hours

**Wednesday 19 June 2019 – Avon Water**

10am to 3pm

Leaders: Catherine Chatters and Jo Gore

17 volunteers x 5 hours = 85 hours (including 8 staff from SSE)

Running total 702 hours

**Thursday 20 June 2019 – Passford Water**

9.30- 2.30

Leader: Jo Gore

1 volunteer x 5 hours = 5 hours

Running total 707 hours

**Thursday 20 June 2019 – Avon Water**

10am to 3pm

Leader: Catherine Chatters

11 volunteers x 5 hours = 55 hours (including 2 staff from BDO)

Running total 762 hours

**Friday 21 June 2019 - Avon Water**

10am to 2pm (as ran out of balsam)

Leader: Catherine Chatters

6 volunteers x 4 hours = 24 hours

Running total 786 hours

**Monday 24 June 2019 – Passford Water**

9.30am – 2.30pm

Leader: Jo Gore

2 volunteers x 5 hours = 10 hours

Running total 796 hours

**Monday 24 June 2019 - Cadnam River**

10am to 3pm

Leader: Catherine Chatters

21 volunteers x 5 hours = 105 hours (including 12 people from GE Aviation)

Running total 901 hours

**Tuesday 25 June 2019 - Beaulieu River**

10am – 3pm

Leader: Catherine Chatters

2 volunteers x 5 hours = 10 hours

Running total 911 hours

**Tuesday 25 June 2019 - Lymington River**

9.30am – 2.30pm

Leader: Jo Gore

4 volunteers x 5 hours = 20 hours

Running total 931 hours

**Thursday 27 June 2019 - Cadnam River**

10.30am to 3pm

Leader: Catherine Chatters

10 volunteers x 4.5 hours = 45 hours

Running total 976 hours

**Friday 28 June 2019 Avon Water**

10am to 3pm

Leader: Catherine Chatters

7 volunteers x 5 hours = 35 hours

Running total 1,011 hours

**Monday 1 July 2019 - Lymington River**

9.30 – 2.30

Leader: Jo Gore

1 volunteer x 5 hours = 5 hours

Running total 1,016 hours

**Tuesday 2 July 2019 - Avon Water**

10am to 3pm

Leaders: Catherine Chatters and Jo Gore

7 volunteers x 5 hours = 35 hours

2 volunteers x 3 hours = 6 hours

Running total 1,057 hours

**Wednesday 3 July 2019 – Cadnam River**

10am to 3pm

Leader: Catherine Chatters

19 volunteers x 5 hours = 95 hours

2 volunteers x 3 hours = 6 hours

Running total 1158 hours

**Wednesday 3 July 2019 - Cadnam River (in evening)**

7pm to 9.30pm

Leader: Catherine Chatters

18 volunteers x 2.5 hours = 45 hours (with Copythorne Explorer Scouts and Testwood Explorer Scouts)

Running total 1,203 hours

**Wednesday 3 July 2019 - Lymington River**

9.30am to 2.30pm

Leader: Jo Gore

1 volunteer x 5 hours = 5 hours

Running total 1,208 hours

**Thursday 4 July 2019 - Avon Water**

10am to 2.30pm

Leader: Catherine Chatters

6 volunteers x 4.5 hours = 27 hours (including two youngsters on work experience with NFNPA)

Running total 1,235 hours

**Monday 8 July 2019 - Fleet Water**

10am – 3pm

Leader: Catherine Chatters

8 volunteers x 5 hours = 40 hours

1 volunteer x 3 hours = 3 hours

Running total 1,278 hours

**Tuesday 9 July 2019 - Lymington River and Passford Water**

9.30am- 2.30pm

Leader: Jo Gore

2 volunteers x 5 hours = 10 hours

Running total 1,288 hours

**Tuesday 9 July 2019 - Cadnam River**

10am – 3pm

Leader: Catherine Chatters

3 volunteers x 5 hours = 15 hours

Running total 1,303 hours

**Wednesday 10 July 2019 – Avon Water**

10am – 3pm

Leaders: Catherine Chatters & Jo Gore

11 volunteers x 5 hours = 55 hours (including 4 staff from BT)

Running total 1,358 hours

**Thursday 11 July 2019 - Cadnam River**

10am – 3pm

Leader: Catherine Chatters

1 volunteer x 5 hours = 5 hours

Running total 1363 hours

**Friday 12 July 2019 - Mill Lawn Brook**

9.30am – 2.30pm

Leader: Jo Gore

2 volunteers x 5 hours = 10 hours

Running total 1,373 hours

**Monday 15 July 2019 - Lymington River**

9.30am – 2.30pm

Leader: Jo Gore

4 volunteers x 5 hours = 20 hours

Running total 1,393 hours

**Monday 15 July 2019 Cadnam River**

10am – 3pm

Leader: Catherine Chatters

8 volunteers x 5 hours = 40 hours

Running total 1,433 hours

**Tuesday 16 July 2019 - Lymington River**

9am – 2.30pm

Leader Jo Gore

1 volunteer x 5.5 hours = 5.5 hours

Running total 1,438.5 hours

**Wednesday 17 July 2019 - Cadnam River**

10am to 3pm

Leader: Catherine Chatters

5 volunteers x 5 hours = 25 hours

Running total 1,463.5 hours

**Wednesday 17 July 2019 - Lymington River**

9.30am – 2.30pm

Leader: Jo Gore

1 volunteer x 5 hours = 5 hours

Running total 1,468.5 hours

**Thursday 18 July 2019 – road verge along Lower Pennington Lane**

10am – 1pm

Leader: Catherine Chatters

5 volunteers x 3 hours = 15 hours

Running total 1483.5 hours

**Friday 19 July 2019 - Beaulieu River**

10am – 12 noon

Leader: Catherine Chatters

1 volunteer x 2 hours = 2 hours

Running total 1,485.5 hours

**Monday 22 July 2019 - Lymington River**

9.30am – 2.30pm

Leader: Jo Gore

2 volunteers x 5 hours = 10 hours

Running total 1495.5 hours

**Monday 22 July 2019 - Cadnam River**

10am – 3pm

Leader: Catherine Chatters

8 volunteers x 5 hours = 40 hours

Running total 1,535.5 hours

**Tuesday 23 July 2019 - Cadnam River**

10am – 3pm

Leader: Catherine Chatters

3 volunteers x 5 hours = 15 hours

2 volunteers x 3.5 hours = 7 hours

Running total 1,557.5 hours

**Wednesday 24 July 2019 - Cadnam River**

10am – 3pm

Leader: Catherine Chatters

17 volunteers x 5 hours = 85 hours (including 5 Southern Co-op Board Members)

Running total 1,642.5 hours

**Thursday 25 July 2019 - Cadnam River**

10am – 3pm

Leader: Catherine Chatters

6 volunteers x 5 hours = 30 hours

Running total 1,672.5 hours

**Friday 26 July 2019 - Avon Water**

10am – 3pm

Leader: Catherine Chatters

6 volunteers x 5 hours = 30 hours

Running total 1,702.5 hours

**Monday 29 July 2019 - Cadnam River**

10am – 3pm

Leader: Catherine Chatters

7 volunteers x 5 hours = 35 hours

Running total 1,737.5 hours

**Tuesday 30 July 2019 - Cadnam River**

10am – 1.30pm

Leader: Catherine Chatters

3 volunteers x 3.5 hours = 10.5 hours

Running total 1,748 hours

**Wednesday 31 July 2019 - Cadnam River**

10.30am – 3pm

Leader: Catherine Chatters

3 volunteers x 4.5 hours = 13.5 hours

Running total 1761.5 hours

**Friday 2 August 2019 - Avon Water**

10am – 3pm

Leader: Catherine Chatters

6 volunteers x 5 hours = 30 hours

1 volunteer x 3 hours = 3 hours

1 volunteer x 6 hours = 6 hours

Running total 1,800.5 hours

**Tuesday 6 August 2019 - Cadnam River**

10am – 4pm

Leader: Catherine Chatters

1 volunteer x 6 hours = 6 hours

Running total 1,806.5 hours

**Wednesday 7 August 2019 - Cadnam River**

10.30am – 3pm

Leader: Catherine Chatters

10 volunteers x 4.5 hours = 45 hours

Running total 1851.5 hours

**Thursday 8 August 2019 - Cadnam River**

10am to 4pm

Leader: Catherine Chatters

3 volunteers x 6 hours = 18 hours

Running total 1,869.5 hours

**Friday 9 August 2019 - Avon Water**

10am – 3pm

Leader: Catherine Chatters

6 volunteers x 5 hours = 30 hours (including one person from BDO)

Running total 1,899.5 hours

**Monday 12 August 2019 – Lymington River**

9.30am – 2.30pm

Leader: Jo Gore

1 volunteer x 5 hours = 5 hours

Running total 1,904.5 hours

**Wednesday 14 August 2019 - Passford Water and Lymington River**

9.30am – 2.30pm

Leader: Jo Gore

1 volunteer x 5 hours = 5 hours

Running total 1,909.5 hours

**Wednesday 14 August 2019 – Cadnam River**

10am – 3pm

Leader: Catherine Chatters

14 volunteers x 5 hours = 70 hours

Running total 1,979.5 hours

**Friday 16 August 2019 – Avon Water**

9.30am – 2.30pm

Leader: Catherine Chatters

1 volunteer x 5 hours = 5 hours

Running total 1984.5 hours

**Saturday 17 August 2019 – Beaulieu River on Crown Land at Lyndhurst**

10am to 11.30am

Leader: Catherine Chatters

1 volunteer x 1.5 hours

Running total 1,986 hours

**Monday 19 August 2019 - Passford Water and Lymington River**

9.30am – 2.30 pm

Leader: Jo Gore

3 volunteers x 5 hours = 15 hours

Running total 2,001 hours

**Monday 19 August 2019 - Cadnam River**

10am – 3pm

Leader: Catherine Chatters

2 volunteers x 5 hours = 10 hours

Running total 2,011 hours

**Tuesday 20 August 2019 - Avon Water**

9.30- 2.30pm

Leader Jo Gore

2 volunteers x 5 hours = 10 hours

Running total 2,021 hours

**Wednesday 21 August 2019 - Lymington River**

Leader: Jo Gore

9.30am – 2.30pm

1 volunteer x 5 hours = 5 hours

Running total 2,026 hours

**Tuesday 27 August 2019 - Passford Water**

9.30- 2.30

Leader: Jo Gore

1 volunteer x 5 hours = 5 hours

Running total 2,031 hours

**Wednesday 28 August 2019 - Lymington River**

9.30am – 2.30pm

Leader Jo Gore

3 volunteers x 5 hours = 15 hours

Running total 2,046 hours

**Thursday 29 August 2019 - Avon Water**

9.30am – 2.30pm

Leader: Jo Gore

5 volunteers x 5 hours = 25 hours

Running total 2,071 hours

**Friday 30 August 2019 - Lymington River**

9.30am – 12 noon

Leader: Jo Gore

2 volunteers x 2.5 hours = 5 hours

Running total 2,076 hours