

Water Crowfoot on the Ver at Redbournbury. [Allen Beechey]

**October Annual General Meeting** 

# NOTICE OF 39th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

# To be held on Tuesday 27th October 2015

St Michael's Parish Centre St Albans 7.30 pm Free parking in the Museum car park after 6.30 pm.

Nominations for Chairman and Committee are invited and should reach the Secretary, John Fisher, by Friday 23rd October. Proposers and seconders will be required.

All the present committee are willing to stand for a further year.

After refreshments the speaker will be

### **ALLEN BEECHEY**

Chalk Rivers Officer of the Chilterns ANOB He will be telling us all about the Colne Catchment Plan.

*River Ver Archive: St Albans Central Library (Local History Reference Section) Over 1,000 pages of information* 

# **Chairman's Report**

# World Rivers Day on 27th September was an initiative from the United Nations for everyone worldwide to celebrate their local river. The Ver Valley Society got involved by putting on various activities which appeared to stimulate considerable public interest on a lovely autumn Sunday. I hope some of you were able to visit our displays in Verulamium Park with those of Jacqui Banfield-Taylor's historical photos, or managed to watch the one of the river-fly monitoring demonstrations in Bell Meadow - the resulting collections of invertebrates and fish beside the main displays really caught the attention of children who also enjoyed colouring in some of Ernie's outline drawings. Maybe you went on Andy Webb's guided walk in the afternoon or joined in with one of Sue Frearson's Action Group sessions working in the Frogmore Pits area. Other organisations had organised litter picks in Park Street and Verulamium Park by the river, so we can be pleased that the day was well marked here.

I hope some of you have been able to admire the three new wildlife interpretation boards round the end of the lake in the Park which are the work of our own Ernie Leahy; I'd like to congratulate him on these. It was a shame that some dead ducks in the lake, due to botulism, spoiled the view for a while. It seems SADC are still looking for solutions to the build up of toxic sludge in the bottom of the lake.

I'm sorry to have to report delay regarding improvements to the path and river access at the south east corner of Verulamium Park from the Holywell Hill entrance. The plans for this were being drawn up by Jon Collins from CMS, in conjunction with SADC. However Jon left CMS this summer before the actual plan was finalised. However we still hope improvements could



Getting Ready for World Rivers Day" – [John Fisher]

happen within a year, with help in actual construction from CMS Volunteers and VVS Action Group workers.

The main construction work on a path beside the Ver in Frogmore Pits from Hyde Lane appears to have been completed although huge piles of logs from felled trees remain. Himalayan balsam is rampant along much of the path, which becomes very narrow towards Park Street where it has not been resurfaced.

I have to make two appeals. Firstly, is there anyone might be prepared to take minutes at some of our Committee meetings which are only 4 times a year; this would relieve our Secretary, John Fisher, of some of his many responsibilities. Secondly, is anyone living near Markyate prepared to send in occasional reports of what is happening in that area; there is not often any water there but we do need to have evidence when we try to persuade Affinity Water to consider reduction in abstraction from Kensworth pumping station. Please do get in touch if you might be able to help in either of these ways.

Finally, on 19th December the Action Group will be working behind the Chequers pub, Redbourn having a pre-Christmas drink at the pub after their hard work with other members of the Committee and we'd welcome Bailiffs to join us as well from 12 noon.

# **Rita Cadisch**

Rita the wife of our long serving treasurer and newsletter editor passed away last month. Although not an active member of the Society she keenly supported John and was a cheerful host with tea and cakes whenever we had a meeting at their lovely home in Prae Close on the banks of the Ver. Our thoughts are with John at this difficult time.

### **Jane Gardiner**

# **Bailiff Notes**

**Jane Gardiner** 

River flows measured by our Bailiffs are now quite low unless they measure after some of the heavy rainfalls we've been having since July. Summer rain is not very helpful in recharging the aquifer as the water tends to run off quickly and not soak into the ground. Any that does soak in is used up by growing vegetation and there is evaporation in warm weather. As you can see from the table the groundwater at the start of September is still more than three metres below average but as it was 4m below average in August that might be regarded as a slight improvement!

	Groundwater level at Ballingdon	Rainfall in millimetres	
Month 2015	Farm in metres	[± average]	
	[Long-term average]	(figures from Chris Hall at	
	(figures from EA)	Rothamsted)	
Мау	130.71 <i>[134 17]</i>	68.4 [+13.5]	
June	130.130 <i>[133.32]</i>	26.7 [-26.55]	
July	129 .15 <i>[133.23]</i>	132.6 [+82.71]	
August	128.31 [132.56]	83.2 [+19.49]	
September	127.74 [130.87]	Not yet available	

The head of the river is now in Redbourn and the River Red is flowing quite well but Hanstead Brook has only flowed after some of the downpours. There has been considerable vegetation growth this year, so some paths have become rather overgrown. Although some trees are beginning to show autumn colour many still seem quite green for the time



of year but there are plenty of nice berries brightening bushes beside the river. Among wild flowers still making nice displays are some Michaelmas daisies, purple loosestrife, knapweed, and water mint but Himalayan balsam is only too prevalent especially in Frogmore Pits. The Action Group and CMS have made good attempts at clearing this invasive species south of Moor Mill and along Riverside in Bricket Wood this summer.

Among the usual reports of rabbits and squirrels, foxes, a hare and muntjac have been seen and also a grass snake swimming in the river. Some of butterflies are still being seen on warn sunny days mainly whites but also some speckled woods, holly blues, peacocks, red admirals and tortoishells. Among dragonflies I have had reports of a southern hawker, blue damselflies and banded demoiselles.

Fish seen include brown trout, bullheads, roach, gudgeon, chubb and minnows. The river-fly monitors continue their work and we now have some new recruits; their reports for most sites indicate the Ver is a healthy river.

The bright red of hawthorn berries" [Jane Gardiner]

Some swallows and house martins had not yet departed by mid September. I have had reports of grey-lag geese raising a family this year and kingfishers seem to have

done well, a sighting of three at once was reported recently, and notably an osprey was spotted near Shafford.

Other nice reports include whitethroats, a whinchat, yellowhammers, grey wagtails, little egrets, chiffchaffs as well as plenty of herons and red kites. (See John Fisher's bird notes for more on birds).

Again may I ask if anyone living near Markyate could send in occasional reports? Although there is rarely water in that area, we do need evidence when we try to persuade Affinity Water to consider reduction in abstraction from Kensworth pumping station.

Finally, on 19<sup>th</sup> December the Action Group will be working behind the Chequers pub, Redbourn and after their hard work will be having a pre-Christmas drink at the pub with other members of the Committee. We'd like to invite all Bailiffs to join us as well from 12 noon on that occasion.

*A late display of water mint by the river [Jane Gardiner]* 



### **Bird Notes**

### **John Fisher**

I understand that nationally it has been a poor year for barn owls but around Redbourn we have had some reasonable results; however they did breed very late this year. Most likely this was because of a shortage of voles, their staple diet, in the early spring. In June, when we would have expected to be ringing the young, I found that they were still on eggs, so it was not until mid August that they were ringed. There were three boxes used this year, two with three owlets and one with just two but all these were very healthy and apparently well fed. The voles must have bred well but late and owls just adapt to the availability of prey breeding when the female is up to a good weight.

In one of the boxes the youngsters were about eight weeks old and were obviously flying from the box at night and then returning to roost in the daylight hours. Although they were able to fly they would not have started catching their own prey, still being reliant on the parents bringing dead prey to them near the box. This is the best time to watch barn owls as the youngsters are practicing their flying skills. In past years the box on the barn at Rebournbury has been the best for watching the young barn owls. Although this box was used every year from 2006 until 2012 for some reason the

owls have not used it for the last three years. I have no idea why this box is no longer popular as we rang no less than 26 up to 2012. From all the boxes we are now up to over 80 so the project continues to be a huge success.

A splendid male whinchat was seen near Shafford in late April and up to three birds have been seen in the same spot during August. It is highly unlikely that they bred here so they are probably migrating birds returning from their northern breeding territories. Some birding friends of mine wanted to see these whinchats and I arranged to meet them one morning in August. As it rained all morning we rearranged to meet early afternoon. Birds are usually very active after a long period of rainfall and sure enough as soon as we started off on the path to Shafford we saw about 10 kites and four buzzards.

Buzzards are very variable in their plumage and many I see around Redbourn are very light, almost white on the breast, so I hardly took a second look at a lightish bird of prey perched some way away on a dead tree. That was until one of my friends said he had an osprey in his telescope and sure enough this bird had the eye stripe and the head shape of an osprey. It was an adult female with the streaked breast. Like most migrating birds of prey the adults start their journey south to Africa soon after their youngsters have fledged and the young birds migrate later on. However as this was so early I suspect that this was a female that had not found a mate or had had a failure with her brood. Its journey south had been interrupted by the heavy rain and it was just resting up in a convenient tree until the rain stopped. This was first osprey I had ever seen in the Ver Valley but they are recorded at various sites in Hertfordshire most years. The photo is a juvenile osprey which stayed for several days near the Tring reservoirs in September.



Juvenile osprey at Tring" [Sally Douglas]

I was concerned that the whinchat would have moved on but sure enough it was soon found again perched on the wire fence in the middle of the water meadows. By now the sun was shining and on our return walk the osprey had flown off so I was a bit disappointed not to see its majestic flight. By now hopefully it is fishing in the Atlantic off the "smiling coast" of Gambia which must be a better option than a rainy August day in Redbourn.



Two pairs of little egrets bred on the Heron Island in Verulamium Park this year and the five young were all colour ringed to enable them to be identified but it is difficult getting near enough to the birds to see the rings. I have heard from Barry Trevis, who rings the herons and little egrets every year, that two of the colour ringed birds have been reported from along the River Bulbourne in Hemel Hempstead. A third little egret had travelled to a nature reserve near Solihull in the West Midlands. If you see one of the many little egrets along the Ver and you can note the colour of the rings please let me know and I will pass the details to Barry. He needs to know the colours on each leg.

If you have any interesting bird sightings I would be pleased to hear from you on 01582 792843 or email john.fisher@btclick.com.

*Eight week old Ver Valley barn owl" [John Fisher]* 

### VER VALLEY SOCIETY

# **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

### Tuesday 27 October 2015 at 7.30 pm.

### AGENDA

Nominations for the Chairman and Committee are invited. These should reach the Secretary, John Fisher, by Friday 24 October. All the present committee are willing to stand for a further year.

- 1. Signing in.
- 2. Chairman's welcome
- 3. Apologies for absence.
- 4. Minutes of the AGM October 2014 as circulated with the newsletter.
- 5. Matters arising
- 6. Chairman's Report
- 7. Treasurer's Report and accounts
- 8. Bailiff Coordinator's report.
- 9. Ver Action Group Coordinator's report
- 10. Election of Chairman
- 11. Election of Committee Nominees must be willing to stand with a proposer and seconder. Officers will be appointed at the first committee meeting in November 2015.
- 12. Future Open Meetings

Thursday 28 January 2016 - Redbourn Village Hall - Ken Smith - Herts Birds

13. Any Other Business

### BREAK

Presentation by Allen Beechey - Chilterns Chalk Stream Officer.



# VER VALLEY SOCIEI Web Site: www.riverver.co.uk

VER VALLEY SOCIETY MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING St Michaels – Tuesday 28 October 2014 at 7.30 pm.

1. Signing in: 30 members signed in.

2. Chairman's Welcome The chairman welcomed all members plus the speaker, Mark Carter,

3. Apologies: -. 7 had sent apologies – list available from the secretary

**5. Minutes of the previous meeting:** - These had been circulated with the October Newsletter. Jane Gardiner proposed and John Bell seconded acceptance and they were unanimously agreed as a true record.

**5. Matters Arising: -** all on the agenda.

### 6. Chairman's Report:-

6.1 During the last year Andy Webb had stepped down from being a committee member.

6.2 John Cadisch had stepped down as treasurer/membership secretary but would continue on the committee as the newsletter editor. He had accepted a book token in recognition of over 30 years of outstanding service to the Society.

6.3 Five year membership was being withdrawn and it was hoped that members would sign up for annual standing order.

6.4 To assist the secretary a volunteer was sought to take minutes at the four committee meetings and the A.G.M.

### 7. Treasurer's Report: -

7.1 The balance was £26,604.60, which included £4,197.38 of Friends of Ver Park monies ring fenced until 2015.

7.2. David Jinks had audited the accounts. A new auditor will be required next year.

7.4 Acceptance of the accounts was proposed by Jenny Maxen, seconded by Christine Aitken and accepted unanimously.

### 8. Bailiff Coordinator's Report: -.

8.1 Generally as the October 2014 newsletter.

8.2 Jane thanked the bailiffs for their commitment. Bob Norrish was standing down as he was moving to Kent so a new bailiff was required for the Markyate area.

8.3 September was very dry but record rainfall in the early months meant the year to date rainfall was well above average.

8.4 Groundwater was one metre above average for October.

8.5 There was an ongoing problem with sewage leaking into the river by the Duke of Marlborough (Holywell Hill). The EA were investigating.

8.5 A pair of little egrets had raised a brood of 4 in a nest on the island in the lake. This was the first successful breeding for this species in the Ver Valley.

8.6 Following no breeding in 2013 three pairs of Ver Valley barn owls had raised a total of 11 youngsters this year.

### 9 VVS Action Group:-

9.1 It had been a difficult year due to the extensive flooding in the early months.

9.2. Countryside Management Services were thanked for the loan of tools.

9.3. The Riverside Project had proved to be very successful

**10. Election of Chairman: -** .Jane Gardiner was proposed by John Fisher, seconded by Ernie Leahy and duly elected unanimously.

**11. Election of Committee**: - All existing committee members, were proposed by Janet Southwood, seconded by Barry Welch and duly elected unanimously. The other posts apart from the chairman would be allocated at the first committee meeting in November 2014.

### 12. Future Open Meetings:-

- Thursday 29 January 2015 Redbourn Village Hall.
- The 2015 AGM would be Tuesday 27 October subject to confirmation.

After refreshments members were given a Presentation by Mark Carter who had been the CMS Project Manager for the Riverside Road Project.

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# Ver Valley Society Income & Expenditure Account for the year ended 31 August 2015

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2014 Expenditure	2015	2014 Income	2015
£	£	£	£
143.10 Room Hire	231.05	Subscriptions	
197.69 Admin/Sec/Travel	194.10	900.00 5 Year	396.00
196.76 Insurance	196.76	120.00 Annual	224.00
40.00 H&M Wildlife Trust	40.00	SO	91.00
36.00 C P R E	36.00	85.30 Donations	
278.40 Printing	90.00	General	153.45
26.50 Computer		Peggy Pollok	420.00
140.00 Speaker Fees	140.00	99.52 Interest	4.82
114.65 Bank Charges	103.33	Reimbursement HCC	100.00
84.48 Kits			
Gifts	129.90		
349.38 Sundries	386.71		

1,606.96	1,547.85	1,204.82	1,389.27
		402.14 Excess of Expenditure	158.58
		over Income	
1,606.96	1,547.85	1,606.96	1,547.85

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# Ver Valley Society Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2015

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Li	iabilities			Assets
£				£
31-Aug-14		31-Aug-15	31-Aug-14	31-Aug-15
A	ccumulated Fun	d		Balance at Bank
632 B	alance	229.86	16996.36	Current Ac 16832.91
-402.14 E	xcess	-158.58	9608.24	Business Ac 9613.06
Fx	kpenditure over			
229.86 In		71.28	26,604.60	26,445.97
25213.36 H	ammon Legacy	22,177.36		
	ss Walks Folders	0	0	Uncashed -89.71
22,177.36	-	22,177.36	0	adjustment
22,177.30		22,177.30		bujustinent
22,407.22 V	VS Total	22,248.64		
	-	==)= :0:0 :		
5255.87 Fr	riends of Ver Park	4197.38		
-1058.49 le	ess expenditure	-89.76		
	ingfenced for FVP use			
<b>4,197.38</b> ur	ntil 9.10.16 –	4,107.62		
26 604 60	-	26 256 26	26 604 60	26,356.26
26,604.60	=	26,356.26	26,604.60	20,550.20

We have reviewed the accompanying Balance Sheet of Ver Valley Society at 31 August 2015, and the Income and Expenditure Account for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Society's [Management] Committee. Our responsibility is to issue a report on these financial statements based on our review.

We conducted our review in accordance with the International Standard on Review Engagements 2400. This Standard requires that we plan and perform the review to obtain moderate assurance as to whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. A review is limited primarily to inquiries of Society officers and analytical procedures applied to the financial data and thus provide

Based on our review, nothing has come to our attention that causes us to believe other than that the accompanying financial statements do give a true and fair view of the financial affairs of the Society as at 31 August 2015.

Signature

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Paul Hutt, ACA

Absolute Accountants Limited, Paul.Hutt@absolute-accountants.co.uk

Date

29 September 2015

# **Orchid Walk, June 2016**

In June for the second annual orchid walk we had over 30 walkers and it was with a great deal of relief that the orchids just about blossomed on cue. In fact this year has been one of the best ever for orchids although they were a bit late due to the cold spring. We started off along the Nickey Line to see the bee orchids near the entrance to Flowers Farm. There were about 15 there and another 10 were discovered at site near the junction of the bypass and Chequer Lane.



After everyone had seen the bee orchids we walked on to Redbournbury and up over Hammondsend Farm where there the fields were adorned with brilliant red poppies and skylarks were singing away as they flew up high above the fields.

We then crossed Harpenden Hill and walked down the link path which follows the route of the old Harpenden Lane as it was before the bypass. Then we clambered up the embankment to see the brilliant purple pyramidal orchids which were flowering on the edge of the area that a joint working party of the Ver Valley Society and Friends of the Nickey Line had cleared of scrub a couple of years ago.

Bee Orchid. [John Fisher]

However the real find of this year were the four fragrant orchids that were flowering near the pyramidals. So to

sum up we all saw about 40 orchids of three species. A few years ago common spotted orchids, which are probably the most widespread species in the UK, grew here but I have Fragrant orchid. not seen one in Redbourn for a few years now - maybe next year.

A couple of weeks later I repeated the walk with just my dog for company and found about

15 pyramidal orchids in the glade at the top of the link path and another 10 or so on the embankment but near the top

. [John Fisher]

The embankment has not only been great for orchids but earlier in the year there were wonderful displays of oxeye daisies, cowslips, primroses and yellow rattle but to keep it going we need to clear the encroaching scrub again this autumn.

# Membership

of the hill.

We'd like to pay tribute to the generosity of existing members for their continued support, especially those whose membership came up for renewal this year, as the reminder date was brought forward a few months to August to allow time to set up VVS standing orders for September 1st to beat the September 1st SO deadline. The renewal response has been terrific.

I would also like to extend a very warm welcome to recent new VVS members Mr I Christopher and Mr J Green and households. If you have joined and would like a hard copy of the Ver Valley walks pack, you will be able to pick one up at Open Meetings.

# Future Meetings

Thursday 28th January 2016: Redbourn Village Hall: The speaker will be Dr Ken Smith now retired from the RSPB and co-author of the recently published "Birds of Hertfordshire". He will be telling us about this brilliant new book and his particular interest in woodpeckers.

Friday 22nd April 2016: St Stephens Parish Centre: The speaker will be Nancy Young of the Environment Agency.

# **In Memory of Peggy Pollock**

Peggy Pollock, former Chair of the Ver Valley Society 1987-92, and a champion of the River Ver, sadly passed away earlier this year. In her fond memory, friends and relatives have given generously to the VVS raising an impressive total of £420. We are very grateful for this substantial donation and would like to take this opportunity to thank the following, and others not named, who donated:-

Audrey Pollock, Dr Arthur Pollok, Martin Pollock & family, Penny Yeomans, Mr & Mrs Bonfield, Miss F Richmond, John LaRiviere, Pam Dunham, Winnie Long, Kathy Springett, Mandy James, Doreen Davies, Doreen Alford, Alan Keirle, Charlotte Lockhead, Redbournbury Mill.

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# **Rachel Young**

# **Ernie Leahy**

**Rachel Young** 

# **John Fisher**

# Ver Valley Action Group Autumn & Winter Programme Sue Frearson

The following is a provisional programme usually for the **third Saturday of the month.** It would be very helpful if you would like to join our volunteers if you would contact me by e-mail <u>sue.frearson@which.net</u> prior to the task, so that I can borrow sufficient tools from the CMS and send you a reminder and a copy of the risk assessment.

### Saturday 17th October 10.00 -12.00 Riverside, Drop Lane, Bricket Wood.

Meet in the Drop Lane carpark, to either reinforce some deflectors, or cut back some Willow and Ash saplings. Waders or wellington boots would be useful. Please be prepared for wet conditions. We have been given some gloves.

### Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> November 10.00 – 1.00 Verulam Golf Course, St Albans.

Due to the danger of flying golf balls on a Saturday, it was suggested that it would be better to help on a Monday. My apologies to those of you who will be at work on the Monday. We will be clearing debris from the river and overhanging vegetation, with the help of the grounds staff. Meet promptly at the lower end of the carpark, off London Road, St Albans. This volunteer task will be the VVS's and Verulam Golf Course contribution to *Sustainable St Albans Week 21<sup>st</sup>* – 28<sup>th</sup> November.

### Saturday 19th December 10.00 – 12.00 The Chequers, Redbourn

Meet in the carpark to remove vegetation near the confluence with the Red and any litter or debris in the Ver. Waders or wellingtons would be useful.

## The Battle of the Balsam

### **Sue Frearson**

Himalayan Balsam, although beautiful is an invasive weed, which spreads with great ease by explosive fruits releasing many seeds into the river and its surroundings.



It blocks out the light, dominating the habitat, so that native plants such as Water Figwort, Spearmint, Water Mint and Great Willow Herb are unable to survive. This July and August, ten of our volunteers pulled out both Himalayan Balsam and Yellow Balsam along the river at Moor Mill and the Confluence.

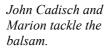
With the help of the Wednesday CMS volunteers we managed to remove most of the flowering Balsam along Riverside and down to the Confluence. However, disappointingly we

were unable to tackle the huge area of Balsam growing at Frogmore Pits before it set seed. With Lafarge's permission this will be a priority task in July and August of 2016.

Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> September was by World Rivers Day, when with the help of the Park Street Pickers, litter was removed from and along the river, while some of our regular volunteers joined members of the public in removing overhanging vegetation along the footpaths, particularly those of VVS Walk 8 '*The Confluence Walk*' in the Frogmore Pits.

We also made a start of clearing fallen trees from the permissive footpath along the river which has been impassable this summer. This work will continue next year.





[Sue Frearson]

## **Riverfly Monitoring along the Ver**

### **Sue Frearson**



Allen Beechey (Chiltern Chalk Stream Officer) gave another demonstration of Riverfly monitoring at the Habitat Management Course in August, organised by the Wild Trout Trust and EA in the Ver in the Gorhambury estate, and had a very high score of invertebrates, showing a healthy river.

This confirms the findings of our Riverfly Monitors. We are also finding Gudgeon, Bullheads, Minnows and Signal Crayfish.

Some of our members participated in the monitoring of the Ver as part of the Thames Catchment Blitz in September, sampling for pH and chemical content as well as invertebrates.

Clive Pickering taking his Riverfly sample at Redbournbury Mill.

### **OFWAT to Incentivise Water Companies to Reduce Abstration**

**Paul Foster** 

The Water Services Regulation Authority, (Ofwat), is the body responsible for economic regulation of the privatised water and sewerage industry in England and Wales. They are proposing an Abstraction Incentive Mechanism (AIM) that will incentivise them to consider reputational and financial factors during periods of low water levels so they reduce their abstraction. They are aiming to identify an AIM for each source of abstraction, and to detail how a reduction is triggered. This would usually be by some hydrological trigger that would be of environmental benefit.

This approach is being considered as it could be a quicker route to reducing abstraction in periods of high stress, as it wouldn't mean any change to the Water Companies Licence. However, it doesn't guarantee that there would be no abstraction under any circumstance.

OFWAT will be consulting on these proposals up until Christmas, with the AIM sites being identified in the first three months of 2016, before being implemented after that.

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Action Group Co-ordinator Sue Frearson, 4 Allandale, St Albans, AL3 4NG Tel: (01727) 761878 Email: <u>sue.frearson@which.net</u> Secretary & Webmaster John Fisher, 92 High Street, Redbourn, AL3 7BD Tel: (01582) 792843 Email: <u>secretary@riverver.co.uk</u>

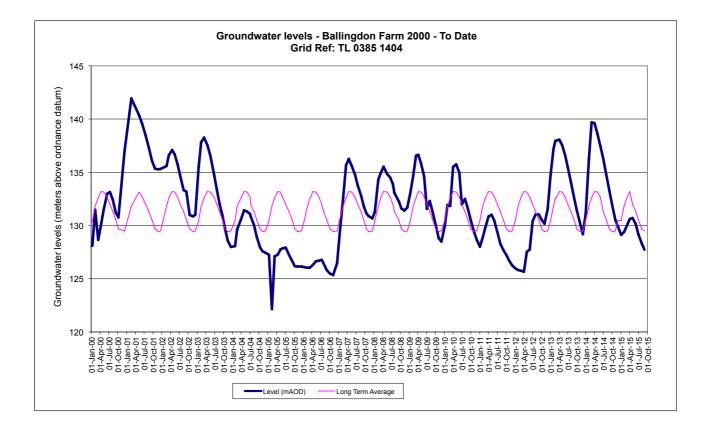
Meetings Organiser Ernie Leahy 32 Ben Austins, Redbourn, AL3 7DR Tel: (01582) 793144 Email: <u>ernest.leahy@ntlworld.com</u>

Treasurer & Membership Secretary Rachel Young 58 Castle Road St Albans, AL1 5DG Tel: (01727) 868919 (Evening and weekends only) Email: treasurer@riverver.co.uk Planning & Publicity Officer Martin Frearson, 4 Allandale, St Albans, AL3 4NG Tel: (01727) 761878 Email: martin.frearson@which.net Vice Chairman Paul Foster Tel: 01727 824043 Email: paul.foster@paulfosterassociates.com

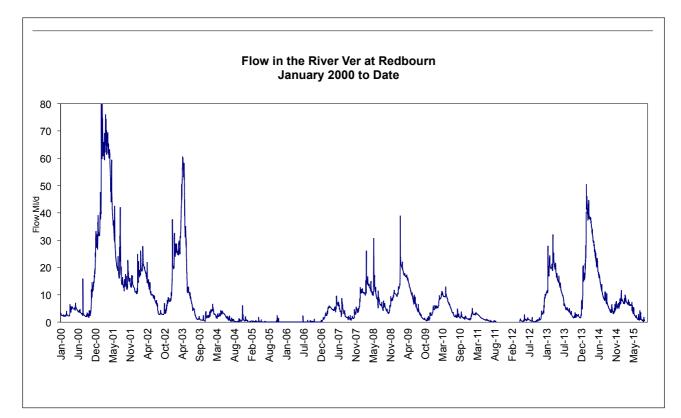
Committee Member John Bell Tel: (01727) 831280 Email: jjbell43@btinternet.com

**Newsletter Layout** John Trew (Verulam Angling Club)

HOTLINES EA Incident Hotline: 0800 807060 ("Report all environmental incidents") EA Floodline: 0845 988 1188 "Cleaner District" (SADC): 01727 819598 Water Leaks (Affinity): 0800 376 5325 ۲



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We are grateful to Affinity Water for supplying the ground water and flow charts and to Veolia Environmental for printing and distributing our newsletters.