

River Tees Rediscovered



Welcome to the RTR newsletter!

For more updates please follow us on [twitter](#) and [facebook](#).

Welcome to our March newsletter!

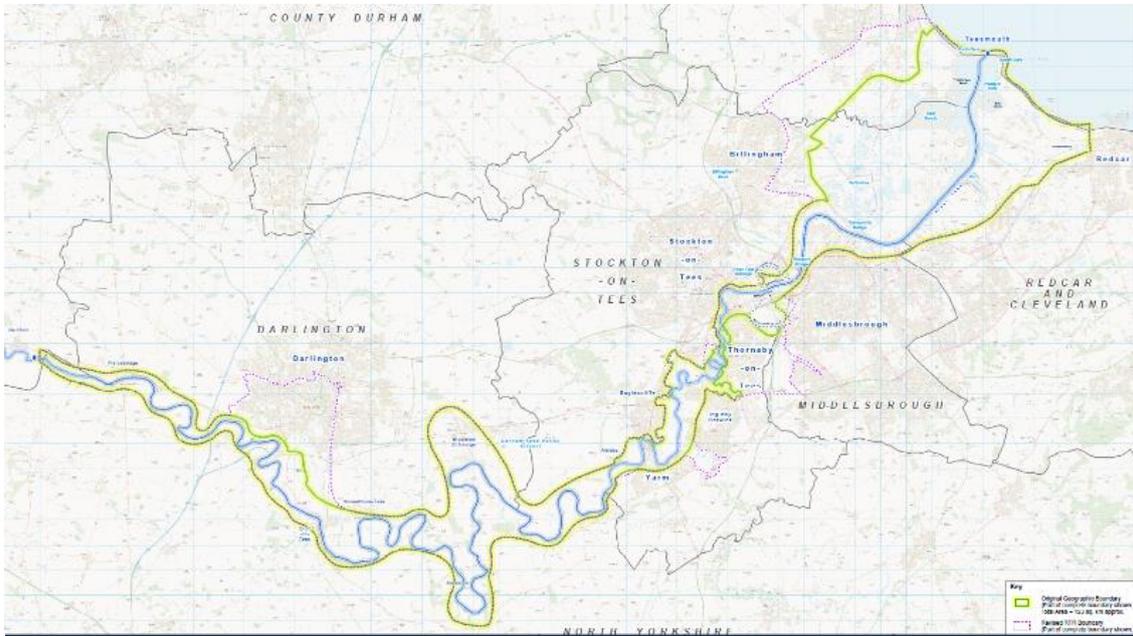
As we enter Spring, we start to gear up for our series of celebration events to show off all we have done as River Tees Rediscovered (so far!). These events will showcase our projects and achievements, as well as being a bit of fun for everyone to enjoy. We have selected the following dates for these celebrations:

- Wednesday 29th May at RSPB Saltholme - natural heritage
- Saturday 15th June at Transporter Park - industrial heritage
- Wednesday 7th August at the Tees Barrage - STEM festival
- Saturday 17th August at Piercebridge - heritage and re-enactments

We hope to see as many of you there as possible to join in our celebrations!

Lucy Chapman, Partnership Manager

News



Tees Sculpture Trail

We have successfully received funding for a Tees Sculpture Trail which will follow the route of the Teesdale Way. The trail will include 5 sculptures by 5 artists in each local authority area! The plan is to include a passport system and trail sheet, so make sure you visit them all to complete your sheet! Keep your eyes peeled on our [Facebook](#) page and further newsletters for info on when the trail is complete. This will also include our Heritage Trails, which will be a series of circular walks branching off from the Teesdale Way involving some of the fantastic heritage we have in the Tees Valley. Perfect for an afternoon stroll!



Tees Tidy Up!

This year we are targeting areas twice to see just where our litter problems lie! The findings of the initial pick (March/April) will be compared with another in May to see what accumulates in just a month or 2! If you have a site you would like to target then

get in touch or take part in an organised litter pick near you.

Please contact zoe@teesriverstrust.org

All equipment provided. Wear suitable clothing and footwear for the weather.

Booking essential.

Last year, 125 people took part in the Tees Tidy Up on 11 different litter picks around the Tees catchment. The most litter was collected by Sembcorp Utilities, who filled more than a vans worth of rubbish, mostly plastic bottles! Northumbrian Water and Wyvern Academy teamed up for a litter pick around Cocker Beck which earned them the strangest item award! They found a suitcase, a train rocking horse toy, and a toilet brush! This has since led to a number of organisations, including Sembcorp Utilities, beginning regular litter picks in their area. A whopping 617 people have now taken part in litter picks with us since the Fish For Tees project!

In September we held the Big Beach Clean in partnership with the Tees Valley Wildlife Trust around Teesmouth and right up to the tidal limit of the Tees. Approximately 75 people took part in organised litter picks as part of this event collating information about what they had collected to send off to the Marine Conservation Society. Cotton buds and parts of plastic bottles were the main culprits but we found all sorts, including part of a boat, an umbrella, and a singular flipflop.



LitterFree Durham's Big Spring Clean

The Big Spring Clean gives communities the opportunity to work in partnership with Darlington Borough Council to help improve and make a difference to where they live.

Previous Big Spring Clean campaigns have been particularly successful with thousands of bags of litter collected by hundreds of local volunteers. A true testament to what can be achieved by working together.

Whilst the Council tries to keep its own land free of litter, there will always be an area where litter accumulates faster than expected or that are privately owned and that is why we are eager to work alongside local communities on this campaign. Past campaigns have been very popular and demand for both litter picking equipment and Street Scene / Greener Communities involvement has always been high, which means we are not able to attend all litter picks. Despite this, Street Scene / Greener Communities will always endeavor to support your litter pick and we ask that you contact us as soon as possible so that you can be booked in and equipment allocated.

Many voluntary groups are capable of managing and delivering their own litter picks and again, we will be here to help you achieve that. These guidelines are specifically for you to help you think about what organising and carrying out a litter pick entails and the responsibilities you need to think about and put into place to help maintain the health and safety of volunteers, residents and the wider community.

Click below for more information:

https://gallery.mailchimp.com/6a33efa166d2532edfd327f8e/files/a2138251-4042-4b16-a1bc-07a7b18faf18/Darlington_Booking_Form_2019.doc

https://gallery.mailchimp.com/6a33efa166d2532edfd327f8e/files/17db7071-19e3-432a-a179-4475a2f09087/Darlington_Feedback_Form_2019.doc

https://gallery.mailchimp.com/6a33efa166d2532edfd327f8e/files/b0f752ae-4bff-459e-af57-4e61894cdf95/Volunteer_Guidelines_Darlington_2019.02.doc

Out and About



What to Spot

At last, we finally walked the entire length of the Black Path from Middlesbrough to Redcar at the start of the month, following various closures over the last 4 years caused by unsafe footbridges and the closure of the South Bank Coke Ovens. It's a walk that takes you through the heart of industrial Teesside, on a path once used by sailors to reach their ships as well as thousands of steel and iron workers commuting between home and their shifts. Even families followed its cinder covered route to take them away from tightly packed terraces to Bran Sands and Redcar for fresh air, sand, sea and cockling.

The landscape has changed dramatically over the last 150 years, possibly more so than any other stretch of the river.

Click [here](#) to read the full article.

Events



Dalton-on-Tees Community Archaeology Workshop

The aim of the day is to introduce people to the sources of information about the village and to report on the investigations in 2016 and 2017. The day will be a mix of activities that participants will take part in and talks from Tees Archaeology staff.

There is no charge for the day, but numbers are limited to 20 and booking is essential via

<http://www.teesarchaeology.com/home/home.html>



Volunteering Sessions

We need you! We have an upcoming schedule of work that is focused on improving various parts of our region. Upcoming sessions are:

- Friday 22nd March - tree planting along the Black Path - a stretch of the Teesdale Way that runs between Middlesbrough and Redcar.
- Monday 8th April to Friday 12th April - path installation at Broken Scar Picnic Area, Darlington.

For more information or to book, please contact

james.hunter@groundwork.org.uk /
01642 616144.

River Tees Rediscovered's Key Stats!

As part of our Coastal & Wading Birds project, we have created a good practice guide for dog owners.

Click [here](#) to see how you can reduce bird disturbance and for a copy of the leaflet!

Partner Updates

Click on the links below for updates from our partners.



[Tees Valley Wildlife Trust](#)



[Tees Rivers Trust](#)



[Tees Archaeology](#)



[Heritage Lottery Fund](#)



[Land of Oak & Iron](#)



Supported by

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