



Charity Commission Registered No: 1062090

January/February 2012

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Dear River Friends,

The rain has filled the river and it has rushed through the town clearing litter as it goes. The banks show their need of a clean-up the more obviously as the vegetation dies back. If it is not too cold and wet we will be back on the banks on 11 February. Even if it is cold and wet we will be able to do a lot on flat parts and with our long pickers. This year our smaller equipment will be in the foyer of the Cheese and Grain where facilities are available, above all a roof. For long litter pickers come punctually. This Spring we are meeting every two months during the Farmers' Market where we will share a stall with Sustainable Frome.

We have a new, shorter and more reliable web address so please put it in your bookmarks.

<http://www.fromeriverfriends.org.uk>

Here is a summary of the recent news.

Autumn's Big Litter Pick

On 15 October groups with members from HopeFrome, River Friends, four town councillors and the general public enjoyed glorious sunshine as they collected a small mountain of litter from all over Frome. More plants were put in Rodden Meadow. Two helpers with waders braved the Blue House Cut. St John's Church provided drinks and cake at the Canoe Club to complete a remarkably enjoyable morning.

No big money but many useful friends

Last Autumn River Friends and various partners submitted a bid for Government funding. We set up a local partnership project aiming for to a series of enhancements to the natural environment, wildlife habitats and open spaces along and around the River Frome, through the Government's Nature Improvement Areas (NIA) scheme. We failed to persuade the funders that we should enhance the entire Frome basin but the attempt to do so has focussed our thinking. Frome Town Council, Vision for Frome, Mendip, Frome Canoe Club, and Sustrans have all expressed continuing support and together we are hoping to take forward some of the ideas.

To find out more come to the AGM – the agenda is on the next page.

Annual General Meeting 2012
Tuesday 31 January at 7.15pm
The Frome Canoe Club
Old Market Place
Frome

Agenda:

1. Welcome
2. Apologies
3. Minutes of previous meeting
4. Matters arising
5. Chairman's report
6. Treasurer's report
7. Membership report
8. The Strategic Plan
9. Election of committee
10. Presentation

Break for refreshments

11. The Hydrologist's River – Bob Sargent
12. Plans for Saturday week
13. AOB (In future could items be submitted in advance)
14. Dates and venue for next two committee meetings

Dates for your 2012 diary:

31 January	19.15	AGM and a talk on the river at the Canoe Club
11 February	10.30	Litter Pick - meet in the foyer of the Cheese and Grain
10 March	10.30 noon	The big pick with HopeFrome Refreshments at St Catherine's
20 May	afternoon	The Big Picnic in Rodden Meadow for all
14 April, 9 June, 11 August	10.30	- meet in the foyer of the Cheese and Grain

Interesting Dates from other organisations

Tuesday January 17th The Secret Life of Garden Birds 7.30pm at Trinity Church Hall, Frome. Frome Selwood Horticultural Society is organising this evening as part of their regular calendar of events. For more info on their events through the year and how to join see: <http://www.fshs.pwp.blueyonder.co.uk/>

Sunday February 26th 2012 The Seed Swap and Potato Day!!! 10am to 2pm at the Cheese and Grain
Come and get your seeds, potatoes, onions, fruit trees, gardening tools, etc etc for the year.

Go for the flow

Dorothy-Anne