



Charity Commission Registered No: 1062090

Spring 2012

**go for the flow**

### Letter from the new Chair

Greetings fellow river lovers! I am perhaps foolishly honoured to be the new chair of this wonderful group of volunteers. If only by default! Friends of the River Frome are a much respected community group in the town and my predecessor Dorothy Anne has done a fantastic job in running the whole show for the past few years with much energy and commitment. Fortunately she has agreed to continue on the committee to organise our litter-pick events.

This year we hope to make some progress towards sprucing up the town centre banks between the two bridges and to that end we will be in contact with the Town Council to see what we can achieve. Many thanks to my fellow committee members and for everyone's continued support.

Nick Ray

Help your club on 10 and/or 11 March

# Grand Litter Pick

Sat. 10<sup>th</sup> March 10.30 prompt

**Choose your venue -  
meet a co-ordinator at one of them**

Old Market Yard (Frome Canoe Club),  
St John's Road (Convenience Store)

The Mount (Community Garden),  
Stonebridge (Tesco),

**Bring gloves and suitable footwear  
Refreshments at St Catharine's afterwards**

**PTO**

**On 11 March** in the Cheese and Grain from 10am to 4pm the Frome Volunteers Fair gives a chance to let people know about River Friends. If you can spare an hour on our stall please get in touch with Nick Ray [nick.ray@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:nick.ray@blueyonder.co.uk) or 01373 471 687.

### **Further dates for your 2012 diary:**

|                   |       |   |
|-------------------|-------|---|
| 14 April          | 10.30 | Litter Pick - meet in the foyer of the Cheese and Grain |
| 20 May            | 3-5pm | <b>The Big Picnic</b> in Rodden Meadow for all          |
| 9 June, 11 August | 10.30 | Meet in the foyer of the Cheese and Grain               |

### **Good News on Welshmill Greenway**

**Frome Recreation and Open Ground Supporters have their £50,000 Lottery Grant to develop the space between the Cheese and Grain and Welshmill.**

### **Extract from Dorothy-Anne's Report on 2011**

**Enormous thanks to you all. At this point I mention Mike Bull who helped the committee produce a draft strategy which gave us the words for our new handout.**

**In 2011 we continued our regular working parties (215 volunteer-hours) and our co-operation with HopeFrome and others Spring and Autumn. We produced 7 newsletters. The committee spent 72 volunteer-hours in running the events and continuing to keep an eye and make sure our vision for the river is written into all local authority planning. We have had one go at spraying Japanese knotweed.**

**Our big effort of the year was 80 volunteer-hours (mostly by Bob Sargent - thanks Bob) on a bid for Government funding through the Nature Improvement Areas (NIA) scheme. To do this we enlisted the support and encouragement of Mendip, Frome Town Council, Vision for Frome, Frome Civic Society, Frome Canoe Club, FROGS and Sustrans. Although the bid failed Frome Town Council, Vision for Frome, Mendip, Frome Canoe Club, and Sustrans have all expressed continuing support. Together we are hoping to take forward some of the ideas, especially in the Old Market Car Park.**

**The most successful event was the River Friends party where Pete and his family showed us round his riverside garden and we enjoyed seeing his mill using elderly hardware and modern technology to make electricity. This year we plan a Rodden Meadow picnic, a tour of the Frome tunnels and possibly another garden party.**

**Let's all continue to care for the river, and above all to enjoy it.**

**Dorothy-Anne**

Remember our new, shorter and more reliable web address or better still put it in your bookmarks.

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