

WANDLE INVASIVE SPECIES

The Project

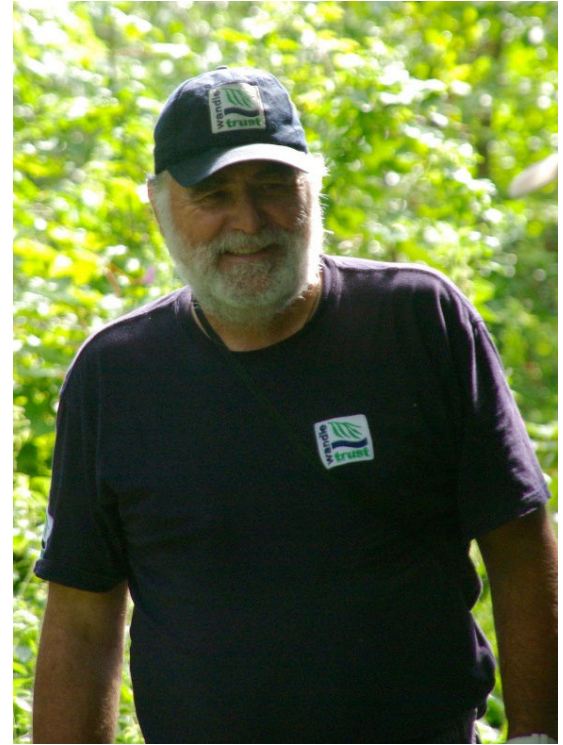


INTRODUCTION

The Wandle Invasive Species Project is part of the Living Wandle Landscape Partnership, a Heritage Lottery Funded scheme all about reconnecting the local community with the River Wandle.

The INNS Project aimed to coordinate a single approach to tackling all invasive non-native species (INNS) within the Wandle corridor by delivering the Invasive Species Action Plan published in 2012 by the Wandle Landscape and Biodiversity Group.

The Wandle Trust INNS Officer (Alan Martin, pictured right) led the project working with local landowners, councils, contractors and volunteers to monitor and manage the presence of key INNS along the Wandle. The project achieved much, the highlights of which have been included here.



Partnership Working

Two **INNS Must Out Workshops** held on the Wandle, bringing together representatives from all four borough councils and other key landowners and organisations including the National Trust and London Wildlife Trust; sharing best practice and working collaboratively to tackle INNS from the source to the Thames.

Updated Action Plan

The Wandle Invasive Species Action Plan (2012) was updated as part of this project in a new, easy to use format. With the plan presented at key meetings and workshops on the Wandle, this plan has the buy in from all stakeholders and has captured the best practice learnt over the last two years.

Best Practice

Best practice control methods for key species have been tested on the Wandle and refined to deliver the most cost-effective control. These have been captured by the new Action Plan in easy to use information sheets to share with contractors and other groups on the Wandle.

Volunteer Workforce

A dedicated team of volunteers have been trained to monitor invasive plants on the Wandle (River Rangers) and four volunteers (Hit Squad) successfully obtained their pesticide qualifications and are managing Himalayan balsam, Japanese knotweed, giant hogweed and floating pennywort along the length of the river.



Living Wandle
Landscape Partnership

