What's so special about the Wandle?
The Wandle is a chalkstream. There are only 200 chalkstreams remaining worldwide. And it is our job to protect them.

All our rivers, including the Wandle chalkstream, are invaluable to us. Not only do they create the landscapes we know and love around us, they have also been instrumental in the development of our towns, our industry and our businesses; providing us with a vital source of freshwater.

With increasing populations, the demand for water from our rivers is growing and many are suffering the consequences.

Love Your River!
You can help protect the Wandle and other local rivers by saving water. The more water we save, the more water there is in the river for the fish and other wildlife.

www.wandletrust.org
Find water saving ideas on the SES Water website:
www.seswater.co.uk

Explore more of the Wandle
The Wandle Trail largely follows the course of the river for 12.5 miles from East Croydon Station to the Thames Path. Visit the Wandle Valley Regional Park website to download the full Wandle Trail map and explore even more of the river!

This guided walk was created as part of the Discover the Source of the Wandle Project, part of the Heritage Lottery Funded Living Wandle Landscape Partnership Scheme.
**Where to look?**

Old paintings and photographs are a great place to start when researching the past. This spot marks the former home of William Tatton Winter who lived in the village for around 15 years. He produced 100 views of the local landscape – all of which provide a useful glimpse of the history of the Wandle and its source.

**Save Water for the Wandle**

The River Wandle needs water, just like us. The more water we use, the less is then flowing down the Wandle. Help protect your local river by saving water at home and in the office. Visit the SES Water website for information packs on how you can save water.

**Wandle-powered Industry**

During the 18th and 19th century industries began to harness the power of the Wandle. Flour, leather, copper, gunpowder, snuff, paper, and linseed oil were all worked in the mills along the river. Textile bleaching and calico printing were also common. Although most signs of this have disappeared, this water wheel in Grove Park survives as a reminder of the industrial past.

**Where is the water?**

Like many former water features in the area, the Grotto and its canal are now dry. So where has the water gone? The answer is found below in the underlying geology of the Wandle – chalk! The Wandle is a chalkstream, with its water coming from chalk springs which form where the permeable underlying chalk meets the younger impermeable clay.

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