



RRC Site Visit Series

Tichborne Restoration Project

Tuesday July 30th 2019

Join us at the Tichborne Estate where a chalk stream has been re-meandered back through its floodplain.

Site Visit leads

Jon Milliken (Aquascience)

Adam Cave (Environment Agency)

The Cheriton Stream at Tichborne had previously been straightened and impounded to create a lake. The estate trustees wanted to de-silt the lake to temporarily solve the siltation problem. However, Aquascience and the Environment Agency came up with a solution which would solve the problem as well as improve the SSSI/SAC status of the river. The estate trustees were supportive of this idea even though it would result in the loss of the lake as they knew it.



The Project

The solution was to re-instate a natural sinuous course through the floodplain to restore natural gradients, features and habitats. Wherever possible the design of the project utilised relict channels within the floodplain. The lake was therefore taken off-line and converted into fen meadow and reed-swamp, two habitats which are features of the SSSI. The designs excluded any form of water level management structures and sought an outcome which would function as naturally as possible within this environment.

In total 375m of relict channel has been restored on the estate. Surveys have revealed a site now dominated by wild brown trout with eel, lamprey, bullhead and stickleback also present. Invertebrate monitoring has shown an abundance of gammarus, mayfly, stonefly and caddisfly to name a few.

[View RiverWiki case study](#)

Programme and Information

The visit is **FREE to RRC members**. If space is available, non-members are welcome to attend at a cost of £30. Places will be allocated on a first come, first served basis.

To book a place please email us: rrc@therrc.co.uk, booking closes when all spaces are allocated.

The visit will start at 10:00 and end by 12:30. Trousers and long sleeve clothing is recommended. Wellies are also recommended as there is a shallow channel to cross (just over ankle deep).

Please can all attendees clean boots/wellies prior to the visit.

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