

# The River Crouch Conservation Trust Est. 2009

## Friends of the river bank:

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Affiliated to the Angling Trust of Great Britain

## R.C.C.T

A View from the bridge



Our first work party for 2017 was on Sunday the 30<sup>th</sup> April. approx. 24 helpers were greeted at the main entrance, on the bridge including his honour the Mayor of Basildon, with chain of office. we were all highly delighted as this gave our small Conservation trust (9 years old now) the seal of approval. Councillors, Thank you. We start at the eastern end of the park which is the largest municipal park in England. We worked upstream so the river waders could move slowly forward with clear water before them. We only found 1 traffic cone and 1 car tyre, this is rather different from our first clear up strangely there were trailer loads of cut trees. We started at 9am, 30 mins for refreshments and finished around 2pm.

High light was while working up to a shallow gravel patch, a great shoal of fish turn back and pass us very close. It was a moving black cloud of mixed fish 200 to 300. We found fish eggs on some old tree branch in the river. The weather was very good too. Many thanks to every volunteer the very young and the much older (me).

Our second of interim work party May 21<sup>st</sup> was downstream at Battlesbridge we started at 10 am and finished just after 1pm and had a very leisurely lunch and departed at 3:45pm 10 helpers in all, first job cleared the water wheel which had logs jammed under the wheel. The tide was still rather high but we completed the work and the wheel now spins like a Katherine wheel. We then launched a small boat and removed some very large tyres. Setting the grappling hook inside the tyre and the shore party would pull them up and into the bank and Trevor's truck would dispose of them. We also pulled and cleared the lock gates of weeds.

A very enjoyable day, but on a sad note I cannot find my camera. Someone found the camera and asked what was to be done, I replied just put it in the office, could any member please tell me where it is.

Contact Roy: 01268 768282

P.S see you all on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> September

All have a lovely summer

Roy