

# What is the Wandle Discovery Day?

As part of London Rivers Week 2022, and the South East Rivers Trust's 20 year anniversary celebrations, a whole host of organisations who love the river Wandle have got together for a day of activities to celebrate the river, its wildlife and its history.

All events and activities are free to attend.

## Who's involved?

- South East Rivers Trust
  - National Trust
  - Environment Agency
- Wandle Industrial Museum
  - Wandle Piscators
  - Merton Priory Trust

## Find out more and book:

River cleanup sessions and the industrial history guided walk **must** be booked in advance.

Merton Abbey Mills tours and in river guided walks can be booked in advance but some spaces may be available on the day.

All other events are drop in on the day.

[southeastriverstrust.org/wandleday](https://southeastriverstrust.org/wandleday)

# The Wonderful Wandle

The River Wandle is a chalk stream, rising where the underlying chalk of the North Downs meets the sand and clay of London. The Carshalton arm of the river, also known as the River Wrythe, rises in the Carshalton Ponds, meeting the Croydon arm of the river at Wilderness Island in Hackbridge.

The River Wandle has a long history with communities, dating back to the Roman era. Throughout the 17th, 18th and 19th centuries it became heavily industrialised, supporting the manufacture of textiles, paper and tobacco, with as many as 68 mills along its length. As a result of this industrialisation, the river suffered from severe pollution and for many years was considered to be ecologically dead. Since then, there has been a considerable effort to clean up the river and make it healthy again.

The river is now home to numerous fish species including the brown trout, an iconic chalk stream species. The Wandle and its surrounding habitats also support a diverse mix of invertebrates, birds and mammals such as damselflies, kingfishers and bats.



## Activities along the Wandle trail from Merton Abbey Mills to Poulter Park

Saturday 16th July, 2022  
10am-3pm



# What's on?

1

## **Tours of Merton Abbey Mills: Historic site of the Liberty print works**

11am and 1pm

Book in advance or sign up on the day at the SERT info stall (spaces are limited)

2

## **South East Rivers Trust info stall at Merton Abbey Mills**

Learn about the river and snap up last minute spaces on guided walks and tours

Drop in anytime, 10am–3pm

3

## **Guided Walks: The Industrial History of the Wandle**

From Morden Hall Park to Merton Abbey Mills

11am

Booking essential

4

## **River camera and fish display, Morden Hall Park**

Visit the Environment Agency and SERT stall to take a look at what's in the river!

Drop in anytime, 10am–3pm

5

## **In river guided walk, Morden Hall Park**

Don waders and enter the river channel with SERT staff to see the river from a whole new perspective!

Book in advance or sign up on the day at the SERT info stall (spaces are limited)

6

## **Introduction to fishing, Ravensbury Park**

Meet the Wandle Piscators and find out more about fishing on the Wandle.

Drop in anytime, 10am–3pm

7

## **River Cleanups sessions, Poulter Park**

Join the South East Rivers Trust to clear rubbish from the river

Sessions 10am–12pm and 1pm–3pm

Booking essential

