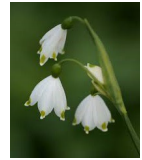


LODDON FISHERIES AND CONSERVATION CONSULTATIVE



PENNYWORT POST – Autumn 2025

An update on the ongoing Yateley Pennywort situation,
with reports on the rest of the Loddon catchment

A third round of checks this year. In many ways very much a repeat of the observations made during the last 3 years or so, but it is satisfying to build on the list of zero sightings at three of the sites whilst some progress appears to be ongoing elsewhere.

Mill Lane. No Floating Pennywort was found. Water levels were slightly raised following recent and very welcome rain. However this was not considered a detriment to the inspection whilst there had not been much leaf fall at this site, which can make these autumn visits more challenging

Derby Green Pond. Yet another zero incidence at this site, although there has recently been some scraping out of the currently nearly dry pond bed

Wyndhams Pool. The 'hotspot' at Wyndhams Pool has again produced some plants. It is noticeable that the leaves were actually bigger and more easily detected on this occasion, probably due to the favourable growing conditions experienced this summer. This facilitated removal, in that the sub-surface rhizome was thicker and easier to follow. However a couple of breakages did occur so it is suspected that there will be further re-growth to deal with during the next visit. As can be seen in the photograph the leaves were more obvious than on some of our visits



Wystaria Lane. A further blank visit. As with the other clear sites these visits can feel a little pointless BUT should be regarded as extremely satisfying, when the memories of the original problem are considered.

River Blackwater. No plants were seen in the river at Mill Lane. There was a significant debris dam in the river which would be highly likely to catch any floating plants.

Further afield:

Basingstoke Canal – Fleet.

A full check along the towpath between the Gelvert Stream overspill and the Fox and Hounds Public House was again conducted. As with the last visit, 9 fragments were found, and despite the significant leaf fall, that had accumulated in some areas, there was confidence that the towpath bank had been surveyed thoroughly. All but one of these plants were free floating but one was found to be rooted and growing in a bed of *Glyceria* (see below). More fragments would almost certainly have been present along the opposite bank. An inspection by boat would have certainly increased efficiency.



Charvil.

A further visit to the Borough Marsh Stream site at Charvil was carried out in mid November, and this will require a follow up. The work conducted this year has significantly reduced the presence of the pennywort, but there are some persistent plants well rooted in the clay banks, with some mopping up in the moat section required, whilst a significant patch found at the rear of a reed bed.

The moat section was cleared, although some regrowth is expected next year. However the autumn die back of other plants has increased the efficiency of this removal. A follow up visit in the near future will address the newly found patch in the reedbed and provide a further chance to tackle the few persistent plants in the 'slots' at the head of the channel.

