

Friends Of the River Crane Environment

Friends Of the River Crane Environment (FORCE) aims to provide sustainable improvements to the environment of the Crane valley and Duke of Northumberland's River for the benefit of local people and visitors, the flora and fauna.

We have a membership of over 450 people, and hold volunteer days once a month to carry out practical projects managing and improving the ecology and appearance of sites along the rivers. These days are well attended by the local community. We also hold an annual Open Day in September that attracts several hundred people.

We are keen to foster links between young people and the environment, and do this by including them in all our activities, such as volunteer days.

FORCE was formed in the summer of 2003, originally to counter the proposals to remove Metropolitan Open Land status from various sites within the lower Crane Valley. Towards the end of 2004, when the group's constitution was developed, FORCE broadened its objectives to act as a Friends group for the interests of local residents, visitors and the environment throughout the Crane and Duke of Northumberland River corridors.

FORCE obtained registered charity status in February 2005.

The objects of the group are:

- To operate for the benefit of the public, and with other interested parties, to protect and enhance the environment of the River Crane, the Duke of Northumberland's River, their corridors and surrounding open spaces within the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames and its environs, for the benefit of the ecosystem, residents and visitors.
- To advance the education of the public in the ecology, conservation, protection and improvement of the environment of the River Crane, the Duke of Northumberland's River, their corridors and surrounding open spaces within the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames and its environs.

Further information about FORCE and our activities can be found on our website

www.force.org.uk