

Report to Taw and Torridge Estuary Forum from Taw and Torridge River Champions



In September we held a successful event at the teaching barn kindly lent to us for the day by National Trust Arlington. It was a free event with talks by the Biosphere on the health of rivers in the catchment, by the NT Ranger on the work being done to restore ponds, scrapes and river routes within the estate plus measures to slow the flow. Some 40 people attended many of whom were already involved in some aspect of river health. Judging by the noise at lunch time everyone had stories to share.

It proved an excellent opportunity to thank the many Councillors who have helped fund our work.

In September also ran a training event for Citizen Scientists in measuring river water quality attended by some 15 volunteers at the Fox and Hounds on the river Taw. We have another training event planned for the end of November in Hatherleigh.

Our quality testers on the Kenwith Stream in Barnstaple continue to record exceptionally high phosphate levels with very low water flow. Our readings on the Wooleigh Brook on the Torridge are better and again with low water levels.

We continue to raise the profile of water quality with presentations being given to Torridge and North Devon Councils in October and with a stand at the Devon CC Water Summit in November.

Sally Ramsden

9/10/2026

Taw and Torridge River Champions