Pennywort Status Log

To submit a report, please email anne@annemiller.uk

To see a map showing place names, scroll to the end of this document.

2026

1 Feb 2026. TFC field. Mike. I took out a small patch of Pennywort from a ditch on Trumpington Fen last week. It was in exactly the same spot (point A) as a long time ago, when I thought it was all removed.



2023-25. Summary Report

All clear

2022 Summary Report

Above Cambridge the river seems almost entirely pennywort free, although we suspect there may be some lurking in Grantchester Mill Pond. A few strands remain in the Shelford Award Stream, and on The Rush, and it will be important to keep an eye on these spots.

Downstream of Cambridge, we have largely eradicated it above Baits Bite Lock, although clumps remained at Fen Ditton. Between Baits Bite Lock and Bottisham Lock, we're making

progress. Further downstream, outside our area of activity, it was so horrendous they had to cancel a boat race

23/9/22. Cam at Grantchester, Wim: mat of Pennywort downstream of the join of the Cam and the Mill Stream in the area of the cricket field. Removed

22/9/22. Rush, Anne: small strand removed from the last big bend (the spot it was at on 4/7/22) and a clump removed from the brambles immediately below the fen causeway bridge over the Rush.

11/9/22. Fen Ditton Ditch. Anne. spotted and cleared the pennywort clumps from Fen Ditton Ditch. Biggest patch was about 2x1m by the barn. A couple of small clumps by the blackberries. The bank overhangs a bit, which is probably why Mike hadn't see it when he checked 3 weeks ago.

There's a regatta on today, so it was easy to bring the canoe in and do it.

4/7/22 The Rush, Anne: Just removed a big (1m2) clump of pennywort from the Rush on the downstream end of the last big bend above Fen causeway.. It was about 50m downstream of the small patch I cleared in June, but this patch seems to have been growing there a while (somewhat hidden by nettles) . I'll keep an eye out for more, but let me know if anyone spots any, particularly in the remaining 50 m stretch to Fen causeway.. I'm very keen to stop it before it gets under Fen Causeway bridge, because it will be a right pain if it gets in the wetlands downstream of the bridge.

18/6/22 The Rush, Anne: I've just cleared a little pennywort from the big bend on the Rush. very near the spot it was at last November/December. I'll keep an eye on it.

26/05/22 Great Shelford Award Chalk Stream, Mike: None found today, which means that if any does remain it is lurking and ready to grow out. I doubt that it has been eradicated.

5/5/22 Environment Agency, James: EA boat out from Baits Bite to Bottisham Lock and only three bucketfuls were collected, which included some bulk of other plants.

Late April update: Repeated visits to the Cam and ditches adjacent to the river above Cambridge city are finding no signs of new Pennywort break-outs. One thorny problem is that Pennywort still persists in the Great Shelford Award chalk stream. This stream is often partially covered by abundant duckweed which hides small strands. However, most strands that do develop further appear to be free-floating rather than arising from stolons buried in the muddy bank. Although we hope that it is now gone above Baits Bite, we must remain vigilant.

27/04/22 Selected stretches east bank Baits Bite to Bottisham Lock Mike: It is 'absent' from some sites where it was previously abundant. One mooring where Pennywort stubbornly persists at low levels was cleared by raking except for a small mat out of reach. A mooring

resident has pledged to use the site's Dory to remove it. The Fen Ditton ditch adjacent to Ditton Fields and where it was abundant for several years until a concerted effort to clear it in 2019 appeared to be Pennywort-free today. The Bottisham Lock general area and the east bank to Bottisham Lode V doors seems clear.

January to April 2022: Despite a hiatus in reporting our activities on this page, monitoring and removal of Pennywort has continued during late winter. We are very encouraged (27/04/22) by the very low levels currently present from Baits Bite Lock to Bottisham Lock. The Environment Agency are very keen to see further removal whenever it starts to grow out in order to eradicate it here, so that their continuing efforts further downstream are not thwarted by recolonisation from above.

Our volunteers and the EA are together working towards eradication.

2021 Summary Report

Above Cambridge the river seems pennywort free. Just a few strands remain in the Shelford Award Street, and on the big bend on The Rush, and it will be important to keep an eye on these spots.

Downstream of Jesus Lock, it's more of a problem but we're working on it.

30/12/21 The Rush. Anne. As the watercress dies back, FP visible, mixed in with the big clump of watercress in the middle of the big bend. Thoroughly raked out. But definitely needs watching in 2022

25/11/21 The Rush. Anne. A few more tiny pieces removed from the big bend of the Rush

2/11/21 The Rush. Anne Pulled out quite a bit of tangled pennywort from the big bend on the rush this afternoon (the spot it was removed from in December 2020). Think I got it all, but of course I didn't. Will come back and check in a month or so.

11/8/21 The Rush. Ian + nephew: We were having an "environment" afternoon whilst my niece was having a tour of the University library. FP removed from the big bend, we then spotted a water vole at Coe Fen, so it was a good afternoon.

12/10/21 Fen Ditton ditch to Byrons pool, Mike: Long stretches through Cambridge city have no Pennywort found. One mat at the Fen Ditton ditch is stubbornly clinging on to life. Removed. Eventually it will go.The bank of the Great Shelford stream was flailed a few weeks ago and

walking along the top is now possible again. Some strands taken out a fortnight ago. There are still some plants emerging from within the bank but I found only three like this.

26/05/21 Ditches east side of Cam between Grantchester and Paradise (Cambridge), Mike: None found.

15/06/21 Baits Bite to Halfway to Clayhithe, Mike and Anthony: Towpath bank. Strand in 'halfway' ditch and one tiny mat in the river (EA contractor team had passed by recently, waiting to hear what they removed).

30/04/21 Swaffham Bulbeck Lode, Mike: None seen. Some ditches (viewed with binoculars from lode and ponds also negative. 5km length walked one bank then returned on the other bank to view from both banks.

29/04/21, Mike: Cam - east bank, Bottisham Lock to Swaffham Bulbeck Lode and part of lode. 20 small pieces BL to Bottisham Lode V doors. 15 pieces SB sluice to river. 40 pieces along Shrubbs Marina river bank, all seen were removed.

21/04/21 Lower Cam, Clayhithe to Bottisham Lock, Mike and Wim: East bank - muddy parts of wet areas behind revetments hold some embedded strands. A few small strands in open water.

21/04/21 Clayhithe towards Horningsea, east bank: From https://w3w.co/rolled.wicked.airliners upstream to https://w3w.co/wanting.digitally.shining. D/S ditch numerous small mats despite two clearings (starting from dense bulk). Fleshy strands In bank. Further U/S reed beds have a few very small mats. Next field U/S, just two strands.

18/4/21 Byron's Pool, Grantchester Mill Race, Mill Pond, Wim: by canoe, none found.

19/04/21 Cam Sailing Club, Mike: one tiny piece in flotsam by one boat. CSC to Bottisham Lock - 10 pieces in 200m U/S, then nil until Lock, one piece west bank near eel pass.

10/4/21 Cambridge Canoe Club (Sheep's Green) to Baits Bite), Wim: by canoe, no mats seen.

31/03/21 Cambridge Canoe Club (Sheep's Green) to Byron's Pool then to Jesus Lock, Wim: by canoe, none found.

24/3/21 Lower Cam (Chesterton - Fen DItton - Baits Bite Lock - Clayhithe - Bottisham Lock), Mike & Wim, and others: After intensive winter work, Pennywort levels are now very low and much lower than for several years, and it is hard to find any further strands along some sections (although inevitably it is still present). Muddy patches behind revetments and various

ditches now need more frequent monitoring than the smooth sided river banks, though all stretches need repeated visits, paddlers becoming more important when marginal plants grow tall and obscure views from the bank. Another ditch was cleared of Pennywort downstream from Baits Bite Lock, after clearance from it of brambles and tree debris, working alongside the Cam Conservators' team.

19/3/21 Granta Moorings, Mike: Four tiny plants at the rear of the area, removed.

11/03/21 Clayhithe to Bottisham Lock and then to Bottisham Lode, east bank, Mike & Wim: mostly small strands or small flimsy mats, more U/S B. Lock. Many water- filled gaps between corrugated revetment and firm rear ground, choked with Pennywort at one site (opposite sailing club); several more had small pieces; some of these gaps behind broken revetment. Six tiny mats in river D/S lock, two new mats since 2020 in Bottisham Lode both south bank at https://w3w.co/unsightly.renew.mock and at https://w3w.co/hairstyle.tamed.contoured, none at original 2020 sites in lode close together south and north banks and U/S of new mats.

09/03/21 Waterbeach, hinterland ditchwork, Mike: None found.
Cambridge Motor Boat Club - 3 strands in mooring area away from river bank.

06/03/21 Meadow with a strip of woodland lining bank east side, Mike: No Pennywort in ditches, wooded bank not checked thoroughly (CamCon not found any from boat monitoring).
Next field U/S - 20 small pieces in ditch up to 40m from river. https://w3w.co/grudging.dish.skill after ditch clearance by EA. Numerous pieces along river and micromats in reed bed south part of field. Also in reed bed in ditch at south end up to 15m from river, https://w3w.co/weeds.dreamer.hypnotist .

04/03/21 Clayhithe - Riverside Cottages and adjacent house, west bank, Mike: Removed two strands Sharkey, and Pennywort from southern ditch at Neeley, https://w3w.co/chitchat.plans.baseballs, plus 3 strands along revetment (Neely). Neely to monitor ditch.

Around 03/03/21: Baits Bite to Clayhithe, Alan Weeks and Patrick (kayaks): "Just to let you know that Patrick and I did a sweep for Pennywort on the Cam between Baits Bite and the bridge at Clayhithe on the east bank in a canoe. There were mostly pieces about 10cm long. About 10 or so had started to route in the mud and we were able to gently pull these out. About 5 litres of Pennywort in the end."

02/03/21 D/S end of Cam Sailing Club to Bottisham Lock, Mike and Wim: We started at the exit gate from the Cam Sailing Club, working D/S, https://w3w.co/bookings.offer.encroach . The reed bed had plenty of small 'micro mats' and it was taking a lot of effort to extricate them with the rakes. Eventually we got into a methodical pattern. I doubt that we took out every strand present but we took out what we saw. Further down it was much easier to search as CamCon

must have removed clumps of some larger tall plants a few weeks ago. One thicker reed bed wasn't at all bad for Pennywort. We did find two hotspots away from any reeds, and one longboat in the Goba Mooring had a lot - fat, healthy stolons. We couldn't see out from a prominent bramble patch but the boat team would have noticed anything there. We cleared around Bottisham. Lock. There is a vertical arrangement of eel pass brushes on the wall by the weir next to the huts and we spent 10 minutes clearing them as I think this is one source of the large mat that flourishes there every summer.

27/02/21 Horningsea, east bank Dock Lane and D/S three fields, Mike: Malcolm Duncan sheep fields and next field. Regular micro mats, 30% rooted in bed mud 0.5m away from bank. In two ditches 5-7 inland at https://w3w.co/unlimited.prepped.alerting and https://w3w.co/saturate.dreaming.pools

25/02/21 Horningsea Orchard Moorings then U/S to opposite Fen Road, Mike and Wim: at Orchard Moorings, https://w3w.co/claw.works.fattest (lots taken out) then U/S (little in river); some behind boats moored at horse paddocks. Then to ditch opposite Fen Road near BB which had Pennywort (30m, dense) from https://w3w.co/foggy.toothpick.wheat to https://w3w.co/bridges.billiard.catchers Permission from Michael Gingell farmer to work in field from BB to ditch.

20/02/21: U/S of Clayhithe, first meadow field east bank, Mike:
https://w3w.co/motive.menu.under Two mats in reed bed only, removed by rake.

13/02/21 Start point halfway from Baits Bite to Clayhithe bridge, west bank Mike and Wim: Occasional strands or mini mats in open water, more mats in muddy or watery areas behind revetments.

4/2/21 Trumpington Fen, Mike: Still clearing by raking (see 26/1), a very fiddly operation due to very small leaves.

26/1/21 Trumpington Fen. James B-D. Nothing found on the main river, but they did find it established in this ditch (ie opposite field 6: a little south of the patch Mike removed in December 2019), they inspected all the ditches in this field towards Newnham, although the job was made harder as a lot of them were frozen. Hopefully someone could reinspect mid to end of April and find out if it's spread throughout the ditch system.

25/1/21 Byron's pool to Jesus Lock, inc Granta moorings. Survey by canoe, Tom and Anne. Careful survey showed no pennywort at all. Paradise LNR to Jesus Lock surveyed ~13/1/21. Paradise LNR to Byrons pool surveyed on 22/1/21

4/1/21 Trumpington Fen and Grantchester Mill Pond, Mike: With no Pennywort visible at either of the sites now (the persistent patch at just one site in a ditch has finally been eliminated), the river appears totally Pennywort-free downstream to Jesus Lock.

2020 Summary Report

By the year end the Upper Cam appeared nearly totally pennywort free, from Byrons Pool to Bishops Mill (ie opposite Scudamores, Mill Lane) apart froma small outgrowth at Grantchester Mill Pond. We should continue checking in 2021, but eradication appears near!

However the nearby discoveries (and clearance) of significant infestations at the Shelford Award Watercourse (reported to us by the EA), Granta Moorings (reported to us by CamCon) and a small outbreak in The Rush (spotted by Anne) shows that vigilance remains important.
The previous hotspots of Grantchester Mill Pond, TFC wetlands, Paradise Island and Snobs stream, seem now to be clear

Down stream of Cambridge's Jesus Lock the situation is much more difficult. Fen Ditton Ditch is nominally clear, with only a few small strands found during the year, but still needs monitoring. Downstream of Baits Bite lock, the FP remains out of control, with major infestations in the side ditches. Unfortunately due to Covid-19 it has not been possible to organise CVF working parties to help CamCon tackle it.

28/12/20 The Rush. Anne. While on my walk today, I spotted, and then removed, some small thin mats of FP on the rush. Downstream of where it was before, it was on the outside of the big bend about 50m upstream of Fen causeway bridge. Think I've got it all, but it's sneaky, so I'll check back in a few weeks.

18/12/20 Regatta Court private pond (between Oyster Row and Riverside), Mike: two connected strands, needs raking out. In open with no apparent connection to bank.

18/12/20 Cam at Riverside, Cambridge, Mike: new mat has developed nearly opposite Stanley Road; we need removal by boat. Very small job.

26/10 Scudamore's moorings (King's Mill Pond), Mike: a strand has grown in the 'wild' part just past the end of the moorings closest to the rollers

26/10/20 Cambridge Chauffeur Punts (Silver Street), Mike: a mat about 1m long has developed by the bank

26/10/20 Newnham Mill Pond, Mike: A new mat has grown, close to by not at the Granta Moorings.

23/10/20 Grantchester Mill Pond, Mike: a strand has grown out at a point which is not the usual spot.

18/10/20 Hobson's Brook, Mike: a small mat has appeared beyond and downstream from a boom demarcating the end of a 1km stretch where Pennywort is being removed with the view to eradicate it. The boom has been repositioned below the new mat so that Hobson's is not further put at risk. Some small pieces of Pennywort were found in Hobson's in March but it was thought it had all been removed.

17/9/20 Grantchester Mill Pond, Mike: Strands growing out of bank at usual spot. Only one site in this area. Removed. Will need bank digging-back in the winter at that spot.

14/9/20 Granta Moorings, Mike: Brushed the underside of the pontoon. Removed 20+ pieces with nodes including 8 that were more than 15cm long. None of it looked happy but many pieces nevertheless looked viable and capable of resuming growth later on.

7/9/20 Granta Moorings. Anne A few small leaves removed from where they're poking out from inside the pontoons. It's clearly still in there…..

31/8/20 Granta mill pond to Jesus Lock: Anne and Tom by canoe: Snobs stream levels back to normal, and clear of FP. Couple of strands of FP removed from Mill Pond. Mike removed one from opposite Darwin punts (Darwin College). Clear of FP downstream, until Magdelane Bridge. Several mats developing on LHS between Magdelane bridge and Jesus Lock, and some trapped in the barrier at the Jesus lock's weir. All visible FP removed, but will need checking again in a month.

31/8/20 Sheeps Green and Lammas Land. Mike. Small strand spotted and removed on the Rush (R bank, just upstream of patch removed by anne 10/7/20) Another patch spotted and removed downstream of the rollers, and some by Darwin College's punts (these are probably both due to fragments released from Granta Moorings)

30/8/20. Granta Moorings, Anne: FP growing again in a couple of places underneath the raised decking, same places as last time. I'll go round with an axe and spade to dig it out more thoroughly. Theres a little visible growing by a bush just downstream of the pontoon. Worryingly there are also some meter long loose strands floating in the Granta Mill pond, just out of reach of the mega-rake. It was exceptionally heavy rain yesterday, but snobs stream is now dry, so I wonder if these strands were sluiced out from Snobs Stream? We'll take the canoe to go and remove them tomorrow, and check for any more FP thats escaped. [Subsequent investigations and discussions suggest that the FP was probably released from under the Granta Moorings pontoons when the water level in the Mill Pond rose. This was in part because of heavy rain, and in part because Bishops Mill Sluice was left open too long, which also drained the water out of Snobs Stream.]

24/8/20 Riverside by foot/cycle bridge, Alan Woods: small mat in Cam. Canoe club notified.

22/8/20 Regatta Court, Mike: A small number of strands were removed from one point. It was growing poorly.

16/8/20. Granta Moorings, Anne. A few clumps of FP growing in the mud within the middle of pontoon removed. Some also growing underneath the raised decking and removed by scraping with a rake, but it may well need seriously digging out

9/8/20 Granta Mooring. Anne.. A few handfuls of loose FP removed from within the Granta Moorings pontoon.

6/8/20 Granta Moorings, CVF working party of 6. We removed several tonnes of Pennywort that had grown undisturbed in Granta Moorings during lock-down. Suspect it had been there several years, but it was reported to us by CamCon a week earlier. All FP nominally removed, but it will definitely need followup

31/7/20 Mill Pond (Mill Lane) and Newnham Mill Pond, Mike: Responding to CamCon's reporting in of Pennywort on 30/7, a thorough search found a few strands at the Scudamores station, some strands at Cambridge Chauffeur Punts, and massive growth at Granta Moorings (most contained within a pontoon). There had been a lot more at Cambridge Chauffeur Punts, but this had been 'pushed out into the open water' earlier. An alert was put out to Cambridge Canoe Club to look out for it further downriver - see entry 24/8 which possibly originated at CCP.

10/7/20 The Rush, Anne: 3 small mats spotted and removed, about 10, downstream of where I cleared the patch in May.. presumably due to fragments that got loose. Luckily there are some logs active as a catchment barricade just downstream, so I don't think it's got as far as Fen Causeway. Seems all clear, but needs careful watching.

4/7/20 Swan Island Ditch. Anne. Clear of Pennywort , although there's some Himalayan Balsam in the head high nettles nearby....

3/7/20 Cambridge Mill Pond, Mike: A mat between Laundress Green and Mill Lane, viewable from the corner of Mill Lane. Will be removed..

5/6/20 Fen Ditton ditch Mike: Clear of Pennywort

4/6/20 Grantchester Mill Pond, Mike & Mary Archer: Ditch emergent macrophytes in the Pennywort site removed to allow better inspections

28/5/20 The Rush. Anne: Very surprisingly, suddenly pennywort started emerging from a patch of watercress in the middle of the stream about 20m below first bend. I've been keeping an eye on it for over a year, and it definitely didn't used to have any visible pennywort in, but now it does! About 1m2 of mixed vegetation removed. Will need monitoring downstream

22/5/20 : Two strands at usual site in ditch: removed.

21/5/20 Great Shelford Award watercourse, Mike: Two of five sections now cleared out but not 100% yet; three sections need further removal of numerous strands embedded in silt.

15/5/20 Lower river, Mike: Dense growth in a ditch connected to the Cam, about half way between Baits Bite and Clayhithe. Very little space on bank for raking movements, no action yet.

9/5/20 Trumpington Fen ditches, Mike: only one site was infested in 2019, now clear

9/5/20 Byron's Pool historic fishing ponds, Mike: All clear.

24/4/20. Upper Cam survey. Anne and Tom: Canoe pennywort patrol from Paradise LNR to Grantchester Mill Pond, Byrons Pool, Grantchester Mill Race, Bourn Brook. All clear of Pennywort.

21/4/20 Great Shelford Award watercourse, Mike and Michael: After today's removal of nearly 90m, there remains only 140m of dense mat, which is planned to be dealt with on 28/4. Stands remain along much of the watercourse after the debaulking exercise, frequently plants are secured to the mud at the bed of the watercourse, indicating growth last year was occurring during a period of low water level.

19/3/20 Great Shelford Award watercourse. Following a rapid coordinated effort between the EA, CVF, Hobson's Conduit Trust and the Landowner (St John's College), we (via HCT) engaged a recommended contractor, Dom and his team of 4 to clear the FP. Mike reported that "On 19/3/20 Dom's team removed Pennywort along 400m of the stream. Of the 1.1km total length, about 300m [correction = 200m] has no, weak, or sparse growth so they did over one-half [correction = one-third] of the dense mats. The spoil was placed on top of the steep bank. A boom was put in place across the stream on 12/3/20.

18/3/20. Swan Island Ditch, Anne. All clear.

14/3/20 Grantchester Mill Pond, Mike: All clear now.

11/3/20 Great Shelford Award watercourse. Mike: The EA informed CVF that 1.1km from the junction with Hobson's Brook towards Granhams Road is infested with what appeared to be Pennywort, confirmed as such later that day.. Plans are being put in place to create a barrier to downward spread into Hobson's Brook and to remove it.

25/2/20 Bourn Brook. Alan. I have walked Bourn Brook from 50 yards above the farm road/car park bridge down to the main river. No Pennywort spotted.

21/2/20 Grantchester Mill Pond and Trumpington Fen. Mike. Final stubborn strands in a major ditch on TFC Trumpington Fen 12m from Cam removed in Dec. Fen ditches walk done

21st February. One small fragment on 21st Feb at the entrance to bronze horse island ditch was mixed in fine tree debris suggesting it originated in the Bourn or the leat. To be checked by Canoe once fallen tree in mill race has been removed

07/01/20 Baits Bite upriver to first dwelling at lower end of Fen Ditton, Mike: Bank walking is so much easier now that most tall vegetation in the water or in the water has died back. Mats present about 30m apart but small (up to 50cm wide) though foliage flat on the water surface healthily green with signs of recent growth with new bud formation and leaf emergence. Removed where seen though inevitably some will have been missed.

07/01/20 Fen Ditton drainage ditch, Mike: Impressively clear down to the boom. Just three strands by bank as the ditch widens into the river, and removed

2019 Summary Report

By the year end the Upper Cam appeared totally pennywort free, although the occasional appearance of clumps of FP during the autumn in the hotspots of Grantchester Mill Pond, TFC wetlands, Paradise Island and Snobs stream, shows that vigilance remains important.

Down stream of Cambridge the situation is much more difficult. Fen Ditton Ditch is now nominally clear, but it will need careful monitoring. Downstream of Baits Bite lock, despite a few working parties during the year, and much work by Cam Conservators, the FP remains out of control. Unfortunately boat traffic will spread it both up and downstream of the lock.

6/12/19 Grantchester Mill Pond, Mike: Three diminutive strands located at the usual spot. Tall plants are now dying back and so easy to see. Removal of these strands means we are close to eradicating it.

24/11/19 Cam, Paradise at Newham, Mike: A single, thin mat 2 x 1m present in ditch 20m from main river, Paradise island side [removed by raking 29/11/19 (Mike)]. 30/11/19: check by kayak (Wim) in ditches surrounding Paradise Island, including Swan Island ditch - no more found.

w/b 18/11/19 Cam Paradise Island Wim: A handful removed from bank

17/11/19 Fen Ditton Drainage ditch Cambridge Canoe Club members, Alan & Patrick: Strands that resurfaced after the working party of 1/11/19 and were starting to grow were removed.

1/11/19 Fen Ditton drainage ditch, Mike: The second of two large mats was removed by canoe and bank raking, Wim Brusting and Lynsey Stafford working in the canoe. The Pennywort had become so rampant that it was climbing up one bank. With no bank access

there the canoe was absolutely essential. The edges of the ditch were then scrupulously cleared.

30/10/19 Grantchester Mill Pond, Mike: Outgrowth strands continue to be found from one point in the ditch.. There is a source hidden away by the bank within tall plants which will all be taken out when sufficient dieback has occurred.

28/10/19 Recent growth rates, Mike: Linear growth from single point source at one site was 1.5m over 9 days = 16.5 cm per day.

28/10/19 Fen Ditton drainage ditch at Ditton Meadows, Mike: One of two large mats removed. Removal of the other is scheduled for 1/11/19.

23/10/19 Orchard Moorings, Horningsea, private cut, Mike: One of two large mats removed.

21/10/19 Riverside, west bank of Cam, Mike: The mat found on 15/10/19 was removed.

19/10/19 Fen Ditton to Horningsea major volunteer working party, Mike, Wim: Canoes removed everything found on main river. Bank rakers began clearing Fen DItton ditch and Orchard Moorings - more work to do the next week. No activity Horningsea to Clayhithe.

15/10/19 Magdelene Bridge to Clayhithe survey, Mike: Single mat formed against smooth concrete revetment, trapped in trailing bramble, not seen on 3/10/19. Across the river from the Regatta Court pond which had Pennywort mats until 17/10/19. Fen Ditton ditch - huge build up. Baits Bite to Clayhithe - numerous small mats on both banks. Orchard Moorings has two large mats that need to be removed.

13/10/19 Jesus Green stretch of the Cam, Wim: A second mat reported close by to the one dealt with on 6/10/19 and removed 15/10/19.

6/10/19 Jesus Green stretch of the Cam, Mike: Following up a report of Pennywort upriver of the moored boats on the Chesterton Road bank, a 1.5 x 1.0m mat was confirmed and raked out. Adjacent to and partially within a bed of Fool's Watercress it may have been present but obscured for some time. Outbreaks along this stretch are rare.

18/9/19 Regatta Court, Cambridge city, Mike: Mats in a small communal pond have not been cleared adequately over the past year, and will be dealt with by a CVF-organised working party involving the residents.

7/9/19 Snobs Stream, Anne. Sudden prominent patch on the R bank of Snobs stream, at Goose triangle. It maybe that its become apparent because the council has been doing some treeworks there. It was only a few leaves, stretching over 1m. Some of the leafs were quite mature and standing up on their stalks out of the water. There was probably only about 100g

of FP, but I pulled out what felt like 100kg of hairy waterweed in order to be sure I got it all! Also checked Swan Island Ditch, which was clear (also waterless)

3/9/19. Trumpington Farm Company wetlands. Mike. A small patch in a TFC ditch opposite Red Lion Meadow. Seen in Feb, April and late August. Very diligent search technique required to find it: pushing back the dense, tall bankside plants with a long pole and looking carefully for hidden strands of only a few leaves. Very little present and now removed. Further fortnightly visits required.

17/8/19 Grantchester Mill Pond, Mike: A thin mat about one metre square in the main ditch has grown out from a point source at the bank. It was not seen three weeks ago. Removed by raking out. Its presence is puzzling as none has been seen at the Pond since December last year. How could it remain in a dormant state during June and July when temperatures were picking up?

4/8/19 Canoe Club to Grantchester Meadows field 1. Anne and Tom, on paddleboards. A few small pieces spotted under bushes in Paradise LNR, and a little remaining in the bank under the willow at the start of snobs stream. To our great surprise there was a patch 1m across tangled in a fallen branch just upstream of the Riverbank club on East bank. We removed everything we saw, but we'll need to be vigilant from now on.

2/8/19 Survey Chesterton to Clayhithe by bike (towpath), Mike: Occasional patches of varying sizes on the east side, more so in the stretches with difficult access (dangling brambles etc). Also active on the towpath side, new strands present. Most stretches need volunteer action now to complement the ongoing work by the Cam Conservators.

28/7/19 Paradise LNR, under willow at entrance to snobs stream. Anne, from bank. Remaining strands removed. Some is rooted in the bank, so may need more digging out.

27/7/18 Paradise LNR, under willow at entrance to snobs stream. Phil. Kayak. A few strands spotted, some removed. This is the first FP sighting on the upper Cam this year (excluding some tiny pieces in Swan Island ditch)

28/6/19 Sheeps Green / Coe Fen, The Back's college ditches, Mike: None found.

26/6/19 Cam through Fen Ditton and Ditton Fields drainage ditch, Mike: None found along river. Several mats have formed in ditch despite intensive clearance 16/04 and two bank raking exercises since then. Much removed but further visit required in early August. Boom still in place.

17/6/19 Clayhithe towards Baits Bite (incomplete), Mike: Numerous strands and mini mats have developed along the towpath side. Bank raking removed over 100 strands/ mats.

Dragging out a bulky mat caused metal rake pole to snap; work curtailed just down from the chicane boom.

17/6/19 Horningsea (Orchard Moorings), Mike: The end of the cut was completely covered and small mats were rapidly enlarging further along. Boat residents community and I cleared the entire cut. Not a CVF organised working party as it was led by the moorings owners with encouragement and advice from myself. Good community spirit.

17/5/19 Horningsea, Mike: Mats are regularly cleared by moorings manager but some that have grown recently were removed. Field owner very cooperative and agreed that canoes for working parties could be launched from his slipway.

17/5/19 Fen Ditton drainage ditch, Mike: There are several mats that are enlarging and need to be removed. Action in hand. Boom is still in place and is working effectively.

9/6/19 Survey Clayhithe to Cambridge. Anne and Tom by bike. Extensive stretches growing between horningsea and Clayhithe, maybe 1m wide in the sweet water grass, particularly on East bank. Situation very very much better upstream of Baits bite lock (thanks to the fen ditton ditch clearance). Just a few clumps of FP within about 100m upstream of baitsbite lock, that can easily be removed by canoe, plus a possible small clump within the boomed off fen ditton ditch, then apparently all clear into Cambridge. With continuing vigilance it looks very possible that soon we'll be able to say the Cam is "virtually pennywort free" above baits bite lock

6/6/19 Swan Island Ditch. Wim. We picked up some FP from Swans Island. It was just two hand full.

3/06/19 Grantchester Mill Race above Mill, Mike: None found by bank walking. So far there is no emergence of new growth from the mat that developed in 09/18, or in that general area - closer to the Mill than the Bourn Brook junction.

January to 18/5/19 Bourn Brook, University Angling Club, Alan: Monitoring by bank walking, no Pennywort found.

17/5/19 Swan Island Ditch. Anne. Couple of tiny clumps removed by rake and spade. One small one on North side rooted in bank and inaccessible from S. Probably needs to be dug out

11/5/19 Upriver of Horningsea, moored boats on river, Mike: Large mats between boats and bank. Boat residents galvanised to help. Goode clearance. Wim came by and helped.

11/5/19 Baits Bite to Horningsea, Cambridge Canoe Club / Wim: There first formal working party on this stretch consisted of several canoes. 2.5 km of banks largely cleared of mats / strands tangled in brambles and inaccessible to Cam Conservators' boat.

6/05/19 Fen Ditton to Baits Bite, Mike: Scattered small mats and strands on side opposite towpath. All those visible were removed by raking. When necessary, wading into river (20cm depth) achieved good results. Wooded strip immediately north of Baits Bite not visited and needs attention as some mats are present.

5/05/19 Horningsea (Orchard Moorings), Mike: Several tonnes in cut needs a working party. Mats removed by raking from bank of cut where accessible, opposite the site.

2/05/19 Baits BIte to Horningsea, Cambridge Canoe Club: First foray into this section of Cam by one canoe, removed some Pennywort including a mat difficult otherwise to reach between moored boats.

Jan-April 2019 Grantchester Mill Pond, Mike: Four visits. No Pennywort found. It would appear that it has been beaten by raking out, despite being extensive embedded in ditch mud in 2018. Occasion partial removal of tall plants growing in the ditch has ensured monitoring is more effective.

26/4/19 Trumpington Farm Company fields opposite Grantchester Meadows, Mike: Extensive monitoring today, none seen.

16/4/19 Fen Ditton drainage ditch, Mike and Sentec working party. Fallen willow removed by Bidwells, ditch boomed off with City Council boom, working party cleared all visible FP

31/3/19 Fen Ditton drainage ditch, Mike: The mat which has been completely covering the ditch for several years has, until recently, remained weakened by the winter weather. It is now actively growing and increasing in bulk. A working party will take place on 16th April to remove as much as possible, with follow up sessions planned by canoe.

24/3/19 Survey by canoe Shelford to Cambridge, including Grantchester Mill pond. Tom and Anne. All clear, except for 2 small sets of leaves starting to emerge in Swan Island Ditch (S side, near entrance). I removed everything accessible , but theres is a big root going down into the bank. I'll come back in about a month with a spade when its reappeared and try to dig out the root.

25/2/19 Swan island ditch. Anne: Virtually clear, except for 3 tiny micromats. Will need watching when the growing season starts in earnest.

24/2/19 Wim. Last week one of our members took a handful of Pennywort, a bit downstream from Grantchester and I have also been reported some pennywort in that area this week but it was rooted, so I am not sure it was pennywort at all.
Will do some survey next week again.

Another member mentioned that she saw some pennyworth in the Mel whilst walking along the stream in Meldreth. Do you have any contacts there? Not exactly sure where she saw it and if it was really PW but best to check out.

18/2/19 Paradise LNR to Byron's pool and the Mill race above Grantchester Mill. Tom and Anne by canoe. All clear. We didn't go to Grantchester Mill Pond and the mill stream below the Mill

10/2/19 & 12/2/19 Sheep's Green, Coe Fen & St John's College, Mike: A micro-mat, viable despite the recent frosts, was present in a ditch on Coe Fen (North) near Fen Causeway (removed), but other ditches and the Rush and Snobs seem clear now. The Bin Brook within St John's, down to its exit into the Cam, was clear.

2018 Summary Report

By the end of 2018 the upper Cam appears totally pennywort free, (except for a few spots where we know its rooted in the mud: Swan Island Ditch, Snobs Stream and Grantchester Mill pond). We will need to maintain vigilance, but it's very encouraging. The pictures below show pinch point 1 and 2 at the end of 2018. Both were clogged from side to side in 2017



Pinch point 2, end 2018 No pennywort at all, and a total contrast to the picture from the same spot at the end of 2017 and 2016 (see below in this document)



Pinch point 1, end 2018

19/12/18 Wim, Canoe Club to Bourne Brook and Hauxton. I wanted to thank you for the great works you have been doing regarding the Pennywort in our river and wish you a great Christmas and a good start in 2019. Two weeks ago, 2 men in a canoe went up the brooks, Bourne, Hauxton and the mill race in search for PW but could not find any. I only found a small bit myself a little bit downstream from the swimming club and that was it.

18/12/18 Grantchester Mill Pond, Mike: Regrowth from known areas of concern dealt with today.

18/12/18 Snob's Stream, Mike: One metre long mini-mat growing in a tangle of bramble just north of the Fen Causeway bridge. Removed with rake. Regrowth since being found and dealt with on 13/11/18.

3-7/12/18 Team of 3 from MLP did further treeworks from Grantchester Cricket Pitch, down to Lammas Land. No pennywort noticed

5/12/18. Anne. Swan Island Ditch. Small straggler pieces removed from the ditch, plus dug out rooted clumps from the bank. Some was hard to remove fully, because it's got under a sort of decking on the N side. Need access to S side to fully remove some of the rooted bits on the S. (Mal may be able to do this most easily)

27/11/18 Grantchester Meadows, Olwen, Michael and Mike: One strand removed from west bank while walking.

24/11/18 Swan Island ditch, Anne. Checked and stragglers cleared. Still some in the banks. Will bring a spade and stronger rake next time

18/11/18 Swan Island ditch (just upstream of Paradise Island). Clogged with FP, but working party of 8 cleared it. Will need occasional checking to remove stragglers and there's probably some rooted in the banks still.

18/11/18 Queens Ditch, Mike: Small strand removed in the usual location, hopefully it is now eradicated.

13/11/8 Paradise LNR to Grantchester Mill Pond. Tom and Anne by Canoe. Just a few tiny strands removed. Grantchester Mill pond clear. But on the way back we spotted a hidden reservoir of FP in the Swan Island cut on the sharp corner upstream of Paradise Island. Working party arranged to clear this am on Sunday 18th November

13/11/18 Snob's Stream, the Rush, Coe Fen, Mike: Pennywort found at three locations in Snobs; none in the Rush; one location in ditch on Coe Fen North near Crusoe Bridge, several strands hidden among other plants in ditch between main river and before culvert on east side

under Fen Causeway bridge; larger mat in main river hidden behind a large, horizontal tree trunk on “Hell Meadow” bank opposite learners’ pool.

10/11/18 Queens’ ditch. Anne. Checked by kayak. Both of Queens’ ditches clear. 2 small strands of FP found and removed that were rooted in bank of ditch going from main river under east side of Fen Causeway bridge

10/11/18 Grantchester Mill Race and Pond, Mike: Just five leaves removed today. A mat of Pennywort removed in late September and deposited near the bank has still not completely died; a top layer of active Pennywort persists even after seven weeks.

4/11/18. Sheeps green to Grantchester Meadows, Wim: Today had a paddle up to the meadows and took out small strands (max. 20 leaves) at random places. In habitat areas but also in plain sight close to the bank. Have not been able to make it completely up to Grantchester, will have to do that next time.

30/10/18 Snobs stream. Anne. Dangerous patch of FP rooted in the mud and growing through the brooklime. The patch is by the path, opposite the downstream end of the paddling pool. I removed virtually all of it by rake, together with a lot of brooklime, but will probably need another go in a few weeks. As it has also got behind the revetment that supports the path, it will probably need Glyphosate in the spring to eradicate it. Guy and Vicki informed.

22/10/18 City ditches (Jesus), Mike: 350m clear.

16/10/18 Grantchester Meadows, Anne, on bank. Found and removed about 6 small strands

13/10/18. Paradise LNR to Grantchester Mill pond. Anne and Tom, Canoe. Found and removed a few strands, most densely from opposite Paradise LNR. Mill pond clear

6/10/18 Fen Ditton, Mike: The location still of concern is the drainage ditch on the north end of Ditton Meadows. The wider part of the ditch river-side of the boat house has been cleared and only two or three mini-mats have reappeared, which need a canoe visit to remove. The Pennywort within the ditch beyond the Willow remains contained. Action to remove this is being planned.

6/10/18 Lammas land to Grantchester Mill pond. Wim and Canoe club. Found about 20 strands from Newnham swimming club up to the Bronze horse Island. Had two colleagues checking the mill race out and they did not find anything.

5/10/18. Grantchester Meadows Olwen . I fished out another small strand, but as before, there was one out of reach. Halfway up the first field, near bank, between 2 big willows. Long rake would do it.

3/10/18 City ditches again, Mike: See 30/8. There was more Pennywort to remove than first thought. In the un-named ditch east of the Cam (Coe Fen North) its spread was largely hidden within extensive clumps of tall plants such as Glyceria.

1/10/18 Red Lion pub field to Grantchester Mill Pond, Bourn Brook (to Cantelupe Bridge) and the Mill Race, Mike and Peter Scrase: By canoe. Several mini-mats and strands found near the mill end of the Race. Too small for the EA machinery to remove (see 21/9/18), in total no more than a bucket-full.

30/9/18 City ditches, Mike: It's growing again in Queen's College ditch, and some of it will be tricky to reach. I suspect that some is being re-distributed at a localised level by birds, especially Mute Swans, Mallards and Moorhens.
Several mini-mats in the Snobs between Lammas Land car park and the Fen Causeway bridge, and also between Fen Causeway and the Mill Pond (the pond itself is clear).
Some present in the ditch east of the Cam that cuts under Fen Causeway and enters the Cam south of Crusoe Bridge.
Mike will remove it from the various sites on Wednesday 3rd Oct.

24/9/18 Bourn Brook and Mill Race. Alan. I checked the Brook for Pennywort this afternoon. Didn't find any. I also spoke to the weed-cutting EA bods. The only Pennywort they had found was in the Mill Race right at the far end. They removed it. The EA weed-cutters said they were very impressed by our efforts!

23/9/18 Paradise LNR to Grantchester Mill Pond, Tom and Anne, by canoe. It's still looking good after the big session on 16/9/18. We found and removed about 500g, mostly from under the trees. A few broken strands on the east side of Grantchester Mill pond, so it would be worth someone checking the Mill race and Bourn Brook carefully by canoe to make sure it's still clear upstream.

23/9/18 Grantchester Meadows, Anne: 2 tiny strands from field 1 following report from Olwen. Not 100% sure I've found everything she saw.

21/9/18 Mill Race, EA: An EA boat crew clearing vegetation in the upper Cam came across a recently formed mat in the Mill Race, which they removed. See also Alan's comment (24/9/18).

16/9/18 Snobs stream. Anne. 2 clumps removed from the middle of the stream using one of the canoe club playboats.

16/9/18 Robinson Crusoe Island to Grantchester Mill Pond. Canoe Club. 9 people and 5 canoes, managed to remove around 35kg of Floating Pennywort from various locations (mainly under the branches, difficult to get to areas) on the river from the Punt repair site up to the Grantchester Fork. Included dealing with the Robinson Crusoe mat identified by Mike on 31/8/19

14/918 Grantchester Mill Pond, Mike: Two strands removed from bank. It's been three weeks since it was last seen which is good news.

11/9/18 Lower Cam, Fen Ditton stretch, Mike: Canadian Canoe, with a local, conservation-minded volunteer. Joint project with Cam Conservators with CVF removing the smaller amounts out of reach of Berky. Numerous micro-mats removed, also some larger mats. Fen Ditton Ditch mostly cleared to fallen tree but a huge mat of Pennywort remains in upper part of ditch, to be dealt with in the winter.

4/9/18 Snobs stream, Anne. Clump removed by rake from about 20m upstream of the Mill (close to the point where Mike removed a bigger clump 17/8/18). A 6" strand removed from willow on L bank at upstream entrance to snobs stream, but otherwise clear. Paradise LNR clear.

3/9/18 Bourn brook, Alan, from the bank. A car park to main river - no Pennywort found.

31/8/18 Laundress Green to Grantchester Mill Pond - Mike: By kayak, about 40 scattered sites with strands or very small mats, 80% were on west side. Branches in water continue to hinder extraction though some strands were not associated with overhanging trees. All removed except a relatively larger mat just upriver of Robinson Crusoe - difficult to extricate from under a fallen tree - most removed but some pieces remain there, needs a 2m pole with hook to finish the job. Snobs seems clear down to footbridge.

21/8/18 Grantchester Mill Pond - Mike: Three small mats removed, one needing a very close look to detect it just emerging from the wet bank edge.

19/8/18 Snobs stream. Wim. 2 strands of around 60cm each together with a lot of plastic rubbish. We went from the Cam to the low road bridge.

18/8/18 Paradise LNR to pinch point 2. Anne and Tom by canoe. Got 3 buckets full. Mostly from under fallen trees and in habitat areas. Some strands 2m long… still removable but if they get much bigger it will be very tricky. It's important to check in places that are not immediately visible

17/8/18 Queen's College ditch. Mike: Some more growth at one dead-end point in the ditch furthest from river, removed. Waterfowl noted regularly in this ditch. Remainder of their ditch is being monitored.

17/8/18 Snobs stream. Anne from bank. 3 small strands.

15/8/18 Snobs Stream. Anne. 2 small stands removed from section upstream of Fen Causeway bridge. One longer inaccessible strand seen in the middle of the stream downstream

of the bridge, about 20m upstream of the Mill. Called in Mike with his double length mega rake to try and get it. UPDATE: latter mat removed 17/8/18

13/8/18 Grantchester Mill Pond. **Mike**: Two small mats removed with rake, working from bank.

12/8/18 Lower Cam, Fen Ditton to Clayhithe. Mike: Survey continues, with intermittent access to bank side for long stretches. Strand at the Plough pub in Fen Ditton removed. At end of village, several small mats but inaccessible from steep bank. Forging new relationships with riparian landowners in the area with an offer to use a Canadian canoe for some serious work - offer accepted! Further downriver, dense mats 5m long by 1-2m scattered along bank.

11/8/18 Snobs Stream. Anne, on foot. 2 large (1m across) mats of pennywort removed with mega rake from just upstream of the Fen Causeway bridge, one was half under the bridge. Think I got it all

11/8/18 Bourne Brook Alan on foot: No pennywort from car park to main river

8/8/18 Rosewell pits off the Ouse river near Ely. Cassie and Peter While kayaking near the entrance to the Rosewell pits off the Ouse river near Ely on Sunday we spotted at least two areas of Pennywort . Very close to the Environment Authority quay opposite where two EA boats were moored against their jetty.We managed to pile up quite large amounts onto the fronts of our kayaks and then gingerly paddled it to the jetty. It was quite tricky getting it onto the jetty and off the water without capsizing ! No one around to help . Subsequently I've tried to contact a relevant river authority with no success. Any suggestions about who we should contact as there is more to remove. [notified sam.sweeney@environment-agency.gov.uk]

6/8/18, Sheeps green to Grantchester Mill Pond. Anne, Tom, Wim: Canoeing. 3 tiny strands, a few inches long, spotted and removed in 3km. Otherwise seems completely clear.

25/7/18 and 15/7/18 Magdalene Street bridge to Fen Ditton. Mike (on foot / cycling): One micro-mat clinging precariously among some other plant growth on weir at Jesus Lock (TL44975930). Several mats just before Fen Ditton in ditch by the "Boat House" (TL481604) and in adjacent stretch of same ditch, 100m+ is totally clogged (TL481603) up to track - former would need removal by river craft, latter is a very difficult target. Surveying from this point further downriver continuing.

24/7/18 Grantchester Mill Pond. Mike: One patch by road bridge has doubled in size in two days. There is a nucleus embedded in the bank which throws out strands now and again. A few cms of bank could be removed with a spade (permission required) but really not a problem if monitored. Another patch in a drainage ditch was hidden under drooping plant foliage. Both mats removed.

21/7/18. Paradise LRN to Grantchester Mill pond by canoe yesterday, then on bank today. Anne and Tom. We found a couple of dangerous patches of FP growing in the mud and tangled amongst patches of water grass on the West bank of field 1 (just upstream of the upstream footbridge)) and the upstream end of field 3 (just downstream of pinch point 2). We removed everything visible, some from the canoe, the rest from the bank by paddling around in the mud, but we probably didn't get out all the roots so it will need checking in a week or two Also removed some small pieces growing in the mud beside the footbridge to bronze horse island (doing it by canoe). There's very very much less than this time last year: In total we got just a couple of carrier bags full. None of the strands were more than a foot or so long.

The tree that's fallen into the river from Paradise Island is making a nice shady pennywort trap: we also collected a few strands trapped in it.

20/7/18 Cambridge Laundress Green to Grantchester Mill Pond / Byron's Pool by kayak. Mike: FP found and removed at 14 discrete locations mainly along Grantchester Meadows. Largest mat was one square metre (at the entrance to Snobs Stream); smallest was 4 leaves; heaviest was about 1kg on west side (Field 1). Others were mainly on the east side. Two further patches at Grantchester Mill Pond had already been noteleaves) found and removed. The first I've come across in the Brook this year.

d during bank walking and were removed.

18/7/18 College Ditches. Mike: Occasional mats were found in autumn 2017. Currently, Queen's College ditch has a loose mat of 9 square metres at one point. College gardeners are dealing with it. [since removed by Mike]

17/7/18 Bourn Brook inspection from bank. Alan. One strand (half a dozen leaves) found and removed. The first I've come across in the Brook this year.

15/7/18 Paradise LNR to Hauxton Mill, by canoe. Anne and Tom
A handful of strands spotted and removed from East bank opposite Grantchester Meadows, and some clumps of FP dug out from the mud on the west bank of Grantchester Meadows field 3. Totally clear of FP above Grantchester Meadows (but Bourn Brook and the Mill Race not checked)

8/7/18 Working party on upper Cam from Mill lane to Grantchester Mill pond. Anne. 21 participants working from the bank and a fleet of 11 canoes and kayaks surveyed and cleared virtually all the Floating Pennywort from Mill lane to Grantchester Mill Pond. Overall we just found a few buckets full of FP, but there are quite a few strands emerging, particularly in the habitat areas opposite Grantchester Meadows. In theory these have now all been cleared, but I'm sure new strands will emerge, so it's important to remain vigilant. The remaining hotspot is the mud of the ditch around bronze horse island in Grantchester Mill Pond.

If anyone is out in a canoe, there's a clump of FP thats trapped in the big tree that's fallen from Paradise Island into the river. .. (cleared by Wim 11/7/18)

A canoe team also discovered some FP we hadn't known about, in a ditch that joins the Cam's East bank, about 50 downstream of the Fen Causeway bridge. This has now been removed by rake from the bank, but it will be worth keeping an eye on.

There was also a clump in snobs stream, now removed by rake from the bank.

30/6/18 Anne. Paradise LNR to Grantchester Meadows, Bourn Brook and the Mill race above Grantchester Mill. Inspection by Canoe. Bourn Brook was totally clear of FP. We removed one small strand of FP from the Mill Race, which was otherwise totally clear. The river is also clear of FP from the fork where the mill stream re-joins the main river, up to Byrons pool.

Down river, there are occasional strands of FP developing, mostly in the habitat areas and their protective booms opposite grantchester meadows. We left most to deal with during the working party on 8th July. Hot spots are in debris and trees at deadman's corner at the downstream end of field 1 (ie the field on grantchester meadows thats nearest to Cambridge), the habitat areas at the upstream end of Field 1, pinch point 1 (ie field 2), upstream of Pinch point 2 (ie field 4) and the downstream end of field 5

Although there's debris trapped in various places downstream of deadman's corner, it doesn't seem to have any FP in it yet, which is good news.

29/6/18 Anne Grantchester Meadows field 1, and Grantchester Mill Pond. On foot. 2 small strands removed from the mud in the bank of field 1. In grantchester Mill Pond, a couple of floaters removed, but there were also several strands starting to grow in the mud of the ditch draining towards bronze horse island. These need to be removed with a rake.

28/6/18 Anne. Paradise LNR, snobs stream and The Rush. (on foot) All seem remarkably clear of FP

25/6/18 Mike: Further action on two mats at Grantchester Mill Pond, first noted on the 6th June, was required today (removal by extendible, fine-tined rake).

21/6/18 Mike: No FP noted in Bourn Brook downstream from Cantelupe Bridge. It should be noted that this survey was done by bank-walking, and very small pieces of plant may have been missed. Mill Race needs to be checked asap.

19/6/18 Mike: I used a kayak to monitor from Scudamores up to Byron's Pool and then to Grantchester Mill Pond via the Mill Stream. There were a few micro mats visible along the Cam and most of these would not be readily noticed from the bank, showing how valuable and versatile are river craft to efficiently monitor and remove small plants.

13/6/18 Mike: I removed a micromat of just 10 leaves from the Mill Pond at Laundress Green close to the launch pad.

31/5/18 Alan: Bourn Brook. No Pennywort found.

25/5/18 Mike: Snobs stream, I found one micro mat today but didn't have a net with me. Will deal with it.

21/5/18 Mike: Grantchester. This evening, 21st May, no FP seen in Bourne Brook viewed from the Cantelupe Bridge, or the Grantchester Mill Pond / Bronze horse island ditch, using binoculars – the surface of the silt layer is clearly visible under the shallow water.

21/5/18 Anne: Paradise LNR, the Rush and Snobs Stream. No FP

1**9/5/18 Wim: Kayaking, Canoe Club to Grantchester**. As promised a short report on the PW situation. In a few words; no Floating Pennywort seen from the Fork in Grantchester downstream to the Canoe club. I was unable to get into the mill pond and inspect that area due to some swans playing up a bit. 2 weeks ago I paddled there and could not find any PW, not even in the shallows where I spotted mud-logged PW last year. The booms before the habitat areas might need a bit of adjusting and a few have some debris built up which need clearing.I have not planned anything but that could be something to do during the working party in July.

11-13/5/18 Anne: Paradise LNR and Grantchester Meadows Still virtually no pennywort. 6 tiny strands spotted and removed, total weight probably < 20g

9/5/18 Alan: Bourn Brook Pump house to Mill Stream junction (access getting difficult above car park bridge) - no pennywort found.

7/5/18 Anne: Grantchester Meadows Virtually no visible pennywort on grantchester meadows. 2 small strands, maybe 6" long spotted in the mud under the big willow tree on field 1 (ie the field nearest Cambridge) and removed.

19/4/18 Alan: Bourn Brook I had a careful look along both sides of the Brook today, from the car park to the main river, and found no Pennywort. But it would be very surprising if it isn't lurking.

15/4/18 Wim + Cambridge Canoe Club: Habitat clearance and creation We restored the top 6 habitat areas and cleared them out. No real visual on PW but spotted very small parts in the debris if you take it out by hand. We have put in all available booms in various locations.Nice session, 3 canoes, 6 people, 3 hours, 18 hours in total. My record says that we have spent a total of 103 hours in 2018.

25/3/18 Anne: Inspection in Paradise LNR. V little PW visible, but this may be because mostly the leaves haven't yet emerged from the shreds of PW stems in debris.

20/3/18 ML Partnership: Completion of Treeworks. Treeworks and pennywort clearance from confluence of Grantchester Mill Stream with Cam, down to Lammas Land Car Park, Cambridge from 5 Feb - 20 March. On completion, no pennywort visible. No debris. All tacklable trees pruned back, although leaving a few larger branches that couldn't safely be done from a punt. Frequent strong river flows during this time, which will have helped wash out the FP now the trees are clear of the water. For the final week they did a second run down the river, clearing any patches of pennywort or treeworks that had been missed the first time

9/3/18 Tom and Anne: Canoe. Inspection above Byron's Pool Totally clear of FP on Bourn brook, Grantchester mill stream (above the mill), and above Byrons pool. Fragments trapped in trees in Cam downstream of Grantchester mill pond.

13/2/18 Anne: Grantchester Mill Pond River level low, so mud of ditch round bronze horse island exposed. Lots of tiny bright green pennywort leaves visible in the mud. FP here is going to be a major problem again later in the year.

11/2/18 Wim: Grantchester Meadows Habitat Reuge creation Clearing out the habitat areas was difficult, we did our best but we noticed that all the pennywort we caught was shredded and not nicely weaved together which made it a bit more difficult to pull it out. Also the slightly bigger islands, they seems to consist of shredded pieces and not one nice connected FP. We also cleared the chicane a bit and pushed some big logs out. I noticed during clearing one of the habitats that the PW was looking at me very happily from 25cm under water, these bits were very difficult to clear as they were very brittle.

5/2/18 ML Partnership: Grantchester Meadows Tree works start at Field 6. Frequent patches of FP each several meters long and a meter wide.

28/1/18 Anne: Grantchester Meadows and Paradise LNR Lots of shredded pennywort in the trees and along the banks. it has small bright green leaves. Looks like it might still be growing.

16/1/18 Anne: Grantchester Meadows River levels still high, large flood patch on S end field 1. FP washing downstream, but still 1-3m wide fringes of pennywort round the trees drooping into the river

2017 reports

24/11/17 Anne, with Cambridge Canoe Club: Grantchester Meadows at Pinch Point 2

Before a narrow passage was cleared, the river was clogged from side to side with Floating Pennywort.



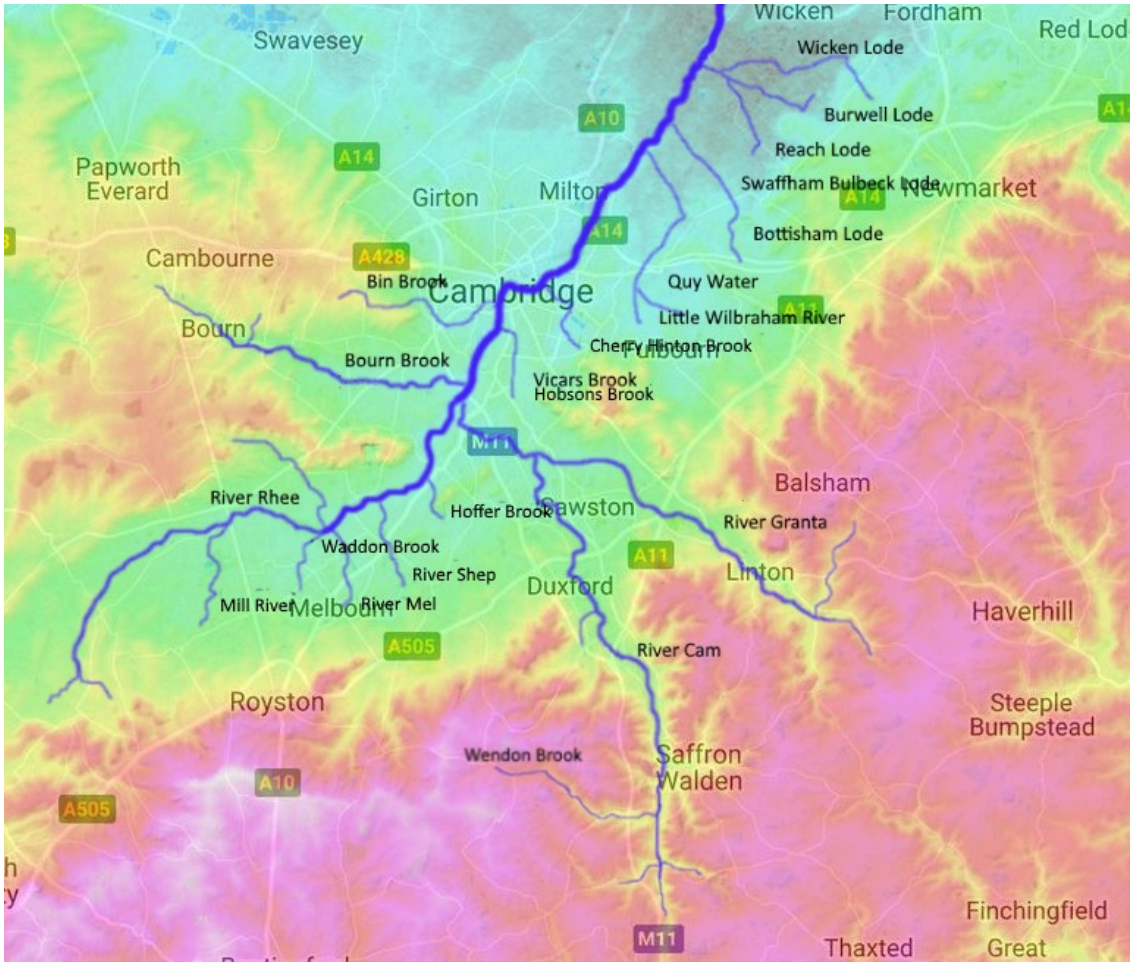
2016 reports

4/12/16 Richard: Grantchester Meadows at Pinch Point 2
Chilling video of kayakers pushing through the pennywort that's blocking the river from side to side at pinch point 2 on upper Cam



Maps

The Cam Valley



Detailed map of river between Cambridge and Grantchester available here: