

# PROGRESS REPORT 2019

Projects | Governance | Finances

## Governance

The activity of foundation has oversight of the board of Trustees. The board has expanded to accommodate our transformation to Charitable Incorporated Organisation.

## Media

Our work has featured by a number of local newspapers. As well as BBC Radio 4 Costing the Earth, ITV Meridian and BBC South East News

## How did we do?

We delivered;

- 4924 items of litter removed
- 15 litter picks
- 10 microplastic surveys

We achieved this with;

- 150 volunteer hours
- £4000 funding grants
- £885 donations

We are grateful for support from Seachangers, Thames Water, Pirates Cave, Jetstream Tours, Chatham Maritime Trust, and MDL Ltd.



## 2018-2019

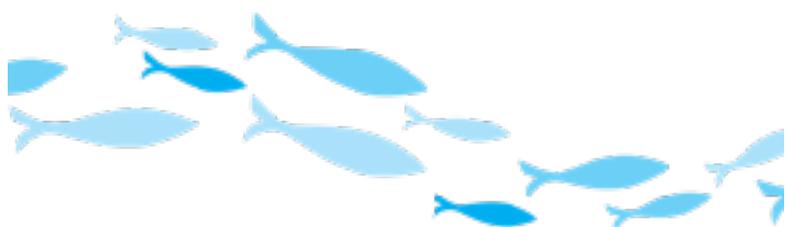
The foundation has been running for over two years so this year we have produced an annual report of the activities since we were formally made a not-for-profit.

We have had a busy time. Two major projects and more on the way, it has been exciting to build up so quickly.

### *Thames Manta*

In 2018 we managed to sample both the Thames and the Medway, having created a programme of sites and trained only a small group of volunteers. These samples have been provided to Brunel University.

2019 wasn't such a good year for sampling due to the weather, engineering, and volunteer availability. However that has





## Plan for 2020

We are planning a lot of exciting new activities in 2020

- Increased volunteer interactions
  - Conference
  - Socials
- Become a full charity
- Develop additional projects around the animals and habitat in the estuary

We will also be continuing to work on the Thames Manta, all the sampling dates are already published and scanned. The Litter Free Maritime will enter Phase 2 installing interventions across the site.

## Get involved

We are always on the look out for new enthusiastic volunteers with new ideas and skills, to help out in any way they can. From attending litter picks, presenting our data, maintaining the website to organising events.

If you want to get involved or know someone who might, please contact us: [info@living-river.org](mailto:info@living-river.org)

All events are listed on our calendar on our website.

given us time to train more volunteers, and share the data from Brunel University with the media, and there are some startling initial results. The final report will be completed by the end of March 2020 and sampling will start at the beginning of March.

## *Litter Free Maritime*

The litter that escapes into our environment is an eyesore, but it's also really difficult to remove before it has an impact on animals and habitats in the estuary. This project was born from volunteers seeing litter floating in the marina at Chatham.

In partnership with Chatham Maritime Trust and MDL Marina, the foundation has begun Phase 1 of the project, collecting litter and recording the sources across St Mary's Island with the local community, University students and the boat owners from the marina.

Litter in the marina is particularly difficult to capture and remove, any change of wind direction causes it to scatter. We have installed a trial designed boom to collect the litter in one place to allow it to be effectively collected.

