BIODIVERSITY

Monitoring: over **1000** volunteer hours

- Butterfly transects:
  3 Barnes Common **1** Leg o'Mutton, **1** Palewell
- Invertebrate surveys
- Bird surveys
- Audiomoth bat surveys

Citizen science projects:

- Bioscan DNA barcoding – studying the genetic diversity of 1 million flying insects
- Smart Rivers survey monitoring river health
- Riverfly Monitoring Initiative (RMI)
- UK Butterfly Monitoring Scheme

NATURE CONSERVATION

1,939 volunteer hours

- Managing over **200** acres across **4** Local Nature Reserves/Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation
- Woodland restoration work across **120** acres of woodland
- Managing **8** ponds across the borough to maximise benefit for wildlife
- Managing **12** acres of Lowland Acid Grassland – scrub removal, added **2** new soil scrapes
- Habitat improvement and survey work on over **1.3** km of the Beverley Brook
- Beetle boxes installed for saproxylic insects
- Extended Hedgehog Superhighway to connect more gardens in Barnes

> Volunteering as a citizen scientist means I get to learn a lot about freshwater invertebrates while making a difference for our environment and river's health
>
> **Citizen scientist volunteer**

> Such an inclusive and welcoming group, I really enjoyed working with them. Simply being in nature is wonderful for my well-being!
>
> **Conservation volunteer**

BARNES COMMON

barnescommon.org.uk

1992 Established

£288k Total funds (£237k unrestricted / £51k restricted)

6 Trustees

Staff: **6** full time, **4** part time, **2** part time contracted

7,085 Volunteer hours

£109k Surplus

1,570 Members (Keystone **78**)

Photo by Andrew Wilson

Impact Statement 2025

The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service

Barnes Common

Introduction by Adrian Podmore, Trustee

We are very pleased to provide our impact statement for 2024/25, which does also include some more recent events.

We hope this leaflet not only gives you a more immediate picture as to our continuing progress but also provides an illustration of the breadth of our ever increasing activities.

Certainly, our ecological monitoring is at the forefront of aiding a recovery in biodiversity and is key in determining ongoing site management. Lifelong learning is fundamental to our goal of engaging more people with nature where we are reaching more schools and educational organisations each year. Finally, the combination of our community engagement and wellbeing activities are, we believe, making a substantial contribution towards Social Value for Barnes and its residents.

Photo by Andrew Wilson

We very much look forward to your continued support.

LIFELONG LEARNING

Engaged **7** primary schools **4** secondary schools **1** university

1,467 young people and **372** adults took part in **24** community and **49** school learning activities

New activities

- Eco-Explorers Bats & Moths Workshop extending the offering of our successful Eco-Explorers Summer Camp
- Family EarthWalk
- Pip Organic Community Nature Walks

New school activities

KS3 and KS5 Geography, KS2 Wassail activity, Green Careers talk at West London Free School.

> Very enjoyable and informative couple of hours with your knowledgeable guide. Learned loads and will view the Common now with new eyes!
>
> **Tree Walk attendee**

WELLBEING

The Vine Road Community Growing Project won the Community Project of the Year Award at Richmond Council's Community Heroes Awards.

719 young people attended the project

1,251 volunteer hours (including Duke of Edinburgh)

> I can highly recommend these sessions, my kids absolutely loved it ... It was a brilliant, wholesome afternoon!
>
> **Parent at after school club**

36 deliveries supplied to the food bank at Castlenau, supporting about **10** families.

Partnerships with RB Mind, Age UK Richmond, Tram House School (Beyond Autism), ACAT (Hammersmith – supporting young people with autism)

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Events engaging **1245** adults **526** young people **68** volunteers

Hosted **115** events

Hosted 4th Autumn Fayre in **2025** with **750** attendees

Barnes Community Gardeners – over **1000** hours of volunteering

Leading on the Vine Road Project, an innovative scheme to rejuvenate the park

The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service

2019 Queen's Award for Voluntary Service

> That was a wonderful walk – I thought I knew Barnes Common as I live so close - but a complete revelation! Mike was so knowledgeable, so much fascinating information!
>
> **History Walk participant**

COMMUNITY BLUESCAPES

Innovative flood resilience project - a partnership between LBRUT, WWT and BCL, funded by DEFRA.

An innovative new flood resilience street, the Kitson Road scheme won the Steve Berry Highways Authority Innovation Award

Barnes Green Restoration Project

- new channel for the Beverley Brook
- new island improves biodiversity
- dog beach

Learning

Engaged **4** local schools, **122** students in the CBS learning programme

Citizen Science

New water quality monitoring of the Beverley Brook: **12** volunteers, **6** sessions

New E. coli testing program: **10** volunteers, **8** tests

Completed a **6** week River Condition Assessment training course: **10** volunteers, **1** completed survey

> It's thanks to passionate volunteers who have gathered data on the quality of our waterways that we now know just how much water companies are failing the public and the environment. I'm pleased to play a small part in that ceaseless effort.
>
> **Water quality testing volunteer**