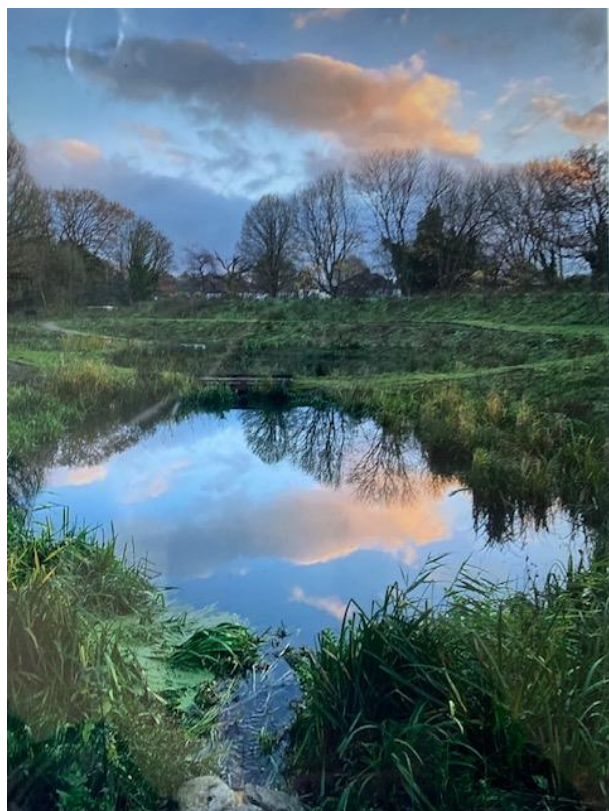


Update from Friends of Chinbrook Meadows. April 2025



Thames 21 have now signed off on Chinbrook Wetlands project. They organised monthly work sessions up till the end of March. This year we worked on taking out some of the opportunist plants such as buddleia that had found their way in so as to give the newly planted areas a chance to flourish with a broad variety of plants.

There was one final planting session in March which was a corporate volunteer day with Google employees. Google had funded the project so it was good for some staff to see the project in all its glory.

Thames 21 organised for a short film about the project to be made on site. Click on the link below to view.

[Chinbrook Meadows Wetlands – Lewisham, southeast London](#)

Water sampling was carried out in the early part of the year. This was a 6 month project organised by Zoological Society London (ZSL) using a method adapted from the Riverfly monitoring. We checked for invertebrates in the first, upstream and last pond (before entering the Quaggy) in the new wetlands. There were some anomalies along the way but results demonstrated that the quality of the water was definitely improved as it was filtered through the ponds. Phosphate and ammonia tests at the same time also showed this progression.

There are regular sightings of mallard, grey wagtails, egret, buzzard, green and great spotted woodpecker in the area. There was frog spawn in the ponds too and lots of dragonfly, damselfly and mayfly larvae.

The wetlands have become a destination for park users but remains a quiet backwater, now full of a wide variety of wildlife.

As part of London Rivers Week 2025 we will host an event – bring a picnic to enjoy the wetlands, listen to short talk about the project, explore life in the ponds and do a nature scavenger hunt activity. Saturday 31st May 1-4pm



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