

it hadn't! Sir Robert was presented with a cheque as a donation to the 2015 commemoration. Various commemorative events are being held throughout 2015 for the 800th anniversary of the sealing of this document, important both nationally and internationally, with The Queen attending a major event at Runnymede Meadows on June 15th. Lectures, debates, theatre presentations and exhibitions are just some of the elements of the commemoration this year (details of which can be found on the Magna Carta 800th website). It is also intended that The British

Library will celebrate the 800th birthday of Magna Carta by uniting all four surviving original copies of the original document under one roof for the first time for three days only. Multiple copies of the document were written up originally and sent to the bishops and other officials across England and it is four of those that survive - two of which are in Library's collection while the other two are usually to be found at Lincoln and Salisbury cathedrals respectively - that will feature in this venture by the British Library.

River Dour Partnership Ray Newsam

Things have been progressing slowly but steadily on our plans for improvements to the river. In October we had a visit from the Environment Agency with their fish pass expert in attendance. They were looking at the weirs by Morrisons and Halfords, and other environmental improvements that might take place in that area. This is only the first step in getting plans together, which as well as funding will require consultations with the relevant owners and authorities.

We have also had some discussions with Dover Town Council regarding the potential for opening up the millpond at the Old Flour Mill in Lorne Road. Much work has to be done looking at possibilities and liabilities and hopefully we can report further on this in the next issue. While mentioning Morrisons, we have had some very productive discussions with their new Community Champion who had several suggestions as to how they might support us, the immediate one being giving us three dates during the year when we will be able to have a collection and leaflet hand-out at their entrance. The first date was 28th February, too early for notification through the newsletter. If anyone feels able to help with future collection and leaflet hand-outs then please get in touch via our secretary

Jeremy Cope, (contact details inside the front cover).

One funding success is securing a grant from the DDC and KCC supported You Decide program for a waterproof video camera under a project entitled 'Promoting the Dour'. This came about after a similar camera was used by the BBC on one of their Urban Jungle episodes to record the brown trout in the river by Barton Path, very good publicity which resulted in a significant number of visitors from out of town. As well as producing short films showing various aspects of the underwater ecology for educational use, the equipment can be used for underwater structural and environmental surveys - hopefully there will be something on show at the 2016 Dover Film Festival!

Finally, the usual appeal for volunteers! We have the regular gang who do the river clean-ups organised by the White Cliffs Countryside Partnership that will start again in April, and volunteers are always welcome at these sessions. But we also need volunteers with all sorts of skills and interests - please get in touch if you have anything to contribute to help with planning, fundraising or implementation of our many projects.