

## Long Meadow Waterlife Report



River Pinn



Backwater

The River Pinn flows along the south eastern edge of Long Meadow and in late 2014 two backwaters connected to the river were created to provide more aquatic habitat. These are topped up when the water level rises in the river.

Birds seen using the river include little egret, mallard, moorhen, kingfisher and grey wagtail which feed on the small fish such as sticklebacks and minnows and freshwater shrimps and aquatic insect larvae such as caddis fly and other river flies.

The backwaters have been planted with purple loosestrife, water plantain, flowering rush, yellow flag iris, ragged robin, and marsh marigold.

Each spring frogs breed in the larger backwater producing many clumps of spawn which soon hatch into tadpoles.

The larger backwater attracts dragonflies and damselflies including broad-bodied chaser and common darter which use it for breeding. Large red, common blue and azure damselflies breed each year. For more information about these insects see the Dragonfly and Damselfly Report. Pond skaters are regularly seen on this backwater.



Broad-bodied Chaser



Little Egret