

## Mostly Maps, Glorious Maps!



### A Cleaner Nidd, Fit for Life

**Make rivers safe for all.**  
for invertebrates ( a vital part of the food chain) to fish, birds, animals and people.

### Stop sewage pollution.

End the illegal release of untreated sewage into the River Nidd

### Raise the bar.

Improve standards, so legally discharged waste doesn't harm the River Nidd

## Bathing Water Status Update

Hopefully you will be looking regularly at the DEFRA / Environment Agency's Bathing Water Quality website to see **the latest results** from their sampling at the Lido every few weeks. The web link is on the NAG website front page

- [Keep-Yourself-Up-to-Date-about-the-Nidd.pdf \(niddactiongroup.org\)](#) or
- directly <https://environment.data.gov.uk/bwq/profiles/> or
- just browse '**swimfo**'.

As of June 28th 2024,

**7** sampling values have been analysed from the Lido at Knaresborough for E.coli levels (**€900 cfus is** regarded as 'sufficient' for safe bathing).

**Six of the seven samples** so far have **failed 'sufficient'** i.e. are '**poor**'

Samples will be taken at roughly weekly intervals throughout the Bathing Season.

More information is on the government website

## Interactive Map of Yorkshire Water Storm Overflows

The recently-launched, regularly-updated map of Storm Overflows continues to inform us and YW engineers as to the status of the many Sewage Treatment Works Storm Overflows and Combined Sewer Overflow that flow directly or indirectly into the Nidd.

[Yorkshire Water - Storm Overflow Map \(arcgis.com\)](#)

The data tells us the current status of the monitors at the different locations.

Most locations have nice green ticks, reporting that data is available that says the overflow is NOT operating – good news, no overflows into the environment. (It is a known known!)

The symbols for 'currently operating' i.e. 'overflowing' is mercifully currently absent, as is the purple 'recently operated' symbol.

However, as in my previous posting, a number of locations (6) have a brown spanner symbol, entitled 'under maintenance'. This in fact means that the monitor is NOT working, so we have no idea whether the outfall is overflowing or not.

The six include a number of central harrogate favourites, and Hambleton Road CSO that has been out of action for many weeks. I understand this may be an internet access issue, but until it is resolved we just won't know.

*Please note that **this data is just storm overflows**, meant to be 'spilled' only in '**exceptional**' very rainy conditions.*

*Our friends at Ilkley have shown that regularly discharged 'treated' sewage also has its problems for human health and river ecological health!*

## A New Comprehensive Watershed Pollution Map is here!

This has just been published by a not for profit group of investigative journalists.

<https://watershedinvestigations.com/home/find-out-whats-poll...>

It contains links to a wide range of published articles about pollution in England, Scotland and Wales

as well as

looking like a '**one stop shop**' with a **comprehensive map** containing **mapped data from a variety of sources**.

For those of us with a particular flair for or fascination about mapped data – many happy hours of fun!

There's a really serious side in that all these data sets, most of which are searchable separately can now be viewed alongside each other.

e.g, locations of poor water quality can be compared with sewage discharges, land use by agriculture and business, including landfill.

*Incidentally I notice that there is a highway outfall at Waterside up river from the Lido – presumably discharging into one of the CSOs that Maddy from the University of Leeds was sampling from in the main river Nidd – our 2023 samples numbers 30-32.*

**Have a look! Share anything you find so we can all learn more about our river and the threats to its beauty and its health**

## NAG Update

A major iNidd Project has been commenced with a meeting of stakeholders, including NAG, who **have agreed to prioritize three projects including the follow up of NAG's sampling work on the Nidd last year.**

We intend to try to **distinguish between animal and human originated E.coli** (through sophisticated MST analysis at a number of locations including above and below Darley, Killinghall and Knaresborough STWs and along Oak beck

We wish to **identify more closely the sources of the high pollution** concentrations we have found and relate them geographically to farming land-use, caravan parks, outfalls etc.

This is a **big** project, needing widespread agreement and support from stakeholders, so will take some time.

**We hope to do some pilot work this year** to help with the long term project.

NAG and other volunteers have already got some training in riverfly monitoring and Himalayan Balsam mapping (It is the HB bashing season in July, so be ready!)

Further training and activity in, e.g. outfall safaris, habitat surveys, WQ sampling) are possible in some pilot volunteer work this year.

## Nidderdale Charity Walk Donation



### The Group of charities who took part in the Walk in May

An opportunity to meet up again, without the blisters!



### NAG's Chair receives the cheque from Rotary

A cheque for £80 goes into NAG's funds. Thanks for all those taking part or donating.

Encourage your friends to join NAG!

14 wayside walk, Harrogate HG2 8NN  
United Kingdom

077 4877 5407  
info@niddactiongroup.org



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