



## The Worshipful Company of Water Conservators

You are cordially invited to join the Water Conservators' June Webinar

### **Restoring chalk streams and improving water management**

**Tuesday 3rd June 2025 6.00pm to 7.15pm**

Presented by Dr Jonathan Fisher  
Jonathan Fisher Environmental Economics



#### **About this Webinar**

This webinar will highlight chalk streams' importance as scarce, highly valuable rich ecosystems. It will then set out the specific pressures causing the environmental problems currently and recently experienced at chalk streams. This includes: running dry due to excessive abstraction (left picture); and raw sewage discharges due to inadequate sewage treatment infrastructure. He will then set out the trinity of measures needed to reduce abstraction flows, improve water quality and enhance natural habitats to restore good quality chalk streams (right picture). He will then report on progress with the implementation of the recommendations of the Chalk stream Restoration Strategy developed collaboratively under the dynamic leadership of Charles Rangeley-Wilson. He will identify the major causes of each pressure and set out specific measures to tackle each problem and will include with 5 principal measures needed to restore water management and our chalk streams in England.



## About the Speaker

Jonathan is an environmental economist with 50 years' experience of delivering economic analyses of most environmental issues – from the kerbside (with his PhD on returnable and non-returnable beverage containers and waste recycling) to the stratosphere - he was the Department of Environment's economic adviser on climate change for the first framework convention on climate change, the establishment of the IPCC and the UK's first climate change action plan. He worked at the OECD's Environment Directorate and also at HM Treasury. For the last 25 years he has focused on water and was the Environment Agency's economics manager responsible for water and flood risk management.



Since retiring from the EA in 2014, he has worked as a freelance environmental economics consultant on water studies in Armenia and Turkey and Romania's flood risk management plan and now the economic assessment of climate change and flood risk management in St Lucia. He provided economic input into the CABA Chalk stream restoration strategy. In 2024 he joined as a freeman of the Water Conservators and has inputted into their submissions to recent government consultations on water – including the Cunliffe Commission on water (which is good and promising) and Defra's land use allocation consultation (which is poor and economically unsound).

Jonathan has a BSc in economics and accountancy from Bristol University and a PhD in environmental economics from Leicester University.

## Register For This Webinar

To attend this webinar, you will first need to register via the link below to Eventbrite. Attendance is free, there is no charge to attend. You will then receive a return email from Eventbrite with the details to join the webinar via zoom. You need to keep those details to join the webinar. Any problems contact [rob.casey1@hotmail.com](mailto:rob.casey1@hotmail.com) at least 24 hours before the start of the webinar.

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