



## Membership Application Form

Please send to our Treasurer A. Poolman, Avon House, 25 Abbey Row, Malesbury, Wilts. SN16 0AG  
Tel. 01666 826363 who will send it to the Bank.

### I/We wish to support the Trust by becoming a member

Name  Phone   
 Email  Address

### I/We would like to become (a) life member(s) and enclose:

£50 individual/£100 family  Pay an annual subscription by standing order: individual £8  family £16

I/We would also like to make a donation and enclose £

**Gift Aid:** The Trust is able to claim from HMRC 25p for every pound of your donation, provided that you pay income tax at least to that amount. Please complete the following declaration:

"I am a UK tax payer and wish the Trust to treat all my subscriptions/donations from April 2005 and until I advise it otherwise as Gift Aid Donations."

Signed  Date

### Bank Standing Order Form

<b>To your bank</b>	<b>From you</b>
Name <input type="text"/>	Name <input type="text"/>
Address <input type="text"/>	Address <input type="text"/>
Postcode <input type="text"/>	Postcode <input type="text"/>

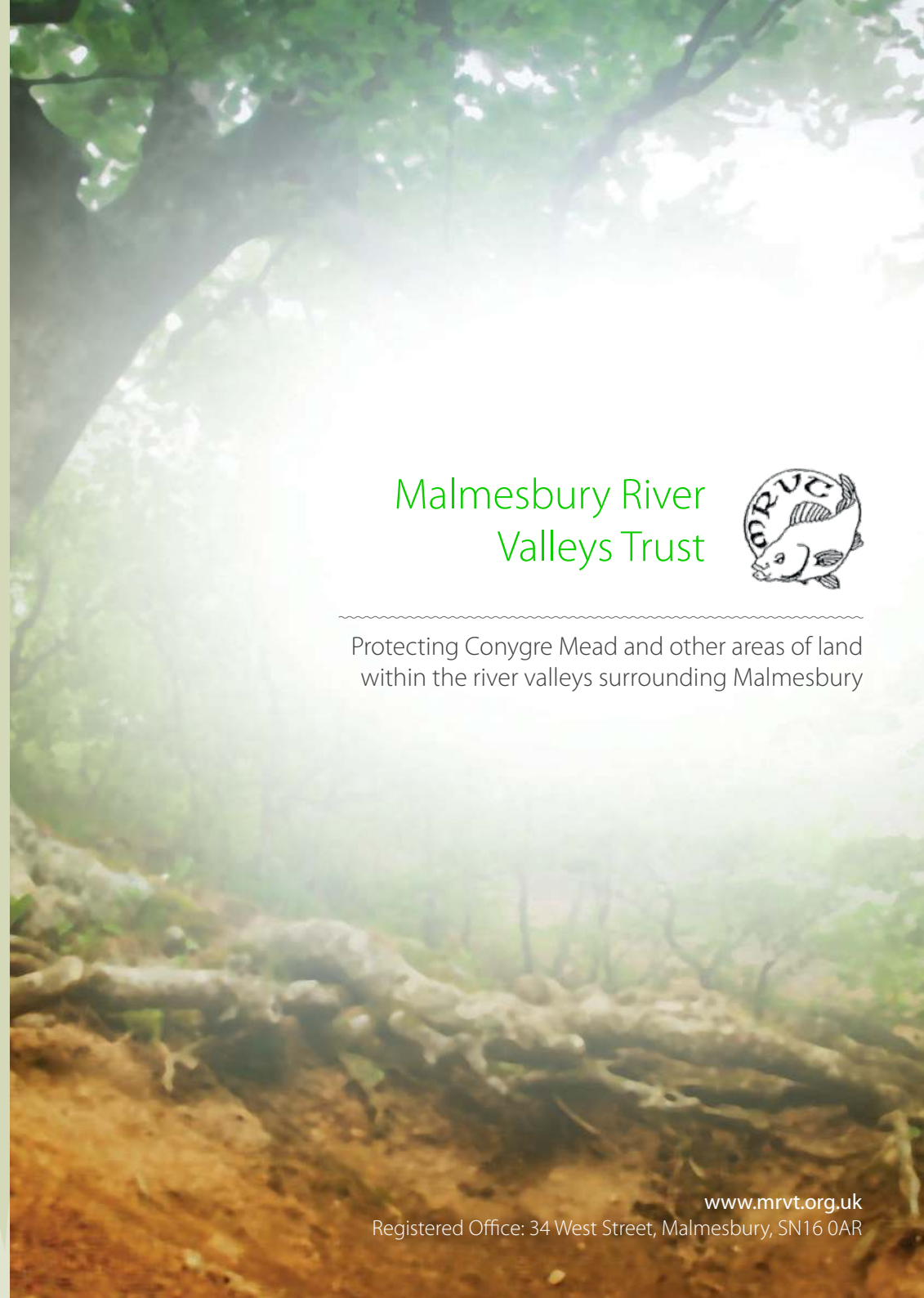
Please pay to Malesbury River Valleys Trust at Co-operative Bank, Skelmersdale. Code 089299. A/c No. 65131260

the sum of £  on the date of receipt by you of this order and annually on the same date

thereafter until cancelled by myself and debit my account No

in the name of  Signed  Date

**Send to Treasurer for registration who will send to bank.**



Malesbury River Valleys Trust



Protecting Conygre Mead and other areas of land within the river valleys surrounding Malesbury

**Introduction.** The Trust was formed in 1992 to protect Conygre Mead and other areas of land within the river valleys surrounding Malmesbury.

The word "Conygre" means "where rabbits live". Before the Reformation the monks at the Abbey used this area as a food source, principally rabbits, whilst ponds immediately adjacent to the river held fish. In the mid nineteenth century the railway line was built crossing Conygre Mead. The line was closed in 1962.

The site was then used as a rubbish dump until 1972 when the land was sold with outline planning permission to a private owner. Fortunately the site was not developed and it was bought by the Trust in 1992 for £25,000. Contributions towards the purchase came from Malmesbury Carnival Committee, the Civic Trust, North Wiltshire District Council, and from the Trust's own members.

It has since flourished and now provides a peaceful haven of some 2.58 hectares for hundreds of different wildlife species and flora. The Trust was given the land at Wynyard Mill at Baskerville in 2002. This consists of about 0.5 hectares overlooking the town.

## The Work of the Trust



## Objectives

- To preserve, conserve, and protect the land owned by the Trust; its terrestrial and aquatic life and their habitats.
- To provide facilities for public enjoyment and appreciation of the wildlife of that land.
- To advance public education in the study of and research into the river valleys and their conservation.



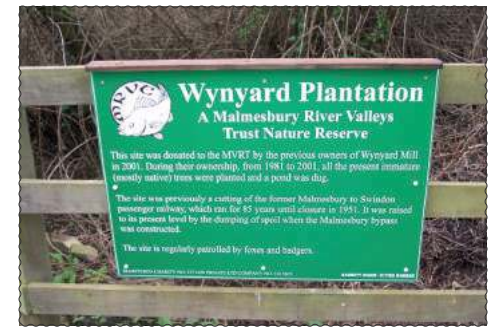
Volunteers carry out conservation/land management work on the first Sunday morning of each month. There is always lots to do so we welcome anyone who turns up.

We consult with the Environment Agency and Wessex Water in an effort to achieve a reduction in water abstraction and reverse the trend towards low flows in the summer months.

Increasingly the Trust has become more involved in the wider aspects of life in the community and has representatives on the Malmesbury and District Conservation Group. We are often invited to comment on those planning matters relating to the river valleys in the town and contributed to the North Wiltshire Conservation Statement and the Core Strategy.

## Nature Reserve Status

Conygre Mead was granted official status as a Local Nature Reserve (LNR) in 2005 by North Wiltshire District Council and English Nature (now known as Natural England). This means the Nature Reserve is included in an official listing by English Nature giving the Trust access to grants in order to continue its work. In October 2013 the Nature Reserve was designated as a County Wildlife Site.



## Education

The Trust holds Schools Weeks each summer which enable young children from the locality to sample the delights of Conygre Mead for a couple of hours and learn about its flora and fauna. This includes various activities from bug hunting, tree identification to identifying creatures from the pond and the river. Events are organised by volunteers with support from Wessex Water. Other events such as Moth and Bat Evenings take place in the summer and these are enjoyed by children and adults alike.

## Fundraising – Why We Need To Raise Money

- To finance the maintenance and improvement of our two Nature Reserves.
- To purchase replacement equipment as and when necessary.
- To have a financial reserve to enable us to purchase more land in Malmesbury's River Valleys.

Fundraising is carried out via subscriptions, donations, grants, sales of our own Christmas Cards, and other events.

If you wish to support the Trust please complete the application form. It doesn't cost much and your contributions are essential to our continuing work.

