

# Heritage

First records (1640) show the Slipper Mill Pond site as Norton Common, with a branch of the River Ems flowing along its axis.



*slipper mill today*

In the 1760s the first Slipper Mill was built and Norton Common was enclosed to form the pond. By the middle of the 19th Century it was

part of a complex of four working mills in Emsworth supplying meal for the Navy in Portsmouth. Slipper Mill ceased functioning in 1936 and the mill and its pond were sold off. The remaining building is the former Slipper Mill store. The mill itself and the mill house were on the North side towards the pond where the garages are now. The undershot mill-wheel is still in position underneath them and the tail race opening can be seen underneath the balconies on the West side of the building.



*slipper mill circa 1910*



*Reedbeds*



*Black Headed Gull*



*Canada Geese*



*Mute Swan & Cygnets*



*Grey Heron*



*Coot*



*Kingfisher*



*Gorse*

# A haven for wildlife

Slipper Mill Pond is a saline lagoon, a very rare wildlife habitat, both within the UK and Europe. It supports a rich invertebrate fauna including two protected species:



*Worm Casts*

Tentacled Lagoon Worm and the Starlet Sea Anemone. It also has an interesting species of tube worm, which leaves tube-like casts. Diving duck, including Tufted Duck, Goldeneye, Red-breasted Merganser and Smew have all been seen, as well as Little Grebe, Kingfisher and Little Egret. Breeding birds include Moorhen, Coot, Mallard and Mute Swan. The pond also is a nursery area to young fish. Grey Mullet can be present in considerable numbers.



*Sea Couch Grass*





King's Quay



Dolphin Quay

North Bank  
Emsworth - Chichester Road  
A259.



## The Association



In 1981 the pond was for sale, and 34 individuals bought it to prevent any untoward development. The owners placed the pond in Trust, and

the Trustees granted a lease to this Association (which was set up for the purpose), and which is responsible for its day to day management and maintenance.

The subscriptions Members and Friends alike form the backbone of the Associations finances. It has been very fortunate receiving generous help from the Chichester Harbour Conservancy, Chichester District Council and West Sussex County Council. In recent years the Association has aimed to assist and encourage local schools to use the pond for scientific, geographical and historical studies. Display panels giving general information and details of the wildlife have been erected. The recently launched Web Site has been specifically designed to supplement them. (www.smppa.org.uk)

**Contact: Slipper Mill Pond  
Preservation Association  
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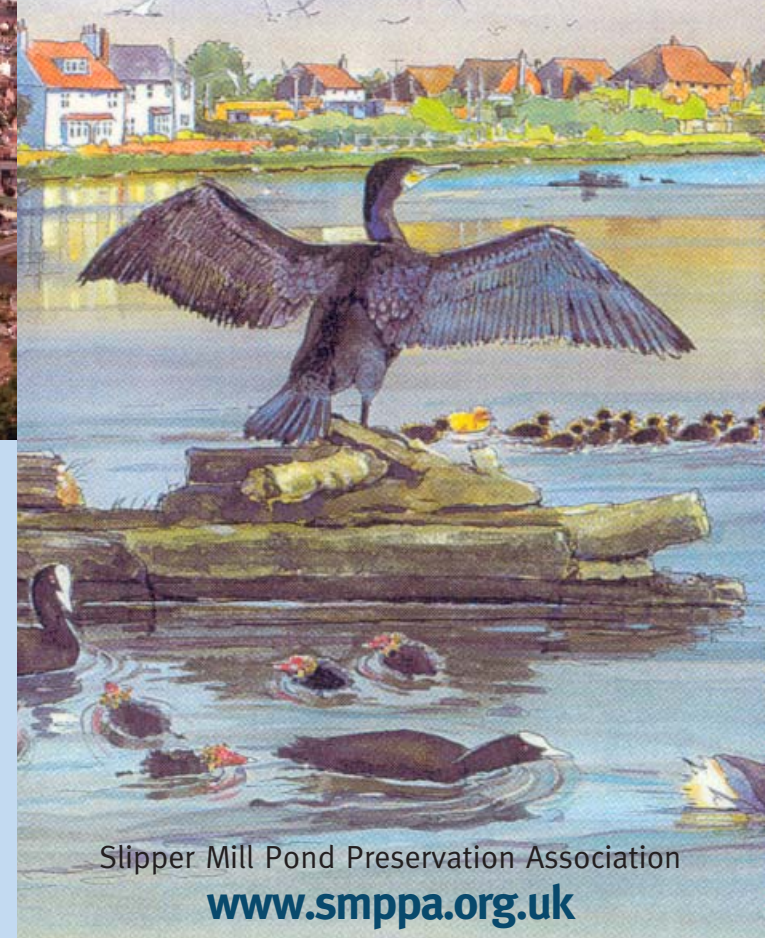
There is access to all the banks of the pond. All are able to enjoy the wildlife of all sorts that live in and around the pond, as well as the views of the pond itself, and those out to Chichester Harbour The top of the sea bank that encloses the South and West sides of the pond makes the public footpath dramatic. The East boundary lies along the paved Slipper Road and the North bank runs along the pavement of the main A259.

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# SLIPPER POND

## Emsworth

Site of Nature Conservation Interest



Slipper Mill Pond Preservation Association  
[www.smppa.org.uk](http://www.smppa.org.uk)

