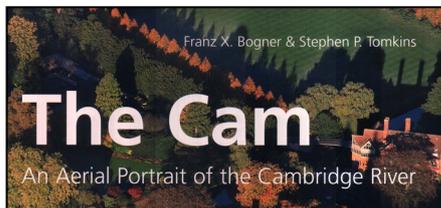




Chair: Jean Perraton Editor: David Brooks

Please reply with any items suitable for the next newsletter, forward this letter to anyone else who may be interested, or, if you wish, reply to request that your address be taken off (or added to) this emailing list.



An Aerial Portrait of the Cambridge River, by Bogner and Tomkins

This new book is a photographic feast which goes beyond a mere tourist's coffee table decoration. Readers of this newsletter will particularly value its use of the River Cam as a conduit for analysing the human impact on nature, both brutal and benign. The superb photographs are a wonderful celebration of the impact of agriculture, the aristocracy, and the university on landscape. Yet, the penetrating,

succinct, and eye-opening commentary on the photographs by Stephen Tomkins does not shy away from the true costs of such devastating destruction of the natural environment. He reveals what the photographs cannot show. His many concerns range from the invasive signal crayfish to the human population's unrelenting demand for water from the Chalk aquifer. Judging by the general perception that tributary spring flows have decreased over the years, he questions whether or not the Environment Agency licenses over-abstraction.

On the left is part of the photograph of Riverside and the new cycle bridge, one of 138 aerial pictures on 128 pages, 21x28 cms in size. Published by the Labor Foundation the book is available in Cambridge bookshops at £24.95.

Prof. Franz X. Bogner is the photographer and he holds a Chair in Biological Education in Bavaria. His colleague Stephen P. Tomkins, a former Cambridge University Lecturer in Biological Education, is an Emeritus Fellow of Homerton College, and a committee member of the Cam Valley Forum. See www.cambridgeriver.info

Floating pennywort at Grantchester - 4 months on

The bottom left photograph featured in the 30 March Newsletter No. 19. A small work party tried hard to remove all traces of pennywort earlier that month. The photograph below was taken from the same position in July.



The bridge and the horse can just be made out. The small channel off the main River Cam is completely clogged with floating pennywort and, to make matters worse, the banks are lined with those most attractive flowers of the towering Himalayan balsam seen in the foreground.

