

Doncaster's Award Winning Great British Spring Clean 2022



Between 25 March and 10 April the Keep Britain Tidy - National Great British Spring Clean saw the Award Winning communities of Doncaster taking part in litter picks across the Borough. The aim was to again encourage our own Litter Heroes from across the Borough and help improve the environment on their own doorstep and further afield. With the bags supplied by Keep Britain Tidy and litter pickers from the Council partnerships of Community Groups, Friends of Groups, Schools, Businesses and Individuals joined forces to safely collect and dispose of litter from their local streets, parks and open spaces. The activity enabled people to get out and experience fresh air (even though we did have snow) and mild exercise as well as some socialising with other members of their community which encourages community capacity building. All litter collected was taken away by the Street Scene Teams.

Despite the challenges that we have faced, the communities of Doncaster have shown environmental action at its best. With a huge increase of participants showing how our collective goal to make Doncaster a better place to live, work and play, can be achieved.

There were over 100 litter pick events held across the borough with an amazing 1600 plus bags of litter collected by over 2000 Community volunteers clocking up a fantastic 1700 miles, 571 litter pickers and 113 hi-viz vests were again loaned out during the campaign, some of which were kept by the volunteers as they have become addicted to litter picking and will be continuing after the campaign had finished. The support for the award winning Doncaster GBSC was incredible and proved that no matter what, our Communities want to continue the fight against litter.

We launched the campaign with blue skies and warm sunshine, 7 days into the campaign it snowed and the final Friday of the campaign saw sunshine and snow showers.

Doncaster was honoured to once again have its own Womble who helped launch this year's campaign with the award.



Dan Swaine, Director of Economy and Environment, said "Once again, Doncaster has come together for another fantastic Great British Spring Clean. After three weeks of tidying from local communities, schools and volunteers, I would like to say thank you to everybody who took part. Your hard work has helped to keep Doncaster a clean space for all to enjoy."

"Litter is not just a problem that we face in the spring, but an issue that the Council handle throughout the year. If you are out and about enjoying all that Doncaster has to offer- please be sure to dispose of rubbish in the bins provided across the borough or take your waste home with you. You can also continue to help us keep Doncaster tidy by borrowing litter picking equipment. Email communications@doncaster.gov.uk to do so."



Comments received from events that took place during the campaign:

Nepalese Community - The Nepalese community in Intake took to the streets as part of the Great British Spring Clean. The group that was brought together by community leader 'Madhu' collected over 30 bags of rubbish on the day.



Braithwell and Micklebring Litter Pickers - A great turnout for an annual event which has taken place for well over 20 years. This event was supported by Braithwell with Micklebring Parish Council. A big thank you to Luke Briggs and team (DMBC) who loaned us equipment and collected the waste bags so quickly after the litter pick had finished.

Thank you



Auckley Spar Stars - Staff from Auckley Spar had a very productive morning with lots of rubbish bags filled. We started at 10am. 6 members of the store staff walked around the village walking 5 miles collecting 5 bags of litter and a plastic storage box



Cantley Crew - Seven people participated in The Cantley Crew litter pick in Cantley woods behind St Wilfs Court. We worked for about two hours and collected approx. 30 bin bags of rubbish. Unusual items found included a traffic cone, wheel clamp, golf club, car registration plates, stone bird bath, Hoover pipes, child's potty, concrete blocks and brand-new protective overalls.



Cantley Crew part 2 - We collected about 20 bags of rubbish from Beldam Plantation today. Also, a wooden pallet, a barbecue, a bucket, a curtain pole, a large metal pole, a bucket, some carpet and, of course, a traffic cone! We couldn't carry it all.

There were 10 of us today, including two councillors, Nick and Laura. A resident from Liberty House came with his carer as well. It's more than just litter picking. It's about meeting new people and bringing the community together. It's been a lovely day all round.

Thank you for all the support and encouragement you have provided



Mean Green Litter Machine(s) - Once again Thorne Road SMILE and CHAD, and volunteers teamed up together. We covered 5 main areas around the local community of Town Fields. Thorne Road, Queens Road, Beckett Road (including a children's play area), Lawn Avenue, Christ Church Road, and the Church grounds.

Our groups were approached by members of the public numerous times praising and thanking them for the great work they were doing.

Not only was it good exercise for all involved, but it also gave our individuals a chance to see for themselves just how much people can be untidy. It made them realise how much litter can accumulate and the effects it can have on the environment.

Once again an enjoyable and fruitful experience.

Muslims of Doncaster litter pick at Doncaster Minster

- 10 members of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community Doncaster visited the historic Doncaster Minster on Saturday the 26th of March to voluntarily clean the inside and outside of the historic Doncaster Minster.

The Ahmadiyya Muslim Community Doncaster selected the Minster as our chosen location for the litter pick as part of the Great British Spring Clean 2022. We thought that there couldn't be a better way to get involved in this great initiative than for a Muslim community to clean the worship place of a different faith.

Our special gratitude to Reverend Canon David Stevens and his congregation for welcoming us with such great hospitality and open-heartedness. We hope and pray to God that we are able to continue to play our positive role in spreading positivity in the wider community of Doncaster and beyond.

The Ahmadiyya Muslim Community believes that Islam is all about serving God and His creation. We believe that faith without good actions is a dead faith. Islam is not a religion of extremism, violence, or terrorism; rather, it is a religion of love, compassion, service and tolerance.

The Worldwide Head of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, His Holiness Mirza Masroor Ahmad, reminds us the importance of serving others in the following words:

"Selfishness, greed and a culture of 'me', is prevailing across the world and across society. Thus, I pray with

all my heart, that mankind forsakes greed and forgoes the pursuit of narrow self-interests, and instead comes to recognise the importance of protecting all of humanity and of showing kindness, compassion and love to God's creation." (Keynote address at the inauguration of Nasir Hospital, 23rd Oct 2018)



Team Litsy Bitsy Teeny Weeny Greener Climate Champs Machiney! – After choosing our day to litter pick it SNOWED. Strange things we found:

- 1) Amie found the most Yorkshire item ever – a flat cap!
- 2) Begona found a micky mouse slipper
- 3) Holly found a full set of bath towels
- 4) I went back in time to 1982 and found a tape cassette
- 5) George found lots of balloons – interesting after Cllr Majid Khan's initiative to ban the release of balloons in DMBC parks/greenspaces
- 6) Rebecca also found balloons, but maybe not the kind to be shared publicly.

The park was REALLY clean actually. Only real problem was the play park and the amount of cig butts near benches.

Great British Spring(?!) Clean hey? Ha!



Lakeside Litter Pick - Lakeside Village management team, Lakeside McDonalds and Doncaster Chamber joined forces to collect litter around the Lakeside Village surrounding area Wilmington Drive.

This is the first of the quarterly litter picks Lakeside Village has pledged to carryout.



Friends of Quarry Park KBT Spring Clean Litter Pick - The litter pickers assembled at the Green Flag, we had 10 volunteers and a mini recruit, along with 2 Rangers from DMBC. We worked in pairs so no one went picking alone, and were assigned specific sites around the Park to ensure there was no duplicating of areas. A great job was done by all, and there were 11 bags of litter collected. Some areas were worse than others but on the whole there was less rubbish than in previous years. The park is looking very clean and tidy now!



Tickhill St Mary's Primary School - Three separate litter picks with 3 separate classes took place over 3 consecutive days. The children walked around Tickhill in groups picking up litter, rubbish, cigarette ends and plastic bags from the whole community. Amongst the items collected were dusters, vape items, a football (recycled for school use), a dead mouse ☹️



Assisi Rubbish Removal - We had a very wet morning for our litter pick but still managed to collect six bags of general waste and one of plastic bottles and cans during our time out before wet and cold stopped play! We did Bolton Hill Park then the surrounding streets and path running around the school, the car park and Nostell Place shopping precinct. Lots of sweet wrappers and food containers were found. Despite the rain, we enjoyed the experience, had a few laughs and met a future volunteer!



TPT Trash Transformation Team – The Sustainability Unit litter picked the section of the Trans Pennine Trail from Baldwin Avenue to Pipering Lane collecting Gas bottle, fire extinguisher, half a mower, buckets, suitcase, mop, brush, plastic reindeer, traffic cone, outdoor parasol.



Green lane NHW Action Group - The group had a successful litter pick collecting a total of 50 bags, clearing Scawsby Lane and Green Lane



OLOS Litter Pick – 18 youngsters with 2 adults Walked to local wood and walked round collecting rubbish found on the ground.

The children used their own litter pickers and rubbish bags to collect the litter found.

Pedals from a car, Part of a car radiator, Carpet, Paint can, Metal fence wire to name a few items found.

The Dot Dot Dot Group – 12 members of the group collected 20 bags of litter on a litter pick throughout High Melton with great results. Lots of rubbish collected off the banks along the main road towards Barnburgh. Great weather for it too.



Wheatley Hills Litter Picking Group – The group split up and covered a large area of Wheatley Hills between the Wheatley Hotel and the Cumberland Hotel, meeting in the middle at Winchester Avenue to deposit the bags. We collected at least 16 bags of rubbish.

A lot of ground was covered in a relatively short time. Lots of litter is collected on their way to and from the start venue.

This was a great team effort. We now have a well-established team of litter pickers who always approach every task with enthusiasm and good humour.



7th BBGA (Doncaster Boys' Brigade and Girls' Association) – Our plan was to litter pick all along St Sepulchre Gate west from St James Church to the Railway station. The Cold weather and snow cut our time short. Despite the freezing conditions our young people still gave it a valiant effort and managed to litter pick around St James Church and the Car park next door.



Hatchell Helpers – The group of 7 collected a total of 8 bags with no major issues for example no sharps the woodland is beginning to look very spring like with lots of wild flowers and birdsong. A pleasant visit. Although we did find a road cone, no-one knew that we had 'road cone trees' in the wood, this must be a new species.

Donny Pickerbugs – the group litter picked a local alleyway in Balby which is often used to discard alcohol bottles and cans. 5 bags and a gas canister were collected.



Pearsons Pick-Up - My litter pick is done and dusted. I collected 14 bags plus one bag of aluminium cans for recycling. There was so much litter I didn't do all the area I was hoping to do...but I will try and get it done another time. Hope the event is a success. Thanks and look forward to the next big clean up 😊.

Hi, been out just now and done another 6 bags to try and finish the road I was down to do



Bitter About Litter - The Bitter About Litter Kickstart Event for the Keep Britain Tidy campaign went very well.

ShawWood Academy, South Yorkshire Police and lots of volunteers turned up and pitched in. The sun was shining and all in good spirits to do their part for the community. I honestly couldn't be prouder of everyone's efforts!

The community centre was the hub for all to place their pledges and collect equipment.

24 full bags in total were collected from all around Armthorpe and we are still tallying up more to add as the 2 weeks progress.

Posters to advertise the event worked well as well as the Bitter About Litter FB and Insta so more events to come in the future.

Thanks to Armthorpe Parish Council too for providing sandwiches and refreshments as well as cake donations from Easy Peezy Parties and I made Litter Critter Cupcakes for the children.

It was a real community effort!

72 bags were pledged for the big bag challenge between myself and volunteers..... a whopping 146 bags in total were collected from the streets, parks and surroundings over the 2 week period.

This total doesn't include the bags of cans taken to Jake's Funds Terra Cycle scheme even! So there was even more rubbish removed!

Street scene collected more than half of the bags from all around the village! The rest were sorted and taken to the recycling centre

It started on the March 26th when Bitter About Litter (Armthorpe Parish Council Project) hosted the Kickstart event at the Community Centre. 40+ people came along including ShawWood Academy and South Yorkshire Police.



The success of the event was talked about around the village and I've since loaned out 12 more litter grabbers to people who I've met whilst litter picking day to day.

2 childrens litter pick events have now been held where children have opted to join in the litter picks as part of their Easter Activities! How fantastic is that! (Today we removed another 6 bags of litter!)



Old Conisbrough Circular Picks – The group started at Conisbrough Castle we walked along some of the ancient roads and routes in Conisbrough ensuring the paths are clear and litter free for the beginning of the walking season. We collected 6 bags, 1 settee and a child's toy along the walk. We did have an unusual item which I didn't mention- a pair of men's trousers complete with boxer shorts- but guess that is best kept to ourselves!!!



Gita's Crew - There were 4 of us in our group, we worked for two hours. We litter picked on Littleworth Lane and Bawtry Road up to the lay-by. Despite finding someone else had already worked these areas we delved into the hedges using a hoe to pull out litter. This produced eight bags of rubbish including a tyre and traffic cone (some unmentionables from lorry drivers in bottles and plastic bags too. We will be doing it again. This is something that we do on our dog walks on a fairly regular basis.

Sustainability Team - Members of the team used their litter pick as a team bonding session, a great time was had and some unusual items were found.



Burghwallis Volunteers – The team ventured out on 2 days in April with a combined group of 19, the group walked 58 miles between them collecting litter, bagging it up and having a good old chatter at the same time. A good excuse for a walk on two nice days. A selection of items were found including a Disability Badge (which was handed to the appropriate authorities), coat, sunglasses, walking sticks and mirrors for a disability scooter. The now common items of covid masks and the usual bottles and cans. But we did enjoy having a catch up and making a difference.



The Pleasance Pickers - The Great British Spring Clean was held at two locations in Edlington, Martinwells Lake and Howbeck Play Park and open space.

Four volunteers attended from The Pleasance and two Stronger Communities Officers from Edlington, Richard has taken part each year and is always out and about in the area Litter picking, a keen Environmentalist.

Three local residents also joined us at Martinwells Lake a total of 8 sacks mostly containing plastic bags, cans and glass/plastic bottles, a further 2 sacks from the park mainly consisting sweet wrappers, cans & bottles.



Brodsworth Litter Pickers - Over 100 plus bags of litter have been picked by residents in the Brodsworth area on Saturday 2nd April and Saturday 9th April .

I did not manage to capture all the litter pickers as some are camera shy , but a big thankyou to all of them from Brodsworth , Pickburn and Green Lane .



Julie Marley and the Womblers - We started at the top field of Askern lake, over the train crossing and down the backs along the dyke upto Marlborough field. Covered about 1 mile & collected 7 bags. Main concern/issues were that we collected over 60 dog poo bags, either dropped on the walkway or launched into the trees. I personally picked up about 6 lots of poo just left. There needs to be several dog poo bins installed along this way with 'fine' notices for not picking up your own dog poo! We were approached by several people who said exactly the same thing!

There were also 2 x shopping trolleys that had been dumped in the dyke.



Askern Helping Hands Environmentalists with Spa Academy Askern – members of the pupil parliament, Eco Ambassadors and Community Ambassadors took part in the litter pick in the streets surrounding the school. 12 youngsters took part collecting 10 bags of rubbish between them, and a bra!



Twitter posts



Communities Central @CentralAreaTeam · 14h
Great Britain Spring clean today in intake linking in with @mydoncaster and @Doncaster Methodist Church community - well done askern!



Communities Central Retweeted
Lakeside Primary Academy @lakeside_barn · 15h
Thank you for joining us today for the Big Spring Clean Up, a great effort, despite the weather! @TheLocalLearning @MyDoncaster @CentralAreaTeam





Some of the more notable items that were collected whilst the volunteers were out and about were:-

Gas canister	Road Cone(s)
wheel clamp	golf club
car reg plates	stone bird bath
hoover pipes	potty
concrete block	new protective overalls
flat cap	mickey mouse slipper
set of bath towels	tape cassette
clothing with tags	2 wing mirrors
binoculars	trousers with boxers
walking stick(s)	dog lead – no dog attached
wooden pallet	bbq
bucket(s)	curtain pole
car radiator	dusters!
dead mouse	football – now recycled
gas bottle(s)	fire extinguisher
½ a mower	suitcase
plastic reindeer	parasol
gloves	packet of painkillers
settee	buggy rain cover
blue badge	bank card
electrical wire	needle (disposed of correctly)
smart phone	pair of pink knickers!
transistor radio	large teddy floating in dyke
2 shopping trolleys	bra

Thank you to:

MIND your litter
Cottam Wombles
Cantley Park Fishing Club
Trinity Academy
Green Top Primary
Doncaster Green Team
Askern Town Council
Thorne Rural Lions
Jayne Eastwood

Castle Hill Primary
 Wheatley Hills Litter Pickers
 Tickhill Tidy Up
 Doncaster Muslims
 Askern Helping Hands Environmentalists
 Spa Academy Askern
 Agape Life Chapel
 Pickerbugs
 Hawks Spring Clean
 Bitter About Litter
 The dot dot dot Group
 Dave Clark
 Vanya Pearson
 Sandy Saints Litter Picker
 The Cantley Crew
 Old Geezers
 Lea Pedley
 Town Moor Litter Pickers
 Yorkshire Outlet Picks Lakeside
 Hatchell Helpers
 PPPPick up the litter
 Intake Astrea
 Burghwallis Volunteers
 Friends of Sandall Park – KFC – McDonalds
 St Mary's Primary Pickers
 Assisi Rubbish Removal
 Boys Brigade Pick Up
 Lakeside Wombles
 Itsy Bitsy Teeny Weeny Greener Climate Champs
 Machiney
 Woodfield Student Council Clean Up
 Plover Pickers
 Moss Road Litter Pickers
 Littlemoor Little Litter Pickers
 OLOS Litter Pick
 Nepalese Community
 St Leger Homes Litter Pickers
 Burghwallis Volunteers
 Quarry Park Wombles
 The Squires
 The Flying Dutchman
 Jon did a litter pick
 Auckley Spar Crew
 Gita Isley & Crew
 Hatchelwood Wombles
 Amber Lodgers
 Team Trinity
 Hickleton's Big Spring Clean
 Sustainable Cheswold
 Mean Green Litter Machine
 Conisbrough Forward
 Don Gorge Group
 DHL Bawtry
 Amazon Doncaster
 Blaxton Littery Society

Let's Clean up Thorne
 Tracie Hillary
 Sykehouse Wombles
 Keep Rossington Tidy Volunteer Group
 The Pleasance
 Cadeby Pickers!
 Dobson & Hodge
 Penny Pickering
 Diane & Shaun Waldron

And everyone who took part in the 2022 Doncaster's Award Winning Great British Spring Clean



Time for a well-earned rest



Until next time