

PROJECT CLOSING REPORT – The Buxton Railings Clean 2016

1. OVERVIEW

Buxton Town Team worked with Buxton & Leek College and with HPBC to involve hundreds of Buxton's school children in cleaning the railings around the Pavilion Gardens.

2. DETAIL OF WHAT TOOK PLACE

Following previous years' "Spring Cleans" it was decided because the litter picking group regularly tidies up parts of the town it was not necessary to run such a large project. Instead we ran a more focussed activity to involve local school children and elements of the community in a Big Railings Clean to remove green algae from the Pavilion Gardens railings.

The Town Team worked with students from Buxton & Leek College to plan the activity. The college provided cleaning materials, arranged first aid cover from St. John's Ambulance and the Students' Union provided entertainment. HPBC provided access to the Pavilion gardens, provided drinks, tables and chairs and removed the waste and litter. Waitrose provided trolleys to carry cleaning materials.

The Railings Clean took place on Tuesday 26th April. More than 500 school children were involved on the day, from all of the primary and secondary schools in Buxton.

3. ASSESSMENT AGAINST AIMS AND SUCCESS CRITERIA

The aims of the project were:

Aim	Assessment
To work with Buxton & Leek College, local schools and the University of Derby to clean the railings around the Pavilion Gardens.	Achieved - students from B&L College were very involved in planning the event, university students were also involved, all bar one of the local schools came out on the day, some brought several classes.
To encourage a sense of pride, ownership of and responsibility for the town.	Achieved - it was stressed that these railings belong to all of us, the children had a good time and were enthusiastic about what they had achieved.
To raise the profile of the Town Team and to engage with existing, and recruit new, members.	Partially achieved, via media coverage.

The measurable success criteria of the project were as follows:

Success Criteria	Assessment
A brighter, cleaner Pavilion Gardens - before & after pictures that demonstrate this	Achieved.
Positive media coverage	The event was covered by the Buxton Advertiser and Pure Buxton. It was also promoted on our Facebook page, and a video of the event was posted there, on the website and on You Tube.
Positive feedback from organisations and individuals both those involved and those not	Achieved. Pavilion Gardens management were very complimentary about the improvement to the railings.
Increased interest in and membership of Buxton Town Team	No evidence of any new members joining as a direct result, but the media coverage did raise our profile.

4. ANY FURTHER BENEFITS

Relationships between the Town Team and the various educational establishments in the town were strengthened.

5. COSTS

There was no expenditure associated with the project.

6. LEARNING POINTS FOR THE FUTURE

There is a lot of effort involved in planning the event, in particular: contacting schools and making arrangements for them to come and clean, ensuring H&S arrangements are adequate, obtaining materials, getting volunteers for the day and publicising the event.

College staff (Laura Billingham) were very helpful in planning the event. The college student were enthusiastic and helpful on the day but it takes a lot of management effort to get them to make useful contributions to the planning.

Tina Heathcote
February 2017