



OxClean

Purpose

OxClean started in 2006. It is our initiative dedicated to changing behaviour so that people do not drop litter in the first place and keeping Oxford clean and tidy.

The Group's work

The main campaign is an annual **Spring Clean** for Oxford, held on the first weekend in March. This is supported by many community groups, schools and the two universities, with well over 1000 people participating. This involves a volunteer doing 2 hours litter picking, either in their neighbourhood or in a designated needy area, a 'grotspot'. OxClean supplies hi-viz vests, litter pickers and plastic bags, and organises the Council to collect from designated areas.

2019 has been one of OxClean's best years with well over 1000 volunteers and around 7 tonnes of litter collected. Next year's Spring Clean is in Leap Year, so we are asking for volunteers to **Leap into Action** on **Friday 28 February, Saturday 29 February and Sunday 1 March 2020**.

The Anti-Litter Campaign for Oxford schools

OxClean visits the five secondary schools twice a year and keeps an eye on the 31 primary schools. An Oxford Civic Society certificate graded on merit is awarded to the secondary schools. We are in touch with all Oxford schools on a regular basis throughout the year regarding litter and the Spring Clean.

Ring Road Campaign

This is an ongoing campaign to get Please Don't Drop Litter notices placed all round the Ring Road. At the moment they are only on Northern and Eastern by-passes.

The Cowley Campaign

Liaising with Oxford City Council and student wardens from Oxford University and Oxford Brookes University, and with Cowley residents, with regard to litter throughout the year and litter problems at the end of the academic year.

Changing behaviour

With a view to changing behaviour and not dropping litter, especially among the young, OCS funded a banner for two years at Oxford United Football Club's Kassam Stadium, saying DON'T DROP IT - BIN IT. The banner is in its third year and will now cease. It has been seen by thousands of youngsters.

SPOTLESS Oxford

This is our latest campaign asking Oxford businesses and citizens to join Jeremy Mogford (of Quod, The Old Parsonage, Gee's and Brown's restaurants), in keeping pavements and gutters in front of premises clean, as is done in many other countries. Recently 15 Co-ops in Oxford have signed up and there are 7 more in the pipeline. Marks & Spencer and Costa have also signed up, as well as Cherwell School and private citizens.

BMW

OxClean is working towards closer liaisons with BMW. OxClean representatives attended the BMW Family Day last summer and have had a meeting with BMW Shop Stewards. There will probably be another meeting in the spring.

Women's Institute

OxClean is building relations with the Women's Institutes across Oxfordshire. The organiser of Abingdon's AbiBinit, with whom OxClean works in close liaison, joined OxClean representatives at the Oxfordshire WI AGM at the Kassam Stadium in March.

Membership

Current members of the OxClean working group are Natasha Robinson (Chair), Rosanne Bostock, Vernon Porter, Liz Grosvenor, Tony Turton, Philippa Berry, Ingrid Lunt, and Peter Thompson.

Meetings

OxClean meets about six times a year, mainly between October and March, to organise the Spring Clean and support other anti-litter initiatives.

Volunteers

We would welcome volunteers either to help with ongoing campaigns or who wish to start new initiatives. Help would be particularly appreciated with the registrations for Oxford Clean, mainly mid-January to beginning of March.

We also need a volunteer to visit the five secondary schools' grounds twice during the school year and supervise links with all the schools. This would be in your own time of choosing and will take approximately 48 hours over the year. The role would ideally suit someone interested in schools either as teacher or parent.