

E-A-S-I

Earley Adopt-a-Street Initiative

Winter 2025 Newsletter

Earley's Litter and Recycling Group

Welcome to EASI's Winter 2025 Newsletter. Thank you to the many EASI volunteers who have continued to litter pick throughout the cold and wet weather during December and January. Please remember to keep warm and dry when litter picking and to wear stout footwear to avoid slipping on wet or icy footways.

We are pleased that the majority of volunteers have responded to our emails about Third Party Public Liability Insurance cover under the arrangements made with Wokingham Borough Council (WBC). However, as a result of contacting all our members, there is an increase in the number of streets now requiring an EASI litter-picking volunteer. This edition of EASI's Newsletter is therefore focused on finding volunteers to take on these streets. We also include news on the grant gratefully received from Earley Town Council for new litter-picking equipment, and a recent litter pick undertaken last autumn to clean-up Mill Lane.

Litter Picking News

Public Liability Insurance

We have had a good response about the new public liability insurance (PLI) that we have managed to put in place for our volunteers through Wokingham Borough Council. The insurance will provide volunteers with cover in the (albeit unlikely) event of causing damage or injury to a third party whilst out litter picking as an EASI volunteer.

If you have not yet responded to our email about this, and wish to give consent for your name and address to be forwarded to WBC's insurers, please get in touch at easilittergroup@gmail.com. Unfortunately, those who do not respond by 31 January 2025, or do not wish for their details to be passed on to the insurers, will need to be removed from EASI's database on the basis that they would no longer be an EASI volunteer. This is for the protection of not only our volunteers, but also the members of the committee.

Volunteers

The number of EASI volunteers currently stands at about 280, a reduction on recent months. As a result of contacting all volunteers about the PLI, we have updated our database and identified a number of streets which are no longer being picked for one reason or another. We therefore have a long list of vacant streets to fill.

We have set-up a map on the Earley Environment Group Website which shows all streets not currently being picked by an EASI volunteer. This is at <http://www.earleyenvironmentalgroup.co.uk/EASI/vacantstreets.asp>.

Please get in touch with us if you can:

- take on another street, or two, near to your patch? Remember, you don't need to pick all of your streets every time you go out
- or know someone who might be interested in becoming an EASI volunteer?



Earley Town Council Grant

We are extremely grateful to Earley Town Council for their grant to EASI last year for the purchase of litter-picking equipment. We have purchased 30 bag hoops, as shown left, at a cost of £378. Please get in touch at easilittergroup@gmail.com if you would like a bag hoop and we will arrange for its delivery. First come first served.

Huge Earley Litter Pick – Save the Date!

Earley Town Council's annual spring litter pick (H.E.L.P) is set to take place on **Sunday 23rd March**. More information will be available soon.

Mill Lane Litter Pick

Eighteen litter pickers took part in a quickly organised litter pick at Mill Lane near Sindlesham Mill in December, taking advantage of the partial closure of the lane during the **Reading Toy Run**. This annual event involves Santas on motorbikes riding in convoy into Wokingham to deliver toys in aid of Barnardo's and other charities. The closure enabled volunteers to remove many bags of litter, as seen on the right. We are grateful to Earley Town Councillor **Alistair Neal** for coming up with the idea and to Committee Member Brenda Hill and her husband Les who 'marshalled' our volunteers.



Recycling and Waste Collection News

Wokingham Borough Council's (WBC's) Website area for Rubbish and Recycling includes useful information on how to donate items for recycling as shown below. Click on the following link for more information:

<https://www.wokingham.gov.uk/rubbish-and-recycling/recycling/reduce-re-use-and-recycle>

Item	How to donate
Batteries	Any shop selling batteries will have a collection point. Take used batteries to the recycling centre . Batteries are a hazard so don't put them out for a kerbside collection.
Disposable nappies and wipes	Try reusable nappies as an easy and cost-effective alternative. Use our nappy cashback scheme. Fill in and return the Real nappy cashback scheme form (PDF document) .
Glass bottles and jars	Return to a local bottle bank and keep the metal lids on. All other broken glass can be taken to the recycling centre.
Laptops	Recycling Technology (Retec) has been launched to support local families. Visit the Wokingham Lions website for drop-off points and information.
Printer ink and toner cartridges	Return to the supplier or check your local shop that sells cartridges. Visit the Stinkyink website.
Shoes, clothes and bags	Donate these to your favourite local charity shop or your local donation bank . Sell or give away for free online.
Soft plastics	These include plastic bags and packaging for fruit, vegetables, crisps and biscuits. Read the packaging for advice on what can be recycled.

Recycling Directory and Contacting EASI



The EASI Recycling database can be found on the **Earley Environment Group Website** under 'Environment' and 'Recycling in Earley – an updated guide'. The link is:

<http://www.earleyenvironmentalgroup.co.uk/Environment/NewRecyclingInEarley.asp>

The **EASI Committee members** are Chris Bassett, Tracy Collins, Bob Collis, Brian Hackett, Grahame Hawker, Brenda Hill, Stephen Kerry and Richard Tredgett. Contact us on EASI's **Email** address: easilittergroup@gmail.com, or visit the EASI **Facebook Page** 'EASI Litter Pickers – Earley'. Information about waste recycling and reporting substantial amounts of dumped rubbish or fly-tipping can be found, as follows:

- **general information** about rubbish and recycling at <https://www.wokingham.gov.uk/rubbish-and-recycling/>
- **report fly-tipping** <https://www.wokingham.gov.uk/rubbish-and-recycling/waste-collection/fly-tipping> the 'Fix-My-Street' App which can also be used to report excessive litter, fly-tipping, etc. <https://www.fixmystreet.com/>