

VOLUNTEERS REPORT FOR AGM 2021

Paths and Steps Volunteers Report

A team of volunteers has been working to sweep leaves and rubbish from pathways and steps around Hotwells and Cliftonwood. These footways are full of local character and often very well-used, but fallen leaves etc. can cause them to become slippery and treacherous underfoot.

Local residents have observed that, although Council workers do clean these areas when possible, support from volunteers is needed to keep these ways clear and safe. Our wonderful volunteers are each assigned a footway to take care of, such as Goldney Lane, Polygon Lane or World's End Lane and White Hart Steps, with small teams taking care of the larger areas in working parties or in rotation. HCCA provides hi-vis vests, brushes, gloves and waste bags, and the sweepings are collected by arrangement with Bristol waste.

We would like to say a big thank you to our pathway volunteers, who are working to take care of our neighbourhood. Particularly at this time of year, it can be a considerable task to clear fallen leaves before they become dangerous. Therefore, more volunteers are always needed, so if you think you can offer the odd hour or two to contribute to taking care of our paths and steps, then please get in touch.

Graffiti Cleaning Volunteers Report

The community survey carried out in Oct 2020 identified graffiti as being a nuisance by many residents. HCCA contacted the City Council to see how the community could get involved in helping to tackle graffiti in our area. Bristol Waste, who work on behalf of Bristol City Council, are not able to address all graffiti in Bristol and welcome help from community groups.

HCCA has, with the help of a group of local volunteers, set up a street cleaning team and a total of 8 volunteers have now been trained by the Council on how to safely use the cleaning equipment. The group have been operating for about 5 months and their work concentrates on removing tags from street signs, parking meters, utility boxes and lamp posts etc. As the team gather experience, they are now starting to paint over tagging which can't easily be removed by chemicals. We have been concentrating along Hotwell Road and the Harbourside area to include the residential roads which lead up to Clifton and Cliftonwood. We appear to keep on top of the smaller tags however, there is an increase in the larger graffiti tags or art works, which require specialists (Bristol Waste) to remove.

Applying graffiti or tags to someone's property be it private, utility providers, or Council owned property is a criminal offence. If you see any graffiti, then it can be [reported to the Council through their website](#). The council also encourage people to report graffiti to the police and full details are on their website.

Volunteers can be easily seen as they are wearing hi-vis HCCA vests, so if you wish to support them, please say hello. If you would like to find out more or wish to join the group in cleaning up our streets, then please contact us.

We would like to express a big thank you for what the volunteers have achieved to date.