

Alleyway clean up and party - St Bridget & St Thomas Lighthouse, Wavertree

Young and old from SBT Lighthouse worked with local residents on an alley greening project. The alleyway between two streets was in an awful state & unsuitable for children to play in. People were fed up about the situation but until now there was not enough momentum to do anything about it. We worked together to clean the area, remove rubbish & install hanging baskets and then celebrated the space with a barbeque and bouncy castle. As well as removing rubbish we gathered old white goods for collection by the council.



Hard at work jetting the alley

Our partners:

Picton Neighbourhood Resource Centre & Riverside Housing gave us support and advice, whilst local students also lent a hand. The local Residents Association provided expertise from a similar project.

Funding:

We received a small grant from Operation EDEN for plants and materials and a similar amount from Riverside Housing

What we did:

- 17-24 May: Four evening visits to all residents, giving information about alley greening project and encouraging participation
- 31 May – 2 June: Local residents, youth group & church members potted up 250 hanging baskets
- 31 May: Men's group brushed alleyway, removed rubbish and drilled holes for baskets
- 2-3 June: Men's group removed rubbish, jet-washed alley, hung baskets & painted over graffiti
- 24 June: Barbeque & bouncy castle

Lessons learnt:

- Order flowers & equipment well in advance – don't rely on picking up on the day.
- Organise your workforce before you plan what to include in the project, so you don't try to do too much

Impact of the project:

The alleyway has been developed into a clean, communal space. Barriers have been broken down between youth club members and the residents and between the residents themselves. We have managed to raise awareness of the different ways that people can recycle or dispose of rubbish, white goods and bulky waste. **Other streets have seen what we achieved and want to do it for themselves!**

Where you can go for help or advice:

- You will probably need to work with your local council and housing association
- "Streets Alive" provide information about how you can organise a local street party – call 0117 922 5708 or visit www.streetparty.org.uk

"The people who attended were thrilled with the change. They were happy for the children to use it as a safe play area." Project volunteer

**Operation EDEN Case Study - note Operation EDEN
was the pilot project for Faiths4Change**

