

BACB

TOGETHER DAYS

PARTNERING WITH EMPLOYEE VOLUNTEERING

BACB Together organises monthly Volunteering Days where our colleagues can get involved in a wide range of charitable projects, give back to the community and support causes closest to them

‘Employee Volunteering is a not-for-profit community interest company committed to supporting us in the planning, delivering, monitoring, and reporting of our volunteering programme. They are a first-choice partner that provides high quality, high impact individual and team volunteering opportunities to colleagues together onsite or remotely anywhere in the world.’

Despite the challenges of COVID-19, BACB remained committed to its volunteering programme. From seasonal pruning to repainting play structures, colleagues at BACB have worked together to assist highly deserving projects that contribute to the wellbeing of communities in the South East of England.

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“BACB came to Glamis in May, I was amazed to see that while we were still under Covid restrictions, they were still reaching out to help charities like ours. We are an adventure playground, which means we are always needing volunteers to help us keep the outside areas safe and fresh.

Ever since they first volunteered at Glamis in 2019, BACB always seems to turn up at the right time. We were pleased to find out among their corporate team a few handymen who knew a thing or two about using tools and building things, skills that are very helpful on a volunteering day at Glamis. They also have colleagues who live in the area and have volunteered their time on their own steam.

From all the children, staff and trustees at Glamis we'd like to say a massive thank you to BACB. ”

GLAMIS ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND

Thursday 20th May 2021

On Thursday 20th May 2021, BACB colleagues participated in restoration activities at the Glamis Adventure Playground. Operated by The Shadwell Community Project, Glamis Adventure Playground was one of London's first adventure playgrounds when it was built on former wasteland in the late 1960s. The park encourages the development and wellbeing of children through social interaction, problem solving, and tolerance in a supervised environment.

Changes to key personnel in the past 18 months meant the overall state of the playground had suffered. The new team is working on a programme to rebuild the facilities for the benefit of the children and the community who rely on this space.

Our colleagues volunteer to assist with key tasks such as sorting out the wood store, turning old tyres into planters, and general refurbishment to improve and restore the facilities. This project helps build a safer environment for children to grow up in and makes a real difference to the outdoor community spaces of the Borough of Tower Hamlets, a lifeline for families particularly during the nationwide lockdown.



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ESSEX WILDLIFE TRUST

Friday 18th June 2021

*“Thank you
once again BACB.
You were great
despite the
downpour!”*

Dean Williams,
Essex Wildlife Trust

BACB enjoyed a day out in nature working together with the Essex Wildlife Trust at the Chafford Gorges Nature Discovery Park on 18th June 2021. The Essex Wildlife Trust is a leading conservation charity established in 1959. The charity aims to protect wildlife for future generations, managing over 8,400 acres of land on 87 reserves, two nature parks and 11 visitor centres. Chafford Gorges Nature Discovery Park covers 200 acres and is home to birds, butterflies, and other wildlife, as well as providing green space for the 16,000 people in the surrounding area.

Our colleagues were tasked with conservation activities that help preserve the ecosystem at the park. Colleagues contributed to sustainability efforts with seasonal pruning, building floating bird boxes and maintaining the footpaths. Although the pandemic halted all work and projects on site, BACB volunteers were thrilled to return and continue supporting the park's outstanding natural beauty.





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WATERLOO ACTION CENTRE

Thursday 15th July 2021

“They were very nice people to have around, very helpful and have left the garden looking SO much better. Please thank them and thank you too.”

Jenny Stiles,
Waterloo Action Centre

The Waterloo Action Centre (WAC) is a thriving charity run by and for the local community for more than 40 years. In an Old Victorian venue, the centre hosts a wide variety of services and group activities for the Borough of Lambeth.

In 2020, WAC had to close its doors to all volunteers due to the COVID-19 restrictions, leaving many important jobs incomplete. On their return, BACB colleagues were tasked with painting doors, skirting boards, and weeding and pruning the garden. Colleagues from across the bank came together to support the delivery of a clean, safe, and welcoming space for the community, and having fun along the way.





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SOUTHWARK PARK

Thursday 2nd September 2021

“The BACB volunteers have done a fantastic job that greatly benefitted the nature area.

They made it much safer for schools to use.

Would definitely have them back again!”

Southwark Park

A well-loved green space in the heart of London, Southwark Park is one of the borough's largest open green spaces. The park offers a range of facilities for the local community and hosts one of the borough's 59 sites for biodiversity and conservation. Local schools and nature groups enjoy using the park for their educational activities. The park is managed in a way to balance the needs of both residents and wildlife.

As with similar projects, ecological and conservation activities at the Southwark Park came to a halt. BACB colleagues participated in a project to support the parkland and the lake, working around the pond, clearing shrubs and invasive species to promote growth of native plants.





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CEDAR HOUSE

Wednesday 22nd September 2021

“The volunteers were very dedicated, friendly and hard working. The work they accomplished in a day was enormous and we could not have been able to do so in a week!”

Cedar House

Cedar House is a registered care scheme providing 24-hour care, support, and accommodation in the Borough of Kensington and Chelsea. The scheme helps clients to live independently by empowering their active participation in the local community. Supporting the scheme, Look Ahead Housing and Care is a charitable housing association working with people who may be rough sleepers, or those with mental health needs, as well as women and children fleeing domestic violence.

During the pandemic, Cedar House had to close its doors to all volunteers, undermining activities that were urgently needed. To prepare for reopening after the pandemic, BACB colleagues provided practical support to refurbish the open-plan lounge, kitchen, office, and garden. The upkeep of these areas mean that the centre can continue to hold the social activities that play an important role in the support and services offered to clients.



BEFORE



AFTER!





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