**Something for the weekend.....Action #12:  
Just pick it up**

Litter. It is irritating and disappointing to see it flying about. It is infuriating and disheartening to witness someone purposefully dropping it. However, moaning about litter will not make it disappear (nor will the wind).

The Great British Spring Clean - now the country's biggest mass-action environmental campaign - was organised by the charity [Keep Britain Tidy](https://www.facebook.com/KeepBritainTidy/?ref=gs&__tn__=%2CdK-R-R&eid=ARDR3MP4OYO2B9nzqFMato69YxsnqsZd7l5Yh_-gXVL-cUbxWhqxC2vXiPKk0CDkuuX4blcFX-vju8U7&fref=gs&dti=308664193075982&hc_location=group) this year. There were 17,097 clean-ups; and 957,377 bags of litter collected. This involved people donating 1.1 million hours litter picking. But what a result.

We are fortunate to have passionate community driven groups like [Dorset Devils](https://www.facebook.com/dorsetdevils/?ref=gs&__tn__=%2CdK-R-R&eid=ARBbPEiyC_tNt7QQuYhjMoZOd_6NB0tTWMMtpztA8Op3VKfidTZvVB5wDxa4rTbSi2kXz38oWhqPI23x&fref=gs&dti=308664193075982&hc_location=group) and [Leaveonlyfootprints\_LOF](https://www.facebook.com/LeaveOnlyFootprintsLOF/?ref=gs&__tn__=%2CdK-R-R&eid=ARA2TIKiKffU0A1kAKTc7F9H4B7RgjqMX6B4IIjJ6GaM_P8zx38ExsznzUEivH350jt0MFUedvW2Jy44&fref=gs&dti=308664193075982&hc_location=group) who organise local litter picks. But what if you are unable to join them? What about the litter lying around in the time in between them? What about the areas they don't cover?

So why wait until someone else organises one? If you see a plastic bag flying past you, grab it. If you hear a can rolling across the path, pick it up. Remove that crisp packet sitting in the bush (and take it to Win on Waste....♻️).

Whether you pick up 1 item or a bin bag full, your efforts will make a difference by:

1. Removing items that could endanger wildlife - RSPCA are responding to 1,500 calls about litter-related incidents affecting animals every year (KBT)

2. Lessen the amount of waste degrading and toxins absorbed into the earth, foliage and ground water.

3. Maintain the natural beauty of our area.

4. Inspire others to do the same, resulting in more litter being disposed of appropriately.

5. Influence those who are less environmentally aware and cultivate a more caring culture.

You can then also take a few moments to bathe in feeling good about yourself. You have done an awesome thing 🙌.

The Wastebusters crew will be out and about, in and around Southbourne on Monday (24th June), individually, doing a mini litter pick, as we often do. We invite you to join us in spirit and take the same action - on your way to work or college; the school run; on your break.....whenever you can. Take some before and after pics; what did you find? Was it your first litter pick - what was it like? Share your photos and experience with us!!

The start of a great Sobo litter pick?!! (To be continued.....)

Picking up litter can be done any time, any place, to an extent - but be sensible. Don't pick up any sharp objects without appropriate equipment or forage around undergrowth without appropriate gloves and/or a litter grabber....there could be glass, needles or other hazardous items lurking. Just saying.