**Something for the weekend…..action #4: Make do and mend**

"The average household in the UK produces more than a tonne of waste every  
year. Put together, this comes to a total of 31 million tonnes per year, equivalent  
to the weight of three and a half million double-decker buses, a queue of which  
would go around the world two and a half times."

We have finally made it through the winter to spring. In the haste to adapt to the onset of warmer weather, let's not be tempted to rush out to the shops just yet....for clothes, shoes, accessories....for gardening tools, plants and furniture....new bikes, camping gear, outdoor games and sports equipment.....

And if a traditional spring clean takes your fancy...hold off reaching for the bin or going to tip. Instead, perhaps:

1. Take stock: what do you have already? Do you really need to buy new items? Can a bit more life be squeezed out of what you do have? Can you make do?

2. Get fixing: so you realise you have what you need afterall, but it's not working so well, if at all. Can Google or YouTube help you learn how to fix it safely? Do you know someone who might have the skill and be able to teach you? Can you access a course or workshop? Could you contact [Bournemouth Repair Cafe](https://www.facebook.com/RepairCafeBH/?ref=gs&__tn__=%2CdK-R-R&eid=ARCNQUxbP5ySlsnmAss-gF-T_I7BfmOJqE6qvCyzqRKcIeaQOJGDkzMJc9UaozSYkNandfH9EU2dyFv9&fref=gs&dti=308664193075982&hc_location=group) for some help and take your items along to the next session?

3. Seek a service to mend: we are so lucky to have such a varied, knowledgeable and skilled selection of local repair services. [Tailoring & Vintage Bournemouth](https://www.facebook.com/tailoringandvintage/?ref=gs&__tn__=%2CdK-R-R&eid=ARBjYcsyp9GWUm_mNUw4nAaX-Z9nMj-Pstb7sffd3QmSRnGfstQJSTG8KBZAZ7TOL3vXny2IlrKLWuAp&fref=gs&dti=308664193075982&hc_location=group) have worked wonders on our coats, rucksacks, clothes and even sleeping bags; Grove Services have extended the life of my sandals and boots; JC Fry and Sons sorted out some headphones; [Velo Domestique](https://www.facebook.com/velodomestiquecafe/?ref=gs&__tn__=%2CdK-R-R&eid=ARAJOnPic1umhdPW6hTQs2NShZhJ6BSyysIFG7_76nVNsUg6hhL0MwtyQz5bwz4UEwf7gUrdyW-6bC1_&fref=gs&dti=308664193075982&hc_location=group) have kept my bike ticking over....then the Treasure House and [Southbourne General Store](https://www.facebook.com/southbournegeneral/?ref=gs&__tn__=%2CdK-R-R&eid=ARA3Sy6LwGnDXEmp27Bjd4eKNmTQ9Lv8HtEP4rITZTJKA2Bfy_AQbgscTFi2lgBEmWvLBjLZMwHhNOvq&fref=gs&dti=308664193075982&hc_location=group) have offered helpful advice and a selection of replacement parts and tools for DIY jobs, from stitching to gluing and stain removing. The list goes on....a quick search on [SoBO](https://www.facebook.com/groups/southbourne/?ref=gs&fref=gs&dti=308664193075982&hc_location=group) for a range of local trades will confirm this! Feel free to post details of more you would recommend in the comments.

4. Pass it on: If you have no need for something that has more life in it, or potential to be fixed or upcycled by someone else, post details on [Sobo Recycle](https://www.facebook.com/groups/699718630361414/?ref=gs&fref=gs&dti=308664193075982&hc_location=group) or [The Freecycle Network](https://www.facebook.com/freecycle/?ref=gs&__tn__=%2CdK-R-R&eid=ARAgqxj3ZFX98lK6k3jr-Xjf6CAtoTQ3wDF9yb5_MbIgW4OMisQnxCBHFSplUO8Rvo6TvMtz_sZfyjbO&fref=gs&dti=308664193075982&hc_location=group).

5. Recycle: If your items really have come to the end of their life, find out if there is a local recycling point - take a look at on the [Sobo Wastebusters](https://www.facebook.com/sobowastebusters/?ref=gs&__tn__=%2CdK-R-R&eid=ARCHg6Ae21mT6dBCXJAtbzB3DLB0rTO4ycRVmAg32f6r6pMn8Z04n9QEKH0LPdHr66qn3Bf1MQ12bo63&fref=gs&dti=308664193075982&hc_location=group) website, [Millhams Recycling](https://www.facebook.com/pages/Millhams-Recycling/131347700294940?ref=gs&__tn__=%2CdK-R-R&eid=ARDUCCLJfZdz3N8DpChzCG9hZWBC5wOwKZ4vBawxShE0pVWPzx79zlMeiU4qxRNLRbXX-6IAFli2dtut&fref=gs&dti=308664193075982&hc_location=group), [RecycleNow](https://www.facebook.com/RecycleNow-2049951575295286/?ref=gs&__tn__=%2CdK-R-R&eid=ARB9hPRUK0PvCAs1o30kIZL_EPapZ9zCVucKH7PJwMxOWT19h-RHGpnNnIhKRY0WtnFZoOiY9RQoqDyy&fref=gs&dti=308664193075982&hc_location=group) or post in the [Sobo Wastebusters Group](https://www.facebook.com/groups/308664193075982/?ref=gs&fref=gs&dti=308664193075982&hc_location=group) for some ideas and advice.

6. Dispose responsibly: So all other options have been exhausted. Time to consult [Millhams Tip](https://www.facebook.com/pages/Millhams-Tip/323214248315142?ref=gs&__tn__=%2CdK-R-R&eid=ARDNtIWs2yogY-RpUVPY5iRGQRKmCvCkfD8Gu_nNJYnD4M9FvY4mnun8aNIkMCB4TaVFyA1xoJPD0LBF&fref=gs&dti=308664193075982&hc_location=group).

And where to get a replacement? Still, before you go to the shops....

\* can you borrow?

\* can you buy second hand from a local shop or buy/sell group?

* do you actually really need it?!!!