# Featured Volunteer

## Karon Andrews

### Tell us a little bit about yourself.

I am semi-retired and I very much enjoy ballroom dancing and walking. I enjoy visiting places of natural beauty and I am passionate about the need to look after the environment together with its wildlife.

### How long have you been a Litter Champion?

I have been a Litter Champion for about two years.

### What inspired you to become a Litter Champion?

**Karon has collected 95 bags of litter since May 2020!**

As a keen walker I had become increasingly aware of my local environment and, sadly, the increasing amount of litter around. Rather than just accepting the situation and expecting other people to pick up the rubbish, I decided to join the Litter Champion scheme and litter pick in my local area a few times a week to help improve the aesthetics of Beaufort.

### How do you feel volunteering has benefitted you and/or the community?

Volunteering has helped me in terms of giving me a sense of purpose and satisfaction in helping my community. I have met some very nice and like-minded people who also want to improve the environment of Blaenau Gwent. It has also helped me in terms of getting more exercise, giving me a greater sense of wellbeing and fitness. I hope that I have benefitted my community by making the environment cleaner and more attractive to residents.

### What would you to say to someone whose thinking about joining the Litter Champion Scheme?

I would definitely recommend that others join this scheme as it gives you an intrinsic sense of satisfaction and achievement as well as supporting the community.

### What's the most peculiar thing you've ever picked up whilst Litter Picking?

I have picked up underwear on occasion! I did find some gym weights that had been fly tipped once, but I was unable to lift them so I reported them to the council for them to remove.

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