

We have to talk about Plastic

Be Plastic Clever or go Plastic Free! Find out how we're taking action in South Devon against single-use plastic by doing easy things to avoid the 'big four' polluters.

South Devon Estuaries Partnership
 Plastic Clever Salcombe
 DEVON COMMUNITY RECYCLING NETWORK
 THE BIOREGIONAL LEARNING CENTRE
 and The South Devon Plastic Pollution Network

Plastic Clever cafés, schools, festivals and businesses

It's happening in Salcombe!



Help collect and document 100,000 pieces of plastic litter.



Do you agree we need to get smarter about plastic?

Sisters Amy and Ella Meek, 14 and 12, founded this national campaign two years ago.



Above: Salcombe estuary, paddleboard by Guy Harrop, Ella's first Plastic Clever award.

Meet Ella Turns, a six-year-old Kid Against Plastic from Salcombe. Since summer 2017, she has presented awards to more than 35 businesses and two schools for being Plastic Clever. Ella and her mum, Anna, pick up plastic from their paddleboard, scouring the foreshores of every creek and cove. Follow Ella's progress on Facebook @SalcombePlasticClever and look out for blue Plastic Clever window stickers on shop windows locally.

#BePlasticClever

Plastic Free communities, towns and coastlines

It's happening in Kingsbridge, Totnes, Ivybridge and Torbay!

Help create 125 Plastic Free Communities by 2020 with:



Are you a community leader?

Take your whole town to the next level! Currently there are over 300 communities working towards plastic-free community status by making small changes that will have significant positive impact.

#PlasticFreeCommunities



Modbury became Europe's first plastic bag-free town in May 2007. For over 10 years people have been shopping in the town's 43 shops with their own cloth bags. Kingsbridge now has a 'borrow a bag' scheme so some shopkeepers lend you a cloth bag to return another day.



40% of the plastic generated every year is single-use. Some of that is necessary, in healthcare for example, but most of it we can easily do without.

Most plastics never biodegrade and microplastics can prove toxic or lethal to wildlife and livestock in our countryside, waterways and seas.

Globally, 8 million tonnes of plastic enters the sea from land every year. We need to stop the flow of plastic into our waterways and turn the tide on single-use plastic. We can all make everyday changes now that really will make a difference.



Photo: Lannacombe Beach by Monika Malek

Simple things you can do today

Let's think more responsibly about disposable plastic and avoid everyday single-use plastic items, choosing reusables instead where possible.

1. Find alternatives to the 'big four' plastic polluters: plastic-lined coffee cups with lids, bags, straws and drinks bottles.
2. Say 'no straw please' when ordering a drink and take your own water bottle to refill with tap water when you're out and about.
3. Remember your cloth bags and take your own containers to the butcher or deli counter.
4. Join litter picks in your area and wherever you live, make sure that rubbish never reaches our waterways.
5. Encourage more cafés, businesses and schools to adopt a Plastic Clever or Plastic Free mindset and commit to cutting down on the 'big four'.



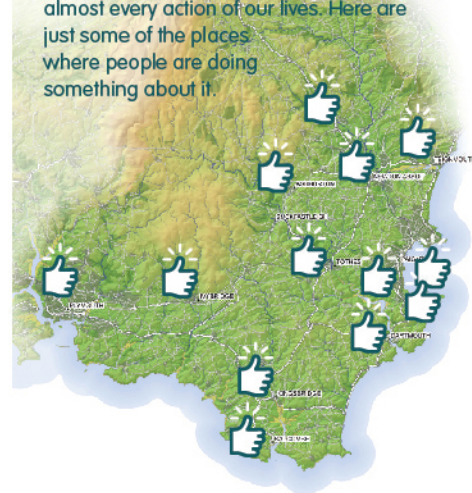
Upstream on the River Dart, Totnes Rubbish Walks collects bags of plastic waste along the riverbanks. There's also a Refill scheme in the town organised by Transition Town Totnes volunteers. By taking action you can help others see the problem too. Find out more, here's a start:

- kidsagainstoplastic.co.uk
- sas.org.uk
- beplasticclever.co.uk/salcombe
- litteraction.org.uk/totnes-rubbish-walks
- plasticpollutioncoalition.org
- aplasticplanet.com
- recycledevon.org/RefillDevon



The South Devon Bioregion

All water is connected. We are dependent on water to survive but we are overloading our waterways with pollutants and rubbish from almost every action of our lives. Here are just some of the places where people are doing something about it.



South Devon is serious about plastic reduction from source to sea, across the catchments of the Dart, Yealm, Erme & Avon rivers, Salcombe-Kingsbridge estuary and Slapton Ley.

Many organisations and community projects have been invited by South Devon AONB, Devon Community Recycling Network (DCRN) and local councillors to come together to demonstrate their commitment to refusing, reusing and reducing plastic by joining the new **South Devon Plastic Pollution Network**.

If you run an initiative that we should know about, please get in touch with DCRN at info@dcrn.org.uk. Here are some friends and supporters:

