

# Linbrooke Volunteers at Rabbit Ings Country Park

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Perpetuating a culture of sustainability, social responsibility and giving back to the community, 12 Linbrooke colleagues were delighted to volunteer at the Rabbit Ings Country Park in Royston, South Yorkshire.

As a well-known landmark in the local community, park rangers tasked our team with clearing overgrown shrubs from a rabbit carved into the hillside – with the aim to return this celebrated sight back to its former glory. Working closely with the park rangers, the Linbrooke team also built a bird-watching bench near the pond, removed debris from footpaths, and cleared unwanted foliage from the park entrance.

Will Wilson, Linbrooke's CEO, attended the site to meet with the volunteers and park rangers. He said: "At Linbrooke, we are passionate about supporting local communities, and our volunteering policy encourages all colleagues to take a day out of the business to do put something back into the local community. I am very proud of the team for supporting this great cause."

Justin Hopkins, MD for Linbrooke Infrastructure Services, who also took part in the challenge, said: “What a brilliant day! Volunteering not only supports communities in need, but it also helps the business to build a stronger and more cohesive team. Knowing that commuters, tourists and local residents will have the opportunity to rediscover the ‘Rabbit’ after all these years has really given the whole team a sense of pride and accomplishment. We are so proud to be a part of the park’s history.”

Mayor of Barnsley, Councillor James Michael Stowe, said: “It’s so important that we all play our part in protecting our borough, so I’d like to thank the volunteers from Linbrooke for their recent volunteering efforts at Rabbit Ings Country Park.

“Being able to see the rabbit again from a distance will be fantastic and offers something unique to visitors, while the bird-watching bench is also a welcome addition to the park. It is a fabulous community asset and I encourage our residents to go and visit when they have the chance.”



Rabbit Ings is a country park located on the former colliery yard and spoil heap of the Monkton Colliery and then the Royston Drift Mine, which closed in 1989. The 64-hectare site, situated near Royston in South Yorkshire, is home to an array of wildlife – including newts, snakes and herons.

Rabbit Ings was officially opened in 2011 under the ownership of Wakefield Council. In 2012 the Council transferred the land into the ownership of the Land Trust. The park provides soaring footpaths and cycle tracks that offer stunning views, as well as sports pitches for use by the community.

Sophie Wilkinson, Senior Countryside Ranger, said: “On behalf of everyone at The Land Trust, we want to thank the Linbrooke volunteers for their hard work ensuring that the Rabbit is again visible from afar and for lending the equipment to move the boulders. We heavily rely on volunteers to maintain the country park for visitors, and without the support of companies like Linbrooke, we couldn’t have achieved this fantastic result in one day.”

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*Photo credit: Linbrooke*