

BE PROUD

SOUTH Manchester residents have been working hard with the support of businesses and Manchester city council to make huge improvements to their local area during this year's Business in the Communities, Give & Gain Day.

Give & Gain Day took place last Friday and was a chance for business to give a little something back to local communities

by encouraging their staff to donate time and skills during working hours to a variety of neighbourhood projects.

This year saw volunteers from the University of Manchester, Laing O'Rourke, Balfour Beatty and Sir Robert McAlpine join residents in Levenshulme to transform under-used areas of the neighbourhood.

Members of Levenshulme's Carrill and Worsley Grove Residents Association worked alongside local business volunteers to build picnic tables, benches and fix

trellis in a back alleyway while also generally sprucing up the area.

The extra support allowed the residents association to put the finishing touches to a project close to their heart. They had already invested a huge amount of effort into the shared space - building planters and creating a real sense of community. The Give & Gain volunteers then helped to complete the project.

Adam Zdravkovic, of Carrill and Worsley Grove Residents Association, said: "Thank you to the various companies and organisations taking part in Give & Gain Day 2016.

"This is an unbelievable help for us in being able to transform our alleyways into an urban garden for all residents to enjoy.

"This project has been a huge success.

"It has not only brightened up the alleyways but has also got neighbours talking to each other.

"The work that is done on Give & Gain Day, alongside the funds and help provided by



● Some of the results of work done on Give & Gain Day

Manchester city council through the Clean City fund, will get us closer to our aim of having an incredible community

barbecue in celebration of completion of the urban garden this summer, that is if the sunny weather holds up!"

Give & Gain Day is an annual national day of action that sees hundreds of businesses and thousands of volunteers

get involved with community projects across the country. To find out about volunteering

opportunities across Manchester visit: manchestercommunitycentral.org/volunteer-centre-manchester.