



RECYCLING UPDATE

WHAT HAPPENS TO IT ALL AND WHAT ELSE CAN WE DO?

Lindsey u3a - Trojan Mice

Julie Guest,
13th October 2025

TROJAN MICE RECYCLING POINT

Our aim is to provide an easily accessible drop-off point for items which are not collected by the council for recycling.



OTHER SOURCES OF RECYCLING

- Stonecliff Park - Welton
- Nettleham Ladies Club
- Dunholme Village Hall
- Dunholme Cosy Corner group

TROJAN MICE RECYCLING POINT

Average collection at a u3a meeting

Blister Packs 2-3 bin bags

Water Filters 20 +

Spectacles 10 – 15 pairs

Batteries 50 +

Light bulbs 5 – 10

Ink Cartridges 5 – 10

Postage Stamps mostly in January!



MEDICINE BLISTER PACKS

1. Why can't they go into home recycling?

2. Where can you take them?

3. Where do they go?

4. How are they recycled?



Most are aluminium foil on one side and plastic on the other.

MEDICINE BLISTER PACKS

1. Why can't they go into home recycling?

2. Where can you take them?

3. Where do they go?

4. How are they recycled?



Some are 100% foil and can be recycled at home

MEDICINE BLISTER PACKS

There have been changes in our recycling process of blister packs. Your blue top recycling bin can now only accept blister packs that are made of foil on both sides. Always check before you throw that there are no tablets left in the packaging.



MEDICINE BLISTER PACKS

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4. How are they recycled?



HIGH STREET COLLECTION POINTS

Boots and Superdrug pharmacies
Hopefully Lincolnshire Coop

No bulk drop-offs!

MEDICINE BLISTER PACKS

1. Why can't they go into home recycling?

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**MOST BOXES ARE SUPPLIED BY 2
RECYCLING COMPANIES**

Terracycle and MyGroup

MEDICINE BLISTER PACKS

1. Why can't they go into home recycling?

2. Where can you take them?

3. Where do they go?

4. How are they recycled?

★★★★☆ 10 reviews

Empty Medicine Blister Packs – Zero Waste Box™

£216.00

Size: **Large Zero Waste Box 38 x 38 x 97 cm**



– 1 +

Add to cart

BOTH COMPANIES ARE VERY EXPENSIVE

MEDICINE BLISTER PACKS

1. Why can't they go in home recycling?

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4. How are they recycled?

FROM MYGROUP WEBSITE

- A dedicated, specialised machinery line that separates the aluminium from the plastic.
- The plastic is recovered through a PVC recycling process (then used for window frames or piping.)
- The Aluminium is recycled through usual metal recycling.
- Any remaining waste material is then broken down and transformed into a construction material called MYboard™

MEDICINE BLISTER PACKS

1. Why can't they go in home recycling?

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4. How are they recycled?

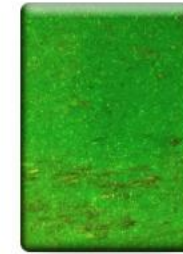
MYBOARD™ CUSTOM & SPECIAL COLOURS



BLUE



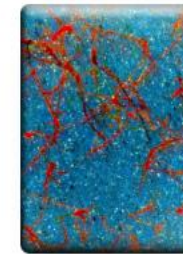
BLUE-GREY



LIME GREEN



ORANGE (FISHING LINE)



Comes in a variety of colours and finishes

**Can be used as a replacement for plywood –
indoors and out.**

**Examples: furniture, children's playareas,
shopfittings, garden planters**

WATER FILTERS

1. Why can't they go into home recycling?

2. Where can you take them?

3. Where do they go?

4. How are they recycled?



Multi-material components including plastic and carbon.

WATER FILTERS

1. Why can't they go into home recycling?

2. Where can you take them?

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4. How are they recycled?



1900 Collection points in UK

Sainsburys
Argos

Tesco
John Lewis

Dunelm

WATER FILTERS

1. Why can't they go into home recycling?

2. Where can you take them?

3. Where do they go?

4. How are they recycled?

- **U3a filters are taken to Tesco**
- **99% are Brita filters**
- **Cartridges are collected from recycling points and taken to Brita's plant in Bicester for sorting.**
- **Sent to regeneration plant in Germany on same trucks that deliver new products to UK.**

WATER FILTERS

1. Why can't they go into home recycling?

2. Where can you take them?

3. Where do they go?

4. How are they recycled?



At the regeneration plant, the exhausted cartridges are opened and the filter materials are separated so they can each be processed and recycled.

HOUSEHOLD BATTERIES

1. Why can't they go into home recycling?

2. Where can you take them?

3. Where do they go?

4. How are they recycled?



Need specialised processing to extract the various materials

Lithium batteries in particular are a fire hazard.

HOUSEHOLD BATTERIES

1. Why can't they go into home recycling?

2. Where can you take them?

3. Where do they go?

4. How are they recycled?

Why do lithium batteries explode –

Inside the battery are 2 electrodes either side of a flammable organic solvent layer. If the electrodes get squashed together, they can short circuit.

This is problem Samsung had with Galaxy Note 7 catching fire. Very slim phone so battery also very slim. Manufacturing defect pushed the electrodes together.

Not a great marketing ploy!

Can also explode if overcharged or charged below freezing point. Lithium metal can build up on the negative electrode at low temps – can eventually cause a short circuit.

HOUSEHOLD BATTERIES

1. Why can't they go into home recycling?

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**COUNCIL RECYCLING CENTRES
AND**

**HIGH STREET/SUPERMARKET
COLLECTION POINTS**

**Any shop that sells more than 32kg
batteries per year!**

HOUSEHOLD BATTERIES

1. Why can't they go into home recycling?

2. Where can you take them?

3. Where do they go?

4. How are they recycled?



Several companies provide a recycling service.

They collect the boxes and send for processing.

Trojan Mice use Valpak

HOUSEHOLD BATTERIES

Used batteries are sorted into :

a) alkaline and zinc-carbon b) Lithium, NiCd



Alkaline batteries

Mechanical process separates out metal casings (steel, zinc, brass), the central “black mass” and any plastics.

Then chemical treatment to extract zinc, carbon and manganese from the core.

Lithium batteries

High temperature smelting and chemical leaching to recover lithium, cobalt and nickel.

Overall, only 55% of gross battery weight is recyclable.

PRINTER CARTRIDGES

1. Why can't they go into home recycling?

2. Where can you take them?

3. Where do they go?

4. How are they recycled?



Composed of plastic, metal and electronic components – need specialist recycling.

The inks can be harmful to the environment.

PRINTER CARTRIDGES

1. Why can't they go into home recycling?

2. Where can you take them?

3. Where do they go?

4. How are they recycled?



Some supermarkets including Tesco.

Rymans

Return to manufacturer eg HP

PRINTER CARTRIDGES

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2. Where can you take them?

3. Where do they go?

4. How are they recycled?



Several companies provide a recycling service.

**HP, The Recycling Factory,
Printer Cartridge Recycling Ltd**

Trojan Mice use Recycle4Charity

PRINTER CARTRIDGES

1. Why can't they go into home recycling?

2. Where can you take them?

3. Where do they go?

4. How are they recycled?



Depending on condition, cartridges are either:

Remanufactured: emptied and cleaned, refilled with ink, sealed and packed.

or

Recycled: broken down into raw materials – used to make plastic “wood” beams, planks and more.

Thank You

For Fundraising and Helping the Environment

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT

Dunholme Parish Council / Lindsey u3a

Has raised £161.05 for Dunholme St Chad's Church of England Primary School
and saved 6.5kg of ink cartridges from landfills

Recycle  Charity



25 June 2025

LIGHT BULBS

1. Why can't they go into home recycling?

2. Where can you take them?

3. How are they recycled?

Types of light bulb.

- Incandescent
- Halogen
- Compact Fluorescent (CFL)
- Light Emitting Diode (LED)
- Fluorescent tube

.

TYPES OF LIGHT BULB = HOW EASY TO RECYCLE?



Incandescent

HARD

Fine tungsten filament hard to separate from glass but no hazardous material



Halogen

HARD

Fine internal wires, similar to incandescent.



**Compact Fluorescent
CFL**

EASIER

Contain small amounts of mercury but components are easily separated.



**Light Emitting Diode
LED**

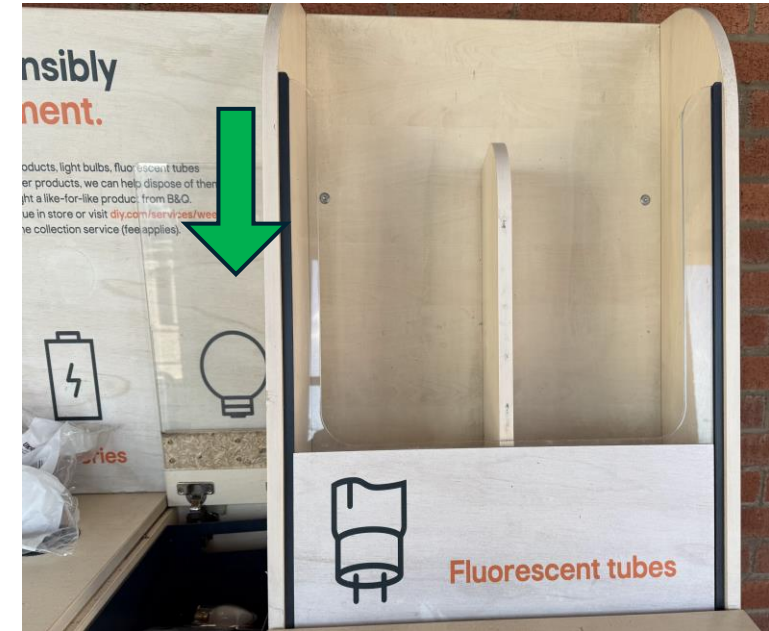
EASY

No hazardous material. Easy to separate.

LIGHT BULBS

2. Where can you take them?

3. How are they recycled?



**B&Q, Ikea, Tesco
Council Recycling Centres**

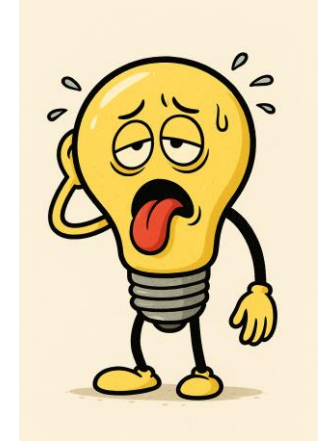
Ours go to Market Rasen RC

**They accept all types, but
incandescent/halogen should really go
in your Household Waste Bin**

LIGHT BULBS

2. Where can you take them?

3. How are they recycled?



Sorted by type and sent to specialised facilities

CFLs – separate out glass, metal and phosphor powder. Phosphor then processed to extract mercury for safe disposal and recover rare earth metals.

LEDs – separate out glass, metal and electronic components and recover the various materials

POSTAGE STAMPS

1. What kinds of stamps are accepted?

2. What happens to them?



British and foreign stamps, new or used.

First-day covers

Presentation packs

Ideally leave a 1 cm margin around used stamps.

POSTAGE STAMPS

1. What kinds of stamps are accepted?

2. What happens to them?

R N I B

See differently

BRANSBY
— HORSES —

We donate them to RNIB and Bransby Horses

They use a company called Xchange Master

- Sort the stamps into countries
- Sell to collectors for philatelic use
- A small portion are sold to artists who make canvas pictures using stamps.
- A tiny fraction are sold to foreign collectors

SPECTACLES

1. What kinds of glasses are accepted?

2. What happens to them?



Ours go to the Lincoln Lions Club

**Spectacles and Sunglasses
Bifocals, varifocals, trifocals
Rimless and semi-rimless**

Not wanted

**Broken frames (*)
Loose lenses
Contact lenses**

SPECTACLES

1. What kinds of glasses are accepted?

2. What happens to them?



- Sent to Lions Club recycling centres
- Sorted and graded
- Shipped around the world eg Sri Lanka, Papua New Guinea, Ghana, Nigeria, Nepal
- Scrap material is recycled. Yields funds which support the logistics and help provide funds for eye-related projects in the UK and overseas.

TROJAN MICE – SPECIAL COLLECTIONS



Cables & Plugs



TROJAN MICE – SPECIAL COLLECTIONS



Cables & Plugs



Stationery



TROJAN MICE – SPECIAL COLLECTIONS



Cables & Plugs



Stationery



**Greetings
Cards**



(Spectacle Cases)

Play
Create
Decorate



Stores in Banbury and Oxford

Hello, how do you do, pleased to meet you! We're Orinoco, your local scrapstore and registered charity. Our mission is:

"to banish boredom and save the planet using creativity and play to inspire the reuse of materials"

Over its 25 year history, Orinoco has saved lorry loads of interesting resources from ending up in landfill and turned them into fabulous and inspiring items.

Play
Create
Decorate



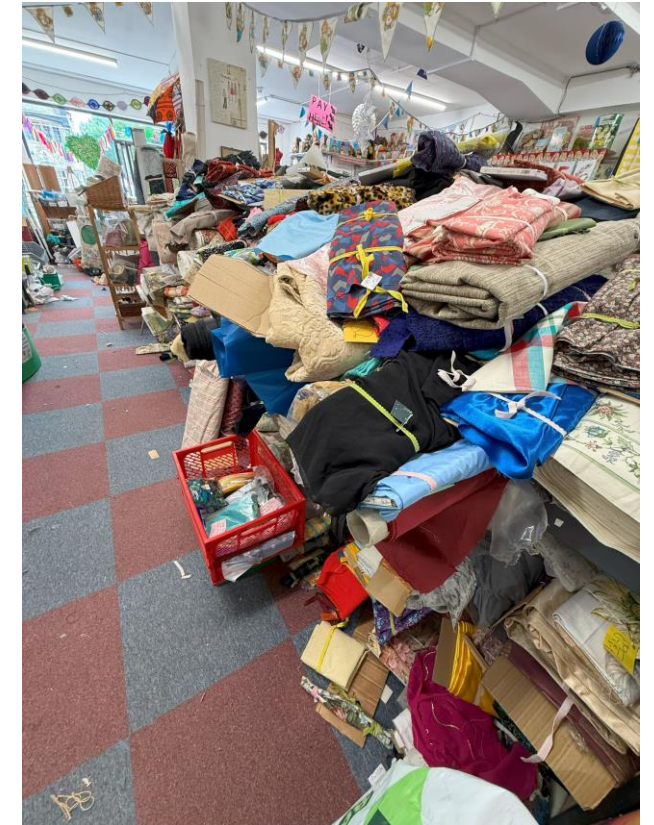
YES PLEASE!!!

art and craft supplies
home & garden tools and DIY
stationery, paper & card
fabric, patterns & haberdashery
small electrical items
scrap for creative play
papercraft
wool & needlecraft items
beads & jewellery

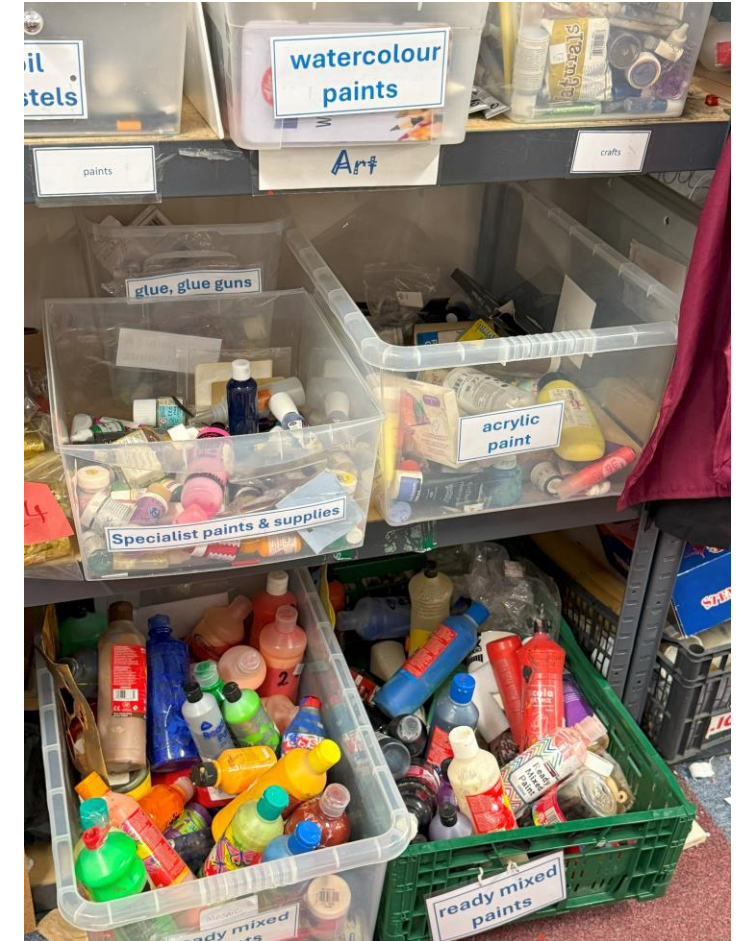
NO THANK YOU

paint
clothes & shoes
towels
household linen
bric a brac
books
CDs & DVDs
furniture
toys

Play
Create
Decorate



Play
Create
Decorate



Did you know, you can also recycle these items?



Paint / Varnish

Louth+Tattershall RCs



Hard Plastic Toys

Tesco Wragby Rd



Small Electricals

B&Q



Plastic Plant Pots

B&Q and Pennells

OUR NEXT TROJAN MICE “SPECIAL”

JANUARY

CHRISTMAS CARDS AND TOILETRIES

Any greetings cards, with/without
glitter. Toiletries go to Lincoln Hospital

*Donate those unwanted Christmas presents! -
Unopened toiletries only please.*

Merry Christmas



ANY IDEAS FOR FUTURE SPECIAL COLLECTIONS?

- DIY – nuts and bolts, screws, drill bits, fixings
- Wool – could ask Knitting Group if they would like first pick?
- Haberdashery/needlecraft – threads, patterns.
- Costume beads and jewellery

Just nothing too heavy or too big!



ANY QUESTIONS ?

