

Community Reporter

syngenta Huddersfield

April 2024 News Stories from Syngenta Huddersfield posted on our Social Media feeds



War Heroes Remembered

Civic appointment to re-dedicate refurbished war memorial

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Cleaning Up The Town

Employee volunteers team up in Leeds Road corridor litter pick

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Welcome to this edition of the Community Reporter

Here you will find news stories about Syngenta that have been on our digital news feeds during the last 12 months. If you would like to see these news stories as they happen, you can check out our website at www.syngenta.co.uk/huddersfield or follow us on [facebook](#) or [Twitter](#).

How to scan a QR Code

The Community Reporter has been in print format for many years and we can now connect you with our digital content using a QR or "Quick Response" Code. To see more content online where you see the QR code icon, follow these steps:

- Open the camera app on your smart phone or tablet
- Point the camera at the QR code
- When it appears, tap the banner that appears
- The digital content will appear on screen

This particular QR code will take you to our Syngenta Huddersfield website – but please do try some of the other QR codes in this publication.



SCAN ME



New research reveals Syngenta operations are a vital economic engine for local prosperity

£218M driven into local economy annually with scope for £millions more and positive outlook for jobs growth



Echoing the significant public and private investments currently turning around the fortunes of the town of Huddersfield and wider Kirklees region, a new economic impact report from KADA Research, the UK and International economic development consultancy, has revealed the instrumental role that Syngenta drives into the local economy.

The comprehensive analysis in KADA's impact report reveals that the Syngenta operations in Huddersfield are a formidable economic powerhouse, contributing a staggering £218 Million to the regional economy. This figure represents a substantial 2.5% of the total Gross Value Added (GVA) for the entire region.

One of the world's biggest regenerative agricultural technology companies, with a commitment to drive innovation, enabling farmers to meet the growing demands of a changing world, the Syngenta site in the town, is one of the company's key assets, with roots going back more than 100 years in Huddersfield. Amongst the most striking points in the report is the sustained employment growth witnessed over the past five years at the Huddersfield site.

Employment at Syngenta's Huddersfield site is shown to substantially contribute to the size of Kirklees' manufacturing sector, which is over twice as important locally (16.5%) compared to the sector nationally (7.4%). What's more, whilst manufacturing employment in Kirklees has



fallen by 0.3% since 2018, direct employment by Syngenta has increased by 13.9%

This growth provides job security for existing employees and positions Syngenta as a crucial player in addressing local employment needs, and vital upskilling through their award-winning higher-grade apprenticeships.

A significant 75% of all Syngenta employees are residents of Kirklees, further reinforcing the company's integration within the local community. The Syngenta Huddersfield site currently hosts a total of 860 jobs, encompassing 450 roles within the company, those in affiliated businesses, and contract workers from partner companies who support the Site's operations.

The impact report shows the multiplier effect generated by Syngenta, extends well beyond its immediate workforce. Salary levels were found to be 53% higher than those of Kirklees as a whole and local spending by

Syngenta employees stimulates economic activity, supporting businesses and creating jobs throughout the Kirklees region. The ripple effect of local spending generated by Syngenta creates an additional 145 jobs, culminating in a grand total of 1,000 jobs attributed to the Syngenta site.

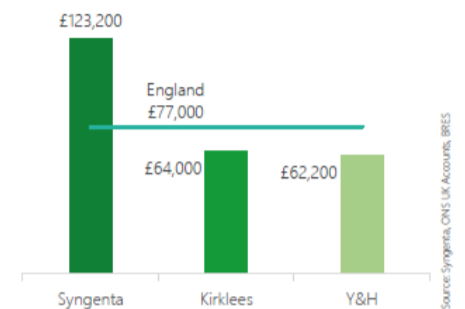
Syngenta has taken an increasingly active role in supporting local community causes. It has provided donations and sponsorships to schools and charities and cultural and community events. Indeed, financial contributions to the community continue and more than £50k was contributed to over 40 local good causes in 2023 alone.

Pete Waddington, Syngenta Huddersfield Site Manager, said: "We are immensely proud of the findings presented in the KADA economic impact report at Syngenta Huddersfield. The results reflect Syngenta's deep-rooted commitment to the local community, not only as a major employer but as a catalyst

for economic growth and sustainability. We have just recently landed the manufacture of a new generation product for the Company, Plinazolin® which will give farmers the best available new technology to protect our crops around the World - our Huddersfield team are currently working flat out to meet high demand. And there are more opportunities for us in the future as the company seeks to bring its innovation pipeline to fruition and shape our technology to support our sustainability agenda. The KADA research report is a good benchmark of where we are today and I look forward to seizing future investment and playing our part in further local job creation in the next few years, supporting the success of the town and wider region."



Annual Productivity 2022



Syngenta refurbishes War Memorial and re-dedicates to Huddersfield Heroes

A re-dedication ceremony for a Second World War Memorial to the former employees of a Huddersfield chemical manufacturer, who gave their lives to serve their country took place at Syngenta in Huddersfield, with the family of one of the fallen heroes, one of whom still works for the same company, central to proceedings.

More than seventy years after his death, the great granddaughter of Huddersfield born, Harold Toulcher, was part of a multi-faith congregation, to honour the memory of the 24 employees of the company (known as Imperial Chemical Industries (ICI) Ltd. back then), who gave their lives in the cause of freedom during World War Two.

Huddersfield Vicar, Revd Canon Rachel Firth blessed the new Memorial in the presence of The Mayor of Huddersfield, Cllr Cahal Burke. Members of the local branch of the Royal British Legion, Bill Piggot (vice chair), Jackie Morris (standard bearer) were also be in attendance, as well as known families of the fallen and Syngenta employees.

Syngenta's Leeds Road premises has been home to the memorial since it was first dedicated in 1949. The original memorial was hand carved in stone with 22 names but quickly weathered and was covered with a brass plaque shortly afterwards, listing 24 named employees who gave their lives.

The intervening decades took their toll, and despite regular maintenance and repairs, full refurbishment this year was the only right thing to do - and the improvement is very striking. Amongst the comrades who are honoured on the Memorial, Harold Toulcher was born in Huddersfield in 1912 and worked for the company until he was called up as a gunner to the 38th Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Royal Artillery. He was married with two children when he was killed, fighting for King and Country, in Benghazi, Libya, in 1942.

Nikita Seabright, Harold's great granddaughter, is apprenticeships manager at Syngenta and has proudly visited the memorial to Harold and the 23 other former company employees, often over the years, with her family. The family will be the ones to unveil the memorial plaque during the ceremony.



Nikita said: "It is a real honour to have been asked to unveil the refurbished memorial to my Great Granddad and his fallen colleagues at its rededication. Everyone who knew him said he was a lovely man, and my family and I have visited the memorial on Remembrance Day for the two-minute silence organised the company, many times over the years - it means a great deal to us. As a Syngenta employee it is especially humbling and a proud moment to be a part of the rededication that remembers my Great Granddad and his colleagues."

Pete Waddington, Syngenta Huddersfield site manager, said: "Distressing events continue to take place across the world, and it is sobering to think that in some countries today, civilians are being mobilised for military duty. We shall never forget the sacrifice that Harold Toulcher and these 23 other fallen citizens of our Huddersfield Site, gave for our freedom during World War Two. The refurbishment and blessing of the memorial plaque was the right thing to do and I am grateful to our Civic guests for their support."

The Mayor of Kirklees, Councillor Cahal Burke, added: "It is an honour to attend the blessing of the memorial plaque as it is a poignant tribute to those who gave their lives. As Remembrance Day draws closer, it is important we remember the sacrifices made by those in wars and conflicts for the freedoms we have today."

Pictured are members of Harold Toulcher's family, the Revd Canon Rachel Firth, Vicar of Huddersfield and Mayor of Kirklees, Cllr Cahal Burke.

Local School children delighted with Panto Treat

Christmas is a special time of year, but for many children and others in Kirklees a festive trip to the theatre just isn't possible.

Lawrence Batley Theatre annual Christmas Heroes appeal helps them to spread the absolute joy of pantomime as we invite children and families from across Kirklees to our theatre who otherwise may not be able to visit us.

For the 7th year, employees from Syngenta Huddersfield have supported Christmas Heroes appeal by making a generous donation through the 'Syngenta Employees Community Gift', a fund where staff make donations from their salary which is matched by the company. Syngenta invited 400 children from the local area to see Cinderella, arranging transport to and from the theatre and treating each child to an ice cream at the interval.

Diane Schalge from Syngenta said: "Yet another utterly fantastic performance at the Lawrence Batley Theatre, this year it was the turn of Cinderella. It is one of the highlights of my year and I'm incredibly proud to represent Syngenta as we continue this wonderful tradition of creating unforgettable memories for local children. Witnessing the joy on the faces of hundreds of children as they experienced the magic of the pantomime was truly heart-warming and I'm already counting down the days until next year's performance."

Becky Dash, Chief Executive of Lawrence Batley Theatre said "A massive thank you to the Syngenta employees for supporting our Christmas Heroes appeal once again this year. Live performances and pantomime



in particular are all about forgetting about everything that's happening in reality and being transported into a world of joy, silliness and magic where the good guys always win. As a charity, being about to work with organisations like Syngenta to support local children to share in that magic through our Christmas Heroes campaign is an absolute joy and one we look forward to every year!"

To make a donation or for more information about the LBT's Christmas Angels appeal contact the Theatre on 01484 484438 or via the website <https://www.theibt.org/support-lbt/be-a-christmas-angel/>

Voluntary Groups welcomed at Connecting Communities Fair

The annual event brings together local good causes and Syngenta staff, with a view to maximising use of its Syngenta Employees Community Gift scheme.

Staff link up with groups and hear about what is happening in the community, with a view to tapping in to resources of the Gift Fund.

Focus4Hope, Change - Grow - Live, Forget Me Not Child, Give a Few Words, Fresh Futures, The Lighthouse Club and HomeStart.

Every Community Group who attended on the day received a £250 donation from the Syngenta Employees Community Gift, to show appreciation for giving up their time to attend. Groups who attended this occasion included: Project Youth Cancer,

For more information about the Syngenta Employees Community Gift Scheme, please email: contact.huddersfield@syngenta.com.



Employees team up to litter pick local streets and help foodbank

Employees at Syngenta came together recently, to litter pick between the Leeds Road site and the Town Centre.

Two teams were challenged with collecting as much litter as possible and every kilo collected, raised £10 for Huddersfield food bank, The Welcome Centre. The group raised £600 in total and after their efforts, came together at The Parish in Huddersfield for a drink and bite to eat.

curious litter - there were a few toys, some kitchen items and even a sofa en route. It was great to team up with work colleagues and do something positive for the local community."

One of the organisers, Diane Schalge said "We did our best and found some really



Syngenta Walkers Team Up for The Kirkwood Midnight Memory Walk

Under starry skies, families, friends and the Kirklees community came together to support The Kirkwood and walk in memory of their loved ones.

Our Syngenta team walked with over 700 walkers who descended on the John Smith's Stadium on Saturday evening to take part in The Kirkwood Memory Walk, raising around £55,000 to help the charity care for and support local people affected by life limiting illnesses right across Kirklees.

Supported by Syngenta, the annual event helps The Kirkwood to raise vital funds to support its work. Each year, the charity supports over 2,000 patients, family members and carers affected by life limiting illnesses, helping to improve their quality of life in the ways that matter most to them, as well as offering compassionate care at the end of life.

Syngenta Community Relations Manager, Carl Sykes said "The Kirkwood Memory Walk is a signature event in the local fundraising calendar and brings together our community in a celebration of loved ones, past and present. So many amazing people take in the challenge, often in memory of family or friends to celebrate their legacy. We're very proud of our longstanding partnership with The Kirkwood Supports Life and our Syngenta team thoroughly enjoyed the evening."

In 2024, the event takes place on Saturday 22nd June.



Syngenta employees before the start

Syngenta and Greenhead College collaborate on Lab Coats

A new partnership to support Greenhead College's sustainability drive

Syngenta generously equipped every Chemistry lab in the new Hirst Building with a set of lab coats, saving students money and providing a great opportunity for teachers to discuss resource use and circular economy.

Previously, students used to purchase their own lab coats for use during their time at the college. With the new batch of lab coats permanently in the new labs, students have access to a coat for their lesson and they can be re-used by other classes.

Stuart Strathdee, Sustainability Lead at the College said "The college is continually looking at ways to reduce its carbon footprint and this is one of many ways of new thinking that we are able to bring forward, thanks to the generosity of Syngenta. The new Hirst building is a state of the art teaching facility for our students and also the wider community. We are already inspiring the next generation of scientists by welcoming visiting primary schools to our premises."

Carl Sykes of Syngenta said "Our partnership with Greenhead College was one of 40 different community partnerships in the last 12 months. When we heard about the idea, we were very keen to find a way to contribute and make the idea work. Stuart and colleagues kindly showed us around the new Hirst building and it is a great asset to the Town and the region."

gchemistry



Partnering on Sustainability with

syngenta

Syngenta Team smash fundraising target in Tough Mudder challenge

Not for the feint-hearted, sixteen Syngenta employees set about the Tough Mudder 10K Challenge, to raise funds for Forget Me Not Children's Hospice.

Backed by the Syngenta Employees Community Gift Scheme, the team raised more than £1,700! Hosted in Manchester, the Tough Mudder Challenge is 10k long cross country run with around 20 different obstacles that teams must overcome.

Jamie Wordsworth who helped organise the Syngenta team said "We set out to challenge ourselves and have some fun. It started with one or two of us being fitness enthusiasts, wanting to test ourselves. But then grew, as more colleagues learned what we were doing and wanted to take part. We had the backing of the Syngenta Employees Community Gift Scheme and we supported each other throughout the gruelling course,

learning a lot about each other outside of work, which was great. We're really pleased that we raised a total of more than £1,700 for such a worthy cause."

Forget Me Not Children's Hospice supports children with life-shortening conditions, their families and families living with the loss of their child across West Yorkshire.



You can contact us by any of the following methods;

- Phone: 01484 537456, ask for Carl Sykes or Megan Smith
- Email: contact.huddersfield@syngenta.com
- Website: www.syngenta.co.uk/huddersfield