Musselburgh Racecourse staff clean up the beach

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'Edinburgh's Racecourse' has gone the extra mile as colleagues volunteered their own time for the good of the local environment.

As part of the Business in the Community 'Give & Gain Day' where employees are encouraged to give back to their communities, workers from Musselburgh Racecourse helped with litter picking at neighbouring Musselburgh Beach recently.

Nine volunteers donated 22.5 hours of their free time to help make the beach a more enjoyable and picturesque spot for locals and visitors.

Sarah Montgomery, Senior Operations and Commercial Manager at Musselburgh Racecourse, said: "We're immensely proud to be situated on the doorstep of one of Edinburgh's proudest features and we're more than happy to help maintain that.

"Give & Gain is all about bringing communities together and celebrating what we can achieve together, and this reflects how we try to work as closely as possible with the people of Musselburgh."

With the racing season fully underway staff were happy to take time out of their busy schedules to help make a difference to the environment.

The litter-picking continues on from last year's voluntary work at Olivebank Child and Family Centre where volunteers gave the garden a makeover. Developing the garden and patio area, the team were able to help make the centre's outdoors a more pleasant place to spend time.

Last year, over 31,000 volunteers in 36 countries worked with over 550 community groups as part of Give and Gain. In the UK alone, the equivalent of £2.37 million was invested in communities in a single day.

Stephen Howard, Chief Executive of Business in the Community, said: "Give & Gain Day is an opportunity for businesses, community organisations and schools to celebrate what can be achieved through the power of volunteers.

"Employee volunteering is a win-win, the experience builds skills and motivates employees, whilst helping meet community needs."

Musselburgh Racecourse is one of the UK's most stylish racecourses, hosting 28 flat and jumps meetings each year. Already popular with racing enthusiasts, it is increasingly becoming a draw for both families and corporate clients.

For more information on the full list of fixtures, including a number of seasonal highlights, and to book tickets visit: www.musselburgh-racecourse.co.uk