

Spotlight Magazine



**BARNSELEY**  
Metropolitan Borough Council

# Barnsley



**Barnsley – the place of possibilities**

Information correct at the time of printing October 2022.



November 2022

# Welcome to the latest edition of Barnsley Spotlight magazine

## Hello

We were deeply saddened and affected by the passing of Her late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. She was a tremendous Queen who meant so much to many people. We felt proud to see our communities united across the generations during this historic moment. Your messages in our Barnsley Book of Condolences will be made into a book to be stored by our Barnsley Archives and Local Studies Service.



**Cllr Sir Steve Houghton CBE,**  
Leader of  
Barnsley Council



**Sarah Norman,**  
Chief Executive  
of Barnsley  
Council

Tell us what you think about our magazine at [surveys.barnsley.gov.uk/s/BarnsleySpotlight](https://surveys.barnsley.gov.uk/s/BarnsleySpotlight).



## Supporting you through the cost of living crisis

Tackling poverty and addressing the related inequalities is not new for us as a council; however, the scale of the current crisis is extraordinary.

Many people experience financial difficulties for different reasons and might not realise they're entitled to help. The significant cost of living is a concern for everyone, and we're doing what we can to offer help and support. That's why we are making sure that the funding made available from the Government is getting to you.

Since April, £7 million Government funding has been used to provide you with council tax rebate; help people and communities through the household support grant; and support children and families who access free school meals during non-term time.

A further £2.3 million Government Household Support Grant has been committed to cover the period October 2022 to March 2023, and we will also spend £3 million of our own money from council reserves to expand the affordable warmth

scheme, providing new boilers and upgraded insulation for qualifying residents.

Our more money in your pocket website has lots of information and advice on how you could save money or get help in a range of areas, including housing support, utility bills, food, budgeting, wellbeing, employment and skills and household support grants and other support. Encourage your family, friends and neighbours to have a look.

We also have a number of welcoming, warm and inviting spaces for anyone who is feeling the cold, where you can go to get warm, stay warm and even enjoy a little company. This currently includes our libraries and museums, and we will continue to look at the spaces we have where you can come along on your own, with a friend, or your family to meet and chat with others in a warm, safe and friendly place.

**Read more on page 8 about ways to keep warm and save money on your energy bills this winter.**

Visit [barnsley.gov.uk/MMIYP](https://barnsley.gov.uk/MMIYP) or scan the QR code to find out more:



**MORE MONEY IN  
YOUR POCKET**



## Save the date

Bright Nights returns to the town centre in November, find out more on **page 4 and 5**. Finally take a look at the great things taking place in your local community on **pages 18 to 23**.



# Tut' 22: the life of Tutankhamun

brought to life at  
Experience Barnsley Museum

Saturday, 22 October to Saturday, 18 March 2023

November marks 100 years since the tomb of Tutankhamun was found in the Valley of the Kings in 1922.

To celebrate this historical moment, we're hosting a special exhibition celebrating Tutankhamun's life.

Curated by Barnsley-born Egyptologist Professor Joann Fletcher, who has been working in collaboration with Bolton Museum, over 250 objects and artefacts have been selected to tell the story of Tutankhamun's life.

You'll find out about the city he grew up in, his lifestyle, the kinds of clothes he wore, and the foods and wines he enjoyed. Plus, his fascinating family connections, including his famous stepmother Nefertiti.

Almost three years in the making, the exhibition will feature unseen objects, revealing hidden secrets, and spotlight Yorkshire's links to ancient Egypt.

Using 3D imaging and augmented reality, some of the displays appear to come to life, so you can see them up close and from every angle.

Joann said: **"The augmented reality stuff really is amazing and allows the exhibition to literally bring ancient Egypt back to life**

***in 3D imagery. When I was a kid, I loved looking through my parents' books about ancient Egypt and fell in love with the bright colours and wonderful artwork. So the exhibition should prove exciting for children and young people as well as adult visitors."***

**The exhibition opens on Saturday, 22 October, and runs until Saturday, 18 March 2023.**



**BRIGHT NIGHTS IS BACK** *for 2022!*



*Barnsley*  
**BRIGHT  
NIGHTS**

**Thursday 24 November  
to Saturday 26 November**

Barnsley town centre

**Save the date**

**#BarnsleyBrightNights**

 Love Barnsley Town Centre  @barnsleycentre

**THE  
GLASS  
WORKS**

**BARNSELY  
ARTS &  
EVENTS**





plus free festive  
entertainment

# Barnsley BRIGHT NIGHTS

## Illuminated art trail

Thursday to  
Saturday

## Christmas Lights Switch-On

Thursday

## Community Light Parade

Saturday

**Three nights of arts and entertainment will take place in Barnsley town centre between 5pm and 8.30pm from Thursday to Saturday.**

The festivities start at 6.30pm on Thursday 24 November in The Glass Works Square, with the Christmas Lights Switch-On.

**For more information visit  
[barnsley.gov.uk/Events](http://barnsley.gov.uk/Events)**







## From learning to earning, our Sue's on the move.

Sue first joined Adult Skills and Community Learning for a wellbeing taster class. She went on to do more wellbeing classes and decided she was ready for her next challenge.

Sue worked up to and passed her maths GCSE. Having rediscovered her love of learning, she completed an online STEM course with the Open University and passed with flying colours.

After brushing up on her employability skills, Sue was able to successfully secure a job as a Support Worker in Employment and Volunteering.

Sue said: ***"I didn't have the best mental health, but I knew I needed to break the cycle. Attending the wellbeing class was one of the best things I could have done."***

***"My tutor, Gary, was very supportive and encouraged me to try more things and boosted my self-esteem. Thanks to his support, I set a goal to improve my employability. Now I'm looking forward to starting my new job."***

## Develop your skills, gain qualifications, improve your employability, and boost your wellbeing.

Hear from some of our learners about why they **#LoveToLearn** with us.



Jamie came to Adult Skills and Community Learning to improve his digital skills to stay in touch with his friends. He's now more confident than ever online.

After learning Microsoft Office, he's mastered writing CVs and cover letters. By learning these new skills, he's able to apply for jobs.

Jamie said: ***"I heard that staff and learners were very supportive, so I thought that would build my confidence up. I've enjoyed it all, to be honest, and I'd recommend it to anyone in a similar position."***



Heather and Debbie joined Barnsley's Adult Skills and Community Learning after starting their journey with a creative wellbeing taster course.

After learning with us, they've both rediscovered a sense of direction and purpose which helped to boost their self-esteem and make them feel like their old selves again.

Debbie said: ***"Coming to do the classes for wellness changed my life. I was able to learn new skills, and I felt valued again."***

Heather added: ***"It's made me confident in a group, and it's made me smile again, really."***

Now, they're looking forward to what the future holds and carrying on their learning journey.



## Skills and employability

Having a job is more than just income. It's about having a purpose and motivation, supporting good health and having a sense of belonging.

Unlock the benefits of learning and working. Visit **[barnsley.gov.uk/SkillsAndEmployability](https://www.barnsley.gov.uk/SkillsAndEmployability)** to see what's possible with support from our team.



# Upgrading our housing stock and saving tenants money

Our new efficient council housing and upgrades of existing housing is helping tenants reduce their energy use and create a more sustainable Barnsley.

New council bungalows at Athersley South feature electric air source heat pumps to provide heating and hot water. They're highly insulated and have solar panels and a battery system to store the electricity they generate until it's needed. This helps tenants minimise their energy use.

Alison Dalton, the council's Group Leader for Strategic Housing and Growth, visited the development with local councillors and was excited to see the energy-saving technology first-hand. **"We're so pleased to see the completion of these new council bungalows, which provide great energy-efficient homes without needing a connection to the gas network,"** she said.

**"We're also improving our existing housing through targeted retrofit works to increase energy efficiency alongside our new build programmes. We secured £1.7m earlier this year to upgrade insulation at 150 properties, and we'll continue to seek funding to extend this work as widely as possible."**

We're also building 16 new council houses at Billingley View, Bolton-upon-Deerne, also without gas, as well as a further 16 within a wider development at St Michaels Avenue in Monk Bretton.



Local councillors joined Berneslai Homes Chief Executive Amanda Garrard and members of the project team from Barnsley Council and O&P Construction Services Ltd on a visit to the site at Woodmoor View, Athersley South.

Visit [barnsley.gov.uk/WarmHomes](https://www.barnsley.gov.uk/WarmHomes) for more information and advice on making your home warmer and cheaper to run.

We all have a part to play in helping Barnsley to be net zero carbon by 2045, protecting our borough for future generations.

## Think a minute before we bin it

Taking the time to put your rubbish in the right bin really does make a difference, and means we can recycle and dispose of it in the best way possible.

We'd like to say a massive thank you to everyone who's done their bit to help keep Barnsley clean and green.

Items that don't fit in your bin can be taken to our recycling centres, or you can use our large item collection service and we'll take them away hassle free.



**47% of waste in Barnsley is recycled**



*Tie your bags*



*Rinse your cans*



*Take batteries to recycling centre*

You can find out more about waste and recycling at [barnsley.gov.uk/Waste](https://www.barnsley.gov.uk/Waste)

**EVERYBODY  
THINK!**



# Warm Homes support available for you this winter

We know that this winter will be difficult for many people, and our Warm Homes team are here to help.

We've recently added two new members to our team, allowing us to provide dedicated support to communities in the borough.



Tracy, an experienced advisor, says: **"I'm excited to have joined the Warm Homes team.**

**"This is a time when people are becoming more concerned over the cost of energy and how to keep warm and healthy at home. I'll be helping them access grants for free insulation and heating as well as providing general advice and guidance around other services available to help."**

We'll be running events around the borough over the winter, giving you the opportunity to meet the team.

If you're worried about paying your energy bills or struggling to keep your home warm, we can help by advising you on making your home warmer and cheaper to run.

We can advise you on improving your home with energy-saving

measures, energy bills and tariffs, and energy debt.

## **For example, did you know?**

- If you're eligible for the Warm Home Discount, you could get £150 for your energy bills over winter. Go to **gov.uk/the-warm-home-discount-scheme** for more information.
- Installing energy efficiency measures is one of the best ways to reduce the energy you use. Funding is available through us to install these in your property, subject to eligibility.
- Paying your energy bills by monthly direct debit can save you up to £85 each year.
- If you were born on or before 25 September 1956, you could get between £250 and £600 from the government to help you pay your heating bills, known as a Winter Fuel Payment. Go to **gov.uk/winter-fuel-payment** for more information.
- Cold weather payments are made automatically if you're eligible.
- All households will have started to receive £400 off their energy bills from October. Energy suppliers will automatically make the discount in six instalments to help families through the winter.
- Residents who meet certain criteria might be able to get extra support from their energy supplier by signing up for the Priority Services Register. Speak to your supplier to see if you're eligible.

## TOP TIPS

The cold weather can be seriously bad for your health, especially if you're under five, over 65 or have a long-term health condition. Having your flu jab and COVID-19 booster, protecting against falls and keeping your home heated at 18 degrees are all great things to do to keep you and your family well this winter. **Head to [barnsley.gov.uk/ready-for-winter/stay-well-this-winter](https://barnsley.gov.uk/ready-for-winter/stay-well-this-winter) for helpful tips and local support.**

**Keeping ourselves and our families well is the key to living productive and happy lives**



**For more information on the grants available, our events and ways to keep warm and save money on your energy bills this winter, scan the QR code, visit [barnsley.gov.uk/WarmHomes](https://barnsley.gov.uk/WarmHomes) or call 01226 773 366.**



# Think differently about children who need adoption



Could you open your heart and your home to children who usually wait the longest to be adopted?

One Adoption South Yorkshire, a regional adoption agency of all four South Yorkshire local councils, is encouraging people to think differently about adoption and those who wait longest for an adoptive family.

Did you know that sibling groups, children over three, children with additional needs and children from ethnic minority backgrounds all wait much longer to be adopted?

In South Yorkshire, these groups represent around 60% of all children waiting to be adopted. Many face year-long delays compared to other children.

They need their forever family and, while these groups may be seen as harder to place, they aren't harder to love.

More than half of adoptive parents surveyed as part of a national campaign said adopting a child from one of these groups had been a meaningful and rewarding experience.

But don't take our word for it. Tom, who adopted two older children with additional needs with his wife Janet, said: **"We decided early on that we wanted to adopt a child with special needs. We felt this was our opportunity to offer a child**

**something they wouldn't get elsewhere.**

**"We wanted to adopt an older child too so we could understand their disability and level of needs.**

**"Having a child with special needs brings huge pleasure – seeing them hit milestones you never thought they'd reach is extra special. We get immense pleasure from things other parents take for granted. Our family and friends are really proud of us, and that's a nice feeling too."**

To learn more about adopting with One Adoption South Yorkshire, visit [oneadoption.co.uk](http://oneadoption.co.uk).

## Fostering is life-changing

These quotes are from real Barnsley children and young people whose parents have welcomed a foster child into their home.

A, aged 10 – "I love having extra brothers or sisters to play with... it makes it **more fun**."

J, aged 14 – "I like that I can make new friends with foster children. My **communication skills are much better** since we started our fostering family.

H, aged 16 – "Helping out with them **helped me with my confidence**."

A, aged 19 – "The good thing about fostering is knowing you are helping them by giving them a safe home environment, so they

can feel **safe** and comfortable to be themselves.

Every child deserves a loving family home, and fostering keeps Barnsley children in the communities they know and love.

We consider foster carers from a wide range of backgrounds and circumstances, so never discount yourself. You'll be part of a strong, local network of foster carers just like you. With us, you'll get top-level training, development and financial support.



Find out more today by visiting [barnsley.gov.uk/Fostering](http://barnsley.gov.uk/Fostering) or calling **01226 775 876**.



# Struggling with gambling issues?



GamCare are here to help

This year marked the 25th anniversary of the launch of GamCare, the leading UK provider of information, advice and support for anyone affected by gambling harm.

Over those years, the charity has helped nearly half a million people, and things have certainly changed during that period.

For example, in 2003, most people were referred to GamCare through the Yellow Pages, while in 2021, online gambling was the most spoken topic. Even as things

continue to change, GamCare remains here to help.

***"I just want to thank you for all of the invaluable work and commitment at GamCare. You've given me my life back."*** One person who GamCare had helped said.

Alexa Roseblade, Senior Manager at GamCare, added: ***"Our expert services are free of charge, confidential and non-judgmental. We run the National Gambling Helpline, which runs 24/7, every day of the year."***

***"We care, and we are here to help you."***

If you feel like you would like to speak to someone about your gambling, call the National Gambling Helpline or visit the website for more information.



## We're Proud to Care

We're incredibly proud of our brilliant care workers in Barnsley, who truly change the lives of the people they care for and their families. Over the summer, we've been hearing from our workforce to find out why they're proud to care.

India, who supports people at Ward Green Lodge, has always had a caring nature behind her, even as a child. She told us that, while the days can be long, going home knowing you've made a difference in someone's life makes her role so rewarding.



Joy, a Team Leader at Crossroads Caring for Carers, supports people in their homes. She told us that caring isn't like work, it's like going out with family members. For her, working in care is all about uplifting people and putting a smile on their faces.

Jonathan and Julian, who run Greenworks, showed us a different side to working in care. They help provide work opportunities for adults with learning disabilities from their three-acre farm and told us they're proud of the stories the people they support can tell.

If you're looking for a new challenge, love helping others and want to make a difference in someone's life, we'd love for you to join our social care family.

There's a wide range of care roles available in Barnsley, all offering opportunities to learn, develop and grow. For many of our roles, you don't need any previous experience. If you have the right caring qualities, we can show you the rest.



**Our borough is a place that fosters and grows ambition, enabling everyone to be the best they can be.**

**Start a rewarding role in care by visiting [barnsley.gov.uk/ProudToCare](https://www.barnsley.gov.uk/ProudToCare).**



## DMC – Your space. As you need it, when you need it.

### Would you like to give co-working a try?

DMC are offering you a free trial pass\* to meet our Experience Team and find out how we can make co-working work for you.

A normal day rate at the DMC co-working area is £15 a day, to access the flexible space. Whether you're designing, coding, collaborating or creating, we've got enough desk space, fast WiFi and barista coffee for everyone.

Membership options are available, visit [barnsleydmc.co.uk/Co-working](https://barnsleydmc.co.uk/Co-working) to find out more or email the team at [DMC@barnsley.gov.uk](mailto:DMC@barnsley.gov.uk).

Open Monday – Friday,  
8.30am - 4.30pm.

\*Free trial is for new users only.

### Get innovative at the MakerLab

SMEs in Barnsley can access free business workshops as part of the Digital Innovation for Growth Project. Through the MakerLab at DMC, it aims to support businesses who are looking to make the most of digital technology to grow, improve products, maximise efficiency and adopt new ways of working.

Businesses can explore how digital opportunities such as 3D printing, laser cutting and augmented reality can be used to design, make and test new products, operating systems and assets for their businesses.

See all the upcoming workshops at: [barnsleydmc.co.uk/Events](https://barnsleydmc.co.uk/Events) or email the team to find out more [DMC@barnsley.gov.uk](mailto:DMC@barnsley.gov.uk).

DIFG has been financed as part of the region's ERDF-funded Digital Innovation for Growth (DIFG) programme in partnership with Barnsley Council and Sheffield Hallam University. DIFG is open to eligible SMEs across the Sheffield City Region, as well as Chesterfield, North East Derbyshire, Derbyshire Dales, Bolsover and Bassetlaw.

## Could Go4Growth help your business?

Our partners Go4Growth ran an event at the DMC earlier this year to provide an overview of Carbon Net Zero and Social Value for local businesses.

They explored how to help organisations develop their Carbon Net Zero and Social Value narrative, work out what's important for them, and how to communicate it to their customers.

The session also covered finding and accessing local and regional opportunities to help business growth.

Gillian Askew, Co-founder and Director of Go4Growth, said: **"We help small and medium enterprises (SME), voluntary organisations, community groups and social enterprises (VCSE) to develop the skills and confidence to grow their business and win public sector contracts."**

For more information about how Go4Growth can help your business, visit [go4growth.co.uk/barnsley-public-sector](https://go4growth.co.uk/barnsley-public-sector).



**"It can often be challenging for smaller, local providers to participate in public sector opportunities. Our events are developed from provider feedback about what help would be useful, which makes them a good place to get support, guidance and help to make the process easier and more accessible."**

**"We're fully funded by the public sector, so all our support is free for businesses, and we always aim to provide support that counts."**

If you would like to explore how Go4Growth could support your organisation or tell them about topics you'd like to see covered in future events, please email [lauren@go4growth.co.uk](mailto:lauren@go4growth.co.uk) or book an in-confidence one-to-one meeting at [bit.ly/G4GCalendar](https://bit.ly/G4GCalendar).

## 150 local businesses future-proof their workforce

Earlier this year, we supported small to medium-sized businesses in Barnsley to future-proof their workforce and overcome some of the challenges they experienced due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Our Employment and Skills team worked with specialist providers and 150 local businesses to provide support options to strengthen operations and improve workforce productivity.

When asked about the support they received, David White, Managing Director of White's Bakery, said: **"As a business, it's helped us to understand what**

**skills staff need in certain areas of the business, and it's made us stronger as a team."**

If your business would like to find out more about opportunities to support the workforce, visit [barnsley.gov.uk/SupportForBusiness](https://barnsley.gov.uk/SupportForBusiness). As well as skills and employability support, you can also find out more about award-winning support services for businesses looking to start, grow, relocate or expand into Barnsley at [EnterprisingBarnsley.co.uk](https://EnterprisingBarnsley.co.uk).



Barnsley is open for business, with our central location, excellent links to major road networks, digital connectivity and attractive local offer.

# Open Days

**Thursday 24 November 2022**

**4.00pm - 7.00pm**

**Saturday 14 January 2023**

**10.00am - 2.00pm**

This is your opportunity to tour our fantastic facilities, find out about the courses we offer from our expert tutors and get a real feel for College life.

We offer a range of full and part-time vocational courses, A Levels, apprenticeships, T Levels (Technical qualifications) and university-level courses.

🌐 [www.barnsley.ac.uk](http://www.barnsley.ac.uk)

✉ [info@barnsley.ac.uk](mailto:info@barnsley.ac.uk)

☎ 01226 216 123



# Boost your career prospects

## With our Adult and Part-time courses!

**Want to change your career, gain qualifications or learn a new skill?**

**Start a course tailored to you!**

**We offer flexible learning including:**

- Adult and part-time
- Higher Education
- Distance Learning
- Apprenticeships

**ESOL**  
(English for Speakers of Other Languages)

Do you want to get better at speaking English? Be able to speak confidently in English with other people? Improve your chances of getting a job or studying a course?

Our ESOL course can help. Contact us to find out more.

Apply now by visiting: 🌐 [www.barnsley.ac.uk/adults](http://www.barnsley.ac.uk/adults)  
For more information call ☎ 01226 216 123 or email ✉ [info@barnsley.ac.uk](mailto:info@barnsley.ac.uk)



# Making sure you are healthy for surgery

In Barnsley, a lot is being done to reduce waiting times for those needing surgery. Like the rest of the UK, we are working to tackle long waits following the COVID-19 pandemic when surgery was put on hold to help prevent the spread of the virus.

NHS front-line staff at Barnsley Hospital have worked relentlessly throughout the past couple of years and are continuing to work hard to support our local people.

Barnsley is in a strong position compared to the rest of South Yorkshire and the wider UK. Between April 2021 and May 2022, we successfully reduced the number of people waiting over 52 weeks for surgery by almost 85%. We also recently hit targets set out by NHS England to eliminate two-year waits by July 2022, and we are on target to eliminate 78-week waits ahead of April 2023.

The team at the hospital are continuing to increase surgical capacity and the recent opening of the £3 million Community Diagnostics Centre in The Glass Works will provide a space to get much-needed phlebotomy, ultrasound, breast screening and x-ray appointments. This will make sure people in Barnsley can receive earlier diagnosis, treatment and surgery if required.

We understand that waiting for surgery can feel like an uncertain time. The best way to prepare for surgery is to make sure you are healthy, this will help reduce the risk of complications following treatment and support your recovery, whilst also benefiting your long-term health.

Moving more and staying active is a great way to do this and small changes to your daily routine can have a big impact on your physical health. This might be something as simple as getting off the bus a stop earlier or parking your car a bit further away.

## What's Your Move?

What's Your Move campaign has lots of information about getting started and staying motivated. Find out more at [barnsleywhatsyourmove.co.uk](https://barnsleywhatsyourmove.co.uk), or by scanning the QR code.



@BarnsleyMoving

#WhatsYourMove

## Preparing for surgery?

For further information about preparing for surgery please scan the following QR code.



## Sandra's story

Earlier this year, Sandra, a mum and grandmother who lives in Monk Bretton was diagnosed with bowel cancer and underwent surgery at Barnsley Hospital. Before her operation, she had quite a high BMI and was advised to exercise for just 20 minutes a day to improve her health and better prepare her for her operation.

Sandra has now lost a stone in weight and says the benefits of her exercise have been immense. She said:

**I just got a cheap exercise bike and started out doing five minutes on it in my bedroom, then built up to ten, and then 20 minutes a day. I just put my ear pods in and listen to a podcast and now I am not out of breath at all. It's not easy but the hospital staff gave me the incentive and made me realise I could do something to help myself. They told me I needed to get my heart and lungs working together and now they do!"**

**NHS**

WHAT'S YOUR  
**MOVE**



# Barnsley IAPT service



## Are you feeling stressed?

Do you have trouble sleeping, feel anxious, worried or have low mood generally?

Would you like to learn how to manage your mental health better?

Barnsley IAPT (Improving Access to Psychological Therapies) is a talking therapies service available to any person 16 or over registered with a GP in Barnsley.

Our service helps people understand and learn how to manage common mental health problems like stress, anxiety, low mood, and depression.

### How we can help you

We offer a range of different talking therapies which can be accessed in a variety of ways:

- Face to face
- Telephone appointments
- Guided self help
- Workshops (group and online)
- Access to computerised treatment packages and apps
- Couples therapy

### How to access the service

You can refer yourself via our website or over the phone, if you feel more comfortable your GP can make a referral for you.

Visit [www.barnsleyiapt.co.uk](http://www.barnsleyiapt.co.uk) or call 01226 644900

With all of us in mind.



# The perfect resting place



Based at Cannon Hall, Barnsley Pet Crematorium is the perfect resting place. The Crematorium can be found behind the walled gardens of the historic house and provides individual cremations for pets in a secluded area of the park, hidden away from public view.

Plaques can be leased on our memorial tower for as many years as you like in remembrance of your pet.

## Tracy's story

*"I needed somewhere special to make the final journey with my dog Alfie. Alfie was a retired police dog who sadly became ill at 12 years old.*

*I contacted Cannon Hall's Pet Crematorium after reading good reviews online. The staff at Cannon Hall came to my house and waited in the car until the vets had gone. They showed us respect, dignity, and empathy in what has been a traumatic time for us all.*

*I dropped Alfie off and said my final goodbye to him in the farewell room. I was so pleased to know that Alfie would be returned to us the same day, and we weren't without him for long. I'd highly recommend it to anyone who's lost their beloved pet."*

Tracy Dyson, Retired Police Officer.

For more information on Barnsley's Pet Crematorium, visit [barnsley.gov.uk/PetCrematorium](http://barnsley.gov.uk/PetCrematorium) or call 01226 206 053.



## Remembering Barnsley's armed forces history



Earlier this year, we remembered the 40th anniversary of the Falklands War by laying new stones on Barnsley's HM Armed Forces Walkway.

We heard heart-warming stories, including from Mr Ryan Dunn, an ex-sergeant in the forces, who purchased two stones – one in memory of his late wife Claire, who served in the Navy.

You'll find this dedicated space on Westgate, Barnsley, by the college gardens.

Ryan said: **"We walk past here all the time, and me and Claire always said we wished we could get stones laid, so I'm happy we did. Ava wants to come on Remembrance Day to pay her respects to mummy."**

## Looking for a Christmas gift for a loved one?

Barnsley's HM Armed Forces Walkway is a place for families and friends to honour those serving or who have previously served in our armed forces.

This permanent reminder of their service is the gift that keeps on giving. The honed granite stones feature the name, rank and service number of your loved one.

## Remembrance Sunday

This year's Remembrance Sunday event will take place on Sunday 13 November from 10.45am at Barnsley Town Hall. Come along to the service to observe the national silence and wreath laying for our armed forces who made the ultimate sacrifice.

You can find more information at [barnsley.gov.uk/Remembrance](http://barnsley.gov.uk/Remembrance).



Scan the QR code to buy a walkway stone at [barnsley.gov.uk/Armed-Forces](http://barnsley.gov.uk/Armed-Forces).



# **BOOST YOUR IMMUNITY**

**WITH THE FLU VACCINE  
+ COVID-19 BOOSTER**

**If you're eligible, book your  
free flu vaccination and  
COVID-19 booster today.**

**Visit [nhs.uk/flujab](https://nhs.uk/flujab) and [nhs.uk/covid-booster](https://nhs.uk/covid-booster)**



# Are you passionate about helping children and families?

We're looking for enthusiastic people to join our children's services.

We've got jobs available across a diverse range of teams. We're hiring residential workers, where you'll nurture children and young people in our children's homes and respite services. We'll provide you with excellent training, like a QCF Level 3 Diploma in Child Care and the option to apply for our social work programme.

We're also expanding our team of Family Support Workers within our Early Start and Families Service. You'll provide whole family help, so children and families can achieve their full potential. We'll provide

you with excellent evidence-based training to build your skills and support your development.

As part of our supportive teams, you'll get:

- A highly competitive salary, with welcome payments for some roles.
- Regular supervision, support and a nurturing management team that provides and encourages learning and development.
- Commitment to health and wellbeing and access to a dedicated assistance programme.

Head to [barnsley.gov.uk/Childrens-Social-Worker-Jobs](https://barnsley.gov.uk/Childrens-Social-Worker-Jobs) and [barnsley.gov.uk/Jobs](https://barnsley.gov.uk/Jobs) to:

- See what roles we have available across Children's Services, including the salary ranges.
- Find out more about what each team does, our employee benefits and working for the council.
- Get tips on completing an application and going to an interview.
- Hear from our teams and families that we've helped.



*"Barnsley Council is a very warm and welcoming place to work, just like the town itself. Every day brings new learning and challenges. The sense of pride and achievement is so fulfilling."*

Rebecca, Children's Social Care Team Manager



*"Working within the Business Support Service for Children's Services is really rewarding. Every day I feel supported and encouraged to be the best I can be. The work is challenging, but the teams we support are so friendly and appreciative; it's a lovely place to work. There are lots of fantastic opportunities to develop and progress too. I've recently been given the chance to enrol on a Level 5 qualification."*

Joanne, Business Support Officer



*"I chose Barnsley after recently completing my degree as a social worker, as I had an amazing final placement experience. I was supported and given great opportunities to improve my knowledge. There are so many great teams in Barnsley, and it really is the people that make this job great."*

Ciaran, ASYE Social Worker



**Barnsley – the place of possibilities.**



# Lily leads the way



*"Hi, my name is Lily. I'm 11 years old and currently on summer holidays before going to secondary school in the Dearne. From age five, I have been regularly volunteering with my family. I started with litter picks on my street, local park and fields where I live; I took real pride in what we did on our streets."*

*"I've always looked up to my family and campaigned heavily on environmental issues and the changes we must make now and, in the future, locally and nationally. It's here that I found my passion for wanting to make bigger changes after listening*



*to local people in our community and seeing my neighbours and people I know struggle. Over the past few months, I started to help my family by volunteering at local food banks, learning all about the lives of others and seeing the daily struggles people are going through."*

Lily was keen to understand why we have food banks and the importance they bring to our communities, helping families and people connect a few times a week to talk openly and honestly to each other. She is in awe of the work the Salvation Army and local churches do in the Dearne, **"These are all good people"** she says, **"and I want to help more and more when I see this myself."**

Lily's family have talked with her about the hardships that people in the community face. She asked the Community Development Officer for the Dearne Area Team if she could help the Dearne South Ward Alliance with their Shake, Battle and Roll event, which invited anyone in Dearne South to join in with board games and included a free meal. Lily helped cooking and serving the meals, where Tesco and the local Co-op donated food and refreshments. Lily's also great at recruitment, getting her siblings involved in setting up the room and playing the games.

After the event had finished, Lily approached her family and asked: **"How would it be possible to make changes in our communities for all families to eat the same kind of food?"** Her family spoke to her about working with local groups, volunteering, and speaking with councillors, MPs, and those who make changes in our borough and across the country.



When asked what she wanted to do when she was older, Lily said: **"I really would like to make changes in people's lives, make them smile and feel good and us all be equal."** She added, **"I would like to be an MP when I'm older."**

Lily's a talented young lady who loves drawing, dancing, and making her family laugh with traditional jokes - dad jokes as she calls them. Through the pandemic, she taught herself to play the keyboard from YouTube videos and made dancing fads on TikTok, spending quality time with her family while keeping her friends entertained and feeling good about themselves when they were down. She's a kind spirit, a well-mannered young lady who dreams of working in politics and doing the right thing for everyone - we wish her well and hope her dreams come true one day.

## Get involved

To find out what's on in your area, please follow our Facebook page [@DearneApproach](#). You can also contact the Dearne Area Team at [DearneTeam@barnsley.gov.uk](mailto:DearneTeam@barnsley.gov.uk).



# Royal stamp of approval for Barnsley Main Heritage Group

**Central Area Council**

Central, Dodworth, Kingstone, Stairfoot, Worsbrough

Barnsley Main Heritage Group was thrilled to be awarded The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service during this year's Platinum Jubilee celebrations. The award is the equivalent of an MBE for groups across the UK.

This amazing work started in 2016 as part of the preparations to commemorate the Oaks Disaster anniversary. Volunteers began to clear the overgrown and neglected colliery site. This work evolved into Barnsley Main Heritage Group, initially supported by Dearn Valley Landscape Partnership and the Central Area Team. The group's vision was to make sure the area around the pit head, a symbol of Barnsley's rich mining history, was accessible for others to visit and experience.

Fast forward six years, and the site now boasts a pop-up Museum (which opens Monday and Thursday mornings from Easter to October). There are information boards explaining the rich history of the site and spaces for you to enjoy. These include picnic areas, beautiful planting, hedge-laying and wildlife preservation to create a wonderful area where people can reflect on the history of Barnsley and its mining background.

Sarah Dewey, a volunteer at the heritage group, believes *"the progress of the group demonstrates what can be done when volunteers and partners collaborate and think creatively. We are pleased that the local community now well uses the site."*

The group values the support of other organisations, including Twiggs and the Central Area Team. Recently, Betta Lives, a service that supports adults with learning difficulties, has done a brilliant job clearing and planting their own beds. The group are now talking with schools and would welcome more young people to visit and discover the stories of Barnsley.

It's fantastic that, through the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service, the group was recognised for their fantastic work. Helen Totty, the Barnsley Main Heritage Group's chairperson, said that *"the group were thrilled and honoured to receive the award in recognition of the dedication of every member."*



To keep up to date with open days and volunteering opportunities, please follow their Facebook page [@BarnsleyMainHeritageGroup](#) or email [BarnsleyMainHeritage@gmail.com](mailto:BarnsleyMainHeritage@gmail.com).

The car park is open on Monday and Thursday mornings, but pedestrians can access the site at all times.

**We all have a part to play in protecting our borough for future generations.**

## Get involved

Would you like to get involved and make something better where you live? There are lots of projects and services available across the Central Area Council wards of Central, Dodworth, Kingstone, Stairfoot and Worsbrough.

**To find out what's on in your area, please follow our Facebook page [@BarnsleyCentral](#).**

**You can also contact the Central Area Team on [01226 775 707](tel:01226775707) or by email at [CentralTeam@barnsley.gov.uk](mailto:CentralTeam@barnsley.gov.uk).**



# Once upon a prom provides the perfect night

Claire answered an advert that was asking for volunteers for this year's once upon a prom project. She signed up to support our pop-up prom shop events held in schools and the community.

Claire had her work cut out as she sorted through donations, set up the stock at each venue and supported young people to find something amazing to wear.

Claire told us, *"It was a pleasure and privilege for me to be able to volunteer on a couple of the once upon a prom days. On a personal level, it was a pure tonic to volunteer in the community. Every young person who came along, whether looking for a suit or dress, I felt there was a clear sense of what it meant to them to be able to have the chance to find an outfit they loved. They didn't have to worry about the price tags, which can be a real stress or unaffordable for many families. It was a really exciting atmosphere. The project removes the pressures and worries around being able to afford something perfect for prom. I think it's such a worthy project to make sure young people do not miss out on what is, after all, a celebratory event about their school achievement. The range and choice of colours, styles and sizes available through the project are amazing, and there's no hint of anything second-class on the rails. The young people I saw lit up when they found the 'one', not to mention the additional accessories such as jewellery, bags, shoes and ties that made their look complete. The project is so well-delivered given that it relies on the goodwill of donations, free space and voluntary help. Christie from the North East Area Team, who leads on it, is full of energy, commitment, and dedication. I hope that this project continues to be recognised and supported."*

The once upon a prom project wouldn't be possible if it wasn't for the kind donations and support from volunteers, schools and local businesses. Every young person deserves to attend their prom, and the financial burden of formal attire should not be a barrier. Being able to hire an outfit at an affordable cost means every young person can attend their prom.

We would like to take this opportunity to say a special thanks to:

**Dave Taylor at GAZ** for providing free storage for all the project's stock and allowing us space to host a pop-up shop.

**Berry's Dry Cleaners** without their charitable discount offering us half-price cleaning on all garments the project would not be possible.

**The Sewing Room** for their kind donations of prom dresses.

Special thanks to the generous anonymous donation this year from a member of staff at Shafton School who kindly paid for all their pupils' hire costs.

If you would like to donate a suit or prom dress or volunteer for the project next year, please contact [onceuponaprom@hotmail.com](mailto:onceuponaprom@hotmail.com).

## Get involved

To find out what's on in your area, please follow our Facebook page [@NorthEastAreaTeam](https://www.facebook.com/NorthEastAreaTeam) and watch out for information on your local community notice boards. You can also contact the North East Area Team on **01226 773 013** or via email at [NorthEastTeam@barnsley.gov.uk](mailto:NorthEastTeam@barnsley.gov.uk).





# Advice from DIAL delivers results for Barnsley family

A story from a Barnsley parent.

"I'm a single parent, and I have struggled for some years with anxiety and depression, making raising my two disabled children hard at times.

During the pandemic and more recently, I've noticed the escalating costs of living, which has seen me putting down use on my heating and finding the weekly shop more difficult. Due to these pressures, I've been unable to afford to go anywhere, take my children out, or buy them small treats. All of this has affected how I feel about myself.

I applied for Disability Living Allowance for my oldest child, which was refused because of insufficient supporting medical evidence. I'd also asked for a Mandatory Reconsideration over the phone, which was unsuccessful. At that point, I contacted DIAL for assistance.

DIAL helped me with a tribunal submission and advised me on where to get supporting medical evidence to help. DIAL also suggested that I make an application for Disability Living Allowance for my youngest child. I rang up for a form, and DIAL helped me with this.

The outcome of the tribunal for my oldest child was successful. He was awarded high-rate care and high-rate mobility. I also received back payments for this claim. The claim for my youngest child was also successful and awarded high-rate care and high-rate mobility. Combined, this equates to over £300 per week that I now have to provide essential care for my children. As I receive Universal Credit, I had two additional disabled child elements added to my award, which helps with the monthly bills.

Now I can do a good weekly shop and afford my heating bills. I can take my children on holiday and give them treats. My mental health has improved enormously, and the pressure on my family has eased.

I want to say that I cannot thank DIAL enough for the help and support that they have given me; it has completely changed my life."



## Support when you need it

The North Area Council knows that life can be challenging. That's why we've funded DIAL to help you get the right advice at the right time. Services are provided in local community buildings to make it easy to access and open to all North Area residents.

To find out more, please contact **DIAL** by calling **01226 240 273**, emailing **first.contact@dialbarnsley.org.uk** or visiting **dialbarnsley.org.uk**.

## Get involved

There are lots of projects and services available across the North Area Council wards of Darton East, Darton West, Old Town and St Helen's.

**To find out what's on in your area, follow our Facebook page @BarnsleyNorthAreaTeam.**

**You can contact the North Area Team at [NorthTeam@barnsley.gov.uk](mailto:NorthTeam@barnsley.gov.uk).**

# Passionate Polly pushes Penistone forward

Polly Ogden is passionate about Ingbirchworth and its community. She returned to Barnsley after living in the northwest, and with the Church hall gone and the last pub in the village closing, was worried about how everybody would stay together. ***"It was about eight years ago, people were talking about the 'good old days' reminiscing about Harvest Festival and other events. There was a concern without anywhere to meet, how would we see each other? Would we all lose touch with each other?"***

But Polly had an idea to keep everyone close, and she set up the Ingbirchworth Community Group. ***"The group started as a way to keep everyone informed, letting them know what was going off and discuss issues, but quickly the idea of moving from Facebook to the real world, holding sports days, fun days and holding an Ingbirchworth Gala, was raised."***

She was a driving force in setting up the gala and has run it since. She helped to knit the community together even after the Fountain Pub reopened, the closure of which was the main reason for the group's existence.

The group now continues to run the gala each year, making sure that the village are involved, and everyone feels like it still belongs to them.

***"A fantastic group of volunteers help on the day to run the event. I want to think they have the same mindset as me, which is doing it for the love of where I live."***

Polly's determination to be a voice for the community led her to become involved with Gunthwaite, Ingbirchworth Parish Council, and

the Penistone Ward Alliance. All these connections proved invaluable during the COVID-19 pandemic. She helped to set up a support group and arranged food and vital prescription deliveries for those who needed it. ***"It was just the right thing to do and a good thing to do, everyone involved was happy to help. Being part of a community is about being there for each other."***

As a community representative on the Penistone Ward Alliance, Polly helps to decide which projects are awarded funding to help their community. Groups from across the Penistone Area can apply to have a project funded, supporting work that strengthens and builds neighbourhood bonds and promotes volunteering.

***"When I joined in 2019, I was keen to find out how other groups went about things, how they helped others and how they ran themselves. Seeing how those who apply want to help others gives me a great feeling. I am thrilled to lend a hand - belonging to a community and having an identity is so important."***

## Get involved

There are lots of projects and services available across the Penistone Area Council wards of Penistone East and Penistone West.

**To find out what's on in your area, please follow our Facebook page @ PenAreaTeam. You can also contact the Penistone Area Team on 01226 773 012 or via email at PenistoneTeam@barnsley.gov.uk.**





# How going digital kept me connected and changed my life

A story from a Barnsley resident.

"I lost my husband two months before I contacted Age UK Barnsley to ask if they might be able to help me. I was feeling really low and felt absolutely lost. My husband had always taken care of the bills, and everything seemed so daunting.

I was allocated a lovely lady called Natalie from Age UK who arranged a time to come and see me at home. On her first visit, I was incredibly nervous about having a stranger in my home. Natalie introduced herself with her ID badge, and this is where my journey began.

The first meeting was a good opportunity to talk about what had happened, why I needed help, and how I felt. It felt strange at first, but Natalie put me at ease, and it felt like talking to a friend.

I was offered the chance to join the 'Digital Project' funded by Age Friendly Barnsley, offering a one-hour session each week for seven weeks. I was hesitant at first to use a digital device and scared I might break something. Natalie showed me how to work the settings on the tablet, change the font size, and set a timer to shut it down.

As I became more confident, I asked how to download things. I was shown how to set up an account for the app store, and I downloaded a bus timetable and a supermarket app which was amazing. After being shown how to use Google, I showed Natalie on her next visit that I had been looking at holidays and houses for sale.

After a few visits, Natalie assisted me with applying for a passport online, and I asked for help to send an email to my friend in Australia. I had never sent an email before but had my friend's email address, and was looking forward to getting in touch. Within minutes of sending the email, I had received a response and was so happy. It was just amazing to be able to speak to her again and for free.

At the next session, I wanted to set up a Facebook account. I have family that live away that had suggested I should. With assistance, I set up a profile and added my first friend, which was my brother. By the end of our session, I had received a further three friend requests from personal friends, which meant a lot to me.



On my final week of the Digital Project, Natalie and I agreed to meet at the local library to have my session there. It gave me a reason to put my face on and do my hair, and I felt confident to walk out on my own. I have since signed up for the Digital Champions group there. The Digital Project has helped me feel less isolated, and the support I received was priceless.

**Developing skills, talent and creativity among people of all ages will open up exciting prospects.**

I am now signed up to volunteer for Age UK Barnsley and hope to help others if I can.

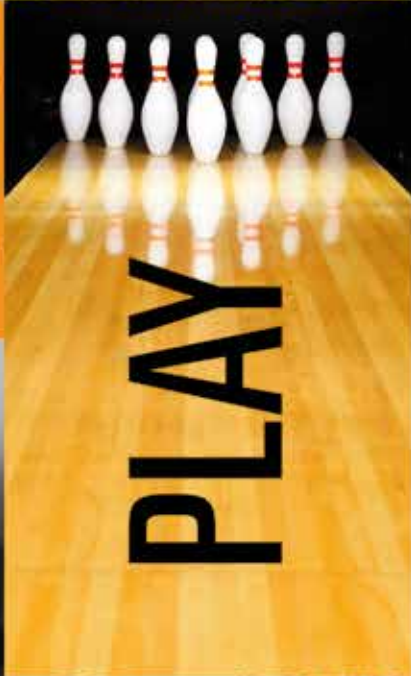
This was all made possible by the Social Isolation Service provided by Age UK Barnsley and funded by Barnsley South Area Council. You can find out more about Age UK Barnsley and their support at [ageuk.org.uk/barnsley](https://ageuk.org.uk/barnsley). To find out more about the South Area Council visit [barnsley.gov.uk/Your-Local-Area](https://barnsley.gov.uk/Your-Local-Area)."

## Get involved

To find out what's on in your area, please follow our Facebook page [@BarnsleySouthAreaTeam](https://www.facebook.com/BarnsleySouthAreaTeam). You can also contact the South Area Team on **01226 355 867** or via email at [SouthTeam@barnsley.gov.uk](mailto:SouthTeam@barnsley.gov.uk).



SHOP



# CHOOSE YOUR BANG ON TREND BLOCK BUSTER FAMILY FUN NICE 'N' TASTY MEET UP FOR A CATCH UP FOUND IT! BOUGHT IT! BOWLED OVER BOX OFFICE SMASH PERFECT FIT MOMENT

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