

Spotlight Magazine



BARNSELEY
Metropolitan Borough Council

Barnsley



Barnsley – the place of possibilities

Information correct at the time of printing February 2023.



March 2023

Welcome to the latest edition of Barnsley Spotlight magazine

Hello

It's the time of year when we're looking forward to springtime and lighter evenings.

In this edition, we're showcasing our **new events programme** on **page 5**. It's the perfect time to plan those days out with your family and friends.

We know our Barnsley communities will be coming together to celebrate the **Coronation** of His Majesty The King and Her Majesty The Queen Consort on **6 May**, with **Big Lunches** and **Street Parties** taking place in the borough and across the UK on **7 May**. Keep an eye out for more information on our website at barnsley.gov.uk.

There are also big changes to the way you vote in person at an election. With our **local elections** coming up in **May**, make sure you know about the Voter ID requirements. You can find out more about this on the next page.

We'll see you again in autumn for the next edition.



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.



Investing in Barnsley's future

This year's budget invests money directly into the frontline, helping us to deliver essential services to our communities.

It's a budget full of opportunities and long-term possibilities for local people through more jobs, better housing, and improved access to education and skills, helping to grow ambition in our young people.

We want to do this alongside striving to look after people and families who need help, recycle more of our waste, and repair our roads.

We're working on how to do all this more sustainably as we work towards reducing our carbon emissions to net zero.

Investing in areas that mean real differences for people and communities



£17.5 million in our frontline services, particularly **Children's and Adult Social Care**.



£77 million in new capital schemes to improve housing, schools, and roads. This includes, an **additional £2 million** to address potholes and general maintenance to improve our roads and highways.

Council Tax is kept below the government's maximum increase

We recognise the financial pressure on you and your families, so we're not going to increase Council Tax by the maximum 5% amount allowed by the government.

The council's element of the Council Tax will increase by 3.9%. This is broken down by 2% to support Adult Social Care and 1.9% to fund core services such as support for people that need it the most, schools and education services, maintaining open spaces, bin collections, roads, highways and street lighting maintenance.

This means that most households in Barnsley (bands A and B) will see their Council Tax increase by less than £1 per week.

Support for you and your family

We will provide **additional Council Tax support** to around **24,000 households** across the borough.

If you need help managing your money, utility bills, food and housing, employment and skills, and household support grants, please look at the range of help on offer on our More Money in Your Pocket webpage at barnsley.gov.uk/MMIYP.



REMEMBER YOUR PHOTO ID WHEN VOTING AT A POLLING STATION

Following the government's decision, to be able to vote in person in the upcoming elections, you will now need to show a photo ID.

You will be able to use expired ID if you are still recognisable from the photo.

Accepted forms of photo ID include a UK, European Economic Area (EEA) or Commonwealth passport; a UK or EEA drivers' licence; and some concessionary travel passes, such as an older or disabled person's bus pass.

If you haven't got one of the accepted forms of photo ID, you can apply for a free voter ID (Voter Authority Certificate) online on the government's website or by completing a paper form which you can get by contacting our Electoral Services at electoralservices@barnsley.gov.uk. Please apply well in advance for a Voter Authority Certificate before the deadline on Tuesday 25 April 2023.



More information on the accepted forms of a photo ID and free voter ID can be found on The Electoral Commission's webpage at electoralcommission.org.uk or by scanning the QR code on the left-hand side.

REGISTER TO VOTE

REGISTER BY 11.59PM ON MONDAY 17 APRIL

To be able to vote in the upcoming elections, you need to make sure you're registered. It only takes five minutes, and all you need is your National Insurance Number.

If you're not sure whether you're registered or would like to update your personal details, contact our Electoral Services at electoralservices@barnsley.gov.uk.

VOTING BY POST?

APPLY BY 5PM ON TUESDAY 18 APRIL

Voting by post is easy and you don't need a photo ID to do so. To apply for a postal vote, you need to firstly be registered to vote. If applied, you will be sent a postal vote ballot pack before the election.

If you would like to find out more information on postal voting and how to apply for it, please visit The Electoral Commission's website at electoralcommission.org.uk.

BARNSELY LOCAL ELECTIONS 23

#BARNSELYVOTE23



Could Go4Growth help your business?



We're investing so businesses and jobs stay in Barnsley to support an economy that benefits everyone.

As part of this, we work with **Go4Growth**, who help small and medium enterprises (SME), voluntary organisations, community groups and social enterprises (VCSE) looking for work in the public sector.

Go4Growth are fully funded by the public sector, so all their support is free. They provide tools and resources to help smaller organisations develop the skills and confidence to grow their business and win public sector contracts.

They offer guidance on:

- Marketing and communications.
- Engagement and outreach.
- Procurement and bid writing.
- Data analysis and intelligence gathering.
- Identifying priorities for targeting.

They also run virtual training and engagement sessions on topics like finding public sector opportunities, promoting your organisation and navigating public sector competitions. A full events calendar is available at go4growth.co.uk/Events.

Go4Growth have helped various organisations to find public sector work, including Office Odyssey, a sustained managed print services company, who said:

"We found challenges in accessing public sector contracts as some are flagged as not suitable for VCSEs and we weren't entirely clear on what policies and procedures we needed to have in place to be successful in the tender process."

"The Go4Growth platform is an excellent tool that helped guide us through the maze to ultimate success. It's well presented and contains lots of information and resources we now use to improve our tenders."

To explore how **Go4Growth** can help your organisation, please email lauren@go4growth.co.uk, book an in confidence one-to-one meeting at bit.ly/G4GCalendar or visit go4growth.co.uk.



Join our team and make a difference to people's lives in Barnsley

At the council, we work together to make a real difference to people's lives. We bring people together, connect them to services and help them to be the best they can be. There's so much happening in our thriving borough, and we want your talent and skills to help us to make Barnsley the place of possibilities.

If you're looking for a new opportunity, we have so many different roles available. If you join our friendly and welcoming team you'll benefit from flexibility, clear direction and the encouragement and support you need to lead in your field. As well as realising your own ambitions, you'll share our vision for the future of Barnsley and work hard to make it a reality.

But you don't just have to take our word for it. Scan the QR code to listen to stories from some of our fantastic employees – from Rachel who loves to come to work knowing she's making a difference to Atlanta, who's making the most out of flexible working as a first-time mum.

Take a look at our current vacancies at barnsley.gov.uk/jobs.



Supporting you with the rising cost of living

Annie lives in Barnsley and is a single mother of two young boys, the youngest having special educational needs, and she has to rely on benefits for her income.

We spoke to Annie at the local community craft group that she attends, and asked about the problems she was facing because of the rising cost of living. For Annie, the money she has left for food after paying all her other bills is now less than half of what it was at the beginning of the year. At first, she says that she tried to deal with this by buying cheaper brands and having cheaper meals, but this soon progressed to not buying as much and cutting out meals for herself entirely.

Annie tells us that back in the autumn, she was concerned about the weather getting colder. She was trying to leave her heating off for as long as possible, and on most days when her boys were at school, she visited various places, such as her local church and library, for warmth.

As a result of the financial pressure Annie was having to cope with, her mental health was suffering.

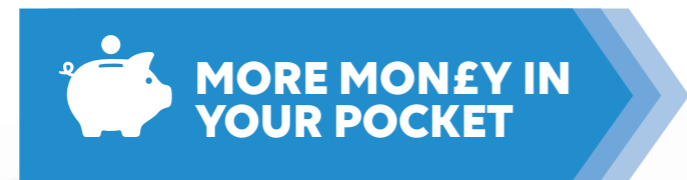
Through **More Money in Your Pocket** and funding from the **Household Support Grant**, there's help and

support available for Annie. When asked about the support available, she said that the food, warm room, advice and information were really helping.

There are plenty of other people who've been supported with the rising cost of living too. One of our Business Support Managers recently spoke with two people and told them about the support available. Both shared some really great feedback, saying that the **More Money in Your Pocket** webpage was a really helpful and easy-to-use resource and that they particularly liked the money saving ideas section. They were going to share the page with other people who might benefit from it too.

There's lots of information and advice available online to help people in Barnsley who are struggling with the rising cost of living. You can visit barnsley.gov.uk/MMIYP to take a look at the support available to you. There are also lots of welcoming, warm and inviting spaces across the borough for anyone who's feeling the cold – you can find your nearest welcoming space at warmwelcome.uk.

For more on support with the rising cost of living, visit barnsley.gov.uk/MMIYP or scan the QR code to find out more:



MAKE

MEMORIES

We had an amazing 2022 in the town centre achieving 6.9 million footfall.

In May, we held the first **Flavours Food Festival** with incredible culinary delights from around the world in The Glass Works Square.

In June, we saw the return of the popular **Twisted Festival of Natural Art** before the town enjoyed **Barnsley's Big Weekend** in July. The spectacular three-day event was packed with cycle races, **Barnsley Pride** and the first **Brassed On! Festival** featuring the world-famous **Grimethorpe Colliery Band**.

Finishing 2022 in style, **Barnsley Bright Nights** lit up the town centre as thousands lined the streets to take in the spectacular parade.

If you enjoyed last year's calendar of events, then you're going to love what we have coming up in 2023. We invite you to come and experience the town centre and... **make it yours**.

Dates for your diary

- **Thursday 18 to Sunday 21 May** – Flavours Food Festival
- **Saturday 17 June** – Barnsley Live
- **Friday 14 to Sunday 16 July** – Barnsley's Big Weekend
- **Saturday 23 to Sunday 24 September** – Glass Works Garden Party
- **Friday 24 to Saturday 25 November** – Barnsley Bright Nights

More dates to be announced.



barnsley.gov.uk/TownCentre



Henry Moore Touring Exhibition arrives at The Cooper Gallery

A touring exhibition from The Sainsbury Centre collection of work by acclaimed sculptor Henry Moore has arrived at the Cooper Gallery, our modern town centre arts space.

Henry Moore, who was born and bred in West Yorkshire, was a semi-abstract sculpture artist known for pioneering a new vision for modern sculpture.

He is best known for his monumental bronze sculptures which are located around the world, including at Yorkshire Sculpture Park, but his work also includes carvings, drawings, prints, and designed textiles and tapestries too.

The exhibition, **Henry Moore: Threads of Influence**, spans the length of his esteemed career from early drawings and

carvings to iconic drawings and late prints, and demonstrates the multiple facets of Moore's practice. It explores his influences over the years from artists, such as Henri Gaudier-Brzeska and Jacob Epstein to ancient sculptures from Mexico and beyond.

With over 31 pieces on display and on loan in this touring exhibition from the Sainsbury Centre, one of the most prominent university art galleries in Britain, the exhibition includes life drawings of the human form that laid the foundations of Moore's sculptural practice.

The exhibition will also feature drawings from Moore's time as an Official War Artist inspired by the scenes in the London Underground during the Blitz.

To find out more about the exhibition, visit cooper-gallery.com.



Reproduced by permission of the Henry Moore Foundation.



MAKE



IT DELICIOUS

"I'm Rebecca, and I co-own the Cracked Teapot bistro.

The location of the premises is perfect – opposite the Interchange and next-door-but-one to the cinema. It's such an exciting time to be opening a business in the town centre. There are lots of different eateries now, which makes it an exciting place to come.

There's just so much to do when you come into town now. It's somewhere you can spend a whole day. For me, it would always be Barnsley town centre now because why would I go anywhere else when everything is here?"

Barnsley town centre... **make it yours.**



Eldon Street gets a new lease of life

The Eldon Street High Street Heritage Action Zone (HSHAZ) is an exciting four-year partnership project between our Barnsley Museums and Historic England.

Working closely with local businesses and property, this project is funding important conservation repairs to key historic buildings on the west side of Eldon Street including Barnsley Civic, The Parkway Cinema, and other iconic buildings. You may notice the scaffolding going up on Eldon Street as the funded work starts.

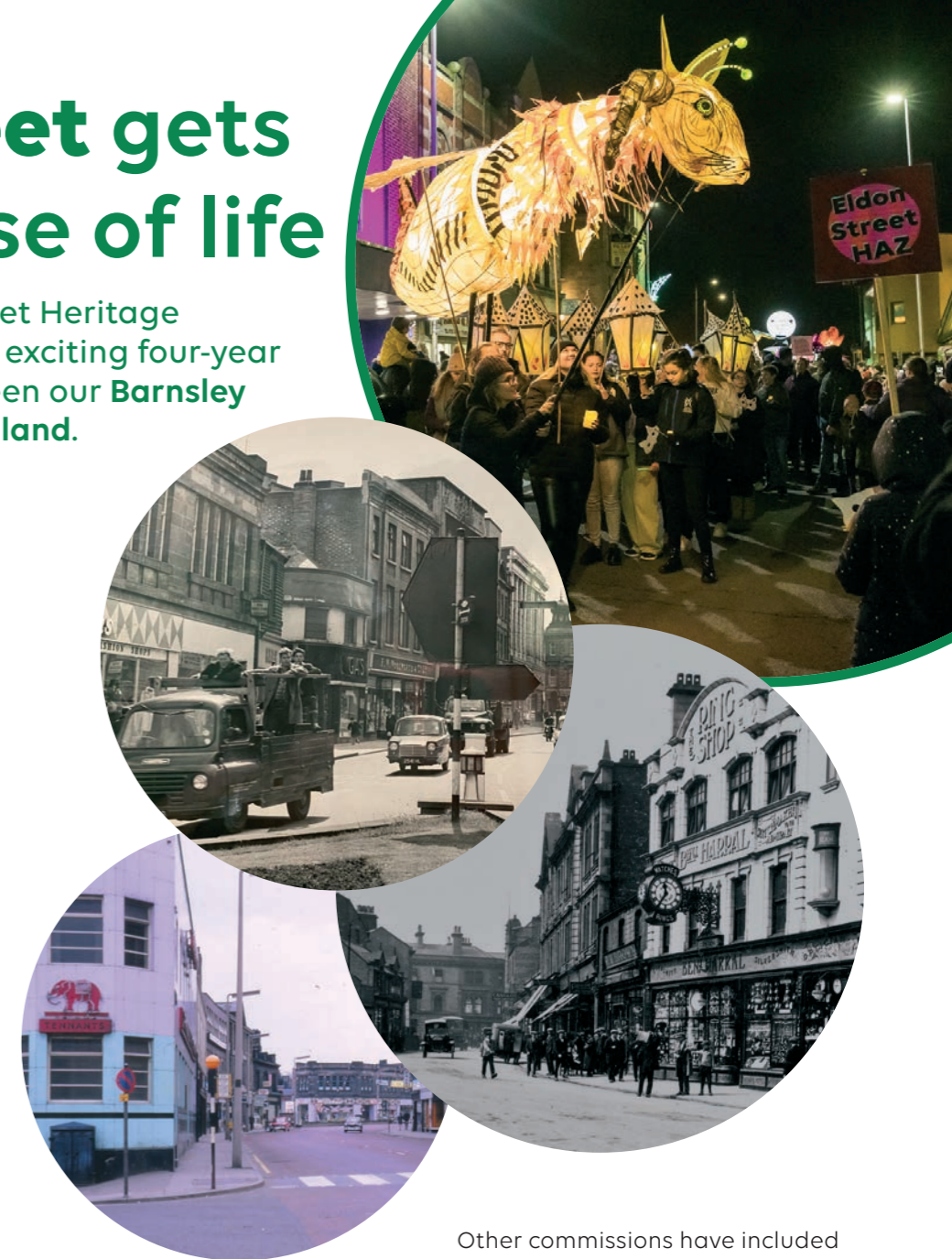
The project aims to realise the untapped potential of Eldon Street, to combine the old with the new, and offer an atmospheric gateway to The Glass Works development. Together they will support a vibrant and sustainable town centre that local communities – past, present, and future – value and love.

Work on the project is well underway and due to be completed in March 2024. Major construction work is currently taking place on many of the buildings.

A Heritage grant of £123,000 to The Parkway Cinema will enable exciting renovation works, improving the frontage and reinstating the 1950s style illuminated cinema signage.

A landmark project focused on the Barnsley Civic. Refurbishments will re-open the original entrance on Eldon Street as well as adding a new café, bar and restaurant to open on the ground and first floor. There will be a flexible office space to attract businesses and creative community spaces for events and workshops available to hire in the new-look venue. Toilet and lift facilities will also be significantly enhanced.

The project is not just about physical changes but also about connecting with local communities. The project has funded a whole programme of events and activities



Images: The Eldon Beast at Barnsley Bright Nights 2022, Benj Harral's Ring Shop in the 1920s and Eldon Street in the 1960s.

that are uncovering and sharing the important history of the street in the most unique and fascinating ways.

Poet Laureate Simon Armitage undertook an 18-month residency with the project including an exciting performance at the Parkway Cinema with his band LYR.

Simon explored Eldon Street, it's mythologies, stories, character, using Barnsley Archives as a creative resource. Simon was particularly interested in tales of a now almost mythical Natural History Museum that used to exist until the 1960s on the top floor of today's modern Barnsley Civic.

Other commissions have included the popular 'Unnaturalists Wonders of Eldon Street' street theatre history tours with Mark Productions and the Eldon Street Brides (created by the WE Great Ladies), who have undertaken micro-residencies with many of the area's independent businesses, collecting love stories from the High Street. The project has also contributed to town centre events like the Twisted Natural Arts festival and Barnsley Bright Nights.

It's a transformational time for the town centre and the Eldon Street project is an important part in making Barnsley a truly unique and spectacular place to live.

For more information about the project, visit barnsley-museums.com.





PANTO EVER AFTER PRESENTS...

CINDERELLA

PANTOMIME IS BACK AT BARNSELY CIVIC AFTER MORE THAN 25 YEARS!

WILL YOU COME TO THE BALL?

BOOK NOW Early Bird offer until 15 April

Family of 4 £45 (Adult £15 Child £12) **SAVE £6**

*All family tickets to include one adult ticket

Saturday 9 December – Wednesday 27 December 2023

Barnsley Civic BOX OFFICE: 01226 327000

www.barnsleycivic.co.uk

"This is a pantomime shimmering with freshness and originality" – The Stage

#EverybodyThink – a little bit of recycling makes a big difference

We'd like to say a huge thank you to all of you who have taken the time to recycle right, helping us to create a cleaner, greener and more sustainable Barnsley.

Over the past year, you've helped us to:



Putting your rubbish into the right bin really does make a difference, and means we can recycle and dispose of it in the best way possible. You can find out more about what goes in your bin at barnsley.gov.uk/Waste.

Download your new bin collection calendar

For a paper copy of your annual bin collection calendar, visit the link below to download and print at home. Alternatively, you can visit your local library, and a member of staff will assist you in printing off a copy.

Green bins will also be resuming this month, and you can view your upcoming collection dates on our new bin calendars too.

Visit barnsley.gov.uk/Bins to download your calendar or just search online for 'Barnsley Council bin calendars' to find it.

Grass cutting to restart

We'll be restarting our normal grass cutting activities, which includes cutting grass verges and hedges, leaf clearance and spraying weeds.

This year, we'll continue with our rewilding scheme to encourage biodiversity and wildflowers in selected areas as part of our ongoing work to make Barnsley more sustainable.

Find out more about our grass-cutting schedule and rewilding scheme at barnsley.gov.uk/GrassCutting.

Let's all play our part in creating a cleaner, greener, more sustainable Barnsley

Take a look at some of our energy saving top tips:

- Look out for appliances on standby and switch them off completely or at the wall when you can.
- Turn off the lights when you're not using them or when you leave the room.
- Only fill the kettle with the water you need.
- When it's time to change your household light bulbs, why not consider swapping this for a low energy bulb?
- Only use the dishwasher and washing machine when full.
- Dry washing outside or on a clothes rack rather than the tumble dryer.
- Turning down your heating by just one degree, if it is comfortable to do so, can cut your heating bills by around 10%.
- Take shorter showers to conserve water and turn down your thermostat.

Find out more about how you can reduce your carbon emissions at barnsley.gov.uk/ReducingCarbonEmissions.

Calculate your environmental footprint at footprint.wwf.org.uk.

Last year we emptied **8.23 million** bins



EVERYBODY THINK!

Barnsley

the picture-perfect backdrop for your Civil Ceremony

Barnsley has something for everyone. With picturesque countryside, historic parks and gardens, and stately homes, Barnsley is home to some of Yorkshire's hidden gems.

Whether it's a grand affair or small and intimate, you can find everything you need here.

Why choose Barnsley?

There are 15 fantastic venues in Barnsley licensed for all civil ceremonies. If you're looking for something different, some venues also give you the option to have twilight or outdoor ceremonies. Whatever you're looking for, you're sure to find the perfect location for your special day.

Barnsley Town Hall gives you freedom to enjoy your magical day.

At the heart of Barnsley town centre is the famous town hall and what a landmark building this is. Magnificent inside and out, it boasts a sweeping Italian marble staircase, a wood panelled ceremony suite and a glass domed ceiling, giving you plenty of stunning photo opportunities. Following your ceremony, you can continue your celebrations at any other location of your choice.

For more information about how to plan your special day, and to book a registrar, visit our website.

barnsley.gov.uk/Weddings



Save the date...

The **Ceremony Suite** will open its doors at **Barnsley Town Hall** on **Saturday 22 April** from **10am to 12.30pm** where you'll have the chance to look inside and speak to our celebrations team.

So, whether you're planning your big day or looking for something intimate, come along to see what's inside. It could be love at first sight...



New homes setting the standard for carbon-neutral housebuilding in Barnsley

The construction of 16 new council houses at Billingley View, Bolton-upon-Deerne, as part of a pilot for the Barnsley Low Carbon Standard (BLCS) is close to completion.

Our Strategic Housing Team have been collaborating with academics from Leeds Beckett University to design homes which are highly energy efficient and fossil fuel free, in line with our Zero 45 Strategy, which aims for the borough to be carbon net zero by 2045.

The design uses traditional construction techniques but also includes enhancements, such as:

- Wider wall cavities to accommodate extra insulation.
- Triple glazed windows.

- Air Source Heat Pumps for heating and hot water.
- Solar PV with battery back-up.

It's hoped the BLCS will help set standards for future housebuilding across the borough.

The team from Leeds Beckett University have also been conducting several tests to evaluate the energy performance of the new homes.

The tests measure the effectiveness of the various sustainable design choices applied to the homes.

One of these tests, the co-heating test, measures how well the building retains heat due to its insulated, draughtproof construction. The tests allow us to compare the finished building with



the original design intent, identify any performance gaps and make recommendations for future builds.

The project team will also carry out in-use monitoring to ensure systems are working to peak efficiency and residents are getting value for money. This monitoring will be unobtrusive to tenants and rely on remote monitoring of performance and energy consumption.

For more information on this scheme, visit barnsley.gov.uk/CouncilHousing. Any letting enquiries can be sent to homeseeker@barnslaihomes.co.uk.

Sexuality is not a barrier to adopting in Barnsley

Our Adoption Team, part of **One Adoption South Yorkshire**, are reaching out to our LGBTQ+ community who may be thinking about adopting to build their family.

Since One Adoption South Yorkshire was launched in 2021, over 50 people who are LGBTQ+ have been approved to adopt or are currently going through the assessment process. However, many people still think they wouldn't be allowed to adopt because of their sexuality.

"All people who adopt are unique and valued," said Stephanie Evans, Head of One Adoption South Yorkshire. "We welcome

applications from people of any sexuality, race or religion – you don't have to be married or have a partner either; we have many excellent single adopters. What matters is that you can offer a safe, permanent and caring home to a child who may have faced a challenging start in life."

Kate and Liz, a same-sex couple who have adopted twice, added: "We never have any problems being a same-sex couple with adopted kids, and some people might wonder how it affects them. We can only speak for our family, but our kids never have any issues with having two mummies, either on a personal level or on the playground with other children."

Anyone interested in finding out about adopting can visit oneadoption.co.uk or call 0345 002 0012.

One Adoption South Yorkshire is a regional adoption agency made up of the adoption services of **Barnsley Council, Doncaster City Council, Rotherham Council and Sheffield City Council**.



Joining forces to keep our borough a safer place

Our Neighbourhood and Town Centre Wardens continue to join forces to make sure Barnsley is a safer place.

Recently our wardens have joined forces with South Yorkshire Police to tackle anti-social behaviour. Working with our partners, we've carried out CCV operations, investigated abandoned vehicles and undertaken foot patrols across our borough.

Our wardens continue to offer information, advice and guidance to anyone who needs it and issue Fixed Penalty Notices for breaches of our dog control PSPO (Public Spaces Protection Orders), littering and fly-tipping offences.

If you'd like to meet our wardens, or have information you would like to provide them, please email Safer@barnsley.gov.uk or visit barnsley.gov.uk/JoiningForces.



A SAFER BARNLSLEY

Northern has the perfect balance of support, friendliness and expertise.

I have got the skills and knowledge that I need for my career.

Rachel.

”



South Yorkshire's only college designed for adults aged 19+

It's time for change.

Apply now at northern.ac.uk



We have funding available if you're aged 19 or older and live in South Yorkshire, so that you can improve your skills and change your future.

It's really important to have the right skills and qualifications to get ahead in your chosen career path.

southyorkshire-ca.gov.uk/achieveyourgoals



Improve your maths confidence with free courses and qualifications.

Brush up on your everyday numeracy skills with Multiply.

Find out more at southyorkshire-ca.gov.uk/Multiply



It's probably nothing serious, but...



... finding cancer early makes it more treatable. Until you find out, you can't rule it out.

The 'NHS Bus-ting Cancer Tour' made a stop outside the Glass Works, tackling the barriers to people seeking help for cancer symptoms – including the fear of a cancer diagnosis – as well as encouraging awareness of bodily changes that could be a sign of cancer.

Finding cancer at an early stage means it's easier to treat. Over 83% of people survive cancer if caught at the earliest stage – but survival rates drop when cancers are caught later.

As highlighted on the bus, 65 out of 78 passengers on the bus would survive cancer if caught at the earliest stage – which shows how important it is to get potential cancer symptoms checked if something in your body doesn't feel right.

Speak to your GP if there is anything that doesn't feel right in your body, or that you're worried about. These are just some of the signs and symptoms of cancer:

- Unexplained pain that lasts three weeks or more.
- Tummy trouble, such as discomfort or diarrhoea that lasts for three weeks or more.
- A cough for three weeks or more.
- Blood in your pee, even just once.
- Blood in your poo for three weeks or more.
- Unusual, pale or greasy poo.
- Unexplained weight loss.
- You keep getting heartburn or indigestion.
- You keep feeling tired and unwell and are not sure why.
- Unexpected or unexplained bleeding.
- An unexplained lump.

For more possible cancer symptoms, visit [nhs.uk/cancersymptoms](https://www.nhs.uk/cancersymptoms).



Sarah Norman, Chief Executive at Barnsley Council, discovered a lump in her breast in the summer of 2021. **"I noticed a lump whilst I was on holiday," said Sarah.**

"The moment I returned home, I booked a GP appointment and was seen within a couple of days. Soon after I was at the breast clinic where they confirmed I had early stage breast cancer."

"Within three weeks, the lump in my breast was removed and once I'd healed from the surgery, I began radiotherapy."

"I was really fortunate to catch it as early as I did. Being aware to the changes in my body, I was able to catch cancer early and start treatment quickly. Catching it early made all the difference."

Your health matters
Help us help you



Choose the right service

Make sure that you get the best treatment possible by checking all your options first. There are several services which can help you including GP i-HEART Barnsley Hubs or pharmacies.

Pharmacists are a great source of health care service advice and information. They are experts in medicines and can help you decide if you need to see a doctor.

professionals work alongside your GP such as nurses, health care assistants, physiotherapists, physician associates, mental health therapists and clinical pharmacists to give you the right care.

If in doubt, visit [111.nhs.uk](https://www.111.nhs.uk) first or call 111 to get advice.

You don't always need to see a GP, more healthcare

Download the NHS App

The NHS app is a simple way to access a range of services on your phone or tablet, including NHS 111 online, booking and managing appointments with your GP surgery and ordering repeat prescriptions. Download the NHS app today from the app store on your phone or tablet.

Help and support with the rising cost of living

The rising cost of living is a concern for everyone, and we're doing what we can to offer help and support.

managing the rising cost of living.

On the More Mon£y in your Pocket web page there's plenty of information and advice if you need support

It's also a great web page and resource to share with people you know if they're having financial difficulty. Visit [barnsley.gov.uk/MMIYP](https://www.barnsley.gov.uk/MMIYP) to find out more.

Adult Social Care are here to help you

Our priority in Adult Social Care is to help you access high-quality care and support when you need it, at the right time and in the right place.

important to you and work with you to find services that will help you achieve your goals.

We'll support you to tell us the things that are

Find out how we can help you at [barnsley.gov.uk/services/adult-social-care](https://www.barnsley.gov.uk/services/adult-social-care).

Mental health helpline

24 hour support, advice, information, and guidance available. This is a confidential helpline for anyone seeking support for their mental health or their carers.

This service is available to anyone registered with a GP in Barnsley. Call **0800 183 0558**.

Choose well for mental health

There are guides to help you choose well for mental health available through the local NHS.

a mental health crisis or emergency. Take a look at the guides on the South West Yorkshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust website

They support you to look after your mental health and wellbeing, know how to access the right services when needed, and understand what to do if you experience

by scanning the QR code with your smart phone camera.



Healthy Start

The Healthier Together website gives you clear information on common childhood illnesses, including advice on what 'red-flag' signs to look out for, where to seek help if required and how long your child's symptoms are likely to last. There's also lots of great information if you're pregnant. Visit [sybhealthiertogether.nhs.uk](https://www.sybhealthiertogether.nhs.uk).

Major investment coming to all areas of Barnsley as part of our **Levelling Up** plans

There's lots of investment coming to all areas of Barnsley this year. Teams across the council from libraries to highways are working together to help all our Principal Towns and Local Village Centres grow as places people choose to live, work and visit.

Our Principal Towns and Local Centres investment programme supports the vital role of local high streets and village centres in creating opportunities for residents and businesses.

We've already invested £5m into our six Principal Towns and ten Local Centres to help them thrive. Now we have plans to invest another £30m, on top of the £23.1m we have secured for Goldthorpe, and we're working to attract even more from other funding bodies.

This is about supporting local high streets and helping encourage more people to shop and spend their leisure time locally.

Works underway and being planned right now, include:

Hoyland

The transformation of Hoyland's Town Square, including new paving and seating. A circular piece of artwork in the centre of the square has been raised to form a performance area and further seating. The works complement the wonderful refurbishment of Hoyland Library, completed just before Christmas.

Wombwell

Public realm and highways upgrades, including new pavement improvements to both sides of High Street, road resurfacing, and a variety of work to de-clutter and improve the market area of the High Street.

Royston

Working on plans for the Royston Monckton Enterprise Park at the former Monckton site to bring jobs and investment back to the area.

Goldthorpe

The Heart of Goldthorpe project, part of the £23.1m Towns Fund investment in the Goldthorpe area, including a new public plaza and events area. It will create a central point for community activity and temporary public uses like market stalls and pop-up events.

Penistone

Architects are working up plans for the Town Hall and Cinema Extension, including a second screen for the Paramount. This will be a huge boost to the already great offer to local people in Penistone. We're also waiting for planning permission to be approved for the installation of the Penistone Sheep Trail. This will feature several eye-catching sculptures around the town.

Local Centres

Principal Towns funding has been allocated to Local Centres across the borough, and five projects are currently being developed including projects at the Dearne Renaissance Centre, New Lodge Community Centre, Darfield Football Club, Great Houghton Village Hall, and Mapplewell Village Hall.

Levelling Up Investment

We were delighted to secure £10.2m of Levelling Up funding for our Barnsley Futures project.

It will help transform cultural and wellbeing facilities in the town centre for all our children across the borough.

The investment includes support for:

- A new Northern Academy of Vocal Excellence (NAVE) to deliver outstanding singing tuition to young people.
- An activity park next to our forthcoming Youth Zone, including a skate park, bike track, new active routes and play spaces.
- The Young People's Wellbeing Hub 'H.O.M.E.' based at YMCA, supporting emotional wellbeing and resilience, mental health and wellbeing activity.
- Refurbishment of The Civic, improving cultural engagement, particularly for those under 30, to develop their skills and talents.

Flood prevention in Barnsley

All you need to know

Be prepared

There are things you can do to reduce the impact of flooding by preparing in advance, such as:

- Have the correct home insurance policy in place.
- Write a simple plan of how you would respond to a flood – include emergency contact numbers, essential documents, medication and belongings you would need if you had to evacuate.
- Prepare an emergency flood kit with items you may need if flooding means you can't access your house.
- Keep your drains and gutters clear of leaves to help prevent blockages and localised flooding in heavy rainfall.
- Make sure you know how to quickly turn off your water, gas and electricity mains.
- Buying sandbags or other flood protection products such as flood air brick covers.

How we're tackling flooding in Barnsley

We're working to prevent flooding across the borough through our flooding schemes.

Together with Connected By Water, we're working with partners from all South Yorkshire councils, the Environment Agency, Yorkshire Water and the South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority to reduce flooding across South Yorkshire.

Find out more about our current and future flooding schemes including Low Valley Bulling Dyke, Lundwood, Lang Avenue and Worsbrough on our website at barnsley.gov.uk/HelpToPreventFlooding or by scanning our QR code.

You can also read more about our partnership, who to contact and flood prevention tips at barnsley.gov.uk/Flooding.



Start a rewarding career looking after our communities with Proud to Care

We're incredibly proud of Barnsley's brilliant care workers, who truly change the lives of the people they care for and their families. Our new care training programme is here to help you start a rewarding career in one of our varied caring roles.

We recently welcomed our first learners onto the training, teaching them new skills and helping them grow. Don't just take our word for it, let's hear what our learners had to say.

One learner told us the course made them feel more confident, adding: **"You learn a lot in a short amount of time and feel positive going into work. I really enjoyed this course."**

Another shared with us after finishing the four-week course that **"I'm good at a subject I never thought I would be and am looking forward to seeing where it takes me."**

If you're looking for a new challenge and love helping others, our care training could be perfect for you. We can help you get started in care, supporting you with training and matching you with a role perfect for you. Find out how we can help you at barnsley.gov.uk/ProudToCare.

Ward Alliance members for nine years Pauline Phillips and Derek Bramham

Derek has lived in the Dearne all his life, and Pauline has lived in the park house for many years. They met while volunteering at an environmental group in Thurnscoe and have been friends ever since. This volunteering motivated them to join the Ward Alliance nine years ago.

They are both passionate about the Dearne and want to make it a better place for those who live and work there. They want to make a difference in people's lives and bring people together.

Both get involved with many groups, sharing their wealth of expertise. Laughing, Derek says he's **"busier now than when he was working, but it's worth seeing the difference it makes."** He particularly enjoys showing people the good work that's been done in the Dearne.

Over the nine years of their involvement, Derek and Pauline have developed many skills such as confidence, communication, project planning, a knowledge of local issues, and an understanding of how council services are run. They believe the Ward Alliance's area-based approach adds value to the work and makes sure money is spent locally, directly addressing local issues and supporting community groups to grow.

Pauline became Chair of the Ward Alliance, a role which took her out of her comfort zone, but with the support and encouragement of our Area Team, she developed leadership skills and enjoyed the role. Derek is Chair of the Big Local, Thurnscoe, and Goldthorpe Towns Fund. Both are well-known inspirational figures in the community, acting as ambassadors and role models, especially for the next generation.

The projects they are proud of are, Sloppy Slippers, Healthy Holidays, Feeding the Families, and the hanging basket scheme, to name just a few. They make sure there are activities for all and believe there should be no such words as **"there's nowt to do around here"**.

Derek's biggest achievement was being part of a group that presented the area governance arrangements at the Local Government Awards in London. The group won the community involvement award on behalf of the Ward Alliances.

Pauline's most significant achievement was

turning a disused and dingy park into a beautiful floral green space and play area that the whole community are proud of and enjoys using. She says winning the Barnsley in Bloom Gold award was truly amazing, and she is thankful for the volunteers who help with maintenance.

Pauline and Derek agreed wholeheartedly that they value our Dearne Area Team's support. They said, **"the team was helpful with finding funding; had a vast knowledge of council procedures, site plans, risk assessments, and insurance and never mind getting stuck in."**

"We have a special team that works hard and understands the area and its community. They are helping to make the Dearne a better place to live and work, and we would not be here without them."

Equally, the council, Area Team, and Ward Alliance could not do it without amazing, big-hearted volunteers like Derek and Pauline.

We're celebrating ten years of Area Councils, Area Teams, and Ward Alliances this year. You can learn more about your local area at barnsley.gov.uk/your-local-area.

For more information about volunteering opportunities or projects happening in your area, please get in touch with the Dearne Area Team at DearneTeam@barnsley.gov.uk. Or follow us on Facebook to find out what activities and events are happening near you at facebook.com/DearneApproach.



Dee's decade of dedication



Dee Cureton has been a Ward Alliance member for ten years and attended the first Ward Alliance meeting in the Central Ward.

Dee is an active citizen within her community, and her volunteering led her to become a member of the Ward Alliance. Dee had been representing her resident's group at a meeting in Barnsley Town Hall, where she spoke openly and honestly about the day's topics. After the meeting, a Councillor approached Dee to say how impressed she had been with her and explained about the Ward Alliance, inviting her to the meeting.

Dee admits that **"At first, I was scared. I didn't know anyone or what it was, but I soon got to grips with it."**

"It taught me a lot about looking at priorities and developing them to start the Ward Alliance. I would report the events of the meeting back to the group; this helps the group members to understand what is happening in their area. It has become a large part of my life."

"The Ward Alliance is inclusive, bringing communities together, allowing members to have equal input and respecting everyone's ideas and views. While being part of the Ward Alliance, I got to know new people and developed my skills."

"I like to know what is happening in my community. I feel more confident steering people in the right direction to get help and support for their group and community".

Dee can see how the Ward Alliance has evolved over the last ten years.

"The members have changed, which has brought new dynamics to the meeting. The Ward priorities have not changed much, which tells us they are right for our community. We are becoming better known in the community and forming better partnerships."

Dee is most proud of the social group she formed for older people. **"The Ward Alliance inspired me to start my Forever Young Group, which now runs from Churchfields every Tuesday for older men and women to socialise"**.

The project met the priorities, and the Ward Alliance supported Dee with funding to start the group. The group is now active and sustainable.

"We thrive with the council's support through their Community Development Officers and Area Teams to bring ideas to the community and deliver our projects, linking us to providers and organisations, signposting us to experts and helping us deliver projects."

Since 2016, the Central Area Ward Alliances have funded 650 applications totalling £649,065.09; this has helped groups across the five wards deliver their projects, helping sustainability and resilience in their community.



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For more information about volunteering opportunities or projects happening in your area, please get in touch with the Central Area Team at CentralTeam@barnsley.gov.uk. Or follow us on Facebook to find out what activities and events are happening near you at facebook.com/BarnsleyCentral.

I enjoy helping my local community

"My name is Sue Fox; I manage Burton Grange Community Centre in Lundwood. We provide a variety of weekly activities for the local community, from Bingo to a breakfast and lunch club, including activities for children during the school holidays. This wouldn't be possible without the help and support of local volunteers from our community, which is how I started my journey with the Ward Alliance over nine years ago.

I began as a volunteer over 30 years ago in my local area, helping with local play schemes, as they were called then. Helping at the local youth club, school fairs and generally assisting where needed.

As I became more involved with the Community Centre, I became aware of the Ward Alliance and their work. A group of people who were helping to develop a community plan for our local area, which was something I aspired to do. I enjoy helping my local community.

At the Ward Alliance, we give local groups the support they need when starting up as a new group or developing a project in the area. We provide guidance and funding to help them help other people within our community with their projects and eventually become self-sustaining.

I have done lots of training whilst being part of the Ward Alliance, developing my skills and encouraging other volunteers to participate in training like First Aid, Food Hygiene and Safeguarding. I am most proud of the youth work training I undertook after years of volunteering at youth clubs; I gained a Level Two Youth Work Qualification.

I don't think the Ward Alliance has changed a lot since I have been a part of it, some of the aims and objectives have changed and developed over the years as things have changed within our local area, and we try to respond to those needs and make improvements.

The Area Teams are a vital part of the planning and support for the events we put on at the community centre for our residents. They are more than willing to get involved with our activities, from talking with residents to advising groups when they are looking to set up correctly and help with funding advice and applications. They put us in contact with other like-minded people for support with what we do and provide training opportunities.

I am proud to live in Lundwood; I really enjoy volunteering and giving back to my local community. I recommend anyone to get involved in volunteering within their local community."

If you would like to get involved in activities at Burton Grange Community Centre, please get in touch with Sue at burtongrangepark@yahoo.co.uk.

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For more information about volunteering opportunities or projects happening in your area, please get in touch with the North East Area Team at NorthEastTeam@barnsley.gov.uk. Or follow us on Facebook to find out what activities and events are happening near you at facebook.com/NorthEastAreaTeam.

How Helen has helped young people and made a difference in the North Area



Helen is a resident of the North Area and has been a Darton East Ward Alliance community representative for six years. Helen first became inspired to join the Ward Alliance following a conversation with another member who felt she'd make a great representative. Speaking to Helen about what being on the Ward Alliance means to her, she said she "thought it would be a good opportunity to get more involved in her local community and make a positive change." And she has.

Shortly after joining the Ward Alliance, Helen became secretary, a role which has helped her improve her confidence in meeting new people and like-minded volunteers who have the desire to support and improve their local area.

Helen is passionate about supporting young people, as shown through her dedication and commitment to developing young people's activities in the North Area. Bringing up two children, she felt that there wasn't much locally for them to do or get involved in, so Helen wanted to change that. Speaking to local families, she

understood that not everyone could afford to take their children on days out or to local venues, and she thought it was important to be able to provide fun activities in the local area that are free or low cost.

Helen was instrumental in setting up regular themed children's discos for under 12's and providing free summer fun sessions in Mapplewell Park during the school holidays. She loves delivering these activities and has contributed many volunteering hours to make sure families and children get an opportunity to get involved where they live. She says, "it makes it all worthwhile seeing the children having fun."

Helen has worked closely with the North Area Team and has established a great working relationship; Helen says she is pleased "that the team are always there when needed."

The team has supported various events in the Village Hall over the years and helped deliver summer activity sessions in the park.

In addition to being incredibly proud of everything she has achieved for young people, Helen is the proud winner of the 'Outstanding Contribution to Young People' awarded at the first-ever Darton East Ward Alliance 'Make a Difference Awards' last year. The person who nominated Helen said, "she is a special person, and I would love for her to get the recognition she deserves."

Over the years, Helen has seen the Ward Alliance develop, grow, flourish, and thrive. She continues to promote the Ward Alliance;

"It's a great resource to help and support community groups achieve and deliver their projects."

The Darton East Ward Alliance has funding available to support projects benefiting the community, young and old. The alliance has funded a wider range of community projects, from community allotments and setting up an afternoon club to supporting local friends of groups.

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For more information about volunteering opportunities or projects happening in your area, please get in touch with the North Area Team at NorthTeam@barnsley.gov.uk. Or follow us on Facebook to find out what activities and events are happening near you at facebook.com/BarnsleyNorthAreaTeam.



Helping spark great things in Penistone

Ann Walker is a long-serving community member of the Penistone Ward Alliance, joining soon after it was established. Her dedication to her village led her to discover the Ward Alliance and get stuck in.

When Ann moved to Oxspring twenty years ago, she was keen to be part of the tight-knit and welcoming community. Following retirement from Barnsley College, she had some spare time and was looking for a way to become more involved.

"I joined the Oxspring Parish Council; it seemed like a good way to get involved with all the good things happening in Oxspring. I can't remember the exact project, it's been a long time, but the Parish Council wanted some extra funding, and the Ward Alliance was suggested. After finding out about their work, the idea seemed good, so I joined."

While making a difference in her neighbourhood was the catalyst for her participation Ann is proud to play a part in helping projects in the other communities in the Penistone area. One combined Ward Alliance considers projects in the Penistone East and Penistone West wards. Over £350,000 has been allocated since its inception, helping 279 community projects with people volunteering for 41,293 hours.

"I enjoy learning about what is happening in other villages and Parish Councils, and it's really useful to share ideas and build contacts. I've taken lots back to Oxspring, and I like that it brings people together."

Ann has made good use of that knowledge to improve the community, helping volunteer groups like the Oxspring Friends, who helped people who needed extra support with shopping and prescriptions during the pandemic, and the Titivators Environmental group. These contacts have helped her to support the improvement of the sports field and football pitch and assisted in improving the children's play area with Section 106 grant funding – money provided by developers for community and social infrastructure.



"The Ward Alliance can help a project get started and go on to have an impact or touch many lives."

"Various Parish Councils around the Penistone area organise the hanging baskets; lots began with a small grant and have gone on to become sponsored by people or local businesses, making the place look lovely every year."

"The Ward Alliance can be that little spark to set something off."

Thinking about her dedication to helping the community over many years, Ann is modest.

"Well, we are volunteers, helping other volunteers; it is good to be able to lend some support. It has introduced me to some very helpful people who are just brilliant, like Tanya on the Penistone Area Team, who can't do enough for you, and the Penistone East Councillors. If you are interested in doing good and want to know what's going on, join."

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Sabeena gives back to her wonderful Wombwell community

"I wanted to get involved as I had the desire to put something back into the community."

Sabeena, a resident in the South Area, has been a Ward Alliance community representative for the past seven years.

Sabeena was already a member of the Friends of Wombwell Park group. After chatting with the Community Development Officer and the other group members, becoming a community representative seemed like an excellent next step. Sabeena says that as her children had just started full-time school, she felt she had the time, energy, and desire to make a difference.

Being part of the Ward Alliance means getting to know what's happening in your community. Sabeena can speak as a resident of Wombwell, alongside being a parent, member of a community group, and school governor. She gets involved in the decision-making and has a say in how funding is awarded to different community groups. The different events and projects she plans and delivers keep her motivated.

We asked Sabeena if she had developed any new skills or interests since joining the Ward Alliance. Sabeena said her communication skills and confidence have improved, and she's gained insight into how committees are run effectively. **"I now have the necessary skills to chair meetings, take notes, engage**

with other stakeholders, plan and organise community events."

Of all the work she's done, Sabeena is most proud of Wombwell's Picnic in the Park event last year. It was the first community event at the park for the families of Wombwell, with plenty of people turning up, supported by a fantastic team of volunteers. Sabeena told us, **"I now had the confidence and experience gained through being a member of the Ward Alliance to facilitate the planning meetings, sign up for tasks and support the other volunteers in their designated roles."**

Sabeena has seen the Ward Alliance change since she joined seven years ago. She's been thrilled to see community members get more involved in Ward Alliance delivered projects, and Ward Alliance members are also more than willing to help each other with their own group's activities.

The Ward Alliance supports community groups to easily access funding for their projects, benefiting the community, young and old. The alliance has funded various community projects, including community gardens, setting up a community luncheon club, supporting friends of groups, community defibrillators, family activities in the school holidays, and much more. The Wombwell Ward Alliance also delivers community projects on the high street and Healthy Holiday projects during the school holidays.



Since April 2016, the South Area has approved 334 applications from the three ward alliances, totalling £389,372.12.

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SHOP



WATCH



DINE



PLAY



HEALTH



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

**THE GLASS WORKS HAS IT ALL
NOW'S THE TIME TO ENJOY IT**

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be on the edge of your seat or on the edge of curiosity.
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