open door
Keeping you in the know from Dunford Bridge to the Dearne

Issue 9 • October 2010

Tackling debt...
Page 4

A day in the life of a dog warden...
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Allotments - a growing trend...
Pages 20 and 21

Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council
Barnsley Council is expecting the worst from the government’s first Spending Review on 20th October. Central government funding for local government – the bulk of Barnsley Council’s income – will be sharply reduced, as will spending on the benefits system and most other areas of public life. We won’t know our detailed figures though, probably until December.

Meanwhile, the council continues to do all it can to keep jobs in the local economy and help people find work. This is why we focus on the success of our Future Jobs Fund (page 15) – sadly now ended by the government - and the opportunities for you to take up free Microsoft training vouchers on page 10.

The piece on “Doing something about debt” on page 4 is intended to help you if you are struggling with unpaid bills and can’t make ends meet. Do take advantage of the advice services they offer.

Finally, why not grow your own food? It’s good exercise, gets you out in the fresh air and helps you eat healthily, even if you are on a low budget. Our piece on getting an allotment on page 20 tells you how.

We hope you enjoy the magazine.

Cllr Steve Houghton, Leader

Your comments and views are welcome. Contact Bob Williams, Head of Corporate Communications, Town Hall, Barnsley S70 2TA Tel: 01226 774586 Email: bobwilliams@barnsley.gov.uk

If you need help understanding this document please contact Corporate Communications on 01226 773443.

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Notice to parents
Admission to school 2011/12

Was your child born between 1/9/06 and 31/8/07?

It is now time to apply for admission to the Reception Year (September 2011). You must obtain a copy of the ‘Admission to Primary school - Advice to Parents’ booklet. This contains a common application form and other very important information about making an application for your preferred schools.

The booklet is available from:
• Schools
• Nurseries
• The School Admissions section
Tel: 773689 / 773677 / 773588

Online admissions: You can now submit your preferences online. Simply log on to: www.barnsley.gov.uk/schooladmissions and click on the apply online link

The closing date for applications for the academic year 2011/12 is: MONDAY 17 JANUARY 2011

The council does not allocate places in schools by referring to defined communities or catchment areas. All children, including those resident outside the Barnsley metropolitan borough, have an equal right to apply for a place in any school.

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**Stainborough stroll**

Follow the path to the Rotunda, built between 1742 and 1746. Beneath the Rotunda is a sunken basement, possibly used as a keeping cellar for the servants to prepare food and drinks for guests in the room above.

Go through the gateway at the entrance, turn right and follow the path along the fence, turning left into Ivas Wood, home to one of the largest heronries in the area. Follow the path and take the right-hand fork.

Reaching the edge of the wood, go through the gate and turn right onto the public footpath, following this along the edge of the field. Keep ahead through the wood. Coming out of the wood turn right through the gate into the parkland and follow the route towards the Duke of Argyll monument. Dedicated to William Wentworth’s father-in-law, the fluted Corinthian column supports a figure of Minerva, the Roman goddess of wisdom.

Regain the path by retracing your steps, walking uphill through the Great South Avenue lined with a double row of oak and lime trees.

On reaching the top of South Avenue you are rewarded by a magnificent view of the Palladian Wing of Wentworth Castle. Built for William Wentworth to his own design this wing was finished around 1762.

Make your way back along the path to Long Barn.

Total walk length approximately 3 miles (5km). The trail can be muddy after rain, has several stiles and covers undulating terrain, so is not suitable for people with mobility problems or pushchairs. Please keep dogs on a lead at all times and close all gates.

Please note, to use the car park, a token (currently £3) must be purchased from the Long Barn visitor centre.

**Take in the magnificent architecture and beautiful landscapes in this walk around Wentworth Castle parkland**

1. From the Long Barn visitor centre follow the signs for Parkland Trail. Go through the gate into the parkland and follow the waymarks.
2. Go through the gate, turn immediate right and follow the path along the fence, turning left into Ivas Wood, home to one of the largest heronries in the area. Follow the path and take the right-hand fork.
3. Go through the gate to see the Avenue you are rewarded by a magnificent view of the Palladian Wing of Wentworth Castle. Built for William Wentworth to his own design this wing was finished around 1762. Make your way back along the path to Long Barn.
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**Financial exclusion is a major issue in Barnsley. A 2009 survey showed that, in some areas in the borough, many had suffered some form of health problems as a result of debt, including two in every five people saying it had made them depressed. The current recession has increased the problems and proposed government cuts to benefits and the ongoing savings agenda is likely to cause further issues for people across the borough.**

Firstly, start by acknowledging you have a problem. It won’t go away, and leaving it could make matters worse. Borrowing your way out of a problem just leads to more debt. More and more people in the borough are resorting to using door step lenders - or even loan sharks - who charge almost unaffordable high rates of interest. Even legitimate short term lenders charge unbelievably high APR rates – sometimes over 2,000 percent, which is well over a hundred times that of a standard credit card rate.

Secondly, make sure you look carefully at what money is coming into your household and what is going out. If more is going out than is coming in, it’s possible you need help sorting it out. You can do some things yourself, such as paying off priority debts like rent, utility bills, council tax and so on. Offer realistic repayment terms where you are unable to pay creditors in full. Also make sure you get advice from the people who can help you as soon as you can.

The council’s Welfare Rights team can advise you on what benefits are available to you and how you can apply for them. Many of these benefits are available to people who are returning to work, including tax credits and recouping 70 percent of child-minding fees. Call the advice line on 01226 772360, email welfare.rightsteam@barnsley.gov.uk, or visit www.barnsley.gov.uk/welfare.rights

- South Yorkshire Credit Union already has over 7,000 members from Barnsley and is the best and easiest option for short term loans if you need one. Members can also arrange payments to creditors, much like standing orders at a bank. If you would like to join, or require more information, call 01226 734945 or visit at 70 Market Street, Barnsley. There is also an office in Goldthorpe at 49 Barnsley Road (01709 897487)
- Barnsley Citizen’s Advice Bureau provides free, confidential and independent expert advice on debt and money management, as well as on benefits, housing, employment issues and more. Call them on 01226 206492 or visit at 1 Shambles Street, Barnsley on Monday/Wednesday (10am to 3pm) or Friday (10am to 12.30pm)

These and many more organisations involved in helping people with money worries will also be in Barnsley town centre in October on Tuesday 12th, Wednesday 13th and Friday 15th, between 10am to 2.30pm in Pod 1, May Day Green (near the markets) as part of National Advice Week. Come along and find out what help is available to you.

- Barnsley Citizen’s Advice Bureau
- Barnsley’s Welfare Rights Team
- The council’s Welfare Rights team
- South Yorkshire Credit Union
- Barnsley Citizen’s Advice Bureau

**Get advice from the people who can help you**

“Borrowing your way out of a problem just leads to more debt”

The full impact of these cuts and how they are likely to affect you and the services provided by the council will appear in a later edition of open door.

However, if you do have financial worries, there is plenty you can do right now.

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Eastern promises

There’s a misconception that the regeneration of Barnsley hasn’t spread much further than the centre of town. Hopefully, this will soon be dispelled.

The importance of the east of the borough is highlighted in the Goldthorpe Masterplan, which is part of a wider Dearne Valley Renaissance Market Towns (RMT) strategy and Housing Market Renewal strategy.

The masterplan was originally adopted by Barnsley Council in 2009. It has since been adapted and reviewed, taking into account the ongoing economic climate as well as feedback from local residents. The revised masterplan and the emerging designs were last consulted on in June. Over 400 people commented on proposals for street furniture, paving designs and principles of the new design. Some of the latest designs and improvements can be seen on these pages.

Work on the first phase from High Street to Market Street and on new parking bays in front of the shops from High Street to Straight Lane, starts later this year.

Discussions have also taken place with residential developers to the east of Goldthorpe to make sure any designs they put forward are complementary to the wider masterplan for the area.

Improving connections and bringing forward better green spaces is a key component of the masterplan. One example being suggested is filling in of the cutting that splits Goldthorpe in two and turning it into a park. There are also plans to have a heritage trail that celebrates Goldthorpe’s industrial and cultural heritage.

A number of key RMT meetings are held at the Dearne Renaissance Centre on a monthly basis. For more information on these meetings, or to ask any questions on the Goldthorpe Masterplan, please contact Faye Duckett or Neil Johnson on 01226 772791.

Alternatively, email housingmarketrenewal@barnsley.gov.uk or visit the council website at www.barnsley.gov/GoldthorpePlan

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There are 14 award categories that give the opportunity to recognise the high level of sporting achievement in the borough and to celebrate the value of sport and activity in people’s lives.

The categories are:

- Lifetime Achievement sponsored by Holiday Inn
- Junior Performer of the Year
- Senior Performer of the Year
- Young Volunteer of the Year
- Senior Volunteer of the Year
- School Award sponsored by Barnsley Council’s Children, Young People and Families directorate
- Young Coach of the Year
- Senior Coach of the Year
- Junior Team of the Year
- Senior Team of the Year
- Club of the Year sponsored by SportActiv
- Community Team/Club of the Year
- Contribution to Sport for Disabled People
- Everybody Active Award

People who want to nominate someone for an award should complete the form which can be downloaded from the council’s website on www.barnsley.gov.uk/sportsawards

Alternatively, forms are also available by calling 01226 787978.

The deadline for nominations is Friday, 29 October.

For further information on the categories or a nomination form please call Sport and Active Recreation on 01226 787978 or email sport&active recreation@barnsley.gov.uk
The attractive conservation village of Elsecar, formed in the 18th century to take advantage of local coal resources, was once at the forefront of industrial innovation.

At the centre of this historical mining community stands Elsecar Heritage Centre – formerly the ironworks and colliery workshops of the fourth Earl Fitzwilliam’s Wentworth Estate.

Restored historical buildings now house a wide variety of shops, galleries and craft workshops. Stroll around the cobbled streets, under the gas lamps and iron columns to discover today’s craftsmen breathing new life into this landmark industrial centre.

Building 21 is Elsecar Heritage Centre’s major exhibition and events hall for stage performances, product launches, shows, fairs, concerts and conferences. The venue also plays host to a monthly antiques and collectables fair.

As well as regular attractions there is a full programme of events taking place throughout the year, including themed children’s activities, outdoor car shows and fairs. The Elsecar Heritage Railway runs a variety of events such as Thomas and Friends and Santa Specials.

Elsecar Heritage Centre houses the Newcomen Beam Engine, built to extract water from Elsecar New Colliery and one of South Yorkshire’s finest surviving legacies of the Industrial Revolution. It is the only Newcomen beam engine in the world to have remained in its original location.

The centre is the ideal location to access the Trans Pennine Trail, while the surrounding village is an excellent example of an early industrial village, with its stone cottages built for the miners and foundry workers now an attractive feature.

Elsecar Heritage Centre is open seven days a week, 10am to 5pm, although individual shops and businesses within the centre have varying opening times. Parking and entry to the site is free, although there may be admission fees to some special events and attractions.

Regular public transport is available to Elsecar via train (Leeds, Sheffield, Barnsley, Wakefield), or bus route 66 from Barnsley station. Cycle racks are also available on site.

For more information please call 01226 740203 or visit www.barnsley.gov.uk/elsecar-heritage-centre
Your views matter to us. That’s why we are inviting you to our Community Call events.

Taking place across the borough these events will provide you with an opportunity to find out and discuss the results from our Think Local Act Locals survey with your local Area Partnership Team, service providers and ward councillors.

We will be encouraging visitors to tell us if we’ve got the priorities right for their area, as well as informing them of our actions to address community issues during the last year.

Your Area Partnership Team will use this feedback as a starting point for developing the Area Plan, which will set out how the needs of your area can be best met.

For more information contact the Neighbourhoods and Engagement Resource Team on (01226) 787737 or email resourceteam@barnsley.gov.uk

Because your voice counts

Community Call events

- **Tuesday 19 October**
  at Priory Campus, Pontefract Road, Lundwood, 6pm to 9pm

- **Thursday 21 October**
  at St. Andrew’s Church Hall, Market Street, Hoyland, 9am to 12.30pm and 4pm to 8pm

- **Monday 25 October**
  at Dearne Playhouse, Washington Road, Goldthorpe, 3pm to 7.30pm

- **Tuesday 26 October**
  at St Andrew’s Church Hall, High Street, Penistone, 3pm to 9pm

- **Tuesday 2 November**
  at Barnsley Academy, Farm Road, Kendray, 4pm to 7pm

- **Monday 8 November**
  at Wombwell Operatic Centre, George Street, Wombwell, 3pm to 7.30pm

- **Wednesday 10 November**
  at Central Library, Shambles Street, 3.30pm to 6.30pm

- **Monday 15 November**
  at Darton High School, 5pm to 9pm

- **Monday 22 November**
  at Kingsdale High School, 5pm to 9pm

Do you know that anyone who lives or works in Barnsley can get Microsoft-accredited training absolutely free?

So far local people have been snapping up this offer, whether improving their CV and job prospects or making their business more competitive. Andy Chesterton, director of local business Praxsoft, commented: “This has allowed us to get upgraded technical training for staff who did their training some years ago. Without this, we would probably never have done.”

Darren Smith, 21 of Monk Bretton, who is on Barnsley Council’s Future Jobs Fund, visited London and the Houses of Parliament to meet Microsoft bosses and discuss the project. Darren added: “The free training vouchers are a fantastic opportunity for everyone, they can be challenging but worth it. They can heighten your job prospects as they are recognised qualifications and look great on your CV.”

There are three levels of training available: for those who have not used Microsoft Office software through to technical specialist training. You can even do exams if you like.

“The free training vouchers are a fantastic opportunity for everyone; they can be challenging but worth it. They can heighten your job prospects as they are recognised qualifications and look great on your CV.”

If you would like to do Technical training please email toby@barnsley.gov.uk or phone 01226 773405 to get a voucher code.

If you are just getting started with Microsoft and would like some help you can go to a learning centre near you to get some friendly support.

- The Care, County Way, Barnsley, 01226 320100
- Acorn Centre, 51 High Street, Grimethorpe, 01226 712575
- Blaekr Hill Lifelong Learning Centre, Wentworth Rd, Blacker Hill, 01226 749543
- Cubworth Centre of Excellence, Robert Street, 01226 717531
- Dearne Enterprise Centre, 1 Barnburgh Lane, 01709 881181
- Jump Children & Adult Learning Centre, Church Street, 01226 748805
- Kendray Learning Centre, Thornton Road 01226 293264
- Penistone E Learning Centre, High Street, 01226 762313
- Roundhouse Lifelong Learning Centre, Laithe Lane, New Lodge, 01226 244529
- Royaton Lifelong Learning Centre, 01226 787222
- Worsbrough Common ICT Learning Centre, 01226 771099

If you are a student at Barnsley College, University Campus Barnsley, Northern College, Priory Campus or Dearne College please ask about the vouchers at your nearest IT suite.

If you feel like you would like to do it at your work or home computer, please visit www.microsoft.com/uk/britainworks. The voucher code for the Essential level training, for those who would like to learn the basics of Microsoft Office is 6112BWWOBAR-0707.

For those who wish to do Business level training (specialisms offered in PowerPoint/Word/Excel and so on). The voucher code is 7380BWWOBAR-5829.

For more information contact the Neighbourhoods and Engagement Resource Team on (01226) 787737 or email resourceteam@barnsley.gov.uk

Fancy benefiting from free training?

You need to be quick - your voucher must be activated before November 2010

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He adds: “We encourage people to ask us for advice on keeping their pet because we want them to be good owners. It’s important to think about the responsibilities of dog ownership – the cost of food, veterinary care and regular exercise.”

* For further information about the dog warden service, including responsible ownership, complaints about stray dogs, and adoption of unclaimed animals please visit www.barnsley.gov.uk/dog-warden or contact Regulatory Services on (01226) 772468, email: regulatoryservices@barnsley.gov.uk

“Owners are usually very pleased to see their dog again. However, there is a problem of persistent strays – dogs we collect more than once. So part of our job is educating people about the importance of responsible ownership.

“It’s less of a problem nowadays, but some people still think it’s okay to let their dog out in the morning to roam the estate. We want them to know that this is not acceptable and if the dog causes a road accident the owner could be liable; if it fouled on designated land they would be liable to a fixed penalty fine.”

By law dogs (including microchipped) must wear a collar, with its owner’s name and address, on the highway or in a public area. Dogs that can’t be traced after a week will be re-homed or sent to a rescue charity.

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Patrolling the borough in marked vehicles, Barnsley’s dog wardens, Wil Sykes and Barrie Armitage, each collect five or six strays a week, returning them to their owners where identifiable, or delivering them to registered kennels.

“You can generally tell when you meet a dog – its behaviour and demeanour – how it’s going to react,” says Wil (pictured). “I try to talk to it and maybe give it a dog biscuit.

“Some can be led to the van, but others have to be restrained using a catch pole. Once the noose is around the dog’s neck, we can lead it to the van and place it safely in a cage.”

Wil, 27, comes from a farming background in Barnsley, and loves working with animals. He’s the proud owner of a Labrador and a Weimaraner.

“Many of the stray dogs we collect have escaped from the owner’s premises and can be traced using their collar identification tag and microchip details. Failing that, we can check the list of dogs reported missing,” Wil adds.

The target collection time for a reported stray is within two hours; shorter where children are nearby.

Clothing: police issue dog handler’s trousers and boots, elbow-length gauntlets. Equipment: catch pole with retractable noose, bite stick to prise open jaws, strong-smelling spray to disorientate an aggressive animal.

Essential knowledge: laws on Dangerous Dogs, Stray Dogs, Fouling of Land.

Ruff justice

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So what exactly is a stray dog?

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Latest analysis shows a total of 430 people have joined Barnsley’s Future Jobs Fund (FJF) scheme, meaning they have secured employment for up to a year, and gained the skills, qualifications and experience needed to strengthen their long-term job prospects.

In addition, FJF employees have gained around 100 National Vocational Qualifications (NVQs), 70 Skills for Life accreditations, plus a range of recognised IT qualifications. Employees also get an up-to-date CV and job references.

Open to people aged 18 to 24 years or the long-term unemployed in designated areas, FJF is accepting applications until next March. The list of available FJF jobs is updated monthly in Jobcentre Plus offices, or contact Barnsley Options on (01226) 704070.

For Sharon Bradbury from Grimethorpe FJF has turned her life around. She was an unemployed single mum who hadn’t worked since having the first of three children in 2000. The demands on her time and energy had left her feeling isolated at home and lacking the confidence to tackle paid employment.

“With Future Jobs Fund I was an Engagement Support Worker with the North East Area Partnership Team,” says Sharon, 40. “We conducted surveys with the public, asking them for their views of the council and its services. It was a fantastic experience and I really appreciated the support of my team. I also got involved in organising ward engagement events.

After you’ve been out of the workplace for so long, it gives you the confidence to think, ‘Yes, I can do this,’ while the income means you start to get your financial independence back.”

A month after completing her FJF post (and gaining a NVQ Level 2 in Customer Care), Sharon secured a job caring for older people at Hallsteads nursing home in Grimethorpe.

For Joanne Robinson, 29, completed the scheme this summer, gaining a NVQ2 in Customer Service, IT skills, English and maths qualifications.

Her FJF post involved community engagement work followed by a spell at the Central Library.

Here are some of the ways the council and fire service are working together to counter the threat of arson:

- Removing wheeled bins from empty properties. The fire service responded to 102 wheelie bin fires in Barnsley between April 2009 and this May. Council and fire officers communicate regularly to ensure bins are removed promptly if a property becomes vacant.
- Empty properties can be the target of arsonists. With the help of reports from the public, fire and council officers work closely to secure properties that have been broken into or damaged. They work with the owners to have the building boarded up where it presents a danger to anyone who enters – especially important where nearby occupied properties could be affected by a fire.
- Strong links have been formed between fire officers and Neighbourhood Pride, who respond to reports of abandoned vehicles and flytipped household furniture at risk of being torched.
- Supported by the council, fire officers regularly visit Barnsley’s schools from foundation stage upwards to make children aware of the dangers of fire, and to describe successful arson investigations.
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Find out more. On the last Friday of each month (10am to 4pm) at Cheapside, Barnsley, fire officers advise on fire safety from a stall by the Mall Alhambra.

If you have information about people starting fires call Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111. For information on reducing the risk of arson visit www.gov.uk or call 0114 253 5534.

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Until Friday 5 November. The Master of Colour. A display of original artwork by Barnsley’s Brian Wildsmith, reflecting his 50 years as a world-class artist and illustrator. Free admission.

Until Friday 5 November. The Small World International Short Animation Festival. All 40 of the world’s best animated short films alongside an exhibition looking at animation past and present. The exhibition features original models and sets for such iconic TV hits as The Clangers, Ivor the Engine, Noggin the Nog and Bagpuss. Suitable for all ages. Free admission.

Saturday 2 October, 8pm. Masiel Sayle performs excerpts from his new book Stalin Ate My Homework. A memoir of his life as the son of communist parents, his childhood travelling round Eastern Europe and his years as a teenage Maoist. Adults £14, concessions £12.

Thursday 7 October, 7.30pm. UGS! The darkly comic tale of four people who will have to kill their angels and become more like their devils if they are going to survive. Suitable for ages 14+. Adults £9, concessions £7.

Sunday 10 October to Wednesday 13 October. Small Worlds. Inside a white canvas dome a beautiful landscape is the setting for digital animation, puppetry, miniature landscapes and evocative sounds. Adults £6, children £4, family ticket (2 adults and 2 children) £18.

Friday 15 October, 7.30pm. Welcome to Racksburg. Forced into a life of crime after falling in love with the girlfriend of a township thug, a facially disfigured young man finds himself caught between the criminal underworld and corrupt police. Adults £10, concessions £8.

Saturday 16 October, 8pm. In his new show Smoke and Scars: Russell Kane explores small and family. Sociological sickness and high energy contours guaranteed. Adults £14, concessions £12.

Wednesday 20 October, 7.30pm. balletRENT present Blood, Sweat and Tears. A dance performance exploring the darkness and light of extreme love. Adults £12, concessions £10.

Thursday 21 October, 7.30pm. If That’s All There Is. A miscellany of longing, envy, disappointment and psychodrama which examines our obsession with feeling happy. Adults £9, concessions £7.

Saturday 23 October, 7.30pm. Cabinet Room Boom. A fast-paced funny man, a Chinese pole act and the elegance and comedy of an acrobatic duo. Adults £12, concessions £10.


Thursday 28 October, 2.30pm. The Lonely Glass Mystic, a cast of puppets – including Morag the savoy shepherdess and Angus, a giant with a big problem – and talented puppeteers. Recommended for ages 4+. Adults £6, children £4, family ticket £18.

Wednesday 3 November, 7.30pm. The Missionary’s Position. Featuring a host of eccentric music hall routines, an original 1930s music hall show based on the amazing true life of a vicar known as the Prostitute Padre. Adults £9, concessions £7.

Saturday 6 November, 8pm. Bluez’ Fiddlers. Fiddle players from the Highlands capture the passion and sensitivity of Scottish music. Adults £16, no concessions.

Sunday 7 November, 2.30pm. From Here... to There. The joy of building and knocking down, climbing over and crawling under, hiding, surprising and peek-a-boo! Suitable for ages 18 months+. Adults £8, children £4, family ticket (2 adults and 4 children) £18.

Wednesday 10 November, 8pm. Love Lost in the British Retail Industry. A multi-character musical love story set in a Northern supermarket – Jay Sothi brings his acclaimed musical comic performance to Barnsley. Adults £12, concessions £10.

Thursday 11 November, 7.30pm. Blood Brothers. Willy Russell’s gritty version of the last West End musical. Adults £10, concessions £9.

Wednesday 12 November, 2.30pm. Smoke Screens and Castles: Russell Kane explores small and family. Sociological sickness and high energy contours guaranteed. Adults £14, concessions £12.

Friday 12 November to Friday 14 January. 33 Domestic Objects. A diverse selection of Braun products that a private collector has amassed over 25 years, ranging from alarm clocks and coffee makers to slide projectors. Free admission.

Thursday 18 November, 8pm. Jokes, Life and Jokes about Life. Akin Cachocrime makes his first visit to The Civic. Adults £12, concessions £10.


Saturday 27 November, 8pm. Gobby Young And Other Animals. Haunting songs that draw on gypsy folk, rock, jazz and cabaret. Adults £14, concessions £12.

Friday 29 November to Friday 14 January. The Upbeat Beatles. The UK’s Premier Beatles Tribute Band. All tickets £15.

Saturday 21 February to Saturday 3 October. More than 40 of the world’s best animated short films alongside an exhibition looking at animation past and present. The exhibition features original models and sets for such iconic TV hits as The Clangers, Ivor the Engine, Noggin the Nog and Bagpuss. Suitable for all ages. Free admission.

Lamproom Theatre - 01226 200073 - enquiries@barnsleylamproom.com

Saturday 2 October, 7.30pm. Dave Burland - Barnsley folk legend. An evening of songs and stories from life on the road. Tickets £10.

Sunday 3 October, 7.30pm. An adult evening with Billy Pearce. All tickets £15.

Monday 11 to Saturday 16 October, 7.30pm. Our House – by John Godber. Adults £10, concessions £9.

Thursday 21 to Saturday 23 October, 7.30pm. More than 40 of the world’s best animated short films alongside an exhibition looking at animation past and present. The exhibition features original models and sets for such iconic TV hits as The Clangers, Ivor the Engine, Noggin the Nog and Bagpuss. Suitable for all ages. Free admission.

Monday 25 October, 7.30pm. The Upbeat Beatles. The UK’s Premier Beatles Tribute Band. All tickets £15.

Saturday 30 October, 7.30pm. An evening with Donna Norville All Stars. Adults £10, concessions £9.

Monday 1 to Saturday 6 November, 7.15pm. Saturday matinee 2.15pm. When the lights go on again. Sing along to all your old time favourites. Adults £10, concessions £9.

Tuesday 9 to Saturday 13 November, 7.30pm. Blood Brothers. Willy Russell’s gritty version of the last West End musical. Adults £10, concessions £9.

Wednesday 12 November, 2.30pm. Smoke Screens and Castles: Russell Kane explores small and family. Sociological sickness and high energy contours guaranteed. Adults £14, concessions £12.

Friday 14 November to Saturday 8 January. War and conflict. A poignant exhibition of paintings and sketches by two of the 20th century artists who were influenced by scenes of war, such as Percy Wyndham Lewis, William Roberts and Walter Sickert. Free admission.

Friday 8 December to Friday 14 January. 33 Domestic Objects. A diverse selection of Braun products that a private collector has amassed over 25 years, ranging from alarm clocks and coffee makers to slide projectors. Free admission.

Monday 4 October to Saturday 8 January. Savoy Serenade. Held Until Saturday 30 October. Enjoy Gilbert and Sullivan’s hugely popular and beloved shows. Adults £9, concessions £8.

Monday 11 to Saturday 16 October. More than 40 of the world’s best animated short films alongside an exhibition looking at animation past and present. The exhibition features original models and sets for such iconic TV hits as The Clangers, Ivor the Engine, Noggin the Nog and Bagpuss. Suitable for all ages. Free admission.

**What's on**

**Wentworth Castle Gardens**  
01226 776040  
www.wentworthcastle.org

- **Friday 15 and Friday 29 October**, 9am to 12.30pm: Parcours investigation. Join the Castellated Trail.  
- **Saturday 30 October**, 10am to 4pm: Halloween children’s dress competition. Come in your scariest outfit!  
- **Sunday 31 October**, 10am to 4pm: Halloween children’s dress competition.  

**Cannon Hall Museum**  
01226 790070  
cannonhall@barnsley.gov.uk

- **Friday 1 October, 7.30pm**: Storytelling. A traditional ballad tells the story of a man who was bewitched by his wife.  
- **Saturday 2 October, 7.30pm**: Storytelling. A traditional ballad tells the story of a man who was bewitched by his wife.  
- **Sunday 3 October, 7.30pm**: Storytelling. A traditional ballad tells the story of a man who was bewitched by his wife.  
- **Wentworth Hall Museum**  
01226 774027  
wentworthhall@barnsley.gov.uk

- **Saturday 20 November, 5pm to 10pm**: Band Fest 2010  
- **Sunday 21 November, 10am to 5pm**: Antiques Fair

**Elsecar Heritage Centre**  
01226 740203

- **Saturday 2 and Sunday 3 October**, 10am to 5pm: Antiques Fair, Speciality Fair and BRR Auction  
- **Saturday 10 October**, 10am to 5pm: Antiques Fair  
- **Sunday 16 October**, 5pm to 10pm: Doncaster Valley Festival  
- **Sunday 17 October**, 10am to 5pm: Antiques Fair  
- **Wednesday 27 October**, 11am to 1pm and 1.30pm to 3.30pm: Halloween biscuits and pumpkin lanterns. Bake Halloween biscuits in our Victorian kitchen. Bring your own pumpkin. Suitable for five to 11 year olds and their families. £5 per child. Booking essential.

**Worsbrough Mill Museum and Country Park**  
01226 774327

- **Saturday 26 October**: Halloween Horror Badge Making.  
- **Sunday 31 October**, 10am to 4pm: Newcomen craft fair

**Barnsley Independent Alzheimer’s and Dementia Support**

If you are caring for someone with dementia and need information, advice and support please contact us. Help for today, hope for tomorrow.  
All money raised in Barnsley will be used in Barnsley to support local people affected by this devastating illness.

**Tel**: 01226 280057  
**E-mail**: biads@btconnect.com  
**Website**: www.biads.org.uk

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**Note:** Please refer to the full content for detailed information on events and activities.
The council has agreed the serving of a Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) on land in the town centre to make way for the prestigious Barnsley Markets redevelopment project. The move is another step towards the start of the landmark development which will create a vibrant and dynamic 21st century market town.

The Barnsley Markets Project will see redevelopment of 11 acres of the town centre, including the market hall, the Metropolitan Shopping Centre, Barnsley Council office accommodation and the shops beneath it, a multi-storey car park, empty industrial property, and some shop accommodation on May Day Green.

All of these properties will be covered by the CPO so they can eventually be demolished to make way for the showpiece new development.

The serving of the CPO is a formal legal procedure and is part of the process currently underway to secure all approvals to enable the scheme to go ahead.

The Barnsley Markets development will include a state-of-the-art market hall, a new 90,000 sq ft department store, new retail units, leisure facilities, including a cinema, a new town centre car park and public open spaces.

The scheme will be constructed in two main phases, the first comprising the relocation and creation of the new market hall. The latter phase will be the main retail development.

Both the indoor and outdoor markets will trade throughout the development period and will move to their new location before completion of the final phases.

Improvements at eight priority sites include better access tracks and security, new community gardens, and clearing overgrown vegetation to create more plots.

Mick White, secretary of Robert Street allotment society at Cudworth, has been cultivating his plot for six years. During that time, with colleagues from the 40-strong society, he has won funding from the Coalfields Regeneration Trust and community chest.

“This has been invested in extra water supplies, better site security and paths,” says Mick. “We’ve also been able to create a community garden for people with disabilities and children groups from the local resource centre.”

For more information contact the allotments office on (01226) 774351, write to Barnsley Council, Neighbourhood Services, PO Box 605, S70 9FF, email Neighbourhoodservices@barnsley.gov.uk or visit a Barnsley Connects service centre. Alternatively see our website at barnsley.gov.uk/allotments.

Applicants in some areas may have to join a waiting list, dealt with in date order. An annual fee is charged by Barnsley Council, along with a one-off administration fee on acceptance of a plot. Holders must be over 18.

Barnsley Council manages 88 sites, comprising 1,400 plots, and with partners Groundwork Dearne Valley and NHS Barnsley is improving its allotments, and creating new ones in response to the demand from people keen to adopt a more sustainable lifestyle. Increasing interest from women means cultivating an allotment is no longer a male preserve.

A growing trend

Like many towns Barnsley is enjoying an allotments renaissance. More and more people are discovering the satisfaction of nurturing tender seedlings and harvesting fruit and vegetables rich in flavour.

It’s a recreation that attracts a wide range of people, from experienced members of allotment societies to youngsters from after-school clubs, who relish getting their hands dirty and trying new tastes.

* If you like the thought of going organic and reducing your food miles but aren’t sure you have the time for an allotment, there are alternatives you can set up in your back yard – grow bags for tomatoes and courgettes, large tubs or a small raised bed for spuds, lettuces and carrots, or a herb garden. Find out more through the library service or search the internet for advice.
Taxi trade refunds - Get in touch

Following clarification of regulations on vehicle testing, the council is making arrangements to refund some taxi and private hire vehicle operators who may still be eligible to receive a refund. If this may apply to you please get in touch by completing the form on our website or by calling a form from the Licensing Service at the Civic Hall, Eldon Street.

WANT TO MEET YOUR COUNCILLOR?

Barnsley’s councillors hold regular advice sessions or ‘surgeries’. These sessions give you the chance to raise any problems or discuss issues with them. If you want to find out when your councillor is next holding an advice session - ring 01226 787890

Councillor Contacts

www.barnsley.gov.uk/openmind

Listed below are the main council numbers you are likely to need. If you can’t find the number you need, please call our main switchboard Monday to Friday 8am to 6pm. Our staff will be happy to help. All numbers are 01226 unless specified.

The media often help promote council services and initiatives. However, sometimes they can get things wrong, through misleading headlines, misinterpreting facts, or simply getting the story wrong. The council is committed to providing a balanced view of issues. This means where appropriate we will contact the media to give an article or headline that has been unfair. We hope we don’t need to use it much, but when we do, we hope to show you there are two sides to a story.

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The All Barnsley Diversity Festival

Laurence Clark – Spastic Fantastic
Comedian Laurence Clark reclaims the word ‘spastic’
The Academy Theatre, Birdwell, Barnsley
Friday 8 October 7.30pm

Anjali Dance Company
Genius - a double bill of strange dance theatre
Penistone Paramount
Wednesday 13 October 7.30pm

For further information and a full programme of events visit
www.barnsleylive.co.uk