

Knarborough Town Council Newsletter



Message from the Mayor of Knarborough - Hannah Gostlow

I am thoroughly enjoying my opportunity to represent the town and delighted to share with you a highlight from this year so far.

I would like to make a special mention of my visit to Germany and the Town Twinning relationship between Knarborough and of Bebra. This relationship is something that has really flourished over the years, rooted in a shared commitment to cultural exchange, understanding, and cooperation. Despite being separated by distance the friendships have grown closer with every visit and exchange of traditions and experiences. I felt very proud to witness this relationship between the two communities on my visit, and lucky to be able to share it with my two children.

March 2024 also marked a significant milestone as it was the 50th anniversary of the

twinning between King James School and the Bruner Grimm School in Bebra, and I hope the students & teachers from King James School enjoyed a wonderful celebration in Bebra.

Another important connection to celebrate is our new Town Twinning agreement with Volodymyr in Ukraine, and we very much look forward to what opportunities this may bring our two communities.

For more information on Town Twinning or to get involved, please don't hesitate to reach out to Knarborough Town Council - it is a wonderful and rewarding initiative to be a part of.

-Hannah Gostlow

Enjoy this newsletter!

In this newsletter you can expect:

KTC Updates

Updates on KTC Grants given in 2023-24

Stories of Impact

Event News

SCAN ME





Community News - Vehicle Activated Speed Signs (VAS)

Based on feedback from residents over the last few years, Knaresborough Town Council commissioned speed surveys in 11 locations around the town.

After reviewing the findings from the surveys, we selected three locations with the most

amount of speeding and that had suitable locations for Vehicle Activated Speed Signs (VAS).

One pair of VAS were purchased and they will be rotated around the three locations every few months.

Report by Councillor Andy Bell

Planning Matters



As a Consultee for our Planning Authority at North Yorkshire Council, Knaresborough Town Council (KTC) has reviewed 140 applications this council year.

We hold Planning Committee meetings on the first Monday of the month at 12 noon in the Council Chamber at Knaresborough House, open to the public.

Your participation and feedback are invaluable as we shape the future of our town. Many thanks to the dedicated councillors serving on this committee for ensuring our voices are heard on all planning matters affecting Knaresborough.

See KTC [website](#) for more information



[Knaresborough Neighbourhood Development Plan \(NDP\)](#) continues to progress.

The NDP document resulting from the consultation process, along with two supporting documents (NDP Basic Conditions Statement and NDP Consultation Statement) form the Knaresborough Town Council submission to North Yorkshire Council requesting them to undertake a Regulation 16 (Reg16) consultation.

Following the Reg 16 public consultation, the plan will be submitted to an independent planning inspector and, after that the NDP will be subject to a local referendum. If more than 50% of the votes are cast in favour, the NDP will become a statutory document and will be Knaresborough's chapter in Harrogate District's local plan.

Updates on KTC grants given in 2023-24

Knarborough Museum Association

"Knarborough Museum Association (KMA) are in the process of setting up a new Heritage Centre at 12 High Street, Knarborough. The Centre will consist of a visitor information desk; heritage shop and a multi-purpose museum gallery, where a rolling programme of exciting exhibitions as well as workshops and talks will be held.

A grant from KTC along with funds raised from the local community and other grant giving bodies will enable us to create a Heritage Centre that



local people can be proud of.

We are planning to open the Heritage Centre by the end of April when we will be launching our first exhibition on The Archaeology of Knarborough; the History beneath our feet. KMA are very grateful for KTC's continued support".

Kathy Allday - Chair of Knarborough Museum Association (KMA)

www.knarboroughtownmuseum.org.uk



Grant Application Process 2024 - 25

- **Community Grants**

KTC puts money aside in their budget each year for use by **community groups and organisations** in town. Applications must clearly be of **benefit to the people of Knarborough**.

- **How much money?**

The smallest amount we've awarded is £100, the largest to date £7000.

- **Who can apply?**

Non-commercial, not for profit, formally constituted groups, or an individual looking to improve their skills in the work they do in the voluntary sector.

- Download and complete the application form on our [website](#) - scan QR code for information:



Inspire Youth Yorkshire

Jess Ward from Inspire Youth Yorkshire attended the Annual Town Meeting on 11th March 2024 and gave a very detailed presentation on the work they're doing with 8 to 18 year olds in the community.

Jess outlined some of the obstacles that children are facing in today's society and explained how the team is



helping them to work through them.

Jess thanked the Town Council for the funding support given through grants to Inspire Youth Yorkshire over the last three years which has allowed their work to continue to make a real and positive impact on the lives of so many young people in and around Knarborough.

www.inspireyouth.uk





KING JAMES'S EXCHANGE PARTICIPANTS

King James's School - German Exchange 2024

2024 marks the 50th Anniversary of exchange between King James's School in Knaresborough and Brüder Grimm Gesamtschule in Bebra. A partnership established by Alan Hemsworth.

Before our departure, I was fortunate to receive some funding from Knaresborough Town Council to help celebrate this milestone. All participants were bought hoodies displaying our logo depicting our strapline "50 Years of Friendship".

In addition to the hoodies, we were able to gain entrance to Wartburg Castle in Eisenach, a UNESCO World heritage Centre, on a joint day visit with our German partners as well as enjoying an evening of bowling, thanks to the generosity of the Town Council. What a fabulous way to celebrate this momentous occasion between the two schools!

*Report by Julie Allison
Teacher of MFL / Exchange co-ordinator*

Chamber of Trade – Town Crier uniform



"The Knaresborough Town Crier is a big part of our town's heritage and is still a hugely popular figure within the community today. When Roger Hewitt announced his retirement in spring 2023 after 8 years of outstanding service, there were certainly big shoes to fill.

Knaresborough & District Chamber are responsible for appointing the Town Crier on a voluntary basis and also paid for a custom-made outfit for Roger. The position is a big commitment and after a closely fought competition to find Roger's successor at last year's Knaresborough Community Festival, Mark Hunter was appointed as the town's new crier and Andrew Richards his deputy. However, these new appointments presented a logistical

challenge in that Mark is not only quite a bit taller and broader than Roger, but the two Criers are also required to share an outfit and are sometimes both needed to perform on the same day. A grant from Knaresborough Town Council towards a Town Crier outfit helped Chamber manage a seamless transition between Criers and means that Mark can now ring his bell with ease!"
Charlotte Gale of Knaresborough & District Chamber

"Since taking over from Roger in June last year Andrew and I have already fulfilled over 60 engagements as Town Crier, including of course the weekly cry at Knaresborough Market. We are both thoroughly enjoying the role and being a part of the many fabulous community events that Knaresborough has to offer."
Mark Hunter – Town Crier

www.knaresboroughchamber.org

*Photographs - Charlotte Gale
Photography*

Updates on KTC grants given in 2023-24



Knareborough in Bloom

Knareborough in Bloom have been active for 20 years! Christine Willoughby writes "We are passionate about our town and want to make it an attractive place to live, work and visit. The grant from the town council allows us to continue to maintain our planters around the town

centre and enter the Yorkshire in Bloom competition. In 2023 we won Gold for Best Town and were joint Category Winner in the Large Town category. We also hold a local gardens competition each summer and we have an annual Design a Flowerbed competition in which we invite local school children to create a design which is planted up at the Castle.

We are always on the lookout for more volunteers so if anyone is interested in getting involved please look at our website or Facebook page and get in touch."

Photograph of Andrew Willoughby

www.knareboroughinbloom.wordpress.com



Knareborough Flower Club

Knareborough Flower Club received a grant from the Town Council towards to the cost of the crown round the market cross for the King's Coronation in May 2023.

Lesley Dalton the Chair of Knareborough Flower Club said that they felt that the project and display at the market cross was a great success, from the lovely comments by the public and the way photos of the crown went round the world on Facebook!

Photograph of market cross Coronation flower & Crown-Charlotte Gale Photography

www.henshaws.org.uk

Henshaws photographs - albionstreetstudios.co.uk



Henshaws

The Town Council's support to our 12 days of giving campaign has been invaluable in enabling our pottery workshop and to make a difference to our Art Makers lives. Through the community grant, we've been able to provide a space where individuals living with a range of disabilities and visual impairments can explore their creativity, build connections,



and experience the transformative power of art first hand.

Everything created at the Arts and Crafts centre in Knareborough is then sold which for the people we support is a huge moment and provides a great sense of achievement. We are immensely grateful for this partnership and look forward to continuing to make a positive impact together.



Report from North Yorkshire Citizens Advice and Law Centre Knaresborough outreach April 23 – March 24

Since April 2023 North Yorkshire Citizens Advice have supported 286 clients who live in the Knaresborough area.

The main reasons for contact:

1. Benefit queries i.e. Attendance Allowance, Personal Independent Payments & Universal Credit
2. Support with Cost of Living i.e. Energy advice, support with energy bills from the NYC Household Support Fund
3. Council Tax Reduction applications.

Every Wednesday between 09.30 – 13.00 an adviser attends the Knaresborough Trussell Trust Foodbank to provide support and advice to clients. On Wednesday 13th March the 'Outreach Advice Bus' visited Knaresborough market for the first time. The team had a very busy day with 34 people stopping to talk to the team, with queries and finding out more about the support available from North Yorkshire Citizens Advice and Law Centre.

The team were able to provide information, signposted to the website www.cany.org.uk and made referrals for a follow up telephone call from one of our advisers.

Moving forward we are planning to attend the market at least every 2 months where we will be joined by colleagues from our specialist projects i.e Energy and will highlight the range of support / advice available from Citizens Advice North Yorkshire and our specialist projects i.e. Warm and Well Energy, Debt and Homes for Ukraine. Along with National Citizens Advice campaigns i.e. Gambling, Consumer and Scam awareness.

We will invite partner organisations to join us so clients can meet not only Citizens Advice but other support organisations from the voluntary sector.

Julia Priestnall
Head of Outreach

North Yorkshire Citizens Advice and Law Centre received a KTC grant of £1500 towards their outreach in Knaresborough.



Scan for more
local info





Knaresborough Lions - The Great Knaresborough Bed Race

Knaresborough Lions president, Bob Godsell, stressed how vital it is that the Town Council has again stepped forward to help with the expense and organisation of the annual Great Knaresborough Bed Race.

“Generations of Knaresborians have taken part as runners, passengers and organisers. Hundreds more help build the beds and the decorations, while others stitch and sew the fancy dress costumes. Each year there are more than 2,000 local people directly involved.

“As many as 30,000 people come to watch. And they come back time and again as they realise the charms of our wonderful town. It is the biggest annual community event in Knaresborough and provides a major tourism boost. Media coverage spreads the word around the world, and the Lions have helped set up other bed races in other places.

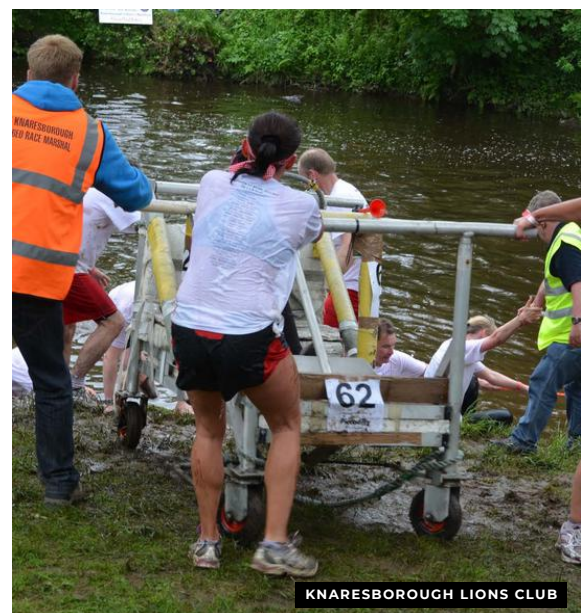
“But over the past decade the cost of staging the Bed Race has nearly trebled and its viability is under pressure. The Lions are volunteers and we rely on support from public and private sectors to keep it going.

“In 2024, the Knaresborough Town Council has helped to make Bed Race happen by underwriting the cost of First Aid services. Everyone agrees that this is especially vital as it keeps everybody safe on the day, spectators and contestants alike.

“And it contributes vitally to keeping ‘Bed Race Great’, as an unbeatable family spectacle,” Bob added.

www.bedrace.co.uk

www.knaresboroughlions.org



**THE GREAT KNARESBOROUGH
BED RACE**



Knot Another Choir - Flying the flag for Knaresborough

Flying the flag for Knaresborough. On 3rd March 2024 Knot Another Choir headed to Manchester to take part in the Manchester Annual Choral Competition (MACC) at the Royal Northern College of Music (RNCM).

The choir had a wonderful day with 85 members of the choir all singing their hearts out with a set of Whitney Houston songs as a tribute to her work. The whole choir under the superb direction of Craig Lees worked very hard to prepare for their performance.

The choir competed against 14 other choirs including barbershop, children's choirs, chamber choirs, acapella choirs and other community choirs.

Julie Bradbury-Sharp, choir trustee, said: "We were delighted at the end when they announced the winners, we were called out first to receive the runners-up trophy — I nearly fell off my seat, this was a complete surprise; there was much glee from the choir clapping and shrieking. What a wonderful moment for us all in front of such a huge audience."

The choir rehearses weekly in Trinity Church Hall and is funded through membership fees. A grant from the Town Council helped with transport costs and professional fees for the contest. On behalf of Knot Another Choir Julie Bradbury-Sharp expressed gratitude to KTC: "many thanks for the wonderful support you gave us to make the day possible."



Henshaws

The second Artmaker Symposium and Festival that provides a forum to see, hear from and promote artists and organisations representing neuro-diverse and differently able arts was held in 2023.

Special thanks go to Knaresborough Town Council who supported the symposium this year by giving £800

towards paying an honorarium to the guest speakers. This funding was greatly appreciated and marked a real understanding and support of how important discussions about art, disability and striving for equity are to our community and wider society.

The symposium was incredibly successful and inspirational. It was well attended with a warm and appreciative audience of around 50. Guests attending

included the Mayor of Knaresborough Hannah Gostlow, and Deputy Mayoress Helen Westmancoat whose support for the event was greatly appreciated as was the funding received from Knaresborough Town Council.

They were both hugely complementary about the talks given and keen to continue supporting the event in the future.

www.henshaws.org.uk



Events News

Message from the Chair of the KTC Projects and Event Committee shared at the Annual Town meeting on 11th March 2024:

“The thing I love about events is that they bring people together. Over the last year I have felt my position on the committee has really allowed KTC to collaborate with other organisations within the town and therefore start developing positive relationships with others. Over the last 12 months we have not only put on our own great events such as the Kings Coronation celebrations & Bright Friday, but we have become a sounding board for other fresh ideas such as Glastonbury in the Park, Coronation Parties, Community Festivals and Knaresborough Christmas Market.

We obviously have a few more events on the horizon such as D-Day 80th Anniversary on 6th June and Remembrance in November. I would really like to commend how KTC handled the Remembrance Day issues around Road Closures and rallied together to give the day the respect it deserves.

I suppose my most significant contribution to KTC so far is that of the KTC trailer stage. I feel this is going to be a great asset for the town and I am thoroughly looking forward to getting it out in the public domain and giving KTC the visual presence it so much needs to give the public sight of what we do.

One of my next tasks is to upgrade the event power across the town, including within the market square and Knaresborough House so that we have a number of options available to us to put on bigger and better events. Please feel free to send any ideas across.”

Councillor James Pickard

Upcoming events:

- D-Day 80th Anniversary commemorative event to be held in the Castle grounds in the evening on Thursday 6th June 2024
- Knaresborough Forest Day 13 August 2024
More details to follow.

Thank you for reading!

<p>KNARESBOROUGH TOWN COUNCIL</p>	<p>01423 864080</p>
<p>www.knaresboroughtowncouncil.gov.uk</p> 	<p>Knaresborough Town Council Knaresborough House Knaresborough HG5 0HW</p>