

## Shop till you drop

**A record-breaking 81 town centre shops** and businesses have entered The Shop Awards 07, launched by Barnsley Civic Trust with Barnsley in Bloom.

The winners of the seven categories – Travel Agent, Café/Take-away, Public House, Charity Shop, Ladies' Fashion, Mens' Fashion and Small Shop - will each win a Barnsley Civic Trust trophy at an awards ceremony in October at the Town Hall.

"There has been an absolutely fantastic response to the Awards," said Phyllis Barnes, Barnsley Civic Trust treasurer and co-organiser of the project with fellow Barnsley Civic Trust executive committee member Cath Wilkinson.

"This is the first year the Civic Trust has been involved, and we never expected so many places to enter – the numbers far surpass those of previous years."

Judges included representatives from Barnsley Civic Trust and Barnsley in Bloom, Dan Lally, president, Barnsley Junior Chamber of Commerce, Bob Krause, business co-ordinator, Barnsley Chamber of Commerce and Mark Stokes of *Barnsley Property and Living Magazine*, co-sponsor of the Awards.

The panel was looking for tidy shop-fronts, eye-catching displays, clean paintwork and windows, easy access for customers with limited mobility and polite and helpful staff.



**Phyllis Barnes and Cath Wilkinson, Shop Awards 07 organisers**

Mrs Barnes adds: "The quality of entries proves that Barnsley town centre is a positive and welcoming place even when it is undergoing major changes."

Plans are already underway to expand the awards next year to take in the market, large shops and hairdressers and beauty salons.

**For our first year we have five major projects to deliver. Can you help? Contact us to take part (see above).**

**Barnsley Shop Awards 07** - see story, left.

Phyllis Barnes and Cath Wilkinson.

**Photography Project** - inspiring photographs of Barnsley town centre for our archive and an exhibition in 2008.

Gillian Nixon and Jayne Dowle

**Pride In Barnsley** - what makes people proud of Barnsley and what do they want to change? – see story overleaf.

Ben Johnson and Nigel Mitchell

**Big Debate** - unpacking the big issues in Barnsley - see story overleaf.

Garreth Bruff and Nigel Mitchell

**Planning Group** - commenting on development proposals for the town.

VACANCY: group leader required

## Walk on the wild side

Local historian Ken Keen would like Barnsley Civic Trust members to join him on a magical mystery tour of Barnsley town centre.

Ken is planning the very first Barnsley Civic Trust walk for 2pm on Sunday, October 14. It will last approximately one hour, and Ken promises to reveal some of the weird and wonderful historical secrets of Barnsley.

Please drop him a note with your name, telephone number and an email address if possible to 56 Vernon Way, Gawber, Barnsley S75 2NN, or email barnsleycivictrust@yahoo.co.uk, and Ken will contact you with details of where to meet the group.

Numbers are strictly limited to 20 on a first-come, first-served basis, so book your place on the walk today.



Photograph courtesy of Kyle Wilkinson

**Learn about your town**

## Get involved

Barnsley Civic Trust has grown to more than 100 members since its launch in March 2007. For more information on how to get involved see our website or ring 07963 053795.

Articles for the newsletter can be sent to Jayne Dowle and material for the website to Ben Johnson at barnsleycivictrust@yahoo.co.uk

- Garreth Bruff, Chair
- Judith Bird, Vice Chair
- Allen Parks, Secretary
- Phyllis Barnes, Treasurer

*The Barnsley Civic Trust champions pride in our town, is open to all, and seeks to involve anyone who cares about the town and its future.*

## Top local names to debate Barnsley nightlife



We all have an opinion on Barnsley's night life. But what do we want the town to offer us in the evening?

**Everybody has a view about Barnsley at night.** A great night out? Too many pubs? Not enough restaurants? No decent nightclubs?

What-ever you think, come and make your voice heard at Barnsley Civic Trust's inaugural debate, *Barnsley Uncovered! The Evening Economy in Town*.

"There are many myths and misconceptions about nightlife in Barnsley," says Mel Dyke, a member of the Big Debate project group. "The aim of this debate is

to get a realistic view of Barnsley in the evening, how it could be in the future, and what we want the town to offer us, as residents, after 6pm."

A panel of high-profile local experts – including Paula Whittle, Principal, Barnsley College, Inspector Mark Spooner, Barnsley Central Safer Neighbourhood Team, Denise Stables, Youth Service, and local publican and Barnsley PubWatch representative Paul McNicholas – will be discussing what Barnsley has to offer and taking

questions from the audience. Parliamentary business allowing, MP Eric Illsley will also be sharing his opinions as part of the panel. The debate is chaired by Carol Cooper-Smith of Barnsley Development Agency.

The event is at 5.30pm for a 6pm start, on Thursday, October 25, at Lucorum, George Yard, Barnsley. It will finish at 7.30pm to allow people to enjoy the nightlife that Barnsley has to offer!

Come along on the night – it's a free event.

## More toyshops and less pigeons!

*"People are attracted to the market, but agree that the current building is past its best"*

Ben Johnson, Pride in Barnsley organiser

The Barnsley Civic Trust Pride in Barnsley survey was launched at the Mayor's Parade in July, when 100 residents told us what they thought of Barnsley town centre.

Volunteers asked respondents what they love (and dislike), their favourite buildings and streets, and what improvements should be made. The results are being fed straight back to Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council and

local developers.

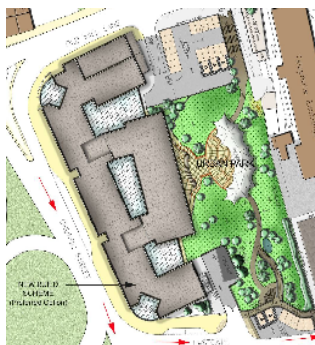
"People are attracted to the market, but agree that the current building is past its best," says Ben Johnson, Pride in Barnsley organiser. "Litter and pigeons are a big cause for concern. It was felt that there is a lack of toyshops, clothes shops for older women and a department store."

"However, shoppers like the compact,

pedestrianised town centre. And the fact that people are friendly and warm, and the atmosphere is welcoming."

The survey will canvass 100 people twice a year with the next one planned during Christkindlemarkt in December. If you would like to help, contact Ben for information at [barnsleycivictrust@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:barnsleycivictrust@yahoo.co.uk)

## Help shape the new Barnsley college campus



Plans for College Campus

**Barnsley Civic Trust members are invited to take part in their first full members' meeting** on Wednesday November 21 at the Barnsley College building on Old Mill Lane.

The event gives members the chance to hear about the College's plans to redevelop their buildings at the top of

Old Mill Lane to create a modern, friendly campus, based around a new public square.

Steve Oddy, Estates Director for the College, will present the scheme together with the architects involved. He is keen to receive comments and feedback from Barnsley Civic Trust members about the

proposals and their impacts on the town.

The meeting starts at 6pm and will also allow members to hear about progress in Barnsley Civic Trust over our first six months, as well as feed into work for the rest of the year. **Further information will be on its way to all members in early November.**