

PARKINSON'S^{UK} CHANGE ATTITUDES. FIND A CURE. JOIN US.

Barnsley & District Branch



Annual Report 2024

REVIEW of 2024

The headline comment in this year's report must be some well-deserved praise for two of our founder members, who have spent over 20 years associated with the branch and are still active. Through their achievements they have raised the profile of the branch and the Parkinson's 'family'. George Spencer attended a Buckingham Palace Garden party in recognition of his services and Philip Thompson completed his 100th Parkrun at the age of 89.

2024 saw continued success for the Barnsley branch, expanding our activities and more of our members participating in events.

Continuing our campaign to highlight the importance of time-critical medication for people with Parkinson's who attend or are admitted to hospital, we worked closely with Barnsley Hospital and Parkinson's UK Campaign Team. This has led to the roll-out of a series of initiatives across the hospital to raise awareness and improve the administration of time-critical medication across all hospital departments.

Financial

Our financial position remains strong, in large part due to the generous donations we have received during the year and the continued support from the Community Lottery, Shawlands Trust and South Yorkshire Community Foundation. The cash pooling scheme continues to prove beneficial. Since joining the Parkinson's UK scheme, we have introduced online banking which has provided us with improved audit trail of our finances.

Fundraising

There have been several fundraising events during the year. These included one supermarket collection and one at Barnsley Football club. We have also raised funds at two events at Locke Park - the classic car event and the gala; and the Penistone Agricultural Show. We received £600 from an anonymous donor who wished the money to be used towards the cost of our Carers' Pamper Day. Three Barnsley companies - Euroglaze, Tarn End Tap and Brook Financial Services - made significant

donations. Our "Just Giving" page on the website continues to be an added source of income. £3009 was raised during 2024. (£1000 of that was from an anonymous donor in the name of Susan Grant). Donations were also gratefully received from The Cottage Bakery, Silkstone; The Darton Bakery, Friendly Masonic Lodge, Barnsley Inner Wheel and Archbishop Holgate Hospital Trust. We are also deeply indebted to those who have lost loved ones in 2024 and have arranged for donations to be made to the branch in lieu of flowers. To all the other organisations and individuals not mentioned who have raised money for us, we offer our sincere and grateful thanks.

Services

In terms of service provision, all the branch's core services have been maintained during 2024 - the exercise class, respite care, Natter Café, counselling service, summer walks and visits. Also the annual Carers' Pamper Day provided relaxation and a choice of spa treatments for our hard working carers.

This year we have extended our programme by introducing monthly golf driving and weekly non-contact boxing. I am pleased to report that all our activities have been extremely well-attended.

The Facebook page (Parkinson's Barnsley) which we set up last year to promote the branch and provide regular updates about our activities and events has proved very successful as a means of keeping our members and followers up to date with our programme of events.

People

During the year we mourned the loss of Mary Beevers, Peter Greenhoff, Glenda Rogers, Derek Rogers, Joyce Blundell and Melvin Wragg.

We welcomed Nishadi Perera to the committee as our new Assistant Treasurer. In addition to her role as Meeter & Greeter at branch meetings, Maxine Mellor has taken responsibility for producing our quarterly newsletter.

Grateful thanks go to Carolyn Turton, Parkinson's Clinical Specialist Nurse, for her continued support of all those in Barnsley with Parkinson's or affected by Parkinson's. We are also indebted to Rose Crawley, Parkinson's UK Local Volunteer Officer, for her help and guidance.

My personal thanks go to all my fellow committee members who have supported me in delivering a very lively and active programme for our members.

Terry Kendall
Branch Chair

2024 Month by Month

January

Mid-term reviews were held with the branch's service providers – Crossroads Care and Healthy Bones. In conjunction with Parkinson's UK Campaign Team, we raised issues with Barnsley Hospital relating to members not getting their medication on time. This led to having an awareness day aimed at the hospital staff to educate them on the importance of time-critical medication for people with Parkinson's.

February

In February we held our AGM, officiated by Rose Crawley, Parkinson's UK Local Volunteer Officer.

March

We had a bucket collection at Barnsley Football Club. We held the first of our twice yearly ten-pin bowling events at the Metrodome.

April

Non-contact boxing exercise commenced as a new weekly activity. To mark World Parkinson's Day on the 11th the Town Hall was illuminated at night with Parkinson's corporate colour. The first of our summer walks programme took place at Cannon Hall.

May

One of our founder members, 89 year old Philip Thompson, completed his 100th Parkrun and raised in excess of £500 for the branch. The second of our walks took place at Wentworth Woodhouse.

June

The branch had a plant sale at the classic car rally in Locke Park. Our annual day trip was to The Deep in Hull. The venue for the month's walk was Winterset Reservoir. We had a bucket collection at Tesco store in Penistone.

July

The venue for this month's walk was Manvers Lake. We held an awareness day in Barnsley Town Centre to raise the profile of the services of the branch and of Parkinson's UK. We commenced golf driving as a new monthly activity.

August

Our monthly walk was to Hemsworth Water Park. The branch had an awareness stall at Locke Park gala. We had a demonstration of augmented reality glasses at our monthly branch meeting.

September

We revisited Wentworth Woodhouse for the last of our summer walks. We had an awareness stand at the Penistone Agricultural show.



Continued

2024 October to December

October

We had our ever popular outing for afternoon tea to the White Bull restaurant.

November

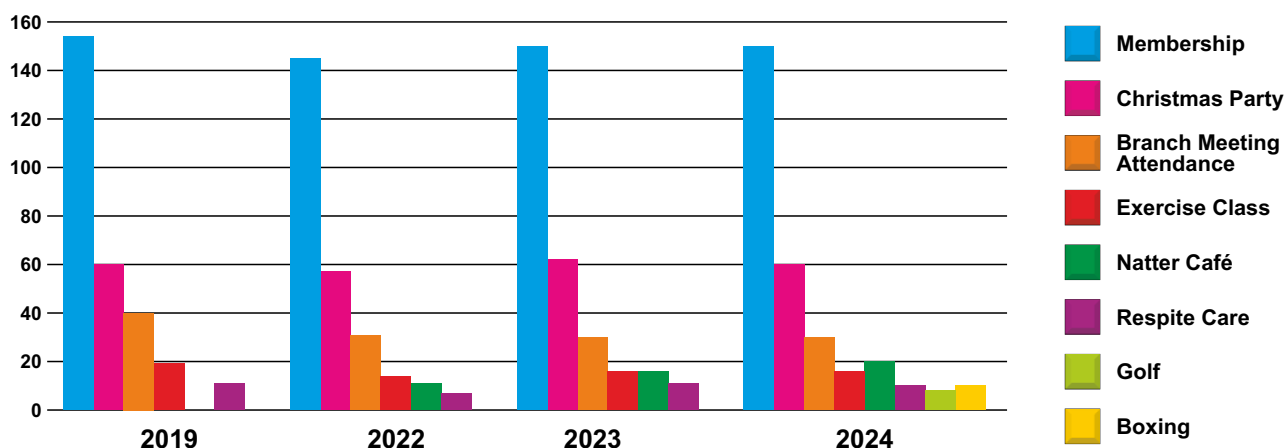
The annual Carers' Pamper Day was held at Bannatynes Spa. There was a second visit to the Metrodome for ten-pin bowling followed by lunch.

December

The annual Christmas party was attended by the Mayor and Mayoress. Once again we were entertained by a singer, who was very well received.

BRANCH INDICATORS 2024

	Membership	Christmas Party	Branch Meeting Attendance	Exercise Class	Natter Café	Respite Care	Golf Driving Range	Non-Contact Boxing
2024	150	60	30	16	20	10	8	10
2023	150	62	30	16	16	11	-	-
2022	145	57	31	13	11	7	-	-
2019	154	60	40	19	-	11	-	-



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Photographs by Branch Members

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