

Barnwood Buzz

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Oct/Nov 2021

Hello

Welcome to the very first issue of our Barnwood Trust Membership Scheme Newsletter.

We are so glad to have you on board with us. We hope that you find this newsletter both useful and interesting. We want to use it to stay connected with each other and keep you up to date with what has been happening and is going to happen.

If you have any ideas about things you might like to see included in the next newsletter, please let us know. You might even feel like writing a short article to share with the other scheme members.



First meet-up

Our first in-person and Zoom meet-ups started off the pilot scheme last week with a bang! A big thank you to everyone who attended. Everyone seemed really engaged and excited about the future.



"I had fun and there was a lovely welcome"



At the end, we were treated to a tour of the Music Works, by the studio manager Marcus. It was great to get to see a state-of-the-art recording studio and community music venue first-hand – impressive stuff! Big thanks to Music Works for use of their new, accessible space. To find out more about the venue head over to www.themusicworks.org.uk. We also had a great time at the first pilot Zoom meet-up.

Here's what some of you had to say about the meet-ups.

"I enjoyed the connection with other people"

"I am excited to be in at the beginning and am hopeful of making a change"

Some lovely things came out of the conversations about how we want to work together. We are kick-starting our exciting new pilot scheme with a sense of what is important to us to all feel valued and heard through this process.

Our next in person meet-up event will be held at the **Pittville Pump Rooms** in Cheltenham on **Wednesday 10th of November**. We hope to see you there, or on Zoom on **Thursday 11th**.





Meet the Insights Team

“Hi, we’re the **Insights Team** and we are responsible for **Research, Policy and Campaigns** at Barnwood Trust.

As a team our backgrounds are from different sectors including law and human rights, education, community engagement and campaigning. All our work looks how disabled people and people with mental health challenges experience different areas of their lives. One big thing is thinking about how we do research: we want to build towards working more closely with people with lived experience.

The Insights team are looking forward to the meet-ups on **10th and 11th November** to be able to talk to you more about our work.”

Laura, Dan, Roz, Abi and Kate.

Re-imagine the Individual Grant with us

There is an exciting project happening this autumn, looking at how our Barnwood ‘**grant for individuals**’ can be improved. If you like thinking about big questions and are passionate about fairness and equality, then we would love you to be involved. For the project, we will talk and think together about how the grants programme can make the biggest difference in the lives of disabled people and people with mental health challenges.



There will be meetings on **Monday afternoons**, from **8th November** to **20th December**, at **Overton House** and on **Zoom**. Please contact **Hettie** to find out more **07972 241787** or hettie.peplow@barnwoodtrust.org

Dates for your Diary

Annual Public Meeting: Monday 1st November

November meet-ups:

- **Meet-up 2:** Wednesday 10th - Pittville Pump Rooms
Thursday 11th – Zoom
- **Meet-up 3:** Wednesday 24th – Zoom
Thursday 27th - the Forest of Dean

For full details of all upcoming events, please visit

www.barnwoodtrust.org/pilot-membership-scheme-meet-ups/

Feedback Feedback Feedback!

We want to learn as much as we can about what works, and what doesn't. For example, at our first event we learned that it can be overwhelming to be in a group again, after such a long time away from people. So, it was good to have another quiet space to go to.

We can take on this learning when planning future events. We were also asked to use clear language, avoiding technical terms. We can only learn when we hear feedback like this. Our pilot depends on you saying what you think, starting here. If we can make this newsletter better, please let us know.

If you want to get in touch with the **Engagement team** about anything at all, you can email talktous@barnwoodtrust.org, and call or WhatsApp **07519 325601**

