

Barnwood Circle Round Up

December 2024



Hello

Welcome to the December edition of the Barnwood Circle 'Round Up'.

In this edition of the newsletter you will find a sneak peak of our 2025 co-design projects, news about members of the Engagement Team, new Barnwood Circle members news and a few useful reminders.

Upcoming Projects in 2025

Here you will find brief descriptions of our 2025 projects.

Anti-Racist Engagement (part 2)

This is a continuation of work that began last year. Barnwood Trust is on a learning journey to becoming anti-racist so that we fully include all disabled people and people with mental health conditions. A diverse and people-focused membership, with everyone being welcomed, listened to and treated fairly, will lead to better and more creative work together.



Annual Member Event

This is a gathering to share and celebrate what has been achieved by members and look ahead to what's coming up. We want members to be at the heart of planning - it's your event!

2025 Projects Continued

Empowered Employers

We've been working with a small group of employers, who earlier this year developed action plans to make their recruitment processes and workplaces more inclusive and accessible. Next year the members involved in this work will be invited back to see how the employers have put those plans into practice.

Empowered Employers.

Accessing Money Advice Research

We will be working with Barnwood's Insights team to build on their research into accessing money advice. This project will help us:

Learn more about barriers

Learn more about what good, accessible advice looks like from EbLE and professional viewpoints

Begin to co-design our research and gain insights into asking the right people the right questions in the right way

Accessibility Fund

Earlier this year, a group of members helped develop the criteria against which applications to this fund will be scored. Members will be invited be part of the process of awarding grants by joining a group which will score applications to the fund.

Access to Nature (part 2)

Having worked with a number of partner organisations which run sites around the county, the next phase of this project will be looking at helping to make local green spaces more accessible and inclusive.



More New Faces

Please join us in welcoming some new faces to the team.

We have **Colin** our Learning & Events Coordinator who is covering for Jo's Maternity leave. Colin supports the delivery of accessible internal learning and events whilst monitoring and evaluating the learning data.

Francine our Digital Marketing Coordinator. Francine will manage all things digital, from social media management to website development. Francine joins us from the education sector and brings with her a wealth of experience.

Plus **Jess & Sammi** our new Research & Policy assistants.

Jess & Sammi's role is to support in-depth research around the Trust's change themes, with a current focus on access to transport and access to money advice.



Jess Wales



Colin Mathews



Sammi Ciardi



Francine Harvey

New Circle Members

A huge welcome to our 7 new Barnwood Circle members!

Thank you to Emma and Deborah for coming to the induction session to share their experiences with our new Circle members. We hope our new members feel welcomed into the circle and we look forward to working with you in the new year on some of our upcoming projects.

Our Condolences

We have some sad news to share that one of our circle members has passed away. We were recently informed of Michael Sandalls passing and want to convey our condolences and respects to Michael's friends and family.

End of Year Thank You

We would like to say a heartfelt thank you to all our Barnwood Circle members for your contributions this year.

We couldn't do what we do without you and we appreciate your involvement no matter how small. We look forward to continuing our work together and we wish you a happy new year!



Annual Member Survey 2024

Thank you to everyone who completed our annual members survey this year. These answers help us shape the membership and make sure it's the best it can be. We will be reviewing the results over the upcoming weeks and we hope to share more with you in the new year.



Membership Reminders

A reminder on membership details. You will remember we made some changes to Barnwood Circle memberships earlier in the year. We ran drop ins and spoke to as many as we could about this. These new changes will allow us to reach even more voices and keep hearing new opinions.

Most memberships will end on the 1st May 2026.

In that time you can take part in 3 projects with 2 of those being in one year.

If you have any queries on this please reach out to one of the team.