



Yorkshire Cancer  
Community

June 2026 Edition

# VOICE



West Yorkshire Liver Care  
**Operational Delivery Network**

This month's  
newsletter is proudly  
sponsored by West  
Yorkshire Liver Care

ODN

## Welcome to the June edition of the VOICE Newsletter

This month, we are saddened to announce the passing of our trustee and friend David Blunt, who passed away in Kirkwood Hospice in May. We honour his memory on page 3.

This month our newsletter is proudly sponsored by West Yorkshire Liver Care ODN. You can find out more about their fantastic service on page 12.

In this issue, we have information about staying safe in the sun which is particularly timely considering the scorching temperatures we have already seen in May (pg 11). There's Christine's inspiring story of how she and her husband found support at Maggie's after her breast cancer diagnosis (pg 4), and details of a new mobile cervical screening service introduced by Locala in Kirklees (pg 13). We showcase the partnership between Calderdale Cancer Aware and West Yorkshire Police - Calderdale District, raising cancer awareness, and training new cancer champions (pg 6) and share our simple guide to the National Cancer Plan (pg 9).

Best wishes  
Sarah, Clare and Jess

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## Your Stories

### Remembering David Blunt

We are deeply saddened to announce the passing of our trustee, colleague and friend David Blunt, who passed away in May. His family were with him in his final moments.

This is a great loss to Yorkshire Cancer Community, and to the many other organisations and people whose lives David touched through his quiet wisdom, support and commitment to others.

David brought not only experience and insight to the board, but also kindness, balance and integrity. He cared deeply about improving the lives of people affected by cancer and remained committed to that purpose even during his own difficult health challenges.

I know many of us will be reflecting on the contribution David made not only to Yorkshire Cancer Community, but also to many people and organisations across our

wider community including the West Yorkshire & Harrogate Cancer Alliance, Calderdale & Huddersfield Foundation Trust and researchers at Cambridge University to name a few.

David brought warmth, wisdom and quiet strength to the work of the charity, and he remained deeply supportive of our shared mission to improve the lives of people affected by cancer.

While we mourn his loss, I think one of the greatest ways we can honour David's memory is by continuing the work that mattered so much to him, standing alongside people affected by cancer, amplifying lived experience, and continuing to advocate for better support, services and outcomes for our communities.

Our thoughts are with David's family and loved ones at this very difficult time.



I first came to know David over four years ago following my own cancer diagnosis, through his work with Macmillan Cancer Support Services. Over time that connection grew into friendship, and later into working together as fellow trustees at Yorkshire Cancer Community.

David was a kind, thoughtful and supportive man who gave his time generously to help others. His quiet encouragement, wisdom and commitment to improving the lives of people affected by cancer will be greatly missed.

Stephen Halstead, trustee

## Christine's story – how Maggie's Yorkshire supported the whole family



Maggie's Yorkshire, a cancer support centre is based at St James's University Hospital in Leeds, next to the multi storey car park. The centre has seen a record rise in visits, with more than 17,000 visit in 2025 – an increase of almost 14% on the previous year. The figures reflect a growing need for emotional, practical and psychological support for people living with cancer across the region.

Here Christine Kaye (pictured), who has been supported by Maggie's following a breast cancer diagnosis, shares how the centre continues to support her alongside her treatment at the Trust.

I first heard about Maggie's after being diagnosed with breast cancer. Following my initial appointment a kind NHS nurse took me into a side room. She handed me a bundle of leaflets about Maggie's and told me about Getting Started.

I went with my eldest daughter and remembered standing at the big door. I was terrified, she said, "Come on, Mum, you can do this." I didn't want to be there. But we went into Maggie's and sat downstairs. Amanda Procter (Centre Manager pictured below) gave a talk, and there were oncology nurses I'd later meet on my journey. I began to put faces to names. At first, I was overwhelmed, but halfway through, things started to click. They made me feel at ease. They helped me understand. There was also a question-and-answer session at the end. I remember raising my hand and saying, "Can I ask a question?" That moment was reassuring and having all the information I needed in one place was amazing.

A few weeks later, on the way to another appointment, I arrived early to give myself time to settle. My husband said, "Come on, let's go to Maggie's." It was thanks to the care and kindness of the NHS nurses, those leaflets, and the Getting Started session that I found Maggie's. And I'm so grateful I did.

### Support after Getting Started

I remember it vividly. I walked down those stone steps and stood at the big door. I turned to my husband and said, "I can't do this. What am I doing here?" I didn't know what to expect. We walked in, and a volunteer came over and asked, "Can I help you?" I burst into tears. I sat down, and then Amanda came to sit with me. She had a box of tissues and made me feel like a person again. My husband had tears in his eyes. I still remember that moment.

Maggie's helped me believe in myself. I told myself, "I'm going to be cured. I'm going to get through this. I'm going to get the golden mop-up ticket". Without Maggie's, who do you have these conversations with? The NHS is incredible, but Maggie's has time for you. And that's what people need to understand.



Amanda Procter

## Look Good, Feel Better

Before the session, I felt physically sick. I thought, “I can’t do this. Look at me, I’ve hardly any hair, no eyebrows. What can I even put on my face?” My skin had changed, gone pale and sallow. I didn’t feel like myself anymore.

But I told myself, “Christine, just do it. Get through that door.” And I did. Amanda and the other ladies greeted me so warmly, but you sit with other women, and you notice things - her beautiful hair, her gorgeous makeup and you start comparing. But then you realise that everyone is on their own journey. Everyone is different.

For me, it was about getting something back. Maggie’s gave me that. Walking down those stairs and seeing the table set up with makeup, mirrors, and the makeup artist, I thought, “Oh heck, here we go.” But that feeling quickly changed. We became a little family unit. It didn’t matter if someone had no hair, a full head of hair, or didn’t know how to apply makeup. We were all made to feel special.

Being in that space with other women, you felt important again. You weren’t just someone going through chemotherapy, you were a person. That was overwhelming at first, especially for someone like me who loves hair and makeup. But it was empowering. You could rebuild your lashes, your brows. For those two hours, it felt like a gift. A moment just for me.

## Support for the whole family

My husband is a six-foot-tall guy. You know, the guy that's out there with a big personality – always the strong one. He never imagined that his wife, me – Christine, would be diagnosed with cancer. Hearing those words “I have breast cancer” his world fell apart, but we began our journey together, and Maggie’s was part of that healing.

When we walked into Maggie’s, he shed a tear. This big, bold man moved by the warmth and safety he felt. From that day, he came with me every time. We had a little space near the entrance, sitting in the chairs by the doors, sipping coffee or tea – we just felt relaxed.

Maggie’s holds a special place in his heart. It’s been such a source of comfort for him.

A space where he can simply sit, relax, and unwind. When he came with me, whether it was for half an hour, an hour, or two, I could see the difference in him. It was as if he too was being cleansed. It helped him cope, not just with my journey, but with our journey together.

My two grandchildren were struggling with it all. I’ll never forget when my eldest grandson, who was nine at the time, asked me “Nanny, are you going to heaven?” I said, “No, sweetheart, nanny’s not going to heaven, but you’re coming with me to Maggie’s, where nanny has her treatment, and mummy’s coming too.” My younger grandson was so excited. I told them, you’ll get some juice and biscuits and see where nanny goes.

When we arrived at Maggie’s, the volunteer met us with a warm welcome. The boys got their drinks and biscuits – they were so excited. We went to the area with books, jigsaws and colouring. We sat at the round table as a family – it was lovely. They were made to feel special, and I could see they felt reassured. When it was time for my treatment, we all got ready together. I said, ‘Come on, give nanny a cuddle because we’re going to another special journey now’. If it hadn’t been for Maggie’s, they wouldn’t have understood. Their little heads can be full of fear thinking nanny’s going to heaven, but instead, they saw this special place that helps nanny, and lots of other people too. Even grandad – that’s how special Maggie’s is.

## Maggie's in three words

Beautiful, warming and uplifting...

It's a beautiful space. No one ever judges you. You walk through that door, and everyone makes you feel like a special person again. You're never judged. You're made to feel that no matter who you are, what you are, where you come from, or your ethnicity, walking through the doors of Maggie's makes you feel like a very, very special person.

Maggie's is open Monday to Friday, 9 am to 5pm. No appointment is needed, you can simply walk in.

Phone: 0113 457 8364

Email: [leeds@maggies.org](mailto:leeds@maggies.org)



## Working Together to raise cancer awareness in Calderdale



Calderdale Cancer Aware have been creating Cancer Champions across the region and one of their most successful partnerships has been with West Yorkshire Police, Calderdale District.

Calderdale Cancer Aware, a collaboration between Halifax Opportunities Trust and Macmillan, aims to help people talk openly about cancer.

When they approached West Yorkshire Police, there was an overwhelming level of interest, with more volunteers than any similar initiative had attracted.

Fourteen officers completed the training, forming a strong cohort of Cancer Champions, committed to promoting awareness across their teams.

## Calderdale Cancer Champion Training

The session equipped officers with

- Knowledge of key signs and symptoms
- Confidence to start supportive conversations
- Information on national screening programmes
- Practical resources and referral pathways through Champion packs

Feedback highlighted how empowering the training felt:

*“Having done this training, I feel like I can actually do something now – more than just sympathise, I can actually help.”*

This shift from awareness to action is exactly what the programme is designed to achieve.

## Embedding Awareness into everyday practice

Rather than treating the training as a one-off event, officers have taken practical steps to ensure cancer awareness remains visible and embedded within their workplace culture. Initiatives include:

- Introducing cancer awareness reminders on workplace computer screens
- Sharing cancer awareness within team meetings
- Hosting informal awareness events such as coffee mornings
- Exploring new ways to promote support services internally



This approach demonstrates how health promotion can become part of everyday professional practice – not an additional burden but a shared responsibility.

## Partnership in Action

The collaboration continues to grow. Plans are underway to work closely together at community events across Halifax throughout the summer, extending cancer awareness beyond the workplace and into the wider community.

**Sarah from Calderdale Cancer Aware said:** “The commitment shown by West Yorkshire Police reflects a proactive approach to workforce wellbeing and community health, demonstrating how organisations can play a vital role in prevention and early detection.

<https://www.halifaxopportunitiestrust.org.uk>

## News

### The NHS and Morrisons team up to raise cancer awareness

Shoppers are being urged to look out for lumps, swelling, skin changes and unexplained bruising as Morrisons teams up with the NHS to put cancer advice on its own-brand bath and shower products.

The range of nine new shower and bath products will carry messages including “Be body aware” and “Know the signs of cancer”, encouraging people to get to know what is normal for their body and contact their GP practice if something doesn’t feel right.



The products will start appearing in around 450 Morrisons stores and online in May.

**Professor Peter Johnson, National Clinical Director for Cancer at NHS England, said:** “If you notice a lump, swelling, skin change or anything else that doesn’t look or feel right while you’re in the bath or shower, please contact your GP practice.

This campaign is about turning an everyday routine into a simple health check reminder – helping people know their bodies better and spot possible signs of cancer earlier.

In most cases it won’t be cancer, but if it is, finding it early can make all the difference.”

Morrisons is the first supermarket to roll out cancer awareness messages on bath and shower products as part of an NHS drive to help more people spot possible symptoms earlier and come forward for checks.

Ed was 27 when he noticed a dull ache in his right testicle in summer 2024. After the pain became sharper a few months later, he went back to get it checked and was diagnosed with testicular cancer following a blood test and ultrasound.

After surgery and a short round of chemotherapy, Ed was told he was cancer free within three months. He has since become an ambassador for men’s health charity Movember to encourage others to come forward if they notice anything unusual.

**Ed said:** “You just never expect to hear the words ‘you’ve got cancer’, and for me it was a total shock.

“Thankfully, because I found it early, scans showed that it hadn’t spread anywhere else. I went through surgery within weeks and, to give myself the best chance of it not returning, I

completed a short round of chemotherapy. Less than three months after my diagnosis, I was told I was cancer free.

“Having NHS messaging on things like shower gels is a great way to get across an important reminder to check for cancer while you might be washing in the privacy of a bathroom. It’s especially key for something like testicular cancer, which can easily go unnoticed if you’re not paying attention to your body and checking yourself regularly. If you do find something, it’s important not to be embarrassed about it – it could be nothing at all, but it’s always better to get it checked.”

The new messaging will appear across Morrisons own-brand range, including products such as Muscle Soothe Sea Minerals and Sage Extracts Bath Soak, Tingly Mint Shower Gel and Lavender and Water Lily Herbal Bath.

Symptoms that might be spotted while washing include a lump or swelling anywhere on your body, skin changes, unexplained pain, aches or bruising.

Other symptoms people should be aware of include persistent heartburn, indigestion or bloating, changes in bowel or bladder habits, bleeding from your bottom, in your poo, in your wee, after the menopause or after sex, sweating a lot at night, feeling more tired than usual, or a croaky voice, hoarseness, or a cough that does not get better or gets worse.

**If something in your body doesn’t feel right, and you are worried it could be cancer, contact your GP.**

## Understanding the National Cancer Plan for England

The National Cancer Plan for England is a government plan together with the NHS setting out how they will improve cancer care so that 3 out of 4 people diagnosed with cancer survive for 5 years or more by 2035. It’s an ambitious project, and the actual plan is a chunky 80 pages, so we thought we would put together an easy-to-follow summary to help make sense of it all.

The three core priorities are: -

1. **Faster diagnosis and treatment**
  - People want to be seen quickly, diagnosed earlier, and treated without long delays
2. **Better survival rates**
  - Fewer people dying early from cancer
3. **Better quality of life**
  - Not just surviving cancer, but living well during and after treatment

There is a major shift towards **prevention**, as currently around 4 out of 10 cancers are preventable, and aims to **tackle inequalities**, as cancer outcomes are worse for certain groups such as people in more deprived areas, some ethnic groups, disabled people and the LGBTIQ+ community.

You can find the full summary on our news/events page slider

<https://www.yorkshirecancercommunity.co.uk/news-events/>

## Artificial intelligence used to detect skin cancer early

Bradford Teaching Hospitals is the first NHS trust in West Yorkshire to use trailblazing artificial intelligence (AI) which aims to detect skin cancer earlier.

The new approach started at St Luke's Hospital, part of the foundation trust, in April and sees healthcare staff using AI software to rapidly analyse skin lesions and flag small moles that are most likely to be cancerous, with far greater precision than standard techniques.

The DERM (Deep Ensemble for Recognition of Malignancy) technology, developed by Skin Analytics, analyses images to assess and triage skin lesions, redirecting benign cases to non-urgent pathways and significantly reducing waiting times by efficiently triaging patients with suspicious skin lesions. Find out more on the trust website.



**Consultant Plastic Surgeon and Clinical Lead for skin cancer, Zakir Shariff, hailed the project as:**

**“Cutting edge and the future of skin cancer diagnosis in this country.**

**Combining this cutting-edge AI will give us the capacity to pick up potentially serious skin lesions quicker and speedier than current processes.**

**We have 5,000 referrals every year for skin cancer at the Trust – all of whom are seen within the two-week cancer referral-to-treatment pathway – yet only 8% or 400 patients are found to have malignant cancer.**

**DERM technology can instantly pick up potentially serious skin lesions, making diagnosis far speedier than current human processes allow so it will also help our doctors and surgeons concentrate on treating the most urgent cases.”**

To find out more about skin cancer, visit our website

<https://www.yorkshirecancercommunity.co.uk/skin-cancer/>

To find out how to reduce your risk of skin cancer by staying safe in the sun, keep reading!

## Stay Safe in the Sun



After the darker colder months, it's great to finally enjoy longer sunny days and some sunshine. But as we make the most of it, it's important to stay safe too – and we have some helpful advice from Cancer Research UK.

No matter where you are, whether at home or on holiday, it's important to protect our skin when the sun is strong. This means:

- Spending time in the shade, especially between 11 am and 3pm in the UK
- Covering up with clothing, a wide brimmed hat and UV-protection sunglasses
- Using sunscreen on the skin you can't cover.

Use sunscreen with:

- ❖ a SPF 30 or higher (UVB protection)
- ❖ A high star rating of 4 or 5 stars (UVA protection)

### Top Tips for using sunscreen:

1. Choose a lotion, pump spray or roll-on product rather than an aerosol. Aerosol sunscreens can be patchy, and do not always provide a thick enough layer.
2. Make sure you put enough on. Most people often put on less sunscreen than they need to. Apply sunscreen evenly and thickly.
3. Reapply sunscreen regularly throughout the day, even if you are using a 'once a day' or 'water resistant' product. Sunscreen can rub, sweat or wash off. It's especially important to put more on after swimming, sweating or drying off with a towel.



### The question CRUK get asked most is:

Can people with darker skin tones get sunburn?

*People with naturally darker skin tones, such as brown or black skin, burn less easily and have a lower risk of skin cancer. But lower risk doesn't mean there's no risk. People with darker skin tones can still get sunburnt. And people of all skin tones can get skin cancer, so it's important for everyone to think about protecting their skin when the sun is strong.*

We cover staying safe in the sun and other risks to avoid on our website. Link below:

<https://www.yorkshirecancercommunity.co.uk/how-to-reduce-your-risk-of-cancer/>

## Information from this month's sponsors – West Yorkshire Liver Care ODN



### Community Liver Health Checks Bringing Liver Care Into the Heart of Our Communities

#### Who we are

We are West Yorkshire Liver Care Operational Delivery Network (ODN), a managed NHS network hosted by Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust (LTHT) for the treatment of viral hepatitis and other liver related diseases.

#### What we do

We bring together clinicians, addiction services, community groups, voluntary sector organisations and other NHS providers to create a seamless pathway from testing to treatment and support for patients with viral hepatitis. This collaborative approach is essential to improving outcomes across our region.

#### What we do for you

Free liver Fibroscan to check liver health

Testing for Hepatitis B and C

Alcohol and lifestyle advice

Support with onward referrals

Help linking people into treatment & follow-up care

Information on keeping the liver healthy

#### What have we achieved in the last 12 months?

Around **one in five** people showed signs of possible liver damage and were referred for further assessment

**5,581** liver health checks across West Yorkshire, with **2,547** people referred for further investigation



Many individuals received **wellbeing advice** around alcohol use, with several accepting referrals into **support services**

**Dozens of new cases** of hepatitis B and C were identified, enabling people to start treatment quickly

Come along and chat with the Team about your liver health



Scan this QR code to visit our website  
<https://www.westyorkshirelivercareodn.nhs.uk/>



## A new mobile cervical screening unit piloted across Kirklees has been welcomed by residents



Delivered by Kirklees Council's Public Health Team, in partnership with Locala, and funded by the West Yorkshire and Harrogate Cancer Alliance, the mobile unit visited eight community locations across north and south Kirklees during March and April. The project aimed to make cervical screening more accessible, particularly in areas where uptake has historically been lower.

This was the first time cervical screening has been delivered in Kirklees via a mobile, drop-in unit. The pilot was designed to remove common barriers to screening including, fitting appointments around work and family life, travel constraints and including reassurance of female screening nurses.

Many of those who attended said convenience was the deciding factor.

**Debbie from Lindley said:** "I saw it on Facebook in the morning while I was making a cuppa and thought right, I'll go now. I just didn't get round to booking."

**Mrs Ahmed from Huddersfield said:** "I got a text message from my GP telling me about it. It's difficult finding time and fitting it around work and family. The staff really put me at ease, and it was really quick."

Others shared that they were overdue for screening or hadn't got round to making a GP appointment and the drop-in model was ideal.

Full attendance data and longer-term impact on screening uptake will continue to be reviewed as part of the pilot evaluation.

Anyone aged 25-64 who is due or overdue for cervical screening is encouraged to contact their GP practice to book an appointment.

For more information about cervical screening visit the NHS website. More information can be found on our website: <https://www.yorkshirecancercommunity.co.uk/screening/>

## What have we been up to?

Here's Cancer Champion and Trustee Sue raising awareness and fundraising at the May Day event in Rothwell.

Going forwards you may see more tombola activity on some of our stalls as we aim to increase engagement and make our stalls more approachable, whilst also raising unrestricted funds.



Jill went along with Cancer Champion Barbara to hold an information and awareness stall at the Horbury Senior Citizens Group at the Working Men's Club, Cluntergate, Horbury. They said it was a busy group who offer many activities including trips out, walks, fun and fitness, a choir and chair exercise. They spoke to many people, and hot topics included breast screening after 70, bowel screening, PSA testing, and the importance of early detection.

Stewart went along to SCOPE Community Hub in Leeds to deliver a Cancer SMART talk to 20 people, 4 in person and 16 online. Here he is with Beth McGarry Golding, Programme Lead from Scope. Some of the feedback from the talk:

**It was brilliant to see trans and nonbinary people mentioned in the slides and the inclusive language used throughout Dr Manning's presentation.**

**It was really interesting, especially hearing about the new advancements with things like self-swab smear testing.**

If you would like us to deliver a talk to your group, contact us at [cancersmart@yorkshirecancercommunity.co.uk](mailto:cancersmart@yorkshirecancercommunity.co.uk)





Jill went along to Bob Clayden's support group – Green Space Summer. This group is for people living with and beyond cancer, and is open to carers, friends and cancer care staff too.

This informal group offers a chance to relax, de-stress and chat over a cuppa, whilst enjoying being outdoors (drinks provided). You can even have a go at playing garden games or crown green bowling if you wish.

The group meets 12pm – 2pm on the 4<sup>th</sup> Friday of the month from April to September.

Venue: Pontefract Valley Gardens, Mayors Walk, WF8 1DY (w3w Kicks.Itself.Logs)

## What we're working on

### Introducing Our Cancer Champion Hubs

We're excited to begin developing local **Cancer Champion Hubs** across West Yorkshire, starting in Wakefield, Leeds, Bradford, Halifax and Huddersfield.

These informal hubs will bring together Cancer Champions and those interested in getting involved, creating a welcoming space for friendly catch-ups, sharing ideas and building supportive local networks.

Whether you already volunteer with us or are thinking about becoming a Cancer Champion, these sessions are a great opportunity to connect, learn more about volunteering, and meet others in your community.

Our hubs will offer:

- Informal meetups and conversations
- Opportunities to explore volunteering
- A chance to build friendships and local connections

We're looking forward to growing these networks and supporting communities across Yorkshire.

To find out more or get involved, visit:

<https://www.yorkshirecancercommunity.co.uk/volunteering/>



## Strengthening Partnerships Across Yorkshire

Building meaningful partnerships continues to be a key priority, with new and ongoing collaborations across community organisations, universities, and the West Yorkshire & Harrogate Cancer Alliance.

Through this work, we're helping to embed patient voice into research and community programmes, ensuring lived experience plays a central role in shaping services and decision-making. These partnerships are creating more inclusive, relevant and impactful opportunities for people affected by cancer.

By working together, we're opening up more ways for individuals to influence research, support services and community initiatives across the region.

We're excited to keep growing these connections and strengthening the role of patient voice in meaningful, lasting ways.

## Not Part of Patient VIEW Yet? Join Us

If you have lived experience of cancer, are a carer, or support someone affected by cancer, we'd love you to consider joining Patient VIEW.

This growing panel is helping to shape real research and meaningful change across the UK. We're building a diverse and inclusive community so more universities, researchers and healthcare organisations can access patient voice.

Involvement is flexible — there's no obligation, and you can take part as often as suits you. University workshops also offer reimbursement for your time.

Most importantly, your voice makes a difference to future research and care.

If you'd like to get involved, please get in touch with Jess [jess@yorkshirecancercommunity.co.uk](mailto:jess@yorkshirecancercommunity.co.uk)

More information: <https://www.yorkshirecancercommunity.co.uk/patient-view/>

# Patient



**V**oices from  
around the  
region



**I**ncluding  
all points of  
view



**E**xchanging  
practical  
ideas



**W**orking  
together

## Upcoming events

### Here's what we have coming up this month.

**Tue 2 Jun** – Stall at the West Yorkshire & Harrogate Cancer Alliance conference at Centenary Pavilion, Leeds United Football Stadium, Elland Road, Leeds LS11 0ES at 9am – 4pm

**Wed 3 Jun** – Sarah will be giving a volunteering information session at NOVA Wakefield, 11 Upper York St, Wakefield WF1 3LQ at 12pm – 2pm. Email [sarah@yorkshirecancercommunity.co.uk](mailto:sarah@yorkshirecancercommunity.co.uk) to register.

**Wed 3 Jun** – Community cancer awareness event at Red Roof Community Centre, Wakefield Road, Kinsley WF9 5BP at 10am – 12pm

**Thu 4 Jun** – Community cancer awareness event at Five Towns Christian Fellowship, Beancroft Street, Castleford WF10 5RR at 10am – 12pm

**Tue 9 Jun** – Community cancer awareness event at St Mary's Community Centre, The Circle, Pontefract WF8 2AY at 10am – 12pm

**Mon 15 Jun** – Northern Race Equality Conference at the University of Leeds, Woodhouse, Leeds LS2 9JT at 9am – 4pm

**Wed 17 Jun** – WY Compassionate Cultures Conference at Centenary Pavilion, Leeds United Football Stadium, Elland Road, Leeds LS11 0ES at 8.45am – 4pm

**Thu 18 Jun** - International Time for Tea Event- Refugees Week at The Ridings, Wakefield WF1 1DS at 10am – 1pm

**Thu 18 Jun** - Health and Wellbeing Hub at KLY Shopping Centre, Keighley BD21 3QQ at 10.30am – 12.30pm

**Mon 22 Jun** – OPAL Cancer Summer Roadshow at 55 Bedford Dr, Leeds LS16 6DJ at 10am – 2pm

**Wed 24 Jun** – Mental health and cancer event at Involve Community Centre, Whitfield Ave, Hunslet LS10 2QE at 1.30pm – 2.30pm

**Thu 25 Jun** – Patient VIEW panel meeting at Scope Community Hub, 3 Brewery Wharf, Dock St, Leeds LS10 1JF at 11am – 2pm

**Sun 28 Jun** - Horbury Show information and fundraising stall at Carr Lodge Park, Wakefield Road, Horbury, Wakefield WF4 6NE 11am – 4.30pm

**Mon 29 Jun** – Community Cancer Awareness Event at Havercroft & Ryhill Community Learning Centre, Mulberry Place, Ryhill, Wakefield WF4 2BD at 10am – 12pm

**Wed 1 Jul** - Skelmanthorpe Health & Wellbeing Event at Mast Jubilee Community Garden at Skelmanthorpe Family Doctors, Commercial Road, Skelmanthorpe, Huddersfield HD8 9DA at 10am – 2pm

Watch out for our social media posts too to keep up to date on what we've got coming up.



@YorkshireCancerCommunity



@yorkshirecancercommunity

## Upcoming Patient VIEW meetings

See below for our 2026 upcoming meeting dates - all are 11am – 2pm and are hybrid meetings so you can either attend in person at SCOPE Leeds Community Hub, 3 Brewery Wharf, Dock Street, Leeds LS10 1JF or join remotely via teams. For those attending in person, lunch will be provided.

Please contact

[jess@yorkshirecancercommunity.co.uk](mailto:jess@yorkshirecancercommunity.co.uk)

to confirm in advance your attendance (including any dietary requirements) or to obtain the teams link if joining remotely.



**2026 dates are: -**

- **Thursday 25 June**
- **Thursday 3 September**
- **Thursday 22 October**
- **Thursday 3 December**

Please can you give us one minute of your time and nominate us to receive a donation of £1,000 in the second Movement for Good Draw this year.

**The draw takes place  
between 7-11 September**



**Please nominate us for a  
Movement for Good award,  
and we could win**

**£1,000**

**It only takes  
a moment**

Scan the QR code or visit  
[movementforgood.com](http://movementforgood.com)  
and add our details



**YORKSHIRE CANCER COMMUNITY**  
Charity number  
1185838



Ecclesiastical Insurance Office is the promoter

## Keeping Communities Safe – Awareness Session

As part of Locala's health inequalities training offer, you are warmly invited to join a short and practical **online awareness session** about **Keeping Communities Safe with West Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Service on Thursday 18th June, 1pm to 2pm**.

This session will help build understanding of how fire and rescue services work within communities, and how we can all play a role in keeping people safe. It will cover:

- How West Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Service keeps our communities safe with Safe and Well checks
- Safety in the home, including fire risks linked to hoarding
- How to use emollient creams safely
- How to complete referral forms to the Fire Service
- Opportunity for questions and discussion

This session is designed to raise awareness, increase confidence, and support safer communities across West Yorkshire.

### Who is the session for?

Everyone is welcome: community members, volunteers, local organisations, frontline workers, and anyone who wants to improve their knowledge of community safety and fire prevention.

### About the session:

- Free
- 1 hour
- Online via Microsoft Teams (you'll receive the link prior to the event after signing up)

### Sign up here:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/keeping-communities-safe-west-yorkshire-fire-and-rescue-tickets-1989642979712>

We hope you can join us.

**Preeya Patel** - Health Inequalities and Inclusion Lead

**Nicola Barber** – Involvement Coordinator





# VOLUNTEERS' WEEK 2026 CELEBRATION

We're hosting a Volunteers' Week celebration picnic to bring volunteers together and say thank you for all you do.

**Friday 5th June 2026**  
From 10.30am at Wakefield Cathedral

Feel free to drop in and stay as long as you like

**Book here**  
or email Elsie at [elsie.heslam@nova-wd.org.uk](mailto:elsie.heslam@nova-wd.org.uk)

**What's happening**

- A relaxed picnic with a buffet lunch
- A chance to meet and connect with other volunteers from different organisations
- Guided cathedral tours for those who'd like to explore the space and its history
- A unique opportunity to view peregrine falcons nesting at the cathedral using a telescope

**Nova**  
Wakefield District Ltd

NOVA Wakefield District Ltd are hosting a volunteers' week celebration picnic – see the flyer above for more information.

They have also created a handy guide to what volunteering opportunities are on in Wakefield during volunteers' week.

**You can meet our manager Sarah at NOVA's premises on Upper York Street, Wakefield on 3 June 12pm-2pm if you would like more information on how to volunteer for us. To register your place, email Sarah at [sarah@yorkshirecancercommunity.co.uk](mailto:sarah@yorkshirecancercommunity.co.uk)**

There's more details about this and other volunteering opportunities in and around Wakefield on our website:

<https://www.yorkshirecancercommunity.co.uk/news-events/> or click [HERE](#)

The Cancer Alliance are also hosting a number of Cancer Awareness Sessions around the area – see the flyer opposite for more details.

## Celebrating Volunteers Week

It's **Volunteers' Week 1-7 June**, and like most charities we rely heavily on volunteers to achieve our goals.

**Cancer Champions** – Our Cancer Champions help us to spread the Cancer SMART message, raising awareness of the signs and symptoms of cancer, how early detection saves lives, promoting screening and how a healthy active lifestyle can reduce your cancer risk.

**Patient VIEW** – Our panel members use their lived experience of cancer and of using cancer services to give important feedback to help influence service development. We also work with and help universities and other researchers by provide important insight.

**Trustees** – our trustees are volunteers who govern us to ensure we remain legally compliant, financially stable and fulfil our strategic goals.

## CANCER ALLIANCE COMMUNITY EVENT

MEET - CONNECT - FIND SUPPORT



**DATES & LOCATION**

- » WEDNESDAY 3<sup>RD</sup> JUNE 2026 - RED ROOF CENTRE
- » THURSDAY 4<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2026 - FIVE TOWNS CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP
- » TUESDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2026 - ST MARY'S
- » MONDAY 29<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2026 - HAVERCROFT & RYHILL CENTRE
- » FRIDAY 24<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2026 - ST GEORGE'S

**ALL EVENTS 10 AM - 12 PM**

**EXPLORE TABLES FROM LOCAL & NATIONAL ORGANISATIONS - EVENT OPEN TO EVERYONE**

**WHAT'S GOING ON?**

Delivering awareness sessions aimed at increasing:

- » Understanding of cancer
- » Early signs and symptoms
- » Screening pathways
- » Support for residents, cancer patients and family

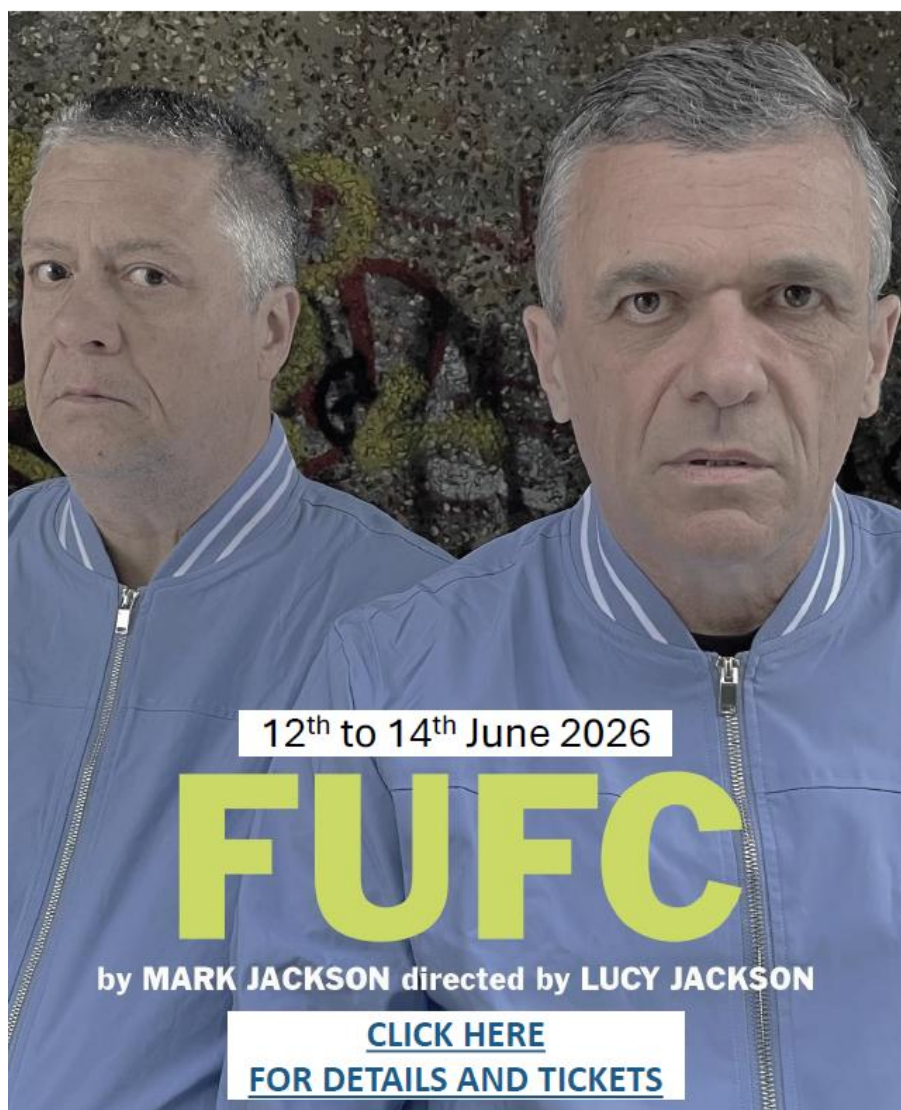




@ Upstairs Theatre, Bingley Arts Centre

- Friday 12<sup>th</sup> June - 7.45pm
- Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> June - 7.45pm
- Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> June - 4.00pm

Scan for  
details and  
booking info



**Venue: Upstairs Theatre**  
Bingley Arts Centre  
Main St, Bingley BD16 2LZ

**Box Office:**  
01274 567983

**Performance :**

- Friday 12th June  
7.45pm
- Saturday 13th June  
7.45pm
- Sunday 14th June  
4.00pm

**Ticket Prices : £13**

**Running Time**  
2 Hours approx.

**Age Suitability**  
16+

Supporting  
**MACMILLAN**  
CANCER SUPPORT

**If you haven't seen this play yet, written by Mark Jackson, then this is one you don't want to miss! Funny, sad, heartwarming ..... and with a really important message.**

Mark was diagnosed with prostate cancer when he was 53 years of age, and the experience inspired him to write this play. It is his greatest wish to use his play in some way to raise awareness of prostate cancer and the message that early diagnosis saves lives. He wants to encourage men to 'Get a test'.

Mark is keen to encourage attendance and has arranged a generous concession. He has been able to secure a discounted ticket offer for people living with cancer, their friends and family, and for anyone working/volunteering in health or social care. The discount code is **FUFC26** - simply enter this at checkout in the promo box, to receive tickets at the reduced price of £5 (normally £13) FUFC - Bingley Arts Centre. Book your tickets here <https://www.bingleyartscentre.co.uk/events/fufc>

The play, which discusses prostate cancer in a relatable way, aims to raise awareness and encourage men to prioritise their health.

Any proceeds will be donated to cancer-related causes.

The walks have been introduced as part of the wider Barnsley Ladies Outdoor Group & Socials (BLOGS) community (Private Facebook Group), a women's private social walking group aimed at encouraging connection, wellbeing, confidence and access to the outdoors through a variety of walks, activities and events.

"Walking Through Grief" is a themed walk initiative intended to provide a softer and more understanding environment for women navigating bereavement, grief or loss. The walks are not counselling or formal support sessions, and attendees are never expected to openly discuss their grief. Instead, the focus is on gentle movement, fresh air, connection and reducing isolation in a calm and welcoming setting.

The walks may particularly benefit women who are struggling with loneliness, anxiety around returning to social settings, or who may find comfort in being around others with shared experiences of loss.

To access the walks, individuals are asked to join the private Facebook group:

[Barnsley Ladies Outdoor Group & Socials \(BLOGS\)](#)

## Gentle bereavement walks available to women across Barnsley.




**UNITED BY RIBBONS**  
**PEER CANCER SUPPORT**

**First Tuesday Of The Month**  
**18:00 - 20:00**

**Held upstairs in The Loft at Nyla's.**

Whether you are living with cancer, supporting a loved one or coping with a loss this group offers the chance to connect, talk and feel understood with others going through a similar experience.

For more information please contact Linda on:  
lindaswellness101@gmail.com



 Nyla's, 156 Briggate, Leeds LS1 6LY 



United by Ribbons is a cancer support group created and run by Cancer Champion Linda Walker, pictured above, who has a lymphoma diagnosis.

Linda noticed that many support groups meet during the day, or are for specific cancer types, so she created United by Ribbons – a group for anyone affected by cancer. It's a welcoming space to connect, chat and feel understood.

# *Can I hear your story?*



**For South Asian & Black women  
living with metastatic breast  
cancer.**

*Hi, I'm Summayah*

I'm trying to understand the real experiences of **South Asian & Black women** living with **metastatic breast cancer**.

So many voices and lived experiences are missing — and I want to help change that.

Your story can help improve support and resources for women in our communities facing metastatic breast cancer.

If you feel able to share even a small part of your journey it would **mean so much**.

- ✓ **Share as much or as little as you feel comfortable**
- ✓ **Completely confidential**
- ✓ **Online or Phone**

If you'd like to take part, you can  
email me or scan the QR Code



[Summayah2.zafar@live.uwe.ac.uk](mailto:Summayah2.zafar@live.uwe.ac.uk)



Everyone who takes part will have the option to receive a shopping voucher as a thank you.

## Other Items

### Cancer & Pregnancy Awareness Week

Being pregnant should be one of the happiest times of your life, so to suddenly be faced with a cancer diagnosis whilst pregnant can be really upsetting and overwhelming. It can be really frightening, as you will no doubt have lots of worries and concerns, not only for your own health, but the health of your unborn baby.



It can be difficult to detect cancer when your body is going through changes due to pregnancy, as sometimes cancer symptoms can be similar to pregnancy symptoms, such as breast changes, swollen tummy, vaginal bleeding, changes to bowel habits, more frequent urination or fatigue.

You may also have questions about your treatment options, tests, mental health or breastfeeding.

Mummy's Star is a charity dedicated to supporting families affected by cancer in and around pregnancy, raising awareness and educating professionals. You can visit their website <https://www.mummysstar.org/>

### Cervical Screening Awareness Week 15-21 June

As we know, keeping your cervical screening appointment is crucial in the fight against cancer, and even saves lives. That's why it comes first on our cancer SMART message. However, going for your cervical screening isn't always easy, and everyone's experience is different.



NHS England have announced their goal of eliminating cervical cancer by 2040. Wouldn't that be amazing? At the moment though, only 68.7% of people invited to attend their screening actually go. That's why this cervical screening awareness week we are urging anyone with a cervix to book your test now if it's overdue, and to attend your appointments when invited.

The Eve Appeal is a charity that offer a free and confidential nurse-led information service Ask Eve, which is available to answer your questions or concerns about HPV, cervical screening, results and follow up, or cervical cancer symptoms. To get in touch email [nurse@eveappeal.co.uk](mailto:nurse@eveappeal.co.uk) or call 0808 802 0019. For more information, visit their website <https://eveappeal.org.uk/>

To find out more about how screening saves lives be prevention and early detection, visit the Screening page of our website <https://www.yorkshirecancercommunity.co.uk/screening/>

Our cancer champion Emily Lunn worked on a video to encourage Romanian and Polish women living in the UK to attend their cervical screening appointments, called Is That It? You can watch the video on the abovementioned Screening page of our website.

## Myeloma Awareness Week 15-21 June



Myeloma is a type of blood cancer arising from plasma cells, and each year in the UK, 5900 people are diagnosed, and at any one time there are roughly 24,000 people living with the disease in the UK. Although Myeloma mainly affects those over the age of 65, it has been diagnosed in people much younger too.

Plasma cells are a type of white blood cell made in the bone marrow. They form part of your immune system. Myeloma develops when DNA is damaged during the development of a plasma cell. The abnormal cells release a large amount of a single type of antibody, known as a paraprotein, which has no useful function.

The most common symptoms of myeloma include bone pain, recurring infection, kidney damage and fatigue. Although myeloma is an incurable disease, myeloma is treatable and can be very effectively controlled, so people can live a long time with it and therefore it is not always considered terminal.

Myeloma UK's strategy for 2024 – 2028 covers three core principles - preventing myeloma, treating myeloma and living well with myeloma. For more information, visit their website <https://www.myeloma.org.uk/>

Visit our webpage dedicated to blood cancers at <https://www.yorkshirecancercommunity.co.uk/blood-haematology-cancer/>

## LGBTQIA+ Pride Month

Everyone should have equal access to healthcare, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity. However, we recognise that LGBTQIA+ people can sometimes face additional barriers when seeking support and care.



If you are LGBTQIA+, you may have questions about how this could affect your cancer risk, screening, or treatment options.

Macmillan have information for LGBTQIA+ people where you can find out about cancer and screening, explore the support available, and hear stories from LGBTQIA+ people affected by cancer. They also provide resources for healthcare professionals.

You can find out more here: <https://www.macmillan.org.uk/support-for-lgbtq-affected-by-cancer>

They also offer advice and information for if you feel you or someone you know is being treated unfairly or being discriminated against in a healthcare setting for being from the LGBTQIA+ community, including how to give feedback or make a complaint.

You can find out more here: [https://www.macmillan.org.uk/cancer-information-and-support/impacts-of-cancer/lgbtq-cancer#will\\_i\\_be\\_treated\\_differently\\_because\\_i\\_am\\_lgbtq\\_plus](https://www.macmillan.org.uk/cancer-information-and-support/impacts-of-cancer/lgbtq-cancer#will_i_be_treated_differently_because_i_am_lgbtq_plus)