



QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER



Welcome to Home Instead Sheffield and Barnsley's quarterly newsletter: winter edition. We hope you enjoy reading about the work we do in the Health and Social Care sector.

Welcome to 2024! In this issue, read about the success of our 2023 Be A Santa campaign, and the winners of Care Professional and Key Player of the Year.

Also in this issue: How a Care Professional helped his client get back to the football matches he loves and our Key Player Away Day.

Be A Santa 2023's Huge Success

Christmas can often be a time where money is at its tightest for many of us.

This is why we are so delighted to announce the huge success of our annual Be A Santa campaign, where an overwhelming amount of people have shown their generosity by donating gifts for our Clients, and others who may be isolated over the festive period.

It's a fantastic initiative that we are proud to support every year, bringing a positive change to the local community at a time of year that can often be difficult.

After last year's success we set a target of 300, and smashed it, collecting over 500 wonderful gifts. This is our highest total so far and we hope 2024 will beat this record once again.

Spearheaded by Bea Poole from the operations team, gifts were also given to Age UK Barnsley, Age UK Sheffield, BIADS and Sheffield Mencap to distribute.

As people gave so generously, we were additionally able to donate to Roundabout Sheffield, a charity that supports young people at risk of homelessness.

“My YP was over the moon. I took her loads of stuff so that she had plenty to open this Christmas.”
- Bev, Roundabout Key Worker



(Above) Highlights from our 2023 Client and Care Professional Christmas Party!

You can also read all about our social and community events on our website [here](#).





Presents were given and excitedly opened in the BIADS day centre, where older people opened boxes of biscuits, chocolates, toiletries and warm winter accessories.

They were thrilled to receive some festive joy, and centre staff report there were swift demands to make sure it happens again next year!

Older people at Age UK Barnsley day centres also enjoyed opening their gifts, many of them shocked to receive a present at all.

Pictured right, Marketing Assistant Bea collecting gifts from SY Fire Service

Elsie Ledger from Age UK Barnsley with a service user.

Beneath, service users open BAS gifts at a BIADS day centre.



“Really? I get to take this home? I haven't had a present for a couple of years now! Thank you so much.”

It is so generous, do we all really get one?”

Wow – there are so many. Are you sure we can take one? Thank you so much.”

- Age UK Barnsley Clients

We would like to say a huge thank you to all our donors, especially:

- [South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue \(Barnsley stations\)](#)
- [JW Insurance, Barnsley](#)
- [Sheffield Flourish](#)
- [Outram Fields Care Home, Sheffield](#)
- [Liddy's Solicitors, Barnsley](#)
- [Sheffield United Community Foundation](#)
- [Buttercup Café, Sheffield](#)

All were only too pleased to offer assistance with present delivery, and setting up donation drop off points in their offices.



Local Christmas Card Competition



This year our annual Christmas card competition launched at St Mary's Primary School in Barnsley.

We asked for one aimed at thanking our hard working Care Professionals, and one to bring some festive wishes to our Clients.

So many entries were received and after much deliberation, these two beautiful designs were chosen, by Rose Karimi (9) and Alexandra Garcia-Hipwell (9).

Marketing Assistant Bea was on hand to deliver some chocolate prizes for our talented winning designers.

Left: Bea, with winners Rose and Alexandra.



Michael's First Trip Back to the Football



Michael at Hillsborough Stadium
[Read the full story here](#)

Having lived a life of sport, activity and adventure before sustaining a brain injury, a trip like this is something that Michael hadn't thought would ever be possible again.

As a naturally sporty person, Michael particularly enjoys watching the football, with local football club Sheffield Wednesday being his all-time favourite! Before his accident, he had a season ticket and went every week – but that all changed after becoming immobile.

With the help of his incredible Care Professional, Richard, who knew that being able to go to a football game was a huge dream of Michael's, he supported him to go to his first match since his injury.

"I know this really meant a lot to [Michael]... He even got to meet many of the players afterwards, including the captain, who had their pictures taken with him. These will all go in his album for him to treasure."

– Richard, Care Professional at Home Instead Sheffield North



Key Player of the Year 2023

Sarah, Care Manager of the Sheffield South office, was honoured as our Key Player of the Year for 2023. She has been with Home Instead since 2012, and is incredibly valued by the team.

She is a hard-working, resilient and dedicated individual who will not hesitate to jump in and assist when needed. She goes above and beyond to support not only the office teams but every single one of her Care Professionals and Clients too.

Sarah leads her team by example, never afraid to be hands on with scheduling or covering care calls, and epitomises the term "team player."

She always goes the extra mile for Home Instead, consistently ensuring all those around her feel valued and supported.



Sarah (right) accepting her award from Alison Taylor, General Manager

“Conscientious, dedicated, hard-working, loyal and incredibly resilient. Sarah is everything it means to be Home Instead.

Alison Taylor, General Manager.



Care Professionals of the Year 2023

Every year we are delighted to nominate a Care Professional from each of our three offices as Care Professional of the Year. This year, our teams have been so outstanding we had two nominations for the North Office. Each of the nominations were then submitted to Head Office for their consideration of the overall Home Instead Care Professional of the Year.

Even though our nominations didn't quite make it to the top, we are incredibly proud of them, and are so lucky to have them as part of our team.



Our Nominees



Nick (Barnsley)

Nick has helped support one of his clients with mental health issues change drastically; Before, his client was very depressed. He neglected his personal care and didn't leave the house.

Now, with Nick's patience and support, he goes shopping twice a week and has even gone out bowling with Nick!

"He is patient, calm and always has a positive demeanour, supporting and encouraging [his client] when he's lacking in confidence and ability."

- Karen, fellow CP of Nick



Tanya (North)

Tanya is a Ukrainian lady who came to the UK following the war that began in 2022. At 65 years old, she fled her home and came out of retirement to support her new life.

She has flourished at Home Instead; despite being totally new to care, she has been inspirational in her dedication to her clients, her passion for caring and her wonderful smile.

Tanya has overcome the challenges of the language barrier, working hard to develop her understanding of English, and once walked over an hour to reach a client when there were no drivers able to cover it.



Julie (North)

Julie is a natural carer; looking after her brother, who has learning difficulties and her elderly father, as well as her clients, Julie portrays great sensitivity, honesty and sincerity. She has been with Home Instead for over three years and makes a sometimes challenging role look easy!

She has devoted her life to caring for others and makes a huge difference to everyone she cares for. Julie is often quiet, never complaining or asking for praise, so we decided to change that by nominating her. She is truly one in a million.



Andreaa (South)

Few can say they have a commute as long as Andreaa - she flies back home to Romania when not providing amazing live-in care in Sheffield!

She supports a client who lives with advanced dementia, and has built up a trusting relationship with him since his wife sadly passed.

"Andreaa has developed a lovely relationship with John. She is always very patient and understanding and she has a very calm manner. When John is confused, she is able to reassure him and comfort him."

- Friends of John



Away Day 2024

January saw our first Away Day of 2024 at Ponti's Restaurant, in Fox Valley, where we shared our vision for the coming year and our plans to continue expanding the world's capacity for care.

It was a chance to focus on our long term goals for growth and success away from the distractions of the office. We celebrated the successes of the Care Professionals and the stories of our clients in 2023, particularly focusing on the poignant connections created between clients and their Care Pros and the increased quality of life they experienced.

The Away Day also provided a space for the Barnsley, Sheffield North and South office teams to meet and catch up. To have all Key Players in one room is a rarity and the benefit of open, face to face discussion was unmatched.

“To be the most recognised, frequently recommended and trusted care provider in the Sheffield & Barnsley area for Clients, their families and Care Professionals.

2024 Vision

We were also treated to a salsa lesson; a novel and exciting way to strengthen team relationships and have a giggle or two!

The teams left the Away Day feeling refreshed and inspired; we are all so excited to continue our hard work of providing quality homecare to our clients and ensuring all staff, be them Key Player or Care Professional, feel valued and supported in their vital role.

