

TADCASTER NEWSLETTER

Autumn/Winter 2025

Christmas in Tadcaster

We are pleased to announce that the annual Tadcaster Christmas Festival will take place on **Sunday November 30** this year. Attractions will include:

- **Street market on Kirkgate and Westgate from 9:30am-3:30pm.** The Town Council is proud to once again host a variety of businesses, charities, and local groups at our outdoor market. Come along and pick up some fantastic, unique Christmas gifts, and support local produce and food stalls! Many local shops will be open especially for the occasion as well.

Indoor market at the Riley Smith Hall from 10am-3am, with live entertainment taking place throughout the event.

- **Christingle Service in St. Mary's Church at 3:30pm.** Ladies from the Stutton WI will also selling refreshments in the church from 10am-2pm.

Shoobox Nativity Display and Open Door Cafe at Tadcaster Methodist Church from 10am to 3pm. Entries to the Shoobox Nativity Display are invited from all sections of the community, with the only requirement being that the result is presented in a shoebox. Entries can be dropped off at Tadcaster Methodist Church from 10-11:30am on the 24th, 26th or 29th of November, or between 3-5:30pm on the 29th.

Market Road Closures

As always, there will be road closures in place on Kirkgate and Westgate from around 6am on the day of the Christmas Market, running from the War Memorial to the junction of Kirkgate and Bridge Street. We aim to have the streets open again to traffic by around 6pm, but advise that drivers plan their routes accordingly, in case of any unexpected delays.



The TADvantage Card

The TADvantage card will officially launch on 30 November at Tadcaster's Christmas Market, offering residents and visitors an innovative way to discover the town's diverse retail offering, while earning rewards.

The free loyalty card works simply: shoppers collect six stamps from any participating independent businesses across Tadcaster and claim a reward. Whether picking up groceries, enjoying a coffee, or browsing for gifts, every purchase helps support the town's vibrant high street while building toward a reward.

Cards can be collected from any participating business displaying the TADvantage logo, making it easy for shoppers to start earning stamps immediately. Rewards include: a hot drink from Walker's Café, The Lemon Tree and The Coffee Club or a sausage roll from Devine Meats.

For full details about the TADvantage card, including a complete list of participating businesses, available prizes, and terms and conditions, visit totallylocallytadcaster.org/tadvantage



Tadcaster Treat 2026

Are you aged 70 or over, live in Tadcaster or Stutton, and enjoy a good meal with entertainment? If so, come along on Saturday 21 February 2026 and join us for this annual get together in the Riley Smith Hall! Applications will be collected along with your payment of £5 in Tadcaster Library from Monday 5 January to Friday 9 January 2026. If you have any queries, please contact Margaret Ross on 07874 889489.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

E-Mail Address (if applicable): _____

Places Required: _____

Support Information

There are many organisations in Tadcaster, and in North Yorkshire, dedicated to supporting those in need, especially during the winter months.

Tadcaster Volunteer Community Support Association provide various services, including transportation to enable residents who cannot easily use public transport to attend appointments and social functions, or to go shopping. They also run a charity shop on Kirkgate, as well as events including a knitting group on Mondays from 10:30am-12:30pm, and a jigsaw group from 10am-11am on Wednesdays. You can contact the TVCSA by phone on **01937 835600**, by e-mail at tvcsa.tad@outlook.com, or their website at tvcsa.jimdofree.com.

Wetherby & District Foodbank provide food packages and a range of other support. They are present at the Tadcaster Community Cafe, which takes place in The Barn every Wednesday from 10am-12pm (except during school holidays, when they are based in Tadcaster Methodist Church). If you are unable to attend in-person, you can contact them by phone on **07840 455 725**, or online at wetherbyanddistrict.foodbank.org.uk

North Yorkshire Citizens Advice & Law Centre offer free, impartial advice and legal assistance on a wide variety of matter, including but not limited to housing issues, debt advice, and employment and benefit support. They can be contacted online at www.cany.org.uk, or by phone on **0808 278 7900**.

North Yorkshire Council offer support via the **Local assistance fund**, which can provide essential household items (up to two per year), including kitchen appliances, furniture, utility pre-payment meter top-ups, food, and clothing, for those in urgent need. If you are already receiving support from a department at North Yorkshire (i.e. housing or social care) and are in urgent need of any of these items, please contact them to enquire as to whether or not you may be eligible.



Your Town Councillors

Tadcaster East Ward

David Bowgett: T: 07908 112444,
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Gill Butcher:
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Jean Chiswick: T: 07813 077892
Steve Cobb: T: 01937 834113,
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Tadcaster West Ward

Greg Lodge: T: 07835 941154,
E: glodge@tadcastertowncouncil.gov.uk
Don Mackay: T: 01937 835776
Chris Metcalfe: T: 01937 832501
Kirsty Poskitt (also County Councillor):
T: 07711 659759,
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Claire Stephenson:
E: cstephenson@tadcastertowncouncil.gov.uk
Richard Sweeting (Mayor):
T: 07842 164034
Pat Tunney: T: 07468 349734,
E: ptunney@tadcastertowncouncil.gov.uk

Community Speedwatch

We are pleased to report that the Tadcaster Community Speedwatch has so far had a positive effect in reducing speeds in the town, with areas including Wetherby Road and Stutton Road being a particular focus. The group functions thanks to the efforts of a dedicated team of volunteers, and the team is always looking for new volunteers.

If you would be interested in taking part, please contact group co-ordinator Cllr Gill Butcher.

In order to achieve a more permanent speed reduction on Wetherby Road, the town council is currently pursuing the placement of a 40mph "buffer zone" that would start at the bottom of Kelbar Hill, and run to the start of the current 30mph zone at the top of the hill. This would allow drivers to more gradually and safely reduce their speed instead of the sudden drop from a 60mph limit to a 30mph one that is currently in place. We have had support voiced by the Mayor of York and North Yorkshire's office, and are continuing to press the issue.



Tadcaster Flood Alleviation Scheme Update

As many of you will by now be aware, the Tadcaster Flood Alleviation Scheme has sadly not been able to go before the planning committee at North Yorkshire Council, due to it being necessary for the Environment Agency to enter into further discussions with the major local stakeholder. Negotiations remain actively ongoing, and it is hoped that the planning application can still be brought before the committee as soon as possible.

The Town Council shares in the frustrations of residents and business owners in the town, and is keen to do everything possible to help with the situation. Support has also been pledged by North Yorkshire Council, Sir Alec Shelbrooke MP, and Mayor of York and North Yorkshire David Skaith.

We would also like to place on record our thanks to project manager Karl Ickeringill, who has been re-assigned to a new project. Karl has been a regular fixture at The Ark and Town Council meetings for the past 3 years, and will be greatly missed.

How you can help with the town's biodiversity

Tadcaster Town Council is always looking at ways to maintain and improve the town's biodiversity, and at the present time is particularly interested in assessing the open areas of green space in the town.

If there is a particular area which you feel could particularly benefit from certain improvements that would improve the biodiversity and/or the visual character of the area, or where you have concerns about issues including, but not limited to littering, fly-tipping, or damage to natural habitats, please contact the town council, as we are looking to form a working group that will create a long-term plan for biodiversity in the town.

If you are interested in contributing to the biodiversity of the town in other ways, you can do so in your own garden even in the colder months with simple steps including:

- Leaving a small pile of dead leaves and/or plants for the use of hibernating animals.
- Providing supplies of food for birds and pollinators to use over the winter.
- Setting up nesting boxes, which birds can shelter from the cold in before nesting in during the spring.
- Use decorative lighting sparingly so as not to deter nocturnal creatures.
- Plant bulbs which will flower in the spring, providing food for insects and animals that are most active at that time of the year.

