

# EAST: The news from where you live

## Community Involvement Officers

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## York is your home

We are showing our support for the city's international and European communities with additional backing and community events offering advice.

The council has appointed a new community officer, Bianca Vartic to help York's international communities with any concerns they may have over the EU Settlement Scheme.

The news follows a public letter sent last year with a clear message of warmth to EU Citizens and reminding them of the help on offer with their EU Settlement Scheme application.

This community service is in addition to our communities team who work closely to support residents across the city.



Bianca Vartic

Talking about her new role as community officer, Bianca Vartic said: "I'm really pleased to be in this role and helping EU nationals living in York. My main focus initially is working to make sure everyone who needs it has access to the latest information about the EU Settlement Scheme and ensure they feel part of the city which we're proud they call home."

## Tang Hall celebrates 100 years

Heworth and Hull Road Ward and Tang Hall Big Local are working together to gather ideas from residents about how to celebrate 100 years of Tang Hall.

If you have a Tang Hall connection, an idea to mark the celebration, a great Tang Hall story or would like to get involved and volunteer at local events, we'd love to hear from you.

Please get in touch by calling Tang Hall Big Local on **07305 803668**, emailing us on [office@thbl.org.uk](mailto:office@thbl.org.uk) or follow us on Facebook /TangHallBigLocal.



Applications for the EU Settlement Scheme are now open and the process needs to be completed online. All EU citizens currently living in York are strongly encouraged to apply for pre-settlement or settlement status via the [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk) website. The current deadline for applying is 30 June 2021 (31 December 2020, should the UK leave without a deal).

Advice is available at: [www.york.gov.uk/EUSettlementScheme](http://www.york.gov.uk/EUSettlementScheme) and we will keep talking to communities across York to make sure everyone feels welcome.

## Local support

Citizens Advice York offer full guidance to applicants, including help filling out the form and advise on any issues which may arise during the application process. Call **03444 111 444** or visit the drop-in at West Offices (Monday, Wednesday and Thursday 9.30 am to 12.30 pm) for help with your application.

Book an 'assisted digital' help session with 'We Are Digital' when completing the EU Settlement Scheme online application. If you don't have the appropriate access, skills or confidence to complete the form you can contact us by telephone on:

**03333 445675** or text: 'VISA' to **07537 416944**

EU citizens who do not wish to send their documents by post or are not able to use the government's 'EU Exit: ID Document Check' app, can make an appointment at York Register Office to have their ID documents scanned and verified, before applying to the EU Settlement Scheme.

Call **01904 654477** to book an appointment.

## New sports centre opens in Burnholme

A stunning new £2.5 million sports complex opened its doors in January 2020 and is already being hailed a huge success by staff and residents eager to try out the state-of-the-art facilities.

Burnholme Sports Centre, which has been delivered as part of a major community development across the city, features a multitude of sporting activities for people of all ages to enjoy.

Included is a 25-station gym with the latest Technogym equipment; two studios which will offer an extensive range of instructor-led and virtual classes plus a four-court sports hall, where a wide range of activities including badminton and gymnastics can be enjoyed.

For more information about Burnholme Sports Centre or to register your details for the exclusive membership offers, please visit:

[www.better.org.uk/burnholme](http://www.better.org.uk/burnholme)

## Walk this way

An improved path providing cyclists and pedestrians with 24/7 access was officially opened at Burnholme in January 2020.

The path, called the Burnholme Link connects the city centre to Stockton Lane, Malton Road, Osbaldwick and the countryside beyond. It has had new lights fitted and has been partially resurfaced to allow people to use it all day and all year round.

For information on travelling to and around York please visit [www.itravellyork.info/](http://www.itravellyork.info/)

## York LGBT+ Pride Festival 2020

York Pride raises awareness of LGBT+ issues by promoting and staging events, taking part in campaigning and providing support to other LGBT+ charities and voluntary organisations. We also promote the provision of information, advice and support that celebrate LGBT+ lives and history. We aim for York to be a place where everybody knows that the diversity offered by the LGBT+ community is something to be celebrated and where LGBT+ people can feel safe and accepted.

Join us at The Knavesmire between 1pm and 7pm on 6 June for a fantastic and colourful afternoon of free family-friendly, on-stage entertainment, plus a funfair and over 100 stalls, including food outlets, community stalls and a fully-licensed bar.

For more information please visit [www.yorkpride.org.uk/](http://www.yorkpride.org.uk/)

