

# ENJOY DARLINGTON EVENTS 2023



**DARLINGTON**  
Borough Council

# WELCOME TO THE ENJOY DARLINGTON EVENTS GUIDE 2023

Let's get excited about 2023!

There's a full calendar of events and activities happening over the coming months. This booklet contains a round up of what's in store. From music festivals and sports activities, to crafting and workshops, there is something for everyone to enjoy.

## TRANSPORT

**Parking:** Darlington town centre boasts numerous long and short stay pay and display car parks, providing easy access to local shops and amenities.

[www.darlington.go.uk/carparking](http://www.darlington.go.uk/carparking)

**Bus:** The town centre benefits from being on many convenient bus routes from Arriva and National Express. Visit - [www.arriva.co.uk](http://www.arriva.co.uk)

**Rail:** Only half a mile from the town centre, Darlington's train station provides a link for rail networks across the country.

Choose sustainable transport.



For more information on all this year's events please visit [enjoydarlington.com](http://enjoydarlington.com) and follow us on social media.



All event information stated in the guide is correct at time of printing and subject to change without notice, please check website for the latest information.

## DARLINGTON MARKETS

# DARLINGTON COVERED MARKET

## *Full events calendar for 2023!*

*The Misfit Market • Vibes n Vintage • Food & Drink Festival  
Pease Pudding • Record Fair • Artisan Market*

Check socials for our full events calendar

@Darlingtonmarketofficial darlington\_market

[www.darlingtonmarket.co.uk](http://www.darlingtonmarket.co.uk)

# CORONATION CELEBRATIONS

**Saturday 6 May, Town Centre & Market Square**

Live broadcast of the King's Coronation and live entertainment throughout the day!



For more details as they're announced visit  
[enjoydarlington.co.uk/coronation](http://enjoydarlington.co.uk/coronation)



# STAR WARS DAY

**Saturday 6 May, 10am - 2pm**  
**Clarks Yard &**  
**Echo 3 Coffee House**  
**& Roastery**



## CORONATION SPECIAL

**Sunday 7 May**  
**Market Square**

Local community groups and dance schools  
come together for a Mass Dance in the  
Market Square.

[facebook.com/darlingtondancefestival](https://facebook.com/darlingtondancefestival)





# EUROVISION — PARTY —



**Saturday 13 May, Darlington, Market Square**

**12noon - 8pm**

An eclectic line up of live entertainment on the main stage, kids activities, food & drink stalls.

**8pm - midnight**

Live large screen broadcast of the Eurovision final.



# Darlington

# creates

## 2023

**Friday 19 to Sunday 21 May, Skinnergate and the yards**

A showcase for arts organisations, individuals, groups, activities and venues. Featuring a wide range of stalls, a community hub and a programme of arts where workshops are held.

[darlingtonforculture.org](http://darlingtonforculture.org)

POWERED BY:



**Tuesday 30 May  
11am - 3pm, Market Square**

A showcase of tractors and diggers  
take over the Market Square.

[enjoydarlington.co.uk](http://enjoydarlington.co.uk)

Sponsored by



# DARLINGTON SUSTAINABILITY

**Friday 2 to Sunday 4 June**

**11am - 3pm**

**Market Square**

A new festival that explores how you can impact the future of the world we live, work and play in.

Exploring eco companies, organisations and businesses, green living, recycling and showcasing innovation.

[enjoydarlington.co.uk](http://enjoydarlington.co.uk)



# TRANSFORMERS

**Saturday 10 June, 11am - 3pm**

**Town Centre**

Look out for Transformers roaming the town throughout the day.

[enjoydarlington.co.uk](http://enjoydarlington.co.uk)



**Friday 23 June**

**Market Square**

Raising of the flag ceremony in the  
Market Square.

[enjoydarlington.co.uk](http://enjoydarlington.co.uk)

The title "COMMUNITY CARNIVAL" is centered in the lower half of the poster. "COMMUNITY" is written in a white, serif font with a black outline, set within a brown banner that has a black border and a small star on the left. Below the banner, the word "CARNIVAL" is written in large, bold, multi-colored capital letters (red, yellow, green, blue, pink, orange, purple). The entire graphic is set against a background of colorful confetti dots.

# COMMUNITY CARNIVAL

**Saturday 24 June, Noon - 5pm**  
**Stanhope Park**

The town's annual community carnival in Stanhope Park including an  
opening procession, family entertainment, live music and food stalls.

[facebook.com/darlingtoncommunitycarnival](https://facebook.com/darlingtoncommunitycarnival)





# Emergency Services Day

**Saturday 1 July, 10am  
Market Square**

A showcase of Darlington's  
emergency services including  
vehicles, stalls and activities.

[enjoydarlington.co.uk](http://enjoydarlington.co.uk)

# Proms in the Park

**Sunday 2 July, 3pm  
South Park bandstand**

Annual live music concert at South  
Park bandstand in aid of The Army  
Benevolent Fund.

[enjoydarlington.co.uk](http://enjoydarlington.co.uk)





# GOLD Tea Dance

**Thursday 20 July, 11am - 3pm, Market Square**

Hosted by GOLD (Growing Older Living in Darlington) the annual tea dance includes live music, information stalls, tea and scones.

[enjoydarlington.co.uk](http://enjoydarlington.co.uk)

Sponsored by



**Saturday 22 July, 10am - 4pm  
Town centre**

A collection of fine vehicles from yesteryear to the present day on show around the town centre.

[facebook.com/DarlingtonVintageRally](https://facebook.com/DarlingtonVintageRally)





# Darlington by the Sea

**Monday 24 to Friday 28 July, 11am - 5pm**  
**Market Square**

Darlington by the Sea brings the all the fun of the seaside to the town centre!

Featuring a giant sandpit in the Market Square, children's activities, food stalls and a variety of live entertainment throughout the week.

Sponsored by





# The Darlington 10K



Sunday  
6 August  
2023  
10.30am

Run under UKA Rules  
Road Race Licence 2023-45405

Darlington Borough Council works in partnership  
with the Rotary Club of Darlington.

BROUGHT TO YOU BY



**DARLINGTON**  
Borough Council

**Online advanced entry only**

**f** [facebook.com/darlington10k](https://facebook.com/darlington10k)





[facebook.com/DarloPrideWeekender](https://facebook.com/DarloPrideWeekender)

**Saturday 12 August**  
**Noon - 6pm**  
**Market Square**

LGBT+ Pride celebrations starting with a march followed by live music throughout the day, stalls from local organisations, merchandise, street theatre, food and drink.



**Sunday 13 August**  
**Noon - 3pm**  
**South Park**

A relaxed picnic event with acoustic music, kids' crafts and family activities.



**Monday 14 August**  
**5pm - late**  
**Town Centre bars & Blackwellgate**

Darlington's long established MonGAY Pride celebrations including live performances and special guests throughout the night.

# FAIRYTALES & LEGENDS DAY

**Thursday 24 August, 11am - 3pm, Town Centre**

Dress to impress! Be a part of our Fairytales & Legends Day. Meet and greet some of your favourite characters, enjoy a dazzling live theatre production and join in with crafts and games.

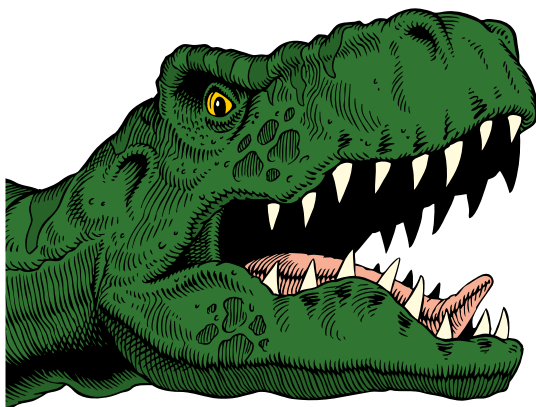


[enjoydarlington.co.uk](http://enjoydarlington.co.uk)



**Wednesday 30 August, 11am - 3pm  
Town Centre**

A community celebration day to raise awareness of supporting people with learning disabilities or autism, promoting inclusivity for all.



## DINOSAUR DAY

**Friday 31 August, 11am - 3pm  
Town Centre**

Jurassic creatures roaming around the town, themed activities and live entertainment.

[enjoydarlington.co.uk](http://enjoydarlington.co.uk)





### Sat 2nd Sept

Last Train Home Festival returns to Darlington on Sat 2nd Sept. Five stages over three venues! The Hippodrome, The Hullabaloo and The Forum Music Centre will feature the best in regional and national original live music plus comedy from Hilarity Bites! All performances programmed to finish in time for people to catch the Last Train Home!

Checkout [www.tracksdarlington.co.uk](http://www.tracksdarlington.co.uk) for more info.

# DARLINGTON R'N'B WEEKENDER 2023

**Friday 8 to Sunday 10 September  
Town Centre**

Now in its 27th year, this ever-popular music event will return to the town centre once again with another huge schedule of live bands over three days. Visit the Market Square on Sunday for this year's headliner and check out the new second stage over on Riverside beside St Cuthbert's church.

[facebook.com/darlornbclub](https://facebook.com/darlornbclub)



# SPACE WEEK

**Saturday 7 October**  
**Town Centre**

Space themed displays, crafts and activities around the town.

[enjoydarlington.co.uk](http://enjoydarlington.co.uk)



# Trolls

**Saturday**  
**21 October**  
**11am - 3pm**  
**Town Centre**

Roaming mascots to meet & greet visitors throughout the day.

[enjoydarlington.co.uk](http://enjoydarlington.co.uk)



# Darlington Restaurant Week

**Monday 30 Oct to Sunday 5 November**

[enjoydarlington.co.uk/restaurantweek](http://enjoydarlington.co.uk/restaurantweek)



# Halloween

**Tuesday 31 October, Noon - 5pm**  
**Town Centre**

Get dressed up and discover devilish Darlington with creepy characters haunting the town, chilling children's activities and more.

[enjoydarlington.co.uk](http://enjoydarlington.co.uk)



## Diwali Lantern Parade

**Saturday 11 November, 6pm**  
**Town Centre**

Celebrate the festival of life as part of this important Indian festival. Join the town centre's first Diwali lantern parade.

Details on how to get involved will be released on [enjoydarlington.co.uk](http://enjoydarlington.co.uk)







# Christmas Lights Switch On

**Sunday 19 November, 4pm - 5.30pm**  
**Market Square**

Brought to you by  
Darlington Borough Council

Hosted by



## Ice Sculpture Trail

**Saturday 9 December, 10am - 5pm**  
**Town Centre**

A exciting trail of ice sculptures on display, dotted around the town for you to explore.

Trail maps will be available online from mid-November and will be available to pick up at the event.

[enjoydarlington.co.uk](http://enjoydarlington.co.uk)

# FULL EVENT PROGRAMME LISTING

## April

Sun 23 April	11am - 3pm	St George's Day	Town Centre
Fri 28 to Sun 30 April		Darlington Food & Drink Festival	Market Square

## May

Sat 6, Sun 7 May		Coronation Celebrations	Market Square
Sat 6 May	10am – 2pm	Star Wars Day	Clarks Yard
Sun 7 May		Darlington Dance Festival	Market Square
Fri 19 to Sun 21 May		Darlington Creates	Town Centre
Tues 30 May	11am - 3pm	Tractors & Diggers	Town Centre

## June

Fri 2 to Sun 4 June	11am - 3pm	Darlington Sustainability	Market Square & Dolphin Centre
Sat 10 June	11am - 3pm	Transformers	Town Centre
Fri 23 June		Armed Forces Day	Market Square
Sat 24 June	Noon - 5pm	Community Carnival	Stanhope Park

## July

Sat 1 July	10am	Emergency Services Day	Market Square
Sun 2 July	3pm	Proms In The Park	South Park
Thurs 20 July	11am - 3pm	GOLD Tea Dance	Market Square
Sat 22 July	10am - 4pm	Vintage Vehicle Rally	Town Centre
Mon 24 to Fri 28 July	11am - 5pm	Darlington By The Sea	Market Square
Sat 29 July		Tracks in Town Fest	Market Square

For more information visit [ENJOYDARLINGTON.CO.UK](https://enjoydarlington.co.uk)

## August

Sun 6 Aug	9am 9.45am 10.30am	Darlington Fun Run Darlington Junior 3k Darlington 10k	Town Centre
Sat 12, Sun 13, Mon 14 Aug		Darlington Pride	
Thurs 17 Aug		Billingham International Folklore Dance	Market Square
Mon 21 August		Darlington Wedding Fayre	Market Square
Wed 23 Aug		Library Takeover	Market Square
Thurs 24 Aug	11am - 3pm	Fairytales & Legends Day	Town Centre
Fri 31 Aug	11am - 3pm	Dinosaur Day	Town Centre

## September

Sat 2 Sept		Last Train Home	Town Centre
Fri 8 to Sun 10 Sept		R'N'B Festival	Town Centre

## October

Sat 7 Oct		Space Week	Town Centre
Sat 21 Oct	11am - 3pm	Trolls	Town Centre
Mon 30 Oct to Sun 5 Nov		Darlington Restaurant Week	Town Centre
Tues 31 Oct	Noon - 5pm	Halloween	Town Centre

## November

Sat 11 Nov	6pm	Diwali Lantern Parade	Town Centre
Sun 19 Nov	4pm - 5.30pm	Christmas Lights Switch On	Market Square

## December

Sat 9 Dec	10am - 5pm	Ice Sculpture Trail	Town Centre
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While all the information contained in this booklet is correct at the time of production, we encourage all attendees to check the relevant website or social media pages for any updates or please check leading up to the event.



# SUMMER HOLIDAY EVENTS



## TRACKS TUESDAYS

Noon - 3.30pm

Live acoustic music programmed  
by Tracks Darlington every  
Tuesday during the  
summer holidays.

[tracksdarlington.co.uk](http://tracksdarlington.co.uk)



## FILM FRIDAYS



**Various times**

A classic selection of family films including various  
sing-a-long events every Friday during the summer holidays.

For the full film listing guide please visit:  
[enjoydarlington.co.uk/filmfridays](http://enjoydarlington.co.uk/filmfridays)



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