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Barnsley (/Loc/Barnsley), United Kingdom (/Loc/United_Kingdom)

Culture



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The Lamproom Theatre

from Wikipedia (https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/6/61/The_Lamproom_Theatre_-_Westgate_-_geograph.org.uk_-_485960.jpg) by Peter Beard (<http://www.geograph.org.uk/profile/15308>) CC BY-SA 2.0

English author Chris Roberts quips that the "small town" of Barnsley is "a couple hundred miles north of London geographically, but several time zones away culturally". Chris Roberts, *Heavy Words Lightly Thrown: The Reason Behind Rhyme*, Thorndike Press, 2006 Barnsley is home to a tradition of brass bands, which were originally created as social clubs for the mining communities. Grimethorpe Colliery Band, located in Grimethorpe, 5mi to the east of Barnsley, is perhaps the best known brass band in Britain. It rose to fame in the film *Brassed Off* and is now the 'artist in residence' at the Royal College of Music, London. The band has performed in Hyde Park during the Last Night of the Proms. Other event include things such as Picnic In The Park, being held on 28 June 2014 to celebrate 20 years of Barnsley Hospice (/poi/T__b88bacf8f353) The 'Bard of Barnsley' Ian McMillan writes a column in the *Barnsley Chronicle*. He was nominated for a chair of poetry at Oxford University, and appears on BBC Radio 4. The Barnsley accent is starting to wear off amongst the younger generation, but it has generally been better maintained than most other Yorkshire accents. Barnsley has long been known as *Tarn* by locals however this seems to be heard less as the Barnsley accent seems to be spoken less amongst the younger age group.

Ken Loach (/section/Ken_Loach)'s 1969 film *Kes* was set and filmed in several villages in Barnsley, including Lundwood and Monk Bretton, using local actors such as Freddie Fletcher. His 1977 film *The Price of Coal* was set at a fictional Milton colliery in the Barnsley area, although the site of filming was Thorpe Hesley, near Rotherham.

There is a live rock and hip hop music scene, which reached its height in the Britpop years, around 1997, due to its close proximity to Sheffield (/loc/Sheffield) and Manchester (/loc/Manchester). The 1980s saw the rise of Saxon (metal band), Danse Society (Goth) and Party Day (Indie-rock). Two of the Arctic Monkeys studied music at Barnsley College (/poi/W__50550345) and Barnsley has its own rappers 'Yes Sir'.

Barnsley is the home of several live music venues such as the Underground (<http://www.londonerpub.co.uk/undergroundmusic.asp>), Shambles St and hosts BOMfest, an outdoor summer music festival which caters for local and national artists which made the *Daily Telegraph* top 100 U.K. Summer festivals in 2009.

Barnsley Council operates four museums, Elsecar Heritage Centre (/poi/N__946529241), Cannon Hall (/poi/W__99481856), the Cooper Gallery and Worsbrough Mill