

Building Society donates Christmas gifts to Barnsley's good causes

Generous customers of Barnsley Building Society have donated well over 200 Christmas presents for two good causes in the town.

The gifts, including games, books and toy sets for children from baby through to 16 year olds, will be shared between children staying at a women's refuge in the borough, and looked-after children in the care of Barnsley Social Services.

Building Society staff were joined by Social Services officers at the Cheapside branch earlier this week as the many gift-wrapped presents were collected, ready to be delivered on Christmas Eve.

Mike Fisher, Manager of Cheapside, Barnsley branch and also Wombwell, adds: "The Giving Tree appeal has once again been a fantastic success and I can only thank our customers and other members of the public who have called in to make their donation. Not all were presents, some left cash donations which we used to ensure that absolutely every age range had a gift to be passed on. I'm pleased to say that the spirit of giving at Christmas is still very much alive and well in Barnsley this year."

A Barnsley Council spokesman said: "Whilst looked-after children will be getting Christmas presents from their carers, these extra gifts will make Christmas this year extra special."

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(from left) Mike Fisher, Barnsley Building Society Area Development Manager; Joanne Loftus, BBS customer advisor; Alison Gray, BBS customer advisor; Andrew Veal, Children's Services Manager, Barnsley Council; Amanda Cherryholme, Barnsley Women's Refuge.