

People of Houlton

Houlton now boasts a whopping 29 active community groups which is incredible when you think this growing community didn't exist just seven years ago. Our new residents and their families are now enjoying an array of activities, clubs groups and events – on their doorsteps. They can walk and cycle their way there and enjoy the company of friends and neighbours many of whom are relatively new or very new to Houlton.

Within the 29 groups, you will find many familiar groups such as Girl Guiding, the Women's Institute along with the longstanding Houlton Events Team. Houlton Yarners meet monthly to work on their latest post box topper, amongst their other wonderful creations, and then there are truly inspirational and unique groups like the Men's Mental Health Walking Group and Houlton Professionals – a business networking group for resident business-owners and freelancers. We also have an Allotment Society, Community Gardens Committee and a range of faith groups. There really is something for everyone!

Engaging 29 community groups is a huge challenge and at U&C, through our community development approach, we are keen to ensure all residents and community leaders play a part in working with us to develop Houlton and shape plans for their community. So we have created 'People of Houlton' – an umbrella organisation where all community leaders involved in their respective groups can come together to share ideas, challenges and collaborate as well as find out about work to develop Houlton in the future and play a meaningful role in our work. We provide training, events, promotional support and brokerage – and ensure they all have our support to thrive.

Danielle Worden, leader of the Houlton Events Team and part of People of Houlton:
“People of Houlton has been a huge asset to assisting our group in elevating our reach. From hearing development updates to collaborating with other leaders and groups to benefitting from the various training and initiatives such as social media and crisis comms sessions, I can't imagine a Houlton without the consortium now!”

