



Baily Thomas

PROVIDENT FUND

A helping hand

Quarterly Newsletter

March 2026



Baily Thomas Provident Fund Newsletter

Edition One

Welcome to our March 2026 Quarterly Newsletter. Inside you'll find the latest updates from the fund, important reminders and inspiring stories from our community of beneficiaries.

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Welcome from the Trustees

Welcome to the first edition of our quarterly newsletter.

As part of our ongoing plans to grow and further the impact of the fund, we are keen to communicate more regularly with our beneficiaries and to keep you informed about the work we are doing on your behalf. This newsletter will share updates on new and updated grants and benefits, reminders about application deadlines, good news stories, upcoming events and other developments, including the recent launch of our online application portal which you can read more about in this edition.

Our beneficiaries are central to everything we do, and we are committed to building a strong and supportive community within the fund. We value your views and would welcome feedback on this newsletter – what you find helpful, what you would like to see more of, and how you would like to receive information in the future.

We also look forward to meeting as many of you as possible at our Open Meeting on Wednesday 22nd April.



Iain Blatherwick

Further details, including how to confirm your attendance, are included in this newsletter.

Thank you for your continued engagement with the fund.

Iain Blatherwick
Trustee, Baily Thomas Provident Fund

Update from the Fund

Introducing Our New Online Grant Application Portal

We are excited to announce that in January, we launched our new online grant application portal. The portal allows beneficiaries to apply for grants online, track the progress of their application and send messages directly to the Baily Thomas Provident Fund (BTPF) office team.

If you haven't already registered, it's quick and easy to do so.

Simply visit: <https://btpf.benefactorcloud.co.uk>, click 'Register', and create a new user account. You'll need an email address to get started.

To help you navigate the portal, we've created a friendly step-by-step guide, which can be accessed here: www.bailythomasprovidentfund.org.uk/sites/default/files/step-by-step_guide_digital.pdf

A hard copy is available upon request from the BTPF office team.

If you need additional support or help getting started, we offer informal drop-in sessions at the BTPF office every Wednesday and Thursday from 10:30am to 12:00pm. These are an opportunity to pop in for guidance, to ask questions, or get help with specific issues. Support is provided on a first-come, first-served basis during this time. If you plan to visit for help with the portal, we would appreciate it if you could let us know in advance so we can ensure the right support is available. Please call us on 01623 473 290 or email us at enquiries@bailythomasprovidentfund.org.uk

We recently held a face-to-face training session on the new portal which was well received. The next training session is taking place on Friday 8th May 10am to 12pm at Mansfield Library. If you would like to attend, please contact the BTPF office team to reserve your place.

BTPF beneficiaries Barbara and Alan attended the training session at the library and commented:

"Thank you so much for organising the course yesterday at the library. Alan and I enjoyed it; it wasn't too technical for us to understand. Jim was a nice teacher; he had some good tips."

For those who prefer to apply for grants by post, paper applications are still available. These can be downloaded from our website or requested from the BTPF office team.

The new portal is designed to make the application process faster and simpler and we encourage all beneficiaries to give it a try. Feedback so far has been very positive, and we look forward to receiving more applications through the portal.

Open Meeting at Mansfield Town Football Club

We are delighted to be hosting our Beneficiary Open Meeting on Wednesday 22nd April at Mansfield Town Football Club. For those who joined us last year, we hope you found the meeting a helpful update, as well as offering a great opportunity to connect with Trustees and fellow beneficiaries.

This year's meeting will include:

- An update on the fund and its priorities
- A refresher on available grants and benefits, including any updates or changes
- Our focus for the year ahead
- Time for questions and discussions

Agenda:

- Doors open at 11:00am (tea and coffee available)
- Presentations start at 11:30am
- Light lunch provided and an opportunity to chat with Trustees and other beneficiaries
- Meeting closes at 1:30pm

If you plan to attend, please let us know in advance. Last year we were pleased to have a fantastic turnout, and places will again be allocated on a first-come first-served basis.

Please email or call the office to reserve your place: enquiries@bailythomasprovidentfund.org.uk or 01623 473 290.

We look forward to welcoming as many of you as possible and sharing an engaging and informative session.



Wellbeing Benefits

In December last year, we were delighted to announce that the wellbeing benefits would be continued for another year. All beneficiaries who signed up to them previously, as well as those who hadn't yet registered, were contacted with further details. If you haven't yet signed up or would like a reminder of how to use your benefits and get the most out of them, this article will guide you through what's available.

What wellbeing benefits are available?

The wellbeing benefits include:

- Health cash plan provided by Medicash
- Financial coaching provided by Maji
- Mental health counselling and therapy provided by Mynurva

Health cash plan

The health cash plan is a type of health insurance that helps towards the cost of everyday healthcare. It allows you to claim money back (up to certain limits) for things such as:

- Dental treatment
- Optical costs including glasses and contact lenses
- Physiotherapy
- Consultation fees

The plan also includes additional benefits such as:

- Access to a Virtual GP offering quick and convenient appointments
- A range of health and wellbeing tools and resources
- Discounts on shopping and lifestyle services

Claiming is straightforward. For example, if you visit the dentist, you simply pay for your treatment, keep the receipt, and submit a claim to Medicash. The best way to do this is via Medicash's app, which is very easy to use. Over 90% of beneficiary claims have been via the app to date – simply take a photo of your receipt, upload it and you'll usually be reimbursed within a few days. You can download the My Medicash App from the App Store or Google Play.

Further details of what you can claim for are available in the policy terms which will have been shared as part of your welcome pack. Terms and conditions apply.

What our beneficiaries say about the health cash plan:

"The health plan with Medicash has been great."

"We are very thankful for this benefit. It has been a huge help to us as a family."

"We thank you for the Medicash Benefit, which we have found extremely useful and would like to keep".

"Thank you, this is a great benefit."

"Great news you are renewing Medicash, thank you. We have found Medicash so easy to use and quick."

You can find out more about the health cash plan including how to sign up on our website:

www.bailythomasprovidentfund.org.uk/applications/health-cash-plan

Financial coaching

The financial coaching benefit gives beneficiaries access to one-to-one sessions with a qualified financial coach. These sessions can help with a range of topics including:

- Retirement planning
- Pension queries
- Inheritance planning
- Managing finances with confidence

As part of the benefit, beneficiaries also have access to a range of financial planning tools through Maji's online portal.

What our beneficiaries say about the financial coaching benefit:

"John answered all my questions with clarity and made everything clear."

"Always great to chat with John - very knowledgeable and personable. Thank you."

"Made me think more about my life plan, and how I should make my investments work towards achieving those goals."

"Very knowledgeable and supportive. giving practical steps to take back control of my finances."

You can find out more about the financial coaching benefit including how to sign up on our website:

www.bailythomasprovidentfund.org.uk/applications/financial-coaching

Mental health counselling and therapy

Confidential one-to-one counselling and therapy is available from Mynurva and delivered by fully qualified therapists.

Support is available for a range of issues, including:

- Anxiety and depression
- Grief and bereavement
- Relationship difficulties
- Other life events or challenges

All counselling is confidential. The BTPF is not informed about the nature of the sessions or the issues discussed.

You can find out more about the counselling and therapy benefit including signing up on our website: www.bailythomasprovidentfund.org.uk/applications/counselling-therapy

Making the most of your benefits

Some beneficiaries may already be registered but may not have used their benefits recently or may be unsure how to access them. If this applies to you, please refer to the renewal letter sent in December, or contact the BTPF office team who will be happy to help.

Join our upcoming webinar

To help beneficiaries get the most out of the health cash plan, Medicash will be hosting a webinar online.

The session will be useful for:

- Those who already have the health cash plan policy and would like a refresher
- Anyone who hasn't yet made a claim
- Beneficiaries who are thinking about signing up and would like to understand more

The webinar will explain what a health cash plan policy is, what it covers and highlight some of the additional benefits available. There will also be an opportunity to ask questions.

Date: Thursday 21st May 2026

Time: 10:00am

To register your attendance, please contact the BTPF office team, who can also talk you through how to join the webinar.

Email enquiries@bailythomasprovidentfund.org.uk or call 01623 473 290.

We encourage you to sign up

If you have not yet registered for the wellbeing benefits, we encourage you to consider signing up. They are there to support your everyday health and wellbeing needs and provide peace of mind. Many beneficiaries have told us how easy they are to use and how helpful they have been.

If you would like more information on the wellbeing benefits available to you, you can find out more by visiting: www.bailythomasprovidentfund.org.uk

You can sign up to the wellbeing benefits by visiting the new online portal: <https://btpf.benefactorcloud.co.uk>

If you prefer to sign up by post, you can request an application form from the BTPF office team who can also talk you through the new benefits and answer any questions you may have.

Welcoming Our New Trustee

We are delighted to announce that Derek Mapp has joined our board of trustees, where he will work alongside our existing team of four. Derek joins as a lay trustee, alongside Glenn Longden and Lee Harrison, in a voluntary role.



Derek Mapp

The trustees play a central role in guiding the fund, helping ensure that it operates effectively, delivers grants efficiently, and continues to act in the best interests of those who it supports. Over recent years, the fund has successfully scaled up its impact – reaching more beneficiaries, offering more grants and ensuring that the support we offer remains relevant as the needs of our beneficiaries evolve.

Derek brings a wealth of experience from his extensive business career and leadership roles across a range of organisations, alongside a personal connection to our beneficiaries, having previously worked for Mansfield Brewery for 10 years. His perspective will be fundamental in helping the board of trustees continue to make well-informed decisions, ensure the fund operates efficiently, and remains closely connected to the needs of our community of beneficiaries as it evolves.

A little bit about Derek Mapp:

Derek Mapp was a Director of Mansfield Brewery from 1981 to 1991, initially responsible for Mansfield Inns and progressively responsible for all tied, free and take-home trade. Following his departure from Mansfield Brewery, he led the establishment of Tom Cobleigh PLC, a chain of family friendly pubs in the

Midlands and North. Tom Cobleigh was acquired in 1996 by Rank PLC and subsequent to that Derek has had a comprehensive career as Chairman of the East Midlands Regional Development Agency together with other Government roles, established a chain of 34 Leapfrog Day Nurseries and built the very successful Imagesound PLC. He was Chair of Sport England followed by Chair of the British Amateur Boxing Association to the 2012 London Olympics. Derek's corporate career has led him to Chair Informa PLC, Huntsworth PLC, Mitie PLC and currently Chair of Eurocell PLC, based at Junction 28 of the M1. In addition, he has built over the past 21 years, a successful hospitality business with Paul Ainsworth, the celebrity chef, in Padstow Cornwall.

Derek lives in Chesterfield, with his wife Karen, and continues his interest in pubs and hotels by owning The Peacock at Barlow – a former Mansfield/Marston's pub. He has two children, Chris and Joanne, and one grandchild Umi.

To qualify as a trustee, Derek has waived any beneficial interest available as an ex-employee from the Baily Thomas Provident Fund.

Derek commented:

"I am honoured and delighted to accept the invitation to join Glenn and Lee as an additional lay member Trustee of the BTPF. Mansfield Brewery and all my past colleagues from the brewery have a special place in my heart and I feel privileged to be given the opportunity to add to the excellent work of the Trustees and office team led by Shelley and supported by Stephanie and Kirsty. I look forward to meeting many of you at organised meetings and wherever our paths cross."

Iain Blatherwick, Trustee of BTPF said:

"We're delighted to welcome Derek Mapp to our board of trustees. Over the past few years, the fund has made great strides in reaching more beneficiaries and increasing the impact of our grants and this progress continues. Derek brings a wealth of experience and insight, and his perspective will be invaluable as we continue to evolve, helping us to make effective decisions, strengthen the fund's operations and ensure the support offered to our community of beneficiaries remains relevant and accessible."

Iain Blatherwick

Derek will be at the Open Meeting on Wednesday 22nd April, where he will introduce himself and be available to meet and catch up with beneficiaries.

Spotlight on a Grant

The Companionship Grant

In this edition we're highlighting the Companionship Grant, designed for beneficiaries who would like someone to spend time with them or help a bit at home. The aim of this grant is to help our beneficiaries to live independently, reduce loneliness and enjoy everyday activities with confidence.

The grant can be used in a variety of ways. This might include companionship and friendly visits, such as having a chat, going out to a local garden centre or café, or simply spending time together.

It can also provide practical help at home, including support with day-to-day tasks like shopping, light cooking and a bit of cleaning.

For beneficiaries who are carers themselves, the grant can offer some respite - giving them time to rest, recharge, or run essential errands, whilst someone else spends time with and supports their loved one.

You are not restricted to using a particular provider. You are free to choose a registered home care provider that best suits your needs. If you are mainly looking for companionship, you can request a volunteer befriender. Volunteer benders are ex-Mansfield Brewery colleagues who have kindly offered their time to provide friendly visits and companionship to our beneficiaries. If this is of interest to you, simply let us know at the time of application.

Beneficiaries Les and his wife Margaret have been benefitting from the Companionship Grant, including regular visits from volunteer befriender Susan Walters. Here's what Les has to say about the impact the grant has had:

"My doctor referred me to Jigsaw (a local home care provider) to get some help. Jigsaw told me about the Companionship Grant available through Baily Thomas and the possibility of a befriender. I had almost given up thinking that anything would ever be able to help me take away the everyday pressures of caring for my wife who has severe cognitive issues. In February 2024, Jigsaw introduced me to Susan Walters, an ex-employee of Mansfield Brewery and a befriender. Susan has visited me and my wife every month since then.

Before Susan came along, my life was cocooned around my home and my wife's needs, there was no time for me and I had lost sight and focus on how things used to be prior to dementia taking over our lives.

I am determined to keep my wife Margaret with me at home as long as possible, and Susan has opened our lives up to going out for lunch, a trip into town, help with appointments and paperwork (that I find daunting). She has helped me with accessing other grants. It is nice to be able to laugh again and reminisce about Brewery days with someone who has a mutual interest and understands.

Both Margaret and myself look forward to Susan's visits. We also have chats on the phone in between visits. We feel at ease and very comfortable in her company and we are very grateful that Baily Thomas have provided the grant to make this possible."

For Susan, volunteering has been a rewarding experience:

"I feel privileged to be able to help Margaret and Les – I can understand, through my own family experiences how lonely it can be caring for someone with dementia. They are a lovely couple and I really enjoy taking them out to different places and helping where I can."



Margaret, Susan and Les

The Companionship Grant offers up to £4,500 per beneficiary each year. Applications can be made online via the online portal:

<https://btpf.benefactorcloud.co.uk>

For those who would rather apply by post, a paper application form is available from the office team. For further details about the grant, please visit: www.bailythomasprovidentfund.org.uk/applications/companionship-grant

We encourage any beneficiaries who feel they would benefit from extra companionship or support at home to apply for the grant. It's a great way to stay connected, enjoy everyday activities, and feel supported in day-to-day life.

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer befriender and offering meaningful companionship to fellow ex-colleagues, we would love to hear from you. You can find out more by visiting: www.bailythomasprovidentfund.org.uk/affiliations/volunteer-befriending-service or contacting the BTPF office team by calling: 01623 473 290 or emailing: enquiries@bailythomasprovidentfund.org.uk

Making a Difference: Stories from our Beneficiaries

At the heart of the BTPF are the beneficiaries who we are pleased to support. In this section, we're proud to share a few words from beneficiaries who have been supported through the grants we offer. Their experiences show the real and lasting difference the fund makes.

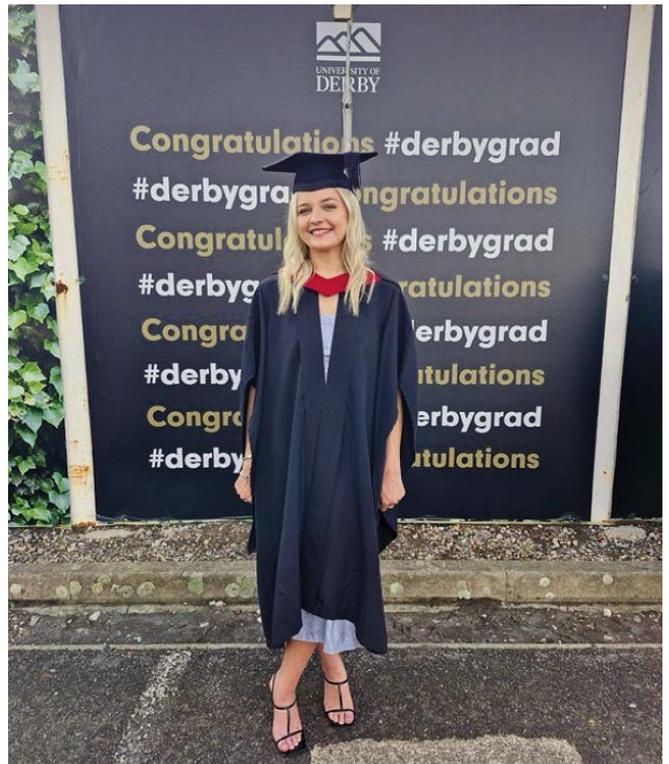
If you have received a grant from us and would be willing to share your story, we would love to hear from you. By telling others about your experience, you can help raise awareness of the support available and inspire others who may also benefit from applying.

"I just wanted to let you know that my daughter Lexie has now completed her degree at Derby University and I would like to thank you again, for all your help and support the trust has provided me and my daughters.

Lexie will be graduating with a First Class Honours in Forensic Science with Criminology - Bachelor of Science.

Again, thank you so much for your support."

Louise, BTPF Beneficiary



Lexie

"My new Rise and Fall wheelchair was delivered on Monday. It is amazing, I can now reach my sink, cooker, worktops and cupboards in my kitchen. It has made a huge difference to my life, I can see myself in my bathroom mirror and reach things in my wardrobe, it's wonderful.

I can't thank BTPF enough, and also the help and support that the two of you give me.

I am eternally grateful."

Pauline, BTPF Beneficiary

"I just wanted to say a massive thank you to BTPF for this piece of equipment.

Whilst there is no cure yet for my condition, the difference this has made to my quality of life is significant. My sleep and severity of muscle pain have improved, and I have been able to do some light swimming for the first time in 5 years!

I can't tell you how much I appreciate the continued support from you; it truly makes a massive difference to my quality of life.

Thanks again."

BTPF Beneficiary

Staying Connected

We're Here to Help

If you'd like to know more about the fund, the grants available, how to apply, or simply want to talk something through, our team is always happy to help.

There's a wide range of information available on our website including detailed information about all of the grants we offer:

www.bailythomasprovidentfund.org.uk

Grant applications can be submitted quickly and easily through our online portal:

<https://btpf.benefactorcloud.co.uk> and you can also apply by post.

If you would like to speak to someone in the BTPF office, you can call us on: 01623 473 290 or email: enquiries@bailythomasprovidentfund.org.uk

We also hold informal drop-in sessions at our offices located in Mansfield Business Centre, where you're very welcome to come along with questions, talk through your circumstances, or get help completing an online application. These take place every Wednesday and Thursday between 10:30am and 12:00pm and no appointment is necessary during these times. Support during this time is offered on a first-come, first-served basis and is intended for brief guidance and practical assistance. If you feel you may need more in-depth support, or if you are unable to attend during drop-in times, please contact us and we will be happy to arrange a separate appointment.

Please don't hesitate to get in touch – whether you need guidance, reassurance, or simply want to understand what support may be available to you.

Helping Us Reach More Beneficiaries

We want to make sure that everyone who may be eligible for support from the fund is aware of what is available to them.

Many of our new beneficiaries who contact us, do so because a friend, former colleague or family member has mentioned the fund to them. Word of mouth remains one of the most effective ways to reach new beneficiaries, and we are always grateful for your help in spreading the word.

If you know someone who may be eligible but hasn't yet been in touch, please encourage them to contact us. They can check their eligibility online at www.bailythomasprovidentfund.org.uk/eligibility or speak to a member of the BTPF team by phone or email to talk things through and begin the eligibility process.

Proving eligibility is straightforward, and our team is always happy to guide people through the process.

Your Feedback and Stories

We are always looking for ways in which we can improve the BTPF and ensure the support we offer remains relevant and helpful to beneficiaries.

If you have any ideas about new grants or benefits we could offer, suggestions about how to make things simpler, or thoughts about your experience with us, we would really value hearing from you. Your feedback helps shape how we develop and improve.

We would also love to hear your stories about how a grant has made a difference to you or your family. Sharing real experiences can help others understand the support available and may encourage someone who is unsure to apply.

If you would be happy for us to share your story (anonymously if you prefer), please get in touch by phone or email – we would be delighted to hear from you.

You can call us on: 01623 473 290 or email: enquiries@bailythomasprovidentfund.org.uk

Hints, Tips and Reminders

Here are a few handy tips to make the grant application process smoother and help you get the most out of the BTPF:

Plan ahead!

Applying for a grant towards the renewal of your sports club membership or TV licence? Make sure you apply at least four weeks before your renewal date.

Fill in all fields

Completing every section of your grant application and providing all the requested documentation, avoids delays and helps us keep your information accurate and up to date – even if we already hold some details.

Drop-in support

Come see us on Wednesdays and Thursdays, between 10:30am to 12:00pm for help with grant applications or to talk through your circumstances. Can't make those times? Simply book an appointment at a different time in advance.

Staying Socially Connected

We know that staying socially connected and having opportunities to share views and experiences is important to many of our beneficiaries. Alongside the support offered by the BTPF, there are several voluntary groups that operate independently of the fund and help beneficiaries stay in touch with one another and feel part of a wider community.

While these groups are not formally part of the BTPF, we are pleased to share information about them and recognise the valuable role they play in helping beneficiaries stay connected.

Beneficiary Liaison Group (BLG)

The Beneficiary Liaison Group is a voluntary group formed by former employees, with the aim of representing the interests and views of beneficiaries and sharing these with the trustees of the BTPF.

They also produce a quarterly newsletter - the Mansfield Brew - which includes updates on former colleagues, information about social groups, articles of nostalgia and shared memories, and notices of those who have sadly passed away.

If you would like to contact the group, you can email them at bailythomasliaisongroup@gmail.com

If you are not currently receiving their newsletter and would like to request a copy, please call the BTPF office on 01623 473 290 or email: enquiries@bailythomasprovidentfund.org.uk

Walking Group

A monthly walking group is organised by former employees of Mansfield Brewery, offering regular walks around the local Mansfield area. The group is open, informal and a great way to enjoy gentle exercise and social time with others.

If you are interested in joining or finding out more, please contact Susan Walters by emailing susanwalters56sw@gmail.com or calling 0780 369 7183

Mansfield Brewery Members' Association (MBMA)

The Mansfield Brewery Members' Association has its roots in the former brewery sports and social club and continues to operate thanks to the dedication and generosity of volunteers.

The group meets on the first Wednesday of each month, from 10am - 1pm at Debdale Park Sports and Recreational Club, Debdale Lane, Mansfield Woodhouse, NG19 7NS. Membership is open to all eligible beneficiaries and the association organises a range of social activities throughout the year. The BTPF provides a grant to support the group's activities.

If you would like to find out more or are interested in becoming a member, please contact the Membership Secretary, Jenny Hall, on 07746 103916 or jhall@btinternet.com



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