

# *Occasions*

Your Occasion, Your Event, Your Design



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Occasions is a unique conference and banqueting service that offers flexible tailor made packages that you design to reflect the type of event you would like to achieve.

Occasions is provided by Cultural Services and is available at a range of venues across Darlington including the Dolphin Centre, Arts Centre, Stressholme, Eastbourne Sports Complex and Darlington's Head of Steam.

We can cater for all types of occasions such as high profile conferencing, major sporting events, weddings, outdoor athletics, exhibitions, concerts, corporate golf days, civil partnerships, christenings and naming ceremonies, to name a few.

Whatever your ideas, we will be delighted to discuss them further and have included a list of our services and menus within this brochure for inspiration.

The only thing that comes as standard with our service is first class quality... the rest is tailored to you.



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Venues

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## **Your Venue, Your Space, Your Backdrop**

**The Dolphin Centre** recently underwent a £5 million refurbishment and can offer a contemporary welcome, as well as retaining its historic charm where some areas of the building date back to 1846. Central Hall, our chandeliered ballroom caters for up to 200 seated for a meal or 450 theatre style, whilst our Main Hall can hold up to 1200, with a variety of set up options.

**Darlington Arts Centre** is steeped in history and this beautiful building has recently undergone an exciting refurbishment programme. The Centre can cater for conferences, with up to 220 delegates and its outstanding facilities offer the opportunity for a wide range of diverse bookings.

**Stressholme**, located on the outskirts of Darlington, offers a combination of beautiful surroundings with a relaxed atmosphere. With a small function room and offering the perfect base for a stylish marquee, this picturesque parkland golf course offers a great alternative for a special occasion.



Eastbourne Sports Complex boasts two conference areas, a number of outdoor sporting facilities and an eight lane synthetic athletics track with field facilities.

**Head of Steam** is Darlington's railway museum and is a symbol of Darlington's history as the birthplace of the railways. You can explore the railway heritage of the North East and see Stephenson's Locomotion No 1 in this nostalgic venue, which can also provide a truly unique conferencing and outdoor event experience.

So whatever your occasion, we have the perfect setting to complement your event. Please contact us and we will be happy to arrange a tour.



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## Business Occasions

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## **Business Occasions**

Welcome to Business Occasions. With our unique and wide range of venues and excellent service as standard we are confident that we have the ideal venue for your business occasion.

With extensive experience in events and conferencing, and the support offered to customers by our professional team, you can relax in the knowledge that we work in partnership with our clients to ensure a first class event with smooth delivery. With over 15 unique conference areas across our venues, an in-house technical team, access to a wide range of equipment including specialist lighting and PA equipment, combined with our excellent nationwide reputation means our business customers return year after year.

We can host events for up to 1200 and can cater for up to 450 for a sit down meal. The table opposite gives further capacity and technical details to help with your event planning.

Our Central Booking Team is based at the Dolphin Centre and they are happy to arrange to meet with you to discuss your event requirements further.

### **Equipment**

Below are some examples of equipment available across our venues. We work with specialist event companies and can access a wide range of equipment. We have an in-house technical team who are available to give any advice you may require.

- Flipcharts
- Presentation Equipment
- PA Equipment
- Loop System
- Specialist Lighting
- Professional Stage Sets



## Equipment & Specifications

Our venues have a range of features and professional equipment to complement your business or special occasion.

Venue	Room	Maximum Capacity	Features
The Dolphin Centre	Central Hall	450	Hall Dimensions 82' x 42' x 20' Chandeliers, Private Entrance with Accessible Lift, Loop System, Bar
	Main Hall	1200	Hall Dimensions 120' x 120' x 30' Optional Interior Marquee Lining Loop System, Bar
	Seminar Room	30	Loop System
	Meeting Room	20	Loop System
	Stephenson Suite	40	Loop System
	Pease Suite	90	Loop System
	Bistro	Public Area	Plasma TV Screens, Bar
The Arts Centre	16 Horsemarket	30	Bar, Outdoor Seating Area Optional, Plasma TV Screen
	Club Room	200	Loop System
	East Hall	150	Loop System, Bar
	Committee Room	20	Loop System
	Garden Bar	80	Loop System, Bar
Stressholme	The Lounge	Public Area	Outdoor Seating Area with Water Sculpture, Bar
	Function Room	40	Balcony Overlooking Golf Course Free Parking
	Lounge	100	Free Parking, Bar
Eastbourne Sports Complex	Marquee Option	200	Range of Features Available
	Pavilion	40	Free Parking, Overlooks Bowling Green
Head of Steam	Function Room	40	Free Parking
	Meeting Room	60	Free Parking

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## Special Occasions

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## **Special Occasions**

Tailor your special occasion with as little or as much input from our team of experts as you choose. Whether you are celebrating your wedding day or a special birthday you can relax in the knowledge that we won't dictate how and what you should include. This is your special occasion and the end design should reflect your choice.

Our team are available to advise you and can help to personalise your occasion. From simplicity in design through to the most lavish affair, our experience and attention to detail guarantees an excellent end result.

Our menus have been designed to cater for all occasions. They are divided into 3 sections, all of which can be mixed and matched or designed from scratch to suit your requirements.

We also cater for more sensitive occasions such as funerals and are happy to tailor our provision to your needs.

Darlington's Register Office is located within the Dolphin Centre, making Central Hall an ideal way to complete any occasion.

So whatever your occasion, make it special by speaking to our Occasions Team.



## Finishing Touches & Optional Extras

### Finishing Touches

Those finishing touches can make all the difference and help to make your occasion your own. We are happy to advise you on how you can add that little extra to your event by considering some of the following examples:

### Live Music

From a Harpist to a 12 piece Blues Band

### Table Entertainment

From Magicians and Fortune Tellers to Caricature Artists

### Flowers

Choose from table centres to full room centre pieces

### Specialist Lighting

From star cloths and fairy lighting to full atmospheric lighting

### Sweet Additions

Select from chocolate fountains or fondue sets to personalised confectionery

### Colour Scheming

Creative table decoration through to co-ordinated cocktails

### Entertainment

Our entertainment expertise ranges from weddings and conferences to National and International events. With years of experience in organising and designing entertainment programmes and themed events we can offer an experienced all-inclusive service.

### Themed Events

Darlington's Annual Charity Mayor's Ball is just one example of the high profile themed events that we successfully design. Interior, entertainment programmes and catering can all be created around the theme of your choice.



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Buffets

# Occasions

All of our finger and forked buffets can be enjoyed as the main menu for your occasion or served during the evening to accompany full day occasions.

Our Energiser range, also known as 'The Feel Good Menu', has been developed as a healthy menu option using 'Superfoods' as the main ingredients. These ingredients are said to have health benefits including energy boosting, cleansing, healing, positive thinking, immunity building, detoxing and healing.

Sample a sumptuous buffet from our recommendations below or design your own buffet menu alongside our catering experts ...

## Cold Buffet

Honey Roast Ham with Wholegrain Mustard  
Freshly Poached Dressed Salmon  
Buttered Roast Turkey with Cranberry Sauce  
Pasta Salad  
Greek Salad  
Oriental Beansprout Salad  
Minted New Potatoes or Potato Salad  
Freshly Baked Bread Rolls and Butter

£14.95

## Energiser

Welsh Rarebit  
Tuna and Sage Fish Cakes  
Grilled Paprika Chicken  
Wholemeal Bloomer Topped with:

- Chicken and Mango
- Free Range Eggs in Light Mayonnaise
- Spiced Indian Chicken in Yoghurt Dressing

Tomato and Feta Salad  
Caraway Coleslaw

£9.95

*The Energiser range has been inspired by 'The Complete Superfoods Book' written by Michael van Straten, the UK's best-known practitioner of complementary medicine and a nutritional consultant.*

## Finger Buffet

### Menu 1 £9.50

Mini Barquette with Smoked Salmon  
and Crème Fraiche

Mango Chicken and Roasted Vegetable Skewers

A Selection of Tortilla Wraps Filled with Cajun  
Chicken, Roasted Vegetables and Cream Cheese

A Selection of Traditional Cheese and Crackers  
Served with Grapes and Celery

Vegetable Crudités with Sour Cream and Chive Dip

Selection of Pitta Pockets

Luxury Open Sandwiches with:

- Duck and Orange Pâté
- Houmous and Horseradish
- Honey Baked Ham with Wholegrain Mustard
- Tomato and Mozzarella Cheese

## Hot Buffet

Choose from the following options, the number of dishes chosen will depend upon the party size.

Lasagne

Chilli Con Carne

Chicken Korma

Mushroom Stroganoff with Basmati Rice (v)

Served with Jacket or New Potatoes and a Selection of Seasonal Vegetables or Salad

£7.95

### Menu 2 £7.95

Open Sandwiches with Roast Ham, Tuna  
Mayonnaise, Cheddar Cheese and Prawn Cocktail

Sausages Glazed with Honey and Mustard

Cherry Tomato and Traditional Cheddar  
Cheese Quiche

Vegetable Crudités with Sour Cream and Chive Dip

Selection of Traditional Cheese and Crackers Served  
with Grapes and Celery

Cheese and Bacon Stuffed Jacket Potatoes

### Additions to consider

Mini Cakes £2.50

Fresh Fruit Platter £1.50

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## Formal Meals

# Occasions

Listed are some examples of our delicious menus and prices, but please remember we are happy to tailor these to your requirements.

## Appetisers

Cream of Leek and Potato Soup Served with Freshly Baked Bread Roll (v)	£3.75
Carrot and Coriander Soup Served with Freshly Baked Bread Roll (v)	£3.75
Cream of Broccoli and Stilton Soup Served with a Freshly Baked Bread Roll (v)	£3.75
Homemade Fresh Tomato Soup with Basil Served with Freshly Baked Bread Roll (v)	£3.75
Smoked Salmon with Fresh Lemon and Black Pepper Vinaigrette on Baby Leaves Served with Wholemeal Bread	£5.50
Tiger Prawns Served on Fresh Mango Salad with Toasted Pine Nuts	£5.50
Mozzarella and Beef Tomato Salad with Basil Vinaigrette (v)	£4.45
Sautéed Mushrooms in Cream and Port Sauce with a Hint of Garlic, Served on Ciabatta Bread (v)	£4.45
Smoked Chicken Served on Crisp Lettuce with Orange Segments and Blue Cheese Dressing	£5.50
Fanned Melon with Fresh Berry Compote (v)	£3.95
Poached Fillet of Salmon with Tomato and Lime Salsa Served with Mixed Leaves	£5.50



## Main Course

Traditional Roast Sirloin of Beef with Yorkshire Pudding, Rich Roast Gravy and Horseradish Sauce	£10.95
Roasted Fillet of Beef in a Black Pepper and Herb Crust with Rich Claret, Button Mushroom and Shallot Sauce	£14.95
Roast Loin of Succulent Pork on Bubble and Squeak Mash with Sweet Apricot and Apple Brandy Sauce	£10.95
Noisettes of Lamb on a Bed of Sautéed Cabbage with Redcurrant and Wine Jus	£14.95
Buttered Roast Breast of Turkey with Fresh Sage and Thyme Stuffing, Chipolata Sausage, Bacon Roll and Cranberry Sauce	£10.95
Breast of Chicken Filled with Wensleydale Cheese and Garlic and Red Pepper Sauce	£10.95
Breast of Chicken Filled with Fresh Sage, Onion and Cranberries Wrapped in Bacon and Served with a Red Wine Sauce	£10.95
Poached Fillet of Salmon Served with Watercress and Lemon Cream	£14.95
Seared Fillet of Salmon on a Bed of Chargrilled Vegetables with Hollandaise Sauce	£12.95
Mushroom Stroganoff with Wild and Basmati Rice (v)	£10.95
Sweet Pepper Filled with Feta Cheese, Pine Nuts and Basil Served with Roasted Tomatoes Ribbon Courgettes and Carrots (v)	£10.95
Portobello Mushroom Layered with Mediterranean Vegetables, Topped with Halloumi Cheese and Served with Fresh Tomato Sauce (v)	£10.95

*The above are served with Roast and New Potatoes and a Selection of Seasonal Vegetables*

## Desserts

Raspberry and White Chocolate Cheesecake with Fresh Raspberry Coulis and Cream	£4.50
Hot Sticky Toffee Pudding with Toffee Sauce and Vanilla Ice Cream	£4.50
Brandy Snap Basket Filled with Tropical Fruit Selection and Passion Fruit Cream	£3.50
Rich Chocolate Brownie with Black Cherry, Kirsch Cream and Warm Chocolate Sauce	£3.95
Lemon Tart with Vanilla Cream	£3.50
Rich Chocolate Torte with Raspberry Coulis	£3.95
Cheeseboard – A Traditional Selection of Cheddar, Brie and Stilton Served with Grapes and Celery	£4.25

## After Dinner Drinks

Rich Dark Roasted Fairtrade Coffee Served with a Selection of Quality Mints	£2.25
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Option to upgrade by adding a Box of Chocolates and/or a Selection of Liqueurs.  
Please ask for further details.

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Occasions, The Dolphin Centre, Horsemarket, Darlington, DL1 5RP  
Telephone: 01325 388410 Fax: 01325 369400  
Email: [occasions@darlington.gov.uk](mailto:occasions@darlington.gov.uk) [www.darlington.gov.uk/occasions](http://www.darlington.gov.uk/occasions)



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## Alternatives and Drinks

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## Light Alternatives

Morning Occasions can be complemented with one of our exquisite brunch menus...

Bacon or Sausage Floured Baps

A Selection of Sweet Pastries, Mini Croissant,  
Pain Au Chocolate and Pain Aux Raisins

Fruit or Cheese Scones

£5.50 per head including Coffee

## Canapés

Accompany your Occasion with a Deluxe Canapé package. Perfect to serve as a light alternative or to combine with a formal meal...

Blinis with Smoked Salmon and Prawn

Crostini with Salsa and Feta Cheese

Duck Parfait with Orange and Watercress

Houmous with Cherry Tomato and Basil

£5.00 per head

## Energiser Lights

Enjoy refreshing sliced oranges and pink grapefruit smothered in natural yoghurt, topped with toasted almonds and a drizzle of honey, followed by wholemeal bloomer topped with grilled lean bacon and fresh tomato.

£4.95 per head

or

Banana and Strawberry Smoothie Served with Oat Biscuit and Fresh Fruit Garnish

£2.50 per head



## Evening Alternatives

Chicken and Chips

(1/4 Roast Chicken or Lightly Battered

Chicken Breast)

Crisp Bacon Rolls and Chips

Pork and Leek Sausage in a Floured Bap with Chips

£4.95

## Barbeque (only available at certain venues)

Pork and Leek Sausage

Breast of Chicken Marinated in Honey and Lemon

¼ lb Prime Beefburger

Mixed Green Salad

Coleslaw

Potato Salad

A Selection of Bread Rolls and Butter

£7.95

## Carvery

Choose two of the following options, which will be carved by our Chef...

Roast Sirloin of Beef with Yorkshire Pudding and Horseradish Sauce

Roast Loin of Pork with Apple Sauce

Buttered Roast Breast of Turkey with Fresh Sage and Thyme Stuffing, Chipolata Sausage, Bacon Roll and Cranberry Sauce

Served with Roast and New Potatoes and Seasonal Vegetables

Mushroom Stroganoff Served with Basmati Rice (v)

£12.50

## Occasions Drinks

### A Refreshing Break...

Our refreshment package includes tea, coffee, herbal teas, decaffeinated coffee and biscuits

£2.00 per head

*If you have any special dietary requirements, please enquire when booking.*

You may choose to provide your guests with a drink to mark or open your special occasion. A full bar service can be provided for your guests.

### **Wines**

Each venue has a Wine List from which a selection of Red, White or Rosé wines can be chosen, together with Sparkling Wines and Champagne.

**Prices start from £3.05 for House Wine**

A full bar service can be provided for your guests.

**Prices start from £2.25 per Spirit Measure**

Drinks packages are not compulsory but you may feel that providing your guests with a drink adds that finishing touch.

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## Booking Procedures & Contact Details

### Your Next Step...

Please make an appointment with our Occasions team for an informal discussion and tour of facilities.

Provisional reservations can be made for 14 days, we will require a 25% deposit or the full amount if under £100 to confirm the booking.

Our Occasions team will arrange to meet with you as often as you require leading up to your occasion to confirm finer details.

### Please contact our Occasions Team:

The Dolphin Centre

Horsemarket

Darlington

Co Durham

DL1 5RP

Tel: 01325 388410

Fax: 01325 369400

Email: [occasions@darlington.gov.uk](mailto:occasions@darlington.gov.uk)

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