

## **Blyth Town Board**

### **Board Member Pen Portrait**



**Claire Young**

**Secretary, Friends of Ridley Park**

**Co-chair/secretary, Blyth Community Volunteers**

**Volunteer and newsletter editor, Friends of Blyth Tall Ship**

Claire was born in Gosforth in 1958. She has lived in Gosforth, Kenton, Wallsend and Whitley Bay. For 17 years she worked in both finance then public relations in British Gas Northern's headquarters in Killingworth. She joined the National Health Service as communications co-ordinator at Bishop Auckland Hospital in 1994. In 1995 she was appointed communications manager at South Tees Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust in Middlesbrough and moved to Stockton on Tees with her young family. She was appointed regional head of communications at the Department of Health's regional office in Durham; a role she held from 1999 to 2002. She returned to South Tees Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust as head of communications in 2002 when the regional office closed after a restructure. In 2005 she joined North Tees and Hartlepool NHS Foundation Trust as head of communications and worked there until December 2015. She wanted to come back 'home' and, with her partner, moved to Blyth in 2015. She joined Friends of Ridley Park and was appointed secretary in 2018. She helped to set up Blyth Community Volunteers (a town centre litter picking group) in 2019. She became a volunteer at Friends of Blyth Tall Ship and set up a newsletter, Sails and Tales, in May 2021. She's a member of Blyth Tall Ship Shanty Singers.