



TOUR de YORKSHIRE 2019



The Tour de Yorkshire returns to Otley with the fourth and final stage of the men's race (Halifax to Leeds) passing through the town on Sunday 5th May.

The route will see the riders entering Otley from North Yorkshire down Newall Carr Road. The route takes riders down Billams Hill, Bridge Street, Clapgate, Manor Square, Kirkgate, Bondgate, Gay Lane, East Chevin Road (the gruelling Côte de Chevin) and along Otley Old Road to Cookridge. Spectators will be able to watch the race from the road side anywhere along the route. Leeds City Council is working closely with Otley Town Council to ensure the

race is run safely, with rolling road closures ensuring disruption is kept to a minimum.

Suspension of some on-street parking will be needed in Otley and surrounding areas. Advance warning and road signage will inform residents and spectators of any restrictions.

It is recommended to plan any journeys well in advance or avoid travelling during the peak race time if possible.

Public transport services may also be affected, with details available via www.vymetro.com or 0113 245 7676 in due course.

Access to Wharfedale Hospital will be maintained throughout, while routes for emergency vehicles will be kept open at all times.

The full race timings will be released soon along with further event information at www.letouryorkshire.com

Note that the annual mass participation Sportive will also take place on Sunday 5th May with riders passing through Otley during the day.

In addition, on Friday 3rd May both the men's and women's races will pass through Bramhope and Pool-in-Wharfedale so some travel disruption is expected.

Otley Cycle Club Cycle Club of the Year



The members of Otley Cycle Club are very proud to have won the inaugural national award of Cycling Weekly Club of the Year. The award was made in recognition of the depth and breadth of the Club, which has evolved and expanded over recent years. The promotion of many varied events, community involvement, encouragement of new riders and the participation of many women and children were also key factors.

This is a prestigious award and the Club are delighted to be the first holders in a year when not only the Tour de Yorkshire once again comes through Otley but the UCI World Championships also visit the town. We are delighted that both the Women's and Men's Elite races will pass through in the last weekend of September. 2019 promises to be an exciting time for cycling in Yorkshire.

HOLD THE DATE

UCI Cycling World Championships visit Otley

**Saturday 28th September -
Elite Women Road Race**

**Sunday 29th September -
Elite Men Road Race**



UPCOMING EVENTS

March

- 22 **Otley Business Awards**
- 23 **Great British Spring Clean**
- 31 **Otley Farmers Market**
- 31 **Otley Designer Craft Fair**

April

- 13 **Otley Green Fair**
- 28 **Otley Farmers Market**
- 28 **Otley Designer Craft Fair**

May

- 1 **May Day Dance**
- 5 **Tour de Yorkshire**
- 12 **Chevin Motor Club - Classics on the Cobbles**
- 18 **Otley Show**
- 26 **Otley Farmers Market**
- 26 **Otley Designer Craft Fair**

* *Otley Market Days*
held every Tuesday,
Friday and Saturday

GUIDE DOGS

Guide Dogs is a charity that supports people living with sight loss and without the support of our volunteers we wouldn't be able to deliver our life-changing services.

We are currently recruiting volunteers in the Otley area for a variety of roles; whether you are a dog lover or a people person there is sure to be a role for you!

Volunteering can be a great way of meeting new people in your local community, learning new skills or using existing ones.

Take a look at our website www.guidedogs.org.uk/volunteer for more information or contact Ruth Wood, Volunteering Consultant on 0345 1430210 for a chat.

We look forward to hearing from you.



OTLEY ENERGY SAVERS

Otley Town Council in partnership with Groundwork Green Doctors are offering local residents a completely **FREE OF CHARGE** service called Otley Energy Savers to help you save money and keep your home warm.

How it Works:

We offer a **FREE** home visit from the Green Doctors, an established and trusted local charity project that has been delivering home energy visits for over 10 years across the Leeds area.

The Otley Energy Savers scheme provides independent support, information and advice on:

- Switching suppliers
- Energy bills and fuel debt
- Grants and schemes for heating systems and insulation
- Energy efficiency
- Heating systems/Programmer/Timer controls
- Damp, mould & condensation
- Social water schemes and water debt

We also install for free:

- Draught proofing
- LED light bulbs
- Reflective radiator panels
- Damp dehumidifiers

You are eligible for a FREE home energy visit if you:

- Live in social housing
- Have a low income
- Receive benefits
- Have a long-term illness
- You are aged 60 or over
- You have a child under 16 years old
- Have vulnerability in the household



To arrange a FREE home visit or to find out more, please contact the Green Doctors on: FREEPHONE 0808 1683547 or 0113 238 0601

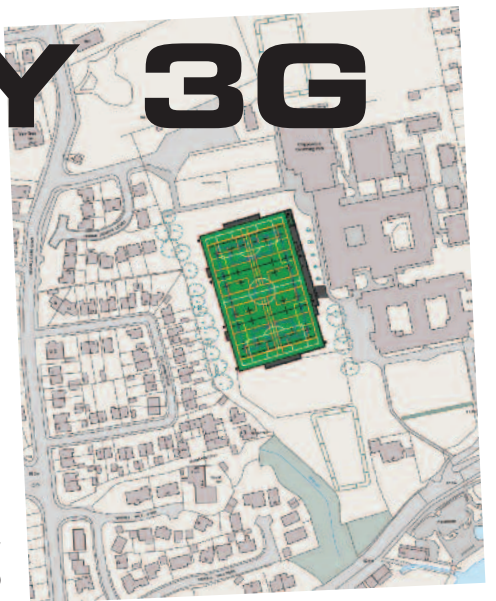
OTLEY 3G

Local sports clubs and Prince Henry's Grammar School are progressing with a planning application to build a 3G pitch, which will be rugby compliant, based at Prince Henry's. In addition to football and rugby, a variety of other sports, such as athletics and rounders, could be played on the pitch. Partner clubs are developing a programme of activities which will greatly increase the opportunities in Otley, for which residents currently have to travel outside the town.

There are several key partner sports clubs from the local area who are involved, including Otley Town FC, Otley Zebras, Weston Lane FC, Otley RUFC, Pool AFC and Menston FC Girls. It also has the support of Leeds City Council, Sport Chevin, Leeds United FC, Bradford City FC and the Rugby Football Union.

It is anticipated that at least 50% of the cost of the project would be met through funding from the Football Foundation. The School are also applying to Otley Town Council, and have submitted a grant application to Sport England. Key partner clubs will be fundraising for the pitch and Prince Henry's has also selected "community sport" as the focus of its own fundraising this year.

In January 2018 Sport Chevin (the local community group set up to improve sporting facilities in the town) applied to Otley Town Council to find out if a Public Works Loan would be a viable option to obtain a contribution towards the funds needed to carry out the project. The application received the initial support of the Town Council. The next stage is to formally apply for funding to carry out the refurbishment works, which would mean a formal application to the Public Works Loan Board. The repayment costs of the loan would be paid for by the Council from monies set aside for the past three years as part of the Investing in Otley strategy and future injections into the fund raised via the precept. Any comments on this possible application can be forwarded to the Executive Officer, Suzanne Kidger, at eo@otleytowncouncil.gov.uk



OTLEY GREEN FAIR

Otley Green Fair will take place at Otley Courthouse on Saturday 13th April from 10am to 4pm. Entrance is free.

Whether you are concerned about local issues or national or international events, there will be a stall at the Green Fair to give you information and advice as well as helping you to make decisions about how you can become more active and involved in aid of the wellbeing of the planet. Stalls featuring local crafts will also be on offer.



The Rainbow Morris side will be dancing in the courtyard both before and after lunch and there will be an all-day workshop for children with an environmental theme.

The cafe will serve Fairtrade snacks and drinks as well as a delicious selection of locally produced food from Bondgate Bakery.

Details of stalls, entertainment and workshop are available on the Courthouse website www.otleycourthouse.org.uk

OTLEY SHOW SATURDAY 18TH MAY

Otley Show still remains one of the highlights in the town's calendar and features traditional livestock classes - cattle, sheep, horses, goats, poultry, hamsters and dogs, supported by classes showcasing the best of local produce, handicrafts and floral art. Schedules are now available for these classes and can be obtained by downloading them from: www.otleyshow.org.uk.

Entries for all the classes will close on 18th April.

This May, Otley Show welcomes Atkinson Action Horses, renowned for appearances in Poldark etc, along with the return of Ben Potter and his magnificent Birds of Prey Display.

Otley Show is the oldest one day Agricultural Show in the country and really is a great day out for all the family, so why not become a member to enjoy the exclusive member's facilities. For further details visit the new website, www.otleyshow.org.uk



Otley Maker Space Now OPEN



The Courthouse received a boost while refurbishing the rooms for the MAKER SPACE thanks to Otley gym Club Energy, which donated flooring material, donations of tools from RS and Farnell, and funding from the Institute of Physics.

The scheme has been spear-headed by Dr Marty Jopson (the BBC's The One Show's scientist, who also helped start Otley Science Festival) and operates on a monthly membership basis while also staging sessions that are open to the public. Courthouse Chair David Robson said: "The idea is to have as many tools as possible to help people make things. There are about 100

The Otley MAKER SPACE is a community work-space that began in the Otley Courthouse in December of 2018 and we held our official opening celebration on 24th February 2019.

If you are an avid tinkerer, passionate inventor, creative genius or someone who just likes to 'Make', this is the place for you.

The Courthouse arts and resource centre has transformed the block of its building that was formerly used by Citizens Advice into a maker space. This new facility offers rooms and a whole range of equipment - including woodworking benches, a 3D printer, sewing machines, plus electronics, Raspberry Pi's and soldering tools - all to help users get creative.

'maker spaces' in the country which are all slightly different but based on a similar model. For us this offers something on the more technical, craft side of things which is a really good match with what the Courthouse already offers. For a town like Otley we're hoping it will have quite a big impact."

Otley MAKER SPACE offers users a whole range of equipment, from hand tools to power tools. There are workbenches, sewing machines, 3D printers, electronic development kit, solder stations and more - all to help you get creative. Come and visit us to explore further, or maybe book into one of our sessions and try your hand at a 'mini-make'; we will be happy to show you around.



Otley in Bloom is a group of volunteers who love gardens and gardening. We continue to work at growing civic pride in our community.

Thank you to Otley Beer Festival for their support and to all those who donated to us at the Parish Church Christmas Tree Festival.

It's been a busy few months, with bulb planting and the clean-up of Kell Beck.

In January, Otley was targeted by a group of Graffiti Artists. As a response to this, Katie Burnett from Otley in Bloom organised an

impromptu clean up. Some 25+ people, from various organisations including the Police and Otley Chamber of Commerce, worked on removing over 70 different 'tags'. It was a true community response and made us very proud to be part of this special community.

We are looking forward to receiving photographs of your daffodils from our November give away.

Contact us for more information: www.otleyinbloom.co.uk or via our Facebook page *Otley in Bloom*.

NEW CHEVIN HISTORICAL WALK



A new Chevin Forest Park (West) Historical Trail leaflet has been produced by Friends of The Chevin and Walkers are Welcome Otley. The 2.5 mile walk along The Chevin highlights historical sites such as the foundations of Jenny's Cottage, Yorkgate Quarry, the Great Dib Way, the Vacca Wall, the Steps, White House and Jonathan's Orchard.

The leaflet provides a map, route description and waymarks, starting from Surprise View or from Otley to the White House.

The production of this leaflet was made possible by a grant from Otley Town Council. The leaflet is free and is available at local outlets in Otley - the Library, Otley Core and Just Books - and it can also be downloaded from our websites: www.chevinforest.co.uk and waw-otley.org.uk



FAMOUS NATURALIST AND AUTHOR BACKS WILDLIFE FRIENDLY OTLEY

The campaign to make Otley a 'Wildlife Friendly Town' got the seal of approval from one of the UK's foremost naturalists and authors on nature, Mark Cocker, (pictured) who sent a special message for the official launch on 30th January. He said: "Otley's Wildlife Friendly Town is a terrific idea: timely, necessary and planted where all great ideas are born - at the grassroots! May it grow and flourish far and wide."



There were guest speakers from all the main organisations concerned with wildlife in and around the town, including Otley Chevin, Gallows Hill Nature Area, Otley in Bloom, Otley Swift Watch and Wharfedale Naturalists Society. This was followed by a discussion session about priorities and actions. Otley Town Council has made a grant towards the cost of a new leaflet about wildlife and where to see it. Anyone interested in more information or getting involved in Wildlife Friendly Otley can follow us on social media or email wildlifefriendlyotley@gmail.com



LIVING BOOKS



A number of prominent figures from the local community took part in a Living Books Day with local schools last term.

The event saw guests, including Town Council Chair Ray Georgeson and consultant child psychiatrist Dr Abdullah Kraam, speaking to groups of school pupils about their lives.

Organised by the Otley Family of Schools and Otley Welcomes, the day involved about 270 children from all eight of the local cluster's schools.

The theme was You Can't Judge a Book By Its Cover and pupils were encouraged to consider issues surrounding identity, community, diversity and preconceptions.

Charlotte Hunt from Otley Welcomes said: "Until we listen to a person's story we can only guess what they are like. By encouraging the children to listen and give people a chance they might hear stories that make them wiser, make them laugh, challenge their thinking or consider careers that had not occurred to them."

Living Books Day was supported by Otley Welcomes, Otley Library, Otley Town Council, Otley Parish Church and the Chevin Community Centre.



The Buttercross Belles Keeping May Day Traditions Alive



Otley's North-West Morris women's dance team, the Buttercross Belles, will be at Otley's historic Maypole on the evening of Wednesday 1st May and invite everyone, whatever your age, to join in the Maypole dancing. Look out for more details nearer the time.

New members, of all ages over 18, are always welcome, as either dancers or musicians or both.

Practising on Thursday evenings from 8-10pm at St Joseph's School during the autumn

and spring terms, it's a great way of keeping fit with a sociable, friendly group of women, as well as taking part in a great folkdance tradition. No previous experience needed, just enthusiasm. As well as performing at local events the Belles dance at days of dance and festivals all over the country and in Europe.

Interested? Contact Jaci Bowman: squire@buttercrossbelles.com or visit: www.buttercrossbelles.com

Otley Chevin Orchard Project

After a successful harvest and juicing sessions last year we now need to plan ahead for the upcoming crop and catch up on maintenance work in and around the orchard.

In the last couple of months we have had work completed by volunteers from Groupon, and the Chevin Volunteers Group - a great help. Fence lines have been cleared and tidied up; the cordon of Yorkshire varieties has been given a new lease of life - thanks to Neil for the posts and wire, and Hilary who pruned, tied and forced into position the delinquent trees.

Wayzgoose Morris Dancing Team visited the orchard on their Wassailing tour; they sang, danced and went poetical in the hope of scaring the orchard spirits in order to ensure a bumper crop next year. Check out the brilliant video on Facebook - thanks to Andy Newell.

We will be taking delivery of some cider apple trees plus some other varieties in March. They will all need to be planted.



The aim of the project is to continue development of the orchard, adding to existing Yorkshire Heritage trees. The emphasis is to encourage people to have fun whilst utilizing surplus produce to avoid food waste and in addition provide expertise on fruit tree care.

For up-to-date information on all our activities check out our Facebook page: [@otleychevinorchardproject](https://www.facebook.com/otleychevinorchardproject)

Over 60's Welfare Centre

In January, Otley Old People's Welfare Management Committee and Otley Action for Older People held a consultation at the Over 60's Welfare Centre where the public had the opportunity to meet the trustees and staff to discuss the recommended architectural designs and proposals for the future of the building. In March 2018, the two charities applied to Otley Town Council to find out if a Public Works Loan would be a viable option to obtain the funds needed to carry out the refurbishment. The application received the initial support of the Town Council.

The two organisations have ambitious plans to adapt and modernise the building so that it will be well placed to support the ageing population in the coming decades. The consultation was also a springboard to launch the funding appeal to raise some of the money needed for this visionary transformation. To kick-start the appeal, both charities have donated £2,500 to demonstrate their commitment. If anyone would like to make a donation or raise funds on their behalf this would be most welcome. You can make a donation directly to the account fund via Barclays Bank sort code 20-37-13 Account number 33777960.

Please don't forget to drop Sue Trainor an e-mail at: info@otleyactionforolderpeople.org.uk advising us of your donation so that we may acknowledge receipt.

For more information telephone Otley Action on 01943 463965.



www.wharfedalegardeners.co.uk

Our Christmas party was an enjoyable evening. Many thanks to the talented Otley Singers who provided entertainment and a carol sing-a-long, and we would like to thank Otley Rugby Club for their hospitality. The season continued in January, with Eddie Harland, and in February, with Andy McIndoe.

Now on to our AGM on 12th March following which Richard Fishbourne, a keen naturalist and director of *"Bugs and Beasties"*, talks on *"A Worm's Eye View of the Garden"*. On 9th April Doug Stewart will show us *"Ten Ways To Make A Better Garden"*. Doug is a professional horticulturist and co-presents a weekly radio programme.

Our final meeting on 14th May is our Annual Plant Auction, when members bring surplus plants, from the sought-after to the "good doers". We welcome all members of the public to this event, so here is everyone's opportunity to pick up a bargain.

Over the summer we organise garden visits.

Our meetings are held at the Otley Methodist Church at 7.30 pm from September to May. We welcome all levels of gardeners - come as a guest for £3 and try us out.

Otley Leisure and Pleasure Cycling Group



How would you like to join a cycling group that is not for competition or targets to reach but for fun, friendship and socialising?

This is what we offer:

*Easy journeys, pushing up hills when necessary;
Short distance runs of not more than 15 miles;
Stops for conversation and coffee;
Going out at agreed times, daytime or evening;
Initially using Otley as the base for start and finish.*

Please let us know if you are interested.

Contact: peterwilkinson97@gmail.com or ken.dale3@gmail.com



What's On at Otley Courthouse

Saturday 2nd March 8pm

Blue Rose Code

Musician Ross Wilson plays tracks from his new album "The Water of Leith" with his sounds of soul, jazz, folk and pop. Supported on the night by local musician Henry Parker.
Tickets are £12.50

Saturday 9th March 8pm

DNA: We know what you're thinking

Andrew and Darren, best known as mind reading double act DNA, took the nation by storm when they appeared on Britain's Got Talent in 2017. Performed completely live, prepare to be amazed as the hit duo bring their new show to Otley.
Tickets are £15 for ages 8+

Saturday 30th March 8pm

The Lindisfarne Story: A Twist in the Tale

Lindisfarne frontman Billy Mitchell and founder member Ray Laidlaw travel through the Geordie group's history from the 1960s to the present day via their classic songs, rare video, audio and photographs.
Tickets are £20

Saturday 6th April 7.30pm

Where is Mrs Christie?

Agatha Christie was one of the greatest and most prolific thriller writers of all time. In 1926 her crashed car was discovered in Surrey and the famous author was missing presumed dead for 11 days. When she was eventually found at a luxury hotel in Harrogate, the author claimed she was suffering from amnesia. Did she lie or was it really amnesia? Actor Liz Grand presents her stunning one-woman show.
Tickets are £13



Saturday 20th April 2.30pm

Norwich Puppet Theatre present: Hansel & Gretel

A colourful retelling of the classic Grimm's fairy tale, with music, scenery and knock your socks off puppetry!
Tickets are £9 adults, £7 children, for ages 3+

Sunday 5th May 8pm

Rura

Back by popular demand this highly sought-after quartet blend fiddle, highland pipes, flute, bodhran and guitar to mesmerising effect.
Tickets are £15

Friday 10th May 8pm

Andrew Maxwell: Showtime

A regular on BBC Radio 4's "News Quiz", "Welcome to Wherever You Are", and "Public Enemies", join Andrew for a night of wit and satire in today's turbulent world.
Tickets are £14

Films at Otley Courthouse

As the days get longer, the summer break for many (but not all!) Otley Courthouse screenings approaches. **The Film Society** will continue until the end of May, and then resume in September for a new season of films. All films start at 7.45pm (bar open from 7pm) and you can take drinks through.

Even When I Fall - 7th March - the incredible story of Nepal's first circus, set up by survivors of child trafficking.

Shoplifters - 21st March - a family of small-time crooks take in a child they find on the street.

Lean on Pete - 11th April - a teenager gets a summer job and befriends the fading racehorse.

Loveless - 25th April - a couple going through a divorce must team up to find their son who has disappeared.

Funny Cow - 9th May - a comedian uses her troubled past as material for her stand-up routine.

Mystery Film - 23rd May - The last slot is empty to screen one of the year's prize winners.



Movie Matinees continue on two Thursday afternoons a month at 2pm - with tea and biscuits from 1.30pm:

Ocean's Eight - 14th March - Debbie Ocean gathers an all-female crew to attempt an impossible heist.

The Children Act - 28th March - as her marriage crumbles, a judge must decide a case involving a teenage boy who is refusing a blood transfusion on religious principle.

Edie - 11th April - 83-year-old Edie believes that it is never too late - embarking on an adventure she never got to have.

The Mercy - 25th April - The story of amateur sailor Donald Crowhurst's solo attempt to circumnavigate the globe.

Swimming with Men - 9th May - A man suffering a mid-life crisis finds new meaning in life as part of an all-male, middle-aged, amateur synchronised swimming team.

The Bookshop - 23rd May - England 1959 and Florence Green decides, against local opposition, to open a bookshop.

And our special one-off screenings and streamings also continue:

The Tragedy of King Richard II by William Shakespeare - Thursday 28th March at 7pm - from the Almeida Theatre, London.

Mamma Mia, Here We Go Again - Sunday 28th April at 3pm - a film with Fizz and Fish 'n' Chips.

More live and encore performances from National Theatre Live will be added nearer the date.

Otley Scouts Reach their World Jamboree Target



In 2017 Lucas Simpson and Grace Martin from Otley Parish Scouts were selected to join the UK contingent to the World Scout Jamboree, taking place in West Virginia (USA) this July. They each had to raise £3800 which also helps support children from lower income countries to attend. Over the last year they have undertaken a Yorkshire Three Peaks sponsored walk, held a jumble sale and Sainsbury's bag pack and sold cakes at the Buttercross and hot dogs at the Victorian Fayre, Carnival and Cycle Race. The Red Pepper Restaurant hosted two curry nights and they received donations from The Rotary Club, The Lions and Otley Camera Club, helping them to their target by Christmas.

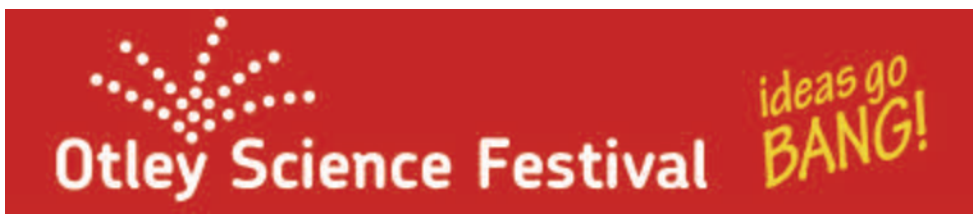
They are really looking forward to their trip and would like to thank the Otley community for their fantastic support.

OTLEY CAMERA CLUB

Otley Camera Club invites everyone to its Annual Exhibition in the Parish Church over the weekend of 27th/28th April. On show will be entries from members who will be eagerly awaiting details of who has been awarded prizes in the competition. Results will be announced during an Open Social evening on Saturday, 27th April, so come along and see if your favourite photograph is the same as the judge's choice. Tickets for this event, including refreshments, are available on the door.

Available for sale over the weekend will be cards and some of the photographs, and we hope to provide a photo booth for dogs - watch out for more publicity around town during April!

Whether you are a beginner or experienced photographer you are welcome to come to Club meetings, and details of when and where we meet are on the Club's website www.otleycameraclub.net



Otley Science Festival was another success with events for all ages attracting more than 1500 visitors into the Courthouse.

Silly Science for the under 5s gave many youngsters their first taste of Science. Older audiences enjoyed Marty Jopson, Matthew Tosh gave insight into fireworks, Alice Roberts informed us how three species had changed our world and Andrew Smyth, Bake Off finalist, explored Bakeneering in Space. Dr Peter Hine gave an insight into how new materials are developed at the ever-popular Science Lunch.

The special Schools' Shows again proved both popular and informative for both children and teachers.

Our free Science Fair again proved enormously successful, with many visitors of all ages travelling from far and wide. Otley is well and truly on the Science World Map.

Our Science Café Programme continues on 14th March.

Look out for Otley Science Festival 2019 starting 11th November.

www.otleysciencefestival.co.uk
www.facebook.com/otleyscience
www.twitter.com/otleyscience



OTLEY ARTS CLUB

Otley Arts Club closed a very successful year with a fabulous festive evening at The White Hart in Pool, where the members also collected their pieces of work from the glass fusing evening that was so much enjoyed.

Membership has grown and club evenings offer support and friendly guidance to aspiring artists in whatever genre.

Our inaugural exhibition during the Victorian Fayre was well attended, much appreciated and presented a mystery! The purchaser of a fine painting has yet to collect it! Maybe readers can help!

We look forward to many upcoming workshops and creative evenings in 2019 and the refurbishment of The Welfare Centre, where we meet.



Flower Festival

Following the tremendous success of 2018's Flower Festival, *"Who put the colours in the rainbow?"* Otley Parish Church will open its doors on Thursday 27th to Sunday 30th June for the 2019 event. The theme this year is *"I Am"* and will be creatively explored by local residents, businesses, organisations and schools.

The Festival starts with a preview evening when guests can enjoy the arrangements with wine and canapés, along with music by local artists.

It continues on Friday and Saturday from 10am to 4pm, and Sunday from 12noon to 4pm, with tea, coffee and light refreshments available to buy in the café and a well-stocked plant stall.

Entrance to the main Festival is FREE with donations welcome on the day. Tickets for the preview evening will be available to buy from Otley Parish Church office on 01943 465927 or by email info@otleyparishchurch.org



Otley Singers Get A Boost

Community choir planning to get Otley singing in 2019.

Otley Singers choir were fortunate enough to obtain a grant from Skipton Building Society Grassroots Giving initiative at the end of last year, and our main objective is to do more to benefit the community. We want to share the pleasure of singing by performing at local events or venues and at the same time encourage more people to participate and share the benefits of singing themselves. We would like to expand on the activities we have done in the past such as singing at the Farmers Market, at the Buttercross (where we also had a fundraising stall with homemade cakes) and at care homes in the area, and add some new projects. Our carol concert at Spring Gardens, a local care home, in December went down very well with the residents - so much so that we were invited again the following week! It was a great chance for the residents to join in with their favourite carols. We have used part of the grant from the Skipton Building Society to invest in a keyboard, which helps us to get out and about more easily on these occasions. If

your group would be interested in a visit from us we would be pleased to hear from you.

Our plans for this year also involve a joint concert with the Courthouse Choir in May to support the local group of the dementia charity, Singing for the Brain, and we will be participating in the annual Street Choir Festival in Manchester in July. We are currently exploring the possibility of joining with Yorkshire Voices in their endeavour to get more people singing across the county.

So if you would like to join us in what is a relaxing, fun, stress-busting activity we are always very happy to welcome new members. We are currently an all-women community choir who meet weekly to enjoy singing together. Our inspirational leader, Lorraine Cowburn, ensures that we do it in harmony! We sing a wide range of music from classic pop to folk songs from around the world. We meet every Tuesday in Leeds schools term time from 7.30 to 9pm at the Over 60's Welfare Centre. For more information see www.otleysingers.com or you can find us on Facebook. We look forward to seeing you any Tuesday!



Otley Parish Church

As well as our regular Sunday services and mid-week activities, we are hosting a wide variety of events at Otley Parish Church this Spring, including concerts by Otley Choral Society on 23rd March, the Two Rivers Band on 6th April and the Chippendale Singers on 8th June.

On Friday 22nd March, the prestigious Otley Business Awards will celebrate the huge amount of effort and expertise that the business community contributes to the town and promises to be a memorable evening.

Messy Church, for accompanied children and totally free, takes place on 16th March and 15th June from 3-5pm, and Otley Camera Club are once again exhibiting their work from 27th to 28th April.

Easter 2018 marked the 50th anniversary of the Chevin Cross but the message of the Cross will always be at the heart of all we do at Otley Parish Church, whatever the date.

Full details visit:
www.otleyparishchurch.org



OPEN GARDENS in WESTON, ASKWITH & DENTON

SATURDAY 29th and SUNDAY 30th JUNE 2019 • 2pm – 6pm

Teas in Askwith Village Hall and in Denton Village

Tickets and Maps from Village Hall or any Open Garden

Approx 20 Gardens will be open for £5 per head with children free

All Proceeds towards helping maintain our two Churches

01943 461281 or 462653 or 600604 for details

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY 2019

Thanks to support from Otley Town Council and Otley Film Society, Otley Women Together will be able to offer a variety of events to mark International Women's Day 2019.

On Thursday 7th March 2019 at 7.45pm the film *'Even When I Fall'* will be shown at Otley Courthouse. It tells the incredible story of Nepal's first circus, set up by survivors of child trafficking. Tickets cost £5 and are available on the door.

On Friday 8th March, International Women's Day, there will be another amazing Bring and Share Lunch at Otley Labour Rooms, at 12 noon. This year's speaker is Kauser Mukhtar from Bradford. The title of her talk is *'Giving Women the Choice. Period'*. It will cover VAT on sanitary towels, Third and First World problems for women and girls when they have their periods, and manipulation of advertising by big corporations in favour of disposable, not re-use, sanitary wear. This event is free but donations are welcome to Otley Women Together. Baked potatoes are provided, so please bring a suitable filling.

Otley Women Together are working with Otley Courthouse to present the poet and comedian Kate Fox, with her show *'Where There's Muck There's Bras'*, on Friday 15th March. This hilarious and thought-provoking show gives details of some of the North of England's amazing women.

Otley Women Together was formed in 2015 with the aim of putting on a weekend of events for International Women's Day 2016. Thanks to the success of this and financial support from Waitrose Green Token scheme and Otley Town Council, the group continues to be able to offer events of special interest to women, but open to all.



Would you be interested in getting involved with Otley Town Partnership (OTP) as a Board Director?

We are a voluntary organisation, which undertakes a broad range of community-based activities, and work in partnership with Otley Town Council, Otley Chamber of Trade and Otley BID to promote Otley for the benefit of the town.

OTP is made up of 3 separate groups which meet once a month in an evening:

Business – this is the income-generation arm of the Partnership:

- Runs 5 Farmers' Markets (Otley, Harrogate, Wetherby, Knaresborough and York), the Otley Victorian Fayre in December, Wetherby Dickensian Market and the Otley Food and Drink Festival in the summer.
- Manages the Yorkshire Farmers' Market website.
- Produces leaflets that promote the town, the Farmers' Markets and our own events.
- Sponsors community-based activities such as the Science Festival at the Courthouse.

Development and Environment

- Its purposes are to monitor major developments within Otley.
- Help preserve the unique historic character of Otley.
- Influence the provision of a high-quality and safe environment.

Transport

- The Transport Group assesses the traffic and transportation needs of the town. This includes all modes of transport, including pedestrians, and ranges from highly aspirational policies to addressing short-term issues that arise.

If any of this sounds interesting and you think you have the time to join our board please contact us.

1A Mercury Row, Otley, LS21 3HE 01943 851204 (answer phone) info@otleytownpartnership.org



THE BRIDGE CHURCH

On Saturday 30th March the Bridge Church will be serving afternoon teas in their Large Hall on Cattle Market Street. Why not bring your Mother and family along for a Mother's Day Treat? We will be serving a selection of sandwiches, cakes and treats. As in previous years there will also be live music for you to listen to while you enjoy your afternoon tea.

This year the Charity the Bridge Church has chosen to support is the Joanna Project, which works with vulnerable, hard-to-reach women who are trapped by addiction, and we are looking forward to supporting them both practically and financially in the coming months.

More details and information about other events coming up at the Church can be found on our website: www.otleybridgechurch.org.uk or on Facebook at: *Otley Bridge Church*.

COME AND SING, COME AND SING, COME AND SING FOR JOY - EVERYONE IS WELCOME



THE OTLEY COURTHOUSE COMMUNITY CHOIR LED BY DAVE STEWART INVITES YOU TO COME AND SING

For pleasure with occasional performances for charity.

IF YOU WANT TO SING YOU CAN! No experience needed, no auditions, no need to read music.... just come along and enjoy yourself singing with our friendly group. A wide variety of songs, including those from folk traditions around the world.

Tuesdays 1.30-3.30 pm (term time) at the Otley Courthouse, with a short break for refreshments and a chat. Cost is: £5 or £6 per session.

Contact Dave or Liz 01943 461971 info@singout.me.uk
www.singout.me.uk



A New Venture for Otley Choral Society

After a sell-out performance of Handel's Messiah to a packed Otley Parish Church at Christmas, Otley Choral Society are now preparing their spring programme, which will feature a concert version of Purcell's most famous work, the opera 'Dido and Aeneas'. The choir, who rehearse on Tuesday evenings at Prince Henry's Grammar School, are currently working hard on the beautiful and melodic choruses; the end result should be something very special indeed. They will be joined by a range of talented, young soloists, the whole being conducted by their Musical Director, Yonny Levi. This concert, which is due to take place on Saturday 23rd March at Otley Parish Church, promises to be another very exciting event for lovers of choral music.

Tickets are available from Brown's Gallery or from choir members. For further information please go to:
www.otleychoral.org.uk or @otleychoral



WHARFEDALE MALE VOICE CHOIR "END OF SEASON CONCERT"



33 years of song around Leeds and Lower Wharfedale

In December the Wharfedale Male Voice Choir were invited by the President of Burley Probus Club to sing at their "Festive Morning" in the Queens Hall at Burley-in-Wharfedale.

This provided an excellent venue and opportunity to finalise another very successful year in the Choir's 33-year history.

The Probus President, and the Musical Director of the Choir, Mr. Paul Hurst, had put together a wonderful event of communal festive songs, together with items from "Wharfedale's" own current programme.

To a packed audience in the Queens Hall the performance included carols, popular four-part harmony pieces and songs from stage and screen.

Their compere, Ken Bellwood, kept everyone entertained with a full set of tall stories and monologues, and as usual the Choir was accompanied on the keyboard throughout by Mrs. Brenda Cromwell.

Following an interval of Yuletide refreshments, the Choir Chairman, Mr. Terry Williams, thanked Probus for their invite and the wonderful hospitality that had enabled the membership to bring their current Autumn/Winter Season to an excellent finale.

For more information about The Wharfedale Male Voice Choir please contact the Membership Secretary Colin Banyard on 01943 968919.

Adults and Children Celebrate Otley's Christmas Tree Festival

Surrounded by Christmas trees the children of Westgate Primary School and the Chippendale Singers gave a lovely concert of Christmas music in All Saints Parish Church on the evening of Friday 14th December.

The children were conducted by their head teacher, Helen Carpenter, and accompanied on the piano by Martin Campey, while Lee Wiltamuth conducted the Chippendale Singers, accompanied by Mike Rodgers. This is the fourth year the children's and adult choirs have joined together to sing at the Christmas Tree Festival.

The Chippendale Singers' next public concert, entitled *'Baroque and Roll'* will be held in All Saints Parish Church on 8th June at 7.30pm. Details can be found on the choir's website, www.chippendalesingers.co.uk

TOWN POET

The New Year began at breakneck speed, as I started 2019 by co-judging the inaugural East Ridings Poetry Competition, with James Nash and Wendy Pratt, which had the theme 'My Story'. There were entries from people of all backgrounds, categories included primary- and secondary-school age, entries from prisons and a general category for anyone over 18. There were some really accomplished poems submitted (some of which made me quite jealous!), and it was lovely to see that so many people are interested in poetry. The winners were officially announced at a special ceremony in Bridlington on 26th January.

On Tuesday 19th February I delivered three workshops for children at Leeds City Museum that tied in with their Michael Morpurgo exhibition. It was a lovely event, focusing on the idea of a human taking on the traits of an animal, or "becoming the beast". I used animals synonymous with Otley, such as the weasel, owl and kingfisher, as examples which seemed to go down well. Again, it was inspiring to see such poets writing really interesting verse – especially during the holidays!

Some of you may recall, and contributed to, the Otley Voice-Box project, which was nearly two years ago. 'VoiceBoxes' (contributions boxes) were placed at certain venues around the town with a view to create a communal poem. There were some magnificent turns of phrase submitted and it took a while to bring everything together. There is a possibility that the poem will become the lyrics to a song, but I thought it only fair that contributors get to see their words put into verse after such a long time.

A heart beats in the market square,
the bells ring in the church
there's a welcome in your pintpot
enough to quench your thirst.
We're honest and historical;
a gateway to the Dales.
Born and bred, and chosen home
Otley welcomes everyone.
You can see along the riverbank
a child become a fish
she leaps just like a salmon
with otter and screaming swift.
There's slang, laughter, love and mud
in our kind and cosy town -
space to share, space out there
a gem in the Leeds crown.
Bird, beer and cobbles,
a wonderful conundrum
by the river, never still,
under the ever-changing hill.

Please visit otleytownpoet.blogspot.com to see what I've been up to.

Otley Achievement Awards

The Otley Annual Achievement Award showcases the work of hardworking individuals within the town by recognising both a young person and an adult who has achieved something outstanding - be it academically, musically, sporting or artistic - overcome some form of adversity or helped to make a difference in the local community.

If you know of anyone who has achieved something outstanding or made a significant contribution to our town during 2018 then we would like to hear from you, by nominating them now for the 2018 Otley Achievement Award.

This award celebrates achievements made during the year with the winner recognised with a cash prize and a certificate. To nominate someone please complete and return a nomination form available from the Otley Core or on our website: www.otleytowncouncil.gov.uk

The deadline for nominations is Friday 8th March 2019. Please return all nominations to Jason Knowles or e-mail: community@otleytowncouncil.gov.uk

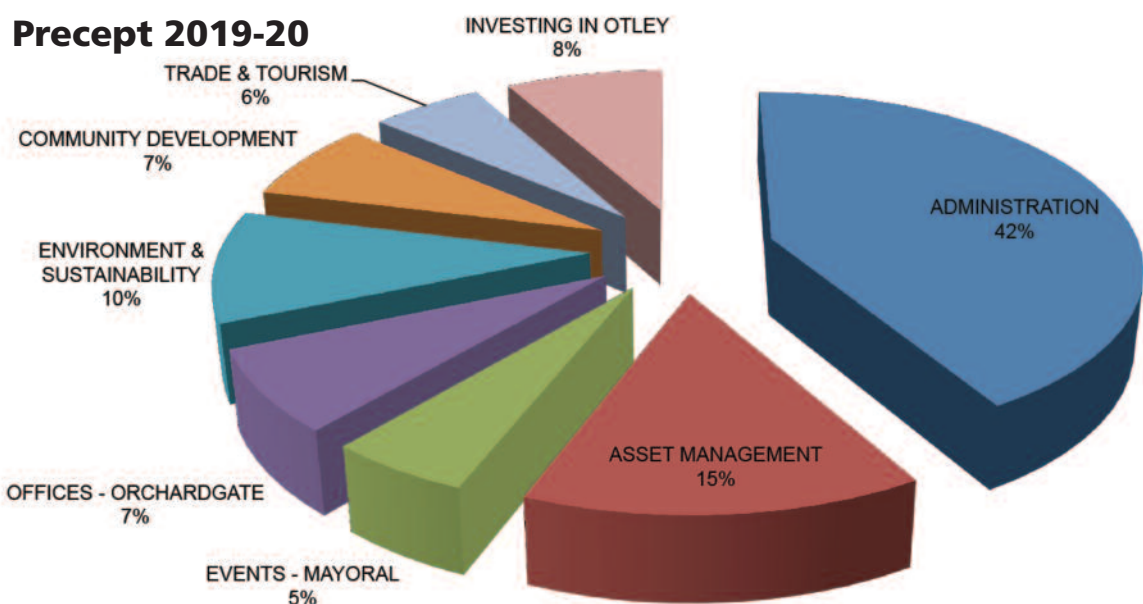
COUNCIL BUDGET

Otley Town Council has approved a budget of £492,145 for the 2019/20 financial year of which £435,788 is required to be precepted. This represents £87.10 per annum (£1.67 per week) charge for a Band D property.

The chart opposite shows in broad-brush terms how the Council proposes to use its funds across the Council Committees.

Anybody who wishes to know more about the detail of the Council's finances and budget please contact Suzanne Kidger on 01943 466335 or by email at eo@otleytowncouncil.gov.uk

Precept 2019-20



The budget intends to continue to support the strategic objectives of the Council, through investing in Otley and its community with focus on four key themes:

- Promoting local trade and tourism;
- Improving our environment;
- Leading healthy lives and promoting well-being;
- Streamlining council governance and administration.

Some key highlights of the budget include:

- Funding projects for the direct benefit of the Otley community through the Consolidated Community Fund, Investing in Otley Fund and completion of the Otley Neighbourhood Plan;

- Maintaining and extending environmental commitments, including works at the Gallows Hill Nature Area, support for Community Energy projects, maintaining our support for Otley in Bloom and Wildlife Friendly Otley, the Wharfedale Greenway, the launch of Refill Otley and introducing a Cycle Vision for 2030;
- Investing further in our environment (with the added benefit of improving how the town looks for the benefit of visitors and residents) through undertaking regular litter picks and town centre clean-ups and Street Cleansing (supported by Otley BID funding);

- Investing in our commitments to supporting trade and tourism and increasing visitor numbers. Projects include continued PR support and support for a range of events in 2019 including: the Tour de Yorkshire, UCI World Cycling Championships and Town Crier competition;
- The Council will also maintain existing commitments - for example, the Christmas Lights display; our award-winning staffed town centre toilets and the current offices in Orchard Gate.

TOWN MAYOR'S NEWS

This year promises to be challenging, but our community has proven to be one in which people are kind and support each other. We need to be positive and, having had the privilege of meeting so many of you over the last few months, I know you will be resilient and work together to get through whatever we might face.



I had a very happy and successful 2018. I enjoyed visits to many schools – both primary and secondary – and met many of our shopkeepers and market stall holders. I was welcomed in all our local retirement homes and have met many new residents who are delighted to be settling into Otley. I've had many interesting visits to Menwith Hill, including celebrating Thanksgiving with them. I've also met with many wonderful people who work for a wide of range of charitable organisations and thank them – on behalf of everyone – for their hard work and dedication.

It has been a cherished duty for me as Mayor to devote time to supporting my chosen charities. The first is Behind Closed Doors - a local charity that supports vulnerable adults and children who suffer domestic abuse.

My second charity is the Scout troop at Burras Lane – their hut has a badly leaking roof and I would love to raise some more money to help them get this repaired.

If you wish to support either charity, you can send a cheque to the Mayor's Secretary at the Core offices in Orchard Gate - making it payable to 'Otley Mayor's Charity'. Donations are always most gratefully received.

So many people have already been very generous, but I'd love to see how much more we can raise. I've already organised some coffee mornings for the coming months and a large book sale to be held in May at the Buttercross – I'll advertise the dates in due course.

My year as Mayor ends in May and I'd like to visit more organisations and retirement homes before then and will gladly accept any invitations that may arise – I've thoroughly enjoyed every visit so far and I look forward to doing many more.

To end my year I will be holding a ball - tickets will be on sale in the Core and the date will be advertised in due course. All proceeds will be shared between my two charities.

It's been a great privilege to serve the community of Otley as your Mayor and I wish you all the very best.

OTLEY TOWN COUNCIL MESSAGE BOARD

ROOMS FOR HIRE

Otley Core Resource Centre has rooms and exhibition space available for hire.

The exhibition space is also available for use by charitable organisations as an indoor venue free of charge. Should you wish to enquire about any of our facilities or make a booking, please contact a member of the Core liaison staff on **01943 466335** or e-mail: admin@otleytowncouncil.gov.uk



Police Drop-in

Police contact point at the Otley Core every Wednesday (11am - noon) and Friday (2pm - 3pm)

JOB ADVERTISEMENTS

Do you have a job vacancy that you would like to advertise free of charge? A job vacancy display area has now been set up at the Otley Core in Orchard Gate.

If you would like to advertise your job please email admin@otleytowncouncil.gov.uk with your poster advertising the position.

Buttercross Charity Stall Hire

The Buttercross in Market Place is available for hire, free of charge, to all charitable organisations on Fridays and Saturdays. Anyone interested please contact a member of the Core liaison staff on **01943 466335** or email admin@otleytowncouncil.gov.uk

OTLEY FOOD BANK

Otley Core is a donation point for the Otley Food Bank. Please help local people in crisis by donating items of food which have a long shelf life.

A shopping list is available at the collection point. We thank you for your support.

ELECTIONS

Otley Town Council elections take place on Thursday 2nd May 2019.

Please vote.

Advertise your event at Otley Core

If you are a voluntary, youth, community or charitable organisation in Otley and would like to advertise an upcoming event, please send an A4 poster to admin@otleytowncouncil.gov.uk and we will display in the windows of the Otley Core.

There is also a large window space available to advertise your activities and events - please contact a member of the Core Liaison team on 01943 466335 for more details and to make a booking.



Keep up to date on the activities of your Town Council via our website www.otleytowncouncil.gov.uk or via twitter [@otleycouncil](https://twitter.com/otleycouncil)

CONTACTING YOUR COUNCILLORS

ASHFIELD WARD

- Kim Holmes** (Lib Dem)
kim.holmes@otleytowncouncil.gov.uk
- Penny Robinson** (Lib Dem) t: 07543086557
penny.robinson@otleytowncouncil.gov.uk
- Ian Jackson** (Lib Dem)
ian.jackson@otleytowncouncil.gov.uk
- Peter Jackson** (Lib Dem) t: 07979438284
peter.jackson@otleytowncouncil.gov.uk
- Sylvia Thomson** (Lib Dem)
sylvia.thomson@otleytowncouncil.gov.uk

PRINCE HENRY WARD

- Philip Bye** (Lib Dem) t: 01943 467199
philip.bye@otleytowncouncil.gov.uk
- Colin Campbell** (Lib Dem) t: 07973521547
colin.campbell@leeds.gov.uk
- Mary Vickers** (Lib Dem) t: 07889054242
mary.vickers@otleytowncouncil.gov.uk

DANEFIELD WARD

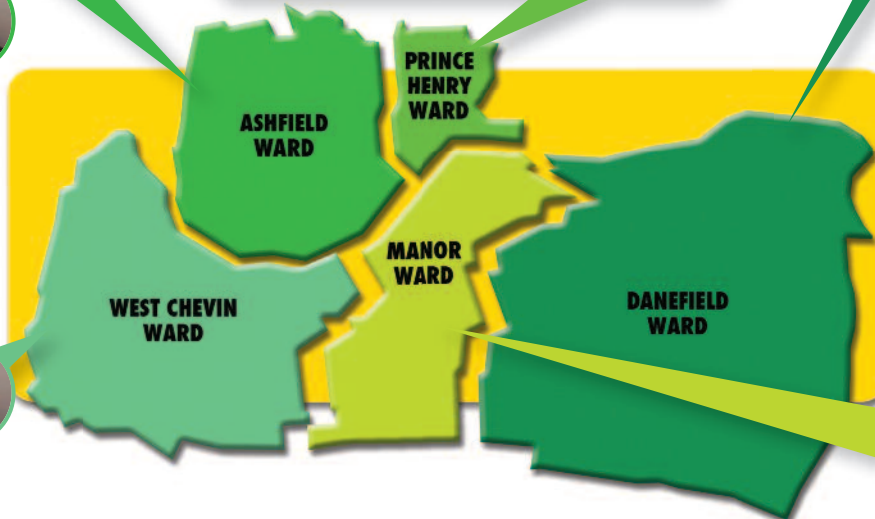
- Mick Bradley** (Green) t: 01943 467871
mick.bradley@otleytowncouncil.gov.uk
- Nigel Francis** (Ind) t: 01943 463467
nigel.francis@otleytowncouncil.gov.uk
- Ray Georgeson** (Lib Dem) t: 07711069433
ray.georgeson@otleytowncouncil.gov.uk
Twitter: @RayGeorgesonL
- Ray Smith** (Lib Dem) t: 07946800946
ray.smith@otleytowncouncil.gov.uk

WEST CHEVIN WARD

- Paul Carter** (Lib Dem)
paul.carter@otleytowncouncil.gov.uk
- Linda Hoare** (Lib Dem) t: 07931281862
linda.hoare@otleytowncouncil.gov.uk
- Kate Whelan** (Lib Dem)
kate.whelan@otleytowncouncil.gov.uk
- Jo Allen** (Lib Dem) t: 01943 461899
Jo.Allen@otleytowncouncil.gov.uk

MANOR WARD

- Jackie Brown** (Ind) t: 07908044596
jackie.brown@otleytowncouncil.gov.uk
- Stephen Brown** (Ind) t: 07908044596
stephen.brown@otleytowncouncil.gov.uk
- Wayne Green** (Lib Dem)
wayne.green@otleytowncouncil.gov.uk
- Douglas Robinson** (Lib Dem) t: 07941582468
douglas.robinson@otleytowncouncil.gov.uk



Back row left to right: Terry Ford (Bellman); Cllr Linda Hoare; Cllr Mick Bradley; Cllr Douglas Robinson; Cllr Colin Campbell; Cllr Jackie Brown; Cllr Nigel Francis; Cllr Philip Bye; Cllr Paul Carter; Cllr Stephen Brown

Front row left to right: Cllr Jo Allen; Cllr Kim Holmes; Cllr Penny Robinson; Cllr Mary Vickers (Town Mayor); Suzanne Kidger (Executive Officer); Cllr Peter Jackson (Deputy Town Mayor); Cllr Ray Georgeson (Chair of Council); Cllr Kate Whelan; Cllr Ian Jackson

Apologies given: Cllr Wayne Green; Cllr Ray Smith; Cllr Sylvia Thomson

All councillors work in a voluntary capacity

OTLEY TOWN COUNCIL WARD SURGERIES

Otley Town Council hold Councillor Surgeries at Otley Core Resource Centre for residents who would like to meet a councillor and discuss any local issues or raise any problems or concerns relating to the work and responsibilities of the Council. Upcoming Surgery dates are:

Saturday 30th March

All surgeries are from 10am until noon.
No appointment needed.

OTLEY TOWN COUNCIL LITTER PICKS

A programme of regular litter picks is run by Otley Town Council. These take place on Saturday mornings from 10am until noon. Equipment will be provided but you may wish to bring your own gloves.

The upcoming dates and meet-up points are:

Great British Clean Up

Saturday 23rd March Town Centre
Meet at Otley Core

Saturday 20th April Prince Henry's Ward
Meet at Wharfemeadows Park cafe.



LEEDS CITY COUNCILLORS SURGERIES

To speak with Cllr Colin Campbell;
Cllr Ryk Downes or Cllr Sandy Lay

Drop-in surgeries are held on:

First Saturday in the month at Otley Library
(9.30 to 10.30am)

Third Saturday in the month at Yeadon Town Hall
(9.30 to 10.30am)

If inconvenient please ring to organise a meeting on
07973521547 or email colin.campbell@leeds.gov.uk

MP SURGERIES

Private surgeries and drop-in sessions are held throughout the constituency should you wish to speak with Alex Sobel MP.

Otley Drop-in surgeries are held on the third Saturday of month: 11am-12pm at Sainsbury's

Otley private surgeries are on the first Friday of month: 3.30pm-5pm at Otley Labour Rooms.
(By appointment only)

You can also make contact via email:
alex@alexsobel.co.uk Website: alexsobel.co.uk
Tel (Mon-Fri 9am-5pm) 01138 980969

TOWN COUNCIL MEETINGS MARCH 2019 - MAY 2019

Planning 11th Mar 2019
Trade & Tourism

Human Resources 18th Mar 2019
Audit

Policy & Resources 25th Mar 2019
Full Council

Planning 29th Apr 2019

Annual Parish Meeting 13th May 2019
(To be held at the United Reformed Church, Bridge Street)

Town Council meetings are usually held at the Otley Core Resource Centre, 11 Orchard Gate, Otley. All meetings usually commence at 7pm but times and venues are subject to change.

Please check www.otleytowncouncil.gov.uk or the windows at the Otley Core Resource Centre for meeting times.

Members of the public are encouraged to attend. By prior arrangement with the Executive Officer members of the public may arrange to address a Committee or Council meeting before it starts its agenda. Please contact the Executive Officer on 01943 466335 or by email eo@otleytowncouncil.gov.uk for further details.

Please note that the Audit and Human Resources meetings are not open to the public.