



OTLEY VICTORIAN FAYRE

Sunday 4th December 2022

We are very excited to be running the 35th Victorian Fayre this year. We have had quite a lot of changes to overcome since 2019 and we intend to offer a fabulous day out for everyone attending.

You may notice a slightly different layout to the stalls; however, the quality and variety of items to buy, eat and drink is as high as ever.

There will be the usual smattering of community stalls running raffles and tombola and offering mulled wine.

There will be a Santa's Grotto for the little ones at the entrance to Westgate Arcade, run by Buttercups Play Centre.

In the Market Place you will find Carol Singing on the stage, roundabouts for the little ones and two beautiful reindeer. Our ever-popular Punch and Judy will be at its usual home under the Buttercross.

Our fairground attractions will be on Beech Hill car park as well as positioned around the Fayre.

A plethora of street entertainment will be scattered around the pedestrian-only areas, including dancers, singers, and live music. We are in the early stages of organising a parade around the Fayre at about 4.15pm.

Exclusive free disabled parking will be available on Courthouse Street car park (remember to show your badge). The Licks car park will be used exclusively for all our stallholders' vehicles.

So there you have it. 35 years of this fantastic event. We look forward to seeing you all.

Steph Lee (Chair)
enquiries@victorianfayre.co.uk



As a direct result of some of the changes we have had to address stallholder as well as visitor parking.

In order to staff the various new car parks safely we will be charging £5 per car. Watch out for street directions to find them.



OTLEY CHRISTMAS LIGHTS AND FIREWORKS

This year's community Christmas lights switch-on combines fireworks, funfair, music on the stage and street performers.

The traditional countdown to Christmas will be held in Otley Market Place on Monday 28th November, commencing at 5.45pm.

The town centre Christmas lights will be switched on at 7.00pm, followed by a short firework finale.



FREE SATURDAY PARKING

Leeds City Council and Otley Town Council have confirmed that all the town's pay and display car parks at Beech Hill, Courthouse Street and The Licks on North Parade will be offering free pre-Christmas Day parking on Saturdays. The free parking dates will be Saturday December 3rd, 10th, 17th and 24th.

Please note if you do put money in to the machine on these days you will not get a refund.

Return to the Fayre

Seek me out by the organ and miniature marching band, you'll recognise me by my holly berry-red kerchief. The Chevin is bonneted with frost, the town's boundaries seen from above take the shape of an ivy leaf, and to make up for the past two winters I will win you a zoo of cuddly toys from the coconut shy, hook enough ducks to populate the reservoir.

We'll move through the patchwork of canopies sheltering market-stall holders, intoxicated by the sweet earthy scent of blazing chestnuts, cheeks and noses glowing in the chill, the tipsiness of spiced cider and wine, the sugar-rush of cakes and candy. Keep up with me as we hurry to hear the carollers in the square, the children waving from twirling teacups - they are tiny time travellers spinning through the years.

I give the street entertainer all my yuletide memories to juggle in threes then fives, the magician produces a spire-high Christmas pine from his stovepipe hat. My heart pounds against my waistcoat buttons like dodgems, as the day closes and we say goodbye, safe in the knowledge the seasons will slip away like melting snow and we'll be back next December.

By Matthew Hedley Stoppard (Otley Town Poet)



UPCOMING EVENTS

December

1-18 Otley Snowman Trail
4 Victorian Fayre
7-10 Otley Christmas Tree Festival
18 Otley Christmas Farmers' Market
26 Chevin Chase

January

1 New Year's Day Wharfemeadows Park Swim
29 Otley Farmers' Market

February

26 Otley Farmers' Market

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

OTLEY CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL IS BACK!



After two years without a festival, once again Otley Parish Church is going to be filled with 44 Christmas trees beautifully decorated by local charities.

The festival starts on Wednesday 7th December at noon with a grand opening featuring our very own Otley Bellman, Terry Ford, and Guiseley Brass Band.

The festival will be open from 10am to 6pm for the next three days, finishing on Saturday 10th December.

The festival is being organised by Allan Boddy, Barbara Nicholls and Margaret Parkin from the Parish Church, with advice and help from Tim and Helen Wilkinson.

As in previous years, choirs, and music groups from the five Otley primary schools will take part in the festival. There will also be musical contributions from other groups, including Prince Henry's Grammar School, the Chippendale Singers and the Wharfedale Male Voice Choir.



Many charities have faced a tough time over the last two years and the festival will be an opportunity for us to support them and for them to raise vital funds. Entry to the festival will be free but visitors are asked to bring plenty of coins (or notes!) to put in the buckets of their favourite charities.

Throughout the festival visitors will be able to get a drink and a mince pie from the café.

On Sunday 11th December there will be a Christmas Tree Carol Service for all ages, starting at 4pm.

SNOWMEN RETURN TO HELP CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS IN OTLEY

The twinkling lights from the candles, the cold winter air, snow covering the ground and happy people going on their way, just waiting for Christmas to arrive!

Excitedly children point to the business windows, the cafés, offices, pubs and even the old red phone box in the Market Square for the snow people have arrived. Snow men, women and children are displayed all around the town, bringing Christmas cheer to everyone.

This year's fifth annual Otley Snowman Trail was officially launched in late November and will run until Sunday 18th December. There are 1,000 booklets, which can be obtained from the Core, the Library and various other shops and businesses which are displaying the poster, 'Otley Snowman Trail Booklets available here'. The booklet is free of charge and has a Christmas story, letter, adverts, recipe, competitions and other interesting items.

All entries to the competitions must be returned to either the Library or the Core, or returned to Councillor Nigel Francis, 6 Pearson's Buildings, Otley, LS21 3BQ, by Sunday 18th December 2022. Prizes will be awarded for winners and runners up in all competitions and these should be delivered in time for Christmas.

For more information, please visit our website: www.otleysnowmantrail.co.uk or email snowmantrail@ovte.co.uk



Warm, welcoming spaces that you use in your way: working, thinking, chatting, learning a new skill – there's so much choice in Otley this winter.

Stay as long as you like, go when you want, do what takes your interest. All Warm Spaces will offer free tea, coffee and biscuits and a comfortable place to sit.

For more information about Warm Spaces drop in to Otley Town Council, head to the website www.otleytowncouncil.gov.uk, or phone the Council on **01943 466335** between 10 and 3 Tuesday to Friday.

WARM SPACES IN OTLEY THIS WINTER



More than half a dozen welcoming spaces in Otley have been open from November as part of the Otley Warm Spaces scheme.

The new initiative aims to provide warm welcoming places to spend time in every week, usually with free tea, coffee and biscuits, during the Winter months when people may be struggling with fuel bills. To date the venues involved in the Warm Spaces project are: Beech Hill Church, Otley Action for Older People at the Chippendale Centre, Otley Labour Rooms, Otley Library, Otley Methodist Church, Otley Parish Church, Otley Town Council at The Core, and the Bridge Church.

Further information on when and where spaces will be open will be posted around town and at Otley Core, as well as being shared through social media and on the Otley Town Council website www.otleytowncouncil.gov.uk

CHILDREN AND ADULTS TO CELEBRATE AT OTLEY PARISH CHURCH

The children's choir from Westgate Primary School and The Chippendale Singers will celebrate the return of the Otley Christmas Tree Festival on Friday 9th December with a Christmas Concert at 7.00pm. There will be plenty of opportunity for audience participation with the singing of traditional carols, and the two choirs will sing other Christmas music, both jointly and separately.

The children's choir will be conducted by their headteacher, Helen Carpenter, and accompanied by Martin Campey, and the adults will be led by their Musical Director, Jackie Armitage. There will also be a raffle.

Tickets will be £5.00 each and under-16s will be free. Tickets will be available from choir members, Westgate Primary School and Town Centre outlets nearer the time.

Proceeds will be shared by the Parish Church, the School and the Chippendale Singers. For more information go to: www.chippendalesingers.co.uk

OTLEY METHODIST CHURCH

The Methodist Church is still open and using its premises on Boroughgate.

A happy Christmas to all readers.

Friday 2nd & Saturday 3rd December 10am - 4pm the Church will be open for all to visit our labyrinth prayer journey. A great way to step aside from the busyness and reflect on Christmas. Free.

Saturday 17th December at 3.00pm there will be a Children's Holiday Club afternoon with seasonal crafts, games, and fun, ending with food. Open to primary school-aged children. To book a place contact Gillian on (01943) 468289.

Sunday 18th December at 10.30am there will be a Carol Service with special readings, music and carols. Theme of 'Christmas around the world'. All welcome.

Wednesday 21st December - 6.30pm Christingle Service for all ages – come and make a Christingle and celebrate the joy of Christmas.

Saturday 24th December from 10.30-11.30am the Church will be carol singing at the Buttercross in aid of the Otley Foodbank.

Sunday 25th December 10.00am All-Age Christmas Celebration service – join in the joy and celebration. Children bring a favourite present.



Otley Parish CHURCH

We are delighted to have welcomed Reverend Aaron Kennedy as our new Vicar. He, Grace, and their two children love Otley - exploring the place, and 'what goes on' here! Aaron has a track record of serving not only the church, but the community.

We look forward to journeying on and engaging with the needs and concerns of the communities of this special town.



As this piece for December is submitted in October there continues to be a lot of change and uncertainty in local, national and global affairs. We pray that the integrity, kindness, presence and grace of Christ will be seen to transform lives, and our public life.

You are welcome to the services and activities! Sunday service at 10.30am is also live-streamed and available on YouTube. www.otleyparishchurch.org



WHARFEDALE GARDENERS' GROUP

Wharfedale Gardeners began their 2022/23 season with a most interesting talk by Andrew Mikolajski on supporting and pruning climbing plants. In October Michael D Myers gave a talk entitled "Scents & Scentability", looking at a range of scented plants, including unusual, food-related scents. Our November talk was by Ian Brand on "The Twelve Plants of Christmas". Having missed last year's Christmas party because of Covid, we are looking forward to returning to Otley Rugby Club on 13th December for an evening of games, quizzes and delicious food to celebrate our 75th Anniversary.

Our January talk will be "Working on a TV Makeover Show" by Katie Rushworth, and in February, "The Late Show - Autumn's Finale" given by Andrew Ward.

Our group meets on the second Tuesday of the month at the Beech Hill Church, Otley. Anyone interested in joining should contact the Membership Secretary via our website to see if there is availability.

www.wharfedalegardeners.co.uk

Here's just a very small percentage of the many tons (literally) of apples picked this year



We had a fantastic harvest and met up with customers old and new for good fun and friendly juicing sessions at The White House this autumn.

Winter is a busy time at the orchard and it will all get a kickstart with our annual Wassailing event in January with Otley's very own Morris Team – Wayzgoose. Then there's pruning, planting, maintenance and, who knows, maybe there will be a lamb or two.

Keep an eye on our Facebook page - @otleychevinorchardproject for dates and information.



COMMUNITY LARDER UPDATE

Calling all Otley food businesses - we need your surplus food!

This winter, volunteer climate action group Otley 2030 is hoping to launch a new Community Larder scheme. The new scheme aims to try to tackle the issue of families struggling to make ends meet by connecting with local eatery businesses, such as cafés, bakeries, and restaurants so that surplus and perishable food can be shared, not binned. Giving away any surplus food that would otherwise go to waste is one effective way to help reduce our carbon footprint. Furthermore, recent figures from British Gas show that a shocking four in ten of us are struggling to afford heating due to the cost-of-living crisis. So many people in Otley will be having to make hard choices about food this winter.

If you own a business and would like to help, or you'd like to volunteer with the project, please email hello@otley2030.com



HOLIDAY CLUB AT WESTGATE



A new holiday club has begun for primary-aged children, based at Westgate Primary School.

ArtCampUK offers a wide range of creative and inclusive activities, such as drama, art, bushcraft, forest school and music making, run by specialist tutors.

Any primary-aged child from any school can attend, and ArtCampUK accepts the full range of childcare vouchers as full or part payment.

Full details can be found at <https://www.artcampuk.com/index.html>



BRIDGE CHURCH

The Bridge United Reformed Church is looking forward to a busy Christmas period and welcomes anyone who would like to come along to any of our events over the festive season.

Saturday 26th November
Messy Advent at 10.30am

Sunday 27th November
Advent Sunday Service at 10.30am

Sunday 4th December
Second Sunday in Advent Service at 10.30am

Saturday 10th December
Otley Brass Band Christmas Concert at 7.00pm

Sunday 11th December
Parade and Gift Service at 10.30am
Outdoor Nativity in the Church Grounds at 2.00pm

Sunday 18th December
Fourth Sunday in Advent Service at 10.30am
Outdoor Nativity in the Church Grounds at 2.00pm

Wednesday 21st December
Carols by Candlelight at 7.00pm

Saturday 24th December
Crib Service at 4.00pm
Midnight Communion Service at 11.30pm

Sunday 25th December
Christmas Day Service at 10.00am

To confirm the events are taking place please check the Bridge Church website www.otleybridgechurch.org.uk or take a look at our Facebook page - Otley Bridge Church.



CASUAL WASHROOM ATTENDANT

£10.90 per hour

The Role

This is a casual role to fill in for holidays and absence of permanent staff members. On a cover basis you will undertake a range of cleaning activities to a set specification to ensure that Orchard Gate Public Toilets are maintained to a high standard.

Orchard Gate Toilets Opening Hours

- Monday, Wednesday and Thursday 9am to 4.30pm.
- Market Days: Tuesday, Friday and Saturday 8am to 5pm.
- Farmers Market (last Sunday in the month) 8am to 1.30pm.

Hours of Work

- You will be required to cover shifts of up to five hours, as required, between the hours of 8am to 5.30pm Monday to Saturday and occasional Sundays between 8am to 2pm.
- Flexibility will be required to occasionally cover for members of the team and for extended opening times for special events.

Benefits

- Full paid training will be given.
- Hourly rate of pay £10.90.
- Holiday pay pro-rata to the number of hours worked.
- In the event of a permanent vacancy priority will be given to Casual Washroom Attendants.

Requirements

Whilst experience of commercial cleaning would be an advantage this is not essential as full training will be given.

How to Apply

Application forms are available by visiting our website at: www.otleytowncouncil.gov.uk or can be requested via email admin@otleytowncouncil.gov.uk or Tel: 01943 466335.



NATURE RECOVERY PLAN LAUNCHED

The Otley Nature Network launched their Nature Recovery Plan in Otley with an event in early November. The Nature Recovery Plan has been drawn up in response to the declaration of a 'Biodiversity Emergency' by Otley Town Council earlier this year and aims to help nature recover and to improve biodiversity in and around the town.

The event was attended by representatives from local wildlife and environmental groups, schools, and the Council, and also featured a special guest speaker - insect expert, explorer and television presenter, George McGavin.



Watch this space for more details of the plan from the Otley Nature Network – a network of diverse organisations, including Wildlife Friendly Otley, Otley 2030 and Wharfedale Naturalists, who will co-ordinate biodiversity action and promote enjoyment of nature in the local area.

www.otley2030.com/projects



OTLEY ACTION COMMUNITY CAFÉ

Every Friday, Otley Action for Older People hosts a 'Community Café' at the Chippendale Centre. The café is open from 12.30-2.30pm and is open to all community members. The aim of the café is to provide a warm and welcoming space with soup, sandwiches, and cakes on offer at a reduced price. There is free Wi-Fi and free support, and advice should you need help with applying for senior bus passes and other digital queries, online applications and so on.



The café hours will be extended throughout the winter as part of the 'warm spaces' initiative. The space will be available on Mondays 09.30am-12.30pm and Fridays 12.30-3.30pm (as an extension of the Community Café) and we will be serving complimentary

soup, tea/coffee and biscuits to people who pop in during these times.

Everyone is welcome! Please call 01943 463965 for more information.



Season's Greetings from Otley Players

Otley Players are delighted to bring you Season's Greetings by Alan Ayckbourn in collaboration with Otley Courthouse on Saturday 10th December at 2pm and 7pm, and Sunday 11th December at 2pm.

Season's Greetings is Ayckbourn's brilliantly written and observed two-act Christmas play first brought to stage in 1980, more recently revived at the National Theatre starring Catherine Tate and Mark Gatiss.

Season's Greetings offers a seriously entertaining look at the highs and lows of an average family Christmas: cheating at board games, toys that don't work, bungled infidelity under the Christmas tree and a chaotically incompetent puppet show. With the children always just out of sight, Christmas has arrived in the Bunker Household; we hope you will come and join them.

Tickets £10, £7 concession. Tickets are available from Otley Courthouse by telephone 01943 467466, walk-in or from their online box office at www.otleycourthouse.org.uk

FILM IN OTLEY

Dark, winter nights (and cold days). What better time to nip out for a film and let someone else pay the heating bills.

Otley Film Society's season continues with films screened at Otley Courthouse on Thursday evenings at 7.45pm. Doors / bar open at 7pm and films are a snip at £5 for non-members - pay on the door, cash only please.

- 1st Dec **Azor**, 2021, 12A, 100mins, France
Director: Andreas Fontana,
- drama, mystery, thriller.
- 15th Dec **West Side Story**, 2021, 12A, 156 mins, US
Director: Steven Spielberg,
- musical, drama.



- 5th Jan **The Outfit**, 2022, 15, 105mins, US/UK
Director: Gary Moore
- mystery, crime, thriller.
- 19th Jan **Gagarine**, 2020, 98 mins, France/ Rom/ Russia
Director: Fanny Liatard
- drama.
- 2nd Feb **Petite Maman**, 2021, U, 78 mins, France
Director: Céline Sciamma
- drama, fantasy.
- 16th Feb **The Worst Person in the World**, 2021, 15, 98mins, Norway
Director: Joachim Trier
- comedy drama, romance.
- 2nd Mar **Mystery film 1**

To find out more and put yourself on the mailing list just email otleyfilmsociety@gmail.com

Meanwhile, if daytime films are more to your liking, the Courthouse's own season of Movie Matinee's continue - with films on Thursday at 2pm - tea, coffee, biscuits served at 1.30pm - all for £6.

- 8th Dec **West Side Story** - the new Spielberg version of the classic musical
- 22nd Dec **Encanto** - Enchanting, beautifully animated fun for the whole family
- 12th Jan **Downton Abbey: A New Era** - the story continues, on the big screen
- 26th Jan **Thelma and Louise** - a classic
- 9th Feb **The Duke** - the unlikely story of an unlikely thief
- 23rd Feb **Ghost** - Patrick Swayze and Demi Moore star in the enduring romance

Additional films being screened at Otley Courthouse include:

- Sun 4th Dec **Father Earth** - a screening of Graham Fellows' film followed by a live Q & A with the man himself - 7.30pm
- Sun 18th Dec **Jack Absolute Flies Again** - a National Theatre Live production - 7pm
- Fri 23rd Dec **Die Hard** - Bruce Willis takes on the baddies at the Christmas Party - 7.45pm
- Thurs 26th Jan **The Crucible** - a National Theatre Live production - 7pm
- Thurs 9th Feb **The Curious World of Hieronymous Bosch** - 7.30pm
- Sun 12th Feb **Merlin** by The Northern Ballet - 2pm
- Thurs 23rd Feb **Othello** - a National Theatre Live production - 7pm

Full details on all the above at www.otleycourthouse.org.uk
Support your local venues.



Otley Wildlife Arts Festival is major success

Organisers of the Otley Wildlife Arts Festival are delighted with the attendance at all the festival events in early October, declaring it a major success for the participants, exhibitors, speakers and performers, for the town and particularly for wildlife.

Neil Griffin, Festival team leader and education officer with Wildlife Friendly Otley said: "All the events were very well attended and some fully booked. The packed audiences for our top attractions, the talks by bestselling nature author and writer Simon Barnes and wildlife cameraman, Ian McCarthy, went down a storm. There was often standing room only in the short talks programme and music and poetry performances at the Horse & Farrier. The art and storytelling workshop activities for children were a big hit."

Local resident, Ian Brand said he came along to the festival on Saturday afternoon and was amazed at the number of people, both in the main hall, where wildlife art and photography were exhibited, and those attending the short talks programme. He said: "It was an excellent, well organised



event, really engaging with everyone from the town, and further afield. I think the organisers deserve a well-earned feather in their cap."

Neil added. "It shows there is real interest in wildlife in Otley and support for it too. We hope the world of wildlife, as celebrated in so many ways at the festival, has not only entertained but also inspired people, and stimulated a response. Nature needs all the friends and supporters it can get.

"An enormous thank you to all who came and took part: the artists, performers, the speakers and volunteers who made it happen. We thank Otley Courthouse staff and volunteers, the Horse & Farrier, Otley Library, the Nature Trail supporters and especially our sponsors and funders, Otley Town Council, Sinclair's, Leeds City Council's Leeds Inspired fund and Wharfedale Naturalists Society."



PRINCE HENRY'S

Students and Staff at Prince Henry's had some unusual visitors to celebrate National Racehorse Week – Jo Foster, a trainer from Menston, came to school with two stable lasses, a jockey, a racehorse and his mini companion, a Shetland pony.

Students were treated to a talk about careers working with horses and a demonstration of the specific skills needed to ride like a jockey before they had their turn. Using a specially constructed wooden horse, students were offered the opportunity to practise riding like a jockey.

After the student event, Yogi, the miniature pony, went to see the school's headteacher, Sally Bishop, in her office for a short meeting.

"We were delighted to welcome Jo Foster and her team to school to visit our students. Our students really enjoyed the experience and Yogi was a great hit when he visited my office! As he is trained to visit those who cannot go outside, such as care home residents, it was irresistible to invite him in complete with visitor lanyard, obviously!" said Sally Bishop, Headteacher.





Choir Embarks on Recruitment Drive

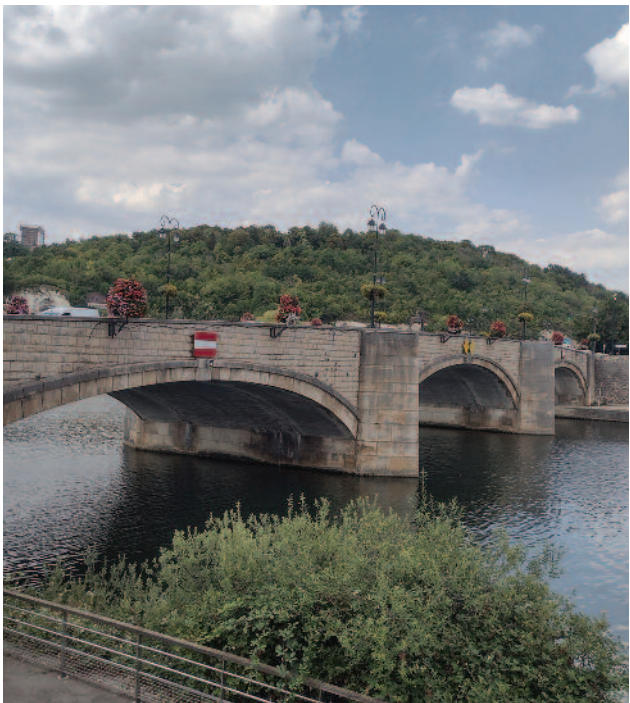
Wharfedale Male Voice Choir has enjoyed a very successful Autumn term and has been able to perform once again after the recent pandemic. During recent months this successful choir has been working on extending their repertoire under the guidance of Paul Hurst, their Conductor and Musical Director.

The next priority for the choir is to boost their numbers. We are a very sociable collection of gentlemen who all love to sing. Most of us are of pensionable age and quite a few do not read music. That is not a problem because our Musical Director takes us through our parts and makes sure we are all confident. The result is the unmistakeable sound of a Male Voice Choir.

We rehearse every Monday at 2.00pm. For information about the venue and details of membership please contact the Choir Secretary, Peter Roberts, on 01943 463456.

Making a Link with our Twin Town

As Otley residents we visited Paris for a holiday in July and couldn't miss the chance to visit our twin town - Montereau-Fault-Yonne - only a 50-minute train ride from Paris. We had a couple of postcards at the ready to deliver to the Hotel de Marie (town hall) to hand over to a secretary to pass on to the Council. On arrival we spotted the main street with gorgeous flowers on lampposts with local shops either side. I spotted the clock on top of a building similar to ours in the market square. We were greeted with warm welcomes from the local supermarket, ice cream shop and local bar. We chatted about Montereau's history with a local who told me that the town hall was next door. There we were greeted with a smile and with the help of Google translate I communicated why we were visiting. The woman directed us to their park by the river, the bridge, church and high street. We recommend a visit if you are in that area of France.



OTLEY TOWN PARTNERSHIP

As part of our contribution to the Active Travel programme, Otley Town Partnership Cycling Group members Christine Bell, Jim Spencer and Richard Pulleyn are working with Otley Town Councillors to help revise and develop the Safer Cycling Route initiative that was first undertaken some years ago. Widening of the Manor Garth pedestrian and cycling route has already enhanced cycling from Westgate through the park, linking well with the route through Garnett's Wharfe and then out to Pool Road. A proposed crossing from Manor Garth will help further.

Discussions are now taking place with both Sainsbury's and Waitrose supermarkets about safe routes through their car parks. A survey has been undertaken to complete a circuit around the town and, although some difficulties have yet to be overcome, we are confident that good progress is being made. Consideration is also to be given to suitable signage.



STARLIGHT HIKE

Hundreds of walkers donned their best fancy dress and glow-in-the-dark accessories on Saturday 8th October for a special hike under the stars to celebrate the memory of loved ones.

Sue Ryder Starlight Hike Otley saw around 150 people of all ages collectively walk a 5k or 10k route in support of national healthcare charity Sue Ryder.

The spectacle started at Prince Henry's Grammar School, where teams and individuals sporting bright coloured clothing, flashing headwear and face paint were entertained by DJ Wayne from Hired for Sound Mobile DJ, before a performance and fun warm-up from local dance company Inspirations Dance.

They then set out on a beautifully lit 5k or 10k route along the banks of the River Wharfe, through the picturesque Wharfemeadows Park and around the vibrant market town of Otley.

Last year Sue Ryder provided over 830,000 hours of care to thousands of families across the country, including from its Sue Ryder Wheatfields Hospice in Leeds.

Sue Ryder Starlight Hike Otley is expected to raise approximately £15,000 to help Sue Ryder provide even more expert and compassionate palliative care and create a future where everyone has access to support at the end of their life or following a bereavement.

Michelle Darbyshire, Community Fundraiser at Sue Ryder Wheatfields Hospice, said: "We're absolutely blown away by everyone's support

for this year's Sue Ryder Starlight Hike Otley, turning out in their brightest lights and outfits to make the night an amazing success. You all looked brilliant! Thank you to all our supporters and dedicated team of volunteers, without whom we would simply not be able to put on this fantastic event".



Credit: Adam Mitchinson Photography
Hundreds of people took part in a 5k or 10k walk under the stars for Sue Ryder

If you couldn't take part in this year's Sue Ryder Starlight Hike Otley there are still plenty of ways you can support Sue Ryder.

Visit sueryder.org/fundraise for inspiration. Alternatively, you can email the Sue Ryder Wheatfields Hospice fundraising team on wheatfields.fundraising@sueryder.org

One Man Walking



Otley-based filmmaker and designer, Mark Currie finds a surprise around every corner with his latest book.

One Man Walking, is a collection of 90 photographs that Mark took whilst out in the Yorkshire Dales, Lancashire hills, UK's coastal paths and places as far away as Thailand.

"I really love walking. It gives me energy for life, so I'm dedicating this book to all those people whose lives have been affected by suicide and adverse mental health," said Mark. "That's why I'm happy to support The Jordan Legacy and their quest for positive mental wellbeing. I hope seeing these photos will inspire lots of people to get their walking boots on too."

The book is available from The Bookshop on the Square in Otley, directly via Mark at www.catapultfilms.co.uk/books and via the website www.thejordanlegacy.com. 10% of all book sales will be donated to the charity.

OTLEY FOLK CLUB

The Otley Folk Club meets every Wednesday evening at the Black Horse Hotel, start time 8.00pm. Alternating singers' nights with guest nights, the popularity of the Wednesday evenings continues to grow.

On 30th November we have the fantastic trio Grannies Attic and on 14th December the superb songstress Katie Spencer.

Already booked for next year are: The Churchfitters, Angelo Palladino, Phil Langran and Roger Sutcliffe. Remember every Wednesday at the Black Horse.

For further information visit: www.otleyfolkclub.org

OTLEY FOLK FESTIVAL

The Otley Folk Festival would like to thank all of the helpers and contributors who made it possible to stage this year's event over the weekend of 16th to 18th September. A great weekend was enjoyed by our many visiting folk fans.

The Black Horse Hotel provided the hub for the festival with concerts upstairs and in the stable yard and sessions in the pub itself. The Labour Club and the Courthouse provided our other concert venues and various pubs offered themselves as session and Morris dance sites.

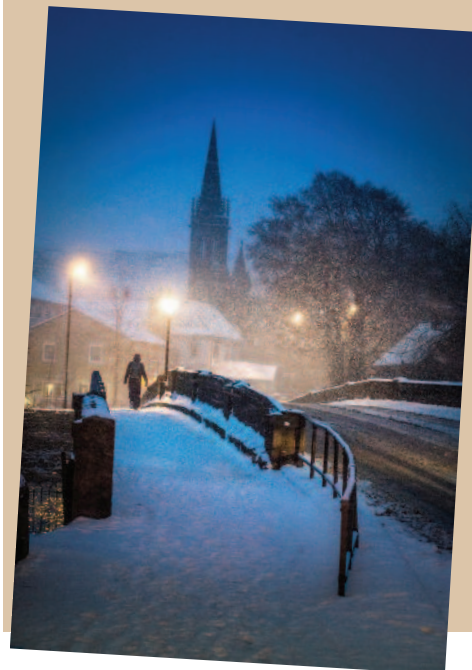
We plan to build on this year's festival and next year's event will be held on the 15th to 17th September 2023; put the dates in your diary and keep an eye on our website.

www.otleyfolkfestival.com

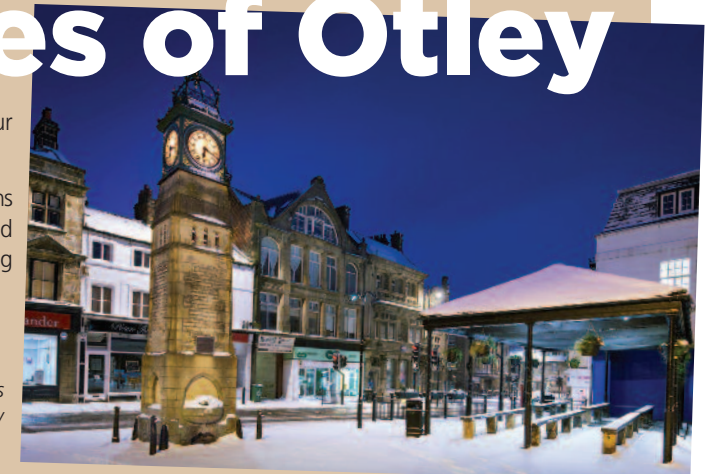
Your Images of Otley

This new feature 'Your Images of Otley' is intended to present your favourite photographs and images of Otley, be it past or present.

If you would like to contribute to this feature please send your photographs and name for credit to otleymatters@otleytowncouncil.gov.uk and we will endeavour to feature as many as possible over the upcoming editions.



This edition's photos were all provided by Giles Rochall



Goodbye to a Valued Team Member



A lot can happen in nine years: five prime ministers and three Otley Town Council Leaders for example, and an 18-year-old apprentice can go from inexperienced team member to being the Office Manager and valuable source of advice. That is the career trajectory of Tom Shortall of Otley Town Council, who moved on in October to be a Health and Safety Adviser with Leeds City Council Buildings Team.

Reflecting on Tom's time at the Council, Jason Knowles, the Council Executive Officer, commented that "Tom has done really well and we are delighted to have helped his career development, because developing staff is seen by the Council as key to building a happy and effective team."

Tom, and the current apprentice, Millie McMahon, certainly attest to how much they have benefitted from that philosophy. Tom says of his time, "I have loved the variety that comes with working at the heart of the Otley community. It has been fantastic working with Council staff, Councillors and members from other local organisations: the

BID, the Chamber, the Town Partnership, to make a difference in Otley. I have particularly appreciated the support I have received from other Council staff; particularly Karen Smith, my predecessor as Office Manager, who has mentored me throughout my time at the Council and who will continue to be a fantastic role model for the current apprentice."

During his time at the Council, Tom has studied for, and achieved, a Level 3 Business and Administration qualification, Level 3 Leadership and Management, Level 4 Project Management, a Local Councils (ILCA) introductory certificate, and various Health and Safety units – and all whilst working full time continuing to ensure that members of the public receive a great service over email, phone and in person. Quite a list!

Richard Hughes, Council Chair, commented, "Tom will be sorely missed. Nevertheless, we wish him all the best, taking pride in knowing that Otley Town Council has done a great job in helping to create a brilliant public servant."

TOWN MAYOR'S NEWS

Since becoming Mayor I have been honoured to attend and support various events throughout the town. Amongst other invitations, I was delighted to say some words and award prizes at the Otley 10 Road Race organized by Otley Athletic Club. It was a pleasure to be invited by Paul Briscoe to open the Otley Music Festival at All Saint's Parish Church, my first time on a Stage! Along with my Consort Sylvia Thomson I attended the Queen's Birthday Jubilee Celebrations with the Girl Guides at St Joseph's School. Several weeks later I was asked to open the stage for Otley Live in the Market Place – another fantastic and well attended weekend event.

I also marked Yorkshire Day by attending the official Yorkshire Day Civic Celebration in Keighley, which included a church service and a parade throughout the town – with over 50 Mayors and dignitaries attending in full regalia it was a great honour to take part!



We celebrated the Queen's Platinum Jubilee with various celebrations across the town, as indeed did the whole country, and it was with incredible sadness that we heard of the passing of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II in September. The town paid its respects and on a personal level I queued for more than 14 hours with my sister to pay our respects to Her Majesty at the Lying-in-State in Westminster Hall. In my absence the Deputy Mayor, Cllr Ray Smith, stood in for me at the Reading of the Accession Proclamation for King Charles III - which appeared on national TV news!

I attended the Induction Service at All Saint's Parish Church, where I welcomed the new Vicar, Aaron Kennedy, and his family to Otley. I wish him very well. I held my Civic Service at Bridge Church which was conducted by the Rev. Jason McCullagh.

I have held several fundraiser coffee mornings in the Core selling tea, coffee and cakes and gifts for my Mayoral charities. I will be holding further sales in the future – do check the Town Council website for further dates. Other fundraising activities have included a gig at the Black Horse and a fashion show at M&Co.

This Christmas I am really looking forward to seeing the return of our full Christmas festivities and I hope we can all take some time to enjoy these with family and friends. May I wish you all a very Happy Christmas and New Year.

Cllr Linda Hoare, Otley Town Mayor

The Town Mayor's Charities are:

- *Open Country*
- *Otley & District Talking Newspapers*
- *Dystonia UK*



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 2022 then we would like to hear from you, by nominating them now for the 2022 Otley Achievement Award.

This award celebrates achievements made during the year with the winner recognised with a certificate. To nominate someone please complete and return a nomination form available from the Otley Core or email a request to: eo@otleytowncouncil.gov.uk

The deadline for nominations is Friday 10th March.

Please return all nominations to the Executive Officer or e-mail: eo@otleytowncouncil.gov.uk



HONORARY CITIZENS

Otley Town Mayor Cllr Linda Hoare is pleased to issue a call to the townsfolk of Otley to nominate candidates for Honorary Citizenship.

The Mayor said "Honorary Citizenship is the highest acknowledgement that the town can give to those who have performed exceptional, committed service to the community for a period of many years. The list of Honorary Citizens is distinguished and only those who have provided exemplary service achieve such status".

There is no form to fill in; nominations should be in the form of a supporting letter and sent to the **Executive Officer, Otley Town Council, Otley Core Resource Centre, Unit 11 Orchard Gate, Otley, LS21 3NX** not later than midday on Friday 10th March.

If there are any queries please contact the Executive Officer at the above address or by telephone 01943 466335 or email: eo@otleytowncouncil.gov.uk

OTLEY TOWN COUNCIL MESSAGE BOARD

Book the Box!

The Council takes bookings for the red telephone box in Market Place. Applications to use the space could be for promoting community projects, engaging with residents, for information giving or displaying items of interest and are welcomed from local charities, recognised community organisations or schools.

Applications supporting the arts such as local artists creating a pop-up art gallery, or commercial organisations will also be considered. To find out more and details of how to book visit www.otleytowncouncil.gov.uk



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 larger 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.

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 on Fridays.

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

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.

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



CONTACTING YOUR COUNCILLORS

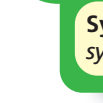
ASHFIELD WARD



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tom.featherstone@otleytowncouncil.gov.uk



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Sarah Hughes (Lib Dem)
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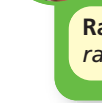


Sylvia Thomson (Lib Dem)
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DANEFIELD WARD



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WEST CHEVIN WARD



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Linda Hoare (Lib Dem)
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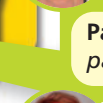


Jo Allen (Lib Dem) t: 01943 461899
Jo.Allen@otleytowncouncil.gov.uk

MANOR WARD



Mary Vickers (Lib Dem) t: 07751 309276
mary.vickers@otleytowncouncil.gov.uk



Paul Carter (Lib Dem)
paul.carter@otleytowncouncil.gov.uk



Penny Robinson (Lib Dem)
penny.robinson@otleytowncouncil.gov.uk



Back row left to right: Terry Ford, Town Bellman, Cllr Mick Bradley, Cllr Richard Davies, Cllr Nigel Francis, Cllr Jo Allen, Cllr Colin Campbell, Cllr Tom Featherstone, Cllr Paul Carter.
Front row left to right: Cllr Gareth Dibble, Cllr Sylvia Thomson, Cllr Richard Hughes (Chair of Council), Cllr Linda Hoare (Town Mayor), Cllr Penny Robinson, Cllr Sarah Hughes, Cllr Mary Vickers.
Apologies given: Cllr Ray Smith (Deputy Town Mayor)

All councillors work in a voluntary capacity

LEEDS CITY COUNCILLORS

Should you wish to speak with Cllr Colin Campbell, Cllr Ryk Downes or Cllr Sandy Lay please ring 07973 521547 or email colin.campbell@leeds.gov.uk

CONTACTING YOUR MP

Should you wish to speak with Alex Sobel MP please ring 0113 898 0969 or email alex@alexsobel.co.uk

ALLOTMENT RENT BILLS 2023

Rental bills for 2023 will be sent out in late December and should be paid by 31st January 2023.

Please note that bills will be sent out via email for all allotment holders who have registered a current email address with us. It may not be too late to register your email address; just send Karen an email at allotments@otleytowncouncil.gov.uk giving permission for the Council to store your email address and we will send out your bill electronically.

If you have decided not to renew your tenancy for 2023 will you please let Karen Smith, Allotment Manager, know as soon as possible on 01943 466335 or allotments@otleytowncouncil.gov.uk to avoid being billed for the coming year.

We hope working your allotment has provided you with pleasure over the past 12 months and send you best wishes for Christmas and the New Year.

TELL US WHAT YOU THINK

Otley Town Council's 'Otley Matters' community newsletter has been delivered to all households in the LS21 area since 1996. This quarterly publication arrives in March, June, September and December and is dedicated to providing local people with news and information on community groups, events and activities in the area.

Otley Matters is also available to pick up in locations around Otley and to read online at: www.otleytowncouncil.gov.uk/community/otley-matters/

Let us know what you think about your Otley Matters, and leave your ideas about features, topics and groups that you would like to read about in future editions.

Please email: otleymatters@otleytowncouncil.gov.uk



Christmas Greetings
Otley Town Council would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year in 2023

TOWN COUNCIL MEETINGS DEC 2022 - FEB 2023

Planning	5th December 2022
Trade & Tourism	
Audit	12th December 2022
Human Resources	
Planning	16th January 2023
Environment & Sustainability	
Policy & Resources	23rd January 2023
Full Council	
Planning	6th February 2023
Community Development	
Human Resources	27th February 2023
Neighbourhood Plan	

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

ARTICLES FOR NEXT EDITION

To have your organisation, group or event included in Otley Matters March 2023 edition please contact Jason Knowles for the editorial date in early January on 01943 466335 or email: otleymatters@otleytowncouncil.gov.uk

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