Otley Matters

September 2023
No 105

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WILDLIFE ARTS FESTIVAL

WILDLIFE FRIENDLY OTLEY

6TH - 8TH OCTOBER







The popular wildlife arts festival returns to Otley for a third year, showcasing local and national talent and engaging people with the wonderful world of wildlife. Just as last year's festival was that bit bigger and better, this year's version will include new work, new people and new venues.

The core of the festival will again be the art and photography exhibition at the Courthouse on Saturday 7th October. This will be supplemented by ticketed events over three evenings. Boff Whalley (from Chumbawamba) and Daniel Bye will perform a version of their 'These Hills Are Ours' show on Friday 6th, inviting people to join them the next day for a local run. Saturday sees the return of naturalist and writer Amy-Jane Beer, author of more than 40 books on natural history, while Sunday 8th will feature Wildlife Friendly Otley's new patron, entomologist and television presenter George McGavin.

On the Saturday there will be a programme of free factual talks: Ian Brand on 'Learning to love Dandelions and Stinging Nettles – the fascinating biology of our everyday weeds, and their amazing stories', Tim Gomersall on the birds in his paintings, Andy Goldring on the work of the Permaculture Association, a new talk from the Yorkshire Rewilding Network, a presentation about the newly community-owned Weston Woods, and Andy Woodall on local fungi. Local poets will perform poetry inspired by nature.

This year there will be a greater emphasis on participation. As well as the ever-popular children's wildlife art workshop (this year at Otley library), there will be three free workshops for adults. Professional local artist Kim Coley will be running two wildlife art workshops while leader of the Healing Arts Group Sandra Flitcroft will run a 'found poetry' workshop using old nature books as a stimulus. Richard Sabey of the Woolpack Studios will be leading a workshop helping people to make nature-inspired music using samples of wildlife sounds.

The environmental activist Dr Mya-Rose Craig – famously 'Birdgirl' on Twitter – will be doing an interactive presentation for Prince Henry's students, and author Jeanne Willis will be working with primary school children.

There will be a wide variety of stallholders, including: Prickly Pigs, Helen Walker Photography, Helen Sky Roberts Photography, the Yorkshire Wildlife Trust, the Wharfedale Naturalists Society, the Chevin Watercolour Group and, of course, Wildlife Friendly Otley.

OTLEY TOWN COUNCIL COMMUNITY FUND

OTLEY SCIENCE FESTIVAL

13th – 18th November



To celebrate the 15th birthday of the Festival the organisers have planned an exciting week with something for everyone!

On Monday, preschool budding scientists can join the Early Explorer's session run by Otley Children's Centre and in the evening quiz enthusiasts can pit their wits in the Science quiz – back by popular demand with fish and chip supper. School shows during the day on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday will be provided by Matthew Tosh (Pyrotrickery), Ben Garrod (Ultimate Dinosaurs) and Jon Wood (Working Scientifically).

Evening speakers include nationally renowned scientists Professor Dame Jane Francis, Director of the British Antarctic Survey, Dr Adam Rutherford, geneticist and science populariser, and Professor Ben Garrod, academic, conservationist, broadcaster and author. On Friday afternoon Dr Nick Summerton will present an interactive session on 'Medicine and Health Care in Ancient Rome', and in the evening local cheese maker Dave McGlinchey presents 'Creating cheese with McGlincheese', a science and cheese evening.

The Family Science Fair, which attracts an average of 500 people a year, is expanding to include Otley Bridge Church, who will hold a variety of workshops.

OTLEY TOWN COUNCIL COMMUNITY FUND

OTLEY FOLK FESTIVAL

15th – 17th September



Plans for this year's Otley Folk Festival are gaining speed. Ticket sales are well under way, and we are looking forward to a full weekend programme of events.

Friday evening will start with musicians' sessions and singarounds at 5.30pm and concerts with headliners Granny's Attic at the Parish Church, a concert at the Labour Club featuring Dave Vermond and the Phil Langran Trio and late entertainment at the Black Horse with the Jon Palmer Band.

Saturday features our programme of street entertainment including Morris Teams and busking spots. We are reintroducing our 'family folk day' at St Joseph's School. There will be workshops, concert spots, outside entertainment and a French dance workshop. Sherburn, Bartley & Sanders and Steve Knightley will be headlining the Parish Church concerts and folk/rock heroes the Duncan McFarlane Band will headline at the Black Horse afternoon concert. The Labour Club evening concert features Pete Ivatts, Angelo Palladino and our own Tony Wright.

Sunday's festivities will feature folk rock stars Gaelforce and include sea song specialists Monkeys Fist, top folk duo Loctup Together and local favourites The Hall Brothers.

For a full list of artists and ticket details, visit: www.otleyfolkfestival.com

www.otleytowncouncil.gov.uk

UPCOMING EVENTS

September	
9	**Heritage Open Days**
10	**Otley Vintage Transport Extravaganza**
15 - 17	**Otley Folk Festival**
17	**Otley Town Crier Competition**
24	**Otley Farmers' Market**
24	**Otley Designer Craft Fair**
October	
6 - 8	**Otley Wildlife Arts Festival**
29	**Otley Farmers' Market**
29	**Otley Designer Craft Fair**
November	
12	**Remembrance Sunday Parade**
13 - 18	**Otley Science Festival**
26	**Otley Farmers' Market**
26	**Otley Designer Craft Fair**
27	**Otley Christmas Lights Switch-On**
December	
3	**Victorian Fayre**
3	**Otley Designer Craft Fair**
6 - 9	**Otley Christmas Tree Festival**
17	**Otley Farmers' Market**
26	**Chevin Chase**

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

OYEZ, OYEZ, OYEZ!

Otley Town Crier Competition



Otley Town Council is pleased to announce that the Otley Town Crier Competition is back. The event will be held in Otley Market Place on Sunday 17th September. Taking part will be Town Criers and their consorts from across the country.

The Town Criers will meet at the Otley Town Council offices in Orchard Gate before parading to Market Place, where they will compete for a number of prizes: Overall Winner, Best Dressed Town Crier, Best Dressed Consort, and Best Ambassador. The competition will be run under the Loyal Company of Town Criers rules.

You can see the Town Criers perform their Home Cry at 11.30am, followed at 2:30pm with their Subject Cry; both will be marked by a panel of judges. There will be an awards presentation at the end to announce the winners.

Otley Action Minibus Appeal

Otley Action for Older People supports older people living in Otley and the surrounding area. Many of the older people supported are housebound and unable to get out without wheelchair accessible transport. Our much-loved and overused VW Crafter has served us well over the past decade, but the years have taken their toll and it is showing signs of wear and decay. The deeply engrained rust embedded within the main passenger sliding door has taken root and is no longer cosmetic. We need a new, specially adapted minibus which will cost £80,000+ but will benefit the older people of LS21 for at least the next 10 years. We have a bespoke Mercedes Sprinter on order, with anticipated delivery in December 2023.

We have made drastic efforts to raise funds over the past 12 months to raise the money needed and can almost see the end in sight. However, we still need to raise more, so please support this very worthy cause by donating. No amount is too small or too large.

Donate by accessing the Otley Action website on www.otleyactionforolderpeople.org.uk and pressing the Donate Now button. Or, alternatively, visit us in the Chippendale Centre on Crossgate or phone Sue on 01943 463965 for more information.



SHADOW BREWING

Otley's own Shadow Brewing has developed into a popular community hub within the town. The venue hosts a men's support group every Tuesday from 7.00pm, a women's group on the last Wednesday of the month from 8.00pm, and three book groups that all meet once a month. Several community groups also use the taproom for events and meetings, including Otley2030 and Wildlife Friendly Otley. The first Sunday night of each month is for board game enthusiasts and most months we give a platform to some of the best musicians in Otley and beyond. Any groups who feel like they might benefit from using our space are urged to get in touch: hello@shadowbrewing.co.uk



OTLEY CHORAL SOCIETY CELEBRATES MILESTONE



Otley Choral Society celebrates its remarkable 80th anniversary this year, originating in 1943 with historical achievements of commissioned pieces and a memorable TV performance in 1990.

The choir is hosting a Come and Sing Haydn's Creation on 2nd September at The Bridge Church, Otley. This masterclass of the intricate choruses of this famous piece will be led by the fantastic Jennifer Sterling who sadly will be leaving the choir during the year.

Rehearsals commence on Tuesday 5th September at 7.00pm in Prince Henry's Grammar School. The choir will prepare for the upcoming 2023-24 season, featuring the inspiring Mass in D by female composer Ethel Smyth in Ilkley and the beloved Handel's Messiah, taking place on 16th December at Otley Parish Church.

New members of all voice types are warmly welcomed to join the choir during open rehearsals on 5th and 12th September. Visit our website at www.otleychoral.co.uk for more information.

A New Requiem for Otley Choir

On Saturday 3rd June, Otley's Chamber Choir, The Chippendale Singers, gave a concert in the Bridge Church, supporting the work of Christian Aid. The principal work was a Requiem for Peace, composed by Martin Campey, who began the piece during the Covid lockdown and was inspired to finish it following the outbreak of war in Ukraine.

The Requiem was very well received and the singers intend to make a recording of it later in the year. The choir and soloists also gave excellent renditions of a variety of works, both serious and light-hearted. There was a raffle and refreshments were kindly provided by members of the Bridge Church.

The singers' next major performance will be to sing at The Otley Christmas Tree Festival in the Parish Church on Friday 8th December when they will be joined by the children from Westgate Primary School.

WHARFEDALE MALE VOICE CHOIR

After the summer recess the choir looks forward to the autumn and the run-up to Christmas. With several concert bookings already in the diary, Music Director Paul Hurst says: "I am excited by the progress made by the choir in the early part of this year. It gives me the confidence to introduce even more new and complex material into our repertoire."

The choir is very sociable and unlike many other choirs who gather in the evening, we meet for rehearsals on Monday afternoons. New members both tenor and bass are always welcome and should initially contact Choir Secretary Peter Roberts on 01943 46 3456.

E-BIKE LOAN SCHEME



We are proud to announce that Otley Town Council has secured funding from the City Connect scheme to promote active travel within Otley. As part of the funding, we have set up a project for residents to trial e-bikes on a short-term two-week basis. If you have considered leaving the car at home for local trips, this is a great opportunity to see if an e-bike would make a difference to your travel habits. The bike offers great support to tackle the hills on your route and the panniers will help you to carry small loads of shopping back home. The battery allows for travel around 30 miles depending on terrain and only takes 4 hours to recharge, ideal for pedalling around Otley or into the countryside.

The project has also taken delivery of an e-cargo bike which enables loads of up to 100kg to be delivered in the local area. We are keen to connect with businesses that are interested in trialling the e-cargo to replace some of their car or van journeys. We can offer training to familiarise designated riders with the bike.

For bookings or for more information about the e-bike or e-cargo bike please contact: Bikes@otleytowncouncil.gov.uk Alternatively, call 01943 466335.

WHARFEDALE GARDENERS' GROUP

Our 2022/23 season ended on a high note with a very successful plant sale under the Buttercross, but sadly no trips were organised this year. We will start our 2023/24 programme on the 12th September with a talk by Doug Stewart on 'The Secret Gardens of Yorkshire', followed in October by Paul Cook from RHS Harlow Carr talking about climate change and biodiversity.

We have now enjoyed two years in our new home at Beech Hill Church, where we meet on the second Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm, from September to May. Numbers are restricted due to fire regulations and so anyone interested in joining should contact the Membership Secretary, Christine, via www.wharfedalegardeners.co.uk

OTLEY CARNIVAL 2023



The 41st Otley Carnival in June saw thousands of visitors visit the town. Not even the sudden downpour could dampen the carnival mood. The parade was headed by the Town Bellman and was made up of various schools and organisations. As usual, judging was very difficult due to some tough competition and great creativity of the various organisations and schools.

The Parade Winners were as follows:

- Adult Float/Walking Group – Otley Ukulele Orchestra
- Junior Organisation including Nursery – Little Green Frog
- School Walking Group – Westgate School
- School Float – Otley All Saints School
- Collector's Fancy Dress – The Bleasdale Family
- Mayor's Choice – St Joseph's School
- Overall Winner – Westgate School

At the carnival field there was a wide range of stalls including charity stalls, along with fairground rides and a climbing wall for the kids. There was also a variety of entertainment from Otley Brass Band, The Drumming Binmen, Otley Ukulele Orchestra, Otley Drummers Circle, the Irish Dance Academy, Zetsurin Karate, RadioDog, Secondhand Store, The Elastic Band, and George Quinn & The Imbeciles.

The Carnival Committee would like to thank Coopers for providing wagons for the floats, all the parade judges and our sponsors including Otley Town Council. And our brilliant Carnival Stars who have been great ambassadors and carried out various charity events and worked with many Otley organisations over the past 12 months.

If anyone is interesting in joining our hardworking committee, please email: info@otleycarnival.co.uk

BLOOMING MARVELLOUS



I hope you were able to see the orchard in all its spring glory. As the trees get more mature the show just gets better and better.

As you may recall last year was very fruitful indeed and we were able to juice well over five tons of apples. And this year looks good too. Fingers crossed for another bumper crop. So, the all-important weekend juicing dates for your diaries are: 9th-10th September, 23rd-24th September, 7th-8th October and 28th-29th October.

On one of these dates, we will be hosting an Apple Day with Otley's very own Wayzgoose giving us a Special Harvesting performance.

There may also be a date in November depending on how the late crop turns out. Check out our Facebook page @otleychevinorchardproject.

Otley Coffee Festival - The World in your Cup

The Otley Coffee Culture team have begun planning for Otley Coffee Festival 2024, this year with the exciting theme of 'The World in your Cup'. We already have four great roasters confirmed and we are beginning to explore a range of other stalls. Depending on replies we will be confirming the festival in the autumn, but it's certainly a good idea to put the date in your diary now: Saturday 27th April 10.00am - 4.00pm at Otley Parish Church. Tickets are likely to be just £6 in advance – with no increase since last time - and £8 on the door.

350 people visited West Yorkshire's first Coffee Festival last year. Opened by Sylvia Thomson, the Mayor of Otley, in the presence of Alex Sobel MP and other guests, the event attracted visitors from across Yorkshire and beyond. We were delighted with the festival's success and that we were able to support four great charities: Farmers' Voice Radio, which enables farming communities in developing countries to access and share the knowledge they need to succeed; Oxfam, Yorkshire Air Ambulance and Otley Charity, Hug on a Tray.

Casa Espresso Coffee Roasters commented that the festival was "One of the best events we've had the pleasure to be part of", whilst Tony Garwood, of O'Deli café, noticed the festival goers filling the town and was thrilled at how many patrons enjoyed the spring sunshine.

The success of the festival – the latest in Otley's fantastic festival calendar – allows us to plan confidently for the 2024 event. Watch this space!

For more details: www.otleycoffeeculture.co.uk/festival

OTLEY PARISH CHURCH

Members of Otley Parish Church have recently been giving thought to our outreach for the town's young people. We are aware that there could be more for young people to do in Otley; and we want to do a better job of sharing the Good News of Jesus with everyone.



After some prayer and thought, some of our more youthful adults, and some of our older young people, have teamed up to begin a fortnightly youth group called '7Up'. Any school-aged children, 10 years and older, are invited! For information on meeting dates, please visit: www.otleyparishchurch.org

Because we are serious about becoming a church that cares for children and young people, we've not stopped there. I'm delighted to say we've also decided to hire a part-time youth worker named Maria (in above photo) who joined us in late July.

Our Sunday service is at 10.30am. Families are most welcome!

Weston Play Park



Friends of Weston Playpark had a great morning at Ashfield School recently, presenting certificates and prizes for the competition run with the school for pupils to design a new playpark for their local area. Over 60 children entered the competition and entries were of a high standard with lots of colour and imagination on show. We are delighted that local children and families in Ashfield Ward care so much about their park and they gave us lots of ideas for improvement.

There were 15 highly commended entries, each of which received a certificate. Two second place winners and the first prize winner each received a certificate and a book voucher kindly donated by The Bookshop on the Square, together with some art materials to continue to create!

The Friends would like to say a big thank you to all who donated to our Crowdfunder in May which raised over £1,000. We are continuing to look into grants and will be running some more fundraising events over the next few months. Find out more by contacting us on Facebook or Instagram.

Otley Historical Society

New members are welcome to the first meeting of the season for the Otley Historical Society on Thursday 14th September at 7.30pm in the Bridge Street Church meeting rooms. Our guest speaker will tell us all about 'The house built on the love of chocolate'.

Meetings are held every second Thursday of the month. For more information, please contact John Chippendale on 01943 461554 or email johndenise2009@hotmail.co.uk

OTLEY SPACE



Otley Space attended the carnival in June supported by funds from Otley Town Council. Our stall was a huge success, raising funds to support promoting our work and vision. Otley Space is a local charity created to improve community provision for all. We currently run a group at Otley Social Club open to adults of all ages every Tuesday from 12.30 to 3.30pm. We offer free refreshments, games and activities, as well as informative talks from other organisations.

Alongside our work with adults, we recognise a lack of provision for our young people across the town. We are seeking a dedicated space in Otley where young people can enjoy time together with fun activities in a safe, welcoming environment.

We are seeking a treasurer to join us. As a charity, we are reliant on donations of both time and money. Should you feel able to support us, please contact us at otleyspace@gmail.com

WESTON WOODS UPDATE



In February, many local organisations and the entire Otley community came together to crowdfund and buy Weston Woods for the local community, and for wildlife in perpetuity. The woodland is being bought by Friends of Weston Woods, which includes Otley charities Otley 2030 and Wildlife Friendly Otley (and will be held legally by Menston Area Nature Trust (MANT). The legal costs associated with the community purchase of Weston Woods was also supported by a grant from Otley Town Council.

The legal process has been lengthy, due to the complicated 'title', but it is hoped that contracts will have been exchanged by the time you read this. Full completion (and thus ownership) may take a while as there is a lengthy backlog at the Land Registry.

If you would like to be involved in managing the woods, please contact info@mant.org.uk. We will shortly be convening a committee. Alternatively, if you would like to donate to the loan MANT has agreed for the purchase, please visit www.mant.org.uk or the new crowdfunding site www.crowdfunder.co.uk/p/westonwoodspurchase

Otley Community Larder

Otley now has its own community larder operating from premises on the Weston Estate. We are helping to reduce the impacts of food waste and the cost-of-living crisis by intercepting surplus fresh foods from local stores (which would otherwise go to landfill), plus gluts of locally produced fruit and vegetables, and distributing to the Otley community, free of charge!

We urgently need more volunteers (to staff the larder, make food collections and for other support roles), so that we can scale up, increase the volume of foods and services we offer and make a real, positive difference for our town. If you can spare a couple of hours a week (or a month), please get in touch and help us make the larder a roaring success! For further details, check our website www.otley2030.com/larder or email Larder@Otley2030.com

HELPING TO SUPPORT ALL THE PUBS IN TOWN



This year has been hard for pubs in Otley, with the freehold or leasehold of several pubs being on the market at various times during the year. Otley Pub Club will continue to fight for those that are in difficulties, for whatever reason, to try to keep them open and trading as pubs in our #famouspubtown!

We run projects and fundraisers throughout the year to support pubs and to encourage people to visit the town. A book sale and a gin tasting night were two of our recent successes. Like all clubs, we always need new blood, new ideas for projects and keen active committee members to help deliver them. If you love Otley's pubs, please think about joining us and helping to promote pubs as active social centres in the community. Contact us at info@otleypubclub.co.uk or on Facebook or Twitter.

OTLEY FOLK CLUB

The Otley Folk Club runs every Wednesday evening at the Black Horse Hotel. Singers' nights are always popular and we start at 7.45pm.

Our guest nights are proving to be really successful; later this year we are looking forward to performances by internationally famous singer/songwriter Allan Taylor, north-eastern folk superstar Jez Lowe, local folk hero Duncan McFarlane and top trio Sherburn, Bartley & Sanders.

Guest nights interspersed with our acclaimed singers' nights means that there is always something for everyone. The club is open to all and we look forward to welcoming you to the Black Horse. For full and up-to-date details, visit our website at www.otleyfolkclub.net

Otley Methodist Church

The Church is delighted that it has agreed a sale with the Wesley Community Group – a body of local people wanting to safeguard the building and make it available for community use for workspace, performance space, group meeting space and office space. The Church is working hard to support a smooth transition with the Wesley Group and in the short term the church community will continue to meet in the premises on Boroughgate (main entrance off Walkergate).

We are a welcoming people – why not give us a try? We are warm and friendly – and do Church in a contemporary way using the best of the past as well as the best of the present. There is a welcome for all.

Our Harvest Festival is on Sunday 24th September at 10.30am led by Rev. Cameron. This will be family friendly – any non-perishable items would be welcomed for Otley Foodbank. On Sunday 12th November there will be worship geared to all ages for Remembrance Sunday at 10.30am. Then our Minister, Rev. Cameron will be leading the Civic Service later that day at the Bridge Church.

Our next Forest Church is at the White House (Otley Chevin) on Saturday 9th September at 3.00pm and is geared for families as we worship, explore and think creatively about the natural world. Refreshments, crafts and songs are based around the theme of 'Fruit'. Do join us for an hour or so. The driveway up to the White House will be open so car parking is available at the top.

So, although the building is being moved into community hands, the Church continues to be at the heart of the community. Why not come along and see what's happening?

OTLEY COURTHOUSE



Saturday 23rd September: **Fara** *(Tickets: £19)*

Fusing the talents of three fine Orcadian fiddlers, Fara have firmly secured their foothold at the forefront of the Scottish folk scene since landing a Top 10 album on the UK folk charts alongside a remarkable performance at the 2017 BBC Radio 2 Folk Awards at the Royal Albert Hall.

Sunday 24th September: **Gertrude Lawrence: A Lovely Way to Spend an Evening** *(Tickets: £13)*

Funny, revealing and bursting with songs from variety and revues to hits by Noel Coward, Kurt Weill and Rodgers & Hammerstein. Lucy Stevens has crafted a vibrant new script using 1930s musical comedy star Gertrude Lawrence's own words taken from her memoirs.

Sunday 30th September: **Charlie Dore** *(Tickets: £14)*

Charlie Dore's songs have been recorded by the great and the good including George Harrison, Tina Turner, Celine Dion, Jimmy Nail and Ricky Ross, but her live shows reveal that actually she keeps the best songs for herself.

Thursday 12th October: **Siobahn Miller** *(Tickets: £16)*

With four Scots Singer of the Year titles and a BBC Radio 2 Folk Award, this is a freewheeling celebration of much-loved Scottish songs.

Friday 13th October: **Stephen K Amos: Oxymoron** *(Tickets: £19)*

Stephen K Amos is back with a brand-new show, after treading the boards of London's West End in the smash hit musical My Fair Lady, playing the iconic role of Alfred P. Doolittle. Join him for an hour of solid jokes and guaranteed belly laughs.

Friday 20th October: **Sam Avery: How Not to Be a Terrible Parent** *(Tickets: £17)*

In a world filled with bad advice, empty mantras and online 'experts', how do we celebrate the small victories of parenthood and stop ourselves from feeling truly terrible? 'How Not To Be a Terrible Parent' is the hilarious new stand-up show from award-winning comedian and best-selling author Sam Avery.

Saturday 28th October: **Rosie Hood Band** *(Tickets: £15)*

Rosie Hood is known for her strong, pure voice and captivating performances as well as her poetic writing and honest interpretations of traditional folk music.

Otley COURTHOUSE

u3a learn, laugh, live

Otley members of Ilkley & District u3a took part in a film/TV related treasure hunt organised by our good friends at Bradford u3a. Starting and finishing at the historic Bradford Club, participants enjoyed a pie and peas supper before the winners were announced.

Our Summer Programme included talks about vinyl albums, Stone Age art and South African history, with taster sessions for bell ringing, disco dancing, guitar group, singing and more.

We have over 100 interest groups located across the district including Otley and recently launched a new initiative for short courses on topics such as pottery and family history.

Time on your hands? Want to meet others who share your interests – or even start a new hobby? New to retirement and looking for options? Discover what's on offer at Ilkley & District u3a by chatting to our members at either our drop-in sessions at The Core or come along to one of our coffee mornings. You will be warmly welcomed.



More information can be found on our website at www.ilkleyu3a.org or find us on Facebook and Twitter.

AUTUMN FILM AT OTLEY COURTHOUSE

As the nights begin to draw in, it's time to start going out – to the movies…
Otley Film Society will start their 25th season at their Otley Courthouse home – on Thursdays at 7.45pm.
The bar is open from 7pm and drinks can be taken through. Entry is £5 (cash only please) on the door.

The first six films of the season are:

21st September: **Boiling Point**
5th October: **Till**
19th October: **Alcarras**



2nd November: **Tori and Lokita**
9th November: **Riders of Justice**
30th November: **Aftersun**

Other films starting at 7.30pm include:

8th September - Exhibition on Screen: **Van Gogh - Sunflowers** Tickets: £9 Adults £8 Courthouse Friends
24th November - Exhibition on Screen: **Klimt and the Kiss** Tickets: £11 Adults £10 Courthouse Friends
26th November - Leeds Palestinian Film Festival & OFS: **Mediterranean Fever** Tickets: £6

Otley Courthouse's **Movie Matinees** continue Thursdays at 2pm - with tea and biscuits from 1.30pm.
See Otley Courthouse website or pick up a Movie Matinees leaflet from the venue.
There will be 12 more films through to May 2024. Full details: www.otleycourthouse.org.uk and www.otleyfilmsociety.org.uk

DANCE WITH THE BELLES!



The autumn term is when we begin our practice season and learn new dances and it is the best time to join The Buttercross Belles, Otley's all-women Morris side. New dancers over the age of 18 (no experience needed) and musicians (male and female) are always very welcome. Most of the original group were new mums from Otley's NCT group. It's fantastic exercise in a friendly, supportive setting. We have fun together dancing and making music. As well as performing locally, we head off to events and days of dance further afield, with friends and family. This summer we danced in Knaresborough and at Whitby Folk Festival, organised the community May Day dancing at Otley's historic maypole and ran a taster workshop at the Courthouse as part of the My Leeds Summer 2023 celebrations.

We practice on Thursday evenings from 7.45pm to 9.45pm at Ashfield Primary School in Otley. For more information all things Belles, checkout out our NEW website: sites.google.com/view/thebuttercrossbelles, follow us on Facebook. Alternatively, please contact our Squire, Rachel Hill: buttercrossbellessquire@gmail.com

INVEST IN THE WESLEY

A NEW COMMUNITY SPACE FOR OTLEY



The Wesley Group is pleased to announce that their offer to buy the Methodist Church has been accepted. They now need the support of the community to raise the funds to complete the purchase before the end of November 2023.

The aim of the group is to transform the buildings into a vibrant and welcoming space for community, enterprise, culture, events, and the arts in Otley. The group also plan to convert the adjacent cottage, showcasing new technologies that can reduce household bills and carbon footprint.

The Wesley Group will be raising a large portion of the money through a community share issue. Community share issues allow people to invest in a project and receive dividends over time. This means the building will be owned by and operated in the interest of the community in perpetuity.

To find out how you can invest, please visit www.wesleyotley.org.uk

3G COMMUNITY PITCH



After years of hard work and engagement with local people and organisations, the new community 3G pitch at Prince Henry's Grammar School is hopefully opening in September this year (pictured under construction). This state-of-the-art training and match play facility for football, rugby and a range of other activities has been eagerly awaited by local partner clubs. Prince Henry's students will use the pitch during the school day, with local sporting clubs having access in the evening and at weekends. As well as local fundraising and investment from Prince Henry's, significant funding has been provided by the Football Foundation, Sport England and Otley Town Council. The extensive biodiversity enhancement works across the site are in place and will come to fruition as the planting grows and thrives and wildlife settles into the new habitats. "We are so pleased to have reached this stage and to be working alongside our local partners enjoying this fantastic new community asset," said Dave Curtis, PE Faculty Leader at Prince Henry's.

SPONSORED BY OTLEY TOWN COUNCIL

Sue Ryder Starlight Hike Leeds

Sign up to Sue Ryder Starlight Hike Leeds and walk 5k or 10k under the stars to celebrate the memory of a loved one this October. Get together with family and friends to remember someone special, raise funds and help Sue Ryder create a future where everyone has access to care and support at the end of their life or following a bereavement. Join hundreds of other supporters at Sue Ryder Starlight Hike Leeds on Saturday 14th October 2023.

Starting at the historic Prince Henry's Grammar School, Sue Ryder Starlight Hike Leeds will follow a 5k or 10k route along the banks of the River Wharfe, through the picturesque Wharfemeadows Park and around the town of Otley. During the event there will be an opportunity to place a dedication in memory of someone special.

Crossing the finishing line, you will be rewarded with a well-deserved medal and the knowledge that you've done something amazing to remember those close to you. The funds raised will help Sue Ryder's specialist teams to provide expert care which means the end of people's lives can be filled with friendship, family and love in their final moments together.

Sign up at www.sueryder.org/starlightleeds or contact the Sue Ryder Wheatfields Hospice Fundraising Team via email: wheatfields.fundraising@sueryder.org or call 0113 203 3317.

Tickets are £15 for adults and £6 for children aged 6-17. Children under six go free. If you register before the 10th September you will receive 20% off your ticket price.



OTLEY CRICKET CLUB



For the first time in its 203-year history the club has the luxury of permanent nets firmly established in the northwest corner of the ground at Cross Green.

There was considerable cost involved, but generous contributions from members and friends via a Crowdfunding scheme plus equally generous grants of £10k from the Otley Town Council Investing in Otley Fund and the Leeds City Council Ward Councillors' Wellbeing Fund enabled the scheme to go ahead.

As one of her last duties as Town Mayor, Councillor Linda Hoare formally opened the nets before the first team game on 29th April.

Pleasure turned to sadness as a minute's silence was observed in memory of Mr Colin Bentley, a most loyal and well-loved member, who played for the club in his younger days, and who died in March. He had endured a long illness with incredible fortitude and will be sadly missed.

SPONSORED BY OTLEY TOWN COUNCIL

OTLEY VINTAGE TRANSPORT EXTRAVGANZA

Sunday 10th September 10.00am – 4.00pm



Attractions include: Fairground Organs, Classic and Veteran Cars, Motorcycles, Military Vehicles, Heavy and Light Commercials, Tractors, Steam Engines, Trade Stands, Car Boot Sale, Displays, Brass Bands, Children's Amusements, Punch and Judy Show, City of Leeds Pipe Band, Live Music, and much, much more.

Admission: Adults £5, Concessions £4, Children under 14 free if accompanied by an adult. For more information, or if you would like to volunteer to help on the day, please visit our website www.ovte.co.uk

STREET VISION 2030

Change is constant; some is welcome, some is not. One obvious change in Otley is the loss of chain stores and banks: this is a national phenomenon and market towns have been particularly hard hit. Growing congestion is also a challenge. Less obvious is the impact of climate change which will affect other countries much more, but will, nevertheless, be felt here; we have already experienced uncomfortably hot days.

Four years ago Otley Town Council began a process of exploring options to make Otley town centre safer, more pleasant and planet-friendly – we gave this the name StreetVision 2030. Despite Covid delays, we have managed to gather ideas, consult widely through a detailed survey, and discuss improvements with ward councillors and Leeds Highways.

We have promoted walking. We have organised the Family Cycling Day. We have been successful in obtaining funding for e-bikes for free hire. Desirable changes such as the widening of paths through Wharfemeadows and Manor Garth Parks and the pedestrian crossing on Bridge Street have been supported. The 20mph limit within the Town Centre is great news.

But we would like to do more. Junction improvements are being considered and we have committed to exploring widening the pavement on the east side of Kirkgate, which is considerably narrower than the opposite side. Kirkgate has been particularly vulnerable to chain store closures and the shrinking of the market over the last decade; new openings have tended to be food and drink focused. A wider pavement would allow the planting of trees – good for summer shade, spring shade and wildlife, the placing of benches, the opportunity for more outdoor café tables and easier walking and wheeling. These ideas were well supported in our survey.

We have been seeking external funding for more improvements and, for the right schemes, we have a Town Council budget. The new Council was elected on a mandate to continue to make our StreetVision a reality. We are excited by the possibilities and grateful for your support.



OTLEY IN BLOOM

Moving into autumn, thoughts inevitably turn to possible projects for 2024. Bulbs in the barrier planters have multiplied, so we have spares to move elsewhere. Suggestions are the gateways to Otley, or maybe the banks of the Wharfe. If anyone in the town has ideas we would be pleased to hear your thoughts.



Our pilot scheme of planted window boxes was well received on Wesley Street and North Parade. Several households and one business took up our offer. The photos show the boxes after the plants have been in for a few weeks. All being well we will repeat this scheme again; fliers will be delivered in the future to suitable areas in town.

We are pleased to say that Otley Town Council have agreed to offer funding to Otley in Bloom for another year, so we shall endeavour to keep maintaining and adding to the green spaces in our town.

More details about our work can be found at www.otleyinbloom.co.uk or see Facebook or Instagram

Prickly Pigs Hedgehog Rescue

As the seasons transition from summer to autumn, September marks an important time for hedgehogs. Our prickly friends are preparing for hibernation and need our help to ensure their survival through the colder months. Prickly Pigs is still extremely busy at this time of year as we have our usual adult hedgehogs in need of help and also summer-born hoglets and juveniles that have become ill or been orphaned. This will continue through the autumn months as, due to our milder winters, females often give birth to a second litter as well as needing to get themselves ready for winter.

There are a few simple things that we can do to help. Hedgehogs need safe spaces to forage for food and build nests for hibernation. Encourage them to visit your garden by leaving a small gap in a fence to allow them access. Provide hedgehog-friendly habitats like log piles, leaf piles, and dense shrubs where they can shelter. As hedgehogs prepare for hibernation, they need to consume as much food as possible to build fat reserves. Supplement their natural diet by leaving out shallow dishes of fresh water and offering hedgehog-friendly food such as wet cat or dog food or cat biscuits. Remember to avoid feeding them bread and milk, as this can cause digestive problems, and foods such as mealworms, sunflower seeds and nuts.

Remember, every effort, no matter how small, can make a difference. By taking action this September, you can help secure a brighter future for hedgehogs and ensure their survival for generations to come. Let's work together to protect our prickly garden friends!

If you ever see a hedgehog out in the day then it is likely to be in need of help and the quicker you get it help the better a rescue has saving it. Call us on 07434 626832 or visit our website www.pricklypigs.co.uk for more information and advice.

OTLEY WALKING FESTIVAL 2023



It's been wonderful to welcome people to Otley Walking Festival again, showcasing our lovely market town and the wonderful variety of Wharfedale countryside we are so fortunate to have on our doorstep.

With 52 walks and events, there really has been something for everyone, including favourites like the Six Dales Trail, Wayzgoose Weave, Despicable Liars, The Alexander Technique and an Allotments Walk. New themed walks – Little and Large, Yorkshire Grit, Walk to Wilson Woods, Urban Jungle, Otley (Literature) Run, Old Maps in the Library, Wild Flower Walk – too many to mention!

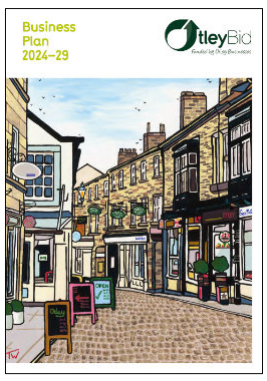
Thanks to the great team of volunteer walk leaders who give their time and expertise for the Festival, our financial sponsors (Aura Jewellery, Backcountry UK, Bondgate Bakery, Christopher Little & Co), and local businesses who donated raffle prizes.

Diary Date Otley Walking Festival 22nd – 30th June, 2024 www.otleywalkingfestival.co.uk
If you want to get involved contact us at otleywalkingfestival@mail.com

Otley Businesses Coming Together

In October, all Otley businesses within the BID Levy area will receive a voting ballot paper, providing them with an opportunity to cast their vote in favour of securing a third five-year term for Otley Business Improvement District (BID). This important decision will not only ensure the continuation of our progress, but also bring another £375,000 of investment into our vibrant town.

Over the past nine and a half years, Otley BID has made an incredible impact on our community and its businesses. Through the dedication and collaboration of our local business owners, we have successfully generated an additional £375,000 during each five-year term, paving the way for supporting many local projects and initiatives – all with the aim of driving footfall into the town and championing our Otley businesses.



We understand that the economic climate continues to pose challenges for businesses across sectors, both customer-facing and service-based. However, we firmly believe in the strength of unity. By joining forces and leveraging the power of our community, we can navigate these challenges and create a prosperous future for Otley.

We invite you to stand with us and make a difference by voting YES in the upcoming ballot. Your vote matters, and together, we can continue the journey of transforming Otley into a flourishing hub of opportunities and prosperity.

Image: Tom Wriglesworth artworkbytom.com

Your Vote Matters!

OTLEY 2030

Climate action charity Otley 2030 is looking for more volunteer trustees to become part of the team as it grows.

The community group, which became a charity in 2023, is responsible for many projects and partnerships around Otley, most recently supporting the community buyout of Weston Woods, and also the former Methodist Church. They are now looking for more people to join their volunteer board – particularly for somebody with legal experience and also a person to fulfil the role of treasurer.

Community Development Lead, Andrew Howarth said: "We're going through a period of growth, and we need to apply for funding to help us keep up with the demand for our projects. We need more people, especially with legal and financial experience, to help us continue our work."

The Otley 2030 board meet every two months and the next AGM is in November. For more information about Otley 2030 go to www.otley2030.com. To find out about the trustee roles, email hello@otley2030.com

OTLEY TALKING NEWS



Do you find *Otley Matters* a useful read? How would you feel if you couldn't read it? Would you like someone to read it to you? That's exactly what Otley Talking News does.

We also read the Wharfedale Observer every week, and we include a list of selected radio programmes and audio-described TV programmes. And we add Soundings stories from the Talking News Federation, which includes useful items for those who are visually impaired, and every other week there's a quiz. Every other month we read stories from magazines, like The Dalesman and Saga Magazine.

Do you know of someone who is blind or partially sighted and would like to receive our recording? Or maybe you would like to help us create the talking news? We record usually on Thursday afternoon. In either case contact us via our website www.otleytalkingnews.org.uk

SPONSORED BY OTLEY TOWN COUNCIL

The Jordan Legacy Fundraising Walk



This September, Otley-based filmmaker Mark Currie is walking 120+ miles from Exmouth to Poole along the challenging Jurassic Coast in support of The Jordan Legacy and its work to reduce the number of people committing suicide.

"I have people close to me who've suffered from mental health issues, so this walk is important to me. Tragically, my friend Steve Phillip lost his son Jordan in 2019. So, I'm walking for them and for anyone else who has gone through a similar experience."

Hope lies in organisations such as The Jordan Legacy, whose mission is to better understand poor mental health, improve people's well-being and help as many people as possible make positive choices. See: www.thejordanlegacy.com

"Walking is where I'm at peace with myself. Where my head is happy, my mind free and where I generate energy for life. Walking is my escape."

Please support Mark by donating vital funds to The Jordan Legacy:
www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/JurassicCoastWalk

The Jordan Legacy

BRIDGE CHURCH



Over the summer the Bridge Church has had another successful scarecrow display in the church garden which attracted visitors from far and wide. Refreshments were served on some days by church volunteers.

On Sunday 24th September we will be holding our Harvest Celebration Service and will welcome food and toiletry items to be donated to people in need. This will be preceded by our Harvest Supper and Ceilidh on the evening of Saturday 23rd September.

On Saturday 28th October we are delighted to welcome the fabulous Manchester Chorale to perform a concert in the church. Tickets are £10 in advance and £12 on the day with accompanied under 16s free of charge. Doors will open at 7.00pm with the concert starting at 7.30pm.

More details about these events and other activities can be found at www.otleybridgechurch.org.uk or our Facebook page 'Otley Bridge Church'.

The Bridge Church
The United Reformed Church (URC) in Otley

HERITAGE OPEN DAY
AT OTLEY COURTHOUSE

Saturday 9th September 10.00am to 4.00pm



Cop turned-comedian Alfie Moore in the cell at the Courthouse

'Crime and Crochet' is the title chosen by the Courthouse to illustrate this year's national theme of 'Creativity Unwrapped' for Heritage Open Days 2023.

During the day visitors can watch short films created by our enthusiastic volunteers about famous Courthouse creative writing. John Wainwright served at Otley Police Station in the 1950s and '60s and wrote 83 crime novels. He now has a worthy successor in J R Ellis, a member of the Courthouse Writers group, whose books about murders in the Yorkshire area are currently popular on both sides of the Atlantic. Other films feature the Heartbeat (TV Series) connection to the Courthouse and the volunteers' book Memories of Otley Courthouse published in 2012 which contains fascinating details of life in the police station, cells and courtrooms. Former magistrate Steve Stringwell relates memories from serving on the bench at Otley before the court closed in 1997.

More creative writing will be on show when the Otley Players perform a play in the courtyard, specially written for the day by a member of the group. Performances at 2pm and 3pm.

At 11.30am, for children aged 5 to 85, you can listen to some exciting real-life and imaginary Courthouse crimes with storyteller Vickie Orton. Finish by getting your very own charge sheet with 'crime' and fingerprints.

At 2pm, the Courthouse welcomes our Leeds City of Culture area host, yarn artist Abi James, to run a beginners' crochet workshop. Minimum age 14.



And there will be an Otley Museum display 'Otley Dressed and Undressed' showing a selection of our textiles. This includes clothes from dolls, babies and children to ladieswear, with accessories and what was hidden underneath! We also have a collection of shoes, many of which were found in walls and chimneys in houses, allegedly to ward off evil spirits. Needlework made by schoolchildren and ladies will also be on display including samplers, a quilt and a rag rug made by the children at St Joseph's school.

The event is supported by Leeds Civic Trust.

TOWN MAYOR'S NEWS



The new Otley Town Mayor, Cllr Ray Smith, a retired head teacher, has chosen to support Otley Food Bank in his fundraising efforts during the year. Ray would like residents and businesses in Otley to donate food during his Mayoral year to support local people in crisis. There are Food Bank donation points across Otley including at the Otley Core. A shopping list is available at collection points but items with a long shelf life are encouraged.



Otley Town Mayor, Ray Smith, is shown presenting Honorary Citizen certificates to Trevor Backhouse and Tim Wilkinson.

Otley Christmas Tree Festival

After two years without a festival, the Christmas Tree Festival was revived again in 2022 and was a great success. Visitors came in large numbers from the local area, from other parts of England and even from overseas.

Particularly pleasing was the fact that the charities who dressed the trees made over £4,000, which was much-needed income after the lean years of the pandemic. This year the Christmas Tree Festival will take place from Wednesday 6th to Saturday 9th December.

The festival will be organised by a team from Otley Parish Church with support from Tim and Helen Wilkinson who have been the organisers for many years. The organisers are also grateful to all the charity volunteers who help with setting up the festival, stewarding, and clearing up at the end.



The festival has always been a favourite with Otley people and visitors to the town and, hopefully, it will again benefit the town and its businesses in what are still difficult times. The festival will, once again, be an opportunity for local charities to dress a tree to raise funds and for local musicians to show off their talents!

To find out more about how to have a charity tree, or if you lead a music group that would be interested in performing at the festival, please contact allanboddy@gmail.com. In early October we will be contacting those charities who have had a tree in the past or have let us know they want a tree.



The traditional countdown to Christmas will commence with the Christmas Lights switch-on to be held in Otley Market Place on Monday 27th November. The event will start at 5.30pm with a range of music entertainment and a range of attractions in the square. The Town Mayor will switch on the Christmas lights at 7.00pm, followed by a spectacular firework finale.

Otley Business Awards 2024

Nominations are now open for everyone who uses local businesses to vote for their favourite business in the following categories:

- Best Newcomer
- Best Eatery
- Best Retail
- Best Health, Beauty and Wellness
- Best Professional Services
- Outstanding Tradesperson

Businesses are invited to nominate themselves and their staff in the following categories:

- Community Award
- Rising Star Award (for outstanding new members of staff)
- Eco Friendly Business
- Team of the Year
- Outstanding Contribution to the Business Community

Find out more about all the categories and nominate your favourite business by visiting www.otleychamber.co.uk before Saturday 30th September 2023.

The winners will be announced at the Otley Business Awards Ceremony at Otley Golf Club on Saturday 24th February where all the nominated businesses will be invited to join us for a meal, keynote speech by James Mason, Chief Executive of West & North Yorkshire Chamber, an award presentation and a disco.

Otley Business Awards 2024

SPONSORED BY OTLEY TOWN COUNCIL

OTLEY CHAMBER OF TRADE

OTLEY CHAMBER OF TRADE

This year Otley Chamber of Trade has been considering issues regarding the River Wharfe as part of a wider focus on the environment. The River Wharfe is a key focal point in Otley and a great tourist attraction especially now that we have the boats back on the river, thanks to Chris Thornton.

Throughout the year at our meetings we have had guest speakers looking at environmental issues. At our upcoming meeting on 19th September at the Parish Church we will be having a guest speaker from Yorkshire Water to talk about the River Wharfe and what they are doing regarding the environment and pollution issues. This meeting is open to members of the Chamber and to those with a general interest in the environment and our town. Everyone is welcome. The meeting starts at 6.00pm, with refreshments from 5.30pm.

YOUR OTLEY IMAGES

This feature 'Your Images of Otley' is intended to present your favourite photographs and images of Otley, be it past or present, landmarks or views, nature or wildlife or those little known places. If you would like to contribute to the 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.



Photo: Liam Ronan



Photo: James Ellis

OTLEY TOWN COUNCIL MESSAGE BOARD

Joint Otley Town Council & Community Police Surgeries

Otley Town Councillors and the Community Police hold a joint Surgery every second Wednesday in the month at 11.00am until noon at Otley Core.

If you have any queries or issues you would like to discuss in a friendly and relaxed environment, why not call in for a chat? No appointment necessary.



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.

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 email admin@otleytowncouncil.gov.uk

Book the Box!



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

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, please visit www.otleytowncouncil.gov.uk

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



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-sized poster to admin@otleytowncouncil.gov.uk and we will display it 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 make a booking.

CONTACTING YOUR COUNCILLORS

ASHFIELD WARD



Tom Featherstone (Lib Dem)
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PRINCE HENRY WARD



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Ray Smith (Lib Dem) t: 07946 800946
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DANEFIELD WARD



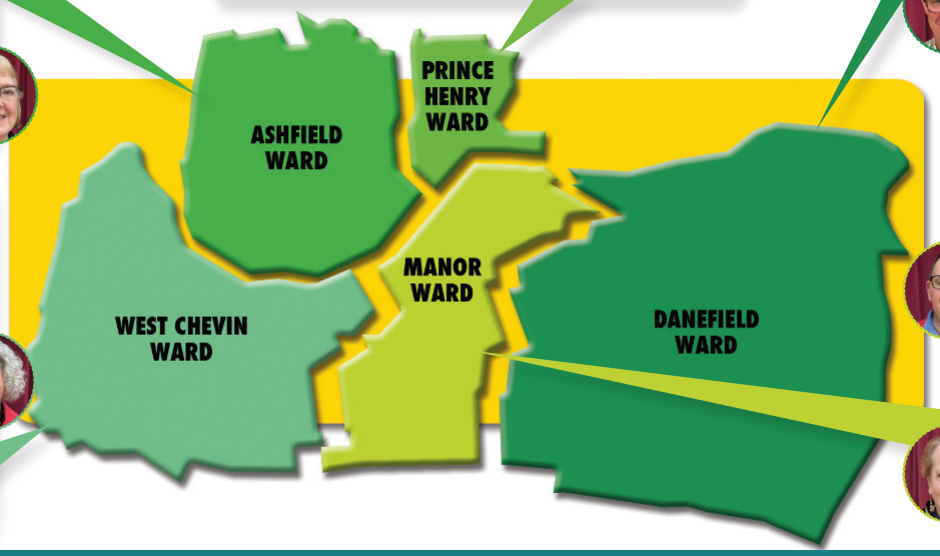
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Richard Davies (Lab)
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WEST CHEVIN WARD



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Linda Hoare (Lib Dem)
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MANOR WARD



Nigel Gill (Lab)
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Paul Carter (Lib Dem)
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Penny Robinson (Lib Dem)
penny.robinson@otleytowncouncil.gov.uk



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

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

OTLEY TOWN COUNCIL LITTER PICK DATES

Saturday 9th September	Danefield Ward	(meet at Summercross)
Wednesday 20th September	Manor Ward	(meet at Maypole)
Saturday 7th October	West Chevin Ward	(meet at Grove Hill car park)
Wednesday 18th October	Ashfield Ward	(meet at Weston Drive shops)
Saturday 4th November	Prince Henry Ward	(meet at Wharfemeadows café)
Wednesday 15th November	Gallows Hill	(meet at Gallows Hill car park)

All meeting times are 10.00am with the session lasting until noon.
During December to February there are no scheduled litter picks.



TOWN COUNCIL MEETINGS September 2023 - December 2023

Planning Environment & Sustainability	**11th September 2023**
Full Council Policy & Resources	**18th September 2023**
Audit Neighbourhood Plan	**2nd October 2023**
Planning Trade & Tourism	**16th October 2023**
Planning Community Development	**6th November 2023**
Full Council Policy & Resources	**13th November 2023**
Planning Trade & Tourism	**4th December 2023**
Audit Human Resources	**18th December 2023**

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.

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 provides 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*



OTLEY MATTERS ARTICLES

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

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