Otley Matters

June 2025
No 112

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Photo: Stephen Tonkin

OTLEY BID SUMMER 2025 UPDATE

The Kids Funzone is Back!

Get ready for FREE family fun in the heart of Otley! Every Wednesday throughout the August summer holidays, Kids Funzone takes over the Market Place offering exciting activities to entertain children aged 2–13.

While the full line-up is still being confirmed, expect plenty of favourites including the much-loved climbing wall and other fantastic activities from last year. Plus, we'll be teaming up with local businesses again to bring even more fun to the town centre!

Live Music on Saturdays

Otley's Market Place will also come alive every Saturday for 8 weeks during the summer with live busker sessions, adding a fun and relaxing vibe to your shopping experience.

Grab a coffee, browse the market stalls and soak up the summer atmosphere as talented musicians bring the town to life. Stick around, enjoy the tunes and make the most of Otley's vibrant summer scene! For more information nearer the time please visit www.otleybid.co.uk or www.visitotley.co.uk

OtleyBid
Funded by Otley Businesses



Following changes announced by First Bus late last year and early this year, Otley Town Council has commissioned People and Places Insight to conduct an independent survey of bus services to and from Otley. We would like to hear from current and former users including commuters, visitors, disabled people, late-night travellers and students. The survey will take five minutes to complete and there is an option to enter a prize draw for a £50 Voucher. Your responses are completely confidential and protected under the Data Protection Act (1998) as amended.

All responses will be anonymised, analysed and included in a report to be used to lobby West Yorkshire Combined Authority (WYCA), First Bus and others to improve bus services to and from Otley. To access this all-important survey please visit www.surveymonkey.com/r/OtleyBusUsers25 or scan the QR Code.

If you have any questions or queries, please don't hesitate to contact Mike King, Director, People and Places Insight, mike.king@people-places.co.uk



Gallows Hill Nature Area: Otley's Green Gem Adds New Wildlife Pond

Otley Town Council has further enhanced Gallows Hill Nature Area with the addition of a new wildlife pond and dipping platform, offering a valuable habitat for biodiversity and a safe, accessible space for environmental education and exploration, ideal for families, school groups, and nature enthusiasts.

Owned by the Council and part of Leeds City Council's designated green space network, Gallows Hill is managed with a long-term vision to protect and improve the site. A comprehensive management plan guides this work, with strong support from local partners and volunteers – this support remains a key part of Gallows Hill's success. The Council would like to thank Friends of Gallows Hill, Open Country, and Wildlife Friendly Otley for their continued efforts. Recently, councillors and representatives from both groups joined a site visit led by Gordon Haycock of Friends of Gallows Hill to explore ongoing conservation projects and plans.

If you're passionate about nature and want to make a difference locally, consider joining the Friends of Gallows Hill as a volunteer and help care for one of Otley's most treasured green spaces. Contact admin@otleytowncouncil.gov.uk for further details.



Planting perimeter hedging at the new pond



Away day, led by Gordon Haydock, FOGH

www.otleytowncouncil.gov.uk

UPCOMING EVENTS

June	
6-15	**Otley Music Festival**
7	**Otley Green Fair**
7	**Steampunk Arcadia**
8	**Otley Farmers' Market**
15	**Summer Bands in the Park - Otley Brass Band**
21	**Otley Carnival**
28	**Otley Sings Concert**
28-6	**Otley Walking Festival**
29	**Otley Family Fun Day**
29	**Otley Farmers' Market**
29	**Otley Designer Craft Fair**
July	
2	**Otley Cycle Race**
12	**Gallows Hill Nature Trail**
13	**Otley Farmers' Market**
27	**Otley Farmers' Market**
27	**Otley Designer Craft Fair**
August	
1	**Yorkshire Day**
6-27	**Kids Free Fun Zone (Wednesday only)**
10	**Otley Farmers' Market**
31	**Otley Farmers' Market**
31	**Otley Designer Craft Fair**

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



Following a wet 2024 Carnival, the committee is working on this year's event for Saturday 21 June. We hope this year's weather will be better. Over the past year, Sarah's Stars have been excellent representatives for the Carnival, visiting senior citizens, conducting litter clean-ups, baking, assisting at Homeless Hampers, and helping with the Christmas Lights switch-on. We would like to thank the 2024 intake and welcome the 2025 intake. We also thank Otley Town Council for their generous sponsorship. Without donations, the carnival could not happen. If businesses would like to know about sponsorship, email info@otleycarnival.co.uk for details.

The Carnival Committee always needs volunteers to join our dedicated team. If you are interested, please contact us. If you can't commit to joining the committee but can spare a few hours on or near the carnival date, we would appreciate your assistance with setting up the Carnival field, putting up notices, stewarding the parade, litter picking on the day, cleaning up afterwards. If you can help, please email info@otleycarnival.co.uk

Further details from Nigel Gill, Chair, Otley Carnival. Mobile: 07912 550017 Email: njgill@talktalk.net

OTLEY TOWN COUNCIL COMMUNITY FUND



Otley Music Festival 2025 returns in June better than ever. Featuring over 60 acts, this community-based charity festival is run in association with Otley Parish Church. Organisers, helpers and local musicians give their time and effort for free to raise money for good causes. All profits will be shared between the church's 'Local to Global' charity, Otley Community Larder and Otley Food Bank. We hope to better the £4,100 donated in 2024!

Three venues: Otley Parish Church, The Black Horse and The Horse & Farrier. Showcasing the extraordinary depth of Otley's musical talent, the line-up has both familiar names and extremely talented but lesser-known acts. Each year we invite wonderful professional acts from further afield; included in 2025 are acclaimed folk trio Rachael McShane (Bellowhead) and the Cartographers, exciting young folk trio Jon Doran & the Northern Assembly, alt-rock sensation Sean Harrington, and Duncan McFarlane's rock band Luigi Ana Da Boys.

The organisers make the festival accessible to all, so most sessions are 'pay as you feel', while the maximum price for ticketed sessions is only £10. Please come and support our joyful celebration of Otley's musical talent and help to raise money for great causes. Further details and links to donate can be found at: otley-music-festival.co.uk

OTLEY 2030



Your local climate action charity, Otley 2030, is hosting a series of talks this year on various topics around climate change, nature recovery and social justice. The first – 'Combatting Climate Change: How to Get Back to 1.5C with Clean Energy' – was presented by Helge Urdal.

Recent highlights for Otley 2030 also include:

- Working with the Weston community to install solar panels on Otley Social Club, Weston Lane Football Club and to develop a community garden and orchard.
- Otley Community Larder is thriving. 40+ volunteers work with the coordinator to reduce food waste, distributing low-cost food to the community.
- A theatre project partnering with the University of Leeds and involving a fantastic bunch of local teenagers explored attitudes to climate change and culminated in a fabulous performance and audience discussion. The project continues with support from Otley & Yeadon Ward City Councillors.

We want to develop more exciting projects around energy saving and community. We couldn't do it without you! To find out how you can get involved and/or donate to Otley 2030 go to www.otley2030.com/get-involved.



This year's Fair is on Saturday 7 June, 10am to 4pm, and is free to enter. It's part of the national Great Big Green Week when a million people will come together to be part of a wave of action for friends and family, climate and nature.

Stalls include Otley 2030, Wharfedale Naturalists, Wharfedale Beekeepers, Wharfedale Men's Shed, Wildlife Friendly Otley, Friends of Wharfedale Greenway, Friends of Chevin Forest, Chevin Orchard Project, Wharfedale Amnesty, Friends of Gallows Hill, Otley Town Council and Otley in Bloom. Craft stalls, workshops for all ages, entertainment from local musicians including Mariners Star (11am), Carol Robinson and John Kennedy (1pm) and Ben Greenwell (2.30pm). The café serves vegetarian and vegan food.

Otley Courthouse and Wildlife Friendly Otley will screen the film Wilding at 7.30pm, introduced by Wildlife Friendly Otley. It will also screen as a Courthouse Matinee Movie on Thursday 12 June (afternoon).



STEAMPUNK

Steampunk makes a welcome return to Otley on Saturday 7 June with Arcadia, Otley's fourth annual steampunk event.

Taking place in both Kirkgate Arcade and The Whitakers Arms garden, there will be something for everyone, whether you've been steampunking for a while, or you're trying it for the first time.

The Whitakers Arms garden will play host to the steampunk market and live entertainment. In Kirkgate Arcade you'll find Teapot Racing, a pop-up photo booth and a Spot the Oddity competition together with all the regular traders looking forward to welcoming you to their independent businesses.



Anyone for Canasta? Our new group in Otley can help if you've never played before. Ilkley & District u3a runs many interest groups and activities for those no longer in full-time work or semi-retired. Groups include Art for Fun, Sewing, Photography, Reading for Pleasure, Board Games and Bridge, all based in Otley. Maybe you have a hobby or interest you'd like to share with others.

Interested in theatre or film but rather not go alone? Our Go With group may be just the thing. Discover what's on offer by chatting with our members at our Drop-In sessions at The Core or come to our monthly coffee mornings. You will be warmly welcomed – you can attend a couple of taster sessions before deciding to join. Membership is £15, magazine subscription included. More information is on our website at www.ilkleyu3a.org (See 'Otley' section on the Home page) or find us on Facebook and Twitter.

THE 34TH OTLEY FOLK FESTIVAL

19-21 September 2025

Preparations are well advanced for this year's Otley Folk Festival. Artists include Seth Lakeman, The Churchfitters, Serious Sam Barrett, Cobalt Tales, Henry Parker, Janglebuddies, Carrie Martin, Mic & Susie Darling, The Hall Brothers – in all, thirty or so acts, plus a whole host of our local and loyal players, dancers and musicians.

The venues will include The Black Horse Hotel, Otley Parish Church, The Labour Rooms and Shadow Brewing. As usual, we will be putting on concerts, workshops, musicians' sessions, singarounds and street entertainment – hopefully something for everyone.

For up-to-date information and tickets:

www.otleyfolkfestival.com



Otley Walking Festival

28 June – 6 July

Get your boots polished. The popular Otley Walking Festival is back and the programme's looking good. With over 40 walks and events over the nine days of the festival, there is something for everyone – short town-based walks, meadows and field paths, strenuous moorland hikes, and entertaining evening events, including old favourites and new themed walks. Otley Walking Festival showcases our historic market town and the wonderful Wharfedale countryside we are so fortunate to have on our doorstep. A warm welcome from walk leaders, meeting friendly folk, enjoying the great outdoors – what's not to like? Some walks require booking – please check the programme carefully as turning up on spec won't be possible for all walks. Check our website for the latest updates: www.otleywalkingfestival.co.uk

Otley 800: Have Your Say!

'Otley 800' will run between 2027 and 2028 to commemorate 800 years since Otley received its market charter and the completion of the River Wharfe bridge. To mark this momentous occasion, a steering group has assembled a diverse programme of events for a year-long cultural celebration, including bookend events, community activities, flags, banners and legacy projects like a large tapestry, poetry and a mosaic trail.

We want Otley 800 to be a celebration for and by the people of Otley. The programme events will hopefully spark your imagination, encouraging you to get involved in existing projects or create ideas for your own events.

The Council plans to provide significant funding for events and projects during Otley 800, but to deliver the programme to its full potential we will be seeking sponsorship and grant funding. We encourage residents to have their say on the proposals so far and we hope there will be something that everyone will enjoy and want to get involved in.

To consider the current list of proposed activities and have your say, please visit otley800.co.uk/have-your-say

If you have suggestions for extra projects or to offer sponsorship, please contact Lianne McManus at otley800@otleytowncouncil.gov.uk

The Women's Institute Otley: Celebrating 40 Years



Our members come from a range of backgrounds and are of all ages, being supportive and having fun. We are a welcoming group that is constantly changing and evolving. We meet at Otley Methodist Church at 7pm. We offer a range of activities from learning new crafts and skills to hosting interesting speakers. If you'd like more information, send us an email to otleywi@gmail.com

theWI INSPIRING WOMEN OTLEY

Otley Brass Band in the Park



Dig out your picnic rugs and sunhats for a perfect way to spend a lazy Sunday afternoon, as Wharfemeadows Park hosts Otley Brass Band, on Sunday 15 June from 2.30pm to 4.30pm. Performing popular favourites, this concert is free.



Part of the u3a, we now have space for new members. You can attend two sessions to see if it is for you without committing to membership in the U3A. In June and July, we will be running a beginner's sewing course. If you are interested, we meet at Beech Hill Church on the first Saturday morning from 11am–1pm and the third Wednesday evening from 7–9pm. We are all about fun, friendships and sharing our skills. Please contact Andi Petch chair for more details at ajfpetch@gmail.com



On the last Sunday of each month, from 10am – 1pm, Otley Courthouse hosts a Designer Craft Fair to showcase the talents of local craft workers. All items are designed and made by the stallholders, and you have the chance to buy unique, handmade jewellery, stationery, gifts, artwork and more. Admission is free and the café is open.



As the months get warmer, and the plants come back to life, there's lots to keep us going. It was lovely to see the bulbs we planted in verges and planters deliver a wonderful spring show of blooms.

From March we've had almost weekly jobs to do – you may have seen us pruning buddleia opposite the bus station or planting bee-enticing lavender in our bed at the end of Weston Drive. Our plans were unexpectedly changed though as we had to move plants from one of our four wildflower beds in the park to accommodate the temporary bridge. With 24 hours' notice some of our members (in our own hi-vis jackets) battled bulldozers, shifted lots of plants to temporary homes to be replanted later once the site is restored by the contractors.

Fancy joining us? If so, 'contact us' on our website www.otleyinbloom.co.uk

A Busy Summer for The Chippendale Singers

Following a successful concert at the Bridge Church, in March, the singers are looking forward to the summer.

In April the choir made a recording of Martin Campey's 'Requiem Aeternam' with Phil Driscoll, a BBC recording engineer from the Manchester Audio Unit. Martin, a retired head teacher from The Whartons School, began the work during lockdown and has just completed the final movement.

On Saturday 21 June the choir will be giving a Summer Serenade in Fewston, singing amongst other items, a medley of songs by Cole Porter.

On 28 June, Chipps will be taking part in 'Otley Sings' at the Parish Church to raise awareness of, and money for research into, Prostate Cancer. In this concert, the choir will join forces with the Parish Church Choir and are hoping to sing excerpts from 'Les Mis'.

Please look out for advertising of the last two events around Otley.



Come and join in this family fun event! Otley Family Fun Cycling event is from 10am to 2pm on Sunday 29 June at Garnetts Field, close to the River Wharfe.

Children 3–12 years old can test their skills on the specially designed cyclocross grass course, safely away from roads. Parents can try out e-bikes on an easy route across the flat field. There will be short, guided rides on quiet safer cycling routes around Otley in small groups. Other activities include a climbing wall, craft tent and model making – fun for all ages! (Toilets and hand wash facilities on site.)

This FREE event is organised by Otley Town Council. Bring a picnic and make a day of it!



Otley Town Council invites you to the Gallows Hill Nature Trail on Saturday 12 July, from 10am to 3pm, for a free family event. This year's event celebrates 30 years of Friends of Gallows Hill, and the dedication they have put into the site to make it a special part of our community!

Enjoy a day filled with outdoor activities, craft workshops, games, wildlife spotting walks for all ages and a coffee stall. Prickly Pigs Hedgehog Rescue and Open Country will be present with information and engaging activities. Don't miss the Moors for the Future Bogtastic van featuring displays, a video, games, and a wealth of information about the local environment.

Due to limited parking, we encourage attendees to walk, scoot, or bike to the event. This event is a fantastic opportunity to enjoy nature and learn more about Otley's wildlife, we hope that you can join us.

A YEAR OF GIVING BACK

The Sarah Jackson Community Wish proudly celebrated its first anniversary in February, marking a year of generosity, support, and community spirit in memory of Sarah Jackson. The committee would like to extend heartfelt thanks to everyone who has supported us and fundraised over the last 12 months. Without their kindness and dedication, none of this would be possible.

To mark this special milestone, we decorated a Market Square phone box in our vibrant Wish colours – next to the defibrillator, for which we've helped fund replacement pads via the Public Access Defibrillators Group. We've been spreading a little joy throughout Otley by leaving bunches of flowers for people to find and enjoy – a simple act of love to brighten someone's day. We're also excited to announce plans for a Summer Party to thank our amazing fundraisers and supporters. Over the past year, the Sarah Jackson Community Wish proudly provided more than £15,000 of support across Otley and surrounding towns and villages. Our generous community has made a real difference.

We invite anyone who knows a person or family in need to recommend them to us via the nomination form on our website. Local groups in need of support are also encouraged to apply. We welcome applications and nominations from Otley and surrounding towns and villages. For more information about the Sarah Jackson Community Wish and the amazing impact it is having on the Otley community, please visit sarahjacksoncommunitywish.co.uk.

THE Sarah Jackson COMMUNITY WISH





The Bands' Night took place at Otley Courthouse before the Easter holidays. A record number of twelve school bands played to a sell-out audience, with professional sound engineers from the Courthouse making sure the bands sounded fantastic.

This year, the bands were the school's Jazz Band, Rat Dance, Nameless, Wanderlust, Lights Out, Leo & Scarlett, Gazelles, Baker's Dozen, Shobee Doo and Imaginary Husband, along with the PHGS staff band, the Manic Creep Teachers. It was a superb evening with all profits donated to Martin House Hospice.

Otley Town Council, through their community development grant, generously provided £250 towards the cost of this year's event. The school is thankful for their support in providing this opportunity to local young musicians and continues the strong links between the Council and the school.

Enjoy the View Without the Climb!

Otley Town Council is pleased to announce the Otley Chevin Minibus project, running for six Sundays from 22 June to 27 July. This trial service will provide a free hourly minibus from the coach bays next to the Licks car park to the Surprise View car park at the top of the Chevin.

This service is perfect for those who want to avoid the steep climb but still want to enjoy the stunning views. The project is staffed by dedicated volunteers, making it a community-driven initiative. To stay informed about the timetable and other details, please contact admin@otleytowncouncil.gov.uk and we will add you to the minibus project mailing list. Updates will be available closer to the time. Take advantage of this opportunity to enjoy the beautiful scenery of Otley Chevin without the climb.





The rugby season ended brilliantly at Prince Henry's Grammar School when the school's teams secured four Yorkshire Cup victories and took a fifth team to the final, creating a historic moment for the school. In hard-fought matches, teams saw off challenges from Ripon Grammar School, Ilkley Grammar School and Wolfreton School.

Dean Hyam, Deputy Faculty Leader of PE, said: "This achievement reflects years of dedication, hard work and teamwork by the players, making Henry's rugby a formidable force both locally and nationally. The cup-winning U13/U14/U16/ U18 boys' age groups and U16 girls' finalists have set a high bar for teams next year to follow!"

PROJECT HEDGE

HEDGEHOG ELECTRONIC DATA GATHERING AND EVALUATION



We are very grateful to The British Hedgehog Preservation Society for supporting our innovative passive tracking project for released hedgehogs, a system we've been developing for the last three years.

What if we knew what released hedgehogs were up to? How far they travel? How long they live?

We have created a long-term cost-effective way to monitor our hedgehog casualties without disturbing them! Project HEDGE uses tiny RFID microchips like those used to ID cats and dogs. Rehabilitated hedgehogs are microchipped before they are released back into the wild. The project consists of 20 monitoring stations to be deployed around Otley. The final prototype is in testing, followed by 12 months of surveillance. The University of Leeds works with us and will analyse data and patient records looking at post-release behaviour and population dynamics, evaluating the success of rehabilitated hedgehogs. Each internet-linked monitoring station feeds our prickly friends and has a camera to capture video footage. Our current focus is on deployment, but in time we'll have a public interface so you can follow who we have spotted and where, and their back story.

If you would like to sponsor a monitoring station, please email for information: pricklypigs@outlook.com

OTLEY NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN REVIEW

Are you interested in shaping Otley's future?

Otley Neighbourhood Plan was adopted in May 2020, after eight years of extensive community involvement. To see the current plan visit: **www.otleytowncouncil.gov.uk/otley-neighbourhood-plan-referendum**

Since then, the plan has helped shape new development and community action across Otley, in particular playing an important role in holding the developer to account at East of Otley, helping to ensure that they won't get away with a sub-standard scheme. The town council recognises that some things have changed since 2020, that other changes are in process and that the current plan's end date is 2028, only 3 years away:

- National planning policy changed in December 2024 and may yet change again in the coming months;
- The new Leeds Local Plan 2040 being prepared will include new policies and possibly new housing allocations for development in Otley, with community consultation on issues and options expected this summer;
- At an Otley level, the Westgate development is almost complete;
- There have been threats to currently poorly protected open spaces in the town; and
- A new older people's residential scheme is underway on Pool Road.

All of this means that a Neighbourhood Plan review and update are now needed. The town council has commenced its own internal review of the plan but feels that now is the right time to involve local people in the process of shaping the development of the town over the coming years. It is anticipated that this review will involve groups working on: housing, green space, biodiversity, community facilities, recreation, travel, heritage and town centre improvements.

We want to make sure everyone has the opportunity to contribute, so if you are interested in being involved and shaping your town, please contact us with your details via email: admin@otleytowncouncil.gov.uk telephone 01943 466335 or in person at our offices.

Please note that this review may require a significant time commitment to final completion. We look forward to hearing from you.



Wharfedale Men's Shed is a charitable friendship group for men who are looking for social interaction, a new sense of direction or a new skill or hobby. We meet every Monday at Otley Courthouse. Many members join us after a significant life change such as retirement, illness or bereavement.

We have completed the latest batch of bird boxes commissioned by Wildlife Friendly Otley to be installed around town. Recent projects include refurbished park benches, new garden planters, mud kitchens for schools, and designing and making small adaptations for adults and children with mobility issues. Our talented members make small woodwork items for sale including bird boxes, hedgehog hibernation boxes and carved walking sticks to supplement the charity's funds. A full display of items for sale will be held on the first Monday of the month outside (weather permitting). Items will be available for purchase on other Mondays through the year.

We are now fundraising to build a bigger 'Shed' so we can significantly expand our membership and do more for our community. We are grateful for generous support from local businesses and organisations including the Skipton Building Society, Sinclairs, and the barristers North Eastern Circuit Charity.

For more information, pop in to see us on a Monday, or if you are interested in becoming a supporter, please contact Bob Miles at wharfedalemensshed@gmail.com.

OTLEY SINGS

On Saturday 28 June, Otley Parish Church plays host to OTLEY SINGS, a concert of local choirs, singers and musicians all performing to raise funds for Prostate Cancer Research.

The concert will begin at 1pm and runs until 4pm. Refreshments will be available. Entrance is by programme, which can be purchased from the shops on Kirkgate Arcade, with a voluntary donation to Prostate Cancer Research.

This event is sponsored by Otley Rotary Club and Kirkgate Arcade. For further details please contact Reid Haddow on 07854 961826.

Otley Women's Group

A massive thank you to Otley Town Partnership for a generous donation to Otley Women's Group and Otley Men's Group so they can continue their much-needed service for the men and women of Otley and surrounding areas for many years to come.The Partnership wished the groups success and stressed the importance of gaining and maintaining local business sponsorships to enable them to provide non-profit, free, weekly community support groups.

Otley Women's Group welcomes all women to enjoy positive social interactions. A confidential weekly meeting for those struggling with bereavement, loneliness, abuse or trauma victims/survivors, new to town, or who simply want to make new connections. Otley Women's Group was inspired by Otley Men's Group (founded April 2023) which provides a safe space and peer support for men in Otley and surrounding areas who experience poor mental health or loneliness (the group has three facilitators and 20 members, averaging 10–15 attendees each week).

The groups run separate weekly meetings at The Chippendale Centre in Otley (parking nearby) a safe, accessible, quiet building with refreshments and toilets. For more information, please find us on Facebook.



Otley Community Larder has had an incredible year, saving over 26 tonnes of food from going to landfill and supporting hundreds of people in the community. Thanks to our dedicated team and generous donors, we've been able to expand our services and make a real difference.

We've partnered with local initiatives, supplying fresh produce for veg box deliveries to households unable to access fruit and vegetables. Since November 2024, we've provided food to 15 community events, including a Pond Day at Ashfield Primary and Weston Woods community gatherings. We now supply The White Swan in Yeadon, which prepares nutritious meals twice a week for Hidden Homeless Leeds for around 100 people who live on the streets.

With longer opening hours, a beautifully refurbished space, and new planters from the Men's Shed, our Larder continues to grow. We see around 500+ people a month during our larder opening hours. We receive food donations daily from local stores and purchase supplies through FareShare. Donations help us keep the Larder stocked up and ensure we can continue supporting the community. Thank you to everyone who supports us! www.otley2030.com/larder



Collaboration pays off in Otley

Otley-based school trust the Collaborative Learning Trust is celebrating as another Otley school joins them. The Trust was formed from two outstanding members of the Otley Pool and Bramhope Cluster of Schools – Prince Henry's Grammar School and Bramhope Primary School – and now has eight schools. Ashfield Primary School recently joined the Trust and Otley The Whartons is in the process of joining, with their membership being completed over the summer months.

Ashfield Headteacher Elspeth Warren said: "We liked the variety of schools within the Trust, that were so different to each other. That appealed as there would be so many different takes on progress for us to listen to and adapt to our own setting."

"Otley has always been at the heart of the CLT and it's great to be welcoming more Otley schools to share their best practice across Leeds and Bradford," said CEO Janet Sheriff.



Join the Friends of Chevin Forest for a morning of Balsam Bashing on the Otley Chevin. No experience is needed, and everyone is welcome to join us – under 16s will need to be accompanied by an adult. We will have some gardening gloves but please bring your own if you can!

When: Sunday 13 July from 10am till 1pm.
Where: Lower Shawfield Car Park on East Chevin road.

See www.chevinforest.co.uk for more details.

Friends of Otley Skatepark Wharfeside DiY Project



Friends of Otley Skatepark (FOS) is a group of local skateboarders and volunteers who carry out repairs and improvements to Otley Skatepark. The Wharfeside DiY Project was kick-started with a sell-out fundraiser gig at the Black Horse in February. Six local bands (all skateboarders) provided musical entertainment for a packed house, raising over £1,500 towards materials and equipment. Phase one of the project was completed in March with repairs to the bottom of the three metal ramps to the northern side of the park, along with the addition of a new concrete quarter and two low kerbs.

Thanks to an award of £500 from Otley Town Council's Consolidated Community Fund, FOS can start phase two of the project, repairing the remaining metal ramps, and adding new obstacles to skate, as well as two metal signs informing the public of the Wharfeside DiY Project and offering tips for a safer skating environment.

OTLEY TOWN COUNCIL COMMUNITY FUND

Friends of Otley Skatepark have a Just Giving page: www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/wharfesidediy

MEMORIES OF THE SECOND WORLD WAR



Marking the 80th anniversary of Victory in Europe and Victory in Japan Day, Otley Town Council has published an updated second edition of *Otley Memories of the Second World War,* written by Dr Jason Knowles, designed by The Yorkshire Wordwright and produced by Print Crew (both Otley-based businesses).

When war was declared on 3 September 1939, Otley was preparing for air raids and gas attacks, but what would six years of warfare mean to its people? Covering the story of wartime Otley the book relates the role played in the war effort by local industry and agriculture, the Armed Forces and Home Guard and recalls VE-Day and VJ-Day celebrations. With new chapters and many photographs, it tells the story of individuals and families of Otley in wartime, drawing on memories, personal stories, news reports and archive material. It is the story of those who were there – those who never accepted the possibility of defeat, who coped with rationing, blackouts, conscription and bombing, who welcomed evacuees, greeted Allied troops with hospitality and lived alongside prisoners of war.

Limited stock is available from Otley Core priced £15 – an ideal gift for anyone with an association with Otley and an interest in the history of the town. Order your copy by emailing admin@otleytowncouncil.gov.uk or via telephone 01943 466335.

Also, as part of this project, *Memories of Wartime*, a 35-minute film featuring Otley residents recalling their memories of WWII by Otley-based Mark Currie of Catapult Films is available to watch at Vimeo.com/catapultfilms/memorieswartime



On 6 March, Whartons Primary School celebrated World Book Day with lots of fun and creativity! Each class brought an item from home that they associate with enjoying reading with many students showing off their cuddly toys, making the day extra cosy. The children got busy crafting throughout the day, using old books to create amazing art pieces.

Year groups worked hard on writing book reviews, sharing their thoughts on their favourite stories and characters. The KS2 classes also had the chance to join in a live World Book Day lesson, where they discussed everything from their top book picks to the importance of reading. The atmosphere was filled with excitement and joy as everyone got involved in the activities, celebrating the joy of reading in their own unique way. It was a fantastic day, full of creativity and imagination, and a huge success with children having loads of fun!



The Chevin Orchard Project was very busy during spring, though mostly with jobs outside the orchard proper. To give our sheep more security, the Chevin Foresters with help from volunteers, have fenced off lower Sinclair's field. Public access is still encouraged but please keep dogs on a lead when visiting.

Secondly, with the help of the Woodland Trust, which donated 400 saplings, and in collaboration with Friends of Chevin Forest, a new hedge line has been planted on the western boundary of the orchard. Within it, a dense copse will eventually be planted to provide a windbreak for the orchard and a fantastic new habitat.

So, keep an eye on developments and get involved through our Facebook page: otleychevinorchardproject.



Building from their highly successful performance in March of the Dvorak *Stabat Mater* Otley Choral Society have been enjoying working on the ever-popular *The Creation* by Haydn.

A well-known work that the choir has performed several times in its 80-year history, this time they are delighted to be working with their fabulous Musical Director, Alex Kyle, for this performance on Saturday 7 June at 7pm at All Saints Church, Otley. This will be the first time Alex has undertaken this large-scale work with the choir, but his skills at ensuring the choir will give clarity to their singing with the emotion to communicate the well-known choruses is beyond doubt. The performance will also be supported by wonderful singing from the young soloists and fabulous organ accompaniment.

Tickets are available from Browns Gallery, Otley and The Grove Bookshop, Ilkley, from choir members or www.otleychoral.co.uk

Wharfedale Male Voice Choir

It is hard to believe we are already coming up to our summer recess when we pause our Monday rehearsals for two months and just enjoy a regular informal get-together in a local hostelry. We will, of course, be reflecting on a successful first half of the year where we enjoyed performing in several venues that were new to us as well as revisiting some old friends. We will be using the vacation to prepare for at least one summer festival performance before returning to formal rehearsals in September.

Membership of the choir is at an all-time high but we continually seek to recruit new members. The ability to read music is helpful but by no means essential because, in addition to guidance from our wonderful Musical Director Paul Hurst, we have a range of audio tapes available to assist learning our four-part harmony.

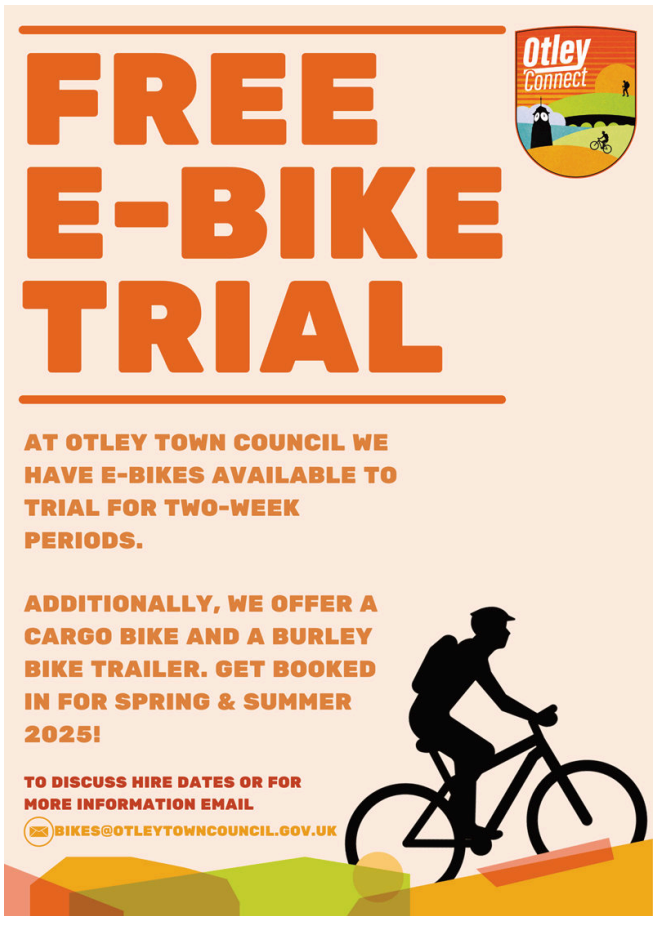
For further information, please call Secretary Peter Roberts on 01943 463456.

Townswomen's Guild



Otley Townswomen's Guild booked the telephone box in Market Place to advertise our group and celebrate 95 years of Townswomen's Guilds. We are a lively group who meet for friendship, fun and learning at Beech Hill Church on the first Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm.

We also have activity groups ranging from outings to walking and country dancing. If you are interested in joining, or just coming for a visit, please telephone 01943 602429 or email marglock42@gmail.com.



WHAT'S ON AT OTLEY COURTHOUSE?

Thursday 12 June: **National Theatre Live: A Streetcar Named Desire** *(Tickets: £15/13)*
Directed by Benedict Andrews, Tennessee Williams' timeless masterpiece features Gillian Anderson, Vanessa Kirby, and Ben Foster, filmed live during a sold-out 2014 run at the Young Vic Theatre, as Blanche's crumbling world collides with the brutal Stanley Kowalski.



Friday 13 June: Pasadena Roof Orchestra *(Tickets: £30)*
The UK's favourite dance band brings the glamour of the 1920s and 1930s to life, with timeless melodies from Irving Berlin, Cole Porter, and Gershwin in a joyous celebration of rhythm and romance.

Thursday 19 June: Exhibition on Screen: Dawn of Impressionism, Paris 1874 *(Tickets: £9/8)*
The Musée d'Orsay exhibition reveals the story of the Impressionists, once scorned outsiders, who changed art history with their groundbreaking 1874 exhibition, told in the words of those who witnessed it. Director Ali Ray.

Thursday 26 June: Science Cafe *(Tickets: £6)*
Our regular Science Cafe returns once more with a veritable cornucopia of science. Each speaker has a quarter of an hour to talk, then you, the audience, take over. Free for students in full-time education.

Saturday 12 July: Blondel Cover Story & Workshop (Tickets: *£27/16/11)*
Blondel Medieval & Renaissance wind band brings 14th–16th-century music to life with shawms, bagpipes, and recorders. The evening concert explores iconic melodies across Europe. There is also a workshop for players of historical instruments, led by Lizzie Gutteridge, offering a chance to play these melodies in up to six parts.

Sunday 27 July: Gaelforce *(Tickets: £15)*
Gaelforce, a Celtic folk rock band with fiddle, bagpipes, guitar, bass, and drums, brings a unique twist to traditional and original Scottish and Irish songs. Their new album Solstice is out now, featuring the popular Morris Mans Blues.

August Workshops

In August, we'll be hosting children's workshops at the Courthouse, including three days of drama and music, three days of arts and crafts, and one day of Lego robotics. These workshops have been popular in previous years, and we look forward to another fun, creative time with you all!

To book tickets visit www.otleycourthouse.org.uk, call our box office on 01943 467466 or pop into the Courthouse



THANK YOU to everybody who has invested, donated or volunteered to help us make our vision to transform Otley Methodist Church into Otley Common, a much-needed hub for the community to meet, work and play. We will be opening soon, so do pop in for a visit to learn about our plans and how you can get involved. A special thanks also to all the local organisations who have supported us with in-kind donations: Etempa Web Solutions, Stead and Co, Catapult Films, Ison Harrison, Schofield Sweeney, Newstead & Walker, Apollo3D, and Otley 2030. And a big thank you to Otley Town Partnership, Otley Town Council, and The Graham and Diane Smith Foundation for their financial support.

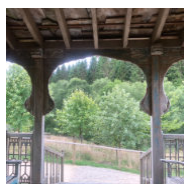
For more details on our events, plans, renting space, volunteering, or donating, please visit www.otleycommon.org

OTLEY FOLK CLUB

Every Wednesday at the Black Horse Hotel from 7.45pm. Otley Folk Club has had a brilliant start to the year – guest nights included stories and songs from club favourites Mic & Susie Darling, an evening with new duo on the block Trash Panda, a great night of sea shanties from Monkeys Fist, a fantastic session from The Heathen Kings who while a third reduced because of guitar player Steve Foster's broken wrist, Rachel and Mark were joined by Nick Hall on guitar, Steve Fairholme on Squeezebox and Jacqueline Hynes on flute. Traditional folk musician Pete Coe played two stunning sets reminding us of his 60 years in the folk world. This, plus our popular singers' nights, makes the Black Horse Hotel the place to be on Wednesday evenings.

Future artists for this year include Jim & Lynette Eldon, Artists from the Leeds Conservatoire, Lewis Pugh, April's Aunt, Allan Taylor and Phil Beer. For further information check www.otleyfolkclub.net

Wharfedale Gardeners' Group



Our annual Plant Sale was a great success, and we are thankful to our committee members and friends for contributing so many plants. The last meeting of the season was a demonstration given by Sarah Richardson from Leafy Couture. Our final get-together in May was a spring visit to the Himalayan Garden with the bonus of a tour and lunch. Hopefully this summer we shall all be able to enjoy some good weather and plenty of growing and gardening!

We meet at Beech Hill Church on the second Tuesday of each month from May to September, at 7.30pm. New plans and fascinating speakers are already being signed up for our 2025 – 2026 season, so do come and join us – just let us know before you come, details below.

Please contact Christine at wharfedalegardeners@gmail.com or see our website www.wharfedalegardeners.com for more details.



When this is published the Chevin Easter Cross will have been up once again at Surprise View. Our hope at the Parish Church, together with other churches and Christians in the town, is that people in Otley and beyond may have been 'surprised' by their 'view' of the meaning of that cross. In a troubled world, this brings a message of hope, love and transformation for lives and communities through Jesus' grace.

Do visit our recently updated website www.otleyparishchurch.org. There you will find helpful thoughts about what Christianity means. You will also find details of our services and contact details for our other activities and events. The church is open throughout the day to drop in, look around and spend time in quiet prayer or reflection. YOU ARE WELCOME!

Become a Great Composter!

Otley Town Council is working with nature groups to promote biodiversity. One of the best ways to promote wildlife is wildlife-friendly gardening. Do you have an allotment? Or grow your food in your garden? If so, do you make your own compost? If you haven't already tried it, not only does it save both waste and money, it's also very good for biodiversity, enriches the soil and are wildlife shelters. Worms, woodlice and slugs feed on decaying material, and provide food for birds, hedgehogs, frogs and others. A healthy compost bin can support a whole ecosystem.

Here are a few tips to get you started. You can buy a ready-made plastic compost bin but building your own from waste materials can be more beneficial for wildlife. It's best to have a balance of about 50:50 between 'green compost' (nitrogen-rich soft, leafy material, such as grass cuttings, young weeds, fruit and veg peelings, tea leaves, coffee grounds) and 'brown compost' (carbon-rich dry woody waste, such as hedge clippings, old bedding plants, woody prunings, straw, cardboard, shredded waste paper). Avoid cooked food and any meat or fish (cooked or raw).



Wildlife Friendly Otley is holding its second Wildlife-in-Gardens competition later this year. Following a highly successful event last year, we are once again opening the competition up to all Otley residents. Categories include Most Wildlife Friendly Garden, Courtyard Garden, Street, Ginnel, Windowbox/Planter, and this year we are also opening it up to the most Wildlife Friendly Allotment.

We had some fantastic entries last year, resulting in great prizes. Gardens are a vital part of our bid to restore biodiversity in Otley and make up a huge part of a valuable habitat for insects, songbirds and small mammals.

If you are a gardener for wildlife, however small your plot, please consider emailing us a couple of photos to Wildlifefriendlyotley@gmail.com or post some pictures on social media using the hashtag #otleywildlifegarden. Entries for the competition will be accepted to 3 July.

Otley Volunteer Showcase



Calling all wannabe volunteers! Do you have a spare hour or two each week and don't know what to do with it?

On Saturday 28 June between 11am and 3pm, Otley Community Network is hosting a Volunteer Showcase at Otley Methodist Church. We want to highlight the amazing voluntary work that goes on in our town, while at the same time advertising all the volunteering opportunities out there. There will be stalls manned by staff and volunteers from many of our local charities and community groups, so come along to have a chat and get all your questions answered.

We ran our first Showcase last year, which was a great success. We hope to reach even more people this year and share what an incredible, community-driven town we live in. For further information contact 01943 463965.

HERITAGE OPEN DAY
AT OTLEY COURTHOUSE

Saturday 12 September (Free Entry)

Architecture is the theme for the Heritage Open Day 2025. Otley Courthouse and Otley Museum will be offering a variety of events and activities to celebrate the theme.

The Museum will present an exhibition in the courtroom based on the life and work of Otley architect Alfred Marshall, featuring the many buildings in town designed by him which had a significant influence on the public face of Otley. One of his most prominent designs was for the Jubilee clock tower in the Market Place in1887.

There will be guided tours of the Courthouse complex, a small display of building plans and sketches from the building's history, and activities including creating your own buildings out of wooden building blocks (all ages).

Capturing Otley's Heritage: Pen & Ink Drawing Workshop 11am - 3pm with Emma-Jayne Emmott.

An art workshop at Otley Courthouse to celebrate the town's rich architectural heritage through drawing. Using pen and ink, participants will create line drawings of Otley's historic buildings, exploring their character and history. Each individual piece will come together to form a collaborative standing artwork of the town.

Each workshop runs for 50 minutes and is open to all age groups aged 7 and above. All materials will be provided. Booking from early August at the Courthouse to be part of this creative celebration of Otley. Please see the Courthouse website and local press nearer the time for further exciting events!

TOWN MAYOR'S NEWS



A highlight of the past three months has been a visit my husband and I made to Montereau, Otley's twin town in France, at the invitation of the Mayor, Monsieur James Chéron. The hospitality we were shown was overwhelming, and we met many townspeople who had fond memories of visiting Otley in past years and who expressed their hopes that reciprocal visits would resume. Monsieur Chéron stressed the potential benefits of cultural, educational and trade links between our two towns and the importance of mutual friendship in a time of international uncertainty. It was good to see a road named 'Rue d'Otley'! The incoming Mayor has received an invitation to Montereau's first Oktoberfest, to be held in October of this year. It was moving to hear of the affection in which Otley is held by our French partners, and we look forward to welcoming Montereau visitors to the town.

In February I opened the impressively refurbished premises of the Skipton Building Society, and later in that month, I felt privileged to plant a tree in Manor Garth in commemoration of the 80th anniversary of D-Day, VE and VJ Days. It was good to welcome British Legion standard bearers and others to this important event.

I attended two more civic services, in Calderdale and Wetherby. I have enjoyed meeting mayors and other civic leaders from across Yorkshire (the Lord Mayor of Leeds calls us 'the chain gang'!).

As I come to the end of my term as Town Mayor, I wish to express my thanks to the Deputy Mayor, Cllr Paul Carter, my consorts, my husband Douglas and The Rev Jason McCullagh, my chaplain, Father Nicholas Hird, the Mayor's Secretary, Ryan Davidson, and Emma Bradley, of Otley Town Council, for their help and support. This year has flown by, and I hope that Cllr Carter, the incoming Town Mayor, will enjoy as much as I have the opportunity to represent our wonderful town.

OTLEY TOWN COUNCIL COMMUNITY GRANT FUND

Otley Town Council run a Community Grant Fund to support community groups that are delivering projects, activities and events that benefit all or some of the residents within Otley. These are one-off grants made to organisations or groups that operate in Otley and have a significant number of Otley beneficiaries.

The Community Development Committee have allocated the annual budget for the next financial year and grant applications are now invited. Funding is limited in terms of available resource, so, even if your project is planned for later in the financial year, you are encouraged to apply as early as possible. The Consolidated Community Fund has no limit on how much grant your group can apply for and larger amounts will be allocated for worthwhile projects. In the event that all monies are allocated, it will be announced that the Fund has closed.

Applications will be considered by the Community Development Committee on the following dates:

Monday 7 July 2025
Monday 10 November 2025
Monday 9 February 2026

Otley Town Council

Please make sure you read the Application Criteria, Terms and Conditions before you apply. All application forms received that do not meet the criteria will not be considered by the Community Development Committee. If you require any assistance or guidance, please feel free to contact Nicola Woodward, Deputy Clerk, on 01943 466335. Alternatively, email deputyclerk@otleytowncouncil.gov.uk.



Photo: Mark Currie

OTLEY TOWN COUNCIL MESSAGE BOARD

Joint Otley Town Council & Community Police Surgeries

Otley Town Councillors and Community Police hold a joint Surgery every month from 11am until noon at Otley Core. These take place on either Wednesday or Saturday. The dates and times for June to August are: Wed 11 June, Sat 12 July & Wed 13 August.

If you have any queries or issues you'd like to discuss in a friendly and relaxed environment, why not call in; no appointment is 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.

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 requests are welcomed from schools, local charities, or recognised community groups.

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



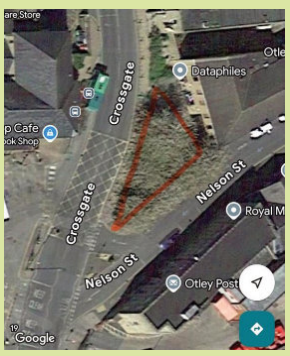
Advertise Your Event at Otley Core

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.

WILDLIFE GARDEN DESIGN COMPETITION

Join the Effort to Enhance a Green Oasis



Otley is delighted to announce an exciting competition to design a new wildlife garden in the heart of the town, updating the space opposite the bus station, in front of the main post office. This initiative aims to transform an urban space into a haven for local flora and fauna, promoting biodiversity and offering a peaceful retreat for residents and visitors alike.

Competition Details

Objective

The primary goal of the competition is to create a thoughtfully designed wildlife garden that offers seating areas, allowing people to enjoy the natural surroundings. Additionally, the garden must remove non-wildlife-friendly plant species, thereby encouraging the growth of plants more suitable to wildlife and supporting local ecosystems.

Design Requirements

- Seating: The design must include comfortable seating options that blend seamlessly with the garden environment. Consider using natural materials and ergonomic designs to enhance visitor experience.
- Plant Selection: Designers should prioritise native plants that thrive in Otley's climate and soil conditions and plants that promote local biodiversity.
- Accessibility: The garden should be accessible to all, including individuals with disabilities. Pathways, seating, and other features should be designed with inclusivity in mind.
- Sustainability: Incorporate sustainable practices in the design, such as using recycled materials, water conservation techniques, and eco-friendly maintenance plans.
- Effective incorporation of features/ideas that would transfer well to a domestic garden.
- The existing, established trees are to remain.

Judging Criteria

Entries are open to individuals only with an address in LS21 and will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- Creativity: Innovative and original design concepts that capture the essence of a wildlife garden.
- Functionality: Practical designs that offer comfort, accessibility, and ease of maintenance.
- Biodiversity: Effective use of plants, especially native plants, to support local wildlife.
- Sustainability: A commitment to environmentally friendly practices.
- Cost: Value for money solutions will be preferred.

Prizes

The winner of the competition will be honoured with the prestigious title of 'Space Designer' and their name will be permanently associated with the new garden. This is a unique opportunity to leave a lasting legacy in Otley and contribute to the town's green initiatives.

There will also be prizes for the best entry from a secondary and primary student in an Otley school. Details of this will be sent to schools separately.

Submission Guidelines

Interested participants are invited to submit their designs by 31 July. Please include detailed plans, plant lists, and any supporting materials that showcase your vision for the wildlife garden. Costs should be included for all aspects of the work. Submissions can be sent to Otley Town Council, Unit 11 Orchard Gate, Otley, LS21 3NX or emailed to otleymatters@otleytowncouncil.gov.uk

Join us in creating a beautiful, sustainable, and enriching space for all to enjoy. We look forward to seeing your creative ideas and welcoming you as the designer of Otley's newest wildlife garden.

For more information, please contact Richard Hughes; richard.hughes@otleytowncouncil.gov.uk

CONTACTING YOUR COUNCILLORS

ASHFIELD WARD



Tom Featherstone (Lib Dem)
tom.featherstone@otleytowncouncil.gov.uk



Gareth Dibble (Lib Dem) t: 07951 254927
gareth.dibble@otleytowncouncil.gov.uk



Sarah Hughes (Lib Dem)
sarah.hughes@otleytowncouncil.gov.uk



Sylvia Thomson (Lib Dem)
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PRINCE HENRY WARD



Colin Campbell (Lib Dem) t: 07973 521547
colin.campbell@leeds.gov.uk



Ray Smith (Lib Dem) t: 07946 800946
ray.smith@otleytowncouncil.gov.uk

DANEFIELD WARD



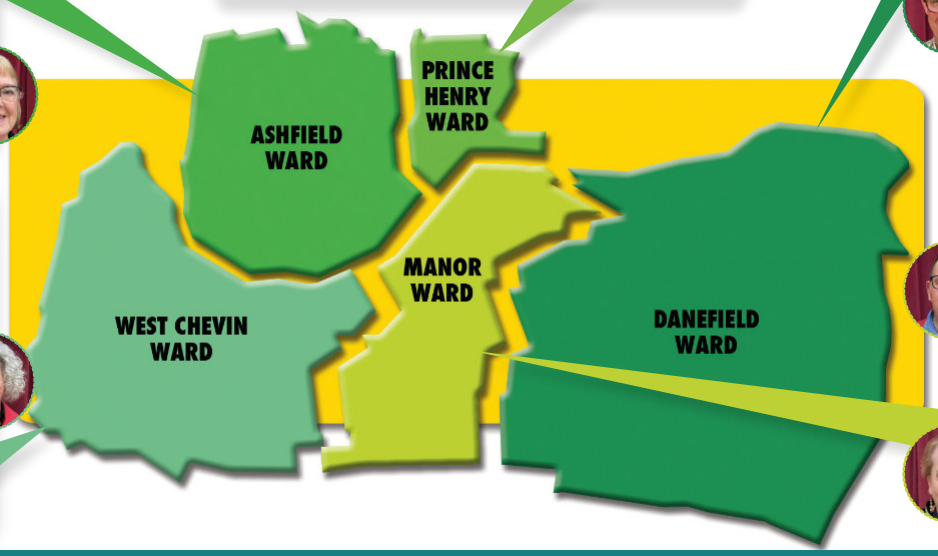
Mick Bradley (Green) t: 01943 467871
mick.bradley@otleytowncouncil.gov.uk



Sue Stepan (Green)
sue.stepan@otleytowncouncil.gov.uk



Richard Davies (Lab)
richard.davies@otleytowncouncil.gov.uk



WEST CHEVIN WARD



Richard Hughes (Lib Dem) t: 07885 219520
richard.hughes@otleytowncouncil.gov.uk



Linda Hoare (Lib Dem)
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Jo Allen (Lib Dem) t: 01943 461899
jo.allen@otleytowncouncil.gov.uk

MANOR WARD



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

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 contact Katie White MP (Leeds North West), please email katie.white.mp@parliament.uk

OTLEY TOWN COUNCIL LITTER PICK DATES

Date	Ward	Meeting Point
Sat 7 June	Manor	Maypole, Manchester Square
Wed 18 June	West Chevin	Grove Hill car park, Ilkley Road
Sat 5 July	Ashfield	Outside shops, The Parade, Weston Drive
Wed 16 July	Gallows Hill	Gallows Hill car park
Sat 6 Sept	Prince Henry	Cafe entrance, Wharfemeadows Park
Wed 24 Sept	Danefield	Outside The Summercross, East Busk Lane

All meeting times are 10.00am with the session lasting until noon.



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*



TOWN COUNCIL MEETINGS
June 2025 - August 2025

Policy & Resources **Full Council**	**9 June 2025**
Planning Environment & Sustainability	**16 June 2025**
Traffic & Transport	**30 June 2025**
Planning **Community Development**	**7 July 2025**
Policy & Resources **Full Council**	**14 July 2025**
Audit & Finance	**15 July 2025**
Assets **Human Resources**	**21 July 2025**

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 the ***Otley Matters*** September 2025 edition please contact Jason Knowles for the editorial date in early July on 01943 466335 or email *otleymatters@otleytowncouncil.gov.uk*

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