

Otley Economic Bulletin

The newsletter of Otley Chamber of Trade

Issue 24, June 2011



www.otleychamber.co.uk
President: Brian King
c/o 34 Westgate, Otley

Otley Chamber of Trade is a non-political, independent, not for profit body of volunteers who seek to represent and assist the town's business community and promote the town. This Bulletin is a monthly summary of local economic news relating to Otley and its business activity:-

- **J.N. Barber** – many thanks to Westgate's tobacco and gift emporium for their generous contribution to Chamber funds in recognition of the Chambers recent Union Flag project
- **Blue Stripe Web Design** - are offering a free Search Engine Optimisation (SEO) Health Check to all members of Otley Chamber of Trade until 31st July 2011. Contact them via www.bluestripedesign.co.uk to take advantage of this offer
- **Book House** - Rachel Michael's business, selling and exchanging previously owned paperback books from Bay Horse Court has increased the Chambers volume further by taking out membership bayhorsecourtfete@hotmail.co.uk
- **Dale Eddison** – scooped all three northern categories at the Estate Agent of the Year Awards presented by Phil Spencer of Channel 4's *Location Location Location*, keeping up their run of form with an award each year since 2006
- **Farmers Market** – Otley Town Partnership's flagship initiative continues to thrive. Estimates suggest that some 2500 people attended last months Farmers Market, all with the intention of spending their money. This begs the question 'would traders in the adjoining streets benefit from opening for a few hours on the last Sunday of each month themselves?'
- **Festivals** – a busy month lays ahead for the town with Otley Carnival, Otley Cycle Race night and the beginning of the Walking Festival all taking place during June. A bit of suitable window dressing in our shops for these events would add support, recognise the volunteers who make the events happen and help cheer up the town generally
- **Fusion Game Exchange** – the Market Street computer games and mobiles shop has wired up to Otley Chamber of Trade. Contact K Hussain 01943 461384
- **The Gills News** – stop press, another fresh addition to the Chamber's ranks. The Gills newsagent has 1200 customers and also delivers milk across North and West Yorkshire and drops leaflets to all 7000 homes in Otley. Contact Chris Beck 01943 462853

**YORKSHIRE
ELECTRICAL
SUPPLIES Ltd**

**Yorkshire Electrical Supplies Ltd
Unit 1 Ritson Yard
Cross Green
Otley
LS21 1HE

01943 466900
formerly Wharfedale Electrical Supplies
Find us between Denton Motors and Netto**

• **Harlow Pet Supplies** - recently opened in Kirkgate Arcade, have joined the Chamber. Contact Mr M Coe 01943 466033

• **Inflation** – CPI annual inflation, the Government’s target measure, rose dramatically from 4.0% in March to last months high of 4.5%. Higher duty on tobacco and alcohol and increased transport costs, especially airline prices, partly attributable to a late Easter, all contributed. With average salaries increasing at only 2.3% the squeeze on retailers continues (Source: ONS)

• **M&M Blinds & Curtains** – the recent new arrival on Manor Square, made to measure blinds and curtains retail and contract operation have wasted no time in drawing up their application for Chamber membership. Welcome to Jeremy Mclaughlin and his business 01943 468829

• **OCT Light Up Otley for Christmas** - the committee reconvened during May to begin the arduous process of repeating and building on last years Christmas tree display. Issues included ensuring value for money, fundraising and expanding coverage to the areas of town that didn’t participate or the project didn’t reach. Fundraising will be at the forefront and the team will be on the lookout for raffle and auction prizes for various fundraising events that will punctuate the year. On that subject...

... **OCT Autumn Ball** – to give the event its working title, will be on 17th September in the highly civilised surroundings of Otley Golf Club. Twelve tables of 8 will be available for the posh frock and black tie/best suits do at £25 per head to include a 3 course meal and music. Any surplus proceeds will go back into the town via the Chambers ‘Light Up Otley For Christmas’ campaign. Please contact Alan or Karen Sowden (01943 466792) for tickets or to take one of the few remaining tables

• **OCT next general meeting** - will be on Tuesday 19th July 2011, 6.30pm. As usual, anyone and everyone with an involvement in business in Otley are welcome to attend at Leeds City College, Charles Street. We now use a bigger room than last year

• **OCT Antiques Fair** – promoted by OCT, last years hugely successful event will again take place at the Courthouse, Sunday 12th June 2011, 10am-4pm and include a free valuation service, furniture, ceramics, collectables, militaria, candlesticks, brass, copper and pewter, glass, jewellery and long case clocks

• **OCT Membership** – as is apparent from the many announcements that have dominated these pages recently the number of businesses flocking to bolster our town’s business community by joining the Chamber is hard to keep pace with. Our 100th member is fast approaching following which a list of all members will appear in these pages. Let’s hope you’re on it!

• **OCT** – if your business would like to sponsor the printing costs of a whole edition of the *Otley Economic Bulletin* please let us know and we can explain further. Thanks to **Yorkshire Electrical Supplies Ltd** of Cross Green for sponsoring this issue

• **OCT Summer Social** – the usual Grove Hill social club venue is booked for Tuesday 12th July 2011. Bar, buffet, live music and the chance to socialise and swap notes with other Otley shops and business people are promised, and no doubt a raffle

• **Phone Expert** – has opened up a shop at the long disused former 4Front Properties premises on Boroughgate offering mobile phone services

**YORKSHIRE
ELECTRICAL
SUPPLIES Ltd**

**Yorkshire Electrical Supplies Ltd
Unit 1 Ritson Yard
Cross Green
Otley
LS21 1HE**

**01943 466900
formerly Wharfedale Electrical Supplies
Find us between Denton Motors and Netto**

- **Police** - Following Chief Inspector Coldwell's presentation to last months Chamber meeting, attached to the email version of this *Bulletin* is a poster giving quick reference as to which number to phone when an incident occurs. Please print it and keep for future reference. Attached to the paper copies of this *Bulletin* is a colour poster version kindly produced by **Cambrig Computers**. Please tear this page off and stick it somewhere you can easily find it (e.g. the back of a stockroom door etc)
- **Royal Wedding** – Otley Pub Club and OCT's respective pub renaming and Union Flag projects earned significant local, regional and national TV and newspaper exposure and welcome positive publicity for the town, including Calendar, Look North, Daybreak and the *Guardian* amongst others
- **Rumblin' Tum** – established in 1989 the New Inn Court/Newmarket family run café is another new addition to the Chamber's ranks. Contact Erkan Can 01943 850484
- **Unemployment** – Leeds City Councils latest figures show unemployment benefit claimants in Otley & Yeadon ward now stand at 360 (256 males and 104 females) in March down from 379 in February and 395 in January (source: Leeds City Council)
- **Utilitrack** – another business to switch on to Chamber membership, Utilitrack are independent from all UK suppliers but have excellent relationships with all of them and claim the buying power to negotiate the best rates for businesses and manage renewal and renegotiations. Contact Adrian Burns 01943465206 / 07734316210 adrian.burns@utilitrack.co.uk www.adrianburns.utilitrack.co.uk
- **Victorian Fayre** – the Victorian Fayre committee are doing things slightly differently this year regarding your programme adverts. Due to lack of volunteers we will be posting, to everyone who placed an advert last year, copies of your 2010 advert. We very much hope you will support us once again by returning the paperwork (with any changes you wish to make) in the pre paid envelope by the end of July www.victorianfayre.co.uk
- **Visitotley.co.uk** - a list of Chamber of Trade members is now on the Otley Town Partnership website. The 'Food and Drink' businesses are listed under the section relevant to what they sell or produce. However, for the non-food members this is not so straightforward so Otley Town Partnership has created space at the bottom of each entry for to put a description of the business - max 30 words. To complete your entry please forward a description to Jane Chidley jane@otleytownpartnership.org who will add them onto the website asap
- **Wedding Belles of Otley** - the New Inn Court boutique announce that they now also offer a Wedding Planning service in association with Leeds based bridal consultancy Love to Marry. Wedding Belles of Otley also advise they are offering brides the chance to win their wedding day photography when they buy their wedding dress from the Otley bridal boutique before 28th October 2011. For further details of both offers please visit www.weddingbellesotley.co.uk
- **Yorkshire Bank** – in reply to the Chambers query about the state of disrepair of their sign and façade on Kirkgate the manager stated that: 'I can confirm that the necessary repair work is due to start completion in the next few weeks'
- **Yorkshire Electrical Supplies** - following a year successfully trading from Cross Green as Wharfedale Electrical Supplies, to celebrate their anniversary and to highlight their growing catchment Otley's own electrical factor has decide to amend its name. www.y-es.co.uk

<p>YORKSHIRE ELECTRICAL SUPPLIES Ltd</p>	<p>Yorkshire Electrical Supplies Ltd Unit 1 Ritson Yard Cross Green Otley LS21 1HE</p> <p>01943 466900 formerly Wharfedale Electrical Supplies Find us between Denton Motors and Netto</p>
---	--

Presidents Report

Law and order is my theme this month. Business is hard enough at the moment without shoplifting and the threat of fraud, vandalism and shop burglary, and the effect these have on insurance premiums

Whilst there have been a couple of shop break-ins recently, overall Otley has a relatively low level of general crime although the police do need our co-operation to get a full picture. It appears that after March's spate of broken shop windows several of these were not reported so couldn't be acted upon

A useful presentation by Chief Inspector Coldwell at the last Chamber general meeting proved food for thought; do we all know who to phone when we see something suspicious? Please keep the attached poster handy for as and when you or your staff need it

If you think your premises (or indeed your home) is vulnerable, Leeds North West Outer Neighbourhood Police offer free advice and surveys from their Crime Prevention Officers 01274 471458

Parts of the Otley retail community used to run a Shop Watch scheme whereby shops would co-operate to alert others around the town when known (or suspected) thieves/pickpockets were in the vicinity. This was highly successful and the downturn of crime led to the scheme falling into disuse

There are a number of questions we would like your thoughts on so we can work with our local police to make criminals think twice before getting off the bus in Otley. For example:-

- Do you think shop related theft is a serious problem?
- Have your business experienced vandalism and damage to premises?
- Are you affected by anti-social behaviour?
- Do you want to reinstate the Shop Watch scheme that proved so successful in years gone by? (West Yorkshire Neighbourhood Police have a list of mug shots of 200 known miscreants which may be made available to trusted and discreet businesses)
- Do you know how to contact your Police Community Support Officers? (or indeed who they are? – they are keen to know you!)

Please let us know your thoughts and any other related concerns you may have. If we can help the police keep crime low we will also be helping to make Otley a better place to do business in. both for businesses and our customers

Brian King
President, Otley Chamber of Trade

If your business has any interesting economic news, large or small (expansions or contractions, achievements, announcements, minor victories or anecdotes) or would like any rumour or concern investigating, please email wilkinson_tim@sky.com and Otley Chamber of Trade will do our best.

Although by no means comprehensive, this newsletter is produced after reasonable direct research from a number of reliable sources and accordingly, this information is offered in good faith and believed to be accurate and authentic. If in doubt readers may like to rely on their own investigations.

Previous editions are available by visiting the Otley Chamber of Trade website www.otleychamber.co.uk

YORKSHIRE ELECTRICAL SUPPLIES Ltd	Yorkshire Electrical Supplies Ltd Unit 1 Ritson Yard Cross Green Otley LS21 1HE 01943 466900 formerly Wharfedale Electrical Supplies Find us between Denton Motors and Netto
--	--



WEST YORKSHIRE
POLICE

neighbourhood policing teams

npt

*Neighbourhood Policing
in Your Area*

How to contact the Police:

**Emergency
999**

To report an ongoing emergency.

**Police non-emergency
0845 6060606**

To report a crime or a routine incident.

Otley Neighbourhood Policing Team

01274 471458

To speak directly to your Neighbourhood Policing Team.
This is not a permanently staffed number and you may have to leave a message.

aa.nptnorthwestouter@westyorkshire.pnn.police.uk

Nuisance Motorbikes

0113 239 5092

A special hotline number has been launched to tackle the issue of nuisance motorbikes.

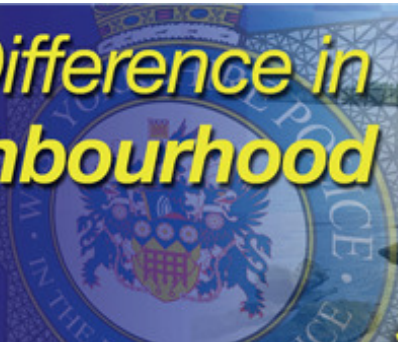


***Making a Difference in
Your Neighbourhood***



WEST YORKSHIRE
POLICE

neighbourhood policing teams
npt



**Otley Chamber of Trade's
'Light Up Otley for Christmas Campaign'
Fund Raising Evening**

**Come along and join us in raising funds for our
2011 Christmas Lights & Trees**

**On Monday 18th July 2011
at Red Pepper Indian Restaurant
Newmarket
Otley**

Three course set menu £10 ahead

Papadoms and Pickle Tray

Then choose one of each from a choice of

Four starters

Four main dishes

Rice or Nan bread

One vegetable side dish per couple

We have arranged two sittings one at 6.30pm and the other at 8.30pm, each sitting has the capacity for sixty people.

The more we fill the more we raise so we hope you can join us.

To reserve your place please contact

Helen Wilkinson on 01943 850836 or email at info@dowgillhouse.co.uk

Bookings to be made and paid for in advance by Monday 11th July 2011