



OTLEY ECONOMIC BULLETIN

The Newsletter of Otley Chamber of Trade

President: Keeley Kear

Issue 120, June 2019

Otley Chamber of Trade is a nonpolitical, independent, not for profit body of volunteers that seeks to represent and assist the local business community and promote the town. This Bulletin is a monthly summary of local economic news relating to Otley and its business activity:-

Angels of Beauty –beautician has expanded onto the above floors at 6 Bondgate



ASDA/Sainsbury – as forecast in Bulletin 118 and noted in Bulletin 112, the proposed £12 billion merger between the two supermarket groups has been blocked by the Competition and Markets Authority whose report published at the end of April found that the merger would risk limiting consumer choice

What now for ASDA? Having been in the ownership of American giant Walmart since 1999 the Leeds headquartered supermarket, which started in 1949 as Associated Dairies, could either be re-listed to the London Stock Exchange, which it left in 1999 after the £6.7billion takeover by Walmart, or perhaps sold to a private equity investor or another retailer. ASDA had expressed an interest in household retailer B&M although a reverse takeover may now prove more likely. Watch this space...

Ashfield Works – the contentious planning application on the long derelict site, once used for manufacture of printing machinery for 'Demolition of derelict buildings, conversion of former industrial buildings to retail and office use, construction of care home, retail units, six residential units and new pay and display car park' has been approved by Leeds City Council. Within the scheme is a 66 bed care home and potentially a supermarket and other retail. No doubt the care home will find an operator but whether the rest of the scheme is viable remains to be seen. With consent granted, Leeds City council will be able to sell the site to their preferred developer, Norwood Homes

There is a whole list of conditions, which you can read here <https://tinyurl.com/AshfieldWorks>

Black Bull – the planned renovation of the historic Market Place pub has now gone to planning. The applications are for 'internal alterations and external works including timber arched entrance to courtyard, with faux planter boxes, timber post with lighting and new bin store'. See more here <https://publicaccess.leeds.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=documents&keyVal=PQ51L4JBK5B00>

Blue Octopus – a sad loss to the town, after a meteoric expansion, the online recruitment agency seems to have outgrown Otley and moved to Leeds. The premises are now available to let via Dale Eddison

Bulletin sponsorship – if your business would like to sponsor an edition of the Otley Economic Bulletin this is available at £60. If you'd like to share an edition with another business for £30 each, please contact admin@otleychamber.co.uk with your logo(s)

Bulletin tenth year edition – as regular readers may have spotted, this is the 120th edition of the Bulletin, which, at one a month, makes it the 10th anniversary issue.

This months sponsors

Dowgill House
— 1753 —
Quality guest accommodation
in the heart of historic Otley
www.dowgillhouse.co.uk
5-7 Bondgate, Otley LS21 3AB
01943 850836



Originally coming into being as a method of communication between the Chamber and the business community around town, the Otley Economic

Bulletin took its cue from the Leeds Economy Bulletin, a quarterly glossy magazine published, no doubt at great cost, by Leeds City Council Economic Development Unit. It didn't ever seem to feature anything about Otley so we decided to do our own...

At that time in 2009 a note of caution was issued from within our Executive group, 'it's a big commitment so don't start it then just give up after a few months'. Ten years later, whatever the challenge, the Bulletin has been delivered in the first week of the month, every month, for free into the hand of pretty much every business in the town centre, emailed to countless others and made available on the Chamber's website to anyone who might be interested in the towns economic fortunes

Containing national, regional and above all local business news, it's also fair to say though that the hoped for contribution of stories from businesses around town hasn't been what it could be – Otley's shops, offices, pubs, cafes and manufacturers must be a bashful lot – which has made the challenge of filling the content by the monthly print deadline a bit of an undue pressure. Although the ten years has flown by, the prospect of doing another ten is a bit daunting

For that reason in the future the Bulletin might not necessarily carry on as a monthly publication, I'm sure you'll understand. Perhaps future editions may be published bi-monthly, quarterly or probably just occasionally, please let us know what you would prefer. However, if anyone would like to guest edit an edition please contact admin@otleychamber.co.uk

Cambrig Computers - two well-established IT businesses have joined forces to offer customers across the region improved access to honest and reliable IT support with great customer service.



After providing IT services to businesses in the Otley area for the last 20 years, Cambrig Computers have today merged with Gargrave-based Verus Solutions – a

firm of IT specialists who have been providing similar services across Yorkshire, Lancashire and further afield, for the last decade. Following the merge on 1st May the company will be known as Verus Solutions. Here they all are at Skipton Business Awards

Chamber membership - welcome, and in some cases welcome back, to recently signed up members

Chevin Barbers

1 Mercury Row, Otley, tel 0754943063, email val.townend@gmail.com. 'Hair & sunbeds'

Chevin Country Park Hotel & Spa

York Gate, Otley, LS21 3NU, tel 01943467818, email eventsmanager@chevinhotel.co.uk, www.chevinhotel.co.uk. 'hotel/restaurant/spa/wedding venue'

Etempa Web Solutions

47-48 Pegholme Mill, Ilkley Road, Otley, LS21 3JP, tel 01943 462182, email pipparose@etempa.co.uk, www.etempa.co.uk. 'web design and development'

Otley Hire Centre

the Garth, Ilkley Road, Otley, LS21 3JN tel 01943 462022, email sales@otleyhirecentre.co.uk, www.otleyhirecentre.co.uk, www.otleygardenmachinery.co.uk. 'small plant and tool hire, garden machinery, lawn mower sales, service & repair'

Pilates in Motion

Suite 3, 1st floor, 7 Bay Horse Court, Otley, LS21 1SB, tel 07970116408, email gacoward@yahoo.co.uk, www.gaynorcoward.pilatesnearyou.co.uk. 'pilates equipment studio classes and pilates masterclasses'

Chamber next meeting - will be on Tuesday 16th July 2019, 5.30pm for 6pm start, venue TBC

Chevin Barber – the planning application to convert the barber and sunbed studio at 1 Mercury Row into a domestic dwelling has been refused consent by Leeds City Council

Courtyard Planters - the Westgate oasis of all things gardening is going to trial a deposit return scheme for plastic plant pots, similar to the kind that used to exist for glass pop bottles. To earn 5p for each 1, 2 or 3 litre plant pot, take them along for reuse. These are the sizes the nursery uses in and the majority of their plants are sold in these sizes. It says on the bottom of each pot what size it is

For The Home - is ending their temporary occupation of the former Nat West bank on Manor

Square, used as storage whilst arranging their new giant retail warehouse operation in Pudsey. The former bank is now looking for a new occupier again

Household income – average pay in the 3 months to March showed a slight slowdown in annual wage growth, excluding bonuses, to 3.3%, compared to 3.4% in the three months to February

CPI inflation remained unchanged from February at 1.9% over the same period, showed a net average salary increase of 1.4%. Earnings have now outstripped inflation each month for over a year, albeit marginally

ex-Korks – the planning application for ‘Listed Building application for demolition of extension to rear and construction of replacement two storey extension with internal alterations to existing building’ has been withdrawn. The building remains for sale with Gargrave based Westlake & Co, offers around £400,000

Otley Carnival – expect a large crowd of people in town on Saturday 15th June for the annual Otley Carnival



parade. Part of Leeds Road, Gay Lane, Bondgate, Kirkgate and Bridge Street will be closed to traffic from about 1pm for around 20 minutes as the parade makes its way from the auction market to the show ground, where festivities continue until about 5pm. Estate agent, Dacre Son & Hartley is the headline sponsor

Otley Cycle Races – love it or hate it the 34th annual Otley town centre cycle races evening takes place on Wednesday 3rd July 2019. Otley Chamber wishes the event well but has not organized the Friends of Otley Cycle Race patronage this year. Incidentally 2016 and 2017 winner, Chris Lawless recently won the Tour de Yorkshire race for Team Ineos. Expect Kirkgate, Bondgate, Burras Lane, Birdcage Walk and Gay Lane to close to traffic from about 5pm until the presentations are finished, around 10pm. For more see <https://www.otleycycleraces.com/>

Otley Job Club - Otley Chamber is pleased to sponsor the design and production of a new leaflet for the voluntary Otley Job Club which aims to help connect local businesses with employment opportunities with long term unemployed people

Otley Show - the 210th Otley Show boasted burgeoning entries and for a change was blessed with dry weather and Otley Chamber’s ‘Shop Local’ marquee was again filled with some of the towns more pro-active businesses



Despite a handful of late pull outs during the last week, the Chamber still presented a full marquee, including 21 Again, Artamis, Arundel Travel, Aura Jewellery, Canine Health, Courtyard Planters, Christopher Little & Co, Doris Dent, Dowgill House, From Odds & Ends, Geo. Middlemiss, Hollings Crowe Storr, Newstead & Walker, O’Deli, Print Crew, Real Food Shop, Sharp Nets, Stead & Co, Wharfedale Embroidery, Wharfedale Tutors, White Rose Training, Winpenny Photography & Yorkshire Counselling Psychology

A children’s trail to find soft toy animals located around the tent produced around 200 of entries and the draw for three hampers of sweets and toys, which all the stallholders chipped in for, was conducted by Otley’s local copper, PC Chris Dempsey



Otley's First Coffee Festival

We are delighted to announce that we have agreed a £3,000 grant to support the 1st Otley Coffee Festival to be held on Saturday 25th April 2020.

There will be a Launch Event held on Tuesday 8th October 2019 to explain the day, introduce the Otley Coffee Culture website and issue the first tickets. Please make a note in your diary now, as ticket sales will begin after this and you will not want to miss out!



For more information or if you'd like to get involved please email Richard@theyorkshirewordwright.co.uk.

Know Your Rights – Rent & Lease Agreements

We have teamed up with James Dale, Partner at Newstead & Walker Solicitors, to give help and advice to any businesses who are having problems resolving issues with their landlords.

We are currently working with 2 businesses in the town to help resolve building repair disputes which have come to light recently through our face to face visits with businesses by our BID Champion.

James was also our Guest Speaker at our AGM on 30th May where he spoke on the same subject.

If you are having sleepless nights or just need some advice on how to tackle an ongoing problem, please contact tim.wilkinson@otleybid.co.uk.

We're Here to Help

Is there anything that you are bursting to tell us that we should be doing? Don't keep ideas to yourself, speak to us, we may be able to make your idea a reality. Please email us at info@otleybid.co.uk

Visit Otley Tourism Leaflets

You will probably have seen a selection of leaflets around the town which have been designed and distributed by the Tourism Team at Visit Otley. These have been part funded by Otley BID as a way to encourage more visitors to come to Otley and increase footfall into our wonderful independent shops.

These are currently available in The Core and in the Library. If you would like to hold some in your business for customers to pick up, then please contact <https://www.visitotley.co.uk/contact/>



Service Sector Directory


We are often asked what benefit the BID is to our service sector businesses and that we concentrate too much on retail. The good news is that we are in the process of putting together a directory that will concentrate exclusively on the service sector. It will be an A5 booklet that will be sent out to all the areas in and around Otley and will contain an entry for every service sector business within the BID area. There will also be an electronic copy on our website.

Each entry will include your business name, e-mail and phone number. In order to guarantee we include the correct information please drop us a line at info@otleybid.co.uk. If you offer MOT's, trade services, financial or legal advice, sell or rent houses and anything else that serves our community please get in touch. Once this is in production we envisage it being updated and e-printed every 12 months.





Free to Otle Chamber members and Otle BID levy payers the cost of the marquee was kindly again sponsored by Otle BID



21 AGAIN THERAPIES
ARTAMIS GIFTS
ARUNDEL TRAVEL
AURA JEWELLERY
CANINE HEALTH
CHRISTOPHER LITTLE IFA
COURTYARD PLANTERS

#BuyInOTLEY

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DOWGILL HOUSE BED & BREAKFAST
GEO. MIDDLEMISS & SON
HOLLINGS CROWE STORR LLP
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ODDS & ENDS
PRINT CREW
SHARP NETS
STEAD & CO ARCHITECTS
THE REAL FOOD SHOP
WHARFEDALE EMBROIDERY
WHITE ROSE TRAINING
WINPENNY PHOTOGRAPHY
YORKSHIRE COUNSELLING PSYCHOLOGY

Congratulations from Otle Chamber of Trade to Show Secretary Janet Raw on her retirement from show duties after 25 years of service

ex-Panboo – the empty shop on Newmarket, previously a briefly lived bubble tea café and before that a Wiccan goods shop, is now subject to a planning application for conversion into a tattoo parlour

Parkes & Co – announces, “1st May marks our 25th year in business. From humble beginnings in Andrew’s back garden shed all those years ago, we are proud of what Parkes & Co has become yet still valuing the family run business that we are, supporting the Otle community and surrounding area. We would like to take

this opportunity to thank everyone for your support over the last 25 years, whether you’ve been a Landlord, Tenant, Contractor or simply a friend or family member whose been there at some point during the journey. Here’s to the next 25 years!” Congratulations from Otle Chamber

Roughan & O’Donovan - welcome to Otle to the Irish based Consulting Engineers, who have chosen Wharfebank Business Park as the location for their first UK branch, benefiting from close links to their Dublin head office via Leeds-Bradford Airport. Entering their forty fifth year, ROD is one of Ireland’s leading civil, environmental and structural engineering consultancies. A long-standing track record of planning, designing and managing major infrastructure developments features projects such as the iconic Samuel Beckett Bridge, Dublin.

Santander – the Kirkgate branch has now closed. Not only has that diminished the choice of banking services but also cost the town another cash point facility. With Barclays, HSBC, Natwest, TSB and now Santander having removed their ATM services Otle Show day saw unprecedented long queues outside Halifax and Yorkshire Banks

Once a branch of Bradford & Bingley Building Society and before that an Abbey National, remember the days before ‘carpet bagging’? The process of members forcing building societies to convert into banks for a short term shares windfall now doesn’t seem to have been such a good idea

Unemployment – nationally another large decrease, this time by 65,000 to 1.3million for the three months to March, a new 44 year low of 3.8%. Employment set another new record with the UK economy adding another 99,000 workers for a new high of 32.7m people now in some sort of employment, nearly half a million more than a year ago (source: Sky News/ONS) No news as yet from Leeds City Council as regards Otle & Yeadon Ward as we went to press.

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 investigation, please email wilkinson_tim@sky.com and Otle 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 Otle Chamber of Trade website www.otleychamber.co.uk



Presidents Note

Dear All,

Firstly I would like to take this opportunity to say congratulations to our Executive committee member Rhona Smith on receiving her Otley Honorary Citizen award I am sure that I speak for all of us on wishing her congratulations for this very well deserved achievement

As the summer continues with many exciting events that continue to thrive in the town I hope that everyone enjoyed Otley Show. I enjoyed my third year as a local independent business taking advantage of the 'Shop Local' Chamber of Trade marquee sponsored by the Otley BID and I would certainly encourage any Otley business to take up a place in the Chambers marquee, the exposure to a new audience, many from out of town is worth its weight in gold. I am also certainly looking forward to the Otley Carnival, the floats and children's walking displays, and of course the extra footfall. The boats are back on the river adding some colour and activity

Otley BID continue to work in collaboration with the Chamber, Otley Town Council and Otley Town Partnership to help improve our business community as we continue to make our town a wonderful place to live in, shop and visit

I would also like to reiterate that our Executive committee would welcome anyone who is interested in joining the Executive team to help steer the Chamber. Our team has a vacancy for a Vice President for anyone who feels they can contribute a little bit of time and effort and in time fill the Presidents shoes from next March, of course with support from the team. Summer is always it is an exciting time for our business community as we continue to grow but extra hands help spread the load

May I also encourage you to please get in touch with the Chamber Executive team if you have any news, need advice or simply need to talk you are most welcome

The local business in the 'hot seat' this month is the Stew & Oyster, the Otley branch of a small Leeds based pub chain

I would like to thank Karl Gaines, General Manager for taking the time to speak with me. As always I am fascinated to hear about other local business stories. I wish Karl every success in his new role

I would love to hear from any local business interested in having a Q&A with the President

Presidents Q&A interview:

Q Please tell us about you and your business?

Karl is new to the town and the Stew and Oyster here in Otley. It is his fifth week in post as General Manager. Initially he started out as a trainee teacher, he completed a one year graduate training programme and decided that it was not for him. Karl has worked in the retail sector for 15 years and 'back in the day' he was the Senior Sales Manager for All Sports and also worked for Heineken as General Manager in Leeds. Having roots in Otley and a future Mother in Law who previously ran the A&E department in Leeds and spent her first year as a trainee Doctor at Bridge Street surgery, Karl is familiar with the town. Karl says he loves Otley as a town and he seized the opportunity to work here when the post became available. He describes himself as energetic and passionate about customer service. He aims to deliver

100% service 100% of the time. Karl is passionate to retain the heritage of the business as he believes it is worth sustaining. By sourcing local food and using local breweries to attract a solid customer base and gain support from all other local businesses in Otley Karl has already visited a number of local businesses and is using Otley in Bloom to add colour to and brighten up the exterior troughs

Q How long have you been here in Otley?

Karl commenced his role as General Manager in Otley 5 weeks ago

Q Where did you find the inspiration for your business idea?

Although Karl is employed by Stew and Oyster he reports along with his passion to succeed he has received much influence from Otley Pub Club, Otley Chamber of Trade and others who are inspiring to keep Otley as a thriving market town and to shop local.



Q Please tell us what you do to promote your business

Although Karl is employed by Stew and Oyster he reports along with his passion to succeed he has received much influence from Otley Pub Club, Otley Chamber of Trade and others who are inspiring to keep Otley as a thriving market town and to shop local

Q How does being a member of Otley Chamber of Trade help you?

Karl believes that by being a member of OCT this helps him to be kept 'in the loop' with what is happening in the town. He reports that the email communication is great as a 'catch up' and a useful support to help local businesses with a great network business support

Thanks again to Karl at the Stew & Oyster and I look forward to seeing you all around town very soon

With Best Wishes

Keeley Kear

President Otley Chamber Of Trade & Commerce

NEXT CHAMBER MEETING
EVERYONE WELCOME - member or not
Tuesday 16th July 2019
5:30pm at the
VENUE TBC
Open networking with
food & drinks from 5:30pm

