

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:-

**Apprentices** – if you've not had one before but could benefit from employing an apprentice, grants of up to £2,500 are available for businesses with 249 or fewer employees from a 'first come first served' fund provided by Leeds City Region Enterprise Partnership (LEP). See more at <https://tinyurl.com/OEB1191>

**Bay Horse** – is now offered To llet by Solihull based Hawthorn Leisure, which was set up in 2014 and has a portfolio of 298 pubs. Optimistic candidates should apply to their Colne Recruitment Enquiries number 01902 376078

**Black Bull and White Swan** – Heineken's pub company, Star Pubs and Bars, has owned the two historic inns since 2017 and has floated the idea of refurbishments that involve modernizing with



## This months sponsors



28 Market Place  
Otley, LS21 3AQ  
01943 466734

installation of industrial furniture, open plan seating and current heritage signs replaced by modern 'steakhouse' stencilling. Whilst any investment is welcome, given their historic nature and location within the Conservation Area, the proposals naturally met with general disapproval and the dissent made it as far as the Daily Telegraph

Black Horse – still on the subject of pubs, the bleak outlook for the sadly unloved Kirkgate pub looks to be about to change. Leeds music venue, the Brudenell Social Club has teamed up with Kirkstall Brewery to buy the freehold with a view to reopening as a live music venue, welcome news for the towns evening economy after the loss of the Civic Centre and Korks. Kirkstall Brewery, operating since 2011, has breathed new life into two Leeds pubs, by refurbishing and re-opening both the Cardigan Arms and the Bridge

**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](mailto:admin@otleychamber.co.uk) with your logo(s)

**Business Comings and Goings** – at the end of the Presidential year the March Bulletin usually features a list of those businesses who have come and those who have gone, for various reasons. A bit later than usual (April's edition was a bit full), here's how a proportion of the towns shopfronts have changed in the year to the end of February 2019

### *Some long empty premises became occupied with new tenants:-*

Canine Health where previously had been Antiques Boutique (Manor Square)

DNA Audio took over part of the derelict LCC offices (Courthouse Street)

Groove Pad took over the vacant Rocca (Orchard Gate)

Ison Harrison has occupied the long empty Wharfe Valley Times offices (Market Street)

Puffin Pottery moved into the vacant Caring Chairs (Boroughgate)

The Rookery nested at former Scope (Kirkgate)

### *Some premises changed hands*

For The Home replaced Browse Time (Manor Square)

For The Home replaced Nat West (Manor Square)

GK Aesthetics, KW Nails & Beauty, Memi Cosmetics and Skin Renew Otley all share the previous AF Commercial (Granville Court)

Green Man Forge took over Wharfedale Angling Classics (Kirkgate Arcade)

Mill Bar & Bistro now occupy Buon Apps old restaurant (Wharfebank Mills)



Peek A Boo is now where Scarlet Poppy were (New Inn Court)

Ramsdens took over Mannings (Market Place)

WRM and Earth Services now occupy TSBs bank (Manor Square)

***Some premises started the year occupied but are now empty:-***

Age UK (Boroughgate)

Barclays (Manor Square)

Birdcage Cottage (Westgate)

Chevin Trek is now being converted to housing (Gay Lane)

For The Love Of... (Boroughgate)

Kim Lorraine, although briefly occupied by Bizarre Bizarre (Market Street)

Shake (Market Street)

TUI (Kirkgate)

***Some altogether new businesses arrived in town:-***

Abbey CCC (Wharfebank Mills)

Backcountry UK (Wharfebank Mills)

BBS Brick & Stone Ltd (Wharfebank Mills)

Bridges Pound (Wharfebank Mills)

DSG Finance (Wharfebank Mills)

Lime Lace (Wharfebank Mills)

Red Robot Media (Wharfebank Mills)

Super Sew Imports (Wharfebank Mills)

***Some businesses simply moved premises from one part of town to another:-***

Ill Dimensions (Kirkgate to Bay Horse Court)

Christopher Little & Co (Manor Square to Bondgate)

Doris Dent Estates (Orchard Gate to Westgate)

L&S Dog Grooming (Bondgate to Kirkgate Arcade)

Rachels Made To Measure (Leeds Road to Cross Green)

Otley continues to do better than the national average in having less than 5% of our shops empty. Last year the list highlighted the unwelcome departure of three national banks which left some prominent and awkward to fill gaps around town. Another bank has gone and another closure scheduled, although 3 banks have now found new occupiers

**Chamber next meeting** - will be on Tuesday 21st May 2019, 5.30pm for 6pm start, venue TBC

**Christmas Lights Switch on** – usually a month before Christmas itself and on a non-market day, April's Bulletin asked the question if the town's businesses would like the town's lights switched on a week earlier, as one business suggested. As no response at all has been forthcoming this advice has been passed on to the Town Co-Ordination Group



**Chamber membership** – is back at the 150 mark. If you're a BID levy payer it's free to join Otley Chamber as Otley BID will pay your membership for you. If you're an Otley business located outside the BID area it's still only £52. The bigger we are the louder our voice. Go to <https://tinyurl.com/octappform> , print off the form, fill it in and take it round to Courtyard Planters on Westgate, easy as that

**Fish & Chips** – high on the Otley agenda with so many local outlets, Leeds Live, the online Leeds data news feed, has assessed the 15 best fish and chips shops in the Leeds area according to Tripadvisor. The list includes a couple from Otley with Gay Lane ranked 15th and The Maypole 6th. <https://tinyurl.com/OEB1193>



**Household income** – average pay in the 3 months to February increased 3.4% which , after adjustment for CPI inflation which remained unchanged at 1.9% over the same period, showed a net average salary increase of 1.5%. Earnings have now outstripped inflation each month for over a year, albeit marginally

**Jet2** - has been named the best airline in the UK and all of Europe in the annual TripAdvisor Traveller's Choice Awards airlines category. It was also the only UK-based airline to make the Top 10 Airlines in the world, with Singapore Airlines again taking the top spot. Of the

five awards the Leeds/Bradford based carrier won in total, it was also declared Best Low Cost Airline in Europe and Best Economy in Europe. First launched in 2002 Jet2 is now the third biggest carrier in the UK

- The amount of money employers and employees will contribute to auto-enrolment pension schemes, currently 2% for employers and 3% for employees changed to 3% for employers and 5% for employees
- Vehicle Excise Duty (commonly misquoted as 'Road Tax') is based on carbon emissions per kilometre. Some bills for the oldest, more polluting vehicles will increase based on carbon emitted to as much as £65/km

**Odds and Ends** – Rachel Michael advises she will be occupying the empty unit previously occupied by Flowers By Lynne in Bay Horse Court. Rachel previously ran a craft collective from the same unit some years ago



**The Little Shop**

the former Peonies, 2 Market Street is under the new management of Cathi Hall as of 23rd March 2019. She is now selling gifts (including bath bombs/soaps) and sweets



**Machine Head** – barber and tattoo studio has now occupied the former Age UK charity shop on Boroughgate

**Otley Boats** – is back on the river for the summer. Check their Facebook site for opening, weather and river conditions permitting



**New tax year** – a number of new arrangements came into force from the beginning of April:-

- The amount of money you can earn before income tax is applied will rise from £11,850 to £12,500 per annum
- State pension will also get an upgrade, with pensioners receiving an extra £3.25 per week, rising from £125.95 per week to £129.20
- People on the newer single-tier pension (who reached State Pension age after 6 April 2016) will be granted an extra £4.25 per week, rising from £164.35 to £168.60

**Otley Courthouse** – congratulations to recent Chamber new member, Otley Courthouse on their 15th Anniversary of opening of the town's main arts and performance venue, on 4th May 2004

**Otley Mills** – a planning application has been submitted to Leeds City Council for partial demolition of the Ilkley Road site (19/01633/ FU). Partial demolition of former mill building and chimney, removal of roofs and partial demolition of gable walls on former north lights

## Annual General Meeting

Our Annual General Meeting will take place on Thursday 30th May from 5.30pm at Otley Parish Church, Kirkgate, with welcome drinks and light bites kindly provided by O'Deli.

The agenda for the evening will be as follows:



- Start prompt 6pm
- Speaker James Dale, Partner at Newstead & Walker Solicitors – a short talk on the subject of Rent & Lease Agreements & Reviews – Know Your Rights!
- Otley BID Directors Update
- Summary of 2018/19 Financial Accounts
- Q&A Session
- 7pm Close

We hope as many of our levy paying businesses will be able to join us as possible.

## Apology

Otley BID wishes to apologise for an error within the printed version of last month's Economic Bulletin (issued April 2019). The article was relating to discussions regarding an additional Cash Machine being installed within the Post Office, stated that this was in collaboration with Skipton Building Society, part of the Bank of Ireland. The collaboration is not with Skipton Building Society and nor are they part of the Bank of Ireland, and we sincerely apologise for this error.

The discussions are in fact ongoing with the Post Office and we will update you on any progress in due course.

## First Bus Public Discussion

Thank you to First Bus for hosting the Q&A Session last month which was attended by Otley BID Director, Sam Pinder, Owner of the Real Food Shop. If any businesses want any information or would like to ask any questions about the outcome of the session please email [info@otleybid.co.uk](mailto:info@otleybid.co.uk).

## Market Square Summer Entertainment

As part of our ongoing commitment to revitalise and shape the future of our markets, we have sent out a tender document to a selection of event organisers for ideas of entertainment that could be held during the Summer months. These events would help to encourage people into the Market Place on non-market days, eg. Wednesdays, and as a result increase footfall into our retail outlets around town.. Once we receive responses from these event organisers we will update you with any progress.



## Otley Show #ShopLocal Business Marquee

Our annual funding of the Shop Local Business Marquee at Otley



Show is taking place again this year. We are delighted to see that this initiative is gaining more and more popularity every year with a good number of businesses taking up this great opportunity to meet new potential customers.

## Funded Street Cleaner

Last year we made an agreement with Otley Town Council to co-fund an additional Street Cleaner. We are delighted to say this agreement will continue into this financial year.

## Window Art

The recent window art by the talented Jenny Trebillion, on 2 of Otley's empty properties has been very well received throughout the town, and we would like to thank everyone for their support and kind comments on our social media recently.



You will be aware that there are other empty properties around the town that require a similar artistic treatment to improve their presence on our high streets. We have been in touch with these landlords/owners but unfortunately they declined our offer to make them look more attractive.

If you would like your empty property painting then we would be happy to help. Please contact us at [info@otleybid.co.uk](mailto:info@otleybid.co.uk).

WE'RE HERE TO  
Help

As the next 5 year term started on 1st April 2019 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 send us your ideas direct or arrange a meeting with our Otley BID Champion, Rachelle Atkin, by emailing [info@otleybid.co.uk](mailto:info@otleybid.co.uk)



building, alterations to external/internal openings and rebuild gable wall to existing portal frame storage building. For more see <https://tinyurl.com/OEB1197>

**Otley Show Marquee** - the businesses that have taken up the invitation to a free pitch in the Chamber of Trades marquee at this year's Otley Show on Saturday 18th May 2019 include:-

- Aura Jewellery
- Print Crew
- Canine Health
- Stead & Co
- Courtyard Planters
- Cranberry
- Dowgill House
- Doris Dent Estates
- Newstead & Walker
- O'deli
- Martial Arts
- Alpha Male
- Winpenny Photography
- From Odds & Ends
- Geo. Middlemiss
- Artemis Gifts
- Real Food Shop
- Wharfedale Embroidery
- 21 Again
- Hollings Crowe Storr
- Arundel Travel
- Christopher Little & Co
- White Rose Training
- Clippers Dog Grooming
- Sharp Nets
- Just Books
- Rafferty's Café
- Yorkshire Counselling Psychology

The cost of the marquee is kindly again sponsored by Otley BID

**Unemployment** - nationally another decrease, this time by 27,000 to 1.34million for the three months to February, 3.9%, compared to the EU average of 6.5%

Employment set another new record with the UK economy adding another 179,000 workers for a new high of 32.7m people now in some sort of employment (457,000 more than a year ago). The number of unfilled vacancies was virtually unchanged at 852,000 (source: ONS)

**World Bee Day** - Otley Chamber of Trade is supporting Wharfedale Beekeepers Association (WBKA) in marking the United Nations World Bee Day in May 2019

Here's how your business can get involved...



**Shop Window Competition** - decorate your shop/business window with bees or on a bee theme. A trophy will be given to those with the best dressed window. This will be judged on Monday 20 May 2019. Please email WBKA chair person to let them know that your business is taking part [claxtoninghamrob@gmail.com](mailto:claxtoninghamrob@gmail.com)



**Bee Trail** - display an A4 laminated sheet in your window with a bee fact on it, so that children can do a bee trail around the town. Laurie Prowse, Education Officer of WBKA will be approaching individual businesses for this

Anyone wanting further information about #WorldBeeDay events in #Otley can contact Rob Claxton-Ingham on 07961423216



**Yorkshire Bank** - Kirkgate, now has a full time Banking Advisor to assist local businesses, Christine Smith, a welcome commitment to Otley by a bank



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](mailto: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. In if 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](http://www.otleychamber.co.uk)

**Quench** - the Market Street café is available To Let from July 2019 on a new lease at £8,800pa. Apply to commercial agents, Ackroyd Dent, Yeadon.

## Presidents Note

Dear all,

I am feeling very blessed as I returned from a short trip to Austria recently. Although a beautiful country with stunning landscape. I must say we are hard pushed to beat our historic market town with the far reaching countryside and Otley Chevin on our doorstep. Otley is such a wonderful town and I am blessed to be a part of our business community. There are many exciting developments happening in the town currently as the time draws closer to Otley Show, Carnival and any number of festivals and events including world Bee Day, Otley Story Walk and lots of very exciting plans coming from Otley BID. The BID and Chamber, Otley Town Council and Otley Town Partnership which all work in collaboration to help improve our business community as we aim to make our town a wonderful place to visit

May I reiterate the executive committee would welcome anyone who is interested in joining the executive team. Our team has a vacancy for a Junior Vice President and as always it is an exciting time for our business community as we continue to move forward

Otley Chamber of Trade would be very pleased to hear from anyone interested in the position of Junior Vice President to commence in the Spring of 2019

The Otley business in the 'hot seat' this month is Tom Hatley of Christopher Little & Co situated on Bondgate, Otley

### Q Please tell us about you and your business?

At Christopher Little & Co we offer financial advice to individuals, families and companies. We provide advice on all aspects of financial planning, specialising in pensions and retirement. I joined the business 8 years ago as a self-employed adviser. I then bought the business in January 2016. The business is a team effort between myself and Ryan. Ryan joined as an apprentice in November 2015 and is my Paraplanner, he supports me in terms of administration, research, whilst studying for his exams. Ryan is developing his technical knowledge to become a Financial Adviser himself. Taking on an apprentice was probably one of the best things I did to help grow my business. A good positive move and Ryan enjoys and takes pride in his work, which is important

I grew up in Essex, that's why I have a 'funny accent'. I moved up north in 2008 and I have not looked back since. I have lived in Otley since 2014. I am married to Emily and we are now moving to Yeadon with our two little girls, Willow and Winter

Outside of work I spend time with my family and now, 'for my sins' I am Chair of Otley BID. My door is always open to anyone who wants to talk. I enjoy coming to work in Otley, in this town you can walk from A to B and see a number of friendly faces

### Q How long have you been here in Otley?

I have been working in Otley for about 8 years. Previously we were located above Savage Crangle and in January 2019 we moved to 75 Bondgate. The move has proved to be a positive one for Christopher Little & Co

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

My Grandad ran a photography business on Regent Street in London and growing up I was always interested in having my own business and being in control of my own destiny. I enjoyed games of strategy especially if they involved money, games such as Monopoly. I loved everything to do with strategy and looking at the bigger picture and ultimately that is what financial planning is. Growing up, I did not know what a financial planner was, I kind of fell into the profession. Once I had a better understanding of a Financial Adviser's role in helping clients achieve their desired lifestyle and objectives, I knew this was the right career for me. Helping people achieve their dreams and aspirations, what could be better than that! It's not about selling a particular investment or insurance policy, it is about building a plan for the future that is what our clients pay us for.

### Q Please tell us what you do to promote your business

I am a member of Otley Chamber of Trade and Chair of Otley BID. Mostly it is all local, I support local events including Otley Show and Otley Carnival. I am a member of a local BNI group. The only national membership I contribute to is vouchedfor, a ratings site for financial and legal professionals. I am really proud to have a 4.9 out of 5-star rating following reviews from existing clients. I have a website which is updated regularly and other professional contacts such as local solicitors and accountants. Also work comes from recommendation from clients

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

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Without sounding repetitive I would like to thank Tom for taking the time to speak with me. It is always fascinating listening to others business stories. Since my business start-up and joining the Chamber of Trade, Tom has been very supportive and always offers a friendly ear during my time as President he has always been genuinely encouraging and I would therefore like to offer a big thanks for his interview and wish Tom and Ryan continued success

Keeley Kear  
President Otley Chamber Of Trade & Commerce

