



OTLEY ECONOMIC BULLETIN

The Newsletter of Otley Chamber of Trade

President: Keeley Kear

Issue 112, October 2018

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:-

ASDA/Sainsbury's - with one of each supermarket present in Otley, the proposed £15billion merger between J Sainsbury PLC and Asda Group Ltd is to go to a formal investigation by the Competition and Markets Authority. The CMA is involved as, should it proceed, the merged giant would leapfrog Tesco to have (depending on how you measure it) between 26 and 31% of market share and 2,800 stores. The investigation could take 5-6 months and be subject to close political and financial market scrutiny (source: FT)

Barclays - more disappointing news from the national banks with Barclays announcing that their Manor Square branch will cease trading on 14th December 2018. The nearest alternative branches are in Guiseley, Horsforth and Ilkley

HSBC, 'the world's local bank', closed its doors in October 2014 and in the 4 years since the town has lost TSB, Natwest and now Barclays and with them 4 cash point machine locations. Nationally taken decisions have an effect at a local level, making life more difficult for shoppers and traders requiring both coins for change and a branch to deposit takings, rendering Barclays old slogan, 'It's our business to know your business' a bit hollow

Otley does still have Halifax, Santander and Yorkshire Banks and the Skipton Building Society and some paying in facilities at the Post Office with additional cash points at Sainsbury's and Waitrose, which is more than some towns, such as poor old Filey, which now has no banks at all

Best Kebab - correspondence with Leeds City Council regarding enforcement on the derelict and unsafe Listed Building on Kirkgate has elicited the response that LCC will undertake works to strip out all the substandard unauthorised work to allow a full assessment of the structure of the building and undertake any essential repairs

immediately. Addressing the roof and the external appearance of the building are also a priority. Works will commence once the Party Wall Act agreement is in place and will go into the new year. A scaffolding and skip company ready to start works

Be assured both Chamber and BID continue to press for action on the scruffiest building in town and other unsightly empty premises, adding to pressure already applied by Cllr Colin Campbell

Black Horse - the revolving door at Otley's only Victorian pub turns again. All enquiries to Westlake & Co 01756 748100

Bondgate Bakery - amidst the national fervour of the new series of the Great British Bake Off, Bondgate's traditional baker hosted Radio Leeds roving reporter Oly Woodcock during September as both went about their early morning duties

Bulletin sponsorship - thanks to Mercury Row based solicitor Newstead & Walker, 'The Otley Law Firm' for once again sponsoring this October edition.

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)



**SAVE
THE
DATE**

Chamber Next meeting & Otley Business Awards Launch will be on Tuesday 20th November 2018, 5.30pm at the Parish Room, Otley Parish Church on Kirkgate as part of the Otley Business Awards launch night. Entry is free, available to anyone, business owner or not, and all views and opinions are welcome. Do come along and interact, it's very informal and nobody bites. We don't get many local issues raised, please let us know what we could help with

Costa - always a popular talking point in Otley, owner Whitbread is set to sell the coffee shop chain to Coca-Cola in a deal worth £3.9billion

The former brewing giant, which also owns Premier Inn and Beefeater and Brewers Fayre restaurants, bought the fledgling Costa for just £19m in 1995 when it had 39 coffee shops. Now Costa has more than 2,400 UK outlets making it Britain's largest coffee chain, as well as some 1,400 outlets in 31 overseas markets and Costa Express has 8,237 vending machines worldwide

Whitbread had intended to spin off the chain as a separate business but decided a straight sale was more profitable, leaving the once upon a time famous brewer to focus on its Premier Inn business in the UK and Germany. The money from the sale would be used to expand their Premier Inn chain, return some cash to shareholders, pay down debt and boost the pension fund. Coca Cola sell lots of fizzy drinks globally but not as much coffee as they'd like

DNA Audio - Directors Darren Green and Alistair Gladstone announce the opening of a new business in town, DNA audio, specialist in audio equipment on Courthouse Street

"The aim is to provide our customers with a smart and relaxing environment where they can experience a wide range of great

This months sponsors



Newstead & Walker
The Otley Law Firm

Tel: 01943 461414

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sounding hi-fi equipment to its potential. We have chosen our premises as it is essentially detached and away from traffic so whether you wish to listen at low or high volume you will get to hear the equipment and the equipment only. Whether you are looking for streaming products, record players, technical advice or just a cable we will be here to offer

expert advice and plenty of enthusiasm. As an Electronics Engineer and ex Naim employee you can also be assured that if you do have any technical issues Naim or otherwise we will do our utmost to resolve them in house.

There will be ample



dedicated off street parking right outside the front door and two well appointed demonstration rooms in our newly refurbished premises

Our opening range is as follows, Naim Audio, Focal, Neat Acoustics, ATC, Rega including reference series components, Cyrus, Dynavector, Quadraspire, Custom Designs and Chord company with more to be added during the coming months"

Doris Dent – the retro estate agent has now completed the move from Orchard Gate to 9 Westgate



Empty premises Leeds based agent Brassington Rowan advises that negotiations continue for the freehold sale of ex-HSBC (empty since October 2014), and is currently under offer to a retailer. The ground floor of ex-Argos is also in advanced negotiation with an A1 retailer although both transactions are taking time. Elsewhere around town the list of available shop premises is dwindling again. For a list of all available space and empty properties in Otley see Otley Chamber's website http://www.otleychamber.co.uk/otley_business_premises.html

Fleece - the Westgate hostelry is under new management. With Heather and Nicola departed now it's good luck to new incumbents Geoff and Sarah who have reopened after a refurb with a new menu to try

Fusion Private Hire – Anwar Ghani, better known as Arnie, who also has Fusion Games Exchange in Market Street is proud to finally announce that, "we will looking after the town regarding taxis after taking over Otley Private Hire. With exciting new changes currently being put in place like fully computerised booking system with text back service and taxi tracking facility, consumer booking app and

website booking. We hope to give the town a taxi business to be proud of and offer the high level of customer service which you have enjoyed in the shop for the last 10 years

We are looking to work together with other local businesses whether it be pubs, restaurants, cafe's or other local businesses for deliveries and transporting staff. We will be opening longer hours eventually leading to a 24hr service offering 4 to 16 seater vehicles, limousine service, executive travel school/hospital contracts, contracts for local businesses among other facilities. As most of you know I have been driving a taxi on weekends for the last 15 years and was involved in running our family taxi business in the past so not going into the unknown"

Groove Pad – the former Rocca Bar at 9 Orchard Gate, is set to reopen as Groove Pad. Refurbishment work is under way by the new tenant, Andy Parkinson who has licence applications running with Leeds City Council for alcohol and live musical entertainment both until midnight. Plans are to open during the day with acoustic music and a 'bring your own vinyl' scheme whereby customers can bring their own record to play and a selection also for sale

Household finances – the annual growth rate of total pay (excluding bonuses) in the three months to June rose to 2.9% compared to the same time last year (in the single month of July up 3.1%, the highest in 3 years, perhaps indicating that the slack is used up and wage increases may now strengthen as record low unemployment increases demand on remaining available labour) compared to the the Consumer Price Index inflation indicator which increased from 2.5% in July to 2.7% in August (source: ONS)

Jet2 – having grown from initially 4 aircraft, when Bournemouth based air transport Dart Group first set up shop in 2003, Leeds Bradford airports low cost carrier is now set to employ another 2,000 staff across the company's nine UK bases. Jobs are available in flight deck, cabin crew and ground operations roles of which around 350 of the new jobs will be based at Leeds Bradford Airport.

Currently a bit of a mish mash, a wholesale redevelopment of the airport's terminal building has also been announced with a three-storey extension. The expanded terminal will house a transformed international arrivals process, including immigration, baggage reclaim and customs. It will also accommodate larger departure gates and seating areas, and new retail and food & beverage outlets due by the end of 2019.

ex- Kim Lorraine – the recently vacated home furnishings and gift shop on Market Street is under offer to be let

ex- Otley Health And Martial Arts Centre – the planning application by owners Tatton Settled Estates for "Change



of Use from first floor of shop (class use A1) to form one flat (class use C3)"above the 13 Orchard Gate unit has been approved by Leeds City Council

Otley in Bloom – announce that the whole town received a Silver Gilt award in the Yorkshire in Bloom competition. The long dry summer has proved a challenging year with Otley's green spaces so congratulations and thanks, especially so this year, for keeping our towns floral displays so colourful and well tended

By the time you read this the Otley Business Improvement District (Otley BID) renewal vote will be taking place. If you are a part of Otley BID you will have received your voting instructions from Leeds City Council's Electoral Services who run the ballot on our behalf.

You can vote anytime between 8th October and Friday 9th November 2018 up to 6pm.

544 individual ballot papers have been sent to business owners and landlords within the BID levy area of Otley. Some businesses will have more than one ballot paper because they pay business rates on more than one property.

The BID Board and BID Champions (drawn from Otley levy paying businesses) have managed to speak face to face to many of our businesses about our plans for 2019-24. If we have been unable to speak directly we have posted the Business Plan to them. We have also posted almost 200 envelopes to the head offices of our national companies and charity shops.

Our feedback from our face to face meetings has been, on the whole, very positive and we are hopeful of a positive outcome.

If you are in favour of the BID and want it to continue please make sure you send back your ballot paper. Every positive vote is needed to ensure we keep £375,000 of investment in the town. Don't let the BID ballot fail because your voting paper is still on your desk or you were unsure how to vote.

If you have read our 2019-24 Business Plan and still need further clarification, please contact us in one of the following ways:

1. **One to One Meeting** : By contacting our part-time BID Manager Tim Wilkinson from Dowgill House on email at tim.wilkinson@otleybid.co.uk or by telephone 07481 891 686.
2. **Online** : or via our website www.otleybid.co.uk.
3. **Social Media** ;
 - a. We have set up a Facebook group where you can ask questions and keep updated with all the information about the ballot at <http://ow.ly/OMVG30lpVru>
 - b. Or via our social media at www.facebook.com/otleybid, or www.twitter.com/otleybid.
4. **By Post** : Otley BID Ltd, c/o The Old People's Welfare, Crossgate, Otley, LS21 3AA.

To view our 2019-24 Business Plan go to <http://www.otleybid.co.uk/business-plan-2019-24/>

I have an Otley business, what is the voting process?

The ballot will run for 28 days from 8th October to 9th November 2018 at 6pm

Please complete the form as instructed by Leeds City Council and return your form before the end date of 9th November 2018, otherwise your vote will not be counted.



Join us and together
make a difference

VOTE YES

**ON 8TH OCTOBER
OTLEY BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT
WILL HAVE TWO VOTES**



**TO ENSURE
THAT
OTLEY...**

- ✓ **COMPETES WITH OTHER BID TOWNS AS LEEDS, BRADFORD ILKLEY**, HARROGATE**, SKIPTON*, KEIGHLEY, RIPON** & MORLEY****
- ✓ **IS LIT UP AT CHRISTMAS**
- ✓ **KEEPS FREE CHAMBER MEMBERSHIP**
- ✓ **KEEPS OUR BUSINESS AWARDS**
- ✓ **KEEPS PROMOTING TOURISM**
- ✓ **KEEPS OUR COLLECTIVE VOICE FOR BUSINESS**
- ✓ **KEEPS SUBSIDISED BUSINESS TRAINING**
- ✓ **HAS MORE COACH VISITORS**

*2nd BID term **BIDs underway

FACT

51 IN BE OT

Tel: 07481 891 686

Email info@otleybid.co.uk

Together we will
make a difference

YES!

OCTOBER BUSINESSES CHOICES



**AND
THERE
WILL
BE...**

- X LESS FLORAL DISPLAYS**
- X NO CHRISTMAS TREES**
- X NO FREE CHAMBER MEMBERSHIP**
- X NO BUSINESS AWARDS**
- X LESS FUNDING FOR FESTIVALS & EVENTS**
- X LESS TOURISM PROMOTIONS**
- X NO COLLABORATION WITH OTLEY ORGANISATIONS ON JOINT PROJECTS**
- X LESS COACH TRIPS VISITING THE TOWN**

**INITIATIVES HAVE
BEEN COMPLETED BY
OTLEY BID TO DATE**



For the vote to go ahead, three voting 'hurdles' must be passed:

1. More than 20% of the eligible businesses in the proposed BID area must vote.
2. More than 50% of those voting must vote YES.
3. Those YES votes have to represent more than 50% of the total rateable value of all votes cast.

If these conditions are fulfilled, payment of the Levy becomes mandatory for ALL eligible businesses, regardless of how they voted. As the vote takes place on 8th October 2018, the Rateable Values used for the aggregate calculation will be based on those in force at the time.

What happens after the ballot?

Your vote will decide how £375,000 over the 5 year period of the renewal BID, will be spent. If we are voted in, Otley BID Ltd will once again be run by a voluntary board of directors drawn from people with the same business aspirations as you.

Why should I vote YES?

The BID is an investment scheme where local businesses can collectively agree on the priorities for Otley and how to invest your money to benefit **yourself, your staff, your customers and your town.**

Otley must continue to adapt to the increasing changes in the way people live, work and spend; shopping trends and the increasingly uncertain economic times are just two key factors.

The choice for Otley's businesses is clear. It is between:

a. Continuing with a proactive and cohesive approach involving the whole business community, where collaboration brings with it the benefits of shared experience and common objectives. This pooling of resources brings the required economies of scale to have much more impact at a lower per capita cost;

Or

b. Reverting back to a reactive and piecemeal approach reliant on the goodwill of a handful of individual businesses, taking action on an ad-hoc basis as time and resources allow, and where planned investments are almost entirely dependent on the availability of increasingly scarce public resources.

Order your VOTE YES stickers today!

If you will be voting YES on 8th October 2018, we'd love it if you can show your support by placing one of our stickers in your window.

To order your sticker, please contact Tim Wilkinson at tim.wilkinson@otleybid.co.uk.





Otley Business Awards 2019

Otley Business Awards - the 5th OBAs will be bigger and better than ever, to be staged within the magnificent Otley Parish Church on Friday 22nd March 2019

To open the nominations window, explain the nomination and judging process and to hear from a past winner of the benefits they received through participation, all Otley businesses are invited to a launch night reception at Otley Parish Church on Tuesday 20th November 2018 from 5.30pm. Free food and a glass of wine on arrival. The guest speaker for the main OBA evening will also be announced, followed by the usual Chamber meeting

Otley Pub Club - has been approached by BBC Radio Leeds to see if we want to help them put on a multi-pub quiz in town for Children in Need in November. As Bob Brook's last act as Secretary he committed OPC to taking part. They only wanted 6 pubs - OPC is trying to raise 21! So if you like quizzing, or you just want to take part in a fundraiser that will be covered on local radio and maybe TV, keep a look out for more news. To get 2 or 3 teams of 4 in every pub will mean getting at least 200 people out on a Wednesday night [likely to be November the 14th]. Nothing's confirmed yet, so OPC can't start to advertise it, but loads of pubs have already said they'd love to take part, so OPC is pretty optimistic! Contact Bob Brook at opcmembers@gmail.com

ex-Panboo - the 11 Newmarket shop, formerly Patsi's Wicca Basket then briefly occupied as a bubble tea café, and empty since December last year, has finally been repossessed by the building owner. The building is available to lease via Yeadon commercial agent, Ackroyd Dent

Plastic bags - the 5p charge introduced in 2015 to help fight the global scourge of plastic pollution has seen plastic bag sales in major supermarkets drop by 86%. This is equivalent to just 19 bags in 2016/17 per person in England, compared with 140 bags each before the government introduced the charge.

It has taken 13 billion plastic bags out of circulation in the last two years alone a consultation will be launched later this year to explore the possibility of increasing the 5p minimum charge to encourage further behaviour change, potentially doubling it to 10p and extending the charge to all retailers and not just big businesses. It is estimated over 3.4 billion single-use plastic bags are supplied annually by small and medium-sized retailers

Meanwhile, Waitrose is to remove all plastic bags by next March saving around 550 tons of plastic a year. A home compostable alternative will be used for fruit and vegetable plastic bags. Waitrose will initially remove 5p bags from six shops from 8 October to understand how to manage the changeover as smoothly as possible ahead of their complete removal by March 2019

Poppy display - Remembrance Sunday, 11th November 2018, marks the centenary of the end of the First World War. To mark this a 14,000 crafted poppies, one for every resident of Otley, made by local volunteers will be displayed at Otley Parish Church from 28th October for a fortnight or so



The local businesses which have lent support to the project by acting as drop off points for the poppies include Casa Vitae, Otley Town Council Core, Otley Courthouse, Skipton Building Society, Sweet Treats, Stephen H Smiths and Wharfedale Embroidery

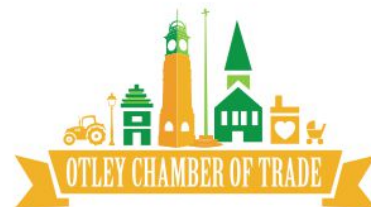
Local builder Stephen Hammond and Son is helping with the fixing points and for mounting the display on the Church exterior and fundraising has been helped by Waitrose (green token scheme) and the Otley Carnival committee who made a financial donation

Otley businesses are encouraged to support this and the other centenary Remembrance projects, such as the 'There But Not There' silhouette soldiers planned for installation on the land near the Post Office by making their own display, small or large in a style of their own. Contact poppies4otley@btinternet.co.uk

As ever, Chamber President Keeley Kear will represent the towns business community at the Remembrance Sunday parade and service

Winpenny Photography - issues the following statement, "Contrary to rumours that are circulating the town that my family business at 3 Wesley Street, Otley LS21 1AZ is closing. I wish to put the record straight that we are not closing or retiring as I am nowhere near retirement age! In fact we are extremely busy with work doing the photo restoration, video and cine film transfer and passports along with our other areas of business, so if you are needing our services for Christmas etc, please bring your jobs in sooner rather than later to avoid disappointment." Christopher Winpenny

Yorkshire Bank - another step towards CYBGs takeover of Virgin Money as during September both sets of shareholders voted comprehensively to approve the merger. The deal should be complete by the end of this year. Unconfirmed, but most likely is the new larger entity will switch branch names to the Virgin identity over a three year phased rebrand



Presidents Note

Firstly, I would like to thank Alex Sobel MP (Leeds North West) for attending our September meeting and taking questions on a range of issues including local transport services and policing and also outlining his vision for boosting tourism and working with local firms



Although a non-political organization we look forward to building our co-operation with our representative in parliament

September's meeting also included a presentation from the potential organizers of an Otley Coffee Festival which threw up some great questions and ideas and received a positive reception overall. We heard that with 15 coffee shops interested so far the next step is financial and logistics planning and finding a date in 2020 for the first one day event. Always something new in Otley!

Otley Chamber of Trade welcome anyone who is interested in joining the Executive Committee. Our team have vacancies for a Vice President and a Junior Vice President. This is an exciting time for our business community as we work alongside Otley BID, Otley Town Council and Otley Town Partnership and we would be very pleased to hear from you

The Otley business in the 'hot seat' this month is Ish from Otley Mobiles. Otley Mobiles is an established business located in Orchard Gate, Otley

My thanks also go to Ish for taking the time to chat with me. It is always such a pleasure and interesting listening to others unique business journey. I would like to take this opportunity to wish Ish and his business continued success and a personal thanks for supporting and encouraging my own and other businesses in the town

Any business owner who is interested in sitting in the 'hot seat' with the President please do contact me. It is always exciting to hear from you

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 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

Presidents Q&A interview: Otley Mobiles, Otley

Q Please tell us about you and your business?

Ismail (known as Ish) currently lives in Cottingley, Bradford. He commutes to Otley for his business. Ish studied business studies at Bradford College and also studied a one year accountancy course, however for Ish he found this boring and at aged 24 he and his brother took over his father's business, a petrol station in Apperley Bridge. Following a successful 9 years they noticed the business was struggling due to competition in the fuel industry from local supermarkets and decided to sell the business. Ish opened a retail business in Keighley, a small scale mobile phone shop which he run successfully for 10 years. An opportunity presented him with an opportunistic sale and Ish sold his business and following researching the town opened Otley Mobiles, which offers mobile phone, Ipad and laptop sales, repairs and accessories

Q How long have you been here in Otley?

Ish opened his business in Otley 4 years ago

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

Ish's brother has a mobile phone business in Bradford and Ish has always had an interest in mobile phones. He has attended a number of training sessions on mobile phone repairs and suggests, "everyone has a mobile phone". He researched Otley and at the time found the town did not have a mobile phone shop

Q Please tell us what you do to promote your business

Initially Ish reports that he did use advertising with leaflets, however word of mouth and personal recommendation via the Otley community are mainly his source of promotion. Also promoting through social media and Google with customers travelling from Harrogate and Pudsey, Ish also commented that the "people of Otley are very nice" and that he enjoys doing business in our town

Q How does being a member of OCT help you?

As an Otley BID Levy payer Ish is entitled to free membership of OCT. He reports, "being a member of OCT helps to keep me updated with events in the town and what is happening in the local business community"

See you soon

Best Wishes

Keeley Kear - President

NEXT CHAMBER MEETING

EVERYONE WELCOME - member or not

Tuesday 20th November 2018

6:00pm at the

Parish Room, Otley Parish Church

Kirkgate, Otley LS21 3HW

Open networking with
food & drinks from 5:30pm

