

The Trumpit

Est 1987 – Issue 525

October 2025



Swanning Around Issue



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The Trumpit is a free monthly magazine with 1200 copies available in over sixty local outlets. We aim to entertain, inform and promote a great part of Bradford. And nobody makes a penny!

The Bill Craven Community Fund was set up in memory of Bill Craven who was Editor of The Trumpit for many years.

Deadline date is typically the 20th of the month; for new submissions as early as you can please.
Advertising prices (Set June 2018):
Page £100; half £60; quarter £30.
Discounts for long-runs.

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Editorial

Whenever I drop in at Drakes Newsagents in Thackley for a proper paper, it is generally The Yorkshire Post. However, as I was hoodwinked during the last bank holiday weekend of the year into the dark arts of DIY, it was Sunday before I made the trip down the hill, happily still with all limbs intact.

I chose The Sunday Times as when I read it regularly in my BD days - Before DIY - I always enjoyed the sharp wit of regular columnist Rod Liddle. He is still on the money.

In this issue he wrote: "a recent survey showed that 47 per cent of adults do not read books by choice - that's about 27 million folk. Still more depressingly, 61 per cent of our 16-24 year-olds describe themselves as *non-readers* or *lapsed readers*. Fewer children than ever are reading. As he concludes: "Reading inspires - and the better the book, the greater the inspiration." Surely we all need inspiration?

Speaking of which, Mike Priestley's walk this month is of a local inspiration allowing the causal walker to enjoy the beauty of our local surroundings. It must have been written around the time of the approval of the Cote Farm development and further development of Idle Moor as Mike prophetically refers to "the doomed Idle Moor". I hope not.

Those of you who read my piece last month around a planning application I exercised my democratic right to object to - *Critics' Corner* - will not be surprised to know it sailed through. Despite a plethora of objections from local residents, not one councillor asked a single question. You had to wonder whether any of them were actually awake.

Attending the meeting as a public observer, on my way home I received a text from one of the beneficiaries of the outcome. I will not repeat the vile wording but it was not "well played old chap, hard luck!" How social media seems to have eroded social skills. Over the next few days the level of harassment ramped up via all manner of methods culminating in an unacceptable visit to my home.

The final act was a threat of legal action against The Trumpit unless an apology was received. How ironic given the article in question was somewhat more factual than the planning application it contested.

This kind of intimidation is simply not acceptable and it is now a matter for West Yorkshire Police. Our forebears gave lives for the basic democratic freedoms we enjoy today. If we accept the above as the norm we are all done for.

Finally, a warm welcome to new columnist Hollie Jackson.

In Every Colour

The Power of Theatre-Hollie Jackson

A warm welcome to our new columnist.

As I approach 18, I have throughout my teenage years come to realise how little there is for teenagers to actually do in Idle and Thackley and across the country in general.

Every time I make plans with friends, it always has to involve spending money in some format or going for a walk, both of which get boring after a while.

Me and a lot of young people I know, however, are very passionate about theatre and performing; so in the past 3 years me and my close collaborator Lillie (16 years old) have made it our mission to bring opportunities to theatre-obsessed teenagers looking for something to do in their free time.

Theatre for me is a tool to promote positivity and bring people closer together, plus, I aspire to go into playwriting in the future so 3 years ago, me and Lillie came up with a concept named 'We Went To Fantasy Land'; a fantasy adventure play about 8 teenagers who escape their terrible home lives and end up in a fantasy world.

Then, after developing the idea some more, I wrote a script and we pitched it to the Blooming Buds theatre company who, from that point on, helped us immensely by allowing us space at the Rockwell Centre in Thorpe Edge to rehearse, hold fundraisers and eventually perform the show.

We formed a diverse cast out of close friends and people interested in performing, including young people from many different backgrounds with many different but vibrant personalities.

Lillie and I also performed alongside the cast last February and it was a thrilling experience. Getting to rehearse and see each other every week, share our story with an audience of around 50 people and be responsible for our

very own production were just a few of the positives we gained.

I asked one cast member, Larissa, 6 months later what she enjoyed and gained from taking part in this play.

She told me that she "gained, not only acting and performing experience, but a group of people who I absolutely love and are so supportive."

Larissa also "enjoyed connecting with everyone and connecting with people who I had never met before," as well as "getting to portray two amazing, iconic characters."

After the success of our last show, me and Lillie are working hard to perfect our next: 'The Circus Tumble' which is a musical, comedy murder mystery set in a rundown circus.

We are very excited to once again have this opportunity (thanks to Blooming Buds) and bring joy to the community with a brand new cast of young people from around the Idle and Thackley area.

It's time for a Macmillan Coffee Morning and you're invited

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Letters

Email: idlelord@sky.com



At the start of last month rumours quickly circulated of plans to sell a significant chunk of Buck Wood in Thackley with a decision timeframe ridiculously short. It was madness.

Fingers crossed, it appears people power has won through here and many were angered at this madness. Here is an explanation from local Cllr Griffiths.

As you may have seen this has been widely shared now and the T&A have been in touch. It might be helpful to set out a few facts as there have been suggestions that there was no real threat. On 26th August Estate management sent us an email stating that they were considering adding land in Buck Woods to the list of assets for sale.

The included map showed it was basically the land from the border of North Hall Farm up as far as the middle of the football club. (a bit more than the 'small part on the boundary' implies). We were asked for our views and given 2 weeks to make comments.

Knowing what we do about the council's desire to sell of every scrap of land they can we were very concerned about this and, despite the short time scale wanted to make sure people were aware of the risk to add strength to our response and so that there would be no doubt as to how people felt.

Unsurprisingly there was a very rapid and powerful rejection of the proposal, even in the few days it was out there.

The fact that a decision has been made not to proceed, confirmed by the email and in the statement given by the council to the T&A, before the time for responses has expired makes it almost certain that the strength of the response is what caused them to draw back. As you say, very good news indeed. **Alun**

Thanks so much for managing to get our flyer in for Blood Brothers...looks great. I appreciate you can't always put it in. **Tracey Clifford (Castaways)**

The Trumpit does not charge local community groups so if you want your event to get a bit of publicity please get in touch.

I've just read The Trumpit for the first time in ages! It gets better and better. A difficult piece (Critics' Corner) beautifully written. It resonates to all of us that did a bit through love! **Anon**

You may remember we had a chat (about) Idle/Thackley Memories Group. I'm delighted to say the group has gone from strength to strength and has been so successful that we were forced to close to new members and now have a waiting list. We have been awarded a grant from The West Riding Masonic Charities Trust Ltd which has enabled me to upgrade our cooking equipment so that we can offer hot food more often. **Martine**

The Bill Craven Community Fund has made a donation of £250 to help this local group.

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Idle Xmas Lights

Switch On – Sunday November 30th

In Idle, businesses are clubbing together to support investment in this year's tree plus some well-needed, up-to-date Christmas tree lights.

Pledges at the time of going to print were: Idle Post Office £250; Khyber £100; Symposium £100; True You Skin Clinics £100; Bill Craven Community Fund (Trumpit) £100; Idle Bakery £100; Idle Coffee Lounge £100; White Swan £100; Dolly's Studio £50.

Local businesses also provided generous raffle prizes for the recent village event to raise even more funds.

A big thank you also to Fir Tree Farm at Dacre Banks, Harrogate who have provided the tree at a substantial discount.

What a brilliant community!



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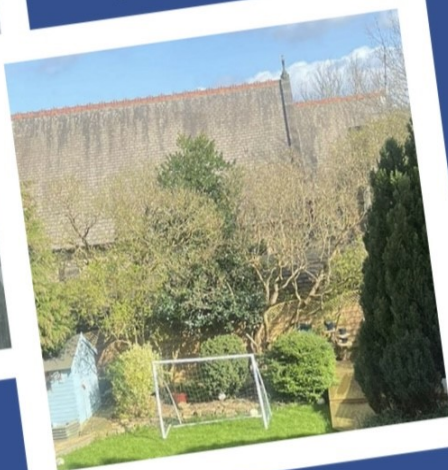
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Bookworm

A Windhill Wanderer

I read an article recently about how the world of publishing is shunning white, male authors. Apparently we need to read fewer of their books and more written by people with blue hair. Established male authors are too frightened to speak out in case they get “cancelled” by the industry.

It is scary how much power publishing houses can wield. I’m told they pay thousands every month to major chains like Waterstones to place their books in prominent positions in the window. If they want an author to fail because he believes there is nothing wrong with being a white male, they can pull the plug on the marketing budget.

Disregarding what the thought police have to say, my favourite authors are overwhelming white and male: Charles Dickens, John Irving and Jo Nesbo to name but three. I can add to that my recent discoveries: Mark Billingham and William Boyd.

My first recommendation this month is by the latter. In *Gabriel’s Moon*, William Boyd introduces Gabriel Dax, a journalist/travel writer with a trauma-scarred past. When Gabriel was only 6, he was in a house fire that killed his mother and left Gabriel an orphan (his father had been killed in a car crash when Gabriel was a toddler).

This leaves Gabriel with both insomnia and, when he does sleep, recurring nightmares. Twenty years later, Gabriel is in the newly independent Congo, interviewing the recently appointed president. Unwittingly, Gabriel becomes enmeshed in espionage and is recruited by Faith Green, an MI6 handler, to carry out some undercover work.

Thus we see Gabriel travel from London to Franco-era Spain and Communist Warsaw. The author brings these places to life, he is skilled at describing Gabriel’s surroundings, be they the hot and dusty streets of the Congo or the bars in Cold War London. Bubbling away in the background, there are Gabriel’s personal relationships. He has a girlfriend who he is fond of but he knows she isn’t “the one”.

A brother who he has never been close to and has never really trusted, a psychoanalyst who despite asking him very weird questions he does seem to trust (I’m not sure why, she seemed like a bad idea from the outset to me), a mouse who refuses to take the bait and finally the aloof Faith Green, who only has to click her fingers and Gabriel goes running.

Gabriel’s Moon is an atmospheric Cold War thriller that would easily translate to the big screen. It is fast moving and low on emotion (people die, Gabriel shrugs and moves on), which is an observation not a criticism. Having not read any of Boyd’s other books, I don’t know whether this is a trait unique to Gabriel Dax or whether Boyd “doesn’t do” emotion.

He does however, do sequels and has announced that it is the first of a series. The second instalment, *The Predicament* is due for release in September.

My second white-guy pick is *A Philosophy of Walking* by French philosopher Frédéric Gros. This is a meditative essay not a “how to” manual and it explores how walking shapes our minds, our sense of freedom and disconnection from the rest of the world.

Gros is implicitly critical of our modern society, dismissing our obsession with speed, our sedentary lifestyles and disconnection from nature. In his hands, walking becomes a form of rebellion, a way of reclaiming time and space for ourselves. The book focuses on mini case-studies of historical figures (including Gros’s fellow philosophers Nietzsche, Rousseau, Kant and Thoreau) who walked great distances on a regular basis.

Some of them seem to have been perfectly sane people who loved walking; a couple of them were closer to the insane end of the spectrum, but all were fascinating.

The book also introduced me to a new word: *dromomaniac* – when it was originally coined it meant an uncontrollable urge to walk or wander. Nowadays, the word is used to mean an abnormal desire to travel that involves spending beyond one’s means and sacrificing work and relationships in order to travel. I think I prefer the original definition and on that note, I am going to take the dog out.



9.8

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The Thackley Chef

Richard Aveyard – ACIEH



One here for those with the conundrum of a tomato glut maintaining the theme of seasonality and home-grown produce.

Stuffed Tomatoes Provençale – 4 portions.

Pre-heat oven to 200C/400F/Gas6)

Ingredients: Large tomatoes (washed, eye removed and halved); clove of chopped garlic; diced shallot; salt & pepper; sprig of fresh thyme; 1tbsp chopped parsley; 2-3 tbsp fine breadcrumbs; 3-4tbsp olive oil.

Method:

1. Using a teaspoon remove the seeds and place the halves on a lightly oiled tray – season.
2. Place a small frying pan on the heat and add some of the oil keeping a little back to drizzle over the tomatoes. Add the shallot and garlic to cook gently without colouring. Remove off the heat adding the breadcrumbs and the parsley – season and mix well.
3. Spoon the mix into the tomato halves and drizzle with the oil . Place stuffed tomatoes into the pre- heated oven cook for 6-8 minutes. They should then be nicely gratinated.

Serve as with your chosen mains.

Chef's Tips: Consider grilled meats, poultry or fish or if you do not want to remove seeds just pack the crumb mix on to the halves. You could use the seeds and pulp into a sauce.

Now for pickling some of your excess produce for the long winter months.

There many recipes for pickling fresh vegetables and fruits. Here are just some of the ingredients I use. A usual rule of thumb for sweet pickle is equal amounts of sugar to vinegar. Note that if you use just cider vinegar it gives a slightly sweeter taste to your recipe so an adjustment of the amounts of sugar can be reduced.

Or you could use white wine and cider vinegar with the adjustment down to your preferred level of how sweet or sharp you prefer. Some ingredients to flavour your pickles with are as follows:

Vinegars: (white wine, cider, red wine, malt or distilled white).

Sugars: (soft brown, caster, granulated or preserving sugar).

Aromatics (to flavour): bay-leaves, rosemary, thyme, star anise, mace, cloves, mustard, celery and/or coriander seeds, peppercorns (white & black), garlic and all-spice. Just experiment with what you have in the store cupboard.

It is important when pickling to sterilise your jars as much to preserve produced as you too! Here is a re-cap.

Wash your jars in hot soapy water then rinse thoroughly. Place your jars into a large pan and cover with cold water bringing to a boil then simmer for approx. 10 minutes.

Remove from heat and drain or fill all your jars (plus lids) with boiling water from your kettle. Do this on your draining board or pan or tray so water will run over your jars.

Then drain jars and place into your oven (140C/275F) for approx. 10 mins making sure jars completely dry. Add the lids for approx. 5 minutes or until dry.

Carefully move your hot jars on to a clean towel or board so not to shock your jars and prevent shattering.

While still warm add pickling ingredient's into your jars and cover with your pickling liquor. Then seal, label, store and enjoy.

Chefs Tip – You can use your dish washer although I prefer not to as It has to be completely clean free from food debris and also may have slight traces of your chemicals.

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Tony Gough

Fake News

Fake news can either be amusing or malicious and dangerous. Modern examples have blamed MMR vaccines for an increase in autism in young children, without any real proof. Sadly parents stopped having their children vaccinated which led to increased levels of measles, mumps and rubella.

During Covid, rumours were rife in minority communities that having inoculations could make women sterile. Inevitably it led to an increase in Covid cases.

Fake news is much older than you would expect. One of the earliest examples was In America, prior to the War of Independence in 1785. News sheets were distributed that stated King George II was in failing health; this gave American colonists hope that they could win their struggle to be an independent country.

Fake news reappeared in New York in 1835 in the New York Sun newspaper. The paper printed a series of articles and drawings that said men and women who could fly were living on the moon. The stories were attributed falsely to Sir John Herschel who was said to have viewed lunarian activity through a telescope and dramatically increased sales.

So the precedent was set - untrue but sensational stories sell papers and also attract readers on the internet.

In the 1890s New York fake news reappeared. It became known as yellow journalism and involved a battle for readers between Joseph Pulitzer of Pulitzer Prize fame (who owned The New York World newspaper) and William Randolph Hearst (The New York Journal)

Hearst was also believed to be the inspiration for the 1941 movie Citizen Kane. Both boosted their sales by printing lurid and often untrue stories, like today's red tops.

The term yellow journalism came about because both papers printed comic strip cartoons based on the extremely popular yellow kid character Mickey Dugan, who was always dressed in a yellow night shirt. He lived on the streets with his friends and was similar in appearance to Plug the Bash Street kid from the UK Beano comic .

Later stories that were false but generated a huge amount of interest were the Cottingley fairies saga of 1917. It involved two young girls aged 16 and 9 who produced pictures on pre-film glass plate cameras that showed themselves communicating with fairies.

Many years later the girls said they had drawn and cut out fairy pictures, posing them using fine cotton thread. The photographs and stories eventually caught the attention of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle a prominent spiritualist and the Sherlock Holmes writer.

He had the photographs examined by experts from Kodak who said they couldn't find any evidence of forgery but they still wouldn't say they were real.



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Tales From The Scruffy

The Trumpit always goes to press around the 20th of each month so sometimes it is hard to be current. That said, I had the thoughts I am trying to lay out here in the middle of August in a crammed beer garden with the sun high in the sky. This was at the end of another day in my (very) part-time role as a driver for a local dental lab, covering all four corners of Yorkshire most days.

You see a lot from the tiny bubble of a delivery car from the most deprived communities to those that look like something out of a Sunday magazine. I reflected on this as I watched the numerous families in the garden enjoy a fine early evening.

Kids were playing happily, not an iPad in sight, the only gadgets a couple of paving flags to hop from one to the other and, more importantly, the company of other kids.

From my trips around this great county, trust me we are so lucky with what we have to enjoy here from the likes of The Scruffy and our other great bars and locals – BD10 is not ‘alf bad!

So, the following week when the media reported that pubs continue to close at a rate of eight per week this year – there are still some 45,000 left open in the UK – it made me doubly appreciative of all we get as a community from our great pubs.

From some 75,000 pubs in the 1970s, the fall has been dramatic and for many reasons too numerous to explore here. As we enter the autumn and winter months, lets get out and keep supporting these brilliant places for young and old alike. We all need them.

And so it was the last bank holiday weekend was on us as if summer had hardly started at all. Soon, the best dressed pensioner in Bradford would be hanging up his gardening thong and putting away the espadrilles together with the M&S linen collection.

If only the Grattan catalogue was still around with a pensioners’ section they would not need to go far to find their male model. For one last time this summer The Trowel posed for the paparazzi before scooting off inside for a Coors.

Not to be outdone, fellow sun-kissed, lager-lover, Don Corleone Jnr was inside showing off his latest Hawaiian shirt. It seemed that Tropical Tim’s hold on the most garish shirt of the summer award was under serious threat. Princess Prosecco was nowhere to be seen having rumoured to have refused to be seen out with him until he ditched the Hawaii Five-O look.

Who can remember that one then?

By now the beer garden resembled a dust bowl, a long, dry summer having taken its toll. Fagin’s new planter looked as if it was growing weed which would probably induce the local back-clad hoodies to whiz by and sample a crop in time. Who knows if they were capable of speech or simply reliant on hand signals. If they are the future, maybe Planet of the Apes was not so far fetched. I caressed my pint as the sun fell slowly over the hill...life was good.



In a desperate attempt to extend the summer, Suntan and I managed to palm off the pampered pooch for a week and headed off to Lanzarote where it was hotter than Greenfingers' greenhouse down on the plot.

On our return, not the best of flyers, Suntan was hardly enthused by the captain of our 737 informing us, as we sweltered on the tarmac going nowhere, that they were having a "bit of bother" starting the engines. Coupled with an admission that they had "picked up" this plane in Newcastle before it went in for a service did not gain universal approval from the passengers. Red faces suddenly drained.

We were eventually allowed out onto some hastily arranged steps simply to get air which was less than great as the confusion around starting the big bird was all the more apparent. It seemed our fate was in the hands of several youngish locals in hi-vis jackets with an imaginary crank handle. I swear I have never prayed harder roaring down a runway.

We thumped down on the wet Leeds tarmac several hours later stopping just before the nearby golf course. I vowed never to think I was 21 again as I shivered awaiting a taxi in the car park in Tropical Tim flip-flops.

There was a gaping hole on our return to The Scruffy with the sad news that Dizzy Izzy has left us. Although so young she seems to have been part of the furniture and, on many an occasion, has run the place covering for Fagin's attempt at emulating Alan Whicker.

Whilst we all knew the day would come, she will be very sorely missed - we wish her all the best life has to offer and a warm thank you.

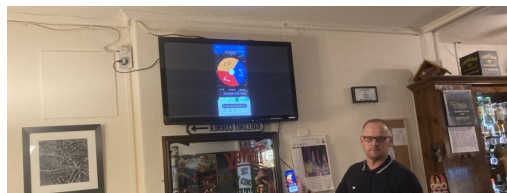
Soon, thoughts turned to the next break from the editorial desk with the annual trip to Whitby and, thankfully, no need for a 737 despite the golf contingent. A mix of one foot in the grave combined with a token curious youth convened for the annual meeting to draw lots for the various rooms spread across two cottages and ranging from Utopia (ensuite avoiding Big Al) to pigsty (twin lumped in with Big Al).

In previous years we had relied on bits of paper and a pint glass - total transparency I claimed. This year the group's Elon Musk - Five Pints - had brought in a form of AI. With Nob Ed Korna

vacated, he hooked up his gadgets to the big screen as locals looked on inquisitively. Big Al was soon moaning he had been "in an hour!".

"Where else would you normally be?" I asked.

All were sat awaiting fates to be drawn via an on-screen roulette wheel with two draws. The first allocated an order of pick; the second attached a room/bed to the picker. There were 4 prized double rooms with en-suites, the rest all comfortable enough but with the necessity to share - enough said - nerves were frayed. Elon had our attention now, his Wheel of Fortune ready to spin.



Fagin got the first spin, Prince Harry the last, muttering this was a fix against the youth - "told ya...you oldies got all da money!"

And yet the Gods smiled down on the young man, along with Five Pints, Patch and yours truly with three nights of luxury and no need for either ear muffs or a gun with a silencer.

The Scrutiny Committee - Uncle Andy - declared all was fair and the draw to the standards of Sepp Blatter Fair Play. In the corner The Major wept silently, three nights sharing a twin room with Big Al ahead. Finally, Fagin and Leapy had their own draw as to who got to fall out of the bunk bed.

Watching from a distance was recent recruit to the bar, Alice, who is leaving this Wonderland to go back to university. I mused how she will surely miss this true theatre of life as the inmates slurped beers and commiserated with a near suicidal Major.





October is always a busy month on the plot not least because, whatever theory you hold, it definitely seems to be getting milder. Far from being scientists gardeners, like farmers I guess, have to deal with whatever Mother Nature throws at us.

This year I am going to have a crack at Christmas potatoes – again – God loves a trier. Last year I tried to grow these in bags – acquired from the local amateur pharmaceutical entrepreneurs via a woodland walk – and things were looking good with strong, healthy plants.

And then – boom! One severe frost and it was all over. This year I am going to grow in the ground and, unless we get a frost of Siberian proportions, this should give the plants enough protection together with a bit of earthing up. I am told straw is also good but it can fly away with the winds.

I also found last year that the beetroot crop continued to prosper late into the year so am hopeful that I can utilise The Thackley Chef's recipe tips for later in the year. Keep an eye out for beetroot that have gone to seed evidenced by the stem bolting and turning harder than rock. It is likely that the beetroot will have turned into a rock and be little good.

There are crops you can try over winter too if you wish to continue to seek an excuse to vanish to the peace and quiet of the plot. Hardy over-winter crops to plant out now include winter onion sets and garlic. Planting now should provide a crop around late June.

Planting out your garlic cloves now will give you a much larger bulb when cropping in early summer. Garlic should survive the harshest of winters and requires frost to enable the bulb to split into separate cloves.

Have a go!

There is also much work to do harvesting the last of the summer crops to avoid waste after a summer of hard work. These may include such as beans, squashes, carrots, apples, pears and autumn raspberries. Preserve what you can and you will enjoy late into the year.

Now is also the time to start to give greenhouses a good clear out and tidy up. It is always a good idea to do now rather than feel like a mountain of jobs has descended on you next spring when all you really want to do is sow seeds.

Each time a bed or planting area becomes empty, remove any dead foliage and dying plants to the compost bin. Give the bed a thorough weeding and a good digging over.

Once the area is totally cleared and dug it's a good idea to cover it up. This suppresses weeds and keeps your soil slightly warmer for the winter ahead. Alternatively, if you have planted green manure as discussed in previous issues this will also help suppress weeds and prevent soil binding.

Eccleshill Horticultural Society is based on Harrogate Road and is a great place to get competitively priced gardening products plus you will find the members who staff this on a volunteer basis very helpful. Membership is a modest £3 annually. The society shop now reverts to opening on Saturday mornings only from 10-12.

Thackley's community gardening swop shop is now closed until the spring.

Here is a message from Helen: I'd like to thank all the stall holders and visitors for coming and sharing throughout the year. A personal thank you from me for helping me to raise funds for the hedgehog sanctuary (nearly £100 this year).

Happy autumn gardening to everyone.

Karen's

wasted

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The Thackley Trumpit

The Trumpit was born in 1987 by Alvin Blossom, landlord of the long gone Shoulder of Mutton pub in Thackley. "Bloss", an ex-Radio Leeds DJ, developed what was originally known as The Thackley Trumpit as a bar top A4 flyer. It took a "sabbatical" from 1992 until it re-appeared in December 2000 with the late Bill Craven as co-editor. Bill started with the Shipley Times & Express as a sixteen-year-old.

Copies were sold for 10p eventually rising to 25p. This page is dedicated to the two of them and all who have contributed during the years to 2018...and beyond. The 2000-2018 archive is on the website - www.thetrumpit.com

This month here are some extracts from edition 261 (October 2002).

The front cover is topical to say the least and shows just how far Idle village has come in the last twenty or so years.

The Eating Out column reviewed Orlando's in Frizinghall which I am sure many of you will remember. Frizinghall was a great night out back then with the Mucky Duck and The Park to have a slurp or two in. A little history here.

Local Press Thursday 8th June 1939 Open-Air Breakfast At Thackley's "School-In-The-Wood."

Three hundred Bradford children, must be the envy of businessmen and office workers who have to gulp down a hasty breakfast before scurrying off to their day's labours. Each morning these children leave their homes - mostly in the back streets of the city centre - and travel four miles to have a hearty breakfast in the sunshine and open air, with trees around them and birds fluttering down on to their tables.

The scene of these alfresco meals is Thackley Open-Air School, the first properly constructed establishment of its kind in the country, and modelled on the original German Waldschule ("School in the Wood"). Normally the scholars here, their age ranges from five to fourteen, have their meals on the open verandahs, but in weather of the June 1939 species, they sit out on the lawns and among the trees to eat their wholesome porridge with treacle, bread and butter and cocoa. The scholars take turns at serving the meals.

You don't have to be a trained observer to notice that half the shops in Idle have closed down*. If this trend continues, the village will be a ghost town. One can only speculate as to why this is happening, although without doubt, the proliferation of supermarkets is part of the reason. It would seem that increasingly we're all of the opinion that supermarkets offer (just about) everything we need, at the cheapest possible price. This is simply **not** the case. We all know that supermarkets use 'loss leaders' to entice customers into their super stores. A loaf of bread, 19p; two pints of milk, 89p ... but be assured that they have recovered their 'loss' **many times**, by the time you've done a lap of the store. THC foods is a 'no frills' frozen food store in Bradford Road, half a mile below Five Lane Ends, where considerable savings can be made on many products (some of them branded) when compared to big supermarket prices. Small businesses can only survive if properly supported, and once a shop closes, it's odds on that it will stay that way.

Returning to the situation in Idle. Contrast the rising numbers of shops closing down, with the seemingly endless number of takeaways (listed below). Idle's become 'Takeaway Town', with probably more fast food outlets per head of population than Blackpool! Before a new outlet can open the Council has to approve 'change of use', which begs the question, "why does a village, the size of Idle, need no less than five Indian Takeaways?"

Of course we still have plenty of takeaways but, if you follow the article to the end, the list of closed shops way back then suggested the village was dying on its feet. Credit to all those who have helped it recover.

Finally, local Thackley Cricket Club were celebrating success at 1st and 2nd team levels in only their third year in the Airedale & Wharfedale League. Both teams ended up as champions, a notable achievement.

**All of these shops are now closed:*

Pharmacy, Keighley Butchers, C. T. Trading, Fruit & Veg Cabin, Fridge & Freezer Repairs, Aromatherapy Shop, Cutting Edge, Big & Beautiful, Auntie Wainwrights Antiques (Dead Horse and Donkey Buyers!), 2 shops in Bradford Rd. behind The White Swan, Pets & Pots, Newsagents and adjoining shop in Bradford Road.

Freedom Corner

Idle Village Car Park

Here is a reply to a Freedom of Information request re the controversial imposition of car parking charges.

Bradford Council introduced car parking charges re Idle village car park in October 2024. They also - briefly - installed five free spaces recently only to withdraw these.

Please confirm:

- Amount generated in parking revenue and the date to which those figures relate to.
- Total expenditure on installing new signs in 2024.
- Total expenditure re aborted provision of free parking bays and signage 2025.

Council Response:

Pay and Display income from 01 October 2024 - 30 June 2025 is £6837, and £750 in enforcement income from 01 October 2024 to date.

Approximately £175* was spent installing signs. (*average cost for multiple signs and installation across the district.)

The cost of making changes to the car park was £878.39. This was for three costs, the poles, the concrete and the signs. No road markings were laid. The staff time involved in this activity was approximately 3 hours. No contracted service was used. The specific cost of removing the signage is £0. Costs incurred were for staff time only, an existing employee undertook the work to remove the signage which again was approximately 3 hours.



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Trumpit Money

Self-Build Mortgages

Taking on a self-build project is an incredible opportunity to create a bespoke space tailored exactly to your tastes and needs. That being said, it's also a significant undertaking with many moving parts. A well-executed self-build is less about the physical act of construction and more about meticulous planning and preparation before that first shovel hits the dirt – which is where professional expertise becomes invaluable.

The biggest lesson for any aspiring self-builder is that the strength of your project rests on the solidity of your initial plans. The best way to ensure you've covered all bases is by working with a team of professionals from the very start. Engaging with architects, structural engineers, quantity surveyors, and ecologists ensures your plans are not only compliant, but also realistic and well-costed. This upfront work is crucial, as it provides the robust foundation needed to navigate the complexities and hurdles that will inevitably arise along the way.

When it comes to project management, you can choose to hand over the entire project to a construction company for a "turnkey" approach, where your input is limited to the design. Alternatively, you can opt to project manage everything yourself, getting involved in every minute detail. No matter which route you choose, understanding the implications for your time, budget, and peace of mind is essential.

One of the most critical aspects of a self-build is its unique funding structure. Unlike a standard residential mortgage where the full amount is released upon completion, a self-build mortgage releases funds in stages, as the construction progresses. A lender will typically release a percentage of the value of each stage, from the land purchase, the outer construction, and the internal fit-out.

This staggered approach is less risky for the lender, as they're lending on a semi-complete project rather than a speculative one. The funding model can be either in advance (you receive funds to do the work), or in arrears (you

complete the work and then get paid after an inspection and valuation). This choice has a significant impact on your cash flow, and is a key factor in selecting a lender.

It's worth noting that many lenders view a self-build mortgage as a form of short-term lending, often structuring payment on an interest-only basis during the construction phase. Once the build is complete, this is then converted into a standard residential mortgage.

The self-build mortgage market is a niche area, so working with an expert mortgage adviser who specialises in this field is an absolute must. They can help you navigate the various funding options available, and compile a detailed cash flow analysis to determine which funding model is most suitable for your circumstances.

An adviser will act as your advocate, approaching multiple lenders on your behalf to find the most suitable, cost-effective solution. They can also provide a realistic assessment of the project's financial viability, helping you to factor in a contingency fund. This is vital, as costs almost always end up higher than initially anticipated due to unforeseen circumstances and expenses.

Another major benefit of using an adviser is the clarity and certainty provided from the outset. They'll ensure you know exactly where you stand financially, so you won't go into the process blind. They can also assess the long-term affordability of the project to ensure that you can comfortably afford the repayments once your home is finished.

Embarking on a self-build project is a fantastic opportunity to create a home that is truly your own, but it's important to note that it won't be a straightforward path. By partnering with experts, you can secure peace of mind for any hurdles that may come your way, and be well on your way to turning your dream home into a reality.

Andrew Milnes Mortgage Advice Bureau, 105/107 Main Street, Bingley. Tel: 01274 568832 / 07703 548020 Email: andrew.milnes@mab.org.uk



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It's that time of year when one season gently hands over to the next. Of all the transitions, this one is my favourite.

The warm colours, the golden glow of late afternoon sunshine, the long shadows and the falling leaves all signal it's time to hunker down.

Nature is reminding us that we are cyclical beings too - designed to slow down, let go, and prepare for new growth when the time is right.

Of course, not everyone welcomes this season. The darker nights and shorter days can feel heavy, and for some, they bring a real sense of loss.

Yet often the greater weight comes not from the season itself, but from the stories we tell ourselves about it.

I invite you to notice your inner dialogue around this change.

What if the shift is simply a shift - not good, not bad, just different?

Instead of resisting, what if you allowed yourself to sit quietly with the feelings that arise?

Perhaps they'll show you something ready to be released, creating space for what wants to come next.

And if you'd like some guidance or gentle pointers with this, please do reach out. I'd be more than happy to help.

From my heart to yours.

Jane x

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5.30pm

Idle Baptist Church
Bradford Road, Opp Co-Op

Liz 07719 437486

Friday ~ Shipley

7.30am, 9am & 10.30am

Caroline Street Social Club

Liz 07719 437486

Saturday ~ Bolton Outlanes

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Community News

Here are the Bradford Ramblers walks planned for this month. If you are free on a Wednesday or Thursday evening why not join a friendly local group exploring Bradford for a 2-hour mid-week walk? All walks are approx. 4 to 5 miles starting at 7pm.

1st meeting on the Wilsden to Harden road just above The Malt. Contact Tony 07482 222528; 9th in front of Victoria Hall at the junction of the A647 Sandbeds and Station Road, Queensbury. Contact Muriel 07981 106470; 15th at the tennis court parking area on The Hough, Northowram, halfway between the Shoulder of Mutton and The Windmill pubs on Halifax side of the village centre. Contact David 07796 222949; 23rd in the lower carpark of The Dog and Gun Inn, Denholme Road, Leeming, Oxenhope. Contact Muriel 07981 106470; 29th on Green Lane, a continuation of Brow Lane, off A6036 (by the footpath sign approx. 0.5 miles after turning off the main road in Shelf). Contact Muriel 07981 106470;

See details on the website: <https://bradfordramblers.org.uk> or on the Facebook page Ramblersbradfordgroup. .

Idle Upper Chapel URC are hosting a Macmillan coffee morning Saturday 11th 10am-1pm. Admission free, donations welcome.

Idle Post Office

Twenty-five years serving the community. You can now do your day-to-day banking at your local post office. It's a free and easy way to access your bank account for personal & business customers.

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Support The Animal Rescues Shop based inside the Old Mill, Victoria Road, Eccleshill Bradford BD2 2BT. Open :- Mon, Wed, Thurs, Fri, Sat 9.30 to 16.30 and Sun 11.00-15.00 CLOSED Tuesday. Volunteers are needed. Please email star-shop2024@hotmail.com or simply call in.



The Commercial

Thackley's original village pub recently refurbished with a warm welcome to all. We are family-run and dog-friendly too. Come along and sample a great range of cask ales with a warming open fire. There's lots going on each week and a function room for hire too. Please contact Gary on 07495 157938.

What's On

The Commercial has plenty going on here. Check out their Facebook page.

Idle WMC: Thursdays there is a quiz (8.45pm) and bingo night (7.15pm). Plus lots more live entertainment most weekends.

The George: 4th Sons of Robin 9pm; 19th Roadstuner 6.30pm; 26th Jerrad Barraclough 6.30pm.

Local band Silence are playing The Duck & Drake in Leeds on the 18th.

The Highfield: Every Friday at 7pm DJ Jo Wiley and lots more.

Remember this is a free page to all local venues and performers.

For how to get in touch see page 3.



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Walks in Yorkshire

A Local Stroll

Mike Priestley

Many readers will remember Mike Priestley as a journalist for the Bradford T&A. His regular walking columns were a treat. A local lad, Mike has kindly given The Trumpit permission to reproduce walks from the five books he wrote dating back to the 1980s. I have remained faithful to the original text but some routes may have changed given the passage of time so please be aware. This is his second book.

In just about every out district and suburb of every town or city in Britain there are rights of way across green fields which will before too long be rights of way through estates of new houses.

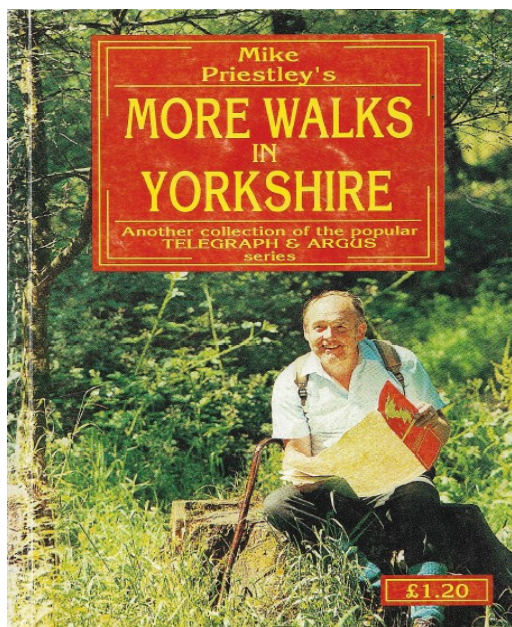
Today's walk passes through two patches of open countryside designated for housing. Local residents have lost their fight over one of them. The battle to keep the other as an open space goes on.

The walk, a pleasant stroll for a summer evening with fine, open views begins at the bottom of High Busy Lane at Windhill, where there is parking on the left above the double yellow lines.

My wife and I walked up the pavement to the top of the steep road with, on our left, the swath of fields which stretch up to Thackley and for which there are ambitious development plans – the subject of strong local objections.

At the top, where the road swung round into the estate beyond the school, we crossed it and followed the rough lane to the left. This is High Busy Lane as it must have been originally when pedestrians and horse-drawn carts slogged their way from Shipley to Idle via Windhill many years ago.

On the left we passed Laverack Hall, not long



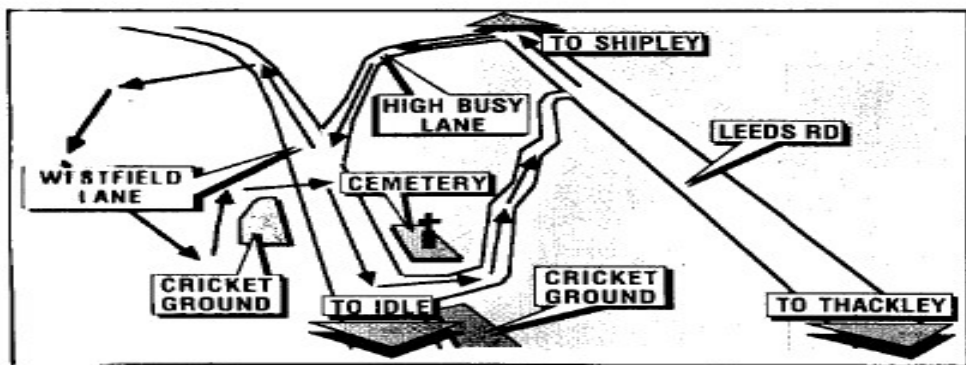
since a derelict farm but now restored and commanding superb views across the valley to Hawkesworth and the moors beyond.

A little further up the lane and again to the left, we passed Carcase End Farm – which is a much more attractive building than its name might suggest and is in a splendid position with the open fields falling away below it.

At the junction where the lane met Westfield Lane, we turned right and walked uphill past houses and bungalows which, from their rear windows, must offer one of the finest panoramas in Bradford: across the valley to Baildon and the distant Ilkley Moor, with Saltaire and Bingley to the west and the greenery of Hollins Hill and Guisley to the north-east.

Just past the brow of the hill, on the left of the road, sits a small new estate – one of the bites already taken out of the doomed Idle Moor. Immediately beyond this we took the track which leads to this rather unattractive but environmentally important area of open land.

A stile beside a gate led us on to the main



track through the fields where horses grazed. A wheatear flew across our path, its white rump glinting in the evening sunlight.

Two wall stiles further on, the path led up the field with the wall to our right to a rather makeshift stile in a wire-fence. Through that, we headed straight on to a gate-gap and turned left along the track which follows the ridges.

Trees have been planted either side of this, to create a leafy avenue eventually. Unfortunately, many of them have been topped by vandals.

The track swung right, heading for the row of houses known as All Alone Road - which once were, but are now flanked by newer properties. But our path led to the left at this point, across the field to a pair of stone gateposts and then between barbed wire fences with, immediately to the left, the new development which is steadily munching its way into the eastern edge of Idle Moor.

The path ended in a road lined with bungalows. We turned left and, at the T-junction, crossed the road and headed for the snicket just to the right of a lamp-post. The path crossed the end of a cul-de-sac, continued to the left of a gate and soon became a track, passing older houses and soon, passing, on the right, the cricket ground.

In the corner of the cricket field, where the track meets Westfield Lane, stands a tower which steams from time to time in winter. It's a

ventilation shaft for the main sewer.

Just across Westfield Lane from there is the arched gateway leading to the tiny, walled, 17th century Quaker cemetery.

We walked down Westfield Lane, on the pavement, and immediately past the big Congregationalist cemetery on our left, we turned left down the track, with another cricket field to the right and began a diagonal descent of the fields below Laverack Hall to the incessant noise of the traffic on the busy Shipley-Thackley road.

Squeezing past the end of a metal gate, we veered left on a muddy-ish track beneath an arch of hawthorn trees and past banks of holly bushes. Where the track ended at a field gate, we squeezed through a gap stile between the wall and the fence and continued along the grassy path with the wall to our left until, at the end, another stile took us into the lane which led down to the main road.

A left turn here and a short walk along the pavement took us back to High Busy Lane.

Time: 1 hour approximately

*Sincere thanks
to Nigel Burton,
Editor of the
Bradford T&A,
for allowing The
Trumpet to
publish Mike's
wonderful walks.*



A man wakes up in the hospital bandaged

from head to foot. The doctor comes in and says, "Ah, I see you've regained consciousness. Now you probably won't remember, but you were in a huge pile-up on the motorway. You're going to be okay, you'll be able to walk again and sustain a reasonably normal life, however your penis was severed in the accident and they couldn't find it."

The man groans, but the doctor goes on, "You have £9000 in insurance compensation coming for the severed member and we now have the technology to build you a new penis. They work great but they don't come cheap. They're roughly £1000 an inch."

The man perks up.

"So," the doctor says, "You must decide how many inches you want. But I understand that you have been married for over thirty years and this is something you should probably discuss with your wife.

If you had a five incher before and get a nine incher now she might be a bit put out. If you had a nine incher before and you decide to only invest in a five incher now, she might be disappointed.

It's important that she plays a role in helping you make a decision." The man agrees to talk it over. The doctor comes back the next day, "So, have you spoken with your wife about the penis?" "Yes I have," says the man.

"And has she helped you make a decision?" asks the doctor. "Yes" says the man.

"What is your decision?" asks the doctor.

"We're getting granite worktops."

My Dear Wife

You will surely understand that I have certain needs that you, being 54 years old, can no longer satisfy. I am happy with you and I value you as a good wife.

Therefore, after reading this letter, I hope that you will not wrongly interpret the fact that I will be spending the evening with my 18 year old secretary at the Comfort Inn Hotel. Please don't be upset - I shall be home before midnight.

My Dear Husband,

I received your letter and thank you for your honesty about my being 54 years old. I would like to take this opportunity to remind you that you are also 54 years old. As you know, I am a maths teacher at our local college.

I would like to inform you that while you read this, I will be at the Hotel Fiesta with Michael, one of my students, who is also the assistant tennis coach. He is young, virile, and like your secretary, is 18 years old.

As a successful businessman who has an excellent knowledge of maths, you will understand that we are in the same situation, although with one small difference - 18 goes into 54 a lot more times than 54 goes into 18.

Therefore, I will not be home until sometime tomorrow!

There was a nun who did work in the community, providing care to old folk in their own homes. To enable her to do this, she had a small car.

She was on her rounds one evening when her car ran out of petrol. Fortunately, there was a petrol station just around the corner, so she decided to borrow their spare petrol can.

Unfortunately, when she got there, the assistant told her it was already out on loan.

The nun came up with an idea - she decided to go back to the car and get a bedpan from the boot.

She filled it with petrol and very gingerly carried it back to the car. As she was emptying the bedpan, two Mormon missionaries walked past.

One of the missionaries turned to the other and said: "If that car starts, I'm turning Catholic!"

Kevin Russell

{cont'd from p32}

Local rivals, Albion Sports' start to the season has been surprisingly poor. Whether their move to new surroundings, the 4G pitch at Myra Shay, has been a contributing factor, I am not sure. It is a bit of a soulless place to go, virtually a one-sided ground, which does not offer the best spectator facilities.

This season's other ground movers, Eccleshill United to Keighley Cougars, have had a similar start to Thackley, averaging a point a game. The facilities there are those of a professional rugby league club which offer a very good spectator experience. However, if they were hoping to increase the numbers watching with the move, they are only marginally better than last season, averaging just 75. Thackley's average gate has held up well at more than 200 for their opening seven games.

Thackley Ladies have had a spectacular start to the new season, winning their first two games, scoring nineteen goals and yet to concede any. They were promoted as champions last season after unjustly being relegated at the end of the previous season.

Thackley Ladies AFC Results & Fixtures

Sun 7th Sept Golcar United 0 Thackley 9
Sun 14th Sept Thackley 10 v Forge Way 0
Sun 21st Sept Harrogate Railway v Thackley KO 2.00pm
Sun 28th Sept Knaresborough Town v Thackley KO 2.00pm
Sun 5th Oct Thackley v Silsden KO 2.00pm
Sun 12th Oct Sherburn White Rose v Thackley KO 2.00pm

They were worthy champions, going through the season unbeaten in the league and have retained most of last season's squad plus recruited a number of players that have played at a higher level.

Now in the Premier Division, the indications are that they may replicate last season's feat of not losing a league game, if their opening two games are anything to go by. I am sure that they will come up against better opponents as the season progresses.

I am not sure winning by large margins every week is what players or spectators want to see. It is much more exhilarating for both to achieve a win in a closely fought game.

Thackley Ladies are looking to finish as champions and win promotion to the next level, Division One of the North East Regional League, the sixth tier of English women's football.

Thackley have had little luck in the draws for the cup competitions thus far this season and have been drawn away in all of them. They were drawn at Irlam in the FA Cup, where they lost 4-0.

They have also been drawn away at Harrogate Railway in the FA Vase, at Knaresborough Town in the League Cup and Ossett United in the West Riding County Cup.

It is hoped their luck will turn if they progress in any of the competitions and they get to play at least one tie at Dennyfield.

A couple of games to look out for next month are the local derby with Campion on Saturday 11th October and Sheffield (the oldest football club in the world) the following Saturday the 18th October, both kick off at 3.00pm.

We hope you can come and support us.

Northern Counties East Premier Division

1	Tadcaster Albion	11	24	13
2	Penistone Church	11	20	2
3	Liversedge	10	19	11
4	Barton Town	10	19	9
5	Sheffield	9	17	8
6	Beverley Town	11	16	6
7	Knaresborough Tn	10	16	6
8	Parkgate	12	16	2
9	Campion	9	15	7
10	Pickering Town	8	15	5
11	Handsworth	11	14	-7
12	Thackley	12	12	-6
13	Eccleshill United	11	11	-6
14	Frickley Athletic	11	11	-13
15	Wombwell Town	9	10	-6
16	Golcar United	11	9	-5
17	Albion Sports	10	8	-8
18	Rossington Main	7	7	2
19	Bottesford Town	9	7	-11
20	Horbury Town	10	5	-9

THACKLEY AFC

A VIEW FROM MUPPET HILL



Most teams in the Northern Counties East League have now played over a quarter of the season's league fixtures and the table is starting to take shape. At this time of the season, a couple of wins or even just three points can make a big difference to a club's position in the table.

Predictably, like the professional game, the clubs with the highest player budgets have made the best starts. The two clubs relegated from the Northern Premier League last season, Liversedge and Sheffield, are in the top five promotion and play off places.

However, Tadcaster Albion, who finished seventeenth last season, currently top the table with twenty-four points. Penistone Church (eighth last season) are second, with Liversedge, reportedly the league's big spenders, third, five points behind the leaders but with a game in hand.

Barton Town, they finished fourteenth last season, are fourth and Sheffield fifth. As for Thackley, last season was their best for some time, they find themselves just below halfway, averaging a point a game from their twelve played. This is something not really unexpected after the close season turmoil at Dennyfield.

Thackley AFC Results

20th August Thackley 0 Knaresborough Town 3
23rd August Barton Town 2 Thackley 0
27th August Thackley 0 Parkgate 1
30th August Thackley 3 Albion Sports 1
3rd September Thackley 2 Bottesford Town 4
6th September Tadcaster Albion 1 Thackley 1
13th September Thackley 0 Penistone Church 1
16th September Liversedge 1 Thackley 1

Losing their management team and all but one of last season's players is a challenge. In fact, everyone at the club is pleasantly surprised at their efforts over the last couple of months.

A young side, with a scattering of older more experienced players, have played some good football and have put in some creditable performances.

Bottom are Horbury Town, who were promoted as champions last season, which is rather surprising, as promoted teams tend to carry the momentum on and do well in their first season at the higher level.

Thackley AFC Fixtures

Sat 4th Oct Pickering Town v Thackley KO 3.00pm
Sat 11th Oct Thackley v Campion KO 3.00pm
Tues 14th Oct Knaresborough Town v Thackley KO 7.45pm
Sat 18th Oct Thackley v Sheffield KO 3.00pm
Sat 25th Oct Handsworth v Thackley KO 3.00pm
Sat 1st Nov Thackley v Beverley Town KO 3.00pm
Please note some fixtures are subject to change due to cup competitions.

YOUR SPECIAL EVENT

Free room for hire and free wi-fi*
***conditions apply**

**Dennyfield, Ainsbury Avenue,
Thackley, Bradford. Tel: 615571**
www.pitchero.com/clubs/thackleyfootballclub

THACKLEY AFC SEASON TICKET PRICES 2025/2026

	SEASON	PRICE PER GAME
ADULT	£90	£7
CONCESSIONS	£55	£5
UNDER 16S	FREE	FREE

*Please note that Thackley AFC reserve the right to request proof of age and / or student ID

** Season ticket entitles you to entry to all NCEL Premier Division matches. Cup matches excluded

*** Under one free when accompanied by a paying adult

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