



# The Trumpit

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Issue 531 - May 2026



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The Trumpit is a free monthly magazine with 1300 copies available in over sixty local outlets plus an online version too. The aims are to inform, entertain and promote the local area.

The Bill & Bloss Community Fund honours the memory of the two previous Trumpit editors and is there to support local good causes.

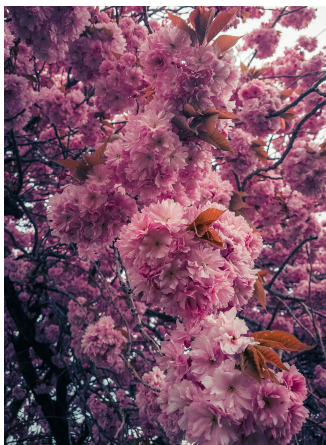
The deadline date is typically the 20th of each preceding month although for new submissions as early as you can please. Advertising prices (June 2018): Page £100; half £60; quarter £30. Discounts available for long-runs.

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Cover picture taken by the talented Cathryn Bell; see inside for contact details for your special day.



# Editorial

On the eve of going to print came the terrible news of the sudden passing of Councillor Jeanette Sunderland. I had written this page weeks ago in support of the work of all three of our local councillors here in Idle & Thackley and with Jeanette's approval. Save for a small edit in view of the tragic circumstances, the text is largely retained noting the election here will now be postponed by a month.

As reported in the T&A 13th May 2016 following the toppling of Council Leader David Green, his successor, a little known Councillor Hinchcliffe was quoted: "He (Green) completed his four-year term but the Labour group decided to vote for me to lead us over this next cycle. The cuts from central Government are going to mean that councils will look very different in the future, I'm honoured that the Labour group has put their faith in me to lead on that challenge." Little did we know how long a "cycle" was!

Here in Idle & Thackley we are unique with three Liberal Democrat councillors. My late predecessor Bill Craven was fond of saying we do things a bit different in BD10. Now I am no more a Liberal Democrat than a future contender for Strictly Come Dancing, but I do have enormous respect for the work they do and their consistent help when dealing with matters published here.

Of course, they cannot do everything as quickly as we all hope so issues like tacky signs that degrade the local area take forever. And the thorny issue of HMOs is largely one controlled by central government policy.

Would we do better with a Parish Council - Jeanette was convinced this had value - funded by an annual precept? As an example, depending on your council tax band, the charge in Wrose ranges from £12-£37 collected through your council tax and spent by the elected Parish Council.

Things that could be funded are such as park projects, Christmas lights, hanging baskets and a dedicated manager; stuff where a few hundred pounds will make the difference. Perhaps we are victims of our proven ability to do these things anyway driven by local businesses?

Either way, local elections are notorious for low turnouts with often only three in ten bothering to vote. But if you don't vote then you can't moan and groan for years after. Jeannette worked selflessly and tirelessly for decades to improve the lives of young and old.

Rest in peace Councillor.

# Election Day

Source: Bradford Council's website.

*On Thursday, 7 May 2026, District Council elections are taking place in our area. Due to recent boundary review all 90 Council seats will be up for election. Three councillors are to be elected for each ward. This means residents will be asked to vote for three candidates to represent their ward. The three candidates who receive the most votes are elected. Those candidates are elected for different terms:*

*1st place – 4 years; 2nd place – 2 years; 3rd place – 1 year. From 2027 onwards, the district elections will be for one councillor for each ward (who then serve for four years-Ed).*

See below for a full list of candidates which will now be amended following the tragic loss of Cllr Sunderland with the election here now in June.

Name of Candidate	Home Address	Description (if any)
BRYANT David	(address in Bradford)	The Conservative Party Candidate
COOK Sally	(address in Leeds)	The Conservative Party Candidate
GODFREY Evelyne	7 The Haven, Bradford, BD10 9HP	Labour and Co-operative Party
GRIFFITHS Alun Owen	8 Thomton Hall Fam, Coach Lane, Bradford, BD13 3EG	Liberal Democrats
HURLBUT Stuart	(address in Bradford)	Green Party
JACOBS Melissa	(address in Bradford)	Green Party
LAWRENCE Tess	(address in Bradford)	Green Party
LOGAN Gareth David	7 Waryn House, Haigh Beck View, Bradford, BD10 9NE	Labour and Co-operative Party
MACPHERSON LE MAIRE Tom	(address in Bradford)	Reform UK
MILLS David Llewelyn	(address in Bradford)	Reform UK
NAYLOR Aislin	26 Westfield Lane, Idle, Bradford, BD10 8PY	Liberal Democrats
RILEY John Michael	(address in Bradford)	Reform UK
SUNDERLAND Jeanette	26 Brook Hill, Baildon, Shipley, BD17 6NS	Liberal Democrats
WIGHTMAN Richard Edward John	(address in Bradford)	The Conservative Party Candidate
WRIGHT Paul	14 Bradford Road, Shipley, BD18 3NP	Labour Party

# Bill & Bloss Fund

Hepworth & Idle Junior Cricket

The Trumpit's Bill & Bloss Community Fund is very pleased to be able to commit to a two-year sponsorship deal with Hepworth & Idle Junior Cricket.

The money will be used in part to subsidise the cost of kit for juniors with cricket equipment generally more expensive than many sports.

The Trumpit has established annual sponsorship deals, albeit modestly for this is not Sky TV, with Idle & Thackley Memories Group, Red Kites Ladies Rounders, Thackley AFC and Thackley Ladies Rounders.

Whilst the fund is not huge, if you have a good cause - preferably local - then get in touch via the details on page 3.

Good luck to HICC juniors!

# Idle Car Park

## Freedom of Information Request

I (Bradford Council) refer to your request dated 23rd February 2026 under the Freedom Of Information Act asking to supply the following information which is outlined below along with the Council response.

Since the introduction of charges to Idle village car park please advise of the total revenue to date including charges and fines.

Council Response:

The total revenue generated from P&D income is £13,020 up until end of February 2026, plus PCN income of £1,325, (£14345 in total).

The impact on local businesses is immeasurable. This from a council which, as at March 2025, had debt of £762m. Good to see them looking after small businesses!

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# The Thackley Trumpit

The Trumpit was established 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 in a multi-page format with Bill Craven as co-editor. Bill started work with the Shipley Times & Express as a sixteen-year-old. Copies were sold for 10p eventually rising to 25p. At its peak it had a circulation of 300 copies.

This page is dedicated to the two of them and all who have contributed during the years to 2018...and beyond. The full 2000-2018 archive is on The Trumpit website.

This month here are some extracts from edition 268 (May 2003).

The front cover, as many times before, reflects that some things in life are hard to change with a focus on local drug dealers.

Drug Dealers Doing Brisk Business In Thackley ran the headline - it might be a bit brisker these days with the proliferation of new delivery bikes the yobs seem easy to evade the police with.

Is there any solution to this ongoing curse?

I also stumbled across a letter penned by a younger version of your editor. Once again, it is reasonable to argue that little has changed re Westfield Lane and, a point made further on rings true, it is at capacity.

See the issue for the full text.

A fascinating tale written by local historian Dr Christine Alvin focuses on Joseph Wright whose legacy remains very much part of the local area - well worth a read.

Eating Out gave a rave review to The Sun Inn at Cottingley now "apartments" - what a fall from grace.

Finally, Bill and Bloss were on the money with the jokes as ever.

**Wife: Wake up! Wake up!  
There's a burglar in the house  
and he's eating the stew left  
over from supper!  
Husband: Go back to sleep. I'll  
bury him in the morning.**

Dear Editor

I had a rare Easter treat this weekend, that of a read of your Trumpit and found the article re Westfield Lane of particular interest mainly because I live on the hairpin bend at the bottom, which in recent months has become the site of many attempts at breaking the land speed record.

My neighbours and I are objecting strenuously to all the proposals and are in constant contact with the Police to see if they have any interest in



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# Your Say

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I have been involved with Shipley Glen Tramway since 1999 and in all that time have never had to appeal for help with funding. We came close to it but somehow managed. I am getting on a bit and there is a rumour I have been at tramway since 1895 when the tramway was built.

Relaying our track is a result of a survey showing irregular subsidence under the sleepers from top to bottom of track about 760 sleepers in total over about 400m on 2 tracks. Fixing this immense problem came at an immense cost of nearly £89000 and the work is more than our band of maintenance volunteers can cope with.

Donations have been heartwarming including yours so very many thanks for your support. If you come for a ride we guarantee you VIP treatment plus a window seat. **Richard**

Those wanting to catch the A3 Airport bus by crossing the Aire from Thackley should note that the path between Buck Mill Bridge and the metalled road leading from Roundwood Avenue is being closed for resurfacing work.

A letter says the closure is "from Tuesday 7th April for a maximum of 10 week(s)" and is for "reconstruction (of) the path and surfacing with Flexipave". The signs gave the impression that the "closure" might mean that no-one could walk along the path.

When I visited I found it was still possible to use the path just by squeezing past the big vehicles which the contractors were using. It doesn't seem very likely that the whole path will be fenced off the way that the part of Ainsbury Avenue running down to the canal has been taken out of use for repairs.

Until now the path/"road" has had a fairly firm rough surface which allows cyclists, horse riders and pedestrians to walk it in all weathers. It seems the work is to make the path level across its whole width, to lay foundations and gradings strong enough to support a proper surface.

The internet tells me that "Flexipave" is a material made from a 50/50 mix of recycled rubber tires and natural stone aggregate, bound with a polyurethane binder.

It gives a sustainable, porous surface which is designed to be flexible, preventing cracks from tree roots or ground movement, and is used for footpaths, bridleways, tree surrounds, and play areas. So I guess, technically speaking, that the idea isn't to build a tarmac road which would have a harder surface prone to cracking, but instead something less resilient to traffic but more resilient to tree roots and more durable in the long term.

I spoke to one local who said she hoped the path would be improved in that wet weather wouldn't lead to quite so many puddles and so much mud. On the other hand, she wondered if it would attract quad bikers who would see it as their own personal expressway track? **John Hartley**

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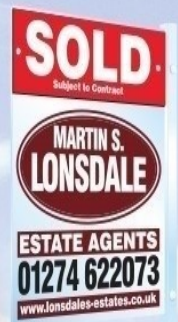
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Jane Gray  
 TRANSFORMATIONAL COACH  
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I found myself on the pitch at Valley Parade, singing at the memorial match on the final game of the season.

A moment filled with both sadness and beauty. A reminder of how life can hold it all at once.

This month marks one year of writing for the Trumpit, and what a year it's been.

Looking back, so much has changed, all from one simple decision at the start of 2025: I said yes.

That yes led me to join the Bantams of the Opera choir. Something I never imagined would become so meaningful.

May is always a reflective time for me.

It marks the anniversary of the Bradford City Fire, where my dad, along with 55 others, lost their lives.

Last year, though, brought something unexpected.

Life doesn't move in straight lines. It unfolds across a spectrum of highs and lows.

I believe we're here to live it fully, to feel it all, and then let it go, so we can keep moving forward.

Because there is always something new ahead.

And sometimes, it starts with a simple yes.

Jane

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# Tony Gough

## Florence and the Famous Four...to be read with your granddaughter.

The singing birds woke Florence early; the sun was shining and the day that she and her friends, Lillian, Charlotte, Neve and Celia had been waiting all week for had finally arrived.

They were going horse riding at Kilnsey stables where all the girls had been before but today was special because now they were all 9 years old and for the first time they were going to riding without an adult. They all felt so grown up as they loaded their waterproof clothing into the cars.

Half an hour later they were at the stables and the girls all chose their favourite horses. Florence chose Danny; she felt safe riding him and he seemed glad to see her perhaps because she always brought him a nice fresh carrot.

Soon they were all wearing their safety hats and off they went with Florence's cocker spaniel Buster leading the way. Florence had given Buster a good brush the night before and his red hair looked beautiful in the morning sun.

He ran ahead exploring the woodland either side of the path and then suddenly stopped with his head on one side.

Florence thought he had seen or heard something as he ran away at top speed barking loudly which wasn't like him.

Further on the girls found Buster looking down a bank towards the river, whining. Then the girls heard another dog barking.

When they looked over the bank they saw a white cockapoo by the river who began to bark furiously. The girls all called out to the little dog but he wouldn't come to them.

Florence said "we will have to go and rescue the poor thing!" Charlotte and Celia volunteered to go down the bank while Lillian and Neve held onto the horses. The two girls scrambled down to where the little dog was waiting for them barking excitedly and Celia picked up the cockapoo.

Just as they turned to go back up the bank they heard a rustle in thick grass to their left; what could it be? Charlotte moved over to the grass and saw a woman laying on her back. Her eyes were closed and she had a large bruise on her face.

Charlotte checked she was breathing, then all the girls went back up the bank to try and decide what to do. A light rain had begun to fall so the girls decided they needed to get the lady up the grass bank and back to the stables. Florence said "if we put my coat around her shoulders and fasten it we could all pull together and get her back to the path."

With Charlotte and Lillian pulling from the front and Neve and Celia pulling at the side they slowly pulled the lady back up to path. The lady, whose name was Jill, was able to sit up and the girls were able to help her sit on Celia's pony.

Slowly they made their way back to the stables where an ambulance was called. Neve said she would look after Jill's dog until she collected him. All the girls were tired but looking forward to telling their friends at school the next day what an adventure they had had.



# Townend

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Y L | Daughter of Springfield Resident | March 26

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# The Thackley Chef

Richard Aveyard - ACIEH

A seasonal offering here with a guide to lamb to begin with.

Spring lamb is usually slaughtered at around six months and milk fed so it gives the pink colour, tenderness and mild delicate flavour. It should be cooked simply so not to overpower the delicate flavour; if you use strong flavoured ingredients use with caution.

Lamb up to a year old is generally available when the lamb grows its first pair of permanent teeth.

Hogget is between one and two years old. Technically this is mutton but without the developed flavour.

Mutton is over two years old with a strong and well-developed flavour.

## Lamb Rump Recipe - serves two.

Preheat oven 190-200C/375-400F/Gas 5-6. Cooking time approx. 15-20 minutes plus resting time.

**Ingredients:** two 250/300g lamb rumps trimmed with excess fat removed; salt & pepper; 1-2 sprigs of fresh thyme; 25g butter 1tbsn oil.

### Method:

1. Allow lamb rumps to come to room temperature before cooking.
2. Place thick bottomed frying pan on a medium heat adding half the oil; season the rumps skin side and add to the pan skin side down to render the fat slowly.
3. Pour off the rendered fat regularly in to a dish and keep for later.
4. Cook for approximately 8-10 minutes or until you have rendered the fat well and you have golden colours and slightly crispy rumps.
5. Once you have a good colour, drain off last of the fat. Add thyme sprigs to pan and turn rumps over placing on top of thyme. Place in to preheated oven and cook for

approximately 10-12 minutes depending on your preference for colour.

6. Once happy with the cooking of the rumps

carefully remove from the oven to rest the rumps for approx. 10 minutes. Decant the lamb on to a plate using tongs so not to pierce the meat. Cover with foil and keep in a warm place until needed. Keep the pan for the sauce.

**Sauce Ingredients:** 1 shallot peeled and chopped fine; 1tbspn butter; 60ml Madeira wine or Port; 8floz double cream; salt & pepper.

### Method:

1. Using the same pan place on a medium heat and add the butter then add shallot. Cook without colour stirring and scraping any caramelisation on the base of your pan.
2. Add the wine deglazing the pan and reduce the alcohol then add meat juices, from the resting lamb and reduce to a to a syrupy consistency.
3. Add the cream and turn up the heat to reduce by half; taste and season.
4. Once reduced, strain into jug and keep until needed.

### To Serve:

Carve the rumps and arrange on your plate either coating the lamb or separately adding sauce.

Accompany with sides of new season new potatoes and vegetables such as asparagus tips, broad beans, spinach and peas.

Keep it simple...its all about the lamb and enjoy with a lovely glass of red if you like.

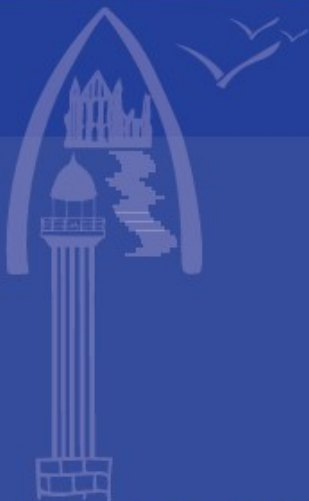




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# Tales From The Scruffy



If the crazy late March weather was not enough to contend with, few of us were prepared for a visit from King Kurt Junior, son and heir to the local stone magnate.

Senior is a man of few words, a local version of Clint Eastwood with a check shirt and glasses, but one shake of those JCB bucket hands and you know who is boss: "Go on punk...make my day!" he growls.

Junior on the other hand speaks with the frantic pace of a racing commentator on acid, rarely coming up for breath. Engaging, entertaining and expressive, he sat there opining on this crazy world and suggesting there were many tales he could tell from his less than conventional upbringing.

As we sat there entertained for at least half an hour, Senior sat in quiet contemplation, hoping to escape with his legendary reputation untouched. Soon it was time for Junior to vanish and for the rest of us to catch our breath.

Senior quickly downed the rest of his pint in mock celebration and made his way to the bar for a calming fresh one; it had been different. The look on his face said it all and even Bright Eyes, who had observed all from behind the bar, could barely hide her amusement.

Onto midweek and, having trudged the damp and dark beer garden barely a few weeks ago, what a difference as global warming took hold again. Fagin was positively beaming as were pubs up and down the land, the sun bringing the punters flocking.

Suntan needed little persuading to wander down the road...there was no need to suggest a teatime dog walk as even the pooch sensed the thrill of the first beer garden night of the summer. An ocean of discarded crisps!

It did not surprise me to find Fagin's trusty deputy Don Corleone Jnr already in situ with Princess Prosecco on the fizz. The Don has already accepted a contract of sorts to fill in for the next six weeks of Fagin's summer holidays so all is well.

Big Al was also in situ treating Luckless Linda to a glass of orange - "make it last love, you've the tea to get on!" - as he downed pints of Pravha like a man possessed.

Despite the sunshine, inside sat the debonair Trowel bemoaning that Jiving June had been caught out by the sun's arrival and had not had time to iron his favourite shorts nor buff his summer loafers.

Sat alongside was his old mate The Bank, positively beaming and not down to the sun. Rumours of a Middle East ceasefire and a stock market bounce back were written all over his face. Only the Secret Millionaire would have been happier, praying Donald put away his toys for good.



One day The Bank might get to wear his favourite banker's mac again. He confided in me - in confidence, of course - that when he wore his favourite Gannex, he felt like his hero Bodie from the 1970s series The Professionals. I made my excuses and headed for the gents.

The Evergreen team had been on a training course - how to climb trees - over in Last of the Summer Wine territory in Holmfirth. Strangely they had omitted Compo lookalike Evergreen Snr, possibly as his last response to a request to climb a tree is unprintable.

Mums and Dads in the midst of two weeks of juggling kids suddenly had a get out of jail card and all that was to be decided was who would drive...if they had any petrol. The sight of young families and many new faces in the garden was great to see.

Across the road, the New Inn was also enjoying a roaring trade, so good to see in these testing times. And the queues awaiting the best fish and chips for miles snaked out of the door of Towngate. Boom time?

Back inside a few regulars, averse to things like sunshine, sat in relative calm and quiet. Bonnie and Clyde had no contenders for their favourite stools and assumed their usual place at the end of the bar, able to draw pistols in good time if any dubious characters came through the saloon doors. The Boilerman and Wisey were due any moment.

Just as life appeared to be on an upward track, the local drug mules appeared and sporting shiny new bikes too. If only we had a police force that chased morons like these rather than filling spreadsheets. Cue an armed SWAT squad at my door on publication.

They hared down the High Street at breakneck speed - many of us wishing for that very same outcome - free to do as they wished seemingly, spreading their dope to the local dopes. It cannot be rocket science to tackle a few brainless, lawless kids surely?

Back inside two young lovers resisted the urge to converse content in the company of each other, married for longer than either could recall. Or maybe she just knew that keeping her head down avoided all possibility of the dreaded golf talk?



In another world somehow The Trumpit found its way to Thailand with an enthusiastic gathering of new readers gathered around a single copy. Could this be the start of a new fanbase for Nob Ed Korna?

They had clearly missed a trick as had stuck with Benidorm for their annual cultural exchange. Needless to say the ladyboys were very disappointed. At least they had a Trumpit to share.

As the week drew to a close, yet more gatherings of the Evergreen clan occurred in their favourite "boardroom". This time Evergreen Snr had been consigned to grandfather duties but not to be outdone he seduced the glamorous Goldie with the offer of a bottle of Scruffy plonk and, in no time at all, baby and proud grandparents were in situ. It was hard not to know who was happiest of the three.

And finally, writing this magazine monthly has its ups and downs and, from time to time, a little bit of support closer to home than Thailand is helpful.

I'm not sure if my old mum ever wanted to be a centrefold but all things come to those who wait. She loves the month of May and happily recites: "Hurray, hurray, the first of May for outdoor sex begins today!" Where she gets this from I will never, and don't want, to know!



# Community News



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. May walks are as follows:

6th meeting on Morton Lane (off B6246 Crossflatts to Keighley Road) below the swing bridge: contact Dave B 07951 764102.

14th on Cross Rd, Oakenshaw: Dave B.

20th in the car park of Woodhouse Grove School Sports off A658 Harrogate Road: Kevin W 07505 206452.

28th on Cross Rd, Oakenshaw: Dave B.

Henry's Haven Cat Rescue received the latest £2,000 donation from Support The Animals Rescue Shop aka S.T.A.R.S. The funds will help care for the cats and kittens in their care which is a growing issue in Bradford.



The shop is located at Old Mill, Victoria Road, Eccleshill, Bradford BD2 2BT Open: Mon, Wed-Sat 9.30-16.30 | Sun 11-15.00 (Closed Tues)

## Idle Post Office

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Great work from local volunteers cleaning up rubbish from the Bradford Beck stream near the Springfield Centre on Thorpe Edge. The team found all manner of items dumped including mattresses and wheelbarrows!



## 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.



The Phoenix Art Club are very pleased to announce our new Exhibition

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at

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*Wednesday - 9am to 1pm*

*Thursday to Saturday - 9am to 5pm*

*Closed on Sunday*

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We hope you enjoy the fantastic works on display!

If you have any queries or would like to know more about our club in advance, please contact

Susan Ross (Art Tutor) - 07962 187 533

or

Pam McCrone - 07956 319 188



# Share!

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Company



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(Pay as you are able)

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Thackley **Methodist Church**

An update here from locally-run charity Gambian Schools Trust who do great work overseas.

Our first project on our last visit was to build teachers' quarters at a rural school, Conte Kunda. In 2025 we renovated the school, repaired the roof which had been badly damaged in a storm in 2019 and built a large classroom for the nursery pupils.

Because the village could see that things were happening at the school, the number of children being sent to the school jumped by 80 in six months. This meant that more teachers were required.

Staff at schools are posted by the Ministry of Education rather than individuals applying for vacant posts. Room in the village is limited; 52% of the population in the Gambia live on less than 3.5 dollars a day. The charity decided to build quarters to house 7 members of staff. These were completed in February, and have electricity to all rooms.



We also built a library at Kerr Ndongo, also a rural school funded largely by events in Silsden organised by Steve and Anne Worsman.

This year we have been asked to renovate this building at Kombo Kerewan Senior School and turn it into a library. The only books in the school are the ones we delivered in January and they have nowhere to keep them.

Our first fundraiser this year will be a curry night at the Rajshahi in Idle on the 18th May. To reserve places please contact Hilary on 07932 650644. Price is £20 for all you can eat buffet.

We are also collecting books of any kind, Nintendo and PS games and music CDs for selling on. Please get in touch with donations.

# Bookworm

## A Windhill Wanderer

One of Us is one of those quietly unsettling novels that creeps up on you rather than announcing itself with big twists or dramatic flourishes. At first glance, it looks like a familiar story about class, privilege, and ambition in modern Britain. But as it unfolds, it becomes something sharper and more uncomfortable—a psychological portrait of belonging, exclusion, and the hidden tensions beneath polished lives.

The novel centres on Martin Gilmour, a scholarship student at an elite boarding school, and Ben Fitzmaurice, a wealthy, charismatic classmate who seems to embody everything Martin longs to be. Years later, their lives reconnect through the world of politics, where Ben is a rising Conservative MP and Martin works as a journalist. The structure moves between past and present, gradually revealing how their relationship evolved—and ultimately fractured.

What makes this book compelling for a general reader is how readable and recognisable it feels. Elizabeth Day writes in a clear, accessible style that doesn't demand effort but still delivers emotional depth. You don't need to be familiar with British politics or elite schools to follow the story; the core themes—wanting to fit in, feeling like an outsider, navigating friendship and rivalry—are universal.

Martin is a particularly interesting narrator because he's not entirely reliable, though not in an obvious way. He sees himself as the underdog, the outsider who has had to work for everything, while Ben represents inherited privilege and effortless success. But as the story progresses, you start to question Martin's version of events. Is Ben really as shallow and entitled as Martin believes? Or is Martin projecting his own insecurities and resentments?

This ambiguity is one of the novel's strengths. It avoids simple heroes and villains. Instead, it shows how people construct their identities in relation to others, and how those perceptions can harden over time. I found myself shifting my

sympathies back and forth, which keeps the narrative engaging.

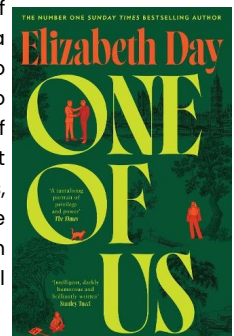
The boarding school setting in the early sections is particularly well done. Day captures the subtle hierarchies and social codes of such institutions (the importance of background, accent, confidence, and connections). Martin's discomfort is palpable, and anyone who has ever felt out of place will likely relate to his experience. At the same time, the novel doesn't romanticise his position; it also exposes how bitterness can take root and shape one's outlook.

When the story moves into adulthood, it broadens into a commentary on power and public image. Ben's political career brings in themes of media scrutiny, reputation, and the gap between private reality and public persona. These sections feel timely without being heavy-handed. Day doesn't lecture; instead, she lets the characters' choices and consequences speak for themselves.

Without giving anything away, it's fair to say that the book builds toward a revelation that reframes much of what came before. Some readers may find this twist surprising and satisfying, while others might feel it's slightly too neat or engineered. Whether it works for you will depend on how much you enjoy re-evaluating a story after the fact.

In terms of pacing, the novel is steady rather than fast. It's more of a slow burn, focused on character development and psychological tension. This makes it a good choice for readers who enjoy reflective, character-driven stories rather than action-packed plots.

Overall, *One of Us* is an engaging and thought-provoking read that will appeal to a wide audience. It's the kind of book that works well for a weekend read but also gives you something to think about afterward. If you enjoy stories about complicated friendships, social dynamics, and the blurry line between truth and perception, this is well worth picking up.



# What's On

The Commercial-free bar snacks Friday to Sunday plus lots going on here. May 2nd UB40 tribute 5 pm.

Idle WMC-Thursdays quiz (8.45pm) and bingo night (7.15pm).

The George-2nd Band With No Name 9pm; 9th Northern Epidemic 9pm; 10th Jack O'Malley 6.30pm; 17th Face The Strange 6.30pm; 23rd George Fest; 30th Tennessee Whiskey 9pm; 31st Adam Acoustix 6.30pm .

Silence are playing The Corn Dolly 2nd and Bridge Tavern, Bradford 30th.

The Highfield-Guilt (Ali Campbell & UB40 Tribute) 1st 9pm; DJ & Karaoke Fridays from 7pm; Quiz Night Every Wednesday from 8:30pm; Bottomless Brunch only £35pp

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2026

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**Contact:**  
Elizabeth

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**Eccleshill Horticultural Society is based on Harrogate Road** membership is a modest £3 annually. The society shop opens on Saturday and Sunday mornings from 10-12.

One of the benefits of membership is access to the Dobies seed catalogue and a 50% discount on packet seeds. Obviously there is a postage charge which can work against the more bulky items like seed potatoes. But it is well worth a look here.

No more so than on Saturday 23rd May with the annual plant sale. Tremendous variety and value here with cash and card accepted. Doors usually open around 10am and it is always very busy.

**Thackley's community gardening swap shop** will start up again in April. As usual it'll be at Thackley Cricket Club on the last Sunday in the month until the last one in September, and is an opportunity for local residents to come together to swap, sell or buy any surplus plants, seeds, equipment etc.

**As an observer of the multitude of social media sites re veg growing** I can tell you that no one size fits all. We all have our own tried and trusted methods and rightly so. There are so many variables in terms of climate, soil and pests that I'm not sure any book could claim to be other than a starting point.

May is the month where I regain the windowsill in my office and place a few old sporting trophies back there to remind me of past glories.

Off to the greenhouse now with confidence are the cucumbers, peppers and tomatoes. However, most would agree it is still risky to place these outside but by the end of May a hardening off process should be in full swing.

It's a bit laborious but simply involves exposing crops that you intend to plant outside to cooler temperatures. Although many books advocate plants being left outside from dawn to dusk, obviously this is not practical for many.

As much exposure as you can to the outside will not harm but make sure you place back inside at night just in case.

May is not too late to get cracking with cucumbers and tomatoes as they catch up rapidly. If you have established young plants, they will need potting on and transferring to the greenhouse by the end of the month.

Transplanting and potting on can be a very calming process so take your time as clumsy fingers here can set you back months. It is also the time to start to use the plot fully as all areas - covered or not - should be okay.

Technically there is still the risk of frost till mid-May so, to repeat, sow little and often. You can move the planting of early salad crops and leaf vegetables - such as spinach, kale and brassicas - outside but cover your bets by planting inside as well.

Main crop potatoes should be chitting and ready to be planted if not already. Again, a few weeks either way will not be an issue.

In the greenhouse, a regular sowing of salad crops will ensure you avoid a glut. Root vegetables such as carrots, beetroot, swedes and turnip are all safe to sow outdoors in May.

#### **What to sow in May:**

**Indoors - broccoli, cabbage, cauliflower, chillies, courgettes, leeks, peppers, runner beans, squashes and sweetcorn.**

**Outdoors (undercover initially) - beetroot, carrots, lettuces, radishes, salad crops, spring onions and turnips.**



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# Walks in Yorkshire

Haworth

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.*

To hijack Noel Coward's phrase—only mad dogs and Englishmen with a walks column to write go out in the midday sun in the hottest July in memory.

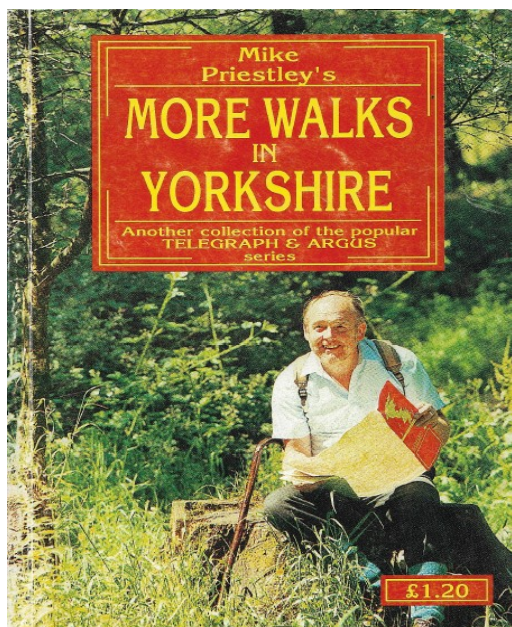
Fortunately, on the sweltering Thursday when I took a perspiring stroll along the upper reaches of the River Worth it was all too much even for the mad dogs. I never heard nor saw a single canine, crickets or otherwise, during the entire outing. Nor, once outside Haworth, did I see many people.

I parked in the centre of Haworth and set off northwards down Changegate the steep lane which soon becomes Lord Lane as it heads for Oakworth.

At the bottom of the hill the road crossed the embryonic but less than sparkling Worth and my path led immediately left on the far bank, over a wall stile and into a field next to the ancient and overgrown Lord Bridge.

I followed the river, soon climbing a ladder stile with hubcaps nailed to the tops of its support posts and continued straight ahead across the meadow, passing just below a small plantation of birch trees to a ladder stile on the right at the far end of the fence.

Briefly, the path lay beneath the trees – which was a blessing as the air was still down there and the sun was merciless. Aaargh!



The sun heat and the flies! It was all too much for a man to bear, Carruthers!

Hot sunshine poses a dilemma for us bald walkers. If we don't wear a hat, we burn. If we do wear one, we braise.

Having lost several layers of skin off the top of my head already in the year, I opt for wearing the hat.

It is a peculiar quirk of human biology that if you walk without a hat even on the hottest day, you merely perspire a little. If you wear one you sweat from every pore.

It wasn't long before I'd shed the equivalent of the half-litre bottle of mineral water I'd downed in Haworth before setting off and seemed set for dehydration. But there was no way I was going to take a sip from that murky river.

The heron that took off from the bank ahead of me as I followed the water round the edge of a meadow apparently had no such qualms though.

After a scrambly bit of banking, I came to a stile leading to the right into a field. Over that, I turned left and passed through a couple of

fields and over stiles, walking parallel to the river until it swung sharply to the left beneath a packhorse footbridge.

I did not climb the stile which would have taken me to the bridge. My path lay straight on here, parting company with the water for a while as I walked, with a fence to my left, along a cattle-pocked track at the bottom of a meadow.

Meeting and leaving the Worth from time to time, the path continued over a series of gap and fence stiles until it became a badly-defined double farm track on its way to some farm buildings.

Just past a barn on the right, where the Worth swung sharply to the right, a stile led to a stone footbridge with a green painted handrail.

Across this, I turned left and plodded, steaming, up the paved track towards the neat and picturesque terrace houses of Lumb Foot.

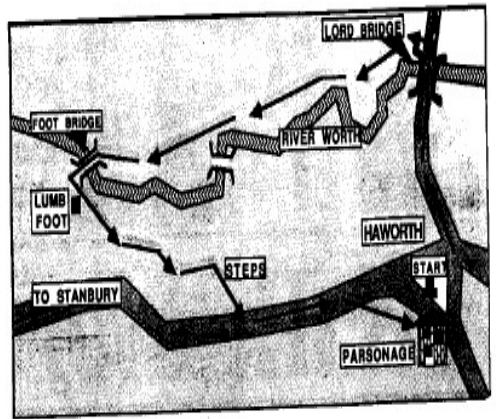
Where the lane divided by the houses, I took the left turning past the back of one terrace and eventually found my way to the main road from Stanbury to Haworth, admiring the view down the valley and across to Oakworth as I did so.

Just before the narrow lane joined the road, a footpath sign pointed down a farm lane to the left. I followed it, passing the farmhouse before turning quickly right towards a barn and just behind it finding the ill-defined path which led down a wall side (wall to the right) to a ladder-style at the bottom of the field.

Over that, another ladder stile immediately to the left took me on to yet another farm track.

Just before a house, my path led to the right over a bridge and up a steep flight of stone steps. "Caution! Steps unsafe" said a warning at the bottom. I was cautious.

Safely at the top and over a stile, I headed straight up the steep fields to a gap-stile into the road.



Turning left, I followed the road back to Haworth until the sign on the right indicated the well trodden path diagonally across the field to pass the Parsonage and its crowds and take me back, panting into the heart of the busy village.

It was time to put back some of that lost fluid. What better way to do it than with a pause at The Fleece for a pint of Taylor's Landlord.

As Branwell Bronte put it, after a similar outing a century ago:

"After my exertions I felt no compunction over allowing myself to sample a modicum of Mr Taylor's very fine premium ale, which is guaranteed to restore the most debilitated constitution. However, I would be obliged if you would keep this information from those scribbling sisters of mine, who nag me something rotten about my drinking habits. Hic!"

**Time: 1.5 hours approximately.**

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



# Trumpit Money

## Buy To Let – A Need To Know

Rental yields are among the strongest they've been in years, providing a much-needed boost for existing landlords and an incentive for those considering entering the buy-to-let market. However, while the potential returns are encouraging, purchasing a buy-to-let property shouldn't be approached lightly.

Anyone thinking about becoming a landlord or expanding their portfolio should do so with a clear understanding of the opportunities and responsibilities involved.

### Preparing for a changing landscape

After a period of rising interest rates, regulatory changes, and uncertainty across the housing sector, many landlords are reassessing their position.

While opportunities remain attractive, the landscape is evolving quickly, and success depends on being organised, informed, and prepared for upcoming changes.

One of the biggest priorities for landlords is preparing for the upcoming Renters' Rights Bill. Rather than waiting for the deadline to approach, it's better to start planning for this early.

By speaking with your letting agent now, you can help make sure you know the likely timelines and all the requirements needed on your side.

Regardless of your experience, a good letting agent should already be helping you prepare for changes to tenancy management, compliance, and communication. Being proactive now can help make the transition far smoother when reforms take effect.

### Improving energy efficiency

Energy efficiency is another issue current and prospective landlords can't afford to ignore. Retrofitting and improving energy performance have quickly become essential parts of being a landlord rather than optional extras.

If you've not yet started looking at how to improve your property's EPC rating to at least a C, now is the time to begin planning. Although proposed deadlines have been pushed back, this shouldn't be a reason to put it off yourself.

Landlords who delay may face higher improvement costs or restrictions on letting their property long-term. The good news is that lenders are increasingly supporting these changes.

Many now offer green incentives, including lower mortgage rates for properties rated A, B or C. Some also provide interest-free further advances for energy efficiency upgrades, helping make these improvements more achievable.

### The value of long-term planning

Broader market changes are worth keeping in mind, particularly around leasehold properties. As an example, planned ground rent reforms in 2028, including a proposed cap of £250, could have significant implications.

For some investors, this may be seen as a negative, particularly as the government continues to examine leasehold structures more closely.

However, the evolving landscape may also bring greater clarity and potentially improved conditions for buyers, so make sure to do your research when deciding whether it's the right option for you.

As well as being clear on the path forward, it's important to know as well when you plan on exiting it. Are you buying for shorter-term capital growth, or building a portfolio to pass on to family?

Ownership structure is another important factor, and your exit strategy should guide this decision. Both personal ownership and limited company ownership have clear advantages and disadvantages, so it's important to choose the structure that most aligns with your goals.

### Getting expert advice

Buying a buy-to-let property can feel complex. From choosing the right location with strong tenant demand to understanding the long-term costs and responsibilities involved, there are several important factors to consider before making a purchase.

However, with the right preparation, research and professional guidance, the buy-to-let market has plenty to offer.

Speaking to an experienced mortgage adviser can help you explore the most suitable financing options, including any available green incentives, while ensuring the purchase aligns with your wider financial goals.

Getting expert advice before making any decisions can help you approach the process with confidence, so you can make the most of your buy-to-let journey.

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**5.30pm**  
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Beaufort Grove, Off Bolton Road  
**Carol 07713 978045**

**Tuesday ~ Idle**  
**5.30pm**  
Idle Baptist Church  
Bradford Road, Opp Co-Op  
**Liz 07719 437486**

**Friday ~ Shipley**  
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Caroline Street Social Club  
**Liz 07719 437486**

**Saturday ~ Bolton Outlanes**  
**8am & 9.30am**  
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Beaufort Grove, Off Bolton Road  
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**Saturday ~ Heaton**  
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# Joe King

A couple wanted to sneak in a little quiet time on a lazy Sunday afternoon. The problem was their 8-year-old son was home. So, Dad handed him a Snickers bar and said: "Why don't you go out on the balcony, enjoy your chocolate, and tell us what's happening in the neighbourhood?"

Off he went, happy as can be, giving a full running commentary like a news reporter: "There's a tow truck taking away Mrs Johnson's car! An ambulance just drove by! The Millers have company again – must be bingo night! Tommy got a new bike! Mr Smith's mowing the lawn... shirtless. Eww!

Everything was going fine until the boy suddenly shouted: "Hey! The Coopers are fooling' around in the bedroom!"

Mom and Dad froze mid-cuddle.

Dad called out: "Now, how on earth do you know that, son?" The boy replied proudly:

"Because Jimmy Cooper's on his balcony with a Snickers bar too!"

Two men are knocking back beers in a bar on the ninetieth floor of the Empire State building.

"You know, there's a slipstream around the seventieth floor," says one, opening a window, "and if you jump out here, it'll suck you back in at the fiftieth floor."

"Ah, c'mon," says the second, more than a little drunk.

"No, really" says the first. "I'll show you." So, he jumps out the window, comes in through a fiftieth-floor window, takes the elevator up, and appears triumphantly back in the bar.

"Hey, I'm going to try that," says the second guy. He jumps out the window, falls ninety floors, and is killed instantly.

"Hey," says the bartender "you can be a real bastard when you're drunk, Superman!"

As I was driving, I saw the flash of a traffic camera. I figured that my picture was taken for exceeding the limit even though I knew I wasn't speeding. Just to be sure, I went around the block and passed the same spot, driving even more slowly, but again the camera flashed.

I drove even slower and as I passed the area again, the traffic camera flashed. I tried a fourth and fifth time with the same results and was now laughing as the camera flashed while I rolled past dead slow.

To my horror, a week later, I got five tickets for driving without the seat belt!

My wife found out that our schnauzer could hardly hear, so she took it to the vet who found that the problem was hair in the dog's ears. He cleaned both ears, and the dog could then hear fine.

The vet said if she wanted to keep this from recurring, she should go to the store and get some hair remover and rub it in the dog's ears once a month.

She went to the store. The pharmacist told her: "If you're going to use this under your arms, don't use deodorant for a few days."

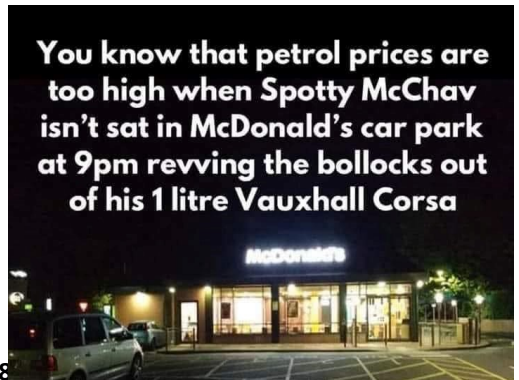
"I'm not using it under my arms."

The pharmacist said: "If you're using it on your legs, don't use body lotion for a couple of days."

"I'm not using it on my legs either. If you must know, I'm using it on my schnauzer."

"Well, stay off your bicycle for about a week."

**You know that petrol prices are too high when Spotty McChav isn't sat in McDonald's car park at 9pm revving the bollocks out of his 1 litre Vauxhall Corsa**



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# Thackley Phoenix Rounders Club

## Get Involved

Thackley Phoenix Rounders Club was established in 2025 by four local women with a clear and meaningful aim: to create a welcoming space where women could connect, build friendships, and support one another, while staying active despite the demands of busy work and family lives.

From the outset, the sessions offered more than just sport—they provided a valuable break from everyday routines, giving players the chance to have fun, relax, and enjoy time outdoors in a supportive and pressure-free environment.

Women of all ages and abilities were encouraged to take part, with no expectations beyond simply getting involved and enjoying themselves.

As word spread throughout the local community, interest in the club grew steadily. What began as a small group of like-minded ladies quickly developed into a thriving group, with membership currently standing at 26 committed women who attend regularly and contribute to the Club's positive and inclusive atmosphere.

Building on this success, the Club reached an exciting milestone recently. Following successful negotiations, the Rounders Club was invited to join Thackley Cricket Club, with the partnership becoming official on 1 April 2026.

This new chapter opens up valuable opportunities for growth and development, allowing members to expand their sporting experience while maintaining the strong sense of community they have built. The collaboration also creates a platform for both Clubs to support one another, share resources, and strengthen their presence within the local community .

"We're delighted to join Thackley Cricket Club. We'd like to thank them for their support and their confidence in our ladies to be part of their exciting future plans.

It's great to be officially connected to the Cricket Club and all the benefits that will bring to us." us". us on our Facebook page - Thackley Phoenix Ladies Rounders Club.



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When the referee blew for kick-off, supporters kept one eye on the pitch and one on the other results. Three minutes in, Eccleshill took the lead, and Thackley's hopes dipped again. After a slow start, Thackley were awarded a penalty following a clumsy mistake by the Eccleshill keeper. Sugden stepped up and buried it, sending the home crowd wild.



Elsewhere, though, things were going badly. Horbury, Bottesford, and Albion Sports were all winning. As it stood, Thackley were 19th — and going down. It got worse when Eccleshill retook the lead, but six minutes later, captain Keanan Mannings headed home at the back post. The halftime whistle blew with the score level, but Thackley still needed help from other results.

The second half was tense. Eccleshill took the lead again around the 60th minute, leaving home fans stunned. There was still hope — Albion Sports were now losing, which kept Thackley alive. But ten minutes later, Albion scored twice and were beating Golcar 3–2. Once again, Thackley were heading down.

Then, with minutes remaining, chaos.

Cheers erupted around Dennyfield — Golcar had equalised! Suddenly, Thackley needed just one goal to stay up.

Six minutes of stoppage time were added. The Dennyboys threw everything forward. Time was almost gone.

Then football delivered its magic. A dropped ball from the Eccleshill goalkeeper fell kindly to Hass Gorji, who slotted it home to level the match and keep Thackley safe — for the moment.



But the drama wasn't finished. Ten minutes of stoppage time were added in the Albion Sports match. Moments after Thackley fans celebrated, word spread that Golcar had scored again, taking a 4–3 lead. Albion were beaten. Thackley were safe.

The celebrations began instantly. Players and fans came together after a long, exhausting season — smiles, tears, and pure relief. Against all odds, the Dennyboys had survived.

Thackley women have had a very impressive season with winning the Bradford and District cup final beating Farsley Celtic four goals to nil. They had already won the league after a draw against Wyke Wanderers but still have chance to do the treble with league cup final coming up against Knaresborough Town on the 3rd May.

A certain London team that plays in red could take some notes from the Dennygirls. Eyes will be on the week before however as Thackley travel to Knaresborough for the final game of the season.

Will it be a matchup of rested players or will all cards be shown ahead of the cup final match a week later?



By Harry Baxendale

Pictures by Neil Fearnside Photography.

Last time we wrote about Thackley, they had two games remaining — Beverley Town away and Eccleshill United at home on the final day. First up was Beverley, a tough fixture with the hosts sitting third and chasing Sheffield FC with just one point in it.

Still, Thackley fans travelled in numbers, arriving by bus at midday and filling Beverley's pubs early. With Beverley well backed and an attendance of 462, Norwood Recreation Ground was always going to be loud.

Nerves were high as fans constantly checked scores elsewhere. The first half was tight, with neither side wanting to make a mistake. Chances were limited, but Thackley looked dangerous, Toby Marriott winning headers and Hass Gorji running in behind.

A goal felt close, and after 40 minutes of hard work, Thackley found the opener just before the break, giving the away end hope that they could avoid last-day drama.

The second half, however, was a different story. Beverley came out firing and by the 55th minute had turned the game on its head, scoring three quick goals. Ten minutes undid all of Thackley's first-half effort.

Heads dropped. For the first time all season, Thackley slipped into the relegation zone. Beverley, bound for the play-offs, eventually ran out 5-1 winners.

It was a long drive back to Bradford, but the season wasn't over. The final game awaited: Eccleshill United at home.

Before Saturday's fixtures, there were still key matches to be played. Relegation-threatened Albion Sports — also Bradford-based — lost 3-0 to Golcar, a team they would face again on the final day.

That defeat moved Thackley up to 18th, dropping Albion into 19th with one match left. Five teams were fighting for safety. Everything would be decided on the final day.

April 4th arrived with a real buzz around the Meridian Stadium at Dennyfield. History was being made before kick-off: local rivals Eccleshill United, who had recently relocated to Keighley and were rebranding next season, were playing their final match under their old identity.

Team news came out an hour before kick-off, and club legend Lewis Sugden returned to the starting eleven after missing games following the birth of his child — a huge boost for the fans.

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