

The Trumpit

Est 1987

Issue 532 - June 2026

Jeanette Sunderland

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1956 - 2026



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Editorial

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 supplied by the family and edited by the talented Cathryn Bell; see inside for contact details for your special day.



Eight years ago The Thackley Trumpit had a swish new and colourful facelift and was renamed The Trumpit, reflecting a desire to broaden the appeal of the magazine and, at the prompting of its late editor Bill Craven, to take it on into a new era.

Since then, whilst we have hardly taken over the world, progress has been consistent albeit the heartland remains North Bradford. It is and always will be a local magazine for local people but hopefully with a broader appeal too.

And whilst there is reason to feel somewhat satisfied with this progression, this issue is a reflective one following the untimely and sad passing of long-serving local councillor Jeanette Sunderland.

Jeanette was a fixture of local life as long as The Trumpit although we fall well short of her many outstanding achievements for the local area and, in some cases, way beyond BD10.

We had many a conversation, often lively as we had contrasting views, enough to keep each other on our toes. The area will miss her enormous contribution in ways we will only find out as time passes.

I'm grateful for the tribute (p4) written by one of the finest MPs - in my humble opinion - the area has ever had and a close friend of Jeanette. My thanks also to the family for the permission for the cover picture.

With the impact of the May local elections yet to evolve in the darkened corridors of City Hall, we still have our own election here in Idle & Thackley on June 18th.

Although whatever happens here will not have much influence on overall policy, it is important that we get out there and use the vote that the likes of Jeanette used to create so much good.

Finally, whilst not fan of the current government, one recent announcement has to be applauded. The creation of a task force to tackle illegal local shops, often controlled by organised crime, is well overdue.

How can a business model as outdated as Steptoe & Son have seen such a resurgence in the face of the utter dominance of supermarkets, large and small? And lets not spare the expense for the shiny signage. Not many of them sell fish but I smell a few rotten ones...amongst the vapes!

Jeanette Sunderland

Written by David Ward

Jeanette was many things to many people but always an Idle and Thackley Lass. Born in a house (now demolished) on Butt Lane she often joked about being christened, married and no doubt remembered in a funeral service in the Holy Trinity Church. She moved across the valley to Baildon a couple of times for family reasons but also I suspect to get a better view of where her heart always was.

I first met Jeanette in 1992 when she became the new Chair of the local Neighbourhood Forum. It was a non-political role but she was soon campaigning with the local Liberal Democrats to fight a planning application in Thackley....one of her few losses.

She was at the time a professional trainer with an international chemical company and in that role travelled to Europe and the United States. She became one of the three Liberal Democrat Councillors for Idle and Thackley in 1994, a position she retained for 32 years.

Jeanette continued to use her training experience for the party running training sessions for Liberal Democrat council groups all over the country. Just a few weeks before she died she told me how excited she was to be appointed as a mentor to Burnley Council's Liberal Democrat Group.

In addition she was a member of the party's Executive Committees at both regional and national levels. I would not have become a Member of Parliament without her managerial and campaigning skills and her leadership of my constituency and parliamentary office – plus all the other contributions she made to the party—should have resulted in her being offered a place in the House of Lords.

My goodness what a fabulous campaigning peer of the realm she would have been. In Eccleshill Pool recently – Jeanette had a

lifelong passion for swimming – a member of staff described Jeanette as a ‘fighter’ who had campaigned hard to keep the pool open when it was threatened with closure.

Some will have been on the receiving end of Jeanette's fighting talk when she believed there was a wrong that needed to be put right or someone was being treated unfairly or a local facility was needed for the benefit of the community.

Without Jeanette the Springfield Centre would have closed (she raised over half a million pounds); the Wright Watson Centre would not have been built; Apperley Bridge railway station would not have opened; the flood defences on the Aire would not have been built; Thorpe Primary (then a First School) would have been closed.....and so on with much more.

In over 30 years I must have attended over 2,000 meetings with Jeanette – In 2001 we were in a Council Executive meeting that was adjourned because of ‘breaking news’ and returning to our office saw a plane fly into one of the Twin Towers.

I remember in a private meeting with Nick Clegg in the House of Commons, when she insisted that he knelt down to look at the plans on the low table in front of us. The plans were for the building of the Broadway Centre.....remember “the big hole in the ground”.

In that meeting we got the Government funding needed to persuade the developers to begin the work. A succession of meetings with Government Ministers also obtained the funding to clear the asbestos out of the Odeon allowing the redevelopment to take place.

Her harshest words were saved for those in authority who tried to fob her off or tell her “it can't be done”.

A favourite phrase was “sometimes people just need to do the job they are paid to do”. She invariably made sure they did.

They say that no-one is irreplaceable but it is not true.....some people are irreplaceable and Jeanette is one of them.

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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 269 (June 2003). Rather ironically, given last and this month's editorials, the headline was in a similar vein.

With uncanny timing, The Trumpit was on the mark once again - please do stand up and be counted later this month.

Also on the front page was a story re plans to flatten Brackendale Mills for new housing, one, I believe, that people power eventually trumped.

There was a change of gardening column with Kate's Cuttings taking over from the long serving Gordon's Garden, well before Doug Deepley broke any soil. And thank God for irreverent humour, still available here.

Married men live longer than single men do, but married men are a lot more willing to die.

A woman marries a man expecting he will change, but he doesn't.

A man marries a woman expecting that she won't change, and she does.

STAND UP AND BE COUNTED

As most of our readers know 'The Trumpit' does not get involved in party politics. We believe the vast majority of people are intelligent enough to decide for themselves what is good and what is bad for them. You do not want our opinions thrust down your throats as if we are superior beings. However just for once we feel we must get involved.



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The advert (for) Rightio Plumbing & Heating gives the impression that this is a local tradesman: (01274 number and areas covered - Idle, Thackley, Greengates etc).

I contacted this number, which connected to a call centre 0333 to a person who read from a script. I carried on and booked a plumber between 08.00 and 12.00 - no one turned up!

I rang the 01274 number and again was put through to a call centre. After a one-way dialog I cancelled the job. This advert is misleading and does not reflect well on the Trumpit. **Michael**

Here is a reply from Rightio.

Thank you for sharing this with us. I just wanted to provide a bit of background on both the advertising and the situation raised. Historically, we operated from a number of regional offices across the UK, each with its own local telephone number.

In recent years, we've moved to a more centralised structure with one main office in the West Midlands. To maintain continuity for our long-standing customer base, we've kept our existing local numbers so customers can still reach us in the same way as before.

While our admin function is now centralised, our engineers themselves are still locally based and continue to cover their respective areas, including Bradford.

Regarding the appointment, the engineer was running behind schedule that morning. While we were in the process of trying to confirm a more accurate ETA, Mr. Pyrah decided to cancel the booking. We completely understand that delays can be frustrating, and we always aim to keep customers as informed as possible.

We really value our relationship with the Trumpit. It's been a trusted and important way for us to stay connected with local customers, and we appreciate the continued support and visibility it provide.

Masie Hurlbutt, Business Improvement Manager, Rightio.

News of the lower part of Ainsbury Avenue, likely to be closed for some time.

Here's a photo (opposite page) of the closed-off part of Ainsbury Avenue, taken from the swing bridge over the canal looking towards Thackley. The road has been closed because there had been a landslide of the embankment on the right-hand side.

This had earlier been shored up with white bags of stones piled up on top of each other: some of these white bags can be seen behind the metal fence. This shoring up had narrowed the road, and was only a temporary fix until something more long-term could be done.

The more long-term fix seems to be a retaining wall. Beyond the workmen in the photo one can see white prefabricated blocks of concrete joined together to make a vertical retaining wall to hold the bottom of the embankment.

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The blocks seem to be joined like giant lego bricks; the machine seems to be backfilling behind the wall so as to stabilise the slope. One would guess that the rise of the wall will allow the upper part of slope to be graded to a shallower pitch.

The road is scheduled to be closed all year, and I haven't been able to get much idea of how quickly the work is going, nor whether it is on schedule.

The fencing is pretty sturdy and good at keeping inquisitive people like me at a safe distance. **John Hartley**

Now that the dust has settled on the results of the Local Council Elections (except for, at the time of writing, Idle & Thackley), we can analyse the gains made by Reform UK, which have left them as the largest party on Bradford Council (albeit with no overall majority). And they should give us all cause for concern.

Councils already governed by Reform are rolling back on environmental and diversity initiatives as they are seen as "a waste of money". Other Reform councils, meanwhile, are already seeing financial problems akin to what we in Bradford have been experiencing under Hapless Hinchcliffe.

So have Bradford voters voted themselves out of the frying pan and into the fire? Only time will tell.

There is, however, one crumb of comfort to be taken from all this: one of their scalps was Hapless Hinchcliffe. **Kevin Russell**

I did not shed a tear at the news! Ed



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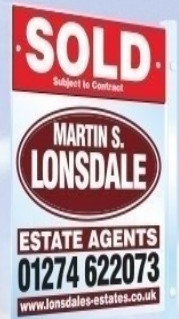


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Jane Gray
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I've heard many times this month people saying they don't feel like they belong.

This is something I recognise as I've felt like that in the past.

Belonging is a deep human drive for us. Back in the day you needed to be in the in group because the out group was where you could be picked off and destroyed.

Thankfully that's not an issue these days but our brains and nervous systems sometimes need to catch up.

Understanding this goes some way

towards seeing that the sense of not belonging is not something we need to fear.

We can stay true to ourselves rather than cave into peer pressure or social conditioning, knowing we are safe and that somewhere out there, there are people like us.

Sometimes the very thing that makes you feel different is actually the thing that will help someone else feel seen, understood or less alone.

The world is already full of people performing or pretending in order to fit in. It needs more people willing to be real.

Next time you feel like you don't belong, hold true to yourself, take a breath and be wholeheartedly you.

From my heart to yours - Jane

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Tony Gough

Ukraine War and Europe

The world looks on as Ukraine continues to struggle against the expansionist Russian empire. America has drastically reduced its commitment to both Ukraine and Europe, with the withdrawal of five thousand troops from Germany at a time when the threat to Europe has never been greater.

Europe continues to provide limited funding which leaves Ukraine able to hold Russian troops on its borders but not repel them. The best hope for Ukraine is that Russia will no longer be willing to sustain the financial cost of the war and its huge number of lives lost estimated at 1.3 million. Ukrainian troop casualties are believed to be 600 thousand.

If Russia should win its war with Ukraine will Europe be safe? It seems unlikely with Russia still angry about the defection of its Eastern European satellite states to the West, such as Lithuania in Northern Europe and Romania in the South.

These countries were considered to be major buyers for and suppliers of Russian economic goods and political allies too. By gaining freedom from Russia's stifling control the citizens of these countries now have the right to travel freely through Europe and the economic freedom to buy better quality goods instead of poor quality products from Russia.

What immediate threats does Europe face from Russia? Europe is involved in a conflict that doesn't exist openly. Several opponents of Russia have been murdered in the UK. One of the earliest was Georgi Markov and later Alexander Litvenenko, who died from radiation poisoning. Russia continues to monitor Britain's North Sea oil and gas production plus our wind generators. These look very vulnerable as do our undersea communication cables.

Surprisingly the recent invasion of Ukraine by Russia is not the first, arguably it's the third. When the communists took over Russia in 1917 Ukraine was part of Russia and declared independence. This led to the invasion of Ukraine by communist forces on Christmas Day 1917. During 1918 the fledgling independent Ukraine government, although ejected from Kiev, now signed a pact with the German and Austrian governments who provided 485 thousand troops and military aid in exchange for Ukrainian cereal foodstuffs.

These battle hardened troops quickly defeated Russian troops, forcing Lenin to sign a peace treaty that recognised Ukraine's independence. Sadly unity couldn't be achieved within Ukraine with six separate political groups vying for control.

Eventually the chaos led to Russia taking over Ukraine again, and in 1922 Ukraine became a founder member of the USSR.

Ukraine declared independence from Russia in August 1991, with Russia first invading the Crimea then Ukraine in 2022 leading to the present conflict.



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The Thackley Chef

Richard Aveyard - ACIEH



This month's offering is Grand Aioli, another gem from The Provence in Southern France. This is al fresco summer eating at its best and all served on a platter for everybody to share.

Ooh la la!

The thing with this dish is that you can add your own take on it. With your vegetables you could have salt cod, shrimps, mussels or Octopus.

You could also serve with chicken or beef. This is also a great summer dish for all you vegetable growers out there.

The recipe serves four to six so start by pre-heating your oven to 200C/400F/Gas 6.

Ingredients for the vegetables: 500g new potatoes, green beans, baby carrots and baby beetroots; 2 bunches radishes; 6 baby cucumbers; 4 eggs; 2 little gem lettuces; head of radicchio lettuce; bunch of spring onions; 2 French sticks;

Ingredients for the fish: 500g salt cod and cooked prawns; 1-2tbsp olive oil for cooking; 1-2 garlic cloves (peeled).

Ingredients for the sauce: Note there are many variations of Aioli. 3 egg yolks; salt, & peppermill; 1tsp lemon juice; 2-3 garlic cloves; 500ml olive oil; 1/2tbsp warm water - see notes. You can also add Dijon mustard for a little punch or a pinch of Saffron for luxury.

Method:

1. Prepare the potatoes by adding cold salted water and cooking until tender. Then run under cold running water until potatoes are cooled and drain. Cut into preferred sizes. refrigerate, until needed.

2. To prepare the carrots wash first then either cook until tender or keep raw and crisp. Refrigerate until needed.

3. Prepare the baby beets and green beans by cooking until tender as above or consider leaving raw.

4. Wash and prepare cucumbers and radishes plus little gems and radicchio cutting these into easy pieces for dipping.

5. Wash and trim spring onions

6. Boil your eggs.

7. Prepare French stick and slice the amount you require. Rub the bread flutes with garlic cloves, drizzle with oil and bake in the oven until crispy.

To cook your cod: Pre-soak in cold water over night then drain adding to cold water. Bring up to a boil then simmer until cod is soft and flaky. Drain and allow to cool till needed.

Classic Aioli Sauce

This would have been made in a pestle & mortar traditionally. Now all ingredients can be added to a bowl or blender and blended to a smooth creamy emulsion.

You can proceed as if you were making mayonnaise with the eggs, juice, salt and Dijon mustard—just whisk vigorously adding the oil little by little.

You must keep whisking so not to split the sauce and you should end up with a smooth, creamy emulsified texture. Taste and season if required.

In summary, this dish is a platter of seasonal foods largely on offer in June accompanied with a classic sauce and various meats or fish depending on your preference.

You can also add anchovies plus capers sprinkled over the dish for more acidity and so on...be creative...it is your dish.

Being from Provence it would be accompanied with Provence Rose Wine very well chilled.

C'est bon!

Enjoy!

If you have a favourite recipe that you would like my twist on please get in touch.



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Joe King

An old tired-looking dog wandered into the yard. I could tell from his collar and well-fed belly that he had a home. He followed me into the house, into the kitchen, and on a couch.

An hour later he went to the door, and I let him out. The next day he was back, resumed his position on the couch, and slept for an hour. This continued for several weeks. Curious, I pinned a note to his collar, "Every afternoon your dog comes to my house for a nap." The next day he arrived with a different note pinned to his collar, "He lives in a home with ten children. He's trying to catch up on his sleep. Can I come with him tomorrow?"

A man was out on the golf course one sunny day when he suddenly realized he was lost. Spotting a woman ahead of him, he walked over and asked, "Excuse me, could you help me? I'm not sure which hole I'm on."

She smiled politely and said, "You're one hole behind me. I'm on the 7th; you're on the 6th."

Relieved, he thanked her and went back to his game.

A little while later, he found himself lost again. Embarrassed, he noticed the same woman and approached her once more. "I hate to bother you again, but I'm lost. Can you tell me what hole I'm on?"

She chuckled and replied, "You're still one hole behind me. I'm on the 14th; you're on the 13th." Grateful for her help, he thanked her again and finished his round.

Later, in the clubhouse, he saw the woman and decided to thank her properly. "Can I buy you a drink to thank you for your help out there?" he asked.

She agreed, and they started chatting over their drinks. As the conversation flowed, he asked, "So, what do you do for a living?"

"I'm in sales," she said with a shy smile.

"No way! Me too!" he exclaimed. "What do you sell?"

She hesitated for a moment. "Well... it's a little embarrassing."

"Come on," he said, coaxing her. "I promise I won't laugh."

After a moment, she sighed and said, "Alright, but you really can't laugh. I sell sanitary napkins."

He managed to hold a straight face—at first. But then, unable to contain himself, he burst into laughter, doubling over and nearly falling out of his chair, tears streaming down his face.

"You promised not to laugh!" she exclaimed, glaring at him.

Through his laughter, he managed to choke out, "I'm sorry! But I can't help it—I sell toilet paper... and I'm still one hole behind you!"

A man told the doctor: "My wife's pregnant, but we haven't had sex in over a year. I don't understand it."

The doctor said: "It's what we in the medical profession call a grudge pregnancy."

"What's a grudge pregnancy?" asked the man.

The doctor replied: "Well, somebody's obviously had it in for you!"



Thorpe Primary School, located in Idle village and part of Carlton Academy Trust, is celebrating national recognition after being shortlisted for Primary School of the Year in the Tes Schools Awards 2026. The awards are among the most respected education accolades in the country, recognising excellence in teaching, leadership and school improvement.

The shortlisting follows an exceptional year for Thorpe Primary, including outstanding SATs results and further recognition at this year's T&A Education Awards.

Paul Mennell, Headteacher of Thorpe Primary School, said: "I'm incredibly proud that our small village primary school has been shortlisted for this national recognition. Following our recent outstanding SATs results, it really does feel like the cherry on the cake. It means a great deal to our whole school community be recognised alongside some of the very best schools in education".

Following this recent success, Thorpe Primary has opened a waiting list for Reception children wishing to join the school and also has a limited number of spaces available in some year groups. Families interested in finding out more or arranging a visit are warmly invited to contact the school. The team would be delighted to welcome prospective parents and pupils and show them around. Visits can be booked by calling the school on 01274 414 126, or completing the online form: Book a tour of Thorpe Primary School.

The Tes shortlist was selected by a panel of expert judges, including experienced school leaders and education specialists. This year's awards feature 23 categories spanning all areas of school life, from leadership and teaching to pupil outcomes and wellbeing. The winners will be announced at a gala ceremony on 19 June at the Grosvenor House Hotel in London.

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Tales From The Scruffy



May had started with arctic like winds and the early promise offered by April sunshine looked as remote as getting a free pint out of Fagin. There was some good cheer as local gentle giant King Kurt reached the grand old age of sixty and celebrated by downing the equivalent of the North Sea in Guinness.

The night after he was in more reflective mood still trying to get to grips with modern day technology and not drop his staple diet of choice - cheese & onion crisps - all over the plush Axminster.

The shoes had had a shine for the birthday weekend adding to a neat crop of his greying bonnet - a fiver apparently; these were the only visible changes on offer. The trademark gingham checked shirt and hunting jacket showed little signs of losing their allure as he prodded away at the poor phone, oblivious.

One man with a different attitude to sartorial elegance is Tipper the Stripper who seems to be on a mission to single-handedly bring back into fashion the velour jacket. I have no idea how many versions of these garish things he possesses but it must be on a par with a downmarket shopping channel host.

The regular Sky Sports crowd had made their way back across from the New Inn and were savouring the last beers of another Sunday afternoon, happy to have dodged the drug mules on their souped-up e-bikes.

What a contradiction in terms - environmentally friendly machines enabling dopes to deliver dope...and so it goes on daily with Plod nowhere in sight.

Tipper was oblivious, stood in the gents giving himself a pep-talk - "you look gorgeous!" - flicking a few drops of dandruff from the shiny velour whilst carefully making sure there was no movement in his hairpiece.



Later in the week I was let loose with the deranged dog. Ostensibly a dog walk, there is no sense in having one of these things if you cannot gain some personal benefit.

Lesson one of dog walking - don't forget the poo bags. Lesson two - if the weather looks unpredictable keep a pub close.

Just as I left the sink estate, the rain started to fall in clumps; thankfully, we were nearer The Scruffy than home so headed on and took a drenching hoping Fagin had switched the heating on.

As we entered he'd obviously been on another customer service webinar and promptly greeted me with "no dogs on the seats!" Oh for a sharp, incisive reply but I was more concerned that Bright Eyes pour me a cold one than a regrettable remark that might see me back home up the road in ten.

Winnie looked up at me like a drenched mop and gave me a look that said "why are we here...again?" I grabbed my beer and mused that dogs can be so ungrateful.

I'd made sure she'd emptied both tanks before we attempted a quiet hour of pub calm but she was having none of it despite being bribed by a family-sized dose of biscuits.

Generally I find a teatime pint a very relaxed affair. It used to be a mix of the retired and those on their way home from work but it strikes me that nobody works anymore. Do they just stay at home and breed knowing the cheque from Rachel from Accounts will be landing to feed the lair?

In wandered a selection of Bradford City fans ahead of the biggest night for decades at Valley Parade. The faces said it all; nerves written deep into them. Sadly their worst fears were confirmed a few hours later but what a season they have had.

Still, lest we forget it is the cricket season although for most this is now represented on television by pyjama-clad, slog-fests narrated by screaming brain-dead idiots. In wandered a contender for Worst Cricketer I Have Ever Seen, local legend, Mucky Pads.

Unbelievably, having recently retired from a job in sales, he's landed a job on the ground staff at Headingley, home of Yorkshire CCC. Do they know he spent less time "in the middle" than the local fox? It was no surprise to see Surrey, full of international players, get skittled twice only a week later.

Another Sunday rolled around, my favourite part of the week at The Scruffy as late afternoon merges into early evening and the crowd changes just as seamlessly.

Our two reliable barmaids - Bright Eyes and Kiwi - were in situ to provide refreshments and cutting, merciless observations of the young.

Timberlake was home alone for a week again as Sweet Caroline enjoyed the annual reunion of the Eccleshill Branch of Old Soaks Reunited. Once again he had dusted off the instructions to the microwave and left every door open in the vain hope that her dog might seek fresh pastures. Apparently, it had gone on hunger strike so was going nowhere near the busy main road despite a trail of treats.

In the far corner The Bank sat eyes glued to his phone awaiting the reopening of the Far East stock markets, fearful that Donald was getting trigger happy again.

Naturally, just feet away, the inmates of Nob Ed Korna were oblivious to an looming crash of world stock markets and, fortunately for him, in came his old muckers The Trowel and Jiving June, out on the lash since Thursday but still "up for it"!



Living life on the edge they swapped corners, well away from the Nob Eds, and joined Ned Kelly and the long suffering Claire to discuss all manner of conspiracy theories.

Disciplined as ever it was time for The Bank to return to his bank of screens back at base; it would be a long night of number crunching. But not before he had wooed Suntan with a plea to help transform his wardrobe - "burn it!" had suggested the debonair Trowel - with a trip to Raymond Town in Ilkley.

A few slick lines from the 1970's and she was now his new personal shopper and they would certainly not be buying any of the shopping channel tat displayed by the retired stripper. I had been dumped for a near octogenarian.

Just before we all got too carried away with talk of sartorial elegance, in walked Young Bet and Giant Geordie him sporting his usual uniform of The Toon's home shirt.

I knew he had wasted very little of his life considering what shirt to wear and had to confess to being very jealous. Bet was sporting her usual "I used to want to look like Madonna" vest and, in keeping with her man's approach to dressing, clearly could not give a sh*t either.

Bookworm

A Windhill Wanderer – Holiday Reads

I've always been a fan of crime fiction and Norwegian author Jo Nesbø really nails the genre with his books about the maverick detective Harry Hole. Fictional detectives are always a certain type – they are nearly always alcoholics or the recovering version and impossible to live with – Hole is no exception to that rule, but regardless of the stereotype they are well worth reading.

The Devil's Star is the fifth instalment in the Harry Hole series, but each book can hold its own, so reading them in the order they were written is not strictly necessary.

I decided upon this one as it has recently been serialised by Netflix and I wanted to see how the book and its dramatized version compare. Often cited as one of the best books featuring the troubled Oslo detective, the novel takes everything that makes "Nordic Noir" popular (icy atmospheres, complex protagonists, and brutal mysteries) and ramps it all up a notch.

The story opens during a sweltering heatwave in Oslo, which sets a claustrophobic tone, breaking away from the typical icy Scandi-noir setting. A young woman is found murdered in her apartment, a finger missing, and a small, red diamond in the shape of a pentagram is found behind her eyelid.

Just as the police are struggling with this gruesome, ritualistic killing, another woman goes missing and shortly after she disappears her severed finger is sent to the police. It is clearly the work of a serial killer, a rarity in Norway (apparently), forcing the police department into a frantic hunt.

Enter Harry Hole. When we meet him, he is at his lowest point having been on a massive bender following the death of a colleague. Hole is barely holding onto his job, and his girlfriend Rakel has once again said "enough already". The only thing keeping him in the force is his mentor's reluctant faith in him and Harry's own obsessive dedication to solving crimes.

What makes this book particularly gripping is the added layer of internal conflict. Harry is forced to work with Tom Waaler, a colleague whom Harry is convinced is a corrupt murderer responsible for his colleague's death. This rivalry isn't just a subplot; it's the beating, paranoid heart of the book. As the serial killer plot moves forward, the "who-can-I-trust" game with Waaler becomes just as intense, making Harry feel even more isolated and trapped.

The Devil's Star works because Nesbø doesn't focus only on the blood and guts. The plot is sometimes dizzyingly complex, so it isn't a book for the bitesize reader, you need to devote time to it in order to follow the storyline.

Nesbø feeds the reader clues at a steady pace, moving from the slow dread of the first murder to a high-octane chase in the later chapters. Furthermore, Nesbø provides brief, chilling chapters from the perspective of the killer, adding a layer of menace to the story.

It is important to note that this is not a cosy mystery, if your preferred crime fiction is the stuff churned out by Richard Osman this is not for you.

It is a gritty, sometimes brutal thriller. It deals with heavy themes of addiction, corruption, and the loss of life. However, for fans of authors like the late Stieg Larsson (The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo series), the deep, investigative focus of the book will be highly satisfying.

The Devil's Star is a turning point for the Harry Hole series. It brings long-running storylines to a head while delivering a standalone mystery that is both shocking and smartly crafted. If you are looking for a thriller that will keep you guessing and awake at night, look no further.

This is a top-tier Nordic noir that deserves its reputation. As for the Netflix version, it is entertaining, but at times I wondered whether the casting director had actually read the book.

There are also parts of the book that would be very difficult to translate to the screen and Netflix's attempt to get around this involved using loud music, religious/pagan imagery and weird voices that sounded as though they had been recorded underwater.

I'm not sure it got it right.

Enjoy!

A bonus review from Bookworm here and one I personally enjoyed reading as with others from the same author—Ed.

I am a late subscriber to the David Nicholls fan club. I have heard many people rave about his writing, but until now I had not read any of his work, so discovering his genius has been a welcome revelation.

You Are Here is a beautifully grounded, slow-burn romance that focuses on two lonely, middle-aged individuals finding their way back to humanity through a cross-country walking trip.

It's a gentle, humorous, and deeply moving read that proves love stories are just as exciting in your forties as they are in your teens. The story follows Marnie, a 38-year-old freelance copy editor living in London, and Michael, a 42-year-old geography teacher based in York. Both are intensely lonely.

Marnie is drowning in isolated afternoons and a failing life, while Michael is reeling from his wife leaving him, escaping into long, solitary walks across the moors. Enter Cleo, a mutual friend and Michael's boss, who decides, with the best intentions, to drag them out of their shells for a hike across Northern England.

Through a combination of terrible British weather and a series of awkward events, their friends vanish, leaving Marnie and Michael, initially, two people who couldn't be more wrong for each other, alone on a challenging, soggy 190-mile walk.

As they trudge through mud, rain, and the gorgeous scenery of the Lake District, the Pennines, and the Yorkshire Dales, they slowly stop being strangers.

Nicholls, it transpires, is a master of creating characters who feel like people you know. Marnie is funny, prickly, and fiercely protective of her solitude, having been hurt by a selfish ex-husband. Michael is a bit of a cliché; Geography teacher: a little nerdy and a little curmudgeonly. He is also wearing a "mask" of a beard to keep people away. Neither are looking for romance.

In fact, they are both quite comfortable with their loneliness until they are forced to share a space.

It's their vulnerability, their awkward conversations, and their shared flaws that make you root for them. It's a story about the messy business of second chances.

The dialogue really stood out for me. Nicholls also works as a screenwriter and he knows how to make characters talk.

The banter between Marnie and Michael is sharp, witty, and often laugh-out-loud funny, making the long journey feel fast-paced. It's also a proper love story. It's a slow, realistic journey where two people overcome their own baggage, social awkwardness, and mistrust to fall in love. It is deeply romantic but not at all cheesy.

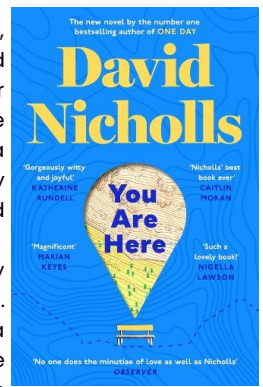
If you love walking in the British countryside, this book is for you. Nicholls describes the landscape with such skill that you feel like you are walking alongside them. Despite the heavy, emotional content, it's a comforting read, often called a "mildly limping labrador" of a book: poignant, adorable, and plucky.

Without giving anything away, the ending doesn't wrap everything up in a neat little bow, which might annoy some, but it feels realistic. It leaves you wondering – but also certain – about what will happen next.

It is not a high-octane drama but a "quiet" book, focusing on the small moments of connection. The pace matches the theme, it's a long walk, not a sprint.

You Are Here is a triumph of contemporary romance. It's a book that makes you laugh, makes you crave the countryside, and makes you want to hug the characters. The author is one of the most astute observers of human relationships that I have ever read in modern literature.

He also seems to understand women, which is not always apparent with male authors. It is the perfect comfort read for anyone who has ever felt stuck or alone, proving that sometimes you need to get lost to find your way.



More Joe King

A man doing market research for the Vaseline Company knocked at the door and was greeted by a young woman with three small children running around at her feet.

"I'm doing some research for Vaseline. Have you ever used the product?"

She said, "Yes. My husband and I use it all the time."

"If you don't mind my asking," he said, "what do you use it for?"

"We use it when we make love," she said. The researcher was a little taken aback.

"Usually, people lie to me and say they use it on a child's bicycle chain or to help with a gate hinge. But, in fact, I know that most people do use it for sex. I admire you for your honesty. Since you've been so frank so far, can you tell me exactly how you use it?"

The woman said, "I don't mind telling you at all. My husband and I put it on the doorknob and it keeps the kids out!"

A woman in a supermarket is following a grandfather and his badly behaved 3-year-old grandson.

It's obvious to her that he has his hands full with the child screaming for sweets in the sweet aisle, biscuits in the biscuit aisle; and for more in the others.

Meanwhile, Granddad is working his way around, saying in a controlled voice, "Easy, William, we won't be long, easy, boy."

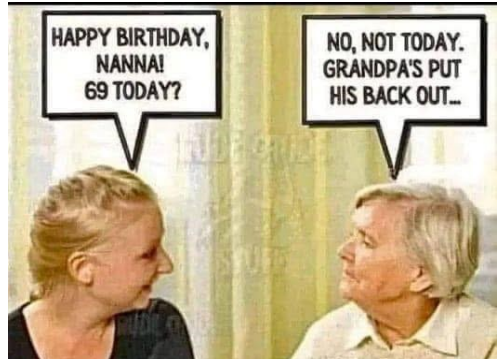
Another outburst, and she hears him calmly say, "It's okay, William, just a couple more minutes and we'll be out of here. Hang in there, boy."

At the checkout, the little terror is throwing items out of the cart, and Granddad says again in a controlled voice, "William, William, relax buddy, don't get upset. We'll be home in five minutes; stay cool, William."

Very impressed, the woman goes outside where the grandfather is loading his groceries and said, "It's none of my business, but you were amazing in there."

"That whole time, you kept your composure, and no matter how loud and disruptive he got, you just calmly kept saying things would be okay. William is very lucky to have you as his grandpa."

"Thanks," said the grandfather, "but I'm William... that little b*st*rd's name is Kevin."



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Check us out on Facebook

What's On

The Commercial-free bar snacks Friday to Sunday plus lots going on here at Thackley's original local pub.

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

The George-a World Cup football feast here so limited music this month. You can see Charlotte & Jezz on the 7th @ 6.30pm.

The Highfield-DJ & Karaoke every Friday from 7:30pm; Quiz every Wednesday from 8:30pm; Live Band – Dark Wolf 6th June from 9pm; Live Sports – World Cup showing on all screens throughout June!

All are welcome to a coffee morning at Idle Upper Chapel for the Alzheimer's Society on 27th June 10am – 12 noon.

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**Memory
Tree**

Tuesday 19th May
2026

At **Idle Library**
10.00 am – 1.00 pm

- Find out about our regular meetings at Idle Baptist Church
- Your questions answered
- Signposting to local & national organizations who can help

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Awareness
Week

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Wright Watson Centre
Thorp Garth
Idle, BD10 9LD
Mon: 9 am – 4.30 pm
Tue: 10 am – 4.30 pm
Wed: 9.30 am – 4.30 pm

Contact:
Elizabeth

01274 583364

07766 220725

elizabeth@

thememorytree.org.uk

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When I first got the gardening bug, like many others, I just scattered seeds at will following instructions that said plant March and all will be fine. Well, I soon found out that was rubbish particularly 'oop North. As May began still with the allotment soil on the cool side and some risk of a late frost, best to remember the mantra of planting - little and often.

However, June is when conditions become much more friendly and, if you planted early versions of beans, peas and salads, you should be able to start the summer harvest. For now - as I write this in late May - my office window is still an incubator for cucumbers and sweetcorn plus welcome friends the flowering neighbours, nasturtiums and sunflowers.

Seeds sown at the same time have some racing ahead, heads craning towards the light whereas some are yet to break the compost; it all takes time. Patience is the key.

This year I have reverted to little gem lettuces having tried the cut and come again pot-based varieties for a few years. There is something about the crunch and texture of these lettuces but I am growing other salad varieties as a colourful and flavoursome addition to the summer salad.

Late June may see you able to lift a few early potatoes; broadly when they flower this is a sign that there could be good things below. Just have a rummage around in the soil to check sizes and, if too small, leave a few more weeks. You won't have tasted much better.

Regardless of whatever growing conditions we enjoy or endure, you can be sure that the weeds will keep coming so keep on top; little and often avoids a land grab by the weeds. If possible, hoe your beds on a hot day as weeds will die within an hour on the surface.

June is the month I have found best to plant out brassicas under a fine net to protect against the airborne threats. A particular favourite in our household - and a crop easy to freeze and store - are French beans. I prefer the climbing version but am also trying a dwarf version in contrast and will be interested to see the respective yields.

Sweetcorn will be ready and off the windowsill to plant out mid to late June. Plant into rich fertile soil as they are fast growing reaching 2m(6ft) in height. Don't plant them out in a row because sweetcorn is wind pollinated. Always plant in blocks with 16" to 24" spacing between each plant, this will assist with their pollination.

Finally, if you are going to grow cucumbers and tomatoes outside, make sure you harden these off for at least a week.

What to sow in June:

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

Outdoors - beetroot, carrots, lettuces, radishes, salad crops, spring onions and turnips.

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 off packet seeds. Well worth it.

Thackley's community gardening swap shop

meet at Thackley Cricket Club on the last Sunday in the month until the last one in September. This is an opportunity for local residents to come together to swap, sell or buy any surplus plants, seeds, equipment etc.

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.

On 30 June, Thorpe Primary School will be holding a Summer Fayre, where visitors will have the opportunity to tour the school, speak to staff, pupils and parents, and enjoy a range of fun-filled activities and rides. The school would love to welcome members of the local community along to meet everyone and experience life at Thorpe Primary.

Further details will be shared across the school's social media channels.

The Bill & Bloss Community Fund is pleased to announce the renewal of its annual sponsorship of Thackley Ladies Rounders, a partnership that has been in existence since the group was founded. The fund has made a donation of £250 and wishes the ladies a very enjoyable summer down at their new home, Thackley Cricket Club

We asked you lovely, generous people to help us collect 100 chocolate eggs for

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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Need
Cash?

Paying
cash in?

homeless people in Bradford; 180 eggs and £15 in cash were donated, the "eggstras" being gratefully received by Bradford North Foodbank. Heartfelt thanks to everyone who contributed - Thackley Methodist Church.

Support The Animal rescues shop (S.T.A.R.S) based in Eccleshill made a £2,000 donation in April to Jean from Jean & Joe's Monkey Sanctuary. A huge thank you to our hardworking team and generous customers for making this possible.



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.

Walks in Yorkshire

Byways in Burley-in-Wharfedale

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.

Crossing a river via stepping stones can be a perilous adventure, especially on days when there are heavy showers about.

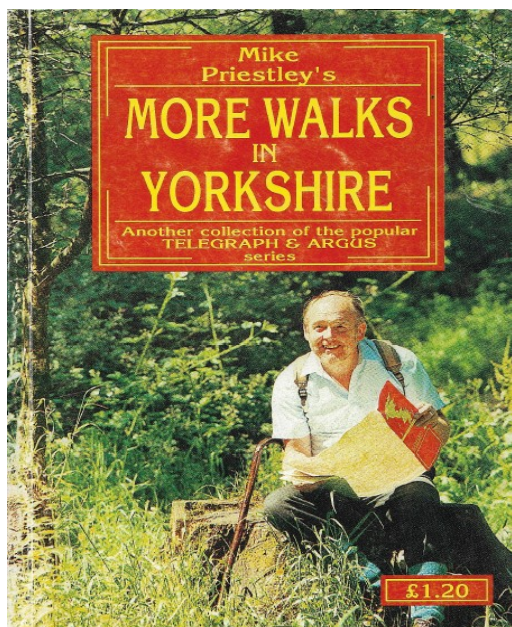
That's something my wife and I discovered during a gentle evening stroll around Burley-in-Wharfedale, a village which previously I had only driven through.

To whip through Burley in a car, along that narrow and traffic blighted main street, is not to see it at its best. Like many villages that find themselves on busy routes, its heart suffers from noise and dust pollution.

However, seconds away from the road you are on lanes and footpaths which pass through gentle countryside and the roar of the road becomes a distant buzz.

Following the recommendation of the West Yorkshire Ramblers Association excellent book Family Rambles Around Bradford, we parked in the carpark behind the Queens Hall (on the right of Burley's main street as you travel from Bradford to Ilkley).

We walked out on to the road and turned left, heading down the pavement until we turned left again, this time into Iron Row - a most attractive line of cottages leading away from the noise and bustle with the playing field to the right and a field to the left.



We continued ahead until, with the gates of Greenholme Mill in front of us, we turned left and continued along the road towards some houses.

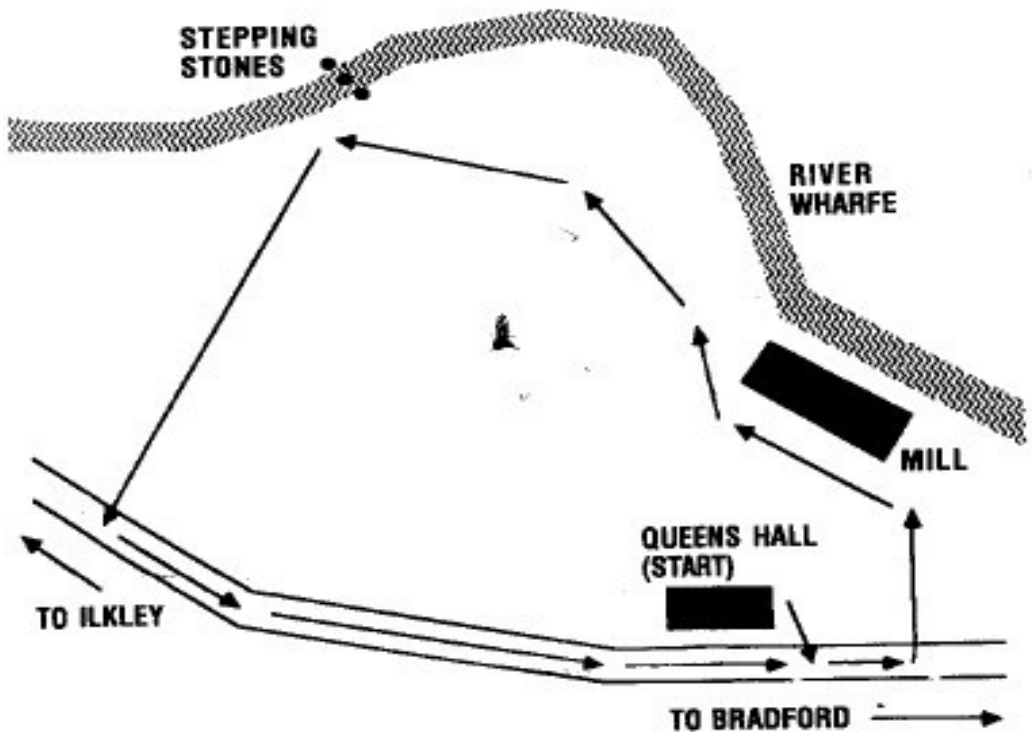
A horse in the paddock between the road and the mill fence trotted up, attracted by the smell of the apples we were munching. We tossed it the cores.

Just past a sign on the right for an electronics factory and some garages, we swung round to the left between houses.

Our path did not lie in this direction, though. It forked to the right through a gate and along the side of a meadow beneath tall trees until we came to a point where a barbed-wire fence jutted out into the field from the right.

Here was a wooden stile which we climbed to find ourselves in a lane heading away from the mill alongside the mill face to the right. It was a long, straight lane, curbing round eventually towards Greenholme Farm—now several separate houses.

Just before the farm, a detour to the right took us to the riverbank where the stepping stones led to the other side.



Although the tops of several of them were being skimmed with water, we decided to make our way across for no other purposes than to see what lay at the other side.

However, we'd covered about two-thirds of the distance (the Wharfe is quite wide at this point) when we realised that rather more of the stones were underwater than had been when we set off. Some upstream downpour must have swelled that river.

Realising that if we continued we could be stuck at the wrong side of the Wharfe, we turned around and made our way back, getting our feet rather wetter than on the outward journey.

Moral: only use stepping stones on really settled days.

Back at Greenholme Farm, we continued up the lane which quickly became a paved, narrow road with interesting houses tucked away to the right and fields to the left.

Too soon we were back at the main road and turning left to follow the roar of the traffic back to the Queens Hall.

It had been a gentle stroll of an outing - an pleasant and undemanding saunter. But, if I do it again, I'll do it in reverses to get the long walk alongside the cars and lorries out of the way first.

Editor's note—of course much has changed since the Burley by-pass was built decades after this walk. An even better walk than before.

Time: 45 minutes approximately.

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



Trumpit Money

Your self-build journey

Six months ago, I wrote a column about the appeal of self-build projects and the importance of careful preparation. At the time, I was speaking from a professional perspective, helping clients navigate the funding and planning aspects.

Fast forward to today, and I'm now firmly in the middle of a self-build project myself - which has given me a whole new appreciation for just how important preparation really is. If anything, it has highlighted even more how crucial planning, flexibility, and specialist advice are - before putting that first spade in the ground.

Having a clear and realistic budget is absolutely essential, but just as important is accepting that those figures will almost certainly change. Most importantly, surround yourself with experienced professionals who can guide you through areas you may never even have considered.

On the finance side specifically, self-build mortgages remain a specialist area. Rates are typically higher during the construction phase, as they're structured differently from standard residential borrowing.

As always, speaking to a broker should be your first port of call if you're considering going down the self-build route. They can talk you through the financial aspects you'll need to consider, help you understand the funding options available, and assess the long-term affordability of the project once your home is complete.

Self-build can absolutely be worth it in the long run, but it's not a straightforward road to navigate. It's easy to get swept up in the excitement of designing your dream home, but the reality is that self-build projects are complicated, expensive, and full of unexpected twists. The more preparation you do before that first shovel hits the ground, the smoother the journey is likely to be.

Costs are higher, margins are tighter, and there are easier ways to make money in property. What self-build does offer, however, is the opportunity to create something completely personal.

Your heart often overrules your head in ways it never would on a standard development project. You make choices because they matter to you and your family, not because they maximise resale value.

Another major takeaway has been the sheer amount of specialist advice involved. Throughout this process, I've spoken to architects, planning consultants, engineers and even highway experts about details I would never previously have considered.

One recent example was discussing the size of the driveway and the turning circle needed for vehicle access. It's not the sort of thing most people naturally think about when imagining their dream home, but it can have a significant impact on planning approval and site layout.

Have contingencies built into your budget, revisit your numbers frequently, and be flexible enough to adapt when costs or circumstances change. Most importantly, surround yourself with experienced professionals who can guide you through areas you may never even have considered.

As always, speaking to a broker should be your first port of call if you're considering going down the self-build route. They can talk you through the financial aspects you'll need to consider, help you understand the funding options available, and assess the long-term affordability of the project once your home is complete.

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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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Idle Red Kites Ladies Rounders

The winter rounders season wrapped up in March, followed by April friendlies against Halifax Bees, Drig Dragon Flares and New Farnley Foxes.

The 2026 Rounders England summer league then kicked off in style. Idle Red Kites Ladies (IRK) opened with a strong away win, thanks to consistent batting and sharp fielding: Idle 15.5 – Eldwick All Rounders 9.

Izzy took Player of the Match, with Erica specially mentioned for her super-sonic hits.



The momentum continued the next day in a sunny evening friendly at Morley. A great team performance and standout individual moments secured a 13 – 6.5 win, with newcomer Hannah earning Umpire's Player of the Match for brilliant left-arm batting.



IRK followed up with their first home match and a victory against Morley Maverick Pearls. Excellent deep fielding from Joanna, Player of the Match for Julie, and an all-round solid display sealed a 19 – 9 result.

On 17th May, the team took part in a charity rounders day raising money for CoppaFee! With big hits, great catches and plenty of laughs, multiple games were played and £1,741 was raised for a fantastic cause.

The Trumpit is delighted to renew the annual sponsorship with the Kites through the Bill & Bloss Fund and wishes the girls an enjoyable and successful summer.



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Thackley CC

Over the last 12 months, Thackley Cricket Club has continued to go from strength to strength, with major investments plus improvements and community development helping transform the club both on and off the field.

Once simply as a local cricket ground, the club is now becoming a thriving community hub at the heart of Thackley, welcoming cricketers, families, local groups, social members and visitors from across the district.

The club's continued progress reflects the dedication and hard work of volunteers, committee members, sponsors and supporters who have worked tirelessly behind the scenes to modernise facilities and improve the overall experience for everyone who visits.

One of the most noticeable developments has been the continued enhancement of the club's facilities. Improvements to the clubhouse and surrounding areas have created a far more modern, welcoming and family-friendly environment.

Members and visitors alike have praised the positive atmosphere around the ground, with the club now regularly hosting quizzes, bingo nights, live sport, social events and community activities alongside cricket fixtures.

The club's growing social calendar has also helped showcase fantastic local talent, with live entertainment nights featuring singers and bands becoming increasingly popular.

These events have created a vibrant atmosphere and helped bring together people from across the local community, whether they are cricket supporters or simply looking for a welcoming venue to enjoy a night out.

Investment in facilities has not only benefited existing members but has also attracted new people into the club.



Matchdays are seeing increased attendance, while community events continue to grow in popularity, helping strengthen the club's position as an important local venue for people of all ages.

Cricket participation at the club is also continuing to expand. Alongside the men's teams and thriving junior section, the club has seen encouraging growth in its women's cricket programme, creating more opportunities for female players to get involved in the sport locally.

The women's team has become an increasingly important part of the club, reflecting the wider growth of women's cricket across Yorkshire and the country.

The club has also expanded softball and rounders sessions, providing a more social and accessible way for people of all ages and abilities to take part in sport.

As part of that growth, the club is proud to launch its new association with the Thackley Phoenix rounders team - see page 32 - which is already attracting new players and supporters.

These sessions have proven especially popular with those looking to enjoy the social side of the club in a relaxed and welcoming environment while also attracting new members, especially families.

Junior cricket continues to flourish, with the club placing a major focus on developing young players and creating opportunities for the next generation.

The growth in junior participation has been particularly encouraging, providing youngsters in the local area with a safe, welcoming and enjoyable environment to learn the game and build confidence both on and off the field.

Importantly, the club's vision extends far beyond cricket. In recent years, clubs across Yorkshire have increasingly recognised the importance of becoming true community venues rather than simply sporting organisations, and Thackley Cricket Club is embracing that approach wholeheartedly.

The improvements made over the last year reflect that ambition, from upgraded changing facilities and improved social spaces to an increased calendar of community events.

Looking ahead, the club already has exciting plans for further development. Future projects include a facelift for the bar area, the creation of an improved function room to expand the club's ability to host community events and private functions, and the installation of outdoor cricket nets to support player development across both senior and junior sections.

These developments form part of the club's long-term vision to continue improving facilities for players, members and the wider community.

None of this would be possible without the support of volunteers and local businesses, whose contributions continue to help the club move forward. Their efforts have ensured continued investment both in the playing side of the club and in the facilities.

As the club continues to grow across cricket, rounders and community events, Thackley Cricket Club is also welcoming interest from potential sponsors wishing to support the club moving forward.

Sponsorship opportunities are available across several areas of the club and provide an excellent opportunity for local businesses to support grassroots sport while gaining valuable exposure within the community.

As the new season gets underway, there is a real sense of optimism around the club. With further developments planned and community engagement continuing to grow, the future looks incredibly bright for Thackley Cricket Club. The club is proving it is not just a place to watch cricket – it is becoming a focal point for the whole community.

Contacts List:

Thackley Phoenix Ladies Rounders Club

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{continued from page 36}

Beverly Town were promoted to the Northern Premier League (NPL) via the play offs, along with league champions Liversedge. Normally, these two clubs would be replaced by clubs relegated from that league but since three of the clubs facing relegation were from the north east - Bishop Auckland; Blyth Town and Newton Aycliffe - it was thought that only Brighouse Town would be joining the NCEL.

However, the make up of the league was thrown into further confusion because Brighouse Town, who finished bottom of the NPL, have requested a re-alignment in the non-league football structure. They wish to drop down to playing at an amateur level at Step 7 and have already had talks with the West Yorkshire League regarding next season.

This begged the question of which clubs would be playing in the NCEL Premier Division next season. The outcome of the allocations means that four newly promoted clubs will be playing Premier Division football next season.

Dearne and District finished top of the NCEL First Division and won automatic promotion, whilst Worsbrough Bridge Athletic moved up via the play-offs. For both clubs it is the highest level they have ever played at but they come from very different back grounds.

Whilst Dearne and District were only formed in 2018 and joined the NCEL 2024, Worsbrough started in 1923 and were founder members of the NCEL in 1982. Originally in Division Two they have spent the last thirty-five years trying to win promotion to the top division.

Retford FC and Retford United have been moved across from the United Counties League (UCL), both winning promotion from division one of that league. Sheffield have moved over to the Premier Division of UCL and Albion have been reprieved from relegation and retain their place in the top division.

This is something I am really pleased about, avoiding losing another local derby. However, I am sad to say that the league will no longer have the name of Eccleshill United there.

Northern Counties East Football League	
Step 5 - Premier Division (NCEP)	
1	Albion Sports
2	Barton Town
3	Bottesford Town
4	Campion
5	Dearne & District
6	Frickley Athletic
7	Golcar United
8	Handsworth
9	Horbury Town
10	Keighley Town
11	Knarborough Town
12	Parkgate
13	Penistone Church
14	Pickering Town Community
15	Retford
16	Retford United
17	Rossington Main
18	Tadcaster Albion
19	Thackley Association
20	Worsbrough Bridge Athletic

Now playing in Keighley, the club has registered a name change to Keighley Town.

Other news is that Albion will start the season with a new management team. The ex-Eccleshill United management team of former player Lee Elam and Asif Hussain have been appointed following their resignation from Eccleshill United at the end of the season.

Five new clubs have been allocated places in Division One of the NCEL, one of which is Bradford side Field Olympic, promoted after winning the West Yorkshire League Premier Division.

Field play their home games at the ex-Victoria Rangers ground on Harrogate Road.

THACKLEY AFC
PRE-SEASON FIXTURES

01 JUL	A	ILKLEY TOWN	7.45PM
04 JUL	A	STEETON	3PM
11 JUL	H	LIVERSEDGE	3PM
14 JUL	A	WOMBWELL TOWN	7.45PM
18 JUL	H	HARROGATE RAILWAY	12.30PM



The season finished for Thackley in early April and Harry Baxendale captured the excitement of the final afternoon so well in last month's Trumpit, I really did relive those last heart stopping moments of the game.

Yes, Thackley retained their position in the Premier Division of the Northern Counties East League (NCEL) for the forty-fourth time by the proverbial 'skin of their teeth'.

Going back to that afternoon in April, with five minutes of the game remaining, I honestly thought that Thackley were about to relinquish that record. Three-two down to local rivals Eccleshill United and Albion Sports beating Golcar United by the same score, Thackley were facing relegation.

Two Golcar goals in the 87th and 90th minute meant Albion were losing, this along with a Thackley goal in the 96th minute kept Thackley's record intact and Albion facing relegation. My feelings went from the depths of despair to the height of elation in those last few minutes, a real rollercoaster of emotion. I doubt there is any other sport that gives you that sort of buzz.

Thackley Ladies season concluded on the first Sunday in May, unfortunately with just their second defeat of the season, losing out

on penalties to Knaresborough Town in the League Cup Final.

However, this disappointment did not detract from the excellent season that they had. They dropped just five points all season to finish champions and win consecutive promotions and a move up to the Southern Division of the North East Regional Women's Football League, where they will come against the likes of Sheffield Wednesday and York City Ladies. They also won through to the semi final of the West Riding County Cup.

The end of the season brings the annual presentation evening for players awards and this season the following players picked up awards for their efforts during the season.

Manager's Player went to striker Toby Marriott; Player's Player to captain Keenan Mannings and Committee Player to Lewis Sugden.

The Thackley Ladies players to pick up awards were: Manager's Player - Liv Auker; Player's Player - Molly Ellis and Committee Player - Demi Godson.

And so, to next season and the challenges and changes that brings. The allocation for the NCEL Premier Division was released recently.

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