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The Brave New World Edition



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The Trumpit is a free monthly magazine with 1200 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 Craven Community Fund was set up in memory of Bill Craven who was Editor of The Trumpit for many years.

The deadline date is typically the 20th of each preceding month although for new submissions as early as you can please.

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Editor: Steve Wilson - 07771 508729

Email: idlelord@sky.com

The Trumpit Ltd: Reg No - 13225007

www.the-trumpit.com

[@thetrumpitidleandthackley](https://twitter.com/thetrumpitidleandthackley)

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Contact Cathryn on 07866 374019



Editorial

This is the first Editorial of a brave new world so far as The Trumpit goes and a long way from Bloss's old typewriter. The decision by Microsoft to ditch old faithful Publisher may have saved a few dollars but a replacement has not been easy.

So, if you do spot a few more errors than usual, please bear with me. The language coming from the editorial desk these last few weeks has been choice but I am getting there.

I also had the challenge of re-writing this piece as news came in just before printing of the council's decision to ditch plans for a new swimming pool on Squire Lane, conceived in 2015. Wholly dependent on a £20m government grant, our bankrupt council's latest estimate of the loose change they would have to find was circa £13m - it simply made no sense.

If any use can be made of the land in question then far better to attempt to tackle the parking chaos around the infirmary; at least in the longer-term this would generate income rather than the acknowledged loss-making pool.

This edition sees the first article by our new young guest writer, Tahira Ali of Hanson Academy. Your editor is an Old Hansonian so it gives me great pleasure to welcome Tahira.

Back to reality and some numbingly senseless vandalism locally with the destruction of a fifty metre length of farm walling on Westfield Lane. What pleasure morons who cause this damage get is beyond me. Slowly and methodically, the wall is being pieced back but the morons are still out there.

My lead article - page 4 - describes events at local cricket ground Bolton Villas where many of you may have played or watched a game over the years. Maybe your children enjoyed learning the game of cricket there.

A series of depressing events occurred over several months that can only be described as lawlessness. The blight on the lives of local residents was appalling and the support from the police was woefully lacking.

The ground is now back in good hands and life has returned to a peaceful normality but this should simply not have been allowed to happen.

There is an expensive restoration bill to fund and the Bill & Bloss Community Fund will be donating £250. If you can help in any way either through your business or personally, please see the details on page 4.

Please enjoy the edition and be gentle re any bloopers.

Just Not Cricket

Events at a local cricket club – Bolton Villas – over the last few months have shocked, confused and appalled many. The law has largely abstained from any useful function in the face of criminal damage, trespass and disgraceful abuse of decent people.

This is a difficult tale to tell, especially as I spent most of my life at this beautiful old ground, fortunate to meet lifelong friends through the game of cricket – but it needs to be told for reasons more than simply cricket.

In short, those afforded the privilege of playing at the ground in recent years failed to respect the standards and duty of care established over decades so far as running a cricket club entails. The ground and equipment had fallen into disarray; served notice to quit the reaction was unbelievable.

When the notice to quit expired, the main club gates were sawn off twice. The clubhouse and outbuildings were broken into whilst the police arrived only to turn around and vanish calling this a "civil matter".

The Trustees of the ground were left with costly damaged property and an illegal occupation of the ground and buildings.

Bizarrely, although not allowed to stage official league games, the ground was then pimped out for unauthorised and uninsured games. The main culprit is still involved in local league cricket – so much for the Spirit of Cricket – how can this be?

Threats were made against several elderly residents including regular taunts of racism – anyone opposing these people was automatically deemed racist which defied credibility.

A threat was made to burn a family home down; pet dogs were threatened with poisoning; and several of us received unwanted visits on our doorsteps.



The race card was dispensed more often than police crime reference numbers; decent people were labelled with no right of reply nor comeback.

Locals are multi-cultural and have got along fine for decades; they should not have endured this thuggery unprotected. The police were woeful. Useless too were local councillors, thankfully all out of office now.

The Trustees were served court papers challenging the eviction. This, after investing countless hours trying to help their accusers.

Judgement was made in favour of the Trustees after two hearings at Bradford Combined Court in early June.

Out of all this has come some good in that neighbours have been galvanised into forming a residents' association. One sunny Tuesday evening in June, people gathered with tools and passion to start the process of restoring the ground to what it was.

There is a hope that cricket will return in future years but there is much to do to get the playing area up to standard again. It will need countless hours of hard work and a genuine, long-term commitment to cricket, something lost on the previous occupants.

Maybe one day the old boys who populated the unique Critics' Corner, with their secret tipples, unsurpassed knowledge of the game and coaching "tips" to home and away players alike will watch again on high.

The destruction of the plaque honouring their memory was disgusting.

Finally, herein lies a lesson for all volunteer based sports clubs who may sit on valuable assets. Get your governance in order now.

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Tony Gough

Saint or Sinner?

Charles John Huffam Dickens, the famous author, was born in Portsmouth in 1812 and went on to be the greatest author of his day. His famous works include David Copperfield, Great Expectations and 13 other novels.

His early literary career began as a journalist, reporting on parliament and at the same time writing short stories using the pen name Boz. He was known as a social reformer and a campaigner for children's rights.

However, his early life became difficult when at the age of 12 his father was committed to a debtor's prison in Southwark, London. This involved his wife and younger children being incarcerated with him.

Sadly, 12-year-old Dickens lived alone in an attic near the prison, visiting his family daily for the three months they were imprisoned. Eventually a bequest of £450 from his mother allowed Dickens father John to be released.

Dickens supported himself at this time by packaging blacking in a factory for 10 hours a day, at six shillings a week. Blacking is a type of shoe polish. A workmate was Bob Fagin.

His name inspired the character Fagin in Oliver Twist. His father free, Dickens returned to school for two more years.

Several years later Dickens published his first successful story, Pickwick Papers.

This is a story about four friends who met at the George and Vulture pub, which still stands today in London, operated by Sam Smiths brewery in Tadcaster. The strange name derives from two ancient inns that stood on the site, destroyed in the Great Fire of London in 1666.

In 1836 Pickwick papers were published monthly as a serial of 19 episodes. The stories always end with a cliffhanger leaving audiences keen for more. The first 18 episodes cost one shilling each (5p) the final two shillings. Many Londoners at this time were illiterate and they paid half a penny each to have the stories read to them.

With his career and income assured Dickens married in 1837 to Catherine Hogarth who he shared ten children. Everything seemed well until Dickens met Ellen Lawless Ternan in 1857 a 17-year-old actress.

Dickens and his wife separated in 1858 and he was vindictive towards his wife preventing her from seeing her children and publishing alleged details of her failings in the press.

Catherine kept a dignified silence and very little is known about his relationship with Ellen Ternan. He provided two homes for her and her mother at Slough and Southwark.

Generally, it was thought that Ellen was his mistress, however later speculation suggested she may have been his daughter from a previous affair. Dickens' final serialised novel was The Mystery of Edwin Drood that was unfinished when he died in 1870 and was buried in poets' corner at Westminster Abbey.

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Jane Gray
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Mind your language.

What you speak, you create. That's one interpretation of the translation of Abracadabra. And just like magic, what you say helps create your perception of reality.

I recently coached a woman who told me things had been "up and down". That she was trying very hard but nothing had changed.

She then went on to tell me all the things she'd achieved. It was a pattern she was completely unaware of.

When we explored what was really going on, she was genuinely surprised to discover there was another way of looking at it.

She realised she'd been playing her achievements down because she didn't want to appear big-headed.

Now she's seen that pattern, she'll notice it more easily. She can let it be and allow a new pattern to emerge.

She can acknowledge her achievements.

I remember that whenever someone asked me at work how I was, my response was always, "Getting there."

One day I caught myself and wondered "Where is "there?"

From that moment on, my answer changed. And the way I felt changed.

Whatever you're struggling with right now, I'd encourage you to notice the language you're using.

Is it helping create the experience you want, or reinforcing the one you don't?

Sometimes the smallest change in words creates the biggest shift in how we see things.

One simple word can open the door to a completely different experience.

From my heart to yours,
Jane



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The Thackley Chef

Richard Aveyard - ACIEH



Here are a few things you can do if you have been growing lettuces this summer.

1. Mixed leaves, served and dressed with roasted tomatoes, garlic, basil and croûtes .

2. Greek style mixed leaves with dill dressed with, feta, olives honey, mint and pine nuts.

3. Lettuce leaves used as a wrap. You can use any of Iceberg, Romaine or Cos stuffed with stir-fried minced Pork or chicken and finished with fresh ginger, soy and sesame. Or you could try a vegetarian option with water chestnuts, onions, peppers and bean sprouts. Finally, use as an endive with leaves used with crudities to scoop up dips.

Recipe - Saltimbocca for which you can use either chicken or veal. Classically veal is used but I am using chicken breast with charred Little Gem and Radicchio lettuce. You will need cling film, a meat bat or tenderiser, a spatula, frying pans and tongs.

Ingredients (serves 2): 2 boneless chicken breasts 200-300g skin and sinew removed; 4 cocktail sticks (optional); 8-12 fresh sage leaves; 1tbsp chopped parsley; 2 large slices of prosciutto; 1-2 tbsp olive oil; 200ml dry white wine; 1tbsp plain flour; salt & peppermill; 50-60 g butter; 2 Little Gem or Radicchio lettuces with bases trimmed, cut in half length ways, washed and dried.

Method:

1. Place chicken breasts between two sheets of cling film and tap gently with bat/tenderiser to flatten evenly. Place breast on a tray and add 4 sage leaves to each breast. Add sliced ham on to the breast pressing firmly (you can thread a cocktail stick through the ham and breast to make sure it stays in place when cooking). Place in the fridge until needed.

2. Season the flour and add the lettuce halves to a bowl then season with pepper only at this stage. Drizzle with oil.

3. Place a frying pan on a high heat adding a little oil when hot then add the rest of the fresh sage leaves. Fry quickly then add a little butter frying until crispy. When done remove from the heat, drain on kitchen paper and carefully wipe the pan clean ready to cook your chicken.

Note: allow the chicken breasts to come to room temperature then dust with the seasoned flour.

4. Place your frying pan on a high heat, add the rest of the oil and place your breasts ham side down first. Fry until crispy for 2-3 minutes. Carefully turn over using your tongs and repeat cooking time.

5. Remove your breast from the pan then add the wine, scraping the bottom of your pan with the spatula to remove the sediment which will flavour your sauce while reducing the wine. Add the breast back to the pan then add the butter, reduce heat and simmer for 3-4 minutes adding more butter. Correct seasoning if required then take off the heat and keep warm.

5. Add a frying pan to the heat if you do not have or grill - you could fire up the BBQ. Add the lettuce to the pan or grill and char well both sides. Season with a little salt then cook until tender. Remove the root. The lettuce will be slightly sweeter cooked than raw.

To Serve: Return the chicken to a moderate heat - you should be left with a syrupy wine sauce

Place on to two warm plates spooning over the sauce and finish with crispy sage leaves and parsley with a side of sweet charred lettuce. Enjoy!



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All money or other items donated to the Charity go directly to supporting education in The Gambia; all our charity workers are unpaid volunteers.

As usual we've been busy distributing the equipment sent in the October container; schools are already benefiting from the books, exercise books, paper, pens, pencils, tables and chairs and are extremely grateful.

We have plans to build a new library later this year. As in previous years we have funded excursions for the students of two schools. These were 3-day events and the children visited museums, the airport, ancient stone circles and lots of cultural activities.

It's great to see them seeing things that, ordinarily, they would not see e.g. planes, the sea and larger towns.

We are currently collecting materials at our store in Low Moor for shipment in October. Thank you for your support, your contribution is much appreciated.

David Oldfield - Gambian Schools Trust

When commenting on the number of copies of The Trumpit that are distributed each month, the Editor explained in the July issue why this was to remain at 1,200. He went on to suggest that to ensure that a copy was received each month it would be a good idea to take out a subscription.

As someone who was born in Idle, but who now lives in Baildon, I would very much commend that suggestion. I have had a subscription for a number of years and can confirm that the magazine appears through the post as regular as clockwork.

I highly recommend taking one out - it is well worthwhile. **Bob Watson**

I am very grateful for Bob's regular donations to the Bill & Bloss Fund - Ed.

Hopes that the removal of an intransigent Labour leadership would lead to rapid progress on removing the charges at The Green car park have been cruelly dashed.

Despite Reform candidates pledging that they would go, and the new council leader promising announcements in June there is still no date or even a clear commitment. The reply we got when we asked why there was nothing as promised on the July agenda cited the Councils financial position as a reason for no announcement.

We challenge this. The overall take for car parking was well in excess of what was budgeted for, and we think some of this extra money could be used to remove charges in smaller car parks such as ours that don't make any. **Cllr Griffiths (Idle & Thackley)**



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The Thackley Trumpit

The Trumpit was born in 1987 by Alvin Blossom, landlord of the long gone Shoulder of Mutton pub in Thackley. "Bloss", an ex-Radio Leeds DJ, developed what was originally known as The Thackley Trumpit as a bar top A4 flyer.

It took a "sabbatical" from 1992 until it re-appeared in December 2000 with 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.

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

This month here are some extracts from edition 271 August 2003.

A lead article headed When I were A Lad (Or Lass!) will probably still resonate with many readers today. It began...

According to today's regulators and bureaucrats, those of us who were kids in the 40's, 50's, 60's, and 70's probably *shouldn't have survived!!!*
Our baby cots were covered with brightly coloured lead-based paint, which was promptly chewed and licked. We had no child proof lids on medicine bottles, or latches on doors or cabinets and it was fine to play with pans. When we rode our bikes, we wore no helmets, just flip flops and fluorescent "clackers" on our wheels.

As children, we would ride in cars with no seat belts or air bags. Riding in the passenger seat was a treat, frequently with a drunk at the wheel!

We drank water from the garden hose, not from a bottle, and it tasted the same. We ate dripping sandwiches, bread and butter pudding and drank fizzy pop with sugar in it, but we were never overweight because we were always outside playing.

We shared one drink with four friends, from one bottle or can, and no one actually died from this.

We would spend hours building go-carts out of scraps of wood and metal and then went top speed down the hill, only to find out we forgotten the brakes. After running into stinging nettles a few times, we learned to solve the problem.

We would leave home in the morning and play all day, as long as we were back before it got dark.

RETIRED MEN'S FORUM

Meetings are held each Wednesday at 10.30 am at Thackley Methodist Church Hall.

A regular feature of the old issues was a gathering for retired men. When I first got involved circa 2018 this was still going but has slipped from sight. If you know if the group still meets please let me know and I will happily publicise the group once more.

In Kate's Cuttings there was a fabulous piece of the origin of allotments - stay with me please - the harvest approaches. Great advice as to what to do in times of adverse heat which, as I type this, has been very topical.

The regular Eating Out column reviewed Dick Hudson's on Bingley Moor in a positive light. Not a place I venture to and one that has changed hands a few times. But what a setting for a Sunday lunch.

And finally, the jokes were as entertaining as ever and still oblivious to the notion of political correctness.

**A golfer said to his caddy, "My mother-in-law is over there, two hundred yards away. It's absolutely essential that I succeed with this shot."
"That's crazy, sir. At such a distance you're sure to miss her."**

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Tales From The Scruffy



July saw the return of perma-tanned Intasan and his wife from yet another episode on their global tour. The only couple to have more annual holidays than Fagin and The Voice of Reason, 2026 is a Greek odyssey with more islands visited than a migrant boat.

It is a special year for the bronzed couple as they celebrate 55 years of marriage, most of which, I am assured have been spent in the UK. Releasing a commemorative card exclusively to The Trumpit, having fought off Hello magazine, the next step is Buckingham Palace. The King is rumoured to be awarding MBEs for services to British tourism. Congratulations to them both.

Meanwhile, cometh the hour, cometh the men. It was the day of the Mexico last sixteen World Cup game and there were no takers for an early morning session at The Scruffy. Which was just as well as, asked if she would be opening as a one-off, The Voice of Reason gave an answer unlikely to be found in Heineken's Customer Care Training Guide

Those of us old enough to recall the glory days of Billy and Pat, pioneers of flexible opening hours at The Scruffy, will also recall many times when kicking out time was not far off kicking off time. Rest in peace the two of you - thank you for the great memories.

Even the football mad Sky Sports gang were unmoved and in residence at their usual time, gathered in The Railway Carriage. Tipper the Stripper, still desperate to maintain his profile in The Trumpit should the Working Men's Club ever need his stage presence again, was wearing a pink off-the-shoulder number.

The mood was tense and not helped by the presence of Doomsday Dave, not one to always look on the bright side of life. A worried look was pasted all over his face; it would be a long night.



Unbelievably, talk turned in our little gathering to New Year's Eve on the first Sunday of July. Suddenly I wished I was drinking something far stronger than Golden Best.

This strange talk had been orchestrated by the female of the species, not unsurprisingly - the outcome was never in doubt.

The women were already sorting out hair, nails, shoes and dress as we gents sat contemplating how much. In a flash The Stansfield were made aware of the Grand Plan as Timberlake cried into his Carling facing the prospect of Sweet Caroline spoon feeding him on Strictly this coming autumn to get the twinkling toes twinkling again.

Fresh from her mention in The Trumpit last month, T&A Best Independent Retailer winner Jodie from Top Knot, wandered in to check out the haute couture.

One look at the inhabitants of Nob Ed Korna and Tipper's pink rag and she was back down the hill in a flash to the warm bosom of the Idle Draper. There were no rich pickings here.



The heatwave continued remorselessly as we entered the second half of June. Suntan was not interested in the vast array of free seats in The Scruffy and so there I was again sweltering like a Desert Rat.

Nob Ed Korna had debunked too forming a little commune on the hill – Little House On The Prairie sprung to mind. Meanwhile, Fagin's jungle – Jurassic Planter – had gone from strength to strength and there were rumours that a giant snake had taken residence.

If there was a starting point for a wild fire in Idle here it was. The Royal Horticultural Society are visiting soon to see how weeds can grow so fast, especially in the City of Weed.

As the football finally came to it's ugly conclusion with the Argentinian football team resembling their rugby counterparts – at least we won that one – local legend Garty was sat in the garden.

I recalled the dying embers of my Sunday football days under the "coaching" of Garty and his unique "kick 'em up the *rse" strategy.

Had Thomas Tuchel ever had to round up his players like Garty every Sunday morning making house calls like a modern day knocker-upper? Tactics – if there were any – were lost on those still wiping the remnants of a doner kebab from their shirt sleeves.

The day after a British athlete broke the world mile record, in the house too was representation from Idle Athletics/Alcoholics Club cautiously downing his pint a little too close to Jurassic Planter.

Inside, alone with his thoughts was King Kurt awaiting his loyal subjects to join him for more laddish tales on the edge – Thorp Edge to be precise – as the sun finally began to wilt and we wandered in relieved at last.

Upstairs Fagin packed away his ten favourite Bradford City shirts – bon voyage!

Midweek and the July heatwave was in full flow. Notorious duo – Ad Fab – had hijacked my favourite spot under the tree and were necking pints of lager and cider with abandon.

The Trowel was immaculate as ever – coral blue shirt and matching loafers finished off with bright white shorts to catch the Wimbledon feel. He looked like a septuagenarian Wham boy – old guns having some fun, crazy ladies on the run indeed.

There was a familiar sight inside. Big Al had returned and looked as if he had been plonked on the bar stool beamed down by the Star Trek Enterprise, left all alone in the bar. Sweet dreams are made of this.

Unfortunately he had been sat facing away from both television screens plus the bar too and was desperately searching for a remote control for the stool to change course. Captain Kirk would have to do better.

He was keen to tell all that he had been awarded the highest honour in Greece – the Order of the Redeemer – awarded to foreigners for outstanding acts of social contribution. He was overjoyed to accept the Mythos Award 2026.

Fagin could barely hold back the tears on the return of his favourite cash cow. He was so happy he'd already booked a visit to Idle Travel in the morning and was on the phone to Don Corleone Jnr to book more cover.

Has Society Really Changed For Women?

Tahira Ali - Hanson Academy

"I hope she'll be a fool - that's the best thing a girl can be in this world, a beautiful little fool." The Great Gatsby, a novel written over a century ago, established the idea that a women's beauty holds more power than her intellect. The only way a women could survive is by ignoring the harsh realities.

My question today; is this idea still lingering around in modern society?

From the suffrage movement we have seen women having access to freedom, independence, education and a career. Previous generations fought by constantly protesting and risking their lives repeatedly.

However, our current society is based on technology and there seems to be a discreet expectation on social media that a woman needs to have a certain appearance in order to be valued.

Social media apps allow comparison between women to be done easily and body types are constantly being compared.

In schools and employment environments, it is expected to present yourself in a way that is acceptable. The same expectations that appear on social media also appear in real life.

For women their appearance is emphasised first rather than their achievements so there is already a stigma created solely based on their looks.

For example, women influencers are selected as they fit ideal beauty standards. This allows them to receive brand deals and become successful however it implies to younger girls that they need to look a certain way and that the reason for their success should be their appearance.

Consider too social media algorithms, where your data on social media apps creates content that will appear on your phone to keep individuals engaged.

It also tends to be visually appealing content meaning superficial content is constantly shown. This reinforces unrealistic beauty standards and encourages comparisons.

It's created an idea that in order for a woman to be successful her appearance must meet the beauty standards, whereas a man is recognised for success rather than his looks.

Society has made significant progress toward gender equality with laws such as the Human Rights Act, Equality Act 2010 and Equal Pay Act 1970.

Women now have more opportunities than ever before but the emphasis on appearance suggests that our society is still influenced by patriarchal views where looks are more valuable than accomplishments.

We still have a long way to go.



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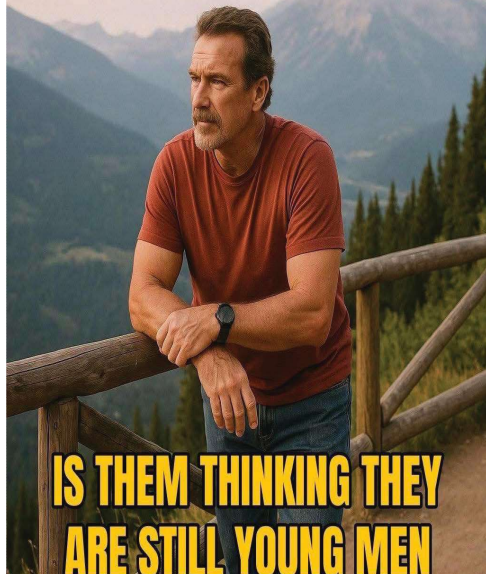
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**THE LEADING CAUSE FOR
INJURY IN OLD MEN**



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Walks in Yorkshire

Kettlewell – An Early Bird's Solitude

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.

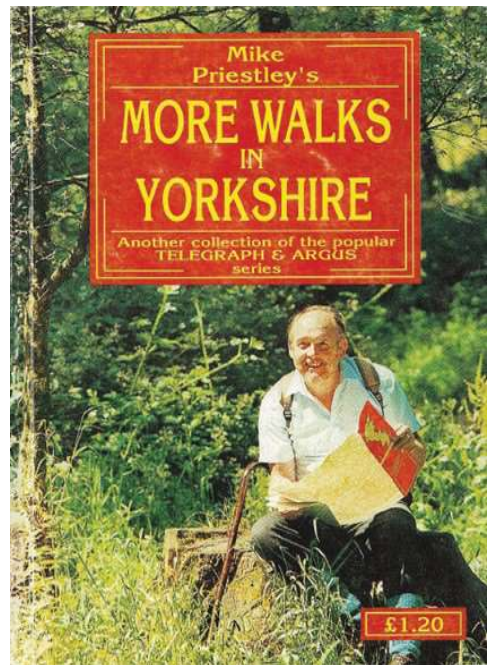
Don't spread it around but writing a walks column as part of a week's work can on occasions be something of a perk. Some of the walks are done at weekends, others in the evenings. But sometimes I'm able to take time out during office hours in the middle of the week.

These are the best times of all, because midweek days are the best days in the countryside, and there's nothing I like better than being far away from crowds. One Thursday morning, for instance, found me parking in a near deserted Kettlewell just after nine o'clock ready to set off on a classic Dales circuit.

My route took me back over the bridge which carries the road from Grassington across the Wharfe, then sharp right to follow the Dales way upstream.

Keeping to the well defined path first along the river bank and then through meadows, I soon left the houses of Kettlewell behind and became aware of just how empty the Dales are after the commuters who live there have gone to work and before the tourists have arrived.

Walking along with only cattle and rabbits for company, and the only visible buildings the derelict barns in the field to my left, I felt rather like some survivor of the human race.



Eventually, though, the houses of Starbottom came into sight, and a footbridge across the river leading to a path towards the village.

At the road I turned left into the village centre and past the pub turned right to follow the road round again to the right, passing a mullioned 17th century cottage on the left before I came to the entrance to a walled lane leading steeply up the hillside.

I had to wait here for a while. The lane was being used for the reason it was created.

A flock of sheep was being driven down it from the fell-top, a wall-to-wall carpet of wool and curly horns which followed it's leader into a pen off the track and left the way clear for me.

It was quite a pull up to the top, often over rough stone paving, but the view of Upper Wharfedale which had grown more extensive every time I turned to look back made it more than worth the breathlessness.

Soon I could see as far as Langstrothdale.

Just before I reached the top of the walled lane a Red Admiral butterfly buzzed me on it's way up the fell-side – quite a surprise at an

altitude of more than 1,500 feet, yet I was to see two more before I headed down the valley again.

If the view behind me was glorious, was was soon to come into sight ahead was better still.

The lane ended at a gate. Through that, my path lay straight ahead across grass for a while and over a ladder stile beside another gate. From the top of the stile the panorama down the broad, green trough of mid-Wharfedale was breathtaking.

As I continued, still climbing slightly, the bulk of Great Whernside came into sight directly ahead and then, just to the left of it and further away, the summit of Little Whernside.

The path began to fall slightly now, to a signpost telling me that the track heading down to the right would take me back to Kettlewell.

But there was somewhere else to visit first. I followed the path straight ahead, to the head of the valley and the line of mounds and ditches of Tor Dyke, built around 70AD by the Brigantes to keep the advancing Romans at bay.

I stood on top of one of those mounds for long enough, gazing down the valley and wondering just how much the landscape must have changed since those plucky Brits toiled away in their vain bid to deter the invaders.

Then, reluctantly, I retraced my steps to the signpost and headed down the wide, green track towards Kettlewell, finding myself eventually in another walled lane before at last dropping down steeply to the village.

Apart from the handful of people who were about in Starbottom and a couple up on Tor Dyke I had seen no-one until I was within maybe half a mile of Kettlewell.

By now the village was bustling. The car park was packed, the pubs doing a brisk trade. This early bird, though, had caught the solitude.

When he's not out walking...

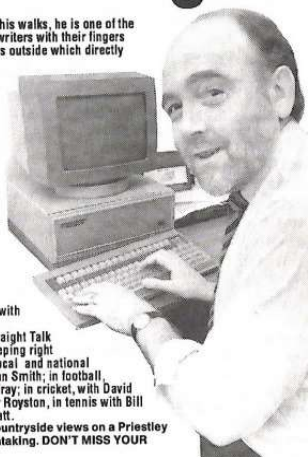
When Mike is not on the road for his walks, he is one of the Telegraph & Argus's top team of writers with their fingers on the pulse of the city, and issues outside which directly affect our lives.

Mike's North of Watford weekly column has twice won him the Yorkshire Columnist of the Year award for its incisive look at news events and in 1988 also resulted in him being named Yorkshire Journalist of the Year.

Alongside him the T&A has a host of other specialists bringing readers the stories behind the news of the day:

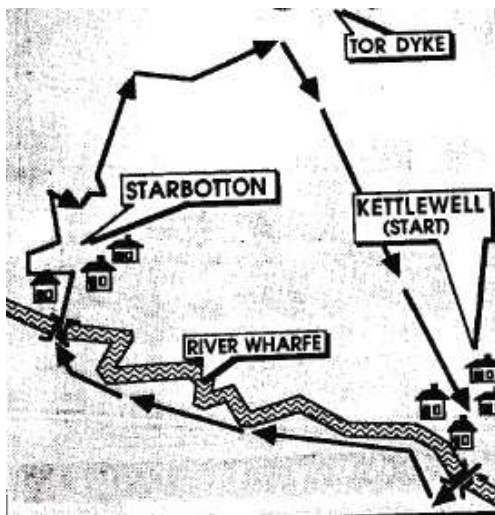
In politics, with Jack Foster at the House of Commons; in the arts, with Peter Holdsworth; in health affairs, with Rod Jones; in transport matters, with Alan Whitaker; in business, with David Swallow; in local politics, with Robert Schopen.

PLUS Jim Greenhall's weekly Straight Talk column, and sports specialist keeping right up to date with EVERY angle of local and national sport: in Rugby League, with Brian Smith; in football, with David Markham and John Wray; in cricket, with David Warner; in speedway, with Peter Royston, in tennis with Bill Marshall; in racing with Clive Pratt. Our scope is as broad as the countryside views on a Priestley Walk. The impact just as breathtaking. DON'T MISS YOUR COPY OF THE T&A



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

T&A

Community



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. For more details please see the website - <https://bradfordramblers.org.uk> - there is far more detail than is possible to include here. August's walks are as follows:

6th meet at Northcliffe Park Gates on Bradford Road A650. Kevin W 07505 206452:

12th at Low Lane, West Scholes, Queensbury, This is 150 metres up from The Junction Inn pub. David O 07796 222949

20th in the car park behind the swimming baths/leisure centre in Pudsey Market Place, LS28 7DE. Muriel O 07981 106470

A quick note re The Trumpit's Bill & Bloss Fund. Having paid out almost two thousand pounds so far this year, it is time for a pause.

I will honour any commitments I may have made, usually in The Scruffy with beer in hand, and will resume donations as soon as.



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Idle village will again be alive with scarecrows on Saturday September 26th between 10am and 4pm.

Local businesses will be creating the scarecrow trail around the village and you can purchase a map for a small donation.

To keep up to date here see the Facebook page Idle Village Life.

Support and shop local where you can – it should be a great day.

Support and shop local when you can.

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.



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Bookworm

A Windhill Wanderer

Having only recently discovered David Nicholls' books, I find myself completely hooked and this month I'm reviewing two more of them. I'm starting with *One Day*, a 2009 masterclass in contemporary romance that effortlessly avoids clichés. The novel follows Emma Morley and Dexter Mayhew, catching up with them, snapshot style, on the same date (15 July) across two decades, starting from their university graduation in 1988.

This ingenious structural device allows readers to witness the messy, realistic trajectory of adulthood, capturing how friendship can quietly evolve into something much deeper. The brilliance of the book lies in its bittersweet contrast of characters. Emma is witty, fiercely intelligent, insecure, and politically-minded, struggling through unfulfilling jobs before finding her footing.

Dexter is her polar opposite: a privileged, charming, and effortlessly handsome golden boy who cruises into early television success, only to face a harsh descent when youth fades. Nicholls charts their shifting dynamics with immense empathy, charting how they serve as each other's anchor through grief, failed marriages, career pivots, and personal growth.

Nicholls' writing is remarkably sharp, balancing laugh-out-loud British humour with a profound undercurrent of melancholy. He perfectly captures the nostalgic pop-culture feel of the nineties making Emma's and Dexter's worlds feel intensely alive (and guaranteed to bring back memories for readers of a certain age...). The dialogue crackles with realistic tension, unspoken longing, and a comfort that only exists between people who know each other's flaws entirely.

One Day is not just a "Will they? Won't they?" romance. It is a deeply moving meditation on time, the terrifying speed of ageing, and how one ordinary day can completely alter the course of a lifetime.

The devastating final act leaves an emotional bruising that lingers long after the book is closed, proving that Nicholls understands the fragile nature of human connection better than almost anyone else writing today.

In *Us*, he delivers another emotionally resonant story, trading the youthful yearning of *One Day* for the complex, bittersweet realities of long-term marriage and midlife.

The novel is narrated by Douglas Petersen, a quiet, orderly biochemist whose world is shattered when his artistic wife, Connie, announces that she thinks their three-decade relationship has run its course.

Hoping to rekindle their spark and bond with their disaffected teenage son Albie, who has just finished his A-levels, Douglas insists they still embark on their planned family "grand tour" of Europe's grandest cultural capitals.

What follows is a beautifully constructed, tragicomic road trip through Paris, Amsterdam, Munich, Venice, and Barcelona. Douglas views this journey as a final, desperate scientific experiment to win back his family, documenting his progress with a heartbreakingly earnest blend of spreadsheet efficiency and vulnerability.

Nicholls brilliantly juxtaposes the physical journey across Europe with flashbacks detailing how Douglas and Connie met and fell in love, illustrating how opposites attract but can slowly grind each other down over decades of domestic routine.

The novel thrives on its deeply relatable character studies. Douglas is a wonderfully flawed protagonist: often stubborn, socially awkward, and overly controlling of the world (not the people) around him.

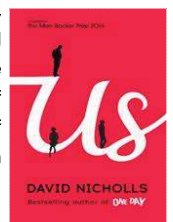
You might think this would make him an unattractive character, but his deep love for his family makes him incredibly sympathetic.

His fraught, tense relationship with Albie provides the book with its truest emotional stakes, capturing the painful, universal struggle of a parent trying to connect with a child who is pulling away.

Us showcases Nicholls' signature wit, blending sharp observational humour with moments of profound marital insight. It is a remarkably mature novel, which explains why it made it to the Booker Prize longlist when it was first published in 2014.

It refuses to offer easy, Hollywood answers to complex family dynamics. Instead, it offers a tender, wise, and ultimately hopeful look at the endurance of love, the necessity of forgiveness, and the difficult art of letting go of the people we cherish most.

Wonderful books – Ed



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Trumpit Money

Mortgages and Bad Credit

While applying for a mortgage can feel like a daunting prospect, it can seem almost impossible for those with a blemish on their credit record. Too often, borrowers assume that a missed payment, a County Court Judgement (CCJ), or a period of financial difficulty automatically rules them out of getting a mortgage. In reality, that's not always the case.

The mortgage market has evolved significantly in recent years. While lenders rightly need confidence that borrowers can afford their repayments, many also recognise that life is rarely straightforward.

Financial mistakes happen. Relationships break down. Businesses fail. Jobs are lost. The pandemic alone disrupted the finances of millions of otherwise responsible people. As a result, many lenders now look beyond the headline credit score and focus on the circumstances behind it.

A credit report tells part of the story, but not always the whole story. The key distinction is often between someone who has experienced a temporary setback and someone who has developed a long-term pattern of financial difficulty.

For example, a missed payment during a period of bereavement, redundancy or divorce is viewed very differently from persistent arrears, heavy overdraft reliance or repeated use of payday loans.

Likewise, a disputed CCJ arising from something as simple as a parking fine may be far less concerning if there is evidence to show the matter is still being challenged. This is why being open about your circumstances is so important when seeking mortgage advice.

Many people feel embarrassed about past financial difficulties and hope they can be overlooked. Unfortunately, that approach often does more harm than good.

Mortgage advisers can only help if they have the full picture from the outset. If important information comes to light later in the process, it can limit the options available or even result in an application being declined.

Being upfront allows an adviser to identify the lenders most likely to view your circumstances favourably. Today, there are numerous specialist lenders, alongside several high street banks, that take a pragmatic and common-sense approach to credit issues. They understand that good people sometimes make mistakes or encounter circumstances beyond their control. The more information your adviser has, the better placed they are to present your case to the lender and secure the right outcome.

Before applying for a mortgage, it is worth obtaining a copy of your credit report. Services such as CheckMyFile, Experian and Equifax allow you to see much of the same information a lender will review. This gives you the opportunity to identify any errors, understand potential concerns and prepare explanations where necessary. It also allows you to tackle issues before they become obstacles. If there are inaccuracies on your file, challenge them. If there are outstanding disputes, gather supporting evidence. The more prepared you are, the stronger your position is likely to be.

There are also practical steps you can take to improve your mortgage prospects. Paying bills on time, reducing outstanding debt, and avoiding reliance on overdrafts are all positive indicators of financial stability. Lenders want to see that you can comfortably manage your commitments and still have room within your budget for a mortgage payment.

Using a credit card responsibly can also work in your favour. Contrary to popular belief, avoiding credit altogether is not always beneficial. Regular use, combined with paying the balance in full each month, can help demonstrate responsible financial behaviour. Payday loans, however, remain a significant red flag for many lenders and should be avoided wherever possible.

If you've experienced financial difficulties in the past, don't assume the door to home ownership has closed. By speaking to an expert mortgage adviser and being upfront about your financial circumstances, you may find your mortgage options are far better than you imagined.

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

What's On

August

The Commercial-free bar snacks Friday to Sunday plus lots going on here in Thackley.

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

The George-1st Sons of Robin (tbc); 2nd Face The Strange 6pm; 8th Flight 19 9pm; 15th Power Trip 9pm; 16th Justew 6.30pm; 22nd Northern Epidemic 9pm; 23rd Charlotte & Jezz 6.30pm; 29th The Band With No Name 9pm; 30th Jerrad 6.30pm

Local band Silence are playing The Brewery Tap, Idle on the 1st & The Corn Dolly 15th.

The Highfield-7th – DJ and Karaoke from 7:30pm; 15th – Band (Fultilt) from 9pm ; 21st – DJ and Karaoke from 7:30pm; 28th – DJ and Karaoke from 7:30pm; 30th – Annual Charity event (Mini-fest) – Martins House Children Hospice – from 1pm till late.

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On this month's archive page there is a reference to a piece in the August edition of 2003 on the origins and value of allotments. Fast forward to today and the emphasis on good food has never been higher. Those of us lucky enough to be able to grow some of our own truly know the difference and August is generally a bountiful month.

Attempting to feed a nation of near 70 million people is another story. Whilst never a true fan of Jeremy Clarkson, his five series on Prime TV - Clarkson's Farm - have been some of the best television out there.

Although able to bankroll his farm, this is a serious story of just how difficult farming really is and how little central government seems to value our farming sector. Catch it if you can.

Back to reality and, after a week in Ibiza, I came back to find my tomato crop suffering from a bad case of bottom rot. Inside the greenhouse I have opted for Giulietta F1, "a high-yielding, large-fruited Italian plum tomato that sets fruit reliably even in cool conditions." I chose this because I like to create and store tomato sauces.

Bottom - or blossom end - rot is, so I discover, caused by irregular watering and/or damaged roots. Having discarded the rotten fruit I am hoping to salvage some level of crop.

On the flip side, the cucumber harvest is astonishing and yet my treatment of both has been broadly the same. Equally promising are the early lifts of Charlotte potatoes with an incomparable taste to shop bought.

At this time of the year, save for housing the tomatoes, cucumbers and chilli plants, the greenhouses are largely redundant. The chilli plants are a real bonus and relatively easy to grow.

Outside, even in August, thoughts turn to the autumn and winter months. This year I have delayed my brassica crops - broccoli and spring greens - choosing to plant now and, hopefully, avoiding the crop bolting, able to grow in the cooler summer months...so the plan goes!

I will also be sowing green manure on several plots to both prepare for the off-season and assist existing crops.

Sweet corn is another that seems to grow effortlessly but does benefit from a sowing of low growing green manures - clovers are a good example. These not only feed the soil and the plants but provide a weed suppressing cover too.

Elsewhere, where the peas have been lifted and, soon, the early crop of Charlottes, I will be sowing more green manure. What you sow here depends on your crop rotation so be careful to choose the crop that will benefit what you intend to sow next year.

Broad and French beans should be flourishing now too and it is often advised to leave these to rot down into the soil as they provide a natural nitrogen fix. By cutting the stem at ground level you get a slow - and free - boost to the soil.

Finally, now is the time to enjoy your harvest so eat well. Have a good month!

Eccleshill Horticultural Society is based on Harrogate Road membership is a modest £3 annually. The society shop now reverts to opening on Saturday mornings only from 10-12 until next March.

Thackley's community gardening swop shop meet at Thackley Cricket Club on the last Sunday in the month until the last one in September. This is an opportunity to come together to swop, sell or buy any surplus plants, seeds, equipment etc.

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MENU

STARTER (v)

Cream of Vegetable Soup



MAIN

Garlic and Herb Chicken Breast,
served with a mediterranean
vegetable sauce,
fondant potato &
seasonal vegetables.



VEGETARIAN OPTION

(to be ordered at time of booking)

Mediterranean Vegetable and Brie Tart,
served with sun blushed
tomato sauce,
fondant potato &
seasonal vegetables.



DESSERT (v)

Sticky Toffee Pudding, served with
toffee sauce and custard



COFFEE & MINTS



Thackley CC



There's Always Something Happening at Thackley Cricket Club!

Thackley Cricket Club is the perfect place to enjoy live sport, great entertainment and a friendly community atmosphere.

We are now showing **Sky Sports and TNT Sports**, bringing you all the biggest sporting events throughout the year. With the new football season fast approaching, you can join us to watch all the big games live on our screens!

Our new pool table is also ready to enjoy, and we will be launching a pool team in September. **New players of all abilities are welcome.**

There is plenty of entertainment coming up too. On **Saturday 1 August**, we welcome the fantastic singer **Sienna Craven** for an evening of live music.

Then, on **Sunday 30 August**, join us for our family fun day featuring live bands, stalls, rides and a rounders tournament. It promises to be a brilliant day for the whole family.

Every Friday night, you can also enjoy either **bingo or our popular quiz night**, including the chance to win big with **Play Your Cards Right**.



Come along, bring your friends and enjoy everything Thackley Cricket Club has to offer!

Upcoming Home games all 12.30 start

Saturday 1st August Thackley 1st XI vs Rodley

Saturday 8th August Thackley 2nd XI vs Harden

Saturday 15th August Thackley 1st XI vs Harden

Saturday 22nd August Thackley 2nd XI vs Horsforth

Saturday 29th August Thackley 1st XI vs Guiseley

Come and support your local team!



{cont'd from page 32}

Thackley AFC Fixtures

Sat 1st August Tadcaster Albion v Thackley KO 3.00pm
Sat 8th August Thackley v Albion Sports KO 3.00pm (FA Cup)
Wed 12th August Thackley v Penistone Church KO 7.45pm
Sat 15th August Thackley v Yarm & Eaglescliffe KO 3.00pm (FA Vase)
Sat 22nd August Retford v Thackley KO 3.00pm
Wed 26th August Thackley v Barton Town KKO 7.45pm
Fri 28th August Handsworth v Thackley KO 7.45pm
Sat 5th September Thackley v Campion KO 3.00pm

Thackley AFC Women's Pre-season Fixtures

Sun 2nd August Thackley v Leeds United Reserves KO 2.00pm
Sun 9th August Thackley v Huddersfield Town Development KO 2.00pm
Sun 16th August Thackley v Wyke Wanderers KO 2.00pm

A new season also brings another chance to play in the national cup competitions, the FA Cup and the FA Vase. Thackley have a dismal record in the FA Cup having only survived the first stage of the competition once in the last ten years.

This season they have been given a home tie against fellow Bradfordians, Albion Sports. So, a 'Bradford Derby' to start this season's journey and a tie which produces a clash between the Basi brothers, Kamron and Aran.

The former is a main stay of the Thackley defence, whilst Aran plays a similar role in Albion's back line. Cousin Ryan Basi also plays for Albion which makes the game on the 8th August a real family affair.

The winners of the tie face a trip to Ellesmere Port to take on Vauxhall Motors two weeks later. In the FA Vase Thackley have the benefit of another home tie, this against Northern League side Yarm and Eaglescliffe.

Formed just nine years ago (2017) they ground share with Billingham Town and won promotion to the first division at the end of last season. The game is scheduled for Saturday 15th August, the winners will be at home to either Steeton or Kendal Town.

Thackley have increased their admission prices for the 2026/2027 season. A £1 increase on the adult ticket (from £7 to £8). They want to keep football affordable at Dennyfield despite the significant and ever-increasing costs they are facing each year across the board.

Like many community clubs, Thackley try to absorb the rising expenses across almost every area but it is not an easy task.

Even with this small adjustment, the club is forecasting an overall loss for the coming season. However, they remain committed to ensuring that football at Thackley stays accessible and community-driven. Dennyfield should continue to be a place for everyone to come together, enjoy football, and support their local club.

For those wanting the most affordable way to follow Thackley while directly supporting the club, the 100 Club remains the best option. For £120, members receive: a season ticket, 10% discount at the bar and entry into a monthly cash prize draw, with three prizes every month.

The 100 Club offers exceptional value and is one of the most important ways supporters can help secure the long-term sustainability of the club. For more information, email david.stott@thackleyafc.co.uk or follow Thackley AFC on social media for regular updates.

THACKLEY AFC SEASON TICKET PRICES 2026/2027

		SEASON	PRICE PER GAME
	ADULT	£99	£8
	CONCESSIONS	£60	£5
	UNDER 16S	FREE	FREE

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

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

*** U16s are free when accompanied by a paying adult

✉ E: steve.paley@thackley-afc.co.uk

☎ T: 01274 615571



THACKLEY AFC

A VIEW FROM MUPPET HILL



I cannot write a football column without mentioning what has been happening over the last four weeks or so, when football fever has not just gripped our nation but the whole world.

England were expected to do well after appointing a new manager in the hope he could make a difference and England World Champions. What looked like an easy passage into the knock out stage of the competition, turned out to be a little more difficult than expected.

England then squeezed through the three knock out games by the odd goal, relying on their two strikers to score goals from the limited chances.

So, the chance to meet their old adversaries Argentina in the semi-final and progress to their first final for sixty years.

The bookies somehow made England favourites to do just that; however, this is England and they never really seem to turn up in these sorts of games.

Although going a goal ahead early in the second half, they decided to self-destruct, conceding two very late goals to a team that, although their on-field actions left a lot to be desired, were the best team on the night.

A rather low-key playoff game for a bronze medal awaited and this turned out to be the best game of the whole competition. England beating France in a ten-goal thriller, a game fit for a World Cup final.

Saturday the 25th July brings the start of another season for Thackley and supporters will be looking to fair somewhat better than the last. Their pre-season has shown some promising results, with wins against Harrogate Railway and Wombwell Town.

Most of last season's players have been retained and with those recruited, manager, Jamie Price is more than happy with his squad for the season ahead.

Whilst friendlies give the opportunity to try new players and strategies, it is only when the competitive games start, that the success of these preparations can be assessed.

Thackley open the season with two home games, Knaresborough Town on the 25th July and Horbury Town on the following Wednesday night. Their first away game is at Tadcaster Albion on the 1st August.

At the time of writing, and with less than a week to the start of the season, these are the only league fixtures that have been scheduled.



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