

CHAMBER CHAT

President: Derek Hufton Vice president: Barbara Hill

July-August 2025

This Issue

- 1 From the President
- 2 Member News
- 3 Aldborough &Boroughbridge Show
- 4 Race Night
- 5 Recent Town Centre Business Changes
- 6 Snippets

1. From the President

A fairly modest edition of Chamber Chat this month as things always seem a bit quieter during the peak summer holiday months. Having said that, we are pleased to welcome a new member and report on our participation at the excellent Aldborough & Boroughbridge Show. The kids will be back to school before we know it and we will then be looking forward to the annual Chamber Race Night in September – always a very enjoyable and fun event.

We are also looking to arrange a further business networking meeting in October before all eyes turn to the Late-night Christmas Shopping event which this year will be on Wednesday 3rd December. As usual there will be a 'Best Dressed Window' competition with the theme this year being 'Winter Wonderland' which should provide a broad canvas for participants to exercise their creativity. Finally, there have been quite a few changes in the Town Centre in recent weeks and these are noted in item 5 below.

2. Member News

We are delighted to welcome **Kitchen Room Yorkshire** to the Chamber family, located at 33 Fishergate right on the corner with Horsefair. The premises are currently unoccupied as the business has not yet taken up residence. Main contact is Samantha Arsoska on 07983784970 and email samantha@thekitchenroom.co.uk. The business is very new with the website currently under construction, but the site address will be www.thekitchenroomyorkshire.co.uk when fully operational.

3. Aldborough & Boroughbridge Show

2025 marked the 110th anniversary of the Aldborough & Boroughbridge Agricultural Show which duly took place at Newby Hall on **Sunday 27th July.** The weather was overcast but pleasant enough and most importantly it was dry, which attracted a good number of visitors with so much to see and do on the day.



There were plenty of Trade Stands and exhibitors too including Chamber members Spear Travels and Fink. Several members also sponsored the show including Boroughbridge Vets, KM & G Farrer, GSC Grays – and of course, the Chamber itself. Merit Estates and Hethertons Solicitors had prominent adverts in the Show Programme.



Huge thanks go to Chamber Committee member Fiona Pratley for taking the lead in putting together the excellent Chamber of Trade display which was staffed during the day by Fiona, Barbara Hill, Marcus Boardall and Derek Hufton. Fiona and Marcus can be seen in front of the Gazebo display at top right with part of the inside display shown at right. We had



a few visitors to our stand during the day which included a couple of enquiries about Chamber membership.

The Chamber has historically presented two Cups for specific Show



Category Winners. At left Chamber President Derek Hufton presenting Cup for "Best Handicrafts" to Laura Clifford, and at right Chamber Treasurer Marcus Boardall presents the winner's Cup for "Most



Points Section 3 – Fruit & Vegetables" to Ron Smith from Marton le Moor. Ron is turning out to be something of a serial winner of this trophy. Well done to both recipients.

4. Race Night



The next Chamber Race Night will be on **Saturday 13**th **September** at the Crown Hotel, Boroughbridge. This hugely popular event will have a similar format to previous years, with plenty of races on which to have a flutter, a two-course meal included in the ticket price, the usual bar, and a great atmosphere guaranteed. Chief organiser Barbara Hill will be looking for horse

sponsors again (at £40 per horse) over the coming weeks. A number of businesses have already pledged their support but there are still horses remaining looking for benevolent owners — so please be generous in supporting the event — with profits going towards funding the Town's Christmas Lights. Contact Barbara on 01423-313303 to secure your nag!

It is also worth a reminder that the final race of the evening is a Charity Race, which last year raised a welcome donation for the Community Library & Resource Centre. This year's recipient Charity is yet to be confirmed.

Tickets at £15.00 each (including 2-course meal) will shortly be available from Barbara at Cabello (313303) and from Sue at Issima (325979).

5. Recent Town Centre Business Changes

There have been a number of business changes in the Town Centre in recent weeks, summarised here:

Winearray has been a stalwart of the High Street and also a valued Chamber member for a number of years under the ownership of Nick Chadwick. We understand that Nick has now retired and we wish him well in his new venture! It's sad to see Winearray disappear; it will be replaced by a Barbers Shop.

From the beginning of August **Plenty** at the top of the High Street (4 St James Square) will be under new ownership. We look forward to their continued trading as part of our business community.

At the time of writing, the unit at **10 Fishergate** is being fitted out to welcome its new occupant. We don't have the full details at this stage but we understand it will be the base for a Professional Services business.

The former **Williamsons Estate Agency** office at 18 St James Square is currently undergoing a makeover and is available for Let, but as yet we have no further details.

6. Snippets

You may be interested to know that there are currently two **local roundabout sponsorship** opportunities available should anyone be so inclined. These are on the A168/B6265 – Leeming Lane Roundabout and also the A6055 – Aldborough Gate/Main Street Roundabout. If you're interested and would like more details of costs and signage please contact Lisa Bentley on 07780-009063 who manages the scheme on behalf of Boroughbridge Town Council.

And finally, the **Ship Inn** at Aldborough re-opened for business on 25th July. The business has suffered some troubled times over the past couple of years so we wish it every success this time around.

... and keep up to date with the Chamber

News Items are regularly posted to the Chamber website (www.boroughbridgect.co.uk) and we post on Facebook (@BoroughbridgeCT) too.

Make sure you follow and check out these channels for regular updates, useful alerts and information. **Footnote:** Please note that the various blue email and website links in this document are not live links – i.e. you cannot click on them. To use them simply copy the text and paste into your browser or email client.