

SKIPTON BID NEWS

Issue 5 | April 2018

KEEPING YOU IN TOUCH WITH YOUR BID



Follow us on Twitter [@SkiptonBID](#) and via Facebook [@SkiptonBID](#), or take a look at our website [www.skiptonbid.com](#) which is updated regularly with our latest news and blog.

Even more of you are now receiving this newsletter by email, which is a great cost saving for us. If you are still receiving a printed version but would prefer it electronically, then please get in touch: info@skiptonbid.com or call **01756 799033**.

SKIPTON BID FOCUS GROUP

Thursday 26 April from 6pm will be hosted in the Skipton Town Council conference room which is on the first floor of Skipton Town Hall.

All BID Levy paying businesses are invited to attend. Help shape the BID's Third Term!

RSVP to info@skiptonbid.com to confirm numbers as refreshments will be provided.



We'd love to hear your stories about how Skipton BID has benefitted your business. Please email info@skiptonbid.com to share your news.

The next edition of Skipton BID News will be published in May 2018.



SKIPTON
BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Focus Group

April 26th – 6pm start – Skipton Town Hall.

Do not miss this opportunity to give us your feedback and ideas – vital now the ballot date has been set for January 2019.

Le Tour de Yorkshire

May 3rd – 6th

Catch the action on Skipton's award winning High Street, as the peloton passes through on the morning of Sunday May 6th.

Skipton Waterway Festival

May 5th – 7th

A free festival for all the family funded by Skipton BID which, this year, celebrates the bi-centenary of Skipton's historic canal heritage and for one year only coincides with Le Tour de Yorkshire.

Skipton Sheep Day

July 1st

Flock to the high street for this free event which celebrates Skipton's 'sheep town' heritage.

Skipton Cycle Races

July 11th

For the fourth year running Skipton town centre will be closed to become a 1km closed road cycle racing circuit. Races for children, teenagers and some of the best riders in the UK will ensure another great crowd-puller for the town centre. Junior fun races start at 6pm followed by the Youth Racing and finishing with the Elite race.

Skipton BID Annual General Meeting

September 18th

This will once again be held at Alexander's Bar and Kitchen. All BID businesses welcome from 6pm.

Santa Fun Run & Skipton Christmas Lights Switch On

November 25th

The Christmas fun doubles as Skipton Rotary Club's epic Santa Fun Run which last year saw nearly 2000 'Santas' running a course around the town centre, is brought together with the BID funded Christmas Lights Switch On.

The Ballot

January 2019

Unless you vote and say YES in the ballot, Skipton will lose the BID and all the events and initiatives it brings to the town.

www.welcometoskipton.com lists many of the other events taking place in Skipton throughout the year. Please email info@skiptonbid.com if you would like to add your business's event to the website.

HELP SHAPE SKIPTON BID'S THIRD TERM

With the ballot date now set for January 2019, it is more important than ever that you give us your feedback so that the business plans we put in place for this year and beyond – should we win that vital third term – reflect what you believe Skipton needs.

We have quite a gathering for our Focus Group evening, don't miss out on the opportunity to have your say! This will be an informal event, with members of the Skipton BID board available for you to talk to over complimentary cheese and wine.

Showing their strong support for Skipton BID, Skipton Town Council and Craven District Council will also be represented. Skipton Police will be in attendance too.

Jackie Mulligan from ShopAppy will be with us to chat about this fantastic online opportunity for you to expand your customer base. Join the many Skipton businesses already signed up!

The BID's third term business plan is taking shape, help us to help you, tell us:

- **Visit Skipton**
How we can strengthen the brand and encourage even more people to visit our wonderful town
- **Environment**
How we can further improve and enhance the aesthetic appeal of Skipton
- **Business support**
What measures we can introduce to further support your business.

Please email info@skiptonbid.com or call **01756 799033** to confirm your attendance.

CCTV

Following a successful meeting between the Police and Crime Commissioner, Julia Mulligan, and Skipton BID's Manager, Geraldine Thompson, we've been invited to join the North Yorkshire CCTV Forum, which is looking at CCTV provision throughout our fair county.

The roll out of CCTV in Skipton has commenced, the BID Board aims to start the installation in the next couple of months, once we've cut through some red tape and ironed out the practical issues.

BEST BAR NONE & SKIPTON BUSINESS AWARDS

Congratulations to all the businesses collecting an award at this year's Skipton Business Awards.

Lesley Tate wrote a 'Glittering' review in the Craven Herald issue 29th March, and more information is available via www.skiptonbusinessawards.co.uk

Next year's award night is planned for Thursday 25th April – save the date – and keep an eye on the Skipton Business Awards' website later in the year to enter your business.

Skipton BID sponsored the Best Bar None award, a new category, which was awarded to the Venue Sports & Music Bar, collected by Steven Freakes and Leah Pompey.

For those that haven't heard of this award before, Best Bar None (BBN) is a National Award Scheme supported by the Home Office and the drinks industry. It is mainly aimed at promoting responsible management and operation of alcohol licensed premises.

First established in Manchester in 2003, the initiative has improved standards in the evening and night time economy by rewarding excellence via audits and awards. It is now a highly competitive achievement. Skipton has become one of the 75 towns and cities across the UK taking part.

Skipton has a wide range of licensed venues all of which have something special to offer whether it's a great selection of spirits, real ales, good food, beautiful accommodation, roaring fires, beer gardens... you name it, Skipton's got it. As the BID, we want all of these businesses to thrive and so we're encouraging more to participate in Best Bar None. Here are some of the benefits to our town by taking part:

- Reduce alcohol related crime and disorder
- To build a positive relationship between licensed trade, police and local authorities
- To improve knowledge and skills of enforcement and regulation agencies, licensees and bar staff to help them responsibly manage licensed premises
- Process of becoming recognised by BBN includes meeting minimum standards and culminates with a high profile award night with category winners and an overall winner
- Responsible owners are recognised and able to share good practice with others
- Highlight how operating more responsibly can improve the profitability of an individual business and attractiveness of a general area

V. SQ the Gin Bar in Victoria Square owned by Lorraine Forshaw, and The Albion Inn on Otley Street run by Sera and Andrew Brook, have also achieved the 2017/2018 BBN accreditation. If you are a licensee in Skipton and would like to know how Skipton BID can help you achieve this accreditation, and therefore enter next year's Skipton Business Awards, please get in touch with us.



SKIPTON SPOTLIGHT

Skipton Spotlight this month is shining on Zoe Venn – Director and Organiser of the Skipton Waterway Festival. You may know Zoe as Ian and Pamela Clarke's daughter, as the family own and run Pennine Cruisers of Skipton and the Boat House Bar. This section is dedicated to featuring different business people and stakeholders from the town.

Qu 1: Why is Skipton Waterway Festival so important to the town?

"Personally I feel the Festival is so important to Skipton as it is one of the few long standing events within the town (this year will be the 17th year), it's early in the year so really kicks off the festival / event season, it promotes an area of the town that can get overlooked by tourists as well as our local community, and it also celebrates the fact that Skipton has a beautiful canal running right through the heart of the town. It brings lots of people into the town from general tourists to the dozens of boats visiting specially for the Festival. The good thing is that they then also tend to stick around for a couple of weeks too!"

Qu 2: How important has Skipton BID been in enabling this event to happen?

"I am not exaggerating at all when I say that without Skipton BID the waterway festival would not happen. They've shown us massive support since they formed and for that we are extremely grateful. The BID are our main financial support, although other groups are happy to offer physical help if they can't offer funds. The support from the BID lets us organise the festival knowing the main overheads required to run a safe and successful event are covered."

Qu 3: What's your favourite way to spend your weekend in Skipton?

"I spend pretty much every weekend in Skipton. I am 33 years old, I was born here and I love it, I would not live anywhere else. Skipton is a great place to live! Having a family with young children means I don't get much time to explore / socialise however my husband and I love to take walks down into the town with our children, pop into one of the local cafes / restaurants for a drink or bite to eat, take a walk up to the Castle Woods or along the canal to feed the ducks, often calling at one of the local butchers or the market stalls along the way to pick up some local produce before heading home again. This weekend we attended the Easter Trail in Skipton Castle Woods, it was a lovely little walk and we saw lots of local families enjoying the woodland."



Photo credit: Judy Probst

BCRP - BUSINESS CRIME REDUCTION PARTNERSHIP



BCRP membership is growing, but petty crime and anti-social behaviour is still an issue in Skipton. Together we can make a difference. Do you know what the Business Crime Reduction Partnership (BCRP) is?

This free business support tool is available to all BID businesses and provides information about known criminals and problem individuals, as well as alerts such as covering things like forged currency warnings.

It also offers a free radio link up with the Skipton town ambassadors and other businesses – helping you to quickly access the information you need to protect your

staff and your stock. Skipton Police also link to this radio system, though BCRP members still need to dial **101** or **999** as appropriate.

Unless your business signs up to become a member of BCRP you will not be able to gain access to the website information and radios.

Please email bcrp@skiptonbid.com or phone **01756 799033** for more information or to apply to join the scheme.

Remember: It is all free to BID businesses. You have nothing to lose ...except maybe your stock!