# Ripon BID

*Funded by the Ripon city region businesses*

# NOVEMBER 2025 NEWSLETTER

## Annual Review 2024/2025: A Celebration of Progress, Partnerships and Plans for the Future

The Annual Review took place on the 27th October at the Ripon Inn and provided a fantastic opportunity to celebrate how far Ripon BID has come – and how much has been achieved together. A key theme of the evening was the power of partnership. Ripon BID has built strong relationships with North Yorkshire Council, Visit North Yorkshire, Ripon City Council, Ripon Together, and the York & North Yorkshire Combined Authority, among others. These collaborations have secured over £180,000 in additional investment for Ripon, helping to fund projects such as the Spa Gardens lighting scheme and new wayfinding signage.

*"Over the past four and a half years, our levy payers have invested in a wide range of initiatives that have made Ripon more vibrant, welcoming and resilient," said Lilla Bathurst, Manager of Ripon BID. "From seasonal trails and entertainment to floral displays, street cleaning and digital training, the BID has consistently delivered projects that benefit both businesses and the wider community."*

The BID's support for local events was also highlighted, with impressive growth in footfall and ticket sales at the Ripon Theatre Festival, and continued success for initiatives like the Halloween Trails and Super Summer Saturdays.

*"These events don't just bring joy – they draw people into Ripon, encourage local spending, and showcase everything our city has to offer,"* Lilla added.

Looking ahead, Ripon BID has ambitious plans for the coming year. New projects include a paper-based Heritage Trail, an Augmented Reality Alice in Wonderland Trail, additional premises improvement grants, and professional photography for local businesses. The BID will also continue to lobby for a banking hub, support late-night shopping, and work with partners to secure High Street funding. Innovative ideas are also in the pipeline – such as transforming a Market Square phone box into an information point, blending Ripon's heritage with forward-thinking community solutions.

*"As we prepare for our New Term Ballot in February, we're asking businesses to vote YES to continue this momentum," said Lilla. "With your support, we can keep delivering the projects and programmes that matter most – ensuring Ripon remains a dynamic, thriving city for residents, visitors, and businesses alike."*

Access the Annual Review 2024-2025 Presentation here **visitripon.co.uk/bid-news/ripon-bid-annual-review**

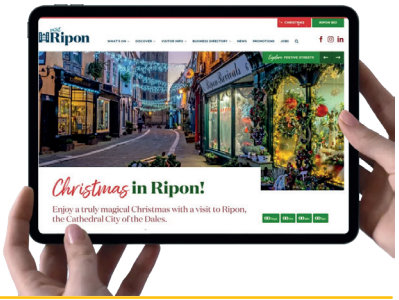
## The Ripon BID Christmas Events Guide 2025 Is Out Now!

The Ripon at Christmas events guide to the festive season is out now! Have you received your copy yet? You can pick up additional brochures from our office (Number 8 Westgate)to share with customers and visitors. This year marks the 4th edition of our Christmas in Ripon brochure, proudly produced by Ripon BID. We've expanded our distribution to reach 33,000 households — not only across Ripon and nearby villages, but also along the 36-bus route into Killinghall, up into Thirsk and new for 2025, into Northallerton. Our footfall data shows a growing number of visitors from DL postcodes and we're excited to use this opportunity to welcome even more people from that area into Ripon this festive season.

A huge thank-you to all the businesses who advertised in this year's guide — your support has made this wider distribution possible without increasing costs.

Let's make this Christmas in Ripon our most magical yet!

## Christmas Webpage – We Want your Menus!




Our Christmas page is now LIVE! Check it out here: **visitripon.co.uk/christmas**

The page includes our wonderful Christmas video showcasing Ripon's seasonal offerings – please let us know if you would like a copy of the video for your website or social media channels. All our videos can be found on our YouTube channel @VisitRipon. The webpage features Christmas Offers and News. We also have a section for Christmas Food Menus – please do send us a pdf of your Christmas menu so we can add it to the site email: info@riponbid.co.uk

**Go to visitripon.substack.com to sign up to our visitor newsletter which contains news, events and more!**

Don't forget to follow us: **@visitripon @RiponBID** **@visitriponyorkshire** **Ripon BID**

## Late Night Shopping Returns on 27th November

This is your final opportunity to let us know if your business will be opening late, offering special promotion or hosting something unique for the event. Why not consider offering "bounce-back" vouchers to encourage customers to return and shop with you again? Email us at info@riponbid.co.uk so we can showcase your business on Visit Ripon and across our social media channels. To kick off the evening with festive cheer, the AFO Choir will be performing on the Square from 5pm.

Make sure your business is part of this special night!

YORK & NORTH YORKSHIRE COMBINED AUTHORITY | DAVID SKAITH MAYOR

## Ripon's Magical Christmas Markets

Don't forget Ripon's Magical Artisan Christmas Market is coming to Ripon Market Square on:
**Friday 21st & Saturday 22nd November: 2pm – 8pm**
**Sunday 23rd November: 10am – 3pm**

Entry is free and everyone is welcome to soak up the festive atmosphere! Why not use the magic of the Christmas Market to your advantage? Share it on your social media to invite visitors to shop, eat, or drink at your business while enjoying the market delights.

Supported by David Skaith, Mayor of York and North Yorkshire, and part-funded by York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority.

## Spooktacular Success – Spooky Window Competition & Pumpkin Patch!

What a busy October we've had here in Ripon. This year's Spooky Ripon Window Competition was a hit, attracting over 300 entries! Congratulations to The Hair Lounge on Kirkgate, crowned the winner by public vote. As an extra treat, we also selected a member of the public to receive a voucher from a BID business of their choice. Our pop-up Pumpkin Patch in the Market Square drew over 1,000 visitors across the two-day event. Families and friends enjoyed the Halloween trail before choosing their very own pumpkins. We were also featured on BBC Look North television, showcasing interviews with both BID businesses and members of the public, putting Ripon firmly on the map!

All in all, a truly spooktacular success with fantastic footfall figures - thank you to everyone who joined in the fun!

## New Resources to Support Awareness of Martyn's Law

The Home Office has released additional materials to help organisations understand and comply with The Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Act 2025, commonly known as 'Martyn's Law'. These resources build on existing government factsheets and information available on the ProtectUK website. A concise one-page leaflet explains the Act's scope, key requirements, and the roles of the responsible person and regulator, while a myth buster addresses common misconceptions, discourages the use of third-party providers and encourages organisations to put effective protective security measures in place.

Find out more and access the new resources here: **protectuk.police.uk/martyns-law**

## North Yorkshire Suicide Prevention Training

Thanks to funding from the Peter Sowerby Foundation and North Yorkshire Council, PAPYRUS is offering fully funded suicide prevention training in North Yorkshire. There are three courses available to suit different needs. SPOT – Suicide Prevention Overview Tutorial is a 90-minute session covering what everyone needs to know about suicide prevention. SPEAK – Suicide Prevention Explore, Ask, Keep-Safe is a 3.5-hour introduction to practical suicide prevention skills. ASIST – Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training is a two-day workshop that equips caregivers with the skills to provide suicide first aid interventions.

PAPYRUS
PREVENTION OF YOUNG SUICIDE

Find the right course for you and book your place here: North Yorkshire Training Sessions **tinyurl.com/43kfuzdv**

## Support for staff impacted by Menopause

Menopause touches nearly every workplace, whether directly experienced by staff or felt through family, friends, or colleagues. It affects people in different ways and inclusive workplaces should reflect that, advises the Leeds Mindful Employer Network. The network has developed a new resource that goes beyond raising awareness, offering practical and respectful ways to support colleagues through policy, conversation and workplace culture. The resource can be accessed here **tinyurl.com/2svbwwh9**

**Go to visitripon.substack.com to sign up to our visitor newsletter which contains news, events and more!**

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