Ripon BID

Funded by the Ripon city region businesses

SEPTEMBER 2025 NEWSLETTER

Halloween Window Competition

This October half term, we're bringing some spooky spirit to Ripon!

Grab your pumpkin carving tools, fake cobwebs and ghostly décor, then transform your shopfront into a Halloween masterpiece.

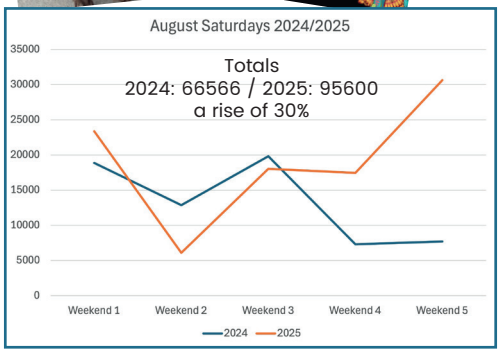
Want to take part? Simply let us know and we'll provide you with a poster featuring a QR code so the public can vote for their favourite display.

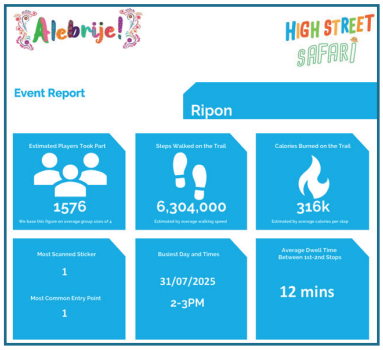
The window with the most votes will be crowned the winner - and the prize? A full-page advert in Review Ripon to showcase your business in style. Those voters will be in with a chance of winning vouchers to fabulous Ripon businesses too.

Summer Successes! - Events report

Our Ripon BID Summer Trail returned this year with an exciting twist!

During the July and August school holidays, families were invited to explore the city and track down a family of magical augmented reality and 2D Alebrije creatures. This free, family-friendly trail was designed to encourage exploration of Ripon and it certainly delivered with 1,576 players taking part, walking an estimated 6,304,000 steps across the city!





As part of our wider summer offering, Super Summer Saturdays also proved hugely popular. Each Saturday saw around 100 children, accompanied by adults, enjoying the activities.

Even more encouragingly, 80% of attendees said they had already spent or planned to spend money in Ripon businesses that day. Building on this success, Ripon BID is already looking at ways to make these events even bigger and better next year.

Ripon BID Achievements & Have Your Say!

Partnership and collaboration is at the heart of Ripon BID. We've proudly supported our local businesses and partners - letting everyone know how great Ripon is and what we have to offer, making sure we look good, keeping everyone informed, boosting city safety, and unlocking vital grants and funding. The challenges may persist, but so does our strength, spirit, and commitment to our community's success. We've learned that shaping the future together ensures everyone's needs are heard. Ripon BID is here to represent your voice and your ambitions. Please take a moment to read this update and to share your views by completing our survey – both available via the links below :

www.visitripon.co.uk/bid-news/ripon-bid-acheivements-newsletter

www.surveymonkey.com/r/RiponBIDSurvey2025

Christmas Brochure Advertising Opportunity – Last Call!

Ripon BID will again be producing the Christmas in Ripon brochure for the 4th year running.

This year the brochure will be distributed to 36,000 households and businesses in the Ripon and surrounding areas including the 36 bus route and into Killinghall, Ripon and surrounding villages, Thirsk and new for this year Northallerton.

The aim of the brochure is to encourage as many visitors to Ripon as possible and support all BID businesses during what we hope will be a busy festive trading period.

Any BID businesses wishing to secure a paid for advertising space within the brochure can contact manager@riponbid.co.uk for more details.

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**

Ripon's Magical Artisan Christmas Market Set to Sparkle This November

This November, Ripon will burst into festive life as a brand new 3-day Magical Artisan Christmas Market transforms the city's historic Market Square into a winter wonderland filled with music, sparkling entertainment, food, and unique gifts. Brought to life by Ripon BID, Visit Ripon and Little Bird Artisan Markets, the market promises a joyful celebration of community spirit, local creativity, and seasonal cheer. Over three days, visitors will discover a hand-picked selection of artisan stalls featuring local makers, bakers, artists, and craftspeople all housed in traditional wooden huts. From unique handcrafted gifts to mouth-watering festive treats, the market will be a treasure trove of Christmas delights — perfect for ticking off your seasonal shopping list while supporting small and independent businesses.

The festivities won't stop at shopping. A full programme of live entertainment will create a truly "Ripon" Christmas feel, with cheeky elves, a magical Father Christmas and the amazing Calvos street entertainers (see video here: vimeo.com/291701604). Families can look forward to a magical experience, and food lovers can indulge in a range of seasonal bites and warming winter drinks.

The market is designed to boost footfall in Ripon, encourage residents and visitors alike to "shop local," and give small businesses a golden opportunity to shine during one of the most important trading periods of the year.

"We want to showcase the incredible talent and creativity of our local makers and create an unmissable event that brings people together," says Lilla Bathurst, Manager of Ripon BID. "It's about celebrating what makes Ripon unique - our independent businesses, our community spirit, and our beautiful city centre."

Little Bird Artisan Markets, already known for attracting crowds with their vibrant, high-quality events, will bring their expertise to deliver a market experience full of charm and atmosphere. The market is also set to have a positive impact beyond the weekend itself, with local hospitality venues, shops, and attractions set to benefit from increased visitors and longer dwell times.

"This is more than just a market - it's an opportunity for Ripon to shine and for visitors to fall in love with our city," says Jackie Crozier of Little Bird Artisan Markets.

The Ripon Magical Artisan Christmas Market will run on Friday 21st and Saturday 22nd November from 2pm-8pm and on Sunday 23rd November 10am-3pm in Ripon Market Square. Entry is free, and everyone is welcome.

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

New business networking group for Ripon Women in Business! - Coffee, conversation & connection

Join the relaxed monthly get-together at Café in the Park, Ripon. This isn't your typical networking event - no formal speeches, no pitches, and no pressure. Just women in business meeting over coffee to share stories, swap ideas, and enjoy good conversation.

Where: Café in the Park, Ripon

When: Last Tuesday of every month, 9am

Who's it for?

- Women who own or run a business
- Freelancers and side-hustlers
- Women exploring the idea of starting a business

Why come along?

- Build connections in a warm, welcoming environment
- Share your experiences and hear from others
- Find encouragement, support, and maybe even a new friend

Bring yourself, grab a coffee, and join in for a morning of connection and conversation.

Follow on Facebook here: facebook.com/groups/2152067335300488/

FREE Online Courses Available this Autumn

Explore the links below for more information on free online training courses available this September, covering Counselling Skills, Mental Health First Aid, and Understanding Autism.

www.wefindanylearner.com/counselling-skills-level-2

www.wefindanylearner.com/mental-health-first-aid-level-2

www.wefindanylearner.com/understanding-autism

Backing Your Business – from UK Gov

The government's plan aims to support small and medium-sized businesses by simplifying access to advice and finance, improving payment practices, reducing regulations, boosting skills development, and revitalizing local economies. This comprehensive approach is designed to help SMEs grow, innovate, and thrive across the UK. Click below for more details :

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/688b8e8ed8da16bcb8469562/backing-your-business-one-page-summary.pdf

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

Ripon BID Contact Details:
info@riponbid.co.uk · 01765 530 910 · **www.riponbid.co.uk**

Printed on 100% recyclable FSC certified paper
Designed & Printed in Ripon by Colour It In