

# PLUSH

HARROGATE / WETHERBY / KNARESBOROUGH / RIPON



## *Street Style*

THE LOOKS WE LOVE  
THIS MONTH

## *Tried & Tested*

A NEW KUNG FU  
CLASS FOR  
HARROGATE

## *Food Review*

WE GO ITALIAN AT  
JAKE'S

# THE LOVE ISSUE

OUR VALENTINE'S DAY  
ROUNDUP FOR SINGLES  
AND COUPLES

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**H**appy Valentine's, dear readers. We've dedicated this issue to all the great events, date options and presents for couples, including the odd idea for singles, too. From cake clubs, to engagement rings, to heart-shaped cheese (my personal favourite) there's all sorts included in our romantic roundup, starting on page 10.

And because there's more to February than the 14th, we've also got a special feature focussing on the businesses on Parliament Street, a Chef's Special with a difference from the folk at Carriages in Knaresborough and a food review at Italian-inspired Harrogate restaurant, Jake's.

We're determined to keep our new year fitness promises, so we sent writer, Gina Reay to try out a high kicking option at Harrogate's newly reopened National Centre for Combat Martial Arts - much more fun than slogging it out on a treadmill (page 22).

Next month sees the return of our highly popular bi-annual Wedding Issue. Expect tips from the experts on planning your wedding, a rundown of the best dress styles this season and plentiful venue, theme and food ideas to make sure your big day goes off with a bang!

See you in March,

Ali Schofield, editor

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Writer Mark Fletcher's review of the Belgian capital makes me want to book a flight immediately

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# A Cut Above

Stephen Teggin offers quality, modern men's hairdressing in Knaresborough



**G**ents' hairdresser Stephen Teggin recently opened his salon in Knaresborough and this month the skilled barber welcomes new assistants to his team and a wealth of excellent opening offers.

For those who haven't heard, Steve has had a long connection with Knaresborough going back as far as 1971 when, as a teenager, he introduced Gentlemen's Hairdressing to the town as an alternative to the traditional barbers shops. Having provided a wide range of services including the latest

cuts and styles at that time Steve went on to open in Northallerton and later Harrogate running both salons, with an emphasis on quality service aimed at the modern youth.

Steve operates an appointment system to ensure every client is seen immediately and looks to further ensure this level of quality service with the introduction of his new staff - watch this space for details of reader offers. In the meantime call 01423 862 233 to book an appointment.

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# Buon Appetito!

Harrogate restaurant, Joe Rigatoni launches new offers



**W**ith so many restaurants and cafes to choose from, it can be hard to find one that caters for the little ones in your life.

This month, Italian Restaurant and Pizzeria, Joe Rigatoni on Ripon Road, is launching a kids under 12 eat free deal,

perfect for the half term holidays - check their website for terms and conditions.

They also serve an Early Bird menu between 5pm and 7pm. Guests choose two courses from the set menu for £12.50 or three for £14.95 (can be starter and main or main and desert.) Their crusty Italian bruschetta followed by grilled sea bass on a bed of mash and spinach topped with a drizzle of white wine butter sauce sounds delicious!

With the 14th of February fast approaching, if you haven't already booked a table for a cosy evening with your loved one, Joe Rigatoni are still taking bookings. To book call 01423 500 071 or visit their website on [www.joerigatoni.com](http://www.joerigatoni.com) for a full food and wine list.

3 Ripon Road, HG1 2SX, 01423 500 071, [www.joerigatoni.com](http://www.joerigatoni.com)

# Will & Vic's Wine Tastings

The restaurant offers expert tuition for team building groups and private parties, alike



**A** Harrogate restaurant has come up with a very agreeable team building exercise. William & Victoria hosted its first wine tasting session with women's social networking group, HarrogateBLaH in December. The experience, which costs around £25 per person, includes six glasses of wine, alongside canapés and small plates, with expert tuition by Alex Bussey from local company Bon Coeur Fine Wines. The Cold Bath

Road eatery also plans to host public Call My Bluff evenings in the near future, and can even offer private parties a lavish seven course tasting menu with paired wines. Price options vary, co-owner David Straker can discuss bespoke wine tastings on 01423 506 883 or via email [enquiries@williamandvictoria.com](mailto:enquiries@williamandvictoria.com). Team building and not a trust exercise in sight!

6 Cold Bath Road, Harrogate, HG2 0NA, 01423 521 510



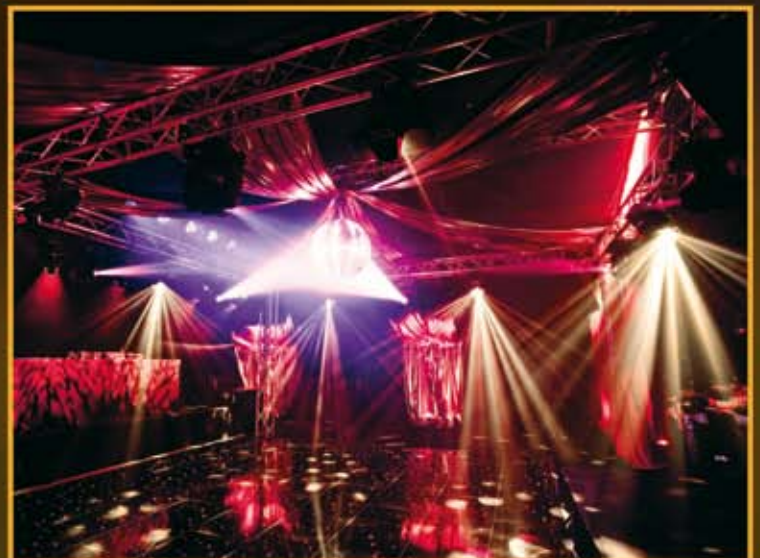
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# Harrogate Dance Shop Reopens

Fancy Dance pirouettes its way into a new property

Children's dance wear supplier Fancy Dance in Harrogate has hopped, skipped and jumped its way round the corner to a brand new shop.

The new store on Cheltenham Parade is only a stone's throw away from the old one and is open from Monday to Saturday, 10am till 5pm.

After the success of their first shop in York and the opening of the Harrogate store, the business has gradually become one of the most popular dancewear shops in the area and supplies some of the most celebrated dance schools in York and Harrogate.

Fancy Dance stocks everything needed for ballet, tap, jazz and contemporary forms of dance, as well as accessories, masks, wings, tiaras and dance related gifts.



Fancy Dance, 24 Cheltenham Parade, HG1 1DB, 01423 530 777, [www.fancydanceshop.com](http://www.fancydanceshop.com)

# Rock around Harrogate

The Jaipur Spice hosts 50s Rockabilly charity night this month

New Indian restaurant, The Jaipur Spice in Harrogate is offering diners the chance to re-live the fifties and donate to charity at a themed event this month.

The eatery has teamed up with Harrogate car club The Knights, to bring you a 50s Rockabilly charity night on Saturday 25th February. From 7pm guests can enjoy an Elvis karaoke and a 50s fancy dress competition, as well as some awesome automobiles that will be driving round Harrogate and parking up outside the restaurant. Top UK Elvis impersonator Steve Caprice (pictured) will also be making an appearance.

There's also a raffle with the chance to win 1950s style prizes such as bicker jackets and tattoo ses-

sions - a percentage from all profits made will go to Harrogate Refuge, a charity for domestic violence.



21 Cheltenham Crescent, Harrogate, 01423 502 610. For more information or to book a table contact Kelly Gavaghan at [jaipurspicehg1@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:jaipurspicehg1@hotmail.co.uk) or call 07982 443 067

# Local Charity Success

Harrogate fundraiser helps smash £2m fundraising target with Peruvian trek

A charity champion from Harrogate has helped Yorkshire Bank and its employees raise £2million for charity partner Help the Hospices, the leading charity supporting hospice care throughout the UK.

Having already walked nearly 140 miles for the charity, assistant regional director at Yorkshire Bank, Martin Ibbetson, last year tackled a 40 mile, day trek through the Peruvian Andes to the legendary lost city of the Incas, Machu Picchu, in order to help reach the fundraising milestone.

For four years, Help the Hospices has been the official charity partner of Clydesdale and Yorkshire Banks. As part of a 20-strong team, Martin and five colleagues, Rick Warburton, Graham Watson, Gary Booth, Mark Leigh and



Mike Darlow from Yorkshire Bank walked eight hours a day.

Martin says, "Trekking to Machu Picchu with my colleagues was amazing, as we all supported and encouraged each other along the way. We all know of somebody who's benefited from hospice care and are therefore aware of the invaluable services hospices provide. Of course, we found this very inspirational and it made our challenge a little easier. To have reached the £2 million milestone is a huge achievement and I am delighted to have been involved and see the money raised go to such a worthy cause."

[www.helpthehospices.org.uk](http://www.helpthehospices.org.uk)

# Something Quirky For The Fat Badger

The White Hart's pub hosts regular Wine Club with a difference

The Fat Badger's special Wine Club events have been so popular since launching late last year that the team has decided to go a little leftfield for the next one. Titled 'Something Quirky' this month's wine club, on Tuesday 28th February, will see an entirely vegetarian menu paired with unusual wines from Greece, Lebanon, Portugal and India, alongside more typical producers like France and Argentina.

A Stella Rosso 2008 from Portugal will be paired with tofu piri piri, while we particularly like the sound of dessert; Mont Blanc, vanilla & chestnut with Chantilly cream (paired with Chateau de Juge Cadillac, 2007 from France).

The six course meal with wines costs £35 a head and can be booked by ring-

ing the Fat Badger on 01423 505 681. This month's Beer Club will be hosted by Theakston's Brewery on Tuesday 7th February, with three courses and complementary beers for £25 a head.



Cold Bath Road, HG2 0NF, 01423 505 681

# STREET *Style* THE LOOKS WE LOVE IN HARROGATE THIS MONTH



**Seikou Susso,**  
48, Musician



**Rebecca Bussy,**  
43, Nurse



**Zandar Ellis,**  
22, Fundraiser



**Vanessa Gell,**  
29, Teacher

# MY TOWN

## Charlie Hartley

Director of Harrogate-based creative design and PR agency, Impression DP



### WHAT DO YOU LOVE ABOUT HARROGATE?

It's no longer the 'retirement village' it was once renowned for years ago! Over recent years there's been a real injection of energy into the town in terms of shopping, nightlife and the people.

We've recently seen the emergence of businesses such as The Fat Badger, Rocca and Primark which have served as a boost for the town's economy and there's also large companies who have their offices or their HQ here such as Cartridge World and SkyBet. In addition the development planned for Tower Street is illustrating how Harrogate is bucking the trend and continuing to flourish despite the economic gloom.

Obviously I couldn't talk about Harrogate without mentioning the beautiful Stray, it's a lovely place to live and do business in. And it's *right* posh!

### AND THE WORST THING ABOUT HARROGATE?

It can be a bit conventional, a few more edgy shops and bars wouldn't go a miss, without having to trek into neighbouring cities. Lower rents and rates would help.

### IF YOU COULD DO ANYTHING TO IMPROVE HARROGATE, REALISTIC

### OR OTHERWISE, WHAT WOULD IT BE?

The addition of a London-Harrogate direct daily train has been a big boost on a commercial level. Connecting the town to the capital is a big bonus as more and more businesses are setting up in the area, so more development of the rail services from Harrogate would be welcomed.

### WHERE DO YOU EAT AND DRINK OUT?

Eating out, there's almost too much choice but everyone has their favourites... mine would have to be Will & Vic's, The Orchid and The Claret. The latter, a relative newcomer, has a real charm! For lunch time eating there's nowhere better than Bib & Tucker with its amazing flatbreads.

A night out drinking usually includes visits to Restaurant Bar & Grille, John Street, Albert's, The Old Bell and normally ending up in Viper Rooms for a boogie!

### WHICH IS YOUR FAVOURITE SHOP AND WHY?

Bespoke Eyewear. The interior of the shop has retained lots of its stunning original features and the owner, Jonathan gets very creative when it comes to their shop window displays. The quality of the

eyewear and service is second to none and a world apart from the national highstreet retailers.

### HARROGATE SPA WATER OR DALESIDE BEER?

Neither for me if I'm honest - rather a pint of Guinness I'm afraid!

### DESCRIBE YOUR PERFECT DAY OUT IN HARROGATE.

A run around the stunning Stray is a fabulous way to get some exercise and always a pleasure rather than a chore. Followed by a full breakfast in Bettys; purely because I've never eaten there before! Then perhaps a trip out to somewhere like Fewston Reservoir or Brimham Rocks and then an evening out on the town.

### IF YOU COULD WRITE A SLOGAN FOR HARROGATE, WHAT WOULD IT BE?

A few years ago a lot of my friends from Leeds mocked me for moving to Harrogate and their slogan was "Harrogate : Heaven's waiting room" but these days plenty of those friends are now looking to move to Harrogate as they know that's not the case!



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