

District 4 YOU News July 2026

District Executive

District 4 Chairman – Jennifer Angus
Secretary- Edith Davison
Treasurer- Chrissie Hines
Membership & Development – Denise Gamblin.
Member of Council - Pat Mirfield
International Service Chairman – Suzanne Brindley
Webmaster – Sue Lydall
Newsletter Editor – Valerie Green



Clubs in District 4

Aireborough	Brighouse
Cleckheaton	Denby Dale
Elland	Halifax
Harrogate Brigantes	Heckmondwike
Ilkley	Leeds
Normanton	Otley Chevin
Pontefract	Ripon
Ripon Rowels	Scarborough
Wakefield	York
York Ainsty	York Vikings

INTERNATIONAL RALLY 15th June 2026

Eight members attended the International Rally at St Chad's; we finally arrived on time despite the vagaries and vicissitudes of the A64. We had time to inspect and purchase the merchandise which the Artizan Collective had brought with them; these included cards, bunting etc using the colours of Peru. By the end of the meeting, almost all items had been sold. There was also a raffle.

The rally opened with the Lighting of the Candle and Welcome by Chairman Jennifer Angus. Greetings were sent from Association IS Chairman Julie Ramsay; she said she had been very excited with the recycling, Mary's Meals and the coin collecting taken to Conference; three full, heavy bags of coins were taken to Conference! She thanked all ISO for their work and service, it was much appreciated.

Elizabeth Cluderay from Artizan International gave a very interesting and at times amusing talk of the work of the collective. We were introduced to Sarah, manning the sales table, saying that they were often referred to as "sisters". They work with communities in S. America especially Peru, their mission being to transform the lives of people with disabilities, helping them to have fulfilling and independent lives. The aims and objectives are for inclusion, hospitality and social enterprise, helping people build skills and opportunity, hoping to change attitudes towards disabled people. She had been working for the past 4 weeks supporting neuro-diverse people providing training to build self-confidence.

In Peru AI provides 'café' training, funds raised going towards paying for hearing aids; they support families in Peru and are committed to sustainable programmes. Each person receives a fair wage for their products which can be bought online or from their shop in Harrogate. Funds raised go toward support and workshops. They have built a new purpose shop unit in Peru where Karita works with these people helping them to train/develop their crafts. Artizan buys the tools enabling them to do the craftwork. In Arequipa, set high in the Andes, they tried to make chocolate cakes but they melted due to the altitude. One cloud on the horizon has been the changes brought about by the tough clean up actions of the Columbian Government which have resulted in many criminal elements moving into southern Peru and causing difficulties.

Elizabeth related the story of Matthew at Knaresborough Castle, taking his guiding task seriously he had his own script, his made up stories were utter rubbish. Some correct scripts were written for him to learn, he then gave up the "fairy tales". Mosaic for schools - Disabled Mosaic Artizan - now teach children in school in mosaic work.

The sale of Recipe books at the Harrogate Conference raised £1000 which was given to Artizan International.

The Vote of Thanks was given by Suzanne Brindley. Grace was said by Edith Davison followed by a delicious afternoon tea; Mary's cheese biscuits from the recipe book were part of the tea, if you have not yet cooked these biscuits you are missing a treat! (second recipe in the book).

Patricia Dempsey (Scarborough)



D4 ISO Jennifer Angus welcomes members to the International Rally as she lights the candle



D4 International Services
Organiser, Jennifer and her
committee with the cheque for
£700 to present to Smile Train UK



Liz Cluderay from
Artizan
International told
members about
the collectives
work in Peru

DISTRICT MEETING, AGM and Handover

June 22nd 2026, York Sports Club

We held the District Meeting at York Sports Club and members agreed it was an attractive venue with a lovely outlook over the cricket ground. Perfect on a sunny June day with a heatwave approaching. The air conditioning was rather fierce and had to be turned down to stop our teeth chattering. Member of Council, Pat Mirfield had been delayed by traffic from Horsforth but the meeting started on time and officers' reports were read and members were asked for their contributions which centred around Orange the World and how we can make an impact in the 16 days in November and December 2026.

- Charity shops in each club area can be asked to display Orange clothes in their shop windows.
- A District 4 event would have more impact, and it was suggested to hold it at Leeds Trinity, near the Railway station for easy access.
- Join with Mother's Union, Soroptimists, and Rotary and men's organisations to work together
- There is a Power-Point presentation which will be made available to clubs.
- Access the United Nations Women's website, the Orange the World Website.
- Have the Orange the World cards reprinted for distribution.

The meeting ended and a very nice lunch of sandwiches, quiches, sausage rolls and a selection of tray bakes was served. There was time to relax on the balcony and soak up the sun before the commencement of the Annual General Meeting at 1.15pm

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2026

Member of Council Pat Mirfield chaired the meeting and thanked the Executive committee for their hard work throughout the year without a District Chairman. Officers read their reports and they were adopted. Pat presented Jennifer Angus with her past ISC badge, Ann Lowe with her past District Editor's badge. The remaining officers will continue to serve on the committee. Pat presented Jennifer Angus with the chain of office of the Chairman of District 4 and wished her an enjoyable year.



District Chairman Jennifer introduced the Executive Committee. Suzanne Brindley from the Wakefield club is our new International Services Chairman. The District Editor's Office is split into separate parts. Sue Lydall is the Webmaster and is also responsible for the Home service report, Val Green is the Newsletter Editor, Secretary Edith will produce the handbook. Pat Mirfield continues in office as Member of Council, Chrissie Hines as Treasurer, Edith Davison as Secretary, and Denise Gamblin as Membership and Development officer



Pat Mirfield,	Denise Gamblin,	Sue Lydall,	Chrissie Hines,	Jennifer Angus,	Edith Davison,	Suzanne Brindley,	Val Green
MOC	M&D	Web	Treasurer	D4 Chairman	Secretary	ISO	News



York Sports Club got the seal of approval as a meeting venue for the District 4 AGM. Coffee, tea and juice were on offer on arrival. A buffet lunch was promptly brought to the room and there was a good variety of savoury and sweet. Any problems were speedily resolved, and we will be pleased to meet there again for the District Assembly on July 15th at 10am

DATE FOR DIARY

OTLEY CHEVIN QUIZ

17th SEPTEMBER 2026

ST GILES CHURCH

HALL

BRAMHOPE

12.45 FOR 1PM PROMPT

2027 Conference



INNER WHEEL DISTRICT 4

GB & I Conference
Town Hall Cheltenham
12-14 April



Laughter



Friendships Old & New

Sunday 11 April – Thursday 15 April 2027

We are trying to organise a group booking for the 2027 Conference in Cheltenham. We are looking to travel by train – Points of departure – York, Leeds & Wakefield. We can get group discount on our tickets plus further discount with Senior Railcards.

Our hotel would be The George which is just a 6 minute (0.2ml) walk from the venue.

The approximate cost of B&B with travel would be £550 per person for 4 nights B&B. Single rooms available on request.

Evening meals – we are negotiating with the Hotel.

If you are interested, please complete the form sent to your club secretary and return to me by **30th April 2026**

Conference 2027

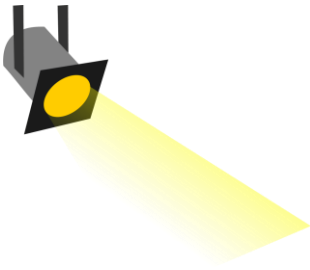
If you are interested in being part of the D4 group booking please add your name and requirements to the table in the following link. [Interest forms 2027 Conference.docx](#)

Train departures – Leeds (L) Wakefield (W) York (Y)

Forms to be returned to Chris Hines – iwd4treasurer@gmail.com by **30th April 2026**.

Once I have all the forms I will be requesting a 50% deposit for your hotel room.

The train journey cannot be booked until 10 weeks before we travel.



MEMBERSHIP & DEVELOPMENT

Share your stories/ events outcomes/ upcoming event date/ successes/ photographs/ celebrate milestones anniversaries, new members/ offer hints and tips Let M&D be your touchpoint to our IW community. All this and more can be added to the new D4 Spotlight on Membership and Development area in our new Newsletters.

Denise Gamblin (Membership & Development Officer)

A LOUD SHOUT OUT to the NORMANTON club members for focusing on their Just 1 Thing's plan to do such great work in supporting their community throughout this year. It is an excellent Just 1 Thing.

HELLOO AGAIN District 4 members

Let's first talk about MEMBERS@LARGE (GB&I)

This category was created by the Association for existing members who are no longer able to attend club meetings but still wish to maintain contact with the organisation through Association and District events. This may be for a range of different reasons; club closure, lack of transport, ill-health or changed personal circumstances etc. As they are not a member of a club, M@L have no voting rights. There is an application process for members to take up the option of becoming a M@L and subscription fees are due to District, Association and IIW, but not to a club. It is not permitted for M@L to hold office at District or Association level, because they do not hold club membership.

District 4 has recently welcomed our first M@L.



We will now continue with the second snapshot of some of GB&I J1Ts collated and delivered by Linda Clarke.

- Write an article for your local free newspaper or magazine.

District 4 - Have a stall or empty shop in a shopping centre to talk to interested ladies.

- Help new members to fit into the Club by wearing name badges.

- Change the way seating is arranged to reduce formality.

- Email reports prior to the meetings so that club night feels more social.

- Use a supermarket noticeboard, or book a foyer stand to give out leaflets.

- Publicise yourself through a Quiz Evening, advertised locally.

- Make efforts to invite Rotary wives – is this a neglected source of members?

- Submit a small regular advert in local press, giving contact details & info.

- Update your club banner and use it at every event.

- Have a 'poster drive' – get in your car and visit EVERY local village or church hall to display your club poster.

- Allocate a mentor to each new member, to guide them into IW.

- Create a rota for chairing meetings or pairs of friends to job-share roles.

- Review your costs and adapt what you do to suit your members incomes.

- Have a rota or invite individuals to attend an Exec meeting & find out more.
- Focus on what YOUR club needs and plan to nurture yourselves!



A District 4 Shout Out....



The Working Party

I am delighted to inform you that we have appointed six members onto the first District 4 working party.

Julie Badon – Leeds Club

Lynne Snowden - Leeds Club

Claire Mitchell – Halifax Club

Heather Cawdry – Elland Club

Leyla Kenber – Ripon Rowels

Robbie Morgan – Ripon Rowels.

Christine Osler – Scarborough Club, has also volunteered to assist us with the preliminary work.

Each of these ladies brings with them different skills and experiences. Their first piece of work is to support the executives to develop new strategies. We will keep you all informed on our progress.

Bye for now - Denise Gamblin.

Club News

Aireborough Club

When our good friend Annie Parker was president, she did an amazing 100 mile walk over 7 days in order to buy a bleed control kit.

She had seen a presentation at an Inner Wheel conference about them that and raised enough money to buy three for our area.

As I have a connection with a local church I gave them one a few weeks ago.

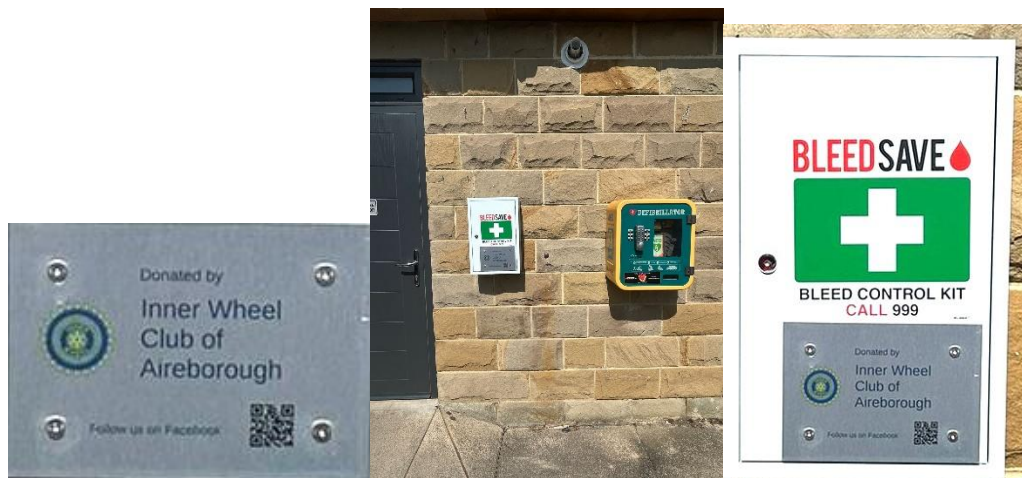
St James church in Horsforth has a church hall with a kitchen , a Man Shed full of scary machines and a Food Pantry so it was appropriate in case of accidents to choose them.

They were delighted and as you can see have placed it next to their defibrillator with easy access to all their outside buildings.

There are two more kits out for deliver so more photos to follow.

Inner Wheel working in the Community

Annella Cox



Aireborough club members were asked if they could knit some flowers....

Here in Horsforth, where a few of us live, there is a 'walk of art' every few year and this year as well as post box toppers they were planning knitted 'hanging baskets'

See the results as they were hung from lampposts last week. None of our members were present but our flowers were. Aren't they pretty?



Denby Dale Club

In May we celebrated our 38th Charter. Our speaker was Linda Rudkin who was a founder member of our local Rural Veterans Hub. Several of our members are veterans or connected to them. It is one of the local charities that we support.

In June there was an outing to Oakwell Hall and Country Park near Birstall. Members were given an enthusiastic guided tour of the Hall which is now owned by Kirklees.

In 2022, as part of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, we planted a horse chestnut sapling in Denby Dale. It is now over 12 foot tall and thriving.



Halifax Club

In April our member Elaine Craven held a coffee morning and cake stall. It was very well attended and raised funds for *Mary's Meals*.

In May several members went to the open day at the Forget Me Not hospice and were given a very informative tour and shown the extensive facilities and amenities. The hospice was originally for the children in Calderdale and Kirklees but is now covers all West Yorkshire. The club presented them with a cheque.



We held our international meeting in May and watched a comprehensive presentation about the Purple Community Fund. There were articles made from ring pulls for sale. We all enjoyed a supper made by our members



Our AGM was preceded by a delicious supper of quiche, potatoes and salad. After the meeting we were served tea and coffee and a slice of strawberry and cream gateau. We are looking forward to a summer afternoon of Pimm's and strawberries at the home of Rotarian Bryan and Jenny Harkness. Our monthly walking group and reading group are very popular and we also meet for a coffee morning on the last Monday in the month.

Harrogate Brigantes Club

NEWSLETTER JUNE 2026 – PRESIDENT ELIZABETH TURNER

How time flies! Once again it is our Club's Annual General Meeting on Thursday 18th June at Oakdale Golf Club. This is an important meeting as it is the one when we plan for the coming Inner Wheel year, so offers of help and ideas for future meetings would be very much appreciated.

DISTRICT

The next District Assembly is to be held on Wednesday 15th July starting at 10am at York Sports Club, Shipton Road, York. Coffee will be served on arrival.

District Rally Monday 5th October 11am to 4pm, £37.50, a Mad Hatter's themed event at the Yorkshire Events Centre. Replies by 11th September.

INTERNATIONAL

Pat N would like to remind you to keep collecting items for the District meeting in November.

Club subscriptions for the coming year are now due and we are pleased to be able to keep the cost at £50. These can be paid by cheque at the next meeting, or if you would prefer to pay by BACS this should be done by 1st July.

The next Horticap meeting will be on Friday 3rd July at 10am.



Leeds Club

President Julie at the Leeds Club has chosen, as one of her Charities for 2026/27, the Leeds PHAB club. This is a local charity held at the Prince Philip Centre, where physically Handicapped and Able Bodied (PHAB) members from Leeds can meet in an inclusive, all-ages social group (covering ages 9–90). Within the club disabled and non-disabled members meet as both friends and equals.

The club meets weekly on Fridays from 7:00 PM to 9:15 PM and offers transport and a variety of recreational activities to members. Activities include; Discos, bingo, sports, arts and crafts, along with regular outings and residential opportunities.

Our club member Ann Hart has run this club for over 50 years. Check out the [PHAB Leeds site](#) or view the [Leeds Local Offer](#) for more details. Part of this offer includes volunteer drivers who operate specially adapted minibuses to collect members directly from their homes across the Leeds area. They are always looking for drivers who can join the volunteer team. Many thanks to Ann for all her incredible service to this community and leading the club for so many years. She also achieved an MBE for her tremendous services at PHAB. We are so proud as a club of all that she has achieved



Poppy knitting patterns

Patterns kindly provided by the Arnold & District Branch



Knitting pattern 1

Easy garter / knit stitch pattern

Colour A - Red (one ball will make a lot of poppies)
Colour B - Black - (either scrap of wool or black button)

Step 1: Body of poppy

- Using colour A cast on 120 stitches
- Rows 1-4 knit
- Row 5 knit 3 stitches together across the row (40 stitches)
- Rows 6-9 knit
- Row 10 knit 2 stitches together across the row (20 stitches)
- Rows 11-14 knit
- Row 15 knit 2 stitches together across the row (10 stitches)
- Cut yarn leaving a tail of about 20cm
- Thread tail through yarn needle and slip all the remaining live stitches onto the yarn tail and pull tight
- Pull around into a circle and then mattress stitch (or use whatever stitching you normally use) to seam for an invisible seam. Sew in ends.

Step 2: Centre of poppy

- Using colour B cast on 16 stitches. Cast off.
- Coil into a tight spiral and sew base to the centre. Or use black button with 4 holes and sew to centre of poppy
- Add pin to rear of poppy

Tips

- For the best yarn finish, knit with a Cotton Double Knit (DK yarn) as shown in the pictures.
- The size of needle you use will determine how big the poppy will be, but we recommend 3.5mm or 3.75mm (UK9). If you have different yarn available just use that and the appropriate needle size.
- If you have any problems with any of the techniques in the poppy patterns and you have access to the internet - you will find lots of tutorial videos on YouTube.



President Julie has sent a knitting pattern for poppies. The Leeds Club made orange poppies for their 'Orange the World' event, and they were joined by Aireborough members.

Scroll up to Aireborough's news to see different coloured flowers they have made



Normanton Club

Normanton 1943

President Jenny James

At the beginning of this Inner Wheel year our club in Normanton was visited by Michelle from the Well Project. The Well Project is joint operation with All Saints Church in Normanton which provides weekly activities for the youth of the area to help keep them occupied and out of trouble as well as running a food bank. This project relies on the goodwill of the community and donations for the food bank. Many of us were shocked when Michelle told us that because of the hard times charitable donations have dropped drastically and that some of the families who rely on their services have someone in the household who is actually in work, but they are still not able to make ends meet. Since last year donations left by people at local supermarkets had fallen quite significantly meaning that the trust must shop for some food items out of funds. Also the number of families using this service has risen significantly from 2024/2025 and there is a limit on the number of parcels that they can provide to each family.

As a club we decided that we would like to make The Well Project the focus of Just 1 Thing and that we would like to donate items that would give a feel good factor and help to raise the spirits of the recipients. At Christmas in a joint venture with Normanton Rotary Club £250 of selection boxes were donated for children. Michelle said that there was a need for personal hygiene items like shampoo, body wash, deodorants toothbrushes and toothpaste plus general sanitary products. Club members went shopping for said items and in March President Jenny James and club members Pauline Jones and Catherine Allen presented several very heavy bags of these items. As the Well Project had already organized and Easter Egg Hunt we donated a large number of Easter Eggs again with a generous donation from Normanton Rotary Club.



Presentation of Selection Boxes and Haribo Sweets



Presentation Of Toiletries



Easter Egg for the Well Project

Otley Chevin Club

Inner Wheel club of Otley Chevin

We celebrated our 36th Charter in May with a Prosecco lunch followed by a talk by a local Community Police Officer.

She talked about her job in the community and some of the amusing incidents she had experienced. It was obvious that she plays an important role in building good relationships with local people and giving help when needed.

She gave us lots of helpful guidance on keeping ourselves and our possessions safe and handed out personal alarms and various things to keep our phones and purses safe in our bags .



Ann Elviss sent this photo of Otley chevin members enjoying a meeting with afternoon tea

Another fantastic amount of bedlinen, towels and wax to be delivered to the Rotary Huddersfield relief to Ukraine. Many thanks to a member of the Inner Wheel club of Otley Chevin who has donated all the goods.

I thought this might be suitable for the next newsletter. If I don't send it now, I will forget!

Yours in friendship

Jennifer



DATE FOR DIARY

OTLEY CHEVIN QUIZ

17th SEPTEMBER 2026

ST GILES CHURCH HALL

BRAMHOPE

12.45 FOR 1PM PROMPT

**Pontefract
Club**

Pontefract Inner Wheel Club

President: Lorraine McGlone

Our International Meeting in May... what a success! As visitors were arriving - from other IW Clubs in our District and from other Organisations in our area - when it was mentioned about how far one or two had travelled, their answer was how much they enjoyed this special meeting and loved coming along. Our own members, as ever, had put a lot of effort into arranging everything, supplying sandwiches, cakes, savouries; none more so than Pauline who had taken up the mantle of International Secretary (as we all know from Eileen who had recently passed away). Pauline was apprehensive/nervous, but she did a splendid job and in her own right was successful too, thank you.

A representative from Mercy Ships came along to talk about this magnificent project... briefly, ships set up in African regions and kitted out as hospitals for local people to attend for various medical ailments; these centres are run by expert medical staff who maybe spend two/three months giving of their time; our speaker was an anesthetist - from a local hospital - who gave regular time to Mercy Ships.

We had a splendid Afternoon Tea and a very generous raffle.

Mention was made of Bethan, our recent Secretary, she had been with the Club for many years and this was her last meeting because she was moving away to live in Lythm St Anne's, nearer her family. She received our sincere thanks for her service and took with her our thoughts and good wishes.

Ripon Rowels Club



RIPON. ROWELS

We said a big thank you to our star retiring Joint Presidents , Sue and Carole at our AGM last week.

Carole handed over the Presidency to incoming President Josie for the next year.

We had an excellent meeting and meal at Ripon Golf Club.

We are looking forward to our next event , a visit to Helmsley Walled Garden in July.



Smile Train UK cheque donated on behalf of District 4 by Ripon Rowels members, whose vote won one of the donations.

Scarborough Club

We have had a very entertaining time in the Scarborough Club recently thanks to Entertainment's Chairman Lynda and President Christine.

Lynda organised a day trip to Saltaire to visit Salt's Mill, learn about Sir Titus Salt and his model village and see some original works of art by David Hockney. It was day two of the heatwave but thankfully the coach was air conditioned.

We made our way to Victoria Hall and were greeted by Maria Glot in costume and character of a nineteenth century millworker. Maria's costumed character, Mrs Ellin Dooley, is as common as muck, lives in an ordinary worker's house on Amelia Street with her husband Henry, 12 children and another on the way. She was hilarious and we learnt a lot about Titus Salt and his mill and model village. Following Maria's entertaining talk, we were given freedom to do what we wanted until the coach picked us up at 4pm. Some of us had lunch in Salt's Diner, some ate at The Boathouse and then had a canal trip, other's explored Salt's Mill which had great variety on offer. Due to his recent death we all wanted to see David Hockney's art and at least buy a postcard.



Later in the same week 'Desire' of Filey brought their fashion to Scalby Church Rooms for a fundraising event for President Christine's charity St. Catherine's Hospice. The six models performed quick changes so we were treated to a succession of leisure wear, skirts and tops, dresses and the grand finale of 'Mother of the bride' formal dresses. During the interval rails of clothes were brought into the room for the ladies in the audience to try and buy. Fundraiser Ann G had collected super prizes for a raffle which added to the amount raised



Desire of Filey

York Club

IW Club of YorkA lovely piece of news!



**BIG CONGRATULATIONS FOR A
“VERY HAPPY 99 YEARS YOUNG BIRTHDAY”.**

One of our ladies is celebrating her 99th birthday very soon!!!

Marlise has been a very active member of our club for nearly 60 years only missing a meeting when on holiday.

Marlise had hoped to have a "low key" “ no fuss” birthday and was surprised when she was presented with a bouquet of flowers from her(friends) all members of the club at our

April meeting .

What a role model. We wish her continued good health and happiness in the coming year ...YIF All members of IW.

YIF Linda





SPECIAL BIRTHDAYS in District 4-

Elizabeth in July and Mollie in August -members of Harrogate Brigantes

Congratulations to Marlise of the York Club

Rosemary Knight, June Thompson, Jenny Wray and Christine Orsler of the Scarborough Club



Two couples in the Scarborough Club are celebrating their Diamond Wedding Anniversaries.

Margot and Ken Ball & Christine and Richard Gretton

Harrogate Brigantes member Elma and husband Alisdair celebrate their wedding anniversary in July.

UPCOMING EVENTS

DISTRICT ASSEMBLY – WEDNESDAY 15TH JULY, YORK SPORTS CLUB 10am.
Club Officers and members welcome to attend.

DISTRICT 4 RALLY -Monday 5th October 2026 11-4.00pm at The Yorkshire
Events Centre, Great Yorkshire Showground, Harrogate
HG2 8NZ. Theme: Mad Hatter's Rally -Tickets £37.50

OBITUARIES

The Inner Wheel Club of Halifax are saddened to announce the death of members June Barron and Jackie Richardson

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