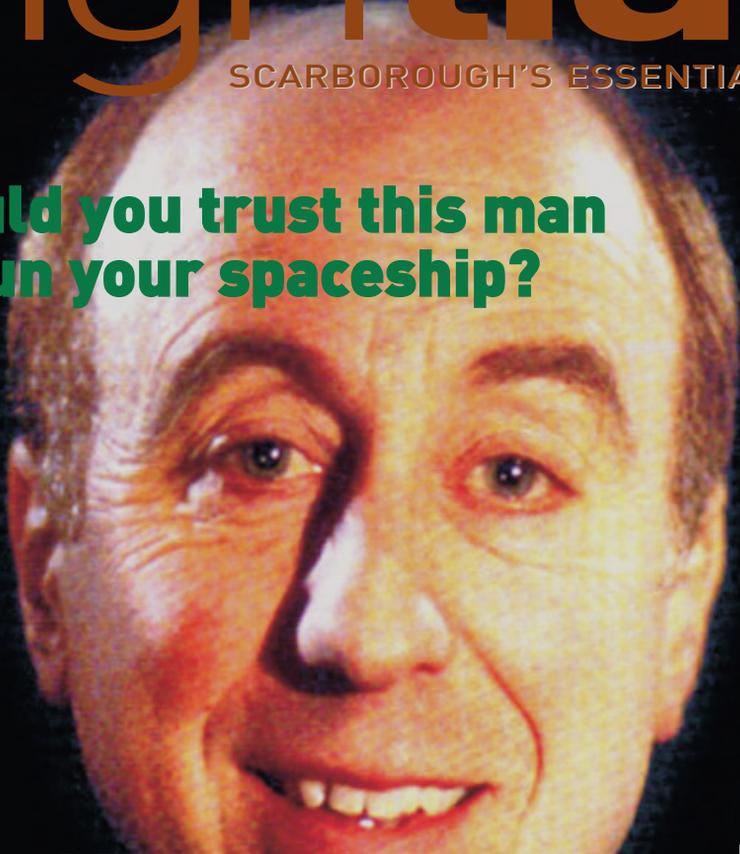


hightide

MAY 2007

SCARBOROUGH'S ESSENTIAL GUIDE

**Would you trust this man
to run your spaceship?**



**Norman Lovett
interviewed**

Making cider sparkle

Colour chemistry

**AND: music arts theatre comedy
film exhibitions poetry food & drink**

www.hightidemagazine.com

So are you well recovered after the litfest? What an event, what a going on! More next year, we say. We've a special prize to give away from author Richard Benson – his first book, and it won't be the last. See the panel below for details.

On to this month: can we unite a hero of comedy, cider drinking and the delicate art of glass restoring? Well of course it's all top class technical crafts, and if you think comedy is just about standing up and telling jokes you're missing a trick. See the craft with Norman Lovett.

William Morris was a heavyweight of the arts and crafts movement, of course, but not before he had launched the Pre-Raphaelites and created literally brilliant masterpieces of stained glass.

Finally, will small time producers restore the reputation of cider? Time to find out.

MAY 2007

This month

News

That man Zidane, Wallace pays a visit and sculpture goes green

Golden, and truly delicious

Chef Yann Ruvoen says it's time for cider

William Morris: colour chemistry

Rorger Osborne on saving the beautiful stained glass of St Martin's

Listings

All the happenings for May

With the beat

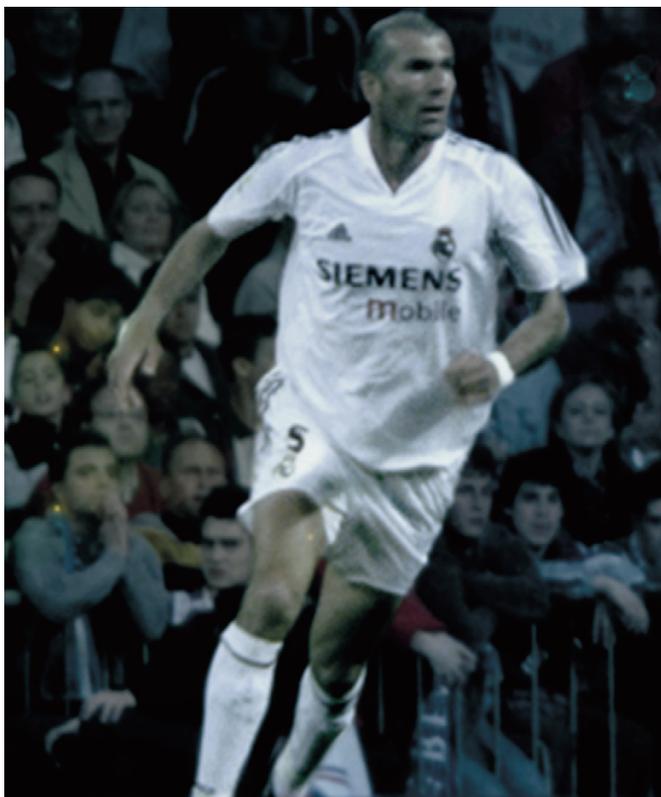
Food and drink visits Cafe Heart

When I'm 64

Comedy hero Norman Lovett comes to Scarborough

This month's special offer

Fresh from the litfest we have a signed copy of Wolds author Richard Benson's book *The Farm* to give away. We'll draw the winner's name from our email newsletter subscribers list on Wednesday 23 May. So see our website home page and get signed up now for a chance to win.



Suncourt mixes movies with groovy sounds

The Suncourt Festival is expanding this year to take in music as well as movies. Scheduled for 24, 26, 31 July and 2 August, the festival will have DJs and local bands playing in the Suncourt from around 7pm to 9pm, followed each night by a movie.

Details of the bands are yet to be revealed, but the films will include two surfing classics - Crystal Voyager and Billabong Odyssey, together with the extraordinary Zidane and Blade Runner.

This is part of an attempt by the Spa to get a different audience through its doors. This fabulous building has long been the

preserve of unimaginative seaside shows watched by a dwindling band of visitors.

But there is no reason why the building, which belongs to the people of Scarborough, shouldn't be used for real cultural events, including live music and film.

The Suncourt festival has shown the way and this year's festival should inject some much-needed energy into the building. With new projection equipment and a humungous screen this should be one of the highlights of Scarborough's summer.

Let's reclaim the Spa! We will supply more details as we get them.

Playwright celebrates at 80 not out

To celebrate Peter Nichols' 80th birthday, the SJT this month hosts a production of his 1971 play *Forget-me-not Lane*.

In the 1960s and 1970s Nichols' work on the stage, television and screen provided an essential commentary on the life of the nation.

Plays like *A Day In The Death Of Joe Egg*, *Privates On Parade* and *National Health* made drama an exciting, relevant, contemporary artform, with Nichols among its greatest exponents.

In October Peter Nichols will be in conversation with Alan Ayckbourn at the SJT.

Well done lad!

Peter Sallis, voice of Wallace the cheese-eating owner of Gromit, comes to the SJT this month to promote his autobiography.

Expect a fund of anecdotes from one of our most accomplished comic actors. Also at the SJT in May, Northern Broadsides in a production of *The Tempest*.

Nature sculptor draws crowds

The current exhibition of works by Andy Goldsworthy is the biggest project ever by the Yorkshire Sculpture Park.

Goldsworthy's work, using landscape and natural objects and processes, is ideally suited to this environment.

The exhibition is a huge success already; if you want to visit you are advised to avoid Bank Holidays.

Colo cher

**A slice of world class art for future generations in S
Roger Osborne**

The name of William Morris will be forever linked with Scarborough through his stained glass work for the church of St Martin on the Hill. But after 150 years that link could have become only a memory as concern grew over the condition of his inspirational depictions of biblical scenes.

This month, work starts on a highly innovative restoration project that uses the latest techniques to ensure Morris' work will live on for another century. The delicate task is crucial to save the earliest example of Morris glasswork.

Unassuming though elegantly proportioned on the outside, the church of St Martin on the Hill contains unique cultural treasures of national, if not world importance.

The church was designed by the renowned architect G F Bodley and opened in 1863. For the internal decoration, particularly the pulpit panels and the manufacture of the stained glass, Bodley turned to the prestigious new firm established by Morris. In an



Golden, and truly delicious

You might have eaten a nice English apple recently, but when did you last have a glass of cider? Not for a while, probably: Scarboroughs generally prefer their beer.

Yann Ruvoen, chef at Le chat noir, aims to change all that by reviving our taste for the real amber nectar. England is the best country in the world to grow apples, he says - we've got the perfect climate and so our cider, apple juice, and apple mead should surpass any other country's.

So why don't we take to cider drinking? Yann says our taste buds have been spoilt by some unfortunate experiences. 'Some big companies, driven more by profit than pride, have tarnished the name of cider for many of the English,' he says.

'It is time to encourage a cider renaissance by helping those few small producers who are using traditional methods to produce a natural, genuine cider - tasting as it should!

And to that end, he and Chat Noir partner Susie O'Neill are running a cider workshop on 4 June. The aim is to convince

Chef Yann Ruvoen says it's time to give cider another try

us that once again cider deserves a place on our tables. It's part of a series of workshops Le chat noir is running to promote natural and local food. Even though it is a French restaurant, using as much locally grown food as possible is a priority for Yann and Susie. Coming from Brittany, Yann has been raised seeing cuisine as central way to preserve part of the local history and culture.

After discovering our own gems, especially cheeses, he says: 'Sometimes it does take an outsider to see the treasures we take for granted. England should be as well known for its cuisine as France, or Italy.'

Praise indeed from a Frenchman, so now we have to live up to it. The answer is simple, he believes. We need to encourage our local producers and help them protect their identity, so we can enjoy excellent foods into the future.

Our ministry

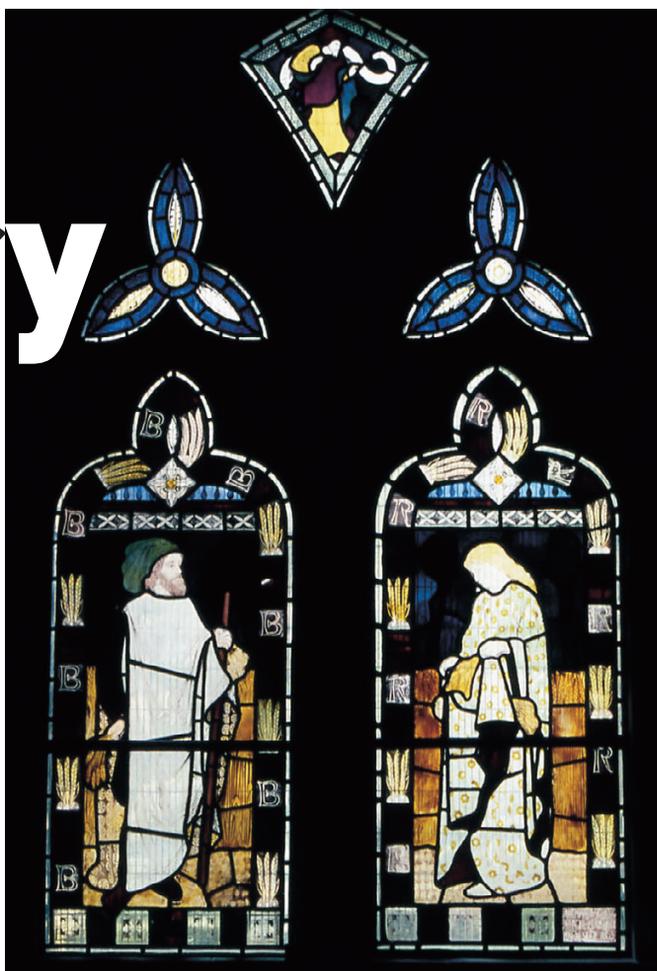
History is to be rescued Scarborough, finds

age of mass manufacture Morris sought to revive the pre-industrial practice of artisans making beautiful objects that everyone could afford.

He was experimenting in making stained glass at low temperatures - to get the pigment to fuse with the glass normally requires a furnace temperature of 650°C. Morris used this technique on only two projects, St Martin's and one in Eastbourne.

Almost immediately it was clear that the pigment had not fully fused, and the colour began to leach out. The Eastbourne glass was replaced, but Scarborough was too far from the factory, and the original glass, unique in its method of manufacture and a brilliant example of the Pre-Raphaelite school, stayed.

Over the next 150 years concern over the state of the glass grew, so in 2005, English Heritage commissioned a study. The results came as something of a surprise. The good news was that the glass had stabilised and was no



longer losing colour. However the ironwork supporting the windows was badly corroded, as was much of the leading. Repair was urgently needed.

Vicar Tony Mills and colleagues sought funds from English Heritage and the Heritage Lottery Fund for the restoration, and this month work begins on the East window. Where details of the original paintings have been lost, the glass will be repaired by placing thin sheets of new glass on top of the existing panes. The metal work will be replaced and then, to prevent corrosion from weather and

condensation, the entire window will be suspended inside a plain sheet of glass, which will occupy the window's present position.

The whole operation requires extraordinary skill and, needless to say, large amounts of money. But Tony Mills is aware of the significance of his church and its restoration, and is determined to see the project through.

'The work will leave the entire building exactly as it was originally conceived, making it a very special place,' he says.

Listings

HIGH FIVES

This month check out **The Other Side's** Heroes of Comedy series, rage with **The Tempest**, and burn some rubber at motorcycling's premier spring event the **Festival of Speed**.

Then you can catch some **gospel** in Whitby and round off the month with a rare chance to see Peter Nichols' **Forget-me-not Lane** at the SJT. Enjoy!

OPEN STUDIOS

28 Apr to 15 July

Open Studios Taster Exhibition
Scarborough Art Gallery

5 to 17 May

Open Studios Taster Exhibition
Pannett Art Gallery Whitby
Free

**26 Apr Comedy Club:
Frank Sidebottom**

Bradley Court Hotel
8:00 pm £7 - £5

**26 Apr
Battle of the Bands**

Vivaz 8:00 pm

**26 Apr
Blades of Glory**

Hollywood Plaza
8:30 pm £6, £5

**27 Apr
Lunchtime talk**

Scarborough Art Gallery
12:30 pm Free with pass

**27 Apr to 3 May
Film: Amazing Grace**

Stephen Joseph Theatre
7:45 pm £5 (£4)

**27 Apr Film Society:
Bombon El Perro**

Scarborough Library
7:45 pm £4

**27 Apr
The Hollies**

Futurist Theatre 8:00 pm
£20, £18.50, £16.50

27 Apr DJ Flight

Vivaz 10:00 pm £6 (£5)

28 Apr Gavin Lampitt

Vivaz 10:00 pm £6

**29 Apr
Ensemble 360**

Stephen Joseph Theatre
7:30 pm £14.50 to £11

**1 May
Events on a Hotel Terrace**

Stephen Joseph Theatre
7:30 pm £11-£16.50

**2 May
A One Man Protest**

Stephen Joseph Theatre
7:30 pm £11-£16.50

**3 May Scarborough
Poetry Workshop**

The Valley 8:00 pm Free

**4 to 7 May
Moor & Coast Festival**

Various venues in Whitby

**4 to 5 May
Film: Ghosts**

Stephen Joseph Theatre
7:45 pm £5 (£4)

**4 to 7 May
Continental Market**

Westborough and Newborough
Scarborough

**5 May
Family Fun Music Session**

Scarborough Art Gallery
10:00 am Free with pass

**5 to 7 May
Festival of Speed**

Oliver's Mount

**6 May
Acoustic Gathering:
Adrian Byron Burns**

Blue Lounge 8:30 pm £5

**8 to 12 May
Northern Broadsides
presents The Tempest**

Stephen Joseph Theatre
7:30 pm £16.50 - £11

**10 May
Comedy Club: Mark Maier
& Norman Lovett**

Bradley Court Hotel
8:00 pm £7 - £5



Fine shaggy dog story Bombon el Perro shows at the Film Society on Friday 27 April

12 May Raven

Sawdon Village Hall 8:00 pm

14 May My Fair Lady

Kirk Theatre, Pickering
7:00 pm £7.50, £6.50

15 May Food and drink workshop

Le Chat Noir 6:00 pm

17 May Poetry Workshop: Poems of Wilfred Owen

The Valley 8:00 pm
Scarborough Price: Free

17 May The Madrigals

Stephen Joseph Theatre
7:30 pm £12.50 - £10

18 to 20 May Whitby Gospel Music Convention

Various venues in Whitby

18 May Mojos Music Cafe Night

Stephen Joseph Theatre
8:30 pm Price: £7

19 May Peter Sallis

Stephen Joseph Theatre 7:30 pm
£14.50 - £12.50

19 May Scarborough Symphony Orchestra

Scarborough College
7:30 pm £7 (£6)

24 May to 25 August Forget-me-not Lane

Stephen Joseph Theatre
7:30 pm £17.50 - £9
(various dates, check with SJT at
www.sjt.uk.com)

24 May Comedy Club: Jim Jeffries

Bradley Court Hotel
8:00 pm £7 - £5

26 to 27 May Open Studios

Various venues
www.art-connections.org.uk

31 May Whit Workshop: Collage a Masterpiece

Scarborough Art Gallery 2:00 pm
Free with pass

31 May Scarborough Poetry Workshop

The Valley 8:00 pm Free

FOOD & DRINK - WITH THE BEAT

Café Heart

Location should be the first, second and third priority of any retail business. What hope then for a café stuck down an almost invisible alleyway alongside Scarborough's Market Hall?

Café Heart has rewritten the rules and, by making itself a must-visit café, is bringing new life to this long-neglected part of town. Instead of a greasy spoon in a dark alleyway, think light airy glassed-in space in a lovely medieval paved walkway.

So, what's bringing the customers in? An amazing range of delicacies, from breakfasts of porridge and scrambled eggs with smoked salmon, to more kinds of sandwich than you can shake a French stick at.

Sometimes this much choice means 'we do everything' low quality, but here all is fresh. The food is real, and the people are too. My only reservation - tea, for me, should always be drunk from china, not glass.

Café Heart opens early for breakfasts, but beware, you might want to spend all day there. *Roger Osborne*
Café Heart, 7 Marketside Open Mon to Sat 8.15 am to 4 pm

Scholars

Another unpromising location has been turned into a haven for the town centre drinker.

Some pubs like to advertise themselves to everyone, others give you a sense of personal space, a kind of shared secret a bit away from the rest of the world. Scholar's is really the back room of a building on the Crescent, but excellent beer (including the always welcome ales from the Durham brewery) and a congenial layout makes it a sound spot to linger in.

If Magus or White Goddess mean more to you than mythic beings, then this is your kind of pub.

Scholar's, Somerset Terrace Tel 360084

Would you trust this man to run your spaceship?



The Red Dwarf star just turned 60 so it's time to take on a hefty standup tour. Janis Bright finds Norman Lovett in fine fettle

With 50-odd gigs under his belt so far this year, Norman Lovett would have a right to feel tired. Instead, the day after returning from Newcastle, he is fired up and planning his next series of events - which include a spot in The Other Side's Heroes of Comedy in Scarborough.

The Newcastle gigs were a bit alarming, he has to admit. He's only himself to blame though: playing the Hyena Club, hen nights a speciality, was never going to be a cake walk. 'Those women horrific ...' Yes folks, he is still traumatised.

We move swiftly on to his highly successful tour, and the two nights he filmed recently. The gigs were in Covent Garden, and Norman hugely enjoyed himself. There was plenty of good stuff for his DVD, which will be out soon.

Norman has also developed Slide Show, which is exactly what it says. He shows 150 or

so photographs he has taken, mostly around his home area of South London, though the Jackie Milburn statue outside St James' Park will also feature. It's just scenes he has found amusing, and it goes down well. He's taking that show to the Edinburgh Festival in the summer.

Critics have given rave reviews for Norman's 'deadpan' standup but he comes across as jovial and often laughs out loud. His favourite is W C

The Other Side's Heroes of Comedy mini season features:

- Thurs 26 April**
- Frank Sidebottom**
- Thurs 10 May**
- Norman Lovett,**
- Mark Maier**
- Thurs 24 May**
- Jim Jeffries**
- Thurs 7 June**
- Adam Bloom,**
- Danny Deegan**

Fields, who like Norman did a bit of everything and had brilliant timing for both acting and standup. Norman says his own stage persona is 'me with a couple of steps to the side'.

Turning 60 has been good for Norman: he is bursting with new ambitions. 'In spirit I'm 25. I've got grey hair and refuse to dye what's left of it, but other than that I'm not an old codger,' he says. 'Why shouldn't I like pop music? You can get away with murder when you're old.'

One advantage, he thinks, is that he would now be just the right age to play Holly, the grumpy computer in Red Dwarf. He was Holly, of course, almost 20 years ago.

But don't get him started on the subject of a movie sequel. He recently posted news on his website, with a definite tone of relief, that there would never be one. That provoked dozens of angry postings on a fan site called Ganymede and Titan in response.

He's quite pleased with that. Must be something to do with growing old disgracefully, always a good ambition.