

A laurel wreath in a light gold color frames the text. The word "Business" is in a gold sans-serif font, "Power" is in a larger, bold gold sans-serif font, "Awards" is in a white serif font, and "2025" is in a larger white serif font.

Business **Power** Awards 2025

Honouring and celebrating
the best in Yorkshire!

Sunday
12th October 2025

Cedar Court Hotel, Bradford



#BPA2025 #BusinessPowerAwards

INTRODUCTION

For a quarter of a century, Asian Express has featured tens of thousands of stories, and profiled over 6,000 Yorkshire businesses - stories of grit, ambition, and perseverance.

The Business Power Awards is a celebration from page to stage: a live platform honouring the entrepreneurs and innovators who continue to shape our region. But these awards are also about history... and survival.

In the 1950s and 60s, men from Pakistan were recruited to work in Yorkshire's wool and engineering mills. My father, Balal Ansari, was one of them. He arrived in Bradford 55-years ago, joining thousands of men who lived in overcrowded terraces, working gruelling shifts. Twenty men might share three bedrooms. Beds were never cold: as one shift ended, another began.

Food was cooked in bulk – 'baltis' (steel buckets) of lentils, rice and curry – a word that would one day coin a national dish. They kept to themselves, bound by language barriers and an unfamiliar society. By the 1970s, immigration laws allowed families to reunite; and from those overcrowded terraces grew communities, families, and businesses that changed Britain forever.

But as communities grew, racism sharpened.

Over the past few decades, significant work has been done across the UK to combat racism, with new equality laws, community initiatives, and education programmes helping to challenge discrimination and promote inclusion.

Today, half a century on, the climate feels eerily familiar. Britain once again finds itself at a crossroads, facing division and distrust. That's why the Business Power Awards matter more than ever. They are not about trophies but visibility, equity, and legacy. They are about saying: entrepreneurs from Yorkshire's diverse communities are not outsiders, but insiders - they are the heartbeat of this economy – powering growth, creating jobs, innovating across industries, and inspiring future generations.

The Business Power Awards are more than an anniversary moment. They're a declaration of intent. They're a reminder that our history was forged through the struggles of our forefathers, but our future can be defined by excellence.

To every sponsor, partner, nominee, finalist, and supporter – you are at the heart of this movement. Let's build the future, and celebrate it, together.

Andleeb Hanif

Chair Business Power Awards

Co-Founder & Editor Asian Express Newspaper

#25Years | #AsianExpress | #BusinessPowerAwards
#BPA | #PowerCollective | #InclusiveGrowth

A BIG THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNERS AND SPONSORS

JANAN
JANAN.COM



SCENT SALIM
FINE ARABIAN SCENTS



AKBAR'S
KING OF CURRY



J. BY JANAN FRAGRANCES

FRAGRANCES FOR ANY OCCASION



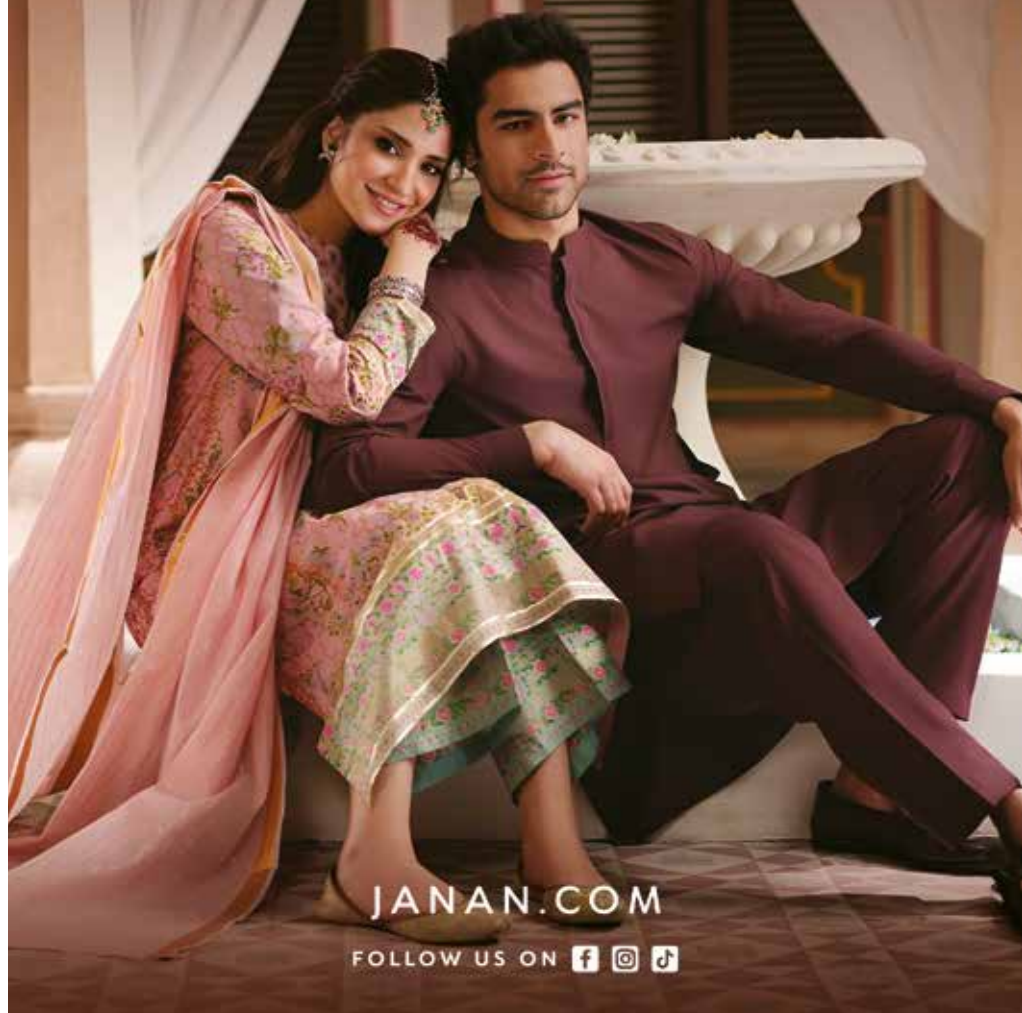
JANANFRAGRANCES.COM

FOLLOW US ON   

JANAN

WOMENS - MENS - KIDS - BRIDAL - JEWELLERY - FRAGRANCES

BRADFORD - LONDON - LUTON
BIRMINGHAM - MANCHESTER - GLASGOW



JANAN.COM

FOLLOW US ON



Janan Group has rapidly established itself as a trailblazer in South Asian fashion retail, becoming one of the most recognised and respected names in the industry.

Since opening its first store in Bradford in 2011, the Group has expanded into a multi-location brand with flagship destinations in Manchester, Birmingham, and London, supported by a strong online presence that serves customers across Europe and beyond.

From the outset, Janan has been driven by a commitment to authenticity, innovation, and excellence. Its ability to blend heritage with modernity has redefined the experience of South Asian fashion in the UK, transforming it into a household name that resonates with tradition while appealing to new generations.

A key element of Janan's distinctiveness lies in its

ownership and operation of J. stores across the UK and Europe. This exclusive position gives Janan customers unparalleled access to one of the most celebrated South Asian fashion brands worldwide. The seamless integration of J. into Janan's retail ecosystem has strengthened the Group's brand equity and positioned it firmly at the forefront of cultural fashion retail.

The vision and determination of founders Asif and Asghar Khan have been central to this journey. Asif Khan, CEO and Managing Director, has spearheaded strategic expansion and brand-building, using his professional background in commercial banking to ensure sustainable growth. His brother Asghar Khan has played an equally vital role, overseeing European operations and production in Pakistan - a model that not only supports local

employment but also delivers international scale.

Janan's impact extends far beyond its retail footprint. Employing nearly 350 people in the UK and abroad, the Group is deeply committed to job creation, diversity, and community. A people-first ethos ensures that employees are recognised as integral to the brand's identity, fostering loyalty and excellence across all levels.

With consistent year-on-year growth, Janan is now recognised as one of the fastest-growing names in its sector. Its investment in digital channels, innovation in customer experience, and expanding global reach highlight its ability to adapt and lead in a changing retail landscape. Today, Janan stands as a benchmark of cultural authenticity, entrepreneurial ambition, and modern retail excellence.



FRESH FROM
MARKET STREET

Munchkin to pumpkin.

We have one of the largest ranges of British
pumpkins of every shape and size.



More reasons
to shop at



Morrisons

morrisons.com Majority of stores. Offers/prices may vary online and in Morrisons Daily.

Yorkshire's food scene is famously rich, but few names carry the weight of Jinnah.

For managing director Saleem Akhtar, the restaurant group is more than a business - it is the realisation of a lifelong dream and a love letter to the flavours of Kashmir.

Saleem's journey began when he arrived in Bradford from Pakistan at the age of ten. Like many of his generation, he grew up amid the city's immigrant communities, where food was central to family and identity. In 1981, his family opened a modest corner shop. From that unassuming start, the foundations of the Jinnah Group were quietly being laid.

By 2015, Saleem was already running successful restaurants across North Yorkshire and beyond. But it was the launch of Jinnah

Bradford, in the landmark Gatehaus building on Leeds Road, that marked a true homecoming. Investing more than £500,000 and creating 32 jobs, Saleem brought the Jinnah brand back to the city where his own story began.

The name Jinnah honours the founder of Pakistan, Mohammed Ali Jinnah, and the food reflects Akhtar's Kashmiri heritage. Dishes are rooted in tradition, yet crafted with an insistence on freshness, quality and consistency. Saleem often says that the "small but important things" make the difference - homemade flavours, spices of uncompromising quality, and recipes refined again and again in search of perfection.

Over the years, menus have evolved, dishes have been tweaked, and suppliers have changed. But one principle has remained: authenticity. Spices are shipped directly

from Pakistan to Bradford before being distributed to the group's restaurants, ensuring that every plate carries the depth and warmth of the region's cuisine.

What sets Saleem apart is his personal commitment. He is known as the restaurateur who is present seven days a week, overseeing service, greeting guests, and keeping a close eye on standards. In an industry where absentee ownership is common, his hands-on approach has become part of the Jinnah identity.

Today, Jinnah restaurants are celebrated for their rich Kashmiri dishes, lively atmospheres and unwavering quality. For Saleem Akhtar, the success is humbling. He credits his customers, his staff, and his family for supporting a journey that began more than 30 years ago.

The advertisement features a dark background with a subtle pattern of green and gold dots. At the top center is the Jinnah Restaurants logo, which includes a stylized 'J' symbol above the word 'Jinnah' in a serif font, with 'RESTAURANTS' in a smaller sans-serif font below it. Below the logo, the text 'Authentic Kashmiri Cuisine' is written in a large, elegant, cursive script. Underneath this, the locations 'HARROGATE • YORK • SELBY • BRADFORD • SALTAIRE • LEEDS' are listed in a bold, sans-serif font. In the bottom left corner, there are two circular images of food: one showing a plate of fried chicken and vegetables, and the other showing a bowl of salad. In the bottom right corner, there are social media icons for Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and TikTok, followed by a QR code. Below the QR code, the website 'www.jinnahs.co.uk' and the phone number '01274 733732' are displayed.

Jinnah
RESTAURANTS

Authentic Kashmiri Cuisine

HARROGATE • YORK • SELBY • BRADFORD • SALTAIRE • LEEDS

f i t d

www.jinnahs.co.uk
01274 733732

Kingsman Solicitors is a specialist criminal defence firm with a proven track record of successfully representing individuals under investigation and defending clients facing criminal charges across the United Kingdom.

At the heart of Kingsman Solicitors' approach is the belief that every client deserves care, attention, and a robust defence. Each case is approached with thorough preparation, legal expertise, and a personal commitment to achieving the best possible outcome.

The team prides itself on treating every client with dignity and respect, safeguarding their rights at every stage of proceedings. This ethos has helped the firm develop a strong reputation, with a significant proportion of new instructions coming through recommendations from satisfied clients and their

families.

The firm's expertise spans the full spectrum of criminal law. Its lawyers are experienced in defending cases involving murder, manslaughter, serious assault, firearms offences, drugs conspiracies, sexual offences, white-collar crime, and complex fraud. Kingsman Solicitors is also well-versed in handling multi-defendant trials and cases that attract national attention.

Their involvement in numerous high-profile cases has cemented their reputation as formidable advocates, able to navigate the most complex and demanding areas of criminal litigation.

What sets Kingsman Solicitors apart is its combination of energy, determination, and advocacy skills with a client-first ethos. The firm's barristers and solicitor advocates work tirelessly to prepare each case, drawing on expert

evidence and leaving no detail overlooked. Their approach is rigorous yet compassionate, ensuring clients not only receive technical excellence in representation but also support during what is often the most challenging time in their lives.

Whether representing individuals in Magistrates' Court, defending complex trials in the Crown Court, or advising during police investigations, the firm's focus remains constant: protecting clients' rights and delivering justice.

With its roots firmly in criminal defence, Kingsman Solicitors stands today as a highly respected practice, defined by integrity, commitment, and an unshakeable dedication to its clients. Its success is measured not only by the outcomes it achieves but by the trust it inspires, making Kingsman a leading name in criminal defence across the UK.



KINGSMAN
SOLICITORS

**BEEN ARRESTED OR UNDER INVESTIGATION?
CALL THE EXPERTS...**

We provide expert legal representation in serious and complex criminal cases nationwide, including:

- **Murder/Homicide**
- **Drugs Conspiracies**
- **Firearms Offences**
- **Serious Violence**
- **Serious Sexual Offences**
- **High Value Fraud/Dishonesty**
- **Money Laundering**

87 Manningham Lane | Bradford | BD1 3BN
mail@kingsmansolicitors.com | 01274 77 88 11
www.kingsmansolicitors.com



**Criminal
Litigation**

Authorised & Regulated by the Solicitors Regulation Authority



JABRAN HUSSAIN
Serious & Complex Crime Lawyer

With a proud legacy spanning 53 years, the Sekhon Group stands as one of the most dynamic and visionary property development companies in the North of England. Headquartered in West Yorkshire, the Group has built a stellar reputation by breathing new life into historic and disused buildings—transforming them into vibrant homes and workspaces that serve every level of society, from social housing tenants to luxury-seeking professionals. Their unique strength lies in identifying overlooked or derelict properties and reimagining them into functional, beautiful, and community-enhancing spaces. With an unshakeable commitment to style and interior décor, the Sekhon Group fuses heritage with innovation—earning admiration from peers, local councils, and national property

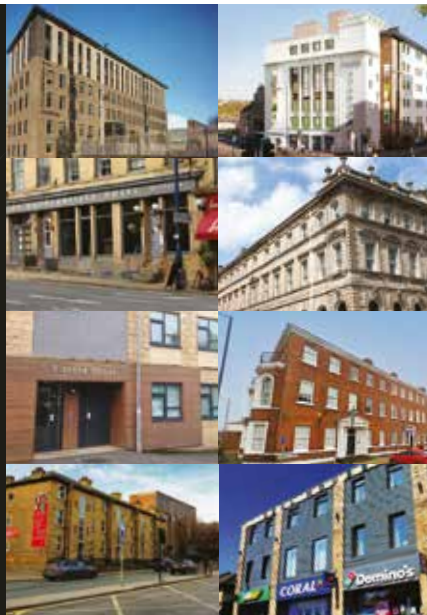
leaders alike. Operating across Bradford, Halifax, Huddersfield, Leeds, Wakefield, and the wider West Riding, they have successfully converted projects ranging from 10 to 162 units. Their flagship development, The Halycon—the stunning transformation of the former Bradford & Bingley headquarters on an 11-acre site—was recently showcased at the UKREiif in Leeds, the region's most prestigious real estate event. Featuring 162 high-spec apartments alongside a meandering stream, this site is a shining example of the Group's capability and vision. The Sekhon Group is also the largest independent provider of student accommodation in Huddersfield, with strong working partnerships with both the University of Huddersfield and the University of Bradford. Their developments have generated over £1.5 million annually in

council tax revenue, making a significant contribution to local economies. Led by Simmy Sekhon, the senior leadership team includes industry veterans and thought leaders such as Dr. Nirmal Singh MBE FRSA, Harmesh Kaur, Kami Sodhi, Balby Singh Panesar DL, and Dr. Samir Khan. Together, they drive a mission rooted in ethical growth, conscientious development, and meaningful employment for hundreds in the construction sector. By December 2025, the Group will have completed 2,000 apartments and developed 267 commercial units—a monumental achievement built on collaboration, creativity, and community. Their ethos is simple yet powerful: build equity with integrity, and always give back. Joint venture partnerships are welcomed, ensuring prosperity is shared and purpose-driven growth continues.



PROPERTY DEVELOPERS IN THE NORTH

www.sekhongroup.co.uk



Few names in British dining carry the same resonance as Akbar's.

From Bradford to Manchester, Leeds to Birmingham, the restaurants became synonymous with bustling dining rooms, naan breads the size of tabletops, and a convivial atmosphere that drew in everyone from students and families to celebrities and politicians.

To eat at Akbar's was to join a community, one built on the vision of its late founder, Shabir Hussain.

Born in 1968 in the village of Nambal, Pakistan, Hussain moved to the UK at the age of eight. He grew up in Bradford, studied at Tong High School and later trained in joinery at Bradford College.

But his true calling came not from woodwork, but from food. What began as a chance entry into the restaurant trade soon revealed a talent that could not be taught: a blend of

passion, charm and a knack for hospitality that would redefine South Asian dining in Britain.

In 1995, Shabir took a leap of faith by opening a modest 28-seat restaurant on Leeds Road. His belief in authentic flavours and meticulous standards quickly won over diners, and within years he had expanded into a 260-seat flagship.

Shabir went on to build a chain of restaurants across the country. His success was marked not only in expansion but in influence: Akbar's was regularly celebrated as one of the UK's leading Indian restaurant groups, winning awards and accolades while helping Pakistani cuisine secure a central place in the nation's culinary landscape.

His entrepreneurial reach extended beyond hospitality, with ventures such as Durrani's Gold & Diamond, but he

remained best known as the face of Akbar's.

Despite the scale of his achievements, he never lost his humility or generosity. Friends, staff and customers alike speak of a man who lit up every room, who valued loyalty and community as much as business growth.

Above all, he was a family man - a devoted husband, father and grandfather, whose love for his family underpinned everything he built.

His legacy endures not only in the restaurants that continue to thrive but in the pride he inspired among a generation who saw their culture celebrated at the heart of British dining.

Shabir is remembered as more than a restaurateur. He was, as those who knew him affectionately recall, the 'King of Hearts'.

Visit: www.akbars.co.uk for more information.

A festive poster for Akbar's restaurant. The background is dark with gold and silver Christmas decorations, including stars and snowflakes. The text is centered and reads: **AKBAR'S**™ in large red letters, followed by **KING OF CURRY** in white. Below that, *Open Christmas Day* in white script, then *from 2pm* in white script, and finally **BOOK NOW** in large red letters.

AKBAR'S™
KING OF CURRY
Open Christmas Day
from 2pm
BOOK NOW

From humble beginnings on Little Horton Lane to becoming one of the UK's most respected foodservice wholesalers, Adams Foodservice is a true Bradford success story.

Founded by Second World War veteran Mirza Khan, the business began as a small local grocery shop. Over time, it transformed into a seafood distributor, then into a thriving national operator with a reputation for quality, value, and personalised customer care.

In October 2024, Adams entered an exciting new chapter when it was acquired by Bestway Wholesale, one of the UK's largest wholesale distributors. The move brought with it significant resources, infrastructure, and scale - while preserving the company's deeply held community ethos.

With a turnover approaching £100 million and nine distribution centres nationwide,

Adams now serves a growing customer base across the UK. The partnership with Bestway has brought improved logistics, enhanced product availability, and even greater service reliability - enabling Adams to compete at the highest levels of the industry.

Recognition quickly followed. In late 2023, Adams won the Federation of Wholesale Distributors (FWD) Gold Award for Foodservice Wholesaler of the Year. Beating out several long-established competitors, the win cemented its status as an industry leader. Judges praised the company's innovation, growth, and dedication to its customers.

Adams' achievements, however, go beyond the bottom line. Under Bestway's stewardship, the company has doubled down on sustainability, operating net-zero depots, investing in solar energy, and rolling out electric vehicles across its fleet.

Environmental consciousness is now embedded in the company's operations.

Equally inspiring is Adams' commitment to community. Through initiatives like the Ramadan Cake Campaign, the business has raised more than £2.3 million for charitable causes. In 2024, it received a Social Mobility Award, a nod to its inclusive hiring practices and dedication to workforce development.

As Adams Foodservice looks ahead, the future is bright. The synergy between its entrepreneurial roots and Bestway's national muscle positions it for even greater success.

Whether it's delivering quality food products or creating opportunities in the community, Adams continues to lead by example - proof that a local business with heart can rise to national acclaim.

www.adamsfoodservice.com



ADAMS
FOODSERVICE



BESTWAY
WHOLESALE

ADAMS FOODSERVICE, THE BESTWAY TO SHOP & SAVE



Ison Harrison

A Legacy of Legal Excellence and Community Impact

As one of Yorkshire's most established law firms, Ison Harrison continues to set the benchmark for legal excellence, client care, and community engagement. With over 400 dedicated staff across 23 offices, the firm's full-service capabilities span everything from personal injury and conveyancing to corporate law and regulatory advice. This year, the Business Power Awards shine a spotlight on the firm's enduring legacy and its forward-thinking approach to legal services.

At the heart of Ison Harrison's success is a commitment to accessibility and innovation. The firm's employee-owned structure fosters a culture of accountability and collaboration, ensuring that every client benefits from a team that is personally invested in their outcomes. Whether supporting families through complex legal matters or advising businesses on strategic growth, the firm's ethos remains rooted in trust, transparency, and tenacity.

In this special editorial, we sit down with Parveen Ahmed, Partner in the Family Care department, whose work exemplifies the firm's values and impact.

Parveen, how does Ison Harrison's ethos influence your work in family law?

It's a privilege to work in an environment where compassion and professionalism go hand in hand. Family law is deeply personal, and our approach is always to listen first. Whether it's helping parents navigate child arrangements or supporting individuals through separation, we aim to provide clarity and confidence during emotionally charged times.

What makes the firm's approach to community engagement stand out?

We don't just work in the community - we're part of it. In North Leeds, where I'm based, we've built strong relationships with local organisations, schools,

and support networks. It's about being visible, approachable, and proactive. Legal advice shouldn't be intimidating; it should be empowering.

You've received specialist accreditation in areas such as Forced Marriage and Domestic Violence are on the Law Society Children Panel. How does that shape your role?

These are sensitive and often hidden issues. My accreditation allows me to offer informed, discreet support to those affected, often in collaboration with safeguarding teams and charities. It's not just about legal protection - it's about restoring dignity and safety. I'm proud to be part of a firm that gives me the platform to do this work with the care it deserves.

What does recognition at the Business Power Awards mean to you and the firm?

It's a moment to reflect and celebrate. We're not just being recognised for what we do, but for how we do it. The awards give us a chance to share our story, honour our team, and reaffirm our commitment to making a difference - both in the courtroom and in the community.



ison harrison
solicitors

Shimlas is more than just a restaurant chain; it is a story of vision, persistence, and a family's enduring bond with Bradford. From its earliest days, the business has woven together heritage, ambition, and food that speaks directly to the community it serves.

It began with Allah Ditta, the founder and first generation behind Shimlas. He worked with quiet determination, driven by a passion for quality and the belief that food should be both authentic and welcoming. His recipes, rooted in South Asian tradition, built the foundations for what would soon become one of Bradford's most recognisable names in dining.

Customers were drawn not only by the taste of the dishes but also by the warmth and reliability that defined the experience.

The story then passed to the second generation, led by Javid Qadir. With him came

new energy, innovation, and an instinct for understanding changing tastes.

Javid introduced what would become Shimlas' hallmark - the Famous Chicken Doner. More than just a menu addition, it was a turning point. The dish struck a chord with customers, transformed expectations, and brought a fresh momentum to the brand.

Under Javid's leadership, Shimlas moved from being a much-loved local spot to a genuine landmark in Bradford's food scene, with queues of customers who knew exactly what they came for.

Today, that legacy is carried forward by the third generation. Rahat Javid has taken Shimlas into a new era, expanding it into six stores with plans to grow further.

Rahat's vision balances tradition with modern expectations: refining recipes, elevating customer service,

and ensuring consistency across every branch. Where the first generation built roots and the second built recognition, the third is building reach, extending Shimlas' reputation far beyond Bradford while never losing sight of where it began.

What makes Shimlas stand out is not simply the food, though its flavours remain the heart of its appeal. It is the sense of continuity, of a business that has adapted to new times while holding fast to its origins. Customers know they can trust Shimlas for quality, but also for a sense of familiarity - a restaurant that feels both rooted in the past and ready for the future.

Shimlas is, ultimately, a testament to family enterprise, to innovation across generations, and to Bradford itself. It remains a place where tradition is honoured, customers are valued, and every meal tells part of a bigger story.



What began in 2001 as a modest bakery operation in Bradford has grown into a global food empire. Regal Foods, founded in the heart of West Yorkshire, started with one humble product - puff pastry fingers, and a single delivery van.

Catering to local convenience stores and the South Asian community, Regal was built on the pillars of quality, tradition, and ambition.

Just three years into its journey, the demand for Regal products had outgrown its original setup. This led to the opening of Regal House, a dedicated production facility that signalled a major leap forward. Around the same time, Regal secured shelf space in major UK supermarkets, including Tesco, Asda, Morrisons, and Sainsbury's - a breakthrough moment that introduced their distinct flavours to the mainstream.

At the helm of this extraordinary growth is Younis Chaudhry, founder and now CEO, who steered the company into a new era of innovation while keeping it firmly family-led. Regal Foods now produces more than 400 products - from cakes and biscuits to traditional South Asian snacks - supplying over 3,000 UK retailers and exporting to more than 50 countries worldwide.

In 2022, the company's global impact was recognised with the prestigious Queen's Award for Enterprise in International Trade. With over 350 employees across sites in Bradford and Leeds, Regal remains one of the region's largest private employers.

Today, the Regal Foods Group is home to a growing family of brands:

Love Handmade Cakes (Leeds): Specialising in cakes,

traybakes, and muffins for the foodservice industry.

Just Desserts Yorkshire (Shipley): Creating handcrafted cheesecakes, gateaux, and tarts for cafés and farm shops.

Yorkshire Baking Company (Bradford): Known nationwide for its classic sponge cakes, beloved by UK shoppers.

Both Regal Bakery and Yorkshire Baking Company are ranked among the UK's top 20 cake brands - a testament to their quality and consistency.

Yet despite its international reach, Regal remains rooted in Bradford. The company gives back through its Bradford Community Kitchen, as well as supporting local grassroots and charitable initiatives. For Regal, success isn't just measured in sales - it's defined by community, heritage, and the joy of sharing good food.

Visit: www.rfplc.com for more information.



Bringing food to life



www.shopatregal.com

Twenty-two years ago, with nothing more than the prayers of their parents and a modest starting stock of six sofas and six rolls of carpet, the Khan family set out on a journey that would transform the way households across Yorkshire furnished their homes.

Founded by brothers Jhangeer and Qadeer, later joined by the next generation with Asim, Ideal Carpets & Furniture was built on faith, family values, and determination.

What began as a small-scale retail outlet has grown, into a thriving business employing 15 dedicated staff members and working in partnership with 12 self-employed fitters.

Together, this team represents the heart of Ideal Carpets: a business grounded in honesty, customer care, and hard work.

Today, Ideal Carpets operates from a 15,000 sq. ft.

showroom, showcasing a wide selection of flooring, carpets, furniture, and household essentials. Complementing this is a 16,000 sq. ft. warehouse, enabling the company to hold extensive stock and provide faster, more efficient service.

With demand rising, the family is now expanding its facilities further, with the ambition to distribute to other retailers across the region.

Covering the whole of Yorkshire, Ideal Carpets serves private customers while also working with local councils, landlords, and retail partners. Its comprehensive range of flooring solutions and furniture, supported by finance options, has made it a trusted one-stop destination.

The journey into retail was not without challenges. Coming from a manufacturing background, the transition demanded courage and adaptability. Yet, with

dedication and a reputation for service, Ideal Carpets has grown into Leeds' largest independent flooring and furniture retailer - a reflection of the trust built over more than two decades.

The business is proudly family-run, and its values remain unchanged: service with honesty, quality products, and genuine customer care. Many customers return time and again, recommending Ideal Carpets to family and friends - a testament to lasting relationships built on trust.

Looking ahead, the Khan family and their team remain ambitious. With warehouse expansion and a growing distribution network, Ideal Carpets is positioned to play an even greater role in Yorkshire's retail landscape. From six sofas and six rolls of carpet to becoming a household name, their journey is one of resilience, faith, and community loyalty.

100's OF BEDS & SOFAS
ON DISPLAY

**BUY NOW
PAY LATER**



IDEAL CARPETS & FURNITURE

LEEDS LARGEST INDEPENDENT CARPET & FURNITURE STORE

0113 248 7070 161 HAREHILLS LANE LS8 3QE

0% Finance available



VISIT OUR SHOWROOM

Blacks Solicitors is proud to support the Business Power Awards 2025, an event that shines a light on the remarkable business, entrepreneurs and innovators that are making a difference in their communities and industries.

As a firm that values talent, ambition and integrity in all its forms, celebrating these achievements is something Blacks wholeheartedly champions.

Based at City Point, in the heart of Leeds, Blacks is one of the region's leading law firms, offering a full range of legal services to commercial and private clients across Yorkshire and the UK.

With 32 partners and over 220 staff, the firm has grown impressively in both size and reputation.

Blacks delivers specialist advice across Corporate

& Commercial Law, Real Estate, Dispute Resolution, Employment, Private Wealth, Family Law and more. It also serves a wide range of sectors including Healthcare, Education, Energy, Sport and Music.

From household names like Harrogate Spring Water and Rudding Park to supporting individuals navigating life's key milestones, the firm is trusted for its practical and personal approach.

The last year has seen significant growth across the firm, including the launch of new services in Regulatory, Music and Construction Law.

At the same time, Blacks continues to evolve, investing in AI-led systems to streamline casework and delivering in-house training on topics such as Equality, Diversity and Sexual Harassment to ensure the firm remains a progressive, respectful,

supportive and inspirational place to work.

Blacks was recently recognised as "Legal Employer of the Year 2025" at the Yorkshire Business Hero Awards and retains its position as a Leading Firm in The Legal 500. It also achieved Lexcel accreditation, the Law Society's gold standard for client care and practice management and was named a "World Class Company to Work For" by Best Companies.

With a growing number of women in senior roles at the firm, including nine female partners and a clear commitment to building an inclusive, collaborative culture, Blacks continues to attract top talent and deliver outstanding results.

To learn more about Blacks Solicitors, visit www.lawblacks.com.

When you need specialist legal advice...

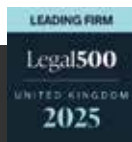
Blacks Solicitors is proud to support the BPA's Empowering Women Awards.

Blacks Solicitors provides a wide range of legal advice to commercial and private clients across Yorkshire and throughout the UK.

Our legal services include:

- Corporate Law
- Dispute Resolution
- Real Estate
- Employment Law
- Family Law
- Private Wealth & Succession

For more information about our services, please contact us today.



Contact us

T: 0113 207 0000

E: Hello@LawBlacks.com

Follow us on LinkedIn

Blacks Solicitors LLP
City Point, 29 King Street
Leeds, LS1 2HL
www.LawBlacks.com

In an age where fragrance has become a personal signature and a symbol of cultural connection, Scent Salim has carved out an extraordinary niche, blending the richness of Arabian tradition with modern accessibility.

Founded in 2010 by Ilyas Salim, what began as a small office operation in Leeds has grown into one of the UK's most respected names in luxury perfumery, with a global customer base.

At the heart of the brand lies a deep legacy - over 70 years of family expertise in the art of fragrance production and trading.

This heritage, combined with Ilyas Salim's passion for perfumery (which began at the age of 13), has shaped a business built not just on product, but on purpose.

Scent Salim was created to fill a clear gap in the UK market: authentic, high-

quality Arabian perfumes and oud oils that are both luxurious and affordable.

From the very beginning, the response was overwhelmingly positive. One of their earliest high-profile clients was a venue, which began using Scent Salim's oud in prayer rooms, a seal of approval that cemented the brand's reputation for quality and authenticity.

What sets Scent Salim apart is the sheer depth and diversity of its offerings. With over 500 unique scent blends - from earthy ouds and sweet musks to floral and spicy notes, every bottle tells a story.

Best-selling oils like Amber Oud, Cherry Oud, and Mexican Oud are loved for their complexity and longevity. The brand's signature Heritage Collection includes premium blends like Musk of Kashmir, and curated discovery sets allow

customers to sample and explore their perfect scent.

But it's not just about selling perfumes, it's about guiding customers through a sensory journey.

In-store fragrance specialists provide tailored consultations, helping individuals find scents that align with their personality and lifestyle. This commitment to service, paired with their accessible price points, has made Scent Salim a trusted destination for perfume enthusiasts of all backgrounds.

With worldwide shipping, eco-conscious packaging, and a presence at global expos, Scent Salim is more than a fragrance brand - it's a cultural bridge. From Leeds to Lahore, London to Dubai, Ilyas Salim's vision continues to flourish. Scent Salim proves that true luxury doesn't need to be exclusive - it just needs to be experienced.

SCENT SALIM

FINE ARABIAN SCENTS

Imagine over 1,000 scents with inspiration and ingredients taken from traditional Arabian sources and blended in a way that combines East and West.

UK'S NO1
PERFUMERY
AND OUD
SPECIALIST



Experience the Arabian and western scent fusion www.scentsalim.com

HQ- Main Store: Clock buildings, Roundhay Road, Leeds LS8 2SH

E:mail: sales@scentsalim.com **Web:** www.scentsalim.com

Follow us: TikTok / Facebook / Instagram / Snapchat / YouTube

Also visit us - Leeds Road, Bradford, BD3 9LY.

Cheetamhill, Manchester, M8 5EL. Batley Plaza, WF17 5DR

A beloved name across Yorkshire's South Asian communities, Abu Bakr Supermarkets have five stores across Yorkshire, including flagship superstores in Kirkstall Road, Leeds, and a custom-renovated 12,000 square-foot site in Blakeridge Mill Shopping Centre, Batley.

From fresh produce and a custom-built halal butchery to a vibrant bakery, homewares section, and international food aisles, the halal supermarkets are a reflection of Abu Bakr's continued commitment to quality, convenience, and community.

A standout feature are their 'food-to-go counters', serving freshly prepared vegetarian, chicken, fish, and meat dishes - ideal for modern families with busy lifestyles.

The legacy of Abu Bakr Supermarkets dates back to the 1970s when the late

Chawdry Mohammed Aslam and his brothers opened a small grocery store in Keighley.

The family's journey gained momentum when eldest son Abid Hussain (fondly known as Brother Abid) brought the business to Leeds' Hilltop Avenue in 1981, initially operating as a fish and chip shop with an attached halal butchery. From there, the business grew steadily, expanding to Roundhay Road, Hyde Park, Beeston, Kirkstall, and Batley.

Abu Bakr's secret to success? "Respect and unity," says Brother Abid.

"This is not just a business. It's a legacy built by our father, powered by the prayers of our parents, and driven by family working as one team."

Brother Abid credits much of the supermarket's success to his younger brothers

Sajid and Wajid, whom he affectionately refers to as his "arms" - working closely beside him in growing a business that now serves thousands across Yorkshire.

Their leadership has seen Abu Bakr evolve from a small local store into a respected, full-service grocery destination.

But Abu Bakr's impact extends far beyond its shop floors.

Brother Abid is a renowned community champion, supporting food banks, homeless shelters, and grassroots charities. He has also personally led aid missions to countries like Pakistan and regions of Africa, funding water wells and other vital resources.

During times of crisis - whether local or global - the Abu Bakr team is among the first to step up and help.

YORKSHIRE'S LEADING ASIAN SUPERMARKET



abu bakr

NEW FLAGSHIP STORE

BATLEY

Unit A, Blakeridge
Mill Shopping
WF17 8FU
Tel: 01924 950 730

HYDE PARK

37 Queens Road,
Leeds,
LS6 1NY.
Tel: 0113 2899 152

KIRKSTALL

330 Kirkstall Road,
Burley,
Leeds, LS4 2DN.
Tel: 0113 8244 578

ROUNDHAY

215 Roundhay
Road,
Harehills, LS8 4HS
Tel: 01132 408 673

BEESTON

259 Dewsbury
Road,
Leeds, LS11 5HZ
Tel: 0113 2779 934

International Restaurant has a five-decade legacy of flavour, family and fine dining.

Established in 1976, International Restaurant has proudly stood as a cornerstone of Bradford's dining scene - a living testament to the city's rich culinary heritage as the Curry Capital of the UK. More than just a restaurant, it's a symbol of tradition, innovation, and enduring excellence.

When Mr Bashir and Mr Rehman opened the doors nearly 50-years ago, they couldn't have imagined the legacy they were building.

What began as a modest venture - a place for business meetings and sharing meals with friends, soon blossomed into one of Yorkshire's most iconic dining establishments.

Their vision, rooted in warmth and community, laid the foundation for what would become a multi-

award-winning restaurant recognised across the UK. Today, International is known not only for its impeccable South Asian cuisine but also for offering a complete fine dining experience.

From elegant interiors and a welcoming atmosphere to exceptional service and convenient parking, every element is carefully curated.

As guests walk through the doors, they aren't just coming for a meal - they're stepping into a piece of Bradford's culinary history. And yet, International refuses to rest on reputation alone.

Under the dynamic leadership of Safeer, his brothers, and Danyaal, the restaurant has embraced a bold new chapter.

In a transition where many family-run establishments falter, the next generation has risen to the challenge, evolving International into what many call "International 2.0" - a blend of timeless tradition and modern sophistication.

Their efforts have elevated the brand further, leading to the opening of a second location and plans for future expansion.

What makes International unique is not just the food - though its rich, flavour-packed dishes are second to none - but the flawless synergy of taste, service, and experience. It's a restaurant that doesn't just meet expectations; it redefines them.

As they say: "You've tried the rest. Now try the best."

For reservations, or enquiries, head over to
www.internationalrestaurant.co.uk



IR
International
ULTIMATE DINING

AWARD WINNING RESTAURANT
BRADFORD

42 Manville Terrace, Bradford, BD7 1BA
☎ 01274 721 449

254 Sticker Lane, Bradford, BD4 8RN
☎ 01274 688 799

From modest beginnings to becoming one of the region's most trusted wholesale suppliers, United Foods Cash & Carry is a proud family-run business that has grown alongside the communities it serves.

Established in 1982 as a small grocery store, United Foods was founded on hard work, trust, and a commitment to customer service. Its reputation for quality and reliability quickly set it apart – values that remain at the core of the business today.

Over four decades later, United Foods now operates from a purpose-built 120,000 sq. ft. facility, supplying an extensive range of food and non-food products to retailers, caterers, and foodservice professionals across Yorkshire and Lancashire.

The company's remarkable growth is a testament to

strong partnerships with customers, suppliers, and staff, as well as a willingness to adapt to changing markets and consumer trends.

Despite its scale, the business has never lost sight of what matters most: its customers. Many loyal clients have remained since the early days, a reflection of the trust and personal service that United Foods continues to provide. Competitive pricing, efficient logistics, and a product range that reflects the region's cultural diversity are hallmarks of its offer.

Community has always been at the heart of United Foods' journey. Beyond supplying goods, the business actively supports local causes, events, and charities, reinforcing the belief that true success is measured not just by growth, but by giving back. This sense of responsibility has helped cement its reputation as a company rooted in

people as much as products.

Now guided by the second generation of the founding family, United Foods continues to innovate while staying true to its roots. Its recognition within the business community is not only a celebration of achievements, but also a reminder of the journey from one small shop in 1982 to a thriving wholesale operation serving two counties.

Looking ahead, United Foods Cash & Carry remains dedicated to supporting independent businesses across Yorkshire and Lancashire, with the same community spirit that have defined it for more than 40 years.

Visit
www.unitedfoods.co.uk



NAYMAT

Everyday Excellence

Why wait for a celebration?
With Naymat, every meal becomes a feast.

Available At United Foods
61 Planetrees Road, Bradford, BD4 8AE

www.naymat.co.uk

Bradford became the fourth UK City of Culture in January 2025.

The district was selected by the UK Government in May 2022 from a record-breaking 20 bids, following Derry~Londonderry (2013), Hull (2017) and Coventry (2021) to take on one of the most prestigious and transformative titles in UK culture.

Bradford 2025 takes place throughout Bradford District, which covers 141 square miles across West Yorkshire. It features performances, exhibitions, events and activities inspired by the extraordinary variety of this landscape, from the city's historic centre to the breathtaking countryside that surrounds it. It pays homage to Bradford's potent heritage as everything from a former industrial powerhouse to the world's first UNESCO City of Film. Most of all, it celebrates the people of Bradford, from local artists and creative

organisations to the diverse communities who call Bradford home.

Bradford 2025 is created for, with and by the people of Bradford – and it has young people at its heart. With more than a quarter of its population aged under 20, Bradford is one of the UK's youngest cities. Bradford 2025 is proudly reflecting this youth across all aspects of its programme, from education, skills and training projects to new artistic commissions centred on the lives, concerns and ambitions of young people today.

Bradford 2025 is set to spotlight Bradford's dynamic contemporary arts and culture, from dance and theatre to film, music and even food. At the same time, it will cement Bradford's reputation as one of the most welcoming places in the UK for artists, producers and creative entrepreneurs, with international exchanges, development programmes

and new cultural investment benefiting the entire district.

The impact of UK City of Culture will continue long after the end of 2025. The district's designation has already brought significant investment to the region, and Bradford 2025 is set to serve as a catalyst for development, regeneration and change – reshaping Bradford for the benefit of future generations.

Bradford 2025 UK City of Culture is delivered by Bradford Culture Company, a charity supported by public investment from HM Government, Bradford Metropolitan District Council, West Yorkshire Combined Authority and through National Lottery funding from Arts Council England, The National Lottery Heritage Fund, The National Lottery Community Fund, Spirit of 2012, British Film Institute and a number of trusts, foundations and corporate sponsors.



Faisal Khan, Founder and Managing Director of Heaton Woods Commercial Finance, brings more than 21 years of banking and commercial finance expertise.

During his career at NatWest, Faisal worked across several senior-level roles and rose to become Regional Relationship Manager for Commercial Mid-Markets. He managed a diverse portfolio of businesses and property investors, providing tailored solutions that helped clients achieve their goals. His reputation was built on a deep understanding of commercial lending and a personal commitment to creating real value.

Passionate about helping businesses thrive, Faisal launched Heaton Woods Commercial Finance to provide a specialist, independent, and client-focused alternative to

traditional banking.

Leveraging his extensive experience and industry network, he helps clients navigate complex financial landscapes - securing funding for property transactions, business growth, asset finance, and invoice finance.

As an FCA-registered brokerage and proud NACFB member, Heaton Woods adheres to the highest standards.

With access to over 200 funders, the firm sources and structures the most suitable finance packages, whether from traditional or specialist lenders. Recently, its panel has expanded to include ethical and Shariah-compliant finance providers for both residential and commercial investment properties.

Although a startup, Heaton Woods has already made its mark across Yorkshire and beyond. In its first year, the company supported

landlords, property investors, and businesses to secure vital finance- unlocking opportunities for expansion, investment, and job creation in the region. At its core, the firm is defined by trust, expertise, and long-term partnerships.

Alongside his professional achievements, Faisal is active in community and charitable work. He serves as an Executive Team Member of The Pakistan Society of West Yorkshire, Trustee of Carlton Bolling School / Carlton Academy Trust, and Senior Member of The Citizens Foundation (Yorkshire Chapter), helping advance education and opportunity at home and abroad.

For Faisal, finance is not just about numbers - it is about building legacies, empowering communities, and ensuring businesses have the support they need to thrive.



HEATON WOODS
COMMERCIAL FINANCE

🌐 www.heatonwoods.co.uk

✉ info@heatonwoods.co.uk

☎ 0113 529 8090

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY FINANCE

Commercial property finance is designed to help businesses and investors purchase, refinance, or develop commercial real estate

BUSINESS LOANS

Business loans are a relatively straightforward form of financing provided to businesses to support their growth, operations, or specific projects

INVOICE FINANCE

Invoice finance is a funding solution that helps businesses unlock cash tied up in unpaid invoice, by improving cash flow and working capital availability

ASSET FINANCE

Asset finance is a flexible funding solution that enables businesses to acquire or refinance an asset without the need for a big upfront payment

“LET’S MAKE YOUR VISION A REALITY”



At the Business Power Awards 2025, four prestigious honours will be presented on the night:

- **Special Recognition Award**
 - **CEO of the Year**
 - **Power Couple of the Year**
- **Lifetime Achievement Award**

Entrepreneur of the Year



Moin Ashraf - MD, The MACC Academy

Moin Ashraf is a professional, hard-working and detail-oriented cricket coach with a proven track record as both a player and mentor. A former professional cricketer for Yorkshire CCC and Northamptonshire C.CC he has since channelled his passion for the game into coaching. As the

managing director of The MACC Academy, Moin has combined expertise with vision, rapidly expanding to 15 academies in just two years. Dedicated to inclusivity, he champions scholarships for underprivileged children, nurturing talent and building futures.



Kamran Rashid
CEO, Impact Hub Yorkshire

Kamran Rashid is Founder and CEO of Impact Hub Yorkshire CIC, a social innovation hub and co-working space in Bradford's historic Little Germany and part of a global network of 100+ hubs. Under his leadership, the Hub has partnered with brands like Red Bull, Channel 4 and PwC,

and helped secure a £6.6m social investment fund for Bradford. A Non-Executive Director for Bradford 2025 and the Leeds City Region LEP, Kamran brings 20+ years' experience in social enterprise, driving inclusive growth and lasting impact.



Raheem Mohammed
Director, Hamara Healthy Living Centre

Raheem Mohammad is Director of Hamara Healthy Living Centre in Leeds, which is one of the region's largest ethnic minority organisation. A qualified teacher and professional youth worker with over 20-years in the charity sector, he is known for his

innovation, ambition and passion to transform youth lives. Under his leadership, Hamara leads large-scale community projects, secures funding initiatives, and drives system change in health, inclusion, and opportunity.

Start-Up of the Year



Queen Libas

Farhan Butt, founder of Queen Libas, has built a fashion brand defined by originality, authenticity and cultural pride. From design to modelling and sales, he personally oversees every stage to ensure each piece is unique, meaningful and never generic. But Queen

Libas is more than fashion, it is a platform for giving back. This year Farhan partnered with Ummah Welfare Trust to sponsor 12 Hifz programmes, already funding four in memory of his late grandmother, blending creativity with compassion.



Heaton Woods Commercial Finance Ltd

Faisal Khan, Founder and Managing Director of Heaton Woods Commercial Finance, draws on 21 years at NatWest where he rose to Regional Relationship Manager for Commercial Mid-Markets. He launched Heaton Woods to provide independent, client-focused solutions across property,

business growth, asset and invoice finance. FCA registered and NACFB members, the firm partners with 200+ lenders, including ethical and Shariah-compliant funders. Trusted for expertise and long-term support, they are already making a mark in Yorkshire and beyond.



Pink Ladies

Amberine Nawaz, founder of Pink Ladies, is breaking barriers in a male-dominated industry by empowering women as professional drivers. Her pioneering service provides safe, reliable transport for women, children and vulnerable people, while creating opportunities for

women to gain confidence, skills and independence. Through Pink Ladies, Amberine is not only transforming individual lives but also challenging societal norms, driving inclusion and building lasting community change across the region.



Balance:ed

Shaheen Myers, founder of Balance:ed, brings over 22 years' experience in education, from headship and executive leadership in multi-academy trusts to Deputy Director for Education in a major local authority. A trained Ofsted inspector, board member and mentor, she has worked with the

DfE, Ofsted and MAT leaders to drive improvement. Through Balance:ed, Shaheen supports staff wellbeing, leadership resilience and governance, delivering training, supervision, consultancy and inspiring keynotes that help address the sector's recruitment and retention crisis.

SME of the Year



The MACC Academy

In just two years, The MACC Academy has grown from a single initiative to 15 centres, becoming a leading force in grassroots cricket. Focused on inclusivity, it offers scholarships that give underprivileged children access to professional coaching

and facilities. Supporting ages 9–18, the academy provides a clear pathway to professional cricket while fostering teamwork, confidence and ambition. Its rapid growth and community impact highlight how sport can break barriers and transform lives.



Primrose Consultancy

Primrose Consultancy Yorkshire, founded by Kaneez Khan MBE in 2022, helps organisations embed equity, diversity and inclusion at every level. Specialising in inclusive governance and mentoring, it has supported clients such as Kirkwood Hospice, Eureka Science Museum, Cellar Trust, Forum Central and

WYCA's Sports for Good. Through strategic advice and training, Primrose enables organisations to thread EDI into their culture, ensuring meaningful inclusion that strengthens leadership, widens opportunities and drives long-term change.



Inarah Frozen Foods

In just five years, Four Seasons Food Group has launched seven successful food brands and achieved a £10m turnover, with double-digit growth year on year. Now a leading wholesale supplier, the group serves over 1,000 independent retail stores across

the UK. Its rapid rise is driven by a focus on quality, innovation and reliability, making Four Seasons a trusted partner for retailers nationwide and a standout success story in the UK's competitive food sector.



Jahan Foods

Under Kaleem Ahmed's leadership, Jahan Foods has grown from a small family business into one of the UK's most recognised halal food brands. In the past year it has expanded into Morrisons, Asda and Sainsbury's, launched products like Cheesy Nacho

Chicken Bites, and achieved double-digit growth. Known for quality, affordability and authentic flavour, Jahan Foods continues to win loyalty nationwide, combining innovation, rigorous standards and bold marketing to strengthen its market presence.

Restaurant of the Year



Lala's

Beyond business success, Lala's actively uplifts the local community. They've hosted charity events, provided free meals during Ramadan, and regularly

support youth initiatives. Their commitment to ethical sourcing, sustainability practices, and fair employment further reinforces their values-driven leadership.



Jinnah

Led by managing director Saleem Akhtar, Jinnah Group has become a cornerstone of Yorkshire's dining scene. From a Bradford corner shop in 1981 to award-winning restaurants across the region, the brand

blends Kashmiri heritage with a commitment to authenticity, quality and freshness. Celebrated for rich flavours, lively atmospheres and community spirit, Jinnah reflects a legacy built on passion, family and tradition.



International

Founded in 1976, International Restaurant is a Bradford icon with nearly five decades of flavour, family and fine dining. From humble beginnings, it has grown into a multi-award-winning brand

blending tradition and modernity. Now led by the next generation, International continues to set the standard for South Asian cuisine, service and dining excellence.



Aagrah

Founded in 1977 by brothers Haji Mohammed Sabir MBE, Zafar Iqbal and Mohammed Aslam MBE, DL, Aagrah has grown from a Shipley restaurant into one of Yorkshire's most iconic groups. Celebrated for authentic Asian

cuisine, fresh ingredients and innovation, it has shaped the UK curry scene, hosted global stars, launched product lines and continues to thrive under the next generation.

Fashion Outlet of the Year



Janan

Founded in Bradford in 2011, Janan Group has become a trailblazer in South Asian fashion retail, expanding into Manchester, Birmingham, London and Europe with a strong online presence. Blending heritage with modernity, it redefines the UK's South Asian fashion experience while operating

exclusive J. stores across Europe. Led by brothers Asif and Asghar Khan, Janan employs nearly 350 people, driving job creation and community impact. With consistent growth and a people-first ethos, Janan is now recognised as one of the industry's fastest-growing and most respected names.



Shiffonz

Founded in 2003, Shiffonz is a South Asian fashion house with flagship stores in Bradford, London and Birmingham, plus a strong online presence. Offering bridal couture, party wear, modest fashion and everyday attire, it blends

tradition with modern trends for women, men and children. Shiffonz is recognised for style, quality and accessibility, making it a go-to destination for South Asian fashion in the UK and beyond.



Design Quarter

Founded in 2005 by Asma, Design Quarter grew from a small studio into a leading boutique celebrated for its exclusive collections from Pakistan, including bridal wear. Built on friendship and a passion for fashion, the brand reflects

hard work and growth. Beyond retail success, Asma is committed to community impact, supporting marginalised women through local initiatives, making Design Quarter not only a destination for style but also a platform for empowerment.



Bombay Stores

Founded in 1967 by Abdul and Maryam Kader, Bombay Stores grew from a small garage unit into one UK's largest South Asian department store. Known for its vast inventory of fabrics, fashion, jewellery and wedding goods,

it draws shoppers from across Yorkshire and beyond. Today the family continues the legacy in fashion, fabrics and weddings, serving Bradford and beyond with a warm, community-rooted, multi-generation retail experience.

Family Business of the Year



Abu Bakr Supermarkets

Abu Bakr Supermarkets are a beloved family-run business with five stores across Yorkshire, including flagship sites in Leeds and Batley. Founded in the 1970s by the late Chawdry Mohammed Aslam, the business grew under his son Abid Hussain ("Brother Abid") and brothers Sajid and

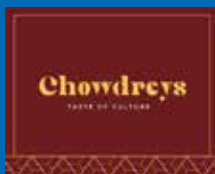
Wajid, expanding from a small Keighley shop to full-service halal superstores. Known for fresh produce, halal butchery, bakery, homewares, and food-to-go counters, Abu Bakr blends quality, convenience, and community spirit while supporting local charities and global aid.



United Foods Cash & Carry

Founded in 1982 as a small grocery store, United Foods Cash & Carry has grown into one of the region's most trusted wholesale suppliers. Still family-run, it now operates from a 120,000 sq. ft. facility, serving retailers, caterers and foodservice businesses across Yorkshire and Lancashire. Built

on hard work, trust and service, the company is known for quality, competitive pricing and a diverse range that reflects the region's communities. Guided by its second generation, United Foods remains rooted in customers and community.



Chowdrey's

Chowdrey's, formerly Ambala Sweet Centre, has been a Bradford institution since 1985 when it was bought by the Chowdrey family. Nearly 40 years on, it still operates from the same Great Horton Road site, serving generations with mitai, samosas,

and falooda. Now proudly run by the third generation, the business embodies family values, resilience and community spirit. A constant presence in life's celebrations, Chowdrey's has become woven into Bradford's cultural fabric, making it a true family legacy.



CC Continental

Since 2000, CC Continental Super Store has been a trusted name in Leeds, serving diverse communities with fresh produce, halal meat, spices, and household essentials. With branches on Chapeltown Road and Roundhay

Road, including the landmark Fforde Grene site, the family-run business combines authenticity, value, and choice. CC Continental is recognised for high food safety standards and remains a cornerstone of community retail.

Brand of the Year

The logo for Scent Salim features the brand name in a serif font, with 'SCENT SALIM' in a larger, bold font above 'FINE ARABIAN SCENTS' in a smaller, all-caps font.

Scent Salim

Founded by Managing Director Ilyas Salim, Scent Salim has become a global fragrance brand with its flagship Oud Store in Leeds and exhibitions worldwide. Rooted in a 70-year family legacy, the brand offers premium Ouds, Musks, and

Roses sourced internationally. Guided by strong ethical values, Ilyas and his brother Haroon continue to grow the business while supporting charitable causes and mentoring young entrepreneurs.



Shimlas

From Allah Ditta's humble beginnings to Rahat Javid's modern expansion, Shimlas is a three-generation family legacy rooted in Bradford. Founded on authentic South Asian recipes and carried forward with innovation, the

brand became a landmark with its Famous Chicken Doner and now operates six branches. Balancing tradition with growth, Shimlas remains a trusted name in dining - celebrating heritage, family, and the community it proudly serves.



My Peshawar

Founded by Tauseef Malik, My Peshawar is redefining Pashtun cuisine in the UK. From one restaurant to three thriving branches, the brand has become a destination for authentic food, quality service, and cultural pride.

Built on innovation and consistency, My Peshawar is admired not just for its dishes but for its values - creating opportunity, respect, and loyalty within its team. With expansion plans underway, it is fast becoming a leading name in hospitality.



Bison Steakhouse

Bison Steakhouse has established itself as one of Yorkshire's most distinctive dining destinations, offering premium halal steaks, burgers, and grills with a focus on quality and authenticity. Known for its 40-day dry-aged Aberdeen

Angus steaks and hand-pressed burgers, and expansion plans on the horizon, Bison continues to grow as a brand that combines community roots, halal dining, and a premium experience in the heart of Yorkshire.

Beauty & Aesthetics Business of the Year



Prity Salon

Founded in 2005 by Prity Farooq, Prity Salon has become one of Bradford's leading names in beauty and skincare. Prity Salon offers laser treatments, injectables, advanced facials, hair removal, and makeup services, supported by its

own line of natural skincare products. Recognised for combining Ayurvedic heritage with modern aesthetics, the salon is celebrated for its professionalism, hygiene, customer care, and supports local charities.



Naheem Yacub Barbers

Naheem Yacub Barbers is more than a barbershop - it is a community hub built on craft, education, and giving back. Alongside the busy salon, Naheem Yacub Barbers operates as an approved training centre, delivering

accredited barbering courses that equip the next generation with skills and confidence to thrive in the industry. Beyond the salon doors, Naheem Yacub Barbers is deeply engaged in charitable work.



Libertes

Libertes Hair & Beauty, founded by Azra Riaz, has been a trusted name in Bradford for over 30-years, offering expert hair and beauty services in a welcoming, client-focused setting. From precision cuts, colouring, and styling to advanced skincare,

facials, peels, and hydrafacial treatments, the salon blends creativity with technical expertise. Known for its professionalism and personal touch, Libertes remains one of West Yorkshire's leading destinations for style, beauty, and wellbeing.

Retail Business of the Year



Abu Bakr Supermarkets

Abu Bakr Supermarkets are a beloved family-run business with five stores across Yorkshire, including flagship sites in Leeds and Batley. Founded in the 1970s by the late Chawdry Mohammed Aslam, the business grew under his son Abid Hussain (“Brother Abid”) and brothers Sajid and

Wajid, expanding from a small Keighley shop to full-service halal superstores. Known for fresh produce, halal butchery, bakery, homewares, and food-to-go counters, Abu Bakr blends quality, convenience, and community spirit while supporting local charities and global aid.



United Foods Cash & Carry

Founded in 1982 as a small grocery store, United Foods Cash & Carry has grown into one of the region's most trusted wholesale suppliers. Still family-run, it now operates from a 120,000 sq. ft. facility, serving retailers, caterers and foodservice businesses across Yorkshire and Lancashire. Built

on hard work, trust and service, the company is known for quality, competitive pricing and a diverse range that reflects the region's communities. Guided by its second generation, United Foods remains rooted in customers and community.



Worldwide Foods

Worldwide Foods was founded in 1985 by Pervez Alam, who arrived in the UK from Pakistan in 1971 with a vision to bring authentic halal food to British communities. What began as a single Al Halal Supermarket has grown into the UK's leading halal grocery chain, with stores across the North and Midlands. Guided by

family values and a commitment to quality, affordability, and customer care, Worldwide Foods now offers products from South Asia, the Middle East, Africa, East Asia, and South America. Pervez Alam's vision has evolved into a brand that truly lives up to its name—flavours from around the world.



Jahan Foods

Under Kaleem Ahmed's leadership, Jahan Foods has grown from a small family business into one of the UK's most recognised halal food brands. In the past year it has expanded into Morrisons, Asda and Sainsbury's, launched products like Cheesy Nacho Chicken Bites,

and achieved double-digit growth. Known for quality, affordability and authentic flavour, Jahan Foods continues to win loyalty nationwide, combining innovation, rigorous standards and bold marketing to strengthen its market presence.

Social Enterprise of the Year



Hamara Healthy Living Centre

The Hamara Healthy Living Centre in Beeston, is one of the city's largest community organisations, dedicated to improving health, wellbeing, and opportunity for local people. Established in 2002 by the late Mohammed Farouk Butt, Hamara

has grown into a trusted hub offering a wide range of services including health and fitness programmes, youth engagement, education, employability support, elderly care, and culturally tailored initiatives designed to meet the needs of diverse communities.



Link AP Academy

Link AP Academy is a Bradford-based Gold Standard 'alternative provision' service committed to giving every young person hope, opportunity, and a high-quality education. Students receive personalised teaching from qualified staff across core subjects alongside vocational pathways,

careers guidance, and personal development. Safeguarding is central, with robust systems, trained DSLs, and full compliance with DfE standards. Link AP Academy ensures students leave with qualifications, skills, and confidence to achieve their potential.



Impact Hub Yorkshire

ImpactHubYorkshire is a mission-driven social enterprise at the forefront of inclusive enterprise, regeneration, and community innovation. It now supports hundreds of entrepreneurs and social ventures across Yorkshire, championing underrepresented

founders through incubation, mentoring, and investment readiness programmes. Its cultural regeneration work includes the Little Germany Heritage Project, restoring historic buildings and empowering creatives ahead of Bradford 2025.



MEMEC

The Middle Eastern and Mediterranean Community (MEMEC) has grown from a grassroots initiative into a vital community hub supporting vulnerable groups. Founded and directed by Dr. Sabah Achide, also runs an Arabic and Islamic

school that supports children. Its trauma-informed services, advocacy, and close partnerships with organisations such as the British Red Cross, PAFRAS, and St. Vincent's Leeds ensure a joined-up response to complex cases.

Accountancy Firm of the Year



HCA Accountants

HCA Accountants, was founded in 2013 by Furqan Ahmad, who brings over 30 years of experience in the accountancy profession. HCA Accountants provides a full range of accounting services tailored to businesses of all sizes - offering both in-person and online support across the UK. HCA's team helps clients

enhance profitability, improve financial clarity, and comply with all current legislation. A specialist area of expertise lies in R&D Tax Credits, where the firm has achieved a 100% success rate on claims, supporting companies innovating in science and technology.



Amanah Accountants

Amanah Accountants has earned a reputation for reliable, forward-thinking accountancy services for small businesses, sole traders, and individuals across the UK and beyond. The firm has grown expanding into Bradford, Leeds, and internationally

with a Dubai branch. Services range from bookkeeping, VAT, and tax returns to specialist areas including inheritance tax planning, capital gains, and business growth strategies. This ensures that clients receive tailored support at every stage of their financial journey.



The Accounting Company

The Accounting Company (Leeds) Limited has set the benchmark for excellence in the accounting industry. With over a decade of experience, the firm delivers reliable, accurate, and innovative accounting, tax, and financial services to individuals, entrepreneurs, and large enterprises across

the UK. Embracing the latest technology and automation tools, it ensures efficiency, accuracy, and full regulatory compliance. Its flawless 5-star Google reviews and steady growth, reflect a trusted reputation built on quality and transparency.

Law Firm of the Year



Tyler Hoffman Solicitors

Tyler Hoffman Solicitors began as a single-office firm and has rapidly expanded with branches in Wakefield, Halifax, Leeds, and Oldham. Specialising in a wide range of legal areas, the firm serves clients across the UK and internationally, with a unique

24/7 service culture. Alongside exceptional client care, Tyler Hoffman is committed to social impact - raising funds for charities, recruiting from local institutions, and investing in the development of tomorrow's lawyers to create a lasting legacy.



Kamrans Solicitors

Kamrans Solicitors have delivered expert Criminal Defence advice and advocacy for over four decades, specialising in complex and serious crime. Led by Abdul Iftikhar, a highly respected Solicitor Advocate and Duty Solicitor since 2001, the firm has

defended clients in some of the UK's most high-profile cases, from multi-million-pound fraud and money laundering to gangland murders, drug conspiracies, firearms offences, and human trafficking trials.



Khan Solicitors

Khan Solicitors is a leading criminal defence firm with over 40 years of experience, based in Bradford with additional offices in Sheffield. The firm specialises in serious and complex cases, from fraud and drug conspiracies

to firearms offences and Crown Court trials. Accredited by the Law Society and regulated by the SRA, Khan Solicitors is recognised for professionalism, dedication, and strong client advocacy.



Kingsman Solicitors

Kingsman Solicitors is a specialist criminal defence firm with a strong track record of representing clients under investigation and defending serious charges across the UK. Known for professionalism, energy, and advocacy skills, the firm covers the full spectrum of crime, from murder and

firearms offences to white-collar crime and complex fraud. With many clients referred through recommendations, Kingsman is respected for safeguarding rights, achieving results, and delivering personal, dedicated support throughout every stage of proceedings.

Professional of the Year



Dr Saira Ali FLI FRSA Din - President Elect of the Landscape Institute & Team Leader at CBMDC

Saira has 30 years of award-winning experience in landscape architecture and urban regeneration. A bold leader, she transforms cities through inclusive, climate-resilient design that promotes biodiversity. A passionate advocate for diversity,

she mentors emerging talent and speaks globally on sustainable placemaking. Her voluntary roles include the Yorkshire Regional Flood Committee, National Trust's Advisory Board, and the Children's Heart Surgery Fund.



Jabran Hussain
Managing Partner at Kingsman Solicitors

Jabran Hussain is the Managing Partner and a Solicitor-Advocate at Kingsman Solicitors, specialising in serious crime, complex fraud, and regulatory defence. A barrister by training and a member of Lincoln's Inn, Jabran brings extensive experience defending clients in

high-profile cases investigated by the NCA, CCU, and Trading Standards. Jabran is also trained in handling vulnerable witnesses and children, combining technical expertise with compassion and professionalism to achieve the best possible outcomes for his clients.



Sarah Khan-Bashir MBE
Managing Partner at Kingsman Solicitors

With over 25 years' experience, Sarah Khan-Bashir MBE, founder of SKB Law, is redefining family law through innovation, compassion, and cultural understanding. Advising clients in the UK and internationally on divorce, children's matters, and Islamic marriage,

she also hosts the Family Matters with Sarah podcast and founded the SKB Law Academy, mentoring future lawyers. Co-author of The Nikah Nama Handbook, Sarah continues to shape a more modern, inclusive approach to family law.



Rizwana Mahmood-Ahmed MBE
Headteacher/Educational Consultant

Rizwana is a transformational educational leader with over a decade of success turning around underperforming schools. Her current school ranks in the top 1-3% nationally and is recognised by the Department for Education as a beacon of excellence. Awarded

an MBE in 2024 for services to education, she champions equity, innovation, and social mobility. Rizwana co-created initiatives like Oxbridge Minds and Operation GenZ, inspiring academic aspirations and safeguarding vulnerable youth.



Charity Gala Dinner

JOIN CRICKETING LEGEND SHAHID AFRIDI, ALONG WITH PAKISTANI CELEBRITIES EMMAD IRFANI, IMRAN ABBAS & WASEEM BADAMI

Sunday 9th November 2025 - 6:00pm
Cedar Court Hotel, Bradford

AROUND 8 MILLION PEOPLE WERE DISPLACED BY THE PAKISTAN FLOODS.
THIS FUNDRAISING SUPPORTS DESTITUTE FAMILIES AND VULNERABLE
INDIVIDUALS WHO LOST EVERYTHING.

WHAT TO EXPECT

Q&A SESSION WITH ALL THE STARS
CHARITY AUCTION



JANAN

For Bookings and Enquiries contact Nadim: +44 7969 914041

You've got a business...

... We've got a strategy

Call to find out how make your business stand out from the crowd

- Free advice on your advertising needs
- Range of advertising and promotional options
- Packages to suit all budgets
- Sponsored business profile packages
- In-house design available
- Newsprint & Digital



Award-winning publications

Empowering South Asian communities since 2001

Telephone:

08703 608 606 • 07969 914 041

Email:

general.enquiry@asianexpress.co.uk



www.asianexpress.co.uk



Nominate an inspiring woman now for the
BPA Empowering Women Awards 2026

Apply Online NOW
businesspowerawards.co.uk

CATEGORIES:

Outstanding Woman in Arts, Media & Culture	'Mover & Shaker' of the Year
Professional of the Year	Young Achiever of the Year
Outstanding Woman in Education	Diversity Champion of the Year
Outstanding Woman in Public Service	Influential Woman of the Year
Outstanding Woman in Healthcare	Sport Champion of the Year
Empowerment Champion of the Year	Excellence in the Legal Sector
Community Champion of the Year	Special Recognition
	Lifetime Achievement

#BPAEW2026 - Gala Dinner June 2026