

# Insured ice crash ver has vided ban

Motorist who crashed through a fence after swerving to avoid a deer was driving without insurance, Skipton court rates were told.

Andrew Cliff, 29, left his car on the farm fence next to the lane, Bentham, following the accident on May 8, the court heard last night.

Police the next day believed he was covering up the car through his insurance. The court heard he was employed by his employers, and was insured by the insurance of the keeper of the car, his

who admitted driving without insurance, already points on his licence for a similar offence. John Mitigating, John argued his client suffer exceptional licence if he lost his licence.

Cliff had a partner, young children and was unable to continue as a mechanic if he lost his licence. He had the fence himself. Lakeber Avenue, was fined £300 and licence endorsed with 10 points. He was ordered to pay £45 costs and victims surcharge.

# Care home staff praised for 'feelings first' mantra

by Herald Reporter

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A Threshfield care home has been lauded for providing excellent dementia care.

Threshfield Court Care Home, on Station Road, has been awarded the Dementia Care Matters Butterfly kite-mark for sustained excellence.

It is the only care home in Yorkshire, and only one of 12 across the country, to receive the award. General manager Val Gains, who has been in charge of the care home for 23 years, was delighted that her staff of 56 people have been recognised.

"I think it's a validation of what we're doing and the staff at Threshfield Court have been recognised for the exceptional expertise."

Mrs Gains added that all staff, not just carers, had received training in dementia care.

She said: "Since 2004, we embarked on person-centred care approach where you look at the person first before seeing the illness."

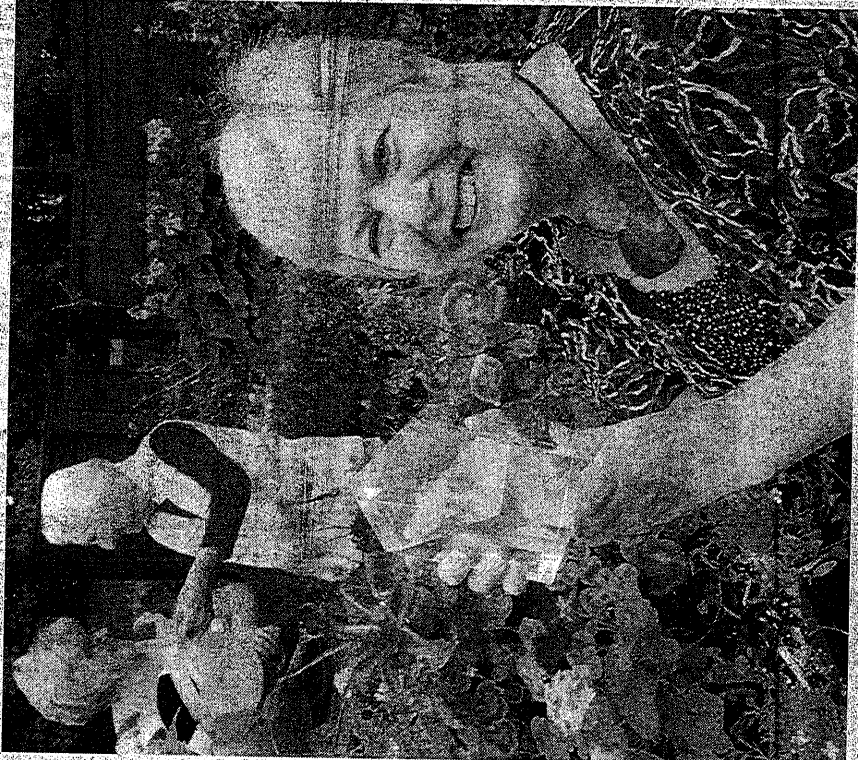
"We got rid of uniforms and changed the environment to make it less clinical and more homely."

She said Threshfield Court encouraged its staff to "go with the flow" and enter the reality of the person suffering from dementia.

"We ask them to understand what the residents might be going through," added Mrs Gains. "Because depending where they are on their dementia journey, the one thing a person has right to the end is their feelings. Our mantra is 'feelings matter most'."

Mrs Gains believes that the main reason why the 60-bed care home received the award is that the staff have kept up this philosophy of dementia care over a long period.

She said: "We started down this road and we've persevered with it."



ACCOLADE: General manager Val Gains with the Dementia Care Matters Butterfly Award with resident Freda Anderson, activities coordinator Helen Hepworth at Threshfield Court Nursing Home.

## News in brief

### Deadline looms for charity trek

Walkers have just hours left to sign up for the British Heart Foundation's Yorkshire Three Peaks Challenge. Saturday's 25-mile hike will see participants climb Penyghent, Wharfedale and Ingleborough. It is hoped the event will raise £38,000 for the charity. Entry for the over-18s-only event is £15. For details or to register or volunteer, visit bhf.org.uk/yorkshire, call 0800 1693672 or e-mail northwestwales@bhf.org.uk.

### Writing event

Craven Museum and Gallery hosted a creative writing workshop for Year Seven and Eight students from Aireville School, Skipton. The workshop was led by Miles Cain, who is a writer and performer based in York. The event was made possible with £150 sponsorship from the Skipton and Wharfedale Decorative and Fine Arts Society.

### Fundraising

Guide Dogs raised more than £800 with a street collection in Skipton earlier this month. "We would like to thank everyone for their generosity," said branch organiser Theima Wilson. "We raised £863.81, which will help provide guide dogs and rehabilitation services for the blind and partially-sighted people within the area."

THE *Wedding*

Wedding focus

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