

AIRE VALLEY MAG

COMMUNITY NEWS AND LOCAL BUSINESS DIRECTORY

November 2025



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November has a way of slowing us down. The days are shorter, the light is softer, and it's a natural time to take stock. Across the UK, we pause to remember ~ through services, two-minute silences, and small acts of reflection. These shared moments matter. They don't change the world, but they remind us of what's important: community, memory, and the value of showing up.

This issue, we're also thinking about the role of volunteering ~ how giving time, even in small ways, can make a difference. Whether it's helping a neighbour or supporting a local cause, it's another way of saying: we're in this together.

It's also the season of harvest ~ a time to notice what we have, and to share it where we can. There is plenty to be grateful for. Maybe it's a warm meal, a moment of quiet, or just making it through a tough week.

And speaking of meals, if you're looking for something seasonal and comforting, don't miss our Beef and Pumpkin Pie recipe. It's proper autumn food. Have a lovely month.



Liz

Liz Barker, Editor

Free Festive Fun

Sat 29th November 11am to 3pm

Activities for all ages - everyone welcome



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Steeton

Health Centre Action Group

Your Health Matters - Views and experiences count

Steeton Health Centre Action Group

was formed in 2023 with an aim to fully restore services at our local surgery following Covid restrictions. We have made significant progress and continue to work with Modality and stakeholders to increase both the opening hours and services. Stakeholders we are working with include Bradford District & Craven Health and Care Partnership, Bradford District councillors, Robbie Moore MP, Steeton and Eastburn Parish Council, Healthwatch and the community.

The 10year NHS Health Plan for England was introduced to improve health care for all using new technologies, medicines and innovations.

In summary the NHS 10yr Health Plan aims to reinvent the NHS through 3 radical shifts:

- **Analogue to digital**
- **Hospital to community**
- **Treatment to prevention**

This presents an exciting opportunity to reset and revitalise General Practice. The plan proposes new GP operational models, starting with the new annual GP contract from 1st October 2025 which anchors primary care within the community via neighbourhood health centres.

The Action Group meets monthly; anyone can attend our meetings.

We are happy to support any community group to champion primary care delivery in their area.

We also attend regular Modality Patient Panel meetings and are happy to encourage attendance at this forum.

Help influence the changes ahead Healthwatch is aware of the work undertaken by the Action Group but wants to hear from other communities, specifically those served by Modality, which operates 10 branch surgeries across Airedale, Wharfedale and Craven.

Healthwatch would also like to hear from other GP practice users in order to understand how primary health care provision is delivered.

If you are interested in supporting health in your local community and would like further information please contact

Healthwatch:

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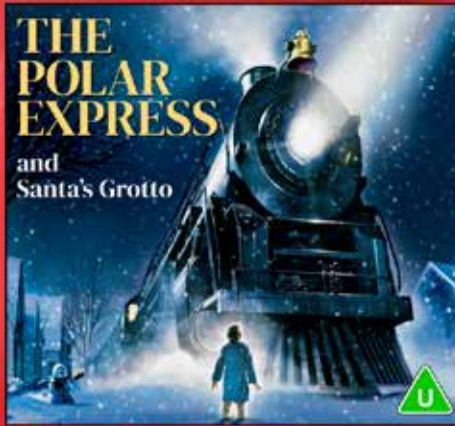
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Celebrate a life

Join us to remember and celebrate the lives of those important to you.

Wednesday 3 December, 6.30pm
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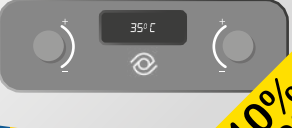

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by Martin Lingard

This is proper seasonal comfort food. The pumpkin soaks up the flavour of the beef and gravy as the pie cooks, making for a deeply satisfying dish. I'm giving instructions here for suet pastry, as I think it pairs beautifully with the filling, but feel free to use shortcrust pastry if that's your preference. If you're short on time, a couple of packs of ready-made shortcrust from the supermarket will do just fine.

You'll need a suitably sized deep pie dish or tin, I use a 12" diameter enamelled cast iron casserole pot.

Ingredients

For the filling:

2 tbsp vegetable oil
1 large onion, chopped
½ a small pumpkin, peeled and cut into a rough dice (about 700g)
700g minced beef
1 heaped tbsp tomato purée
1 glug of soy sauce
1 tsp ground allspice

1 tsp ground mixed spice
1 tbsp plain flour
500ml beef stock
Salt and black pepper

For the pie crust:

300g self-raising flour
1 tsp baking powder
150g beef suet
½ tsp salt

Method

Heat the oil in a large pan over medium heat and tip in the chopped onion. Stir occasionally and cook until soft and just starting to colour. Add the pumpkin and minced beef, and continue cooking, again stirring occasionally, until the beef begins to brown.

Next, stir in the tomato purée, soy sauce, allspice, mixed spice, and flour. Give everything a good mix, then pour in the beef stock. Stir well, bring to a low simmer, cover, and cook gently for about 15 minutes. Remove the lid, season to taste with salt and pepper, then continue cooking uncovered until the liquid has reduced to a thick, rich gravy.

While your filling is cooking, preheat the oven to 180°C. To make the suet pastry, sift the flour into a large bowl and mix in the baking powder, suet, and salt. Add cold water a little at a time, mixing with the back of a knife, until it comes together as a dough. Tip it out onto a floured surface and knead briefly. Take two-thirds of the dough and roll it out to line your greased pie dish. Press it in gently, then pour in your pie filling.

Roll out the remaining dough to form the lid. Place it on top of the pie, crimp the edges to seal, and cut a few slashes in the top to let steam escape.

I like to serve this with buttered Savoy cabbage—and if you're after more carbs, a generous helping of mashed potatoes works perfectly.

Sudoku

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Where in the Aire Valley? COMPETITION

Where is the **red x** located in the photo to the right?

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2025.



Last month's competition location was Long Lee nd
Thwaites Village Hall, and the winner was Aiden Severs
from Long Lee.



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As the nights draw in and the scent of steam lingers in the crisp autumn air, it's the perfect time to reflect on what has been a truly remarkable season for the Keighley & Worth Valley Railway.

Our Beer & Music Festival was our biggest and most successful yet, welcoming over 5,000 visitors, serving an incredible 22,000 pints, covering 550 miles of train journeys, and clocking up nearly 5,000 volunteer hours. A huge thank you to everyone who played a part, from our tireless volunteers to our visitors who made the weekend one to remember. The event not only celebrated our heritage but showed, once again, the strength and spirit of the KWVR community.

Now, as we head towards the festive season, the railway is transforming into a place of Christmas magic and tradition. The ever-popular **Elf Explorer** returns to delight families with festive fun, laughter, and a touch of sparkle. Our atmospheric production

of **A Christmas Carol** will once again bring Dickens' timeless tale to life amidst the glow of lantern light and the sound of the steam whistle.

We'll also be hosting our **Carol Service Train**, a chance to come together in song and spirit along the valley, and of course, rounding off the year with the much-loved **Mince Pie Specials**, the perfect way to relax, reflect, and enjoy the railway between Christmas and New Year.

As ever, none of this would be possible without the dedication of our volunteers and the continued support of our visitors. Whether you've joined us for a pint, a performance, or a festive ride, thank you for being part of the KWVR story.

Here's to a magical Christmas and an exciting year ahead on your railway.

~ **Matt Stroh**

Keighley & Worth Valley Railway Chairman

NEXT STOP: CHRISTMAS CHEER!

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NOVEMBER & DECEMBER



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Who are we?

**Our Keighley
Denture Expert is
Matthew Varley
(Dip CDT RCS)**

Matthew Varley is the partner and Managing Director of My Denture

Clinics, here he works as a Clinical Dental Technician (Dip CDT RCS).

Matt was born and raised in Pudsey, where he met his wife Angela Varley at school. They have 2 sons; Ray and Austin, he hopes one day they will follow him into the dental profession and share in his passion for dentistry.

Within his 23 years of experience, Matt has changed the lives and smiles of many, some of which are during one day implant immediate loading cases, and same day smiles, which he specialises in. The regular accolades received from clients and patients alike are testament to his passion for his work. Matt has a keen eye for detail and endeavours to provide the best care possible. Matthew completed his dental technology qualification at Leeds Dental Institute, he finished first in his class achieving distinctions throughout and was awarded overall best student and the acclaimed technical achievement award.

Matthew Varley started his journey as a Registered Dental Technician (RDT), however after 23 years experience working as a RDT in highly acclaimed laboratories, Matt made the decision in 2018 to set up his own business alongside fellow business partner Joseph O'Reilly.

Matt also returned to university to further his dental knowledge and become a Clinical Dental Technician, receiving the prestigious royal college of surgeons (Dip CDT RCS).

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The smallest alteration can make the biggest change and Matt is committed to providing the highest level of care, quality materials and the latest digital technology to achieve the best results for you.

Matt's ambition is also his craft, creating lifelike smiles through dentures and implant supported prosthesis.

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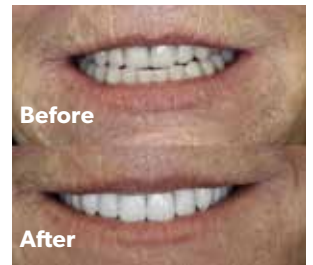
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8	2	3	1	6	9	5	4	7
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BEHIND THE SCENES AT THE MUSEUM

As October comes to a close, we're waving goodbye to the portrait of Emily Brontë that was kindly loaned to the Museum by the National Portrait Gallery. We've had a fantastic time welcoming visitors, all of whom were eager to have the rare opportunity to see Emily here in the home where she was painted. This November we're uncovering the fascinating friendship between Charlotte Brontë and Elizabeth Gaskell. That a friendship should



develop between two of the greatest authors of the Victorian age is interesting in itself; but that this relationship flourished between two women who could hardly have been

more different in personality and circumstances is truly worthy of investigation.

The women met in 1850, and following Charlotte's death in 1855 Patrick Brontë wrote to Mrs Gaskell asking her to write his daughters biography. The Life of Charlotte Brontë was published in 1857, quickly followed by revised

second and third editions following controversy. The book was the first biography to be written by and about a woman writer, and is still widely read today.

This month's Thursday Talk will be delivered by Libby Tempest, Vice-Chair of the Elizabeth Gaskell Society and a dedicated advocate for literary access across communities.

Remember, anyone with a BD20, BD21, or BD22 postcode can come to our Thursday Talks in-person completely free of charge.

We're also getting ready for the festive season here at the Parsonage, and we're extremely excited to welcome people to our **Late Night Festive Opening on Thursday 4 December from 5pm**. Discover the Parsonage sparkling by the warm glow of candlelight and decorated for the festive season! This evening is also completely free of charge to local residents, so it's a fantastic opportunity to visit the Parsonage for the very first time, or just see it in a whole new light!

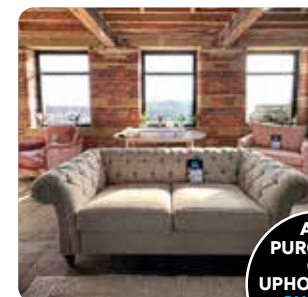
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COMMUNITY PAGES

Every Monday 9.30am-12 noon
South Craven Walking for Health Group. Contact 07757911726 or 01535 538835 for more information.

Every Monday & Friday 1pm - 4pm
Knit & Natter Craft Group Steeton Hub More nfo call Diane 07873 485149
Every Monday 1-3pm Tea Dance at Keighley Civic Centre £2.50 inc tea & biscuits.

Glusburn and Crosshills WI meet at 7.30 pm on the first Tuesday of the month at Glusburn Community & Arts Centre. A friendly group for local women.

Sutton in Craven WI meet 1.30pm every second Monday of the month Sutton in Craven Cricket Pavilion all local ladies welcome. See us on Facebook.

Wellbeing Café at Glusburn Institute
Every Monday 10 am to 12 noon. .
 Contact 01535 630223 for more details.
Every Tuesdays Community Post Office Counter 12.30pm - 2.30pm at Steeton Hub

First Tuesday of a month Silsden Bereavement Group 10.30 am - 12.30pm at Silsden Methodist Church Safe and welcoming space to share your journey free to attend.

Last Tuesday of a month is Afternoon Coffee, chat & cake at Steeton Methodist Church 2.30pm - 4pm with The Salvation Army food bank collection point.

First Tuesday of a month Crosshills Goldie's Sing & Smile – St Peters Methodist Church 2 - 3pm singalong to the popular hits of the 50s, chat and laugh.

Games Club Every Tuesday 1:15 - 3:15 pm at Glusburn Institute. £3
Every Tuesday Rethinking Pain at The Hive, Elliott Street. Silsden 3pm - 4pm A Group for people living in pain.
Tuesdays (Term Time) 2.30pm - 3.30pm Calm at the Castle Relaxing & meditation - friendly group. FREE & no experience needed at Cliffe Castle Keighley
Third Tuesday of a month at Steeton Methodist Church 2-3pm

Goldie's Sing & Smile – sing-along to the popular hits of the 50s onwards, chat and laugh. £3 donation to attend, no need to book.

Steeton Bobbins WI 7pm meet on the first Tuesday of a month at St Stephen's Church Hall

Every Weds Dementia Friendly 10am - 11.30am at Silsden Methodist Church

Every Weds Glusburn Lunch club at 11.45am Glusburn Institute for a two course, home cooked meal, for £6.00 and company. If you are a pensioner and interested, please contact Pauline on 07436 113748.

Every Wednesday 1 - 2:30pm Dementia Hub at Glusburn Institute with Dementia Friendly Keighley. Activities and support for those with dementia and their carers.

Buzz Youth Club, The Hive Silsden 8-12 year old FREE Entry 10.30am - 12.30pm alternative Saturdays & every Wednesday 3.30pm - 6pm.

Every Wednesday 1.30pm Silsden Art Club meet at Silsden Methodist Church New members welcome.

1st Thursday of the Month at Steeton Methodist Church 7-15pm -8-15pm invites you to our **Prayer and Praise Service**

Every Thursday at Glusburn Institute 10.30am - 2.30pm Patchwork. A friendly group of like-minded ladies who like to create patchwork throws, bags, cushions and hold-alls. (previously held at Steeton Hub) More details contact Sylvia 01535 662698

Silsden Methodist Church Thursday Club 2.30pm - 4pm weekly Music, Games, Quizes, friendly chatter & refreshments.

Every Thurs at 12.00 - 2.30pm Craven Craft and Mosaic Social Group at Sutton Sutton Cricket Club (wheelchair access is good and there is plenty of parking space). The cost is £2 and covers two cuppas and biscuits.

Every Thursday 2-3pm Social Singalong at The Studio, Glusburn Community & Arts Centre. All welcome to this friendly and inclusive singing for fun and wellbeing group. **Free to attend.**

Fridays 10am - 12.30pm Warm Space Group at Steeton Hub.

Every Friday 10am-12pm Digital Drop-in at Glusburn Community & Arts Centre. Help and advice about getting online, using your device, navigating websites and staying safe. £4 including refreshments.

First Saturday of the Month is Saturday Social 2 - 4pm at St James Community Hall Silsden. Have a chat, play games & refreshments

Coffee morning every Saturday morning from 9.30am at the Village Centre, Crosshills. Everyone welcome

Sun 2nd Nov Addingham/Silsden Wander. 8 miles Meet for 10.30am start along Big Meadow Drive, Addingham, LS29 0XE

Sun 9th Nov 10.00am St Stephen's Church, Steeton Remembrance Day Service jointly with Steeton Methodist Church+ 10.50am

commemoration at the cenotaph in Steeton
Sun 9th Nov 9.35 am - 11am Keighley Remembrance Day Parade & Service
Thurs 13th Nov 11.00am- 1.00pm Lunch Club at St Stephen's Community Hall, BD20 6SB
 Bingo, sandwiches and cake.

Sun 16th Nov 10 am to 4pm Christmas Fair at Glusburn Institute free entry
Sat 22nd Nov 10 am onwards Light Switch on Keighley (5pm)

Sat 29th Nov 10.00am- 12.30pm Christmas Fayre at St Stephen's Community Hall, Hamper Draw, Father Christmas, stalls, gifts, coffee & mince pies Fun for all the family.

Sat 29th Nov 11am - 3pm Free Festive Fun at Airedale Centre, The Royal Arcade & Keighley Market
www.keighleybid.com/christmas25

Sun 30th 10 am Nov Skipton Light Switch on annual Christmas event kick starting the day with the **Santa Fun Run** on the High Street from 10am- 12pm Live entertainment, music and food & drink. There will be a trading market throughout the day with Christmas themed stalls. The Lights will be switched on at 5pm.

Sun 30th Nov 10am - 4pm Silsden Gala Christmas Fair at Silsden Town Hall followed by Carols at the bandstand and switching on of the Christmas lights.



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