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COMMUNITY NEWS AND LOCAL BUSINESS DIRECTORY

October 2026

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October

October brings a wonderful mix of colour, creativity, community and, of course, plenty of pumpkins to carve! In this issue, we explore the tradition behind those familiar glowing faces and invite you to have a go at creating your own.

We're also continuing our 20th anniversary celebrations, recognising the local businesses that have supported us over the past two decades, and the many ways we've been able to support them in return.

As always, you'll find our Directory of local services and tradespeople, together with community news, events and listings to help you stay connected with what's happening on your doorstep.

Thank you for reading and supporting local.



Liz Barker, Editor

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The pumpkin may have become the face of Halloween, but its roots are rather closer to home. In Ireland, people once carved faces into turnips and other root vegetables, placing a light inside to create a lantern for the darkness. One story associated with the tradition is that of Stingy Jack, a legendary trickster who managed to outwit the Devil. When Jack died, neither Heaven nor Hell would have him, and he was condemned to wander in darkness with only a burning coal inside a hollowed-out turnip to light his way.

And so, according to the folklore, came the Jack of the Lantern.

When the tradition travelled to North America, the pumpkin proved considerably easier to carve than a turnip. The great orange pumpkin gradually became the familiar Halloween lantern, and the custom eventually crossed the Atlantic again bringing us the glowing pumpkins that now appear on doorsteps across Britain.

A Yorkshire ghost story

And then there is the Gytrash, a ghostly creature of northern English folklore, familiar in the Brontës' time. Charlotte Brontë carried it into *Jane Eyre*, where Jane remembers the Gytrash as a spirit haunting lonely roads in

the form of a horse, mule or large dog. It seems rather appropriate, then, that Yorkshire has its own bit of supernatural folklore to add to the Halloween story.

So, when you carve your pumpkin this year, why not look closer to home for inspiration? A Yorkshire Gytrash, a wild-eyed hound, a shadowy moorland creature or simply a suitably ghoulish face for your Jack o' Lantern.

Please send us a photograph of your creation. We'd particularly like to see the scary, curious or wonderfully wonky designs that appear on doorsteps across the community this Halloween.

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**A few words from the businesses
we're privileged to support**



As Worth Valley Publishing celebrates 20 years, we're especially grateful to the thousands of local businesses who have trusted us to help them connect with the community since 2006. From our small team, Joanne in the office, Clive leading distribution in the field, and Elizabeth, founder and editor ~ thank you for your continued support. We're proud to play a small part in the success of so many local businesses, and we're delighted to share a few of their kind words.

"The Worth Valley Magazine has been a huge help to us over the past 12 months as we've built and grown Incanto Homes. Starting a new local business can be challenging, but advertising through the magazine has helped us get our name out there, reach people within our local community and, most importantly, generate new enquiries and work. It's been great to see the support of local customers and businesses, and we're really grateful to the Worth Valley Magazine for helping us get Incanto Homes off the ground." **Michael, Incanto Homes**

"As a local business, we wanted to support a local magazine, and we certainly haven't regretted our decision to advertise with the Worth Valley & Aire Valley Magazine. In fact, we have been so impressed with the response and service that around 95% of our advertising is now done through their magazines. The team are always on hand whenever I need to make a change, have a question, or simply need some advice. They are friendly, helpful and an absolute pleasure to deal with. For us, supporting a local publication has proved to be a great decision, and we would have no hesitation in recommending the Worth Valley & Aire Valley Magazine to other local businesses looking to promote themselves within the community." **David, F & D Pest Control**

"I have advertised my business through Worth & Aire Valley magazines for 16 years. Apart from word of mouth, this is where I gain most of my customers. This is my only form of advertising. All the magazines cover a vast area to my advantage. I will continue to advertise my business with them." **Adele, Adele's Ironing & Cleaning Services**

"I've been advertising with Aire Valley Magazine for just short of 10 Years now. This in itself says, that this little magazine works well for me. I always make a point on asking how my customers have heard of me, this helps me understand what works and what doesn't in advertising. So Team TTT would like to wish Team Worth & Aire Valley a very Happy 20 years, Keep doing what your doing...it works" **Sue, Tiles Taps & Tubs**

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Sudoku

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2								6
5		4			3			
	5		7					9
	2				8		4	
			6			8		3
1								7
7	8	2		1				

	2					5		6
			3					
		8	1		2		7	9
				1				7
3	9						6	5
6				2				
1	7		4		5	9		
					9			
9		5					8	

		3	6			5		
					5	6	4	
4		6					2	3
6			3		8		1	
				2				
	2		5		1			8
7	4					8		1
	3	1	4					
		2			7	3		

				8	9	2		
		7		2		1	6	
9	2				6		7	
				3			5	
1								7
	5			6				
	1		4				2	6
	8	9		7		4		
		6	1	5				

How to Play Sudoku

The goal: Fill every empty square in the 9×9 grid with a number from 1 to 9.

The rules:

Each row must contain the numbers 1-9, with no repeats.

Each column must contain the numbers 1-9, with no repeats.

Each 3×3 box must contain the numbers 1-9, with no repeats.

You've solved it when every row, column, and box contains 1-9 exactly once. **Good luck!**

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COMPETITION

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The location of last month's competition was Long Lee Surgery and the winner was Isabel Snow from Keighley.



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**Our Keighley
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Matthew Varley
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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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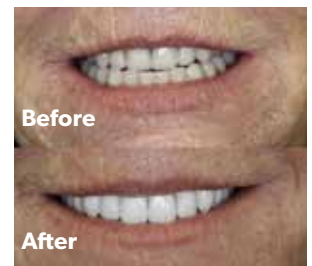
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Pork Steaks ~Normandy Style



By Martin Lingard

I learnt to cook this when I was fourteen on my French Foreign Exchange trip where I stayed with a

family in Normandy.

The mum of the family I was staying with realised I was interested in cooking and taught me how to make this. It's a really good recipe to eat in the autumn.

I like to serve this with mashed potatoes and green beans.

Ingredients (Serves 4)

4 pork shoulder steaks

75g unsalted butter

1 large onion, roughly chopped

2 cloves of garlic, crushed

Small bunch of fresh thyme

4 dessert apples, peeled, cored and sliced

400ml dry cider

100ml double cream

Salt & Black pepper



Method

1. Preheat your oven to 140C.

2. Season your pork steaks well with salt and pepper. Heat half of your butter in a large frying pan on a medium heat and brown the steaks two at a time. Once done, transfer to a flameproof casserole pot and tuck in the thyme.

3. Tip the rest of your butter into the frying pan and add the onions and garlic, sauté gently until soft, then add your apples. Mix well and fry for a minute or two before adding the cider. Turn up the heat to bring everything to a simmer and season with salt and pepper. Now pour everything over the steaks in your casserole and put on the lid..

4. Place in the oven and cook for forty minutes. Once done, remove from the oven. Lift out the steaks and cover in foil to keep warm.

5. Now put your casserole pot on a high heat and boil vigorously, stirring continuously until you've reduced the liquid by roughly a third, then reduce the heat and stir in the cream.

6. Finally, plate up your steaks and spoon the cream, cider and apple sauce generously over them.



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BEHIND THE SCENES AT THE MUSEUM

This month marks 119 years since the publication of Charlotte Brontë's much-loved novel Jane Eyre. First published in October 1847 under the pseudonym Currer Bell, the novel was an immediate success and has gone on to become one of the best-known love stories in English literature.

Like much of Charlotte's work, Jane Eyre draws on experiences from her own life. Perhaps the most famous example is Lowood School, which was inspired by Charlotte's time at Cowan Bridge Clergy Daughters' School. Charlotte attended the school alongside her elder sisters, Maria and Elizabeth, and her younger sister, Emily. It is often suggested that Charlotte drew on her memories of her sister Maria when creating Helen Burns, Jane's kind and quietly courageous companion at Lowood. Whether or not that connection can be proved, the parallels offer a fascinating glimpse into the real-life experiences that helped shape one of the world's most enduring novels. Tragically, an outbreak of tuberculosis at Cowan Bridge claimed the lives of Maria and Elizabeth. Both became seriously ill and later died at home in Haworth. Following their deaths, their father, Patrick Brontë, decided to remove Charlotte and Emily



from the school and bring them back to the Parsonage to be educated by their Aunt Branwell.

We have some exciting events coming up this month!

In the last issue of the Worth Valley Magazine you may remember reading about the interesting connection between Branwell's Studio and Sally Wainwright's To Walk Invisible. This month, as part of our 10 year anniversary celebrations

of Sally Wainwright's Brontë biopic To Walk Invisible, we're welcoming production designer **Grant Montgomery** to share his memories of transforming Main Street back to the 1840s, recreating Church Street on Penistone Hill and the Parsonage interiors on a soundstage in Manchester. Plus for a limited time you can learn even more about the epic Brontë biopic in our new exhibition, **10**

Years of 'To Walk Invisible'. This special exhibition highlights the set design and costume design, exploring how the Brontës were brought to life on screen. There is also a selection of costumes by Tom Pye on display in the Museum. **This exhibition will be in place until Thursday 31 December**, so there's plenty of time for you to pop in and take a look!

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COMMUNITY PAGES

Oct to 21st Feb 2027 Keighley Cougars history at Cliffe Castle Museum Keighley. Photographs, programmes & club memorabilia.

Oct to 31st Dec 2026 10 years of To Walk Invisible at the Bronte Parsonage Museum This special exhibition highlights the set design and costume design, exploring how the Brontës were brought to life on screen.

Every Monday 9.30am - 12 Warm Space Everyone Welcome at 23 Temple Row, Keighley, BD21 2AH

Every Monday & Friday 1pm - 4pm Knit & Natter Craft Group Steeton Hub More info call Diane 07873 485149

Every Monday 6.45pm - 9pm Steeton Male Voice Choir meet at Steeton Methodist Hall. New members wanted call Ian 07949626675

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.

Wellbeing Café at Glusburn Institute

Every Monday 10 am to 12 noon. . Contact 01535 630223 for more details.

Tuesdays (Term Time) 3pm-4pm Calm at the Castle – relaxation and meditation – friendly group. FREE and no experience needed at Cliffe Castle, Keighley

Every Tuesdays Community Post Church Last Tuesday of a month is **Afternoon Coffee, chat & cake at Steeton Methodist Church 2.30pm - 3.30 pm** 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.

Every Tuesday Rethinking Pain at The Hive , Elliott Street. Silsden 3pm - 4pm

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

Every Tuesday 7.30pm Airedale Male Voice Choir at Steeton Methodist Church, Skipton Road, Steeton. No audition all welcome or call Roy 07944 092883

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. 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. Contact 07961 537888

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 (Oct to April) 9.30am Keighley & District Men's Forum Keighley Playhouse (corner entrance) Devonshire Street, Keighley.

Every Thursday at Glusburn Institute 10.30am - 2.30pm Patchwork. More details contact Sylvia 01535 662698

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

Every Thurs at 12.00 - 2.30pm Craven Craft and Mosaic Social Group at Sutton Sutton Cricket Club

Every Thursday mornings Silsden Secret Singers, a feel good choir for everyone! £7 per session, drop in. 10-30 am -12 at Silsden RC Church Community Room, Wesley Place - look for the concrete ramp next to the church.

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.

Every Saturday Coffee Morning from 9.30 to 11.30am at Cross Hills Village Centre. Tea or coffee and biscuits. Raffle. All welcome. Monthly trips from May to September.

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

Alternate Sundays Keighley Can Sing 2 pm -3.30 pm Open singing group for anyone wanting to connect and sing with others for joy. Warm, friendly and supportive group **Central Hall, Alice Street, Keighley, BD21 3JD**

Thurs 8th Oct 11.00am - 1.00pm St Stephen's Community Hall, Steeton, BD20 6SB. Lunch Club - come for coffee, Bingo & lunch of sandwiches & cake, All welcome. A donation appreciated.

Sat 10th Oct Mental Health Awareness Day 10am - 1pm Keighley Creative, Hanover Street, Keighley. Offering information advice, support and connect with services in the area.

Sat 10th & Sun 11th October Haworth Steam Punk Weekend with RSH Artisan Markets Central Park Haworth. Street entertainment on the cobbles inc choirs, dancers, bands.

Sun 11th Oct 10am to 5pm Skipton Vintage Running Day 20th Anniversary at Coach Street Car Park Skipton Over 25 vintage buses and coaches from 1927 onwards

Mon 12th Oct 10 am Ladies only Riddlesden to Silsden Canal Walk start at East Riddlesden Hall Cafe approx 5 miles taking approx 2 hours. Book via walkingwanderers@outlook.com.

Thurs 15th Oct 7 pm - 9pm Climate Action Silsden Talks - Rewilding at the Broughton Estate at Silsden Methodist Church Wesley Place Silsden Free Entry & All Welcome.

Thurs 15th - 18th Oct Keighley & Worth Valley Railway Beer & Music Festival Wide selection of beers (mostly real ales) from all over the country to choose from. Along with cider, wine & gins to choose from.

Sat 17th Oct 9.30am - 12 Silsden Repair Cafe at Silsden Methodist Church

Sat 17th Oct 7.15pm Hot Aire Concert at Holy Trinity Church, **Mon 19th - 24th Oct A Passionate Woman** Keighley Playhouse, Devonshire Street, Keighley

Kay Mellor's drama of "family, love and Leeds"
Sat 24th Oct - 1st Nov Half Term Pumpkin Trail at East Riddlesden Hall

Sat 24th Oct to 1st Nov Skipton Halloween Trail Grab your trail sheets from Skipton Town Hall and head out on a haunting adventure as you collect the letters to spell out the Halloween-themed password!

Sun 25th Oct 11am - 3.30pm Slow Sunday at Cliffe Castle, Keighley BD20 6LH Enjoy chilled-out tunes, slow art activities, Tai Chi in the galleries, crafting, wellbeing walks and a seasonal tea ceremony, with plenty of opportunities to pause, notice and reconnect.

Sun 25th Oct 2pm - 3pm Music at the Museum Cliffe Castle Keighley BD20 6LH Featuring brass, banjo, guitar and percussion, the group creates an intimate acoustic sound that shifts effortlessly between playful, powerful and quietly moving. Their performances are known for being engaging, thoughtful and full of personality. FREE entry.

Tues 27th Oct 10am - 3pm Diwali Celebrations at Cliffe Castle Museum family-friendly activities, crafts and creative workshops

Thurs 29th Oct - 31st Oct The Spooky Express on the Keighley & Worth Valley Railway Oxenhope Station BD22 9LB

Thurs 29th Oct 10am - 4pm Skipton Halloween Fun Canal Basin, Skipton. Free family fun including crafts, pumpkin carving, pumpkin patch, monster trail.

Sat 31st Oct & Sun 1st Nov 10am - 4pm Halloween Craft Fair at The Old School Room, Haworth, BD22 8DR £1 entry tea/coffee inc. Dogs Welcome.

Thurs 5th Nov 11am - 1pm Community Cuppa Club Coffee Biscuits & Social Activities (Free Event) at Airedale Shopping Centre. Keighley

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