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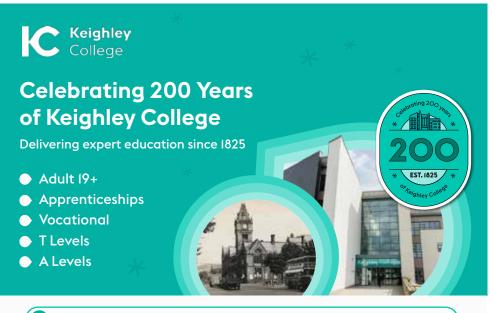
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# Welcome to the February edition of the community magazine.

With so much change in the air, from erratic weather to rapid technological advances, we hope to bring you a moment of calm and plenty of practical support for daily life.

Whether you need a trusted local tradesperson, or help finding a therapist for a nagging pain, our pages are full of solutions to everyday challenges. Many featured businesses are long-established, locally-run, and well-trusted.

This month, several health surgeries are hosting drop-in sessions to help residents navigate their services, we've highlighted the details to keep you informed.

For a lighter touch, you'll find cheerful stories and Sudoku puzzles to engage your mind and lift your spirits.

So, why not take 25 minutes, grab your favorite cuppa, and enjoy catching up on the local scene, offline and in real time?

Thank you for supporting the magazine and the wonderful community it represents.



Liz Barker, Editor 📕



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# WORTH & AIRE VALLEY MAGS COMMUNITY NEWS AND LOCAL BUSINESS DIRECTORIES

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# Reach Your Audience Through a Trusted Local Source

Since 2006, the Worth Valley Mag and Aire Valley Mag have been at the heart of the local community, offering a trusted platform for businesses and organizations to connect with residents. Over nearly two decades, we've built a reputation for reliability and consistency, with many of our advertisers choosing us exclusively and staying with us since the very beginning.

#### Why Trust Us to Deliver Your Message?

#### I. A Legacy of Trust

Our long-standing presence in the Aire and Worth Valleys speaks for itself. We're not just another publication – we're a vital part of the community fabric. Readers trust us for dependable, relevant information, and advertisers trust us to deliver real results.

#### 2. Unrivaled Local Reach

With a distribution of 20,000 homes and businesses, we're the largest free magazine in the region. Whether you're targeting households in Haworth, Oxenhope, Keighley, Silsden, or Crosshills, we ensure your message reaches the right audience.

#### 3. Exceptional Value

Our pricing is highly competitive, offering

a cost-effective way to reach a broad, local audience. Many of our advertisers use us as their sole source for promoting their business, knowing the value we bring. **4. Strengthening Local Ties** When you advertise with us, you're

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Haworth Cricket Club (HCC) is on West Lane, tucked behind a row of houses. We are a friendly and sociable cricket club with two senior sides and a junior section with teams at Under 9,11,13 & 15. We are very proud of our picturesque ground set amongst farm fields with wonderful views and we welcome everyone who wishes to join us, whether it be to play or spectate. We just want everyone to enjoy the views, the sport, and the club!

HCC is a community club and we are keen to work with local primary schools, churches and other organisations as our facilities can be used all year round. We are contributing to a green environment by having solar panels fitted to our clubhouse roof and hope to be able to extend the changing and clubhouse facilities within the next year, to improve accessibility and inclusivity. Our real ale bar is open on Saturday throughout the season and throughout the winter you will receive a warm welcome and warm fire. We host a variety of village, sporting, and family events throughout the year, many for charitable donations. Last season we hosted a cricket tournament in memory of a past player who sadly passed away in 2024. We raised £1.300 for each of the two benefitting charities, Sue Ryder, and Brain Tumour Trust. We hope to make this an annual event as a fitting tribute.



We formed in 1887 as Haworth Wesleyans CC, with the first match against Lees Albion on September 14, 1889. The first games were played in a Haworth field at 'Long Bridge,' then at Cooke Gate (just off West Lane) until the present ground at West Lane was opened on Saturday 9th June 1951. From 1893, the club played in the Keighley section of the Craven Senior and Junior Cricket Leagues before being admitted to the West Bradford League. The 1940s was the clubs most successful period, winning the League 1944-1948 and completing the double by adding the Keighley cup in 1944-1946. In 1984 HCC joined the Craven and District Cricket League, which the club last won in 2021.



We have several qualified coaches, to cater for all standard of skills and abilities, which help people participate in junior or senior club cricket. Our season starts in April, but indoor winter training starts in February. If you want to learn or return to play cricket, to

volunteer, or you'd just like to join a welcoming club and enjoy the friendly social side with fantastic views, then please do contact us using **haworthcricketclub@gmail.com**  **Haworth Cricket Club** 

## U11/U13 WINTER CRICKET TRAINING

South Craven School Holme Lane Cross Hills BD20 7RL

9-10am Saturday 1st February to 5th April £20 for 10 weeks

Existing and new players welcome!

For further details contact Chris Smith 07766 080137

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#### Cover Chat (Yes, we're listening!)

Following last month's experiment using AI to create our cover, we were delighted to hear from so many of you. It's clear that you feel passionately about showcasing real, local photography. We've listened, and we're happy to embrace your feedback.

Moving forward, we invite you to submit your images for our magazine covers. We'll credit all photographers whose work is selected. We're looking for bright, impactful, and seasonal images that celebrate the beauty of our local area. Suitable subjects include landscape, wildlife, pets, flower, and fauna. Please ensure submissions are:

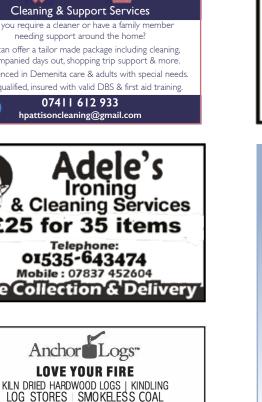
High resolution (JPEG or PNG format),Portrait-oriented,

•With consideration of the placement of our masthead ("Aire Valley Mag") without obscuring the photo.

\*Send to: **mail@worthvalleymag.co.uk** We look forward to your creative contributions and thank you for helping us make the magazine a true reflection of our community.







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talking about the summer, but what a summer we are looking forward to... First, back to the here and now... The first couple of weeks of As well as the summer's production, we are the new year saw our volunteers and staff out still offering our regular programme of events, clearing the point work and platforms so that with trains running during half term (15-23 we could provide the only service up the valley February), the Steam Gala returning 20-23 when the snow was at its worst. We have been March, and the Diesel-focused Gala 19-22 reflecting on our 50+ years of operation and June, with trains operating every weekend concluded that there have only been a handful too. More details of the events and latest of days when we have been unable to run any service due to the weather, which has more our website. recently been caused by flooding around As well as the year's events, we are also Haworth rather than snowfall. It is thanks to the commitment and tenacity of our team that maintenance and overhaul activities, and we we provide such a dependable service.

turning our attention to our 2025 programme running reliably and regularly. It's a never-ending of events, which is dominated by our support task and is costly both financially and in terms for the Bradford 2025 City of Culture: we are of time spent. It takes months of planning and hosting a production of The Railway Children, which runs from 16 July to 7 September, and we necessary to keep the wheels turning, most hope it will bring many visitors to the home of the Railway Children to enjoy the production. bridge near the entrance to Haworth Yard, Tickets are available via the Bradford2025 website rather than directly from us,. It will be great to see so much attention on the of the Year" award, such was the scale and film that cemented the Railway's future when Oakworth was the central location for the 1970 production and which generated so much interest all these years later. We are you into our volunteer family, and we are just completing phase 2 of our development always keen to welcome you on board. work at Oakworth, which will open more areas for visitors so you can marvel at the innards of the Oakworth Goods Shed, which has been closed for viewing until now and is

when the Railways were at the heart of the nation's freight distribution network.

developments on the Railway can be found on

turning our attention to the next round of are planning a programme of track renewals, work on our buildings and all the other things Moving back to warmer climes... we are needed to keep a 150+-year-old railway preparation to deliver the range of projects notably last year with the replacement of the which has been shortlisted for the Heritage Railway Associations "Infrastructure Project excellence of the work.

> If you have the skills and time to support our varied work, we would be happy to welcome

> > ~ Matt Stroh

Keighley & Worth Valley Railway Chairman

# DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Upcoming events at The Keighley & Worth Valley Railway.

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# **Denture Problems** Look no further...

# 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).

## How can we help you?

Technology has moved on massively over the last few tears as far as dentures are concerned. The fact is, you don't have to suffer badly designed or ill fitting dentures anymore.

However, replacing your teeth is more than trusting someone with your smile. Your appearance and the way people perceive you is also at stake.

Matt creates dentures which can offer the dual effect of restoring your smile and correcting the proportions of your face.

He can add volume to your lower face and upper lip region to achieve a more natural, youthful look. Everyone is different, so your dentures are influenced by your age, personality and gender to ensure they look perfectly natural. Matt will discuss your individual needs and the best choices available before providing you with the information you require to determine what is right for you.

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.

# Everybody has the right to smile!

Would you like to be more confident? Do you suffer from denture discomfort? Loose or ill-fitting dentures? Afraid to smile?







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Before

After

## **BEHIND THE SCENES AT THE MUSEUM**

Happy New Year from everyone at the Brontë Parsonage Museum! 2025 is set to be an incredible year for all of us in the Bradford area, as we celebrate City of Culture right on our doorsteps. Keep

a lookout for events and opportunities throughout the next twelve months – some of which are happening right here in Haworth. Now the new year is underway, we're excited to reveal the theme of our special 2025 exhibition, which opens in February. This one has a particularly local focus. **From Haworth** to Eternity: The **Enduring Legacy of** 

the Brontës charts the rise of Brontëmania, especially on film and TV, putting Haworth's role centre stage.

Highlights of the exhibition include early souvenirs from the Parsonage and props from Sally Wainwright's 2016 film, To Walk Invisible. Particularly tantalising is the production script from the first, silent film adaptation of Wuthering Heights in 1920, which will also be on display. The script details all the instructions for producing the film – but the film itself has never been found.

Haworth's history is entwined with the story of the three sisters, and many of

the precious items we have in our care have come to us from local families and friends of the Brontës. We're continuing our local history theme with a talk which digs into the murky world of sanitation

The first film adaptation of Wuthering Heights in 1920

was shot in and around Haworth. © The Brontë Society

in the nineteenth century, lifting the lid

on hygiene at the time of the Brontës. Happily, this coincides with the opening of our brandnew (squeaky-clean!) visitor and Changing Places facilities. Our new exhibition.

the opening of our visitor facilities, and our sanitation talk all take place on **Saturday I** February, and we'd love to see you there!

The talk is free for local residents (and with entry to the Museum) - and if you're lucky, you might just spot a couple of friendly, talking flowerpot men outside the visitor facilities, a sure sign that spring is on the horizon. Find out more about the new season at the Museum over on our 'What's on' page. Just head to our recently refreshed website, bronte.org.uk. Remember, local residents enjoy concessionary prices, children go free, and you can return time and again on your ticket for twelve months at the Museum including admission to our 'free with entry' events!



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# FROM HAWORTH TO ETERNITY

THE ENDURING LEGACY OF THE BRONTËS

Explore Haworth's starring role within the Brontë story. Exhibition free with entry to the Museum.

Brontë Parsonage MUSEUM

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## Sudoku

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



Where is the **red** X located in the photo to the right? This month's prize is donated by Keighley Picture House: Family ticket Email your answer including your name & address to: mail@worthvalleymag.co.uk The winner will be selected from all correct answers received by the 16th of Feb 2025.



Last month's competition location was West Yorkshire Police Station and the winner was Hannah Newsham from Laycock.

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		3		6		9		
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	3		8		5		9
				2			7

# COMMUNITY PAGE

Art at East Morton Institute Monday's 10am to 12pn & 1pm to 3pm. Thursdays 10am to 12pm. More info contact karenredhead@hotmail.

co.uk Every Monday 11.30am - 1.30pm Little Soldiers Stay & Play at The Salvation Army, BD21 2LJ

Friends of East Riddlesden Hall meet once a month between Oct and April on a Thursday 2pm to 4pm in the Airedale Barn. Contact Secretary on 0771 373 3516 for more details

Every Monday 7 -9 pm Andy's Man Club Project 6, Devonshire Street, Keighley

#### Every Monday to Friday Dementia Friendly Keighley 10am – 4 pm

Open for drop-in anytime for coffee and chat for people living with dementia and their carers and families. 6 College Walk, Airedale Shopping Centre, Keighley. First Tuesday of each month Walk & Wheel Group 1.30pm meeting at Keighley Leisure Centre outside the main entrance. The session will last approx 60 mins and will be at a relaxing pace.

Every Tuesday 10am - 12 noon Keighley Remember When? Fancy

a chat? Age UK Unit 8 Airedale Centre, Cooke Lane, Keighley.

Every Tuesday 10.30am -12 Dominoes Club at Keighley Civil Centre, Keighley, BD21 3RZ no need to book simply show up and enjoy the game.

Every Tuesday Dementia Friendly Keighley 10am – 12.30 pm Games Morning, for people/carers living with dementia Airedale Shopping Centre, Keighley. Call Helen on 01535 602529 Morton WI every second Tuesday evening each month. Social evening with refreshments at **The Institute in East Morton 7:20 pm.** Contact Anne 07968094238

First Weds of every month 2 -3.30pm Connections Bereavement

**Support Group** the Restaurant at Airedale Hospital.

**Coffee Morning every 4th Thursday of the month 10am to 12pm** at Keighley New Church, Braithwaite Road, Keighley BD22 6PX. All are welcome.

Every Thurs I Iam Age UK Friendship Group meet new friends over a cuppa In the Community Room by the cafe in store at Morrisons, Keighley more info email info@ageukbd.org.uk Every Thursday Dementia Friendly Keighley I.30 pm – 3.30 pm Crafty Friends, creative session, Airedale Shopping Centre, Keighley. Call Helen on 01535 602529

Thursdays (October - April) Keighley Men's Forum, Corner entrance of Keighley Playhouse, I Devonshire Street, Keighley Refreshments from 9.30am, Speaker at 10.15amVariety of speakers/ presentations £2/week inc. refreshments Every Thursday 2-3pm £5

Senior Gentle Exercise Class (term time) at East Morton Institute. Suitable for any ability & can even be undertaken whilst sitting.

Every Thursday from 1.30pm Time For Me Bereavement Support

**Group** meet at The Three Horses, Fell Lane, Keighley, BD22 6BZ. Further info contact helen.timeforme@gmail.com Thursday & Fridays 10.30am to 3 pm The Drop-In at The Civic Centre, Keighley. A great place to meet new people, play board games or dabble in arts & crafts.

**Every second Saturday** of a month **10 - Ipm Riddlesden Green Connection Community Cafe** St Mary's Meeting Room, Banks Lane BD20

5PA . Eco liquid refills, book swap and cafe every time.

Thurs 30th Jan Nature Natters 12pm - 2pm at The Gatehouse, Cliffe Castle, Keighley A free wellbeing group Natural Winter Crafts. Free to book call 01535 668588 www. getoutmorecic/wellbeing/community-

wellbeing

Thurs 13th Feb Nature Natters 12pm - 2pm at The Gatehouse, Cliffe Castle, Keighley A free

wellbeing group Natural Dye Painting. Free to book call 01535 668588 www. getoutmorecic/wellbeing/communitywellbeing

Fri 14th Feb 6pm Family Beetle Drive Night at Keighley Salvation Army Church, Fun game for all the family, prizes to be won, free snacks and drinks. Book your place 01535 603494 or email keighley@salvationarmy.org.uk Sat 15th to Sun 23rd Feb Keighley & Worth Valley Railway Half Term Happiness Train Services. Sun 16th Feb Music at Keighley Cliffe Castle Museum 2pm Haworth Band Thurs 27th Feb to 1st March Saltaire Beer & Cider Festival Victoria Hall, Saltaire Weds 26th Feb Nature Natters 12pm -2pm at East Riddlesden Hall Nature Day.Free to book call 01535 668588 www.getoutmorecic/ wellbeing/community-wellbeing Fri 28th Feb 12pm - 3.30pm Wet Felting Class at The Gate House, Cliffe Castle Park, Keighley BD21 3BG Free event please contact louise. soothill@keighley.gov.uk to reserve a place.

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### Leftovers Chicken and Vegetable Stew with Dumplings



#### ~ Martin Lingard

This is a great dish for winter as it is hearty, warming, tasty and healthy, plus very economical. It makes good use of leftovers and any veg you may have hanging about in the fridge, freezer or

store cupboard. It does take a few hours to make, but most of this time is just the stock simmering slowly, leaving you free to crack on with other stuff...Feeds 4 well.

#### Ingredients

#### For the stock:

Leftover roast chicken carcass

- I medium onion, peeled
- I large leek, thickly sliced
- 2 carrots, cut into chunks
- 2 celery ribs roughly chopped (plus leaves)
- A thumb sized bit of ginger root, peeled & sliced
- 2 or 3 garlic cloves
- a dozen or so peppercorns
- a bunch of herbs (parsley, sage, bay, thyme etc)

#### For the stew:

4 tbsp pearl barley

- 2 tbsp soy sauce
- 4 carrots, peeled and diced

2 medium potatoes, peeled and diced Mixed green veg' - whatever you have to hand

(frozen peas, green beans, bag of spinach etc) Leftover roast chicken

#### For the dumplings:

75g suet 150g self-raising flour ½ tsp salt & pepper

#### Method

Take your chicken carcass, remove all the remaining meat and set to one side in a bowl. Break up the remaining carcase and wings, legs & thighs and place in a large stockpot, skin, bones, jelly & all. Chuck all your other ingredients into your pot too, you can also add spices such as a few cloves, a star anise, a handful of coriander



seeds and a few chilli flakes here too if you wish. Cover with 2 to 3 litres of water and bring to the boil. Once boiling, put on the lowest possible heat setting, skim off any scum, bob on a lid and leave for 2 to 3 hours, go and watch a movie!

When time's up, drain through a colander into a large bowl or pot, discard all the bones and veg'. Clean your stockpot then strain the stock through a fine sieve back into your stockpot. Return your pot to a high heat, add your pearl barley and soy sauce. A glug of sherry works well too here if you have any left from Christmas!

Boil without a lid for 15 to 20 minutes, this is to ensure the barley is cooked and it also concentrates the flavour.

Add the carrots and potatoes, turnips, swede or parsnips can be used as well or instead of here if that is what you have. Season to taste. Reduce to a simmer, bob on a lid and leave for 20 minutes while you make your dumplings. **To make the dumplings**, lob the flour, salt, suet and a bit of ground pepper into a mixing bowl, mix with the back of a knife, adding one tablespoon of water at a time. After 3 to 4 tablespoons, you will have a firm springy dough. Roll into approximately 12 small (walnut) sized balls.

Now remove the lid, add the green veg' and chicken and stir well then lower your dumplings on top, spooning some liquid over them. Bring back to a simmer and cook for another 10 to 15 minutes before serving in deep bowls.



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## **Couples' Compatibility Quiz:** How Well Do You Know Each Other?

Put your relationship to the test with this light-hearted quiz! Answer the questions below without showing your partner, then compare your answers to see how well you really know each other. Keep it fun, and remember, there are no wrong answers (just amusing ones)!

 What is your partner's go-to comfort food?
 Your Answer:
 Partner's Actual Answer:

2. If they could instantly master a skill, what would it be?
Your Answer:
Partner's Actual Answer:

**3.** What's a household chore they secretly (or not-so-secretly) hate doing? Your Answer: Partner's Actual Answer:

**4.** What's their favourite TV show or film to watch repeatedly? Your Answer: Partner's Actual Answer: 5. What's their dream holiday destination?Your Answer:Partner's Actual Answer:

Who takes longer to get ready for a night out? Your Answer: Partner's Actual Answer:

**7** • What's one thing they absolutely can't leave the house without? Your Answer:Partner's Actual Answer:

#### Scoring:

I-2 matches: Room for improvement, but plenty of laughs ahead!
3-5 matches: Solid effort! You know each other pretty well.
6-7 matches: You're practically psychic. True love goals!

#### Bonus Tip:

For any mismatched answers, use them as a conversation starter. You might discover something new about your partner and share a laugh in the process.

Have fun testing your love ~ and don't forget, it's all about enjoying the journey, not acing the quiz.



### Drop-in Advice Sessions: Get Online with NHS App, GP Services, and Social Prescribing

Are you feeling left behind with new online health services? Many people worry about using smartphones or making mistakes, but with a little guidance, you can discover how online systems can work for you. Over the past year, free drop-in sessions hosted by Modality AWC have helped people gain confidence in navigating these services.

#### Why Online GP Services?

The NHS has evolved significantly, now offering a broad range of services through healthcare professionals working alongside GPs. With increasing demand, online systems help manage GP appointments more efficiently. Submitting an online form allows your request to be triaged immediately. Urgent cases are prioritised, and routine appointments scheduled accordinglysometimes saving you weeks of waiting. For example, some patients attending dropin sessions have reported getting a GP appointment or being referred to a specialist within an hour of completing an online form. Others have been directed to healthcare professionals like physiotherapists, had blood tests arranged in advance, or received guidance from Social Prescribers on resolving healthrelated social issues.

#### What If I Can't Go Online?

Not everyone finds online systems suitable, and that's okay. You can still call or walk into your GP surgery, where staff can complete the online form for you. However, the more people who choose these traditional options, the longer the queues may become.

#### **More Than GP Access**

The NHS App provides convenient features like accessing your consultation records, test results, and hospital letters, as well as ordering



medications in seconds. Other apps, such as Holly Health, can support mental health, prompt medication reminders, and assist with weight loss.

If you're unsure about starting, visit a free dropin session to get personalized guidance. With just a bit of help, you can unlock the benefits of these services and feel more in control of your healthcare journey.

> Martin Gourley Freelance Training Volunteer

Drop-in advice sessions. Getting online, NHS App, GP and other on-line health services, and learn about Social Prescribing.

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Skipton BD23 IEU

#### March 2025 10am - 12:30pm

Tuesday 4th Mar Fisher Medical Centre, Skipton BD23 IEU Wednesday 5th Mar Crosshills Group Practice BD20 7LG Tuesday 11th Mar Silsden Surgery BD20 0DG Wednesday 12th Mar Farfield Group Practice, Keighley BD21 2LD Tuesday 18th Mar Holycroft Surgery, Keighley BD21 ISA Tuesday 25th Mar Kilmeny Medical Centre, Keighley BD21 ILA

Wednesday 26th Mar Haworth Haworth Medical Centre BD22 8DH



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## **True Love:** Seeing the Best Despite the Flaws

Ah, love. That miraculous force that renders us giddy, blinds us to reason, and inspires countless poetic verses. But while the romantics may extol its virtues, the true art of love lies not in seeing perfection but in embracing imperfection. To love someone deeply is to recognise their flaws and say, "Yes, I see you, and I'll stick around anyway."



Consider Only Fools and Horses, a staple of British television and a treasure trove of life lessons disguised as comedy. Del Boy and Raguel, while

not your conventional romantic leads, embody the reality of love in all its messy, imperfect glory. Del, with his grandiose schemes and boundless optimism, and Raquel, with her practicality and patience, are a reminder that love is about acceptance and partnership. Raquel doesn't demand that Del become someone he's not; instead, she meets him where he is, nagging gently but never trying to extinguish his spark.

And perhaps Del and Raguel are onto something. Research by Dr. John Gottman, an acclaimed relationship psychologist, reveals that successful relationships thrive not on grand gestures but on the small, consistent acts of love and acceptance. A British study conducted at the University of Bath found that couples who actively practice gratitude and acknowledge their partner's positive traits ~ despite glaring faults like their inability to load a dishwasher correctly ~ tend to have longer, happier relationships. As the saying goes, love may be blind, but gratitude wears bifocals. Yet, it's not all sunshine and romantic comedies. To truly accept someone is an art that requires patience, a sense of humour, and the ability to



let go of perfection. A survey by Relate, the UK's leading relationship charity, found that a key predictor of relationship satisfaction is the capacity to forgive and adapt. Translation: learning to live with someone's peculiar insistence on talking through every television programme is more important than romantic candlelit dinners; but don't forget the candlelit dinners!

British humour, naturally, offers a way to cope with these irritations. Oscar Wilde quipped,

"To love oneself is the beginning of a lifelong romance," but perhaps it's loving someone else's annoying habits that truly tests our mettle. After all, who among us hasn't wanted to throttle a beloved for leaving tea bags in the sink? The trick, dear reader, is to see the tea bags as endearing evidence of their charming disarray. True love is not blind in the sense of ignorance; rather, it sees clearly but chooses to look beyond. It's about supporting your partner in the here and now, celebrating their victories while standing by them through failures. Love, at its finest, says:"I see the worst of you, but I also see your best, and both are enough for me." So, whether you're living your own Only Fools and Horses saga or simply learning to endure the guirks of a significant other, remember this: love is less about grand passion and more about sticking together, laughing through the absurdities, and perhaps even growing fond of those tea bags in the sink. After all, who needs perfection when you have a perfectly imperfect partner to share it all with? ~ Liz Barker



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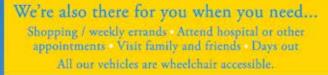
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