

AIRE VALLEY MAG

COMMUNITY NEWS AND LOCAL BUSINESS DIRECTORY

October 2025



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Welcome to October!

As autumn's colours brighten our valleys, we're reminded of the vitality that comes from supporting one another. By choosing local shops, services, and trusted tradespeople, you help build not only economic strength but also social cohesion and resilience, the foundations of a thriving community.

Thank you for supporting the businesses and organisations you'll find in these pages. Each one contributes to the wellbeing of the Worth and Aire Valleys, helping us stay connected, caring, and strong.

This October, let's carry the season's spirit of gratitude forward, standing together, supporting one another, and keeping our community vibrant in every sense.

Have a great month.



Liz Barker, Editor

Keighley Heritage Art Trail with Local artist Kev Bell

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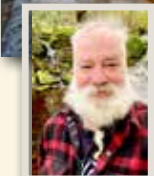
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Lasagne with Lentils and Spinach



By Martin Lingard

This is one of my favourite lasagne recipes, as good as the classic Lasagne al Forno, in my opinion. Use green or brown lentils rather than red lentils for this recipe. You will need a fairly deep rectangular baking dish.

Ingredients

For the ragu:

3 tablespoons of olive oil
1 medium onion, finely chopped
4 cloves of garlic, finely chopped
1 large carrot, finely chopped
1 stalk of celery, finely chopped
1 tablespoon of tomato purée
225g green or brown lentils, well rinsed
1 x 400g tin of tomatoes
750ml water
200g bag of fresh spinach
Juice of 1 lemon
Salt & black pepper

For the béchamel:

1 small onion, roughly chopped
2 cloves of garlic
1 bay leaf
½ dozen black peppercorns
Pinch of salt
600ml milk
50g unsalted butter
50g plain flour

150ml double cream
9 sheets of lasagne
Ground nutmeg
3 heaped tablespoons grated Parmesan cheese

Method

First, make your ragu by heating the oil in a large pan, then tip in the onion, garlic, carrot, and celery. Cook gently on a low heat until very soft (20–30 minutes), stirring occasionally.

Once soft, add the tomato purée and stir well to mix for a minute, then tip in your lentils. Stir constantly for a minute to combine, then add the tinned tomatoes and water.

Bring to a very gentle simmer, place a lid on, and leave to simmer for 40 minutes* until the lentils are tender.

Remove the lid, add the spinach and lemon juice, stir to combine, and increase the heat to a steady simmer. Cook until all the surface liquid has boiled off and you are left with a thick sauce, stirring occasionally so the lentils don't stick to the bottom of the pan. Season well with salt and pepper, then set aside.

In a different pan, melt your butter, then add the flour and stir well to combine. Remove from the heat and gradually pour in the milk, whisking constantly. Return to a low heat, add the cream, and cook slowly for 10 minutes.

Preheat your oven to 190°C. Butter your chosen dish and put three sheets of lasagne in the base. Cover with half of the ragu, then a quarter of the béchamel. Next, add three more sheets of lasagne, the remainder of the ragu, another quarter portion of béchamel, then the last three lasagne sheets, and finally the rest of your béchamel.

Sprinkle the top with a generous amount of ground nutmeg, then smother everything with the grated Parmesan. Place on the top shelf of your oven for 45–50 minutes, until the top is golden brown and blistering.

I like to serve this with a plain green salad.

*When cooking the lentils, use your own judgement as to how long to cook and how much liquid to use. The times and volume below are a guide, as exact timings depend on the variety and age of your lentils. This recipe serves six people.

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A People's Mayor: Chris Herd's Call for Kindness in Keighley

By Liz Barker

If you've ever seen a horse and cart making its way through Keighley's streets, chances are you've spotted Mayor Chris Herd at the reins. Down-to-earth, approachable and deeply proud of his roots, Chris has a way of turning heads, not just because of Beauty, his gorgeous draught horse, but because of Chris's warm smile and his willingness to stop and talk to anyone. This year, as Mayor of Keighley, he's using that same approachable spirit to bring people together.

At a time when tensions across the country run high over migration policy, economic struggles and global uncertainty, Chris is inviting the town to lean into what it does best: friendliness, pride and community spirit.

"I am a people's Mayor. I want everyone to feel welcome and to get along. Let's be kind and reach out to each other."

Chris lives in Oxenhope, on the family farm. It's a fitting home for someone who believes so strongly in supporting all aspects of country life, including the visitor economy and welcoming people from all over the world who come to walk the cobbled streets of Haworth, ride the Keighley & Worth Valley Railway, or follow in the footsteps of the Brontës.

Alongside his wife Linda, who is Mayoress, business partner and best friend, Chris has built his life around hard work and service. For years the couple ran a thriving butcher's shop in Ingrow, all while keeping



Keighley Mayor Chris Herd with Beauty, his draught horse.

their farming traditions alive. That connection to the land, to animals and to honest trade is part of what grounds him now as he takes on civic duties.

Meeting People Where They Are

Since taking up the mayoral chain, Chris has thrown himself into the role, visiting local schools, voluntary groups and community organisations. Whether it's a remembrance service in the Worth Valley, a fundraiser in the Civic Centre or just a quick hello on North Street, he takes genuine pleasure in meeting people where they are. And if that meeting happens to be over a pint of Keighley's finest Timothy Taylor's beer, all the better. Chris is never one to shy away from a good chat in the pub, where conversations often range from farming and local history to the future of the town.

Standing Up for Two Important Causes

Each year the Mayor selects charities to support, and Chris has chosen two that reflect both compassion and courage.

Sue Ryder Manorlands Hospice in Oxenhope, which provides palliative and end-of-life care along with bereavement support for families across Keighley, is deeply loved

by the community and depends on fundraising to keep its doors open.

Baton of Hope, the UK's largest suicide prevention initiative, is less familiar to many. It is a growing movement working towards a "zero-suicide society". The baton itself tours schools, towns and workplaces, sparking conversations about

mental wellbeing and breaking down stigma. By highlighting these causes, Chris is not only raising money but also drawing attention to issues that touch every family at some point in life, caring for loved ones and talking openly about mental health.

Choosing Kindness

Keighley has always been proud of its friendly



Keighley Mayor Chris Herd & Mayoress Linda Herd with family members from left: Rebecca, Beth, James, Helena, William & Arron.

reputation, and Chris Herd is determined to keep that spirit alive.

"Be kind, reach out, and remember: we all have more in common than we think."

To support the Keighley Town Council Mayor's Charity Trust, please scan the QR code here: Thank you for your donation.



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KEIGHLEY
TOWN COUNCIL

REMEMBRANCE DAY 2025

**Keighley Remembrance Day Parade and
Service.**
November 9th 2025

9:35 - Parade leaves Russel Street
10:00 - Church service at Keighley
Shared Parish Church
10:35 - Parade to Town Hall Square
10:50 - Acts of Remembrance and
Prayers
11:00 - 2 minute Silence and
Wreath Laying.




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As we steam into the second half of the year, I am delighted to share just how much has been happening and what lies ahead across the **Keighley & Worth Valley Railway**.

Our **CivilWeek** once again showcased the extraordinary dedication of our volunteer and staff teams, as they undertook vital track renewal between last year's landmark Bridge 27 project and Haworth Station. These works ensure our line remains safe, reliable, and ready to carry passengers for generations to come. My heartfelt thanks go to everyone who picked up tools, gave their time, and helped keep our railway in first-class condition.

Alongside the hard work, there is also plenty to celebrate. Our ever-popular **Beer & Music Festival** returns, promising great entertainment and the perfect blend of real ale, live bands, and a unique railway atmosphere.

We are also proud to play our part in **Railway 200**, marking two centuries of railway history with the touring **Inspiration Train** a chance to look back with pride and look forward with excitement.

As autumn turns to winter, the stage will be set for our atmospheric production of **A Christmas Carol**, bringing a touch of Victorian spirit to the valley. And of course, Christmas wouldn't be complete without our much-loved **Elf Explorer**, where festive magic, laughter, and family memories come to life on board our trains.

Thank you, as ever, for your support, whether through volunteering, visiting, or simply spreading the word. The KWVR is your railway, and together we are keeping its story alive.

~ **Matt Stroh**

Keighley & Worth Valley Railway Chairman

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Upcoming events at The Keighley & Worth Valley Railway.



**ALL ABOARD FOR BEERS,
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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).

How can we help you?

Technology has moved on massively over the last few years 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!**

Denture Problems

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*Would you like to be more confident?
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With our clinical denture expert Matthew Varley, who has restored thousands of smiles - you're sure to feel more confident and be you again.

From Frustration to Clarity

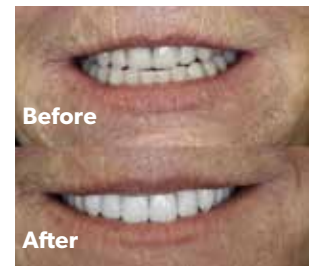
One of our lovely transformation cases. Patient LS struggled for years. Aesthetics were compromised along with facial support looking very strained. With our Diamond range of dentures, aesthetics were restored with full facial support in the correct position.

*"I have finally got my confidence back,
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BEHIND THE SCENES AT THE MUSEUM



taking place in Thornton, the birthplace of the Brontë sisters, and features a private tour of the new Brontë Birthplace Museum. Did you know that the Brontë Society has over 1600 members worldwide? Founded in 1893 the Brontë Society is one of the oldest literary societies in the world, and in 1895 the first Brontë Museum was opened above the Yorkshire Penny Bank, on Haworth's Main Street. In 1928 Haworth



Parsonage was purchased by Sir James Roberts and gifted to the Brontë Society, when it opened as the Brontë Parsonage Museum. The Brontë Society continues to be responsible for the Museum and its collections today, and all of our members across the world help us to keep the Brontë legacy alive for future generations.

If you'd like to join the Brontë Society, go to www.bronte.org.uk/membership, or chat to our Marketing and Development Officer, Hayley, by calling 01535 640195 or emailing membership@bronte.org.uk

Autumn has well and truly arrived in Haworth, and here at the Brontë Parsonage Museum we're excited to share our favourite season with you!

We've got loads of exciting events coming up this month, including our first ever read-along. **From Oct 9th – 30th we'll be reading Charlotte Brontë's Shirley.** Shirley was Charlotte's second published novel and a perceptive exploration of the industrialising Yorkshire she observed around her. Though set in the Luddite era, many of her characters were inspired by people she knew in her own time, including her sister Emily and best friend Mary Taylor. During the read-along we'll be joined by Dr Jo Waugh of York St John University and Dr Claire O'Callaghan of Loughborough University, who will both be sharing their fascinating perspectives of the novel. Behind the scenes at the museum we've been busy preparing for the **Brontë Society Annual General Meeting**, one of the most important dates in the Society calendar. This year's meeting is

Your membership helps us to...

- care for the Brontë Parsonage Museum and its collection
- collect and preserve even more Brontë artefacts
- protect the Brontë legacy for future generations

Find out more at bronte.org.uk/membership

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	2					9	3	
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Where in the Aire Valley? COMPETITION

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
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The winner will be selected from all correct
answers received by the 16th of October
2025.



Last month's competition location was Steeton Coop and
the winner was Margaret Barrett from Sutton.



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COMMUNITY PAGES

Art at East Morton Institute Monday's 10am to 12pm & 1pm to 3pm.

Thursdays 10am to 12pm. More info contact karenredhead@hotmail.co.uk

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 1-3pm Tea Dance at Keighley Civic Centre £2.50 inc tea & biscuits.

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

Tuesdays (Term Time) 2.30pm -

3.30pm Calm at the Castle Relaxing & meditation - friendly group. FREE & no experience needed at Cliffe Castle Keighley

Morton WI every second Tuesday evening each month. Social evening with refreshments at **The Institute in East Morton 7:20 pm.** Contact Ann 07968094238 or email presidentmortonwi@gmail.com

Every Tuesday 7 - 9pm Men's Peer Support Group Free Safe & Friendly environment for men to share, chat & laugh. Airedale Enterprise Services, Sunderland Street, Keighley, BD21 5LE

The Craft and Chat group which meet on the **1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month from 10am to 12pm** in the Church Hall, Keighley New Church, Braithwaite Road, Keighley. Enjoy crafting or just a friendly chat amongst friends.

Every Wednesday Morton Meet and Tiny Feet Cafe at East Morton Institute on 2.15pm to 4.15pm.

Every Wednesday 1pm - 2.30pm Civic Centre Keighley Gibson Dance Exercise Class for ladies 50 plus.

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

Thursdays (October - April) Keighley Men's Forum, Corner entrance of Keighley Playhouse, 1 Devonshire Street, Keighley Refreshments from 9.30am, Speaker at 10.15am Variety of speakers/ presentations £2/week inc. refreshments

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 - 1pm Riddlesden Green

Connection Community Cafe St Mary's Meeting Room, Banks Lane BD20 5PA. Eco liquid refills, book swap and cafe every time.

Feb 2025 to 1s Jan 2026 From Haworth to Eternity exhibition at **The Bronte Parsonage Feb 2025 to Jan 2026 David Hockney Exhibition 20 Flowers for 2025** at Salts Mill, Saltaire.

Sat 4th Oct Keighley Library 12pm An Afternoon with Bruce & Linda Russell. A look back on an incredible career in Showbiz through Live Music. Tickets £2 Call 01535 618215

Sun 5th Oct Sugden End & Black Moor 6 miles. Meet for a **10.30am** start top of Station Road, Cullingworth. www.ramblers.org.uk/keighley

Fri 10 to 12th Oct Haworth Steampunk weekend See spectacular steampunk attire, meet delightful people, enjoy tempting shops, restaurants,, dancers, singers, drummers steam trains, museums, cafés and market stalls, in this historic village in the heart of Bronte Country...

Sat 11th Oct Sue Ryder Starlight Hike in the Worth Valley Get together with friends and family and take part in a 5k or 10k walk for someone special while raising vital funds to help Sue Ryder continue providing expert care and support to those facing grief and loss.

Thurs 16th - 19th October KWVR Beer & Music Festival, Haworth, Keighley Arguably one of the the North's best Beer & Music Festivals.

Fri 17th Oct Art Exhibition & Sale Preview Night at Morton Institute 7.30pm Tickets £10 All proceeds to Manorlands more info karenredhead@hotmail.co.uk

Sat 18th Oct Art Exhibition & Sale at Morton Institute 10am - 4pm FREE Entry Home made soup & cakes available. All proceeds to Manorlands more info karenredhead@hotmail.co.uk

Sun 19th Oct Valley Views. 9 miles. Meet for a 10am start on Shelf Lane in Shelf. www.ramblers.org.uk/keighley

Sun 19th Oct. Train rides for all the family. Miniature trains running at **Marley sports field approx. 12:00 until approx. 16:00.** Steam and electric trains providing trips for all ages. Great family afternoon out.


Mon 20th until 25th Oct Dracula The Bloody Truth at The Keighley Playhouse

Sat 25th until 31st Oct Pumpkin Trail at East Riddlesden Hall

Sat 25th Oct - 2nd Nov Inspiration Railway 200 Exhibition on the KWVR Haworth


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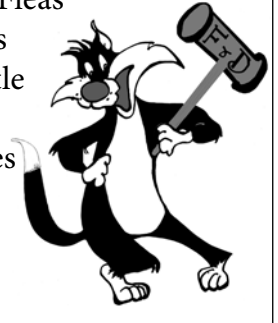
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