

AIRE VALLEY MAG

COMMUNITY NEWS AND LOCAL BUSINESS DIRECTORY

April 2025



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Welcome to April.

Brighter days and new beginnings bring plenty to enjoy in the Aire Valley.

This month, we've got Spring Actions, page 8, to inspire you with a few ideas to make the most of the season.

We also have an extended Community Pages section to keep you connected to what's on.

Thank you for supporting the local businesses and organisations represented in the magazine...it is very much appreciated!

Have a Happy Easter—check out the Hot Cross Bun ~ Bread and Butter Pudding recipe from Martin Lingard on page 22—a delicious twist on a classic.

Bon Appétit!

Liz Barker, Editor



Look forward to ageing backwards

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NAPIT



Spring is here! The days are longer, the air is fresher, and suddenly, we all have a little more energy. Here's how to make the most of the season:

In the Garden – Shake off winter's gloom by getting your hands in the dirt. Plant hardy annuals, start a veg patch, or simply



tidy up. Prune the roses, feed the lawn, and evict those sneaky weeds before they settle in for summer.

Bonus: Gardening counts as exercise; Yay!

With Your Car – Winter was rough on your ride. Show it some love with a deep clean inside and out, top up fluids, check the



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tyre pressure, and if you're feeling fancy—add a colourful cushion for your passengers or a fleecy throw that can be used as a pet blanket for your furry friends.

Around the Home – Spring cleaning isn't just a cliché—it's a chance to freshen your space and your mind. Open the windows, swap heavy winter curtains for lighter fabrics, and let the sunshine in.

Declutter ruthlessly—if you haven't used it since last spring, do you really need it?

Homemade Cleaning Solution:

Mix 1 cup of white vinegar, 1 cup of water, the juice of half a lemon, and a few drops

of essential oil (like lavender or tea tree) in a spray bottle. It's perfect for wiping down surfaces and leaves your home smelling fresh and clean—without any harsh chemicals.

For Your Relationships – Spring is all about renewal, so why not refresh your connections? Plan a spontaneous day out, send a 'just because' message, or rekindle a neglected friendship over a coffee in the sunshine.



Bonus: People are generally happier in spring—use that to your advantage and reconnect.

For Yourself – Take that energy boost and run with it—literally! Get outside, stretch your legs; soak up some vitamin D. Switch up your routine, or just revel in the joy of not having to wear 17 layers to leave the house.

Try a new hobby. My friend took up water colour painting and then recently started experimenting with hand-dyeing wool in her kitchen. One thing can lead to another—you will surprise yourself with your own creative abilities.



(Visit Sonia's Smile, 85 Main Street, Haworth to purchase hand-dyed wool: @soniassmilehaworth on Instagram)

Spring is fleeting—embrace it!

Whether you're planting, purging, painting or just playing in the sun, this season is about feeling alive; Enjoy it.

~ Liz Barker

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We always like to look forward at the Railway, building on our history and respecting our heritage but looking to the future. With that in mind, we continually strive to improve the railway, and we have now opened phase 2 of our project to open up more areas for our passengers at Oakworth, as well as the new visitor centre in the Water Tower at Keighley. Oakworth is a real gem, with its perfectly preserved Midland Railway goods shed, weighbridge and tea hut, and all the locations you can recognise from the two Railway Children films.

Sometimes, however, we like to look backwards, which we will be doing at the relaunched 1940s weekend in May, which is now run by the Railway's events team. The 1940s Wartime Weekend will showcase period vehicles, music, entertainment, and reenactments right along the Railway. This will take the pressure off Haworth, which had been overwhelmed by the event in recent years, and allow us to bring a new approach to the 1940s weekend.

We are also looking forward to our regular events programme, particularly the return of our popular Afternoon and Cream Tea trains. Watching passengers enjoy their savoury and sweet treats as the train wends its way along the branch

line makes all the hard work in restoring the carriages, locomotives and stations worthwhile.

Maintaining a 150+-year-old railway line is a constant labour of love as we work to ensure you can enjoy a journey back in time in period carriages travelling through beautifully maintained stations. As an example of our refurbishment plan in action, we are completing the refurbishment of the canopy at Keighley, which is another costly and important project to keep the Railway ready for future generations, and for which we are very grateful to the Railway Heritage Trust for their financial support.

In addition to our usual programme of events, we are hosting a significant Bradford City of Culture 2025 feature, with The Railway Children production running throughout the summer at Oxenhope. Tickets and details are only available directly from the Bradford 2025 website. Bradford2025.co.uk

With so much going on, I do hope that you will join us on board soon.

~ **Matt Stroh**

Keighley & Worth Valley Railway Chairman

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Upcoming events at The Keighley & Worth Valley Railway.

DINING TRAINS

Sit back, relax, and enjoy a unique journey along the Worth Valley. Travel in one of our beautifully restored heritage carriages while being served by our attentive waiting staff.

You can choose from Afternoon Tea, or Ploughman's Lunch on one of our Dining Specials.



May 17th & 18th 1940s WEEKEND

Join us for an unforgettable journey into the 1940s as the railway is transformed into a living history experience. From the moment you arrive, you'll be immersed in the sights, sounds, and spirit of wartime Britain, with music, entertainment, and re-enactments bringing the era to life.



Use the QR Code for more detailed information, timetables, all the latest news and upcoming events across the railway.

Book online at www.kwvr.co.uk or by phone on 01535 645214

Discover your SMILE again



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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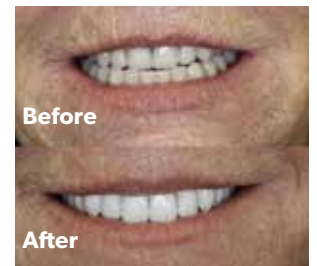
From Frustration to Clarity

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, I never imagined I could smile like this. Thank you My Denture Clinic"

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BEHIND THE SCENES AT THE MUSEUM

Spring's here and we're delighted to kick off a whole new programme of events at the Museum! From free activities for families, to workshops and talks from award-winning creatives, we hear from Programme Officer Angela Clare for a few highlights...

Celebrate the birth of Charlotte Brontë this **April 21** with an online talk exploring the complex legacy she left behind. Join Sharon Wright earlier in the month to uncover the little-known tale of the Brontës' mother, also born in April, in our **Thursday Talk on the 10th. Thursday Talks happen every month in the Old School Room in Haworth at 2pm, and are free to local residents.**

Call in on Wednesdays and Thursdays for our spring activities while school's out for the Easter Holidays. Included with entry, these creative sessions are fun for all ages! **(And don't forget, children eleven and under go free at the Museum.)**

For the thespians among you, we're hosting award-winning director and playwright Polly Teale on **Sunday 13 April** for a workshop based on her three Brontë-inspired plays. It's in partnership with Ilkley Playhouse, who'll be producing Polly's play Brontë next month.

Now we have our new baby changing facilities, the ever-popular **Brontë Babies is coming to Haworth from**



Monday 14 April. The sessions include storytelling and songs for little ones and you can book your free space online.

This year, we're proud to partner with Bradford 2025 to celebrate UK City of Culture. Look out for new outdoor art gallery **Wild Uplands on Penistone Hill**, along with **Earth & Sky** – an immersive 'sound walk' created with Opera North.

Monthly from May, we'll be smashing open ceramic vessels filled with previous visitors' contemplations. Inspired by Emily and Anne Brontë's diary pages, the vessels are currently on display in the Museum.

On **Saturday 10 May**, artist Layla Khoo will break into the first vessel. Come along – it's free!

Also free is our upcoming **Family Festival** – save the date for **Saturday 2 August**. And while you're saving dates, be sure to make

note of this year's **Brontë Women's Writing Festival** from **Friday 26 – Sunday 28 September**.

Finally, we're excited to announce that series two of **Behind the Glass: A Parsonage Podcast, is back!** Find it on Spotify, Apple Podcasts and wherever you tune in to your favourite pods.

The Museum is open over spring and summer from Wednesdays to Mondays. We hope to see you here soon – keep an eye on **www.bronte.org.uk** for all the latest.

Celebrating Charlotte

April 2025

Join us to celebrate the birth of our local literary legend!

Find out more about our special anniversary events at www.bronte.org.uk.




Brontë Parsonage
MUSEUM

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	7			5	4			
	5		6	7		3	1	
8			4					
5	2					8	9	
				3				
	8	4					2	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
name & address to:

mail@worthvalleymag.co.uk

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



Last month's competition location was Silsden Primary School and the winner was Leo McLaughlin (age 10) from Silsden.



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COMMUNITY PAGES

The Downstairs Project is back a friendly and creative space in the **Civic Centre Keighley**.

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

Every Tuesday Stay and Play sessions for babies and under 5 on Friday 9:15am-11:00am

Morton WI every second Tuesday evening each month. Social evening with refreshments at **The Institute in East Morton 7:20 pm.** Contact Anne

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

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.

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 Thursday 11am 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 1.30 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, 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 Brand new exhibition at **The Bronte Parsonage Feb 2025 to Jan 2026 David Hockney Exhibition 20 Flowers for 2025** at Salts Mill, Saltaire

5th - 23rd April (various opening times) Easter Trial at East Riddlesden Hall

Sat 5th April Haworth Haddock on the Keighley & Worth Valley Railway.

Sat 5th & Sun 6th April 10am - 4pm Haworth & Yorkshire Creatives Makers Market at Old School Rooms Haworth.

Sat 5th April & 3rd May 10 am - 11.30am Lees Methodist Church FREE Coffee Morning all proceeds for Manorlands.

Sat 5th to 21st April Easter Express on the Keighley & Worth Valley Railway

Sun 6th April Airedale Hospital Car Boot Sale 7am - 1pm P3 Carpark

Sun 6th April Calderdale Way to Cold Edge Dams. 5.3 miles. Meet for 10.30 start at Ogden CP, Ogden Lane. Keighley Keighley Ramblers

Fri 11th April 10am to 12pm Easter Wreath Making at Keighley Market (seating area in the middle) free all materials provided. To book contact elisabeth.king@keighley.gov.uk

Sat 12th April 12 - 9pm Robert's Park Saltaire World Heritage Day

Sun 13th April 10am - 5pm Keighley Bus Museum Trust Depot Open Day & Free Bus Services from Worth Bridge Road.

Sun 13th April 2 - 3pm Music at the Museum at Cliffe Castle, Keighley Bradford Accordion Band free event.

Weds 16th April 10.30am to 12 noon Canal & River Trust Guided Walk commence at East Riddlesden Hall Pond.

Sat 19th April 11 am - 3pm Keighley Town Council St George's Day Celebrations. Airedale Shopping Centre Keighley with face painting, circus shows, Balloon Modeling, free workshops & crafts.

Sun 20th April. 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. Refreshments available.

Details at www.kdmes.org.uk

Sun 20th April Wilsden

Wanderings. 7.5 miles. Meet for 10.30am start on Wilsden Road, Harden, near the Malt Inn. Keighley Ramblers

25th - 27th April Haworth Beer Festival

Haworth Old School Room

26th April Diesel & Ale Day on the Keighley & Worth Valley Railway

Sun 27th April Spring Market

Airedale Hospital Community Charity 10am - 2pm at P3 Carpark of Airedale Hospital

Sat 3rd & Sun 4th May Haworth Steampunk Weekend.

Sat 3rd to 5th May Vintage Weekend.

Keighley & Worth Valley Railway.

Sat 14th June Hot Aire Music for Marie Curie 2.30pm & 7pm at Bingley Arts Centre.



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hot cross bun bread and butter pudding



by Martin Lingard

With Easter approaching, I thought I'd share this seasonal Easter pudding. It's really simple, just make sure your butter is nice and soft.

Try and find a baking dish that fits the hot cross buns snugly once they have been halved. Serves four.

Ingredients

100g salted butter (approximate)
4 hot cross buns
2 eggs
2 egg yolks
50g caster sugar
1 tsp vanilla extract
400ml double cream
50ml dark rum
Nutmeg

Method

Grease your chosen baking dish with some of your butter.

Slice the buns in half in the normal way and butter generously, arranging them in your dish butter side up.

Lob your eggs, egg yolks and sugar into a bowl and beat well for a minute or two. Now tip in your vanilla extract, rum and cream and whisk again until well mixed. Pour this mixture evenly over your buttered buns.

Set this to one side for an hour (out of reach of any pets you may have) to let your buns soak up the custard.

Preheat your oven to 180C.

Grate a good amount of nutmeg over your soggy buns and scatter a little extra caster sugar over everything and put your dish into the oven.

Bake for 35-40 minutes until your buns are golden and crusty.

Serve with extra cream or vanilla ice-cream.

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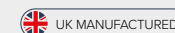
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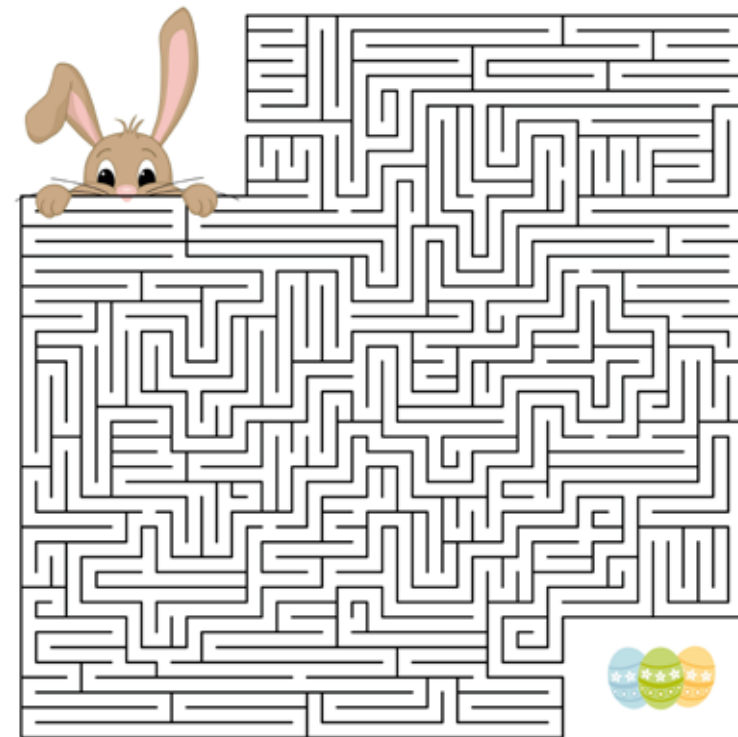
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SPRING

by Mary Oliver

And here is the serpent again,
 dragging himself out from his nest
 of darkness, his cave under the black
 rocks,
 his winter-death.
 He slides over the pine needles.
 He loops around the bunches of rising
 grass, looking for the sun.

Well, who doesn't want the sun after
 the long winter?
 I step aside,
 he feels the air with his soft tongue,
 around the bones of his body he
 moves like oil,

downhill he goes
 toward the black mirrors of the pond.
 Last night it was still so cold I woke
 and went out to stand in the yard,
 and there was no moon.

So I just stood there, inside the jaw of
 nothing. An owl cried in the distance,
 I thought of Jesus, how he crouched in
 the dark for two nights,
 then floated back above the horizon.

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Bronte Parsonage p14/15

K&WV Railway p10/11

Ramblers Keighley p23

Robbie Moore p6

Tea Dance p20

Building Services/Repairs

Airedale Property Maintenance p21

AV Rendering & Externals p20

Broomhill Roofing p24

MB Roofing p24

SW Roofing p3

Yorkshire Loft Ladders p31

Butchers

Marsh Top Farm Shop p6

Care/Cleaning /

Domestic

Adele's Ironing p28

Clear Way Solutions p29

HP Cleaning p5

Cars/Motorcycles

Stockbridge Tyres p24

Whizard Chop Shop p29

College/Schools

Beckfoot Priesthorpe p9

Keighley College p25

Companion Driving

Driving Miss Daisy p4

Computer/Web Related

Computer Repairs p23

DVD Conversion p30

Dental

Taylored Dental Care p12/13

Electricians

CT Electrical p21

Fuel /Heating

Anchor Logs p28

FB Guest p21

Negas p27

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Gardening/Trees

Airedale Tree Surgeons p21

JE Homes & Garden p21

SAS Landscape & Gardening p21

Worth Valley Trees p20

Graphic Design

Zorika Gaeta p25

Health & Mobility

A1 Health & Mobility p5

Holidays/Travel

Steels p6

Joinery

GM Rawnsley p29

Locksmiths

In House Securities p20

Loft Conversions

Yorkshire Loft Ladders p31

Painting & Decorating

Andy Beattie p21

RP Decorating p21

Pest Control

F&D Pest Control p29

Plumbing

Assisted Living p15

BK Plumbing & heating p29

R & C Bathroom Solutions p26

Rightio Plumbing & Heating p27

TK Plumbing p28

Property

Holroyds p32

Pure Lettings p5

The Chimes p2

Retail

Assisted Living p15

Dream Doors p23

Manor Blinds p5

Marsh Top Farm Shop p6

Office Furniture Outlet p24

Phillipe's p29

Queensbury Kitchens, Bedrooms & Bathrooms p32

Roofing

Broomhill Roofing p24

MB Roofing p24

SW Roofing p3

Solicitors

Walker Foster p2

Solar

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Therapy

The Feet Retreat p24

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