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COMMUNITY NEWS AND LOCAL BUSINESS DIRECTORY

May 2013



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I think we can safely say the snow has had its day(s) and spring has truly sprung.

Cath Bromwich waxes lyrical on p.26 about sorrel for all our foodies and foragers, including a tasty recipe for sorrel and tomato soup. Let us know how you like it. We've been told the St.George's tart we published last month was a hit; in fact it won a prize at a local community gathering.

Dare I mention DIY? Traditionally Easter signals the big push on decorating projects...We have put a green spin on it this year. Take a look at p4 to learn more.

We have an excerpt from the 1940's Weekend Picture Post (pp20-21), available in Haworth now, the sale of which benefits Keighley SSAFA.charity.

Have you noticed a few more cyclists on our roads recently?

Our journey has only just begun.

Get on your bike and have a great May!



Liz Barker, editor @LocalGlobalGirl



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Say you saw it in the Aire Valley Mag!

Shades of Green

Aire Valley Decorating Centre is a traditional store in Keighley, selling decorating products for trade and DIY. It's the only outlet in West Yorkshire for eco-friendly Earthborn paints.

Co-owner Jason Laycock offers some tips on healthy DIY.

Spring has arrived at last, bringing with it the DIY season.

Decorating makes your home feel fresh and new and can be fun. But if you don't take proper care it can harm your health as well as the environment.

Paints contain chemicals called VOCs (Volatile Organic Compounds) that cause those horrible fumes – and for some, they can have serious health effects. Not many people realise that breathing in paint fumes can do more damage to your lungs than smoking. For anyone with allergies, asthma or chest complaints – or if you're committed to a 'green' approach there's a simple solution. You can plump for an Eco-friendly paint like Earthborn, which contains no oils or VOCs. This is safer for people with health concerns as it allows the decorator, their family and their home to breathe more easily.

Look for an Eco-label flower to show your paint meets the EU's tough environmental standards. As Eco-paints don't give off greenhouse gas emissions they're licensed by DEFRA

(the UK government's farming and the countryside department). Johnstone's do an ecological range which meets EU Eco standards.

If you don't want to go the whole hog and buy specialist Eco-paints, there are still ways to protect your health and the environment while decorating.

1, Choose a suitable water-based paint – with today's technology, they perform as well as oil-based products but are cleaner and healthier:

- They have fewer VOCs.
- If you splash paint on your skin, you can clean it off without harmful solvents.
- You can clean brushes in soap and water, rather than costly white spirit which could harm the environment.

2, Open a window when painting indoors and let air circulate. This lessens the effects of fumes and helps paint to dry evenly. Air is more important than heat for forming a surface film.

3, Never pour paint down the drain. It could enter watercourses, causing environmental damage. It can be traced back, then you could be fined. Pour unused paint back into the tin and take it to a household waste site where they will dispose of it for you.

If you need advice on eco-friendly painting or any other decorating matters, don't hesitate to drop in at Aire Valley Decorating Centre or give us a call on 01535 608355.



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Bluebell facts..

Some estimates suggest the UK has up to half of the world's total bluebell population

71% of native bluebells are found in broadleaved woodland or scrub.

Tennyson speaks of bluebell juice being used to cure snake-bite. The romantic poets of the 19th century, such as Keats and Tennyson, believed that the bluebell symbolised solitude and regret source: woodlandtrust.org.uk

Best local places to walk amongst the Bluebells

St. Ives Estate, A Bradford Met Council wood in Bingley. A wonderful Country Park with woodlands, open moor, a wildflower meadow, and paths throughout. Adventure Playground for the children. Coppice Pond offers both fishing opportunities and a chance to feed the ducks. Lots to explore for all ages.

Hardcastle Crags Pecket Well Clough, National Trust wood. Hebden Bridge. A unique trail through a secluded wooded valley with many miles of footpath, rich in plant, bird and animal life, with hints of the area's industrial past. Huge beech trees were originally planted in the 1870s. You may see numerous species of fungi, growing on the ground, on trees or deadwood.

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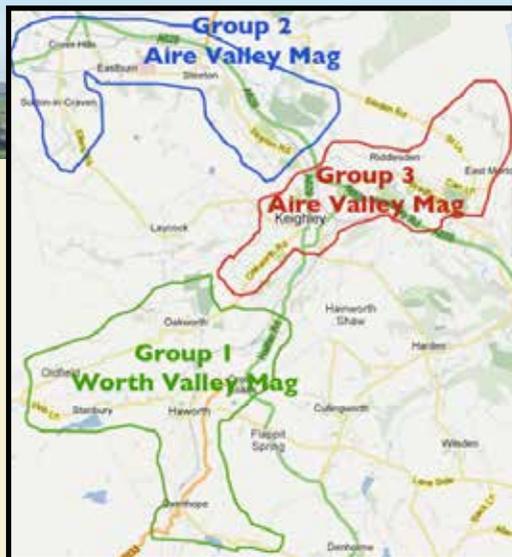
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Get a grip. Cycle for fun.

So what is all the excitement about anyway?

We're told one of the world's biggest sporting events will be wheeling its way through our neighbourhoods next year; we should be scouting for best vantage points and preparing to rent out our spare rooms.

The spectacle, of course, is the Tour de France. The Grand Départ is the bit that Yorkshire will host, specifically the opening two stages of the race that take place over two days in July 2014.

Thanks to a successful bid by Welcome to Yorkshire, the county's tourism champions, the beauty and distinctiveness of Yorkshire will be showcased on a global stage.

Whether you are interested in cycling or not, you will be hearing **A LOT** about it over the next 430 Days (from the time this edition of the Aire Valley Mag is published) and counting.

Why resist the wave of enthusiasm? Go with the flow and join us on a journey of discovery. We'll explore the wonderful and bizarre world of cycling over the months ahead, Keighley and Craven's place in its history, and the characters that populate our local Yorkshire cycling fraternity.

On your bike!

If the recent media attention around the Tour has already whet your appetite, why not enter a local sportive? With a little preparation and training you can get back in the saddle.

A sportive is an event open to any cyclist, you don't have to be a member of a cycling club to enter these events. Sportives range in distance from 60 to 130 mile, organisers usually have shorter route options available on the same day. Sportives are not a race, they are an opportunity for many varied bike riders to ride the same route, often over challenging terrain, whilst following route marker arrows. Most events include feed stops and rider back up facilities, they are timed using timing chip devices too. This enables riders to return to ride the same event each year and track their progression.

Yorkshire is a great backdrop for sportives. The varied and sometimes tough terrain provides a real challenge with an opportunity to develop road riding skills, increase fitness and have fun.

Some of the events below use some of the same roads as the Grand Départ 2014. Go on then, on your bike!

Sportive Events in Yorkshire

May

- 4 - Pocklington Pedal
- 19 - Etape Du Dales
- 19 - Cyclothon 2013
- 25 - Richmond Meet 5 Dales Sportive

June

- 1 - Dentdale Beauty and the Beast
- 16 - Round the Beat Cycle Sportive
- 16 - Three Peaks Classic
- 16 - Ryedale Rumble
- 23 - The Moor Tour

July

- 7 - White Rose Classic
- 28 - Bronte Sportive

(source: letour.yorkshire.com)

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Ask Aireworth Vets



Keeping your Pets Young and Healthy

Did you know that for every year that we humans get older our cats age approximately 5 years and our dogs age between 6 and 10 years depending on their size and breed.

This means that the health of a 10 year old cat is broadly equivalent to a 50 year old person.

Larger dogs age more quickly than smaller breeds, so a 7 year old Jack Russell is like a person in their late 30s, but a Great Dane would be ready to retire and draw their pension.

Like us, dental disease is common in dogs and cats as they grow up, but unlike people, pets don't clean their teeth every day; despite the fact that they eat a far more processed diet than nature intended.

Poor dental care leads to smelly breath, caused by plaque, tartar and gingivitis. This is also a worrying source of infection which can spread through the blood stream affecting kidneys and heart valves particularly.

Your pet could benefit from a range of products designed to help prevent dental disease like: pet toothpaste, mouthwash, chews, dental dog biscuits and special food; all to help improve and maintain your pet's oral hygiene.



Interested in finding out more?

You are welcome to join us at a free event on Tuesday 11th June we'll be discussing preventative health care including dental hygiene to help keep your cat and dog fit, healthy and happy.

There'll be a raffle for local pet charities, refreshments and a shop.

Our Vets and Nurses will be on hand to answer your questions.

Please reserve your place with our reception team as space is limited. Full details are on our website:

www.aireworthvets.co.uk



SILSDEN TOWN BAND

The origins of Silsden Brass Band go back to the 1840's when it is thought that the band changed from a Pipe and Reed Band into a Brass Band.

At the outbreak of the Crimean War in 1854, nine members of the band joined the Royal Lancashire Militia and were based on Corfu during the conflict. On their return home from the war, to civilian life, the Silsden Brass Bandsmen were allowed to wear the distinctive white military uniforms of the Royal Lancashire Militia, a privilege awarded to them for their services in the Militia Band.

The early years of the band was probably one of the most successful periods of the band's history, when it entered the British Brass Band Open Championships at Belle Vue, Manchester in 1863, when Silsden came third, after Black Dyke Band and Bacup Band.

One of the most notable Silsden bandsmen at that time was Edward Newton, who became very well known in the brass band world as a prolific composer and arranger of brass band music. He composed and arranged 400 pieces including 137 quick marches, many

hymns and anthems.

The band continued to function until the Second World War broke out in 1939 but lack of support led to its demise.

After a fifty year gap, the Silsden Town Band was resurrected in 1990, and has gradually grown in strength since then. The friendly band has thirty members of mixed musical ability, ranging from the ages of 11 to 80, under the Musical Directorship of Andrew Dunn, and has a busy engagements diary for the coming year, having played at Bradford Cathedral and in the Hardraw Scar Contest in 2012, and also concerts, charity events, galas and weddings.

The band practises on Tuesday evenings from 7p.m. until 9p.m. in the Community Centre, Gloucester Avenue, Silsden and is always pleased to see new members (or anyone who just wishes to have "a blow"). We currently have vacancies for two front row cornet players and if you are interested, please contact the secretary, Claire on 07884363148 or Andrew on 01535 678711, 07766668920.

<http://silsdentownband.silsden.net/stbnews/>
Edgar Clarkson, May, 2013

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Last month's winner was Barrie McWhinney:

The correct answer was Glusburn Institute Google Earth ©



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Moor Lodge (Scar Top Pass) 15:15 16:10 17:05 18:00 18:55

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THE DAMBUSTER RAIDS

written by Andrew Stansack.

70 years ago on May 17th 1941 history was in the making. Thundering through the skies high above enemy territory, the legendary *RAF* Lancaster bombers of 617 Squadron courageously embarked upon one of the most perilous missions of World War 2. The mission was code named 'Operation Chastise' and was led by Dashing and Fearless King Commander Guy Gibson. All the air crews were individually selected for their experience and courage in previous missions. The secret mission was to bomb the Dams in the German Ruhr valley and knock out armament production, power supplies, railway yards etc and slow down the Nazi war machine. We have come to know this mission as The Dambusters.

133 men in 19 specially modified Lancaster's carrying the 'Upkeep' mine, nicknamed the Bouncing Bomb took off late in the evening from *RAF* Scampton in 3 waves, they flew at about 100ft sometimes down to 60ft at 100mph to avoid German detection and headed for the Mohne Dam, Eder and Corpe Dam.



aerial view of the dams one after the other.

The Mohne and Eder were breached and millions of gallons of water cascaded down the valleys knocking out power, railways and manufacturing facilities. The Corpe Dam was difficult to reach and could not be bombed face on as the others so Lancaster *AJ-T* ED411 flew along its length and the bomb damaged and cracked the Dam. To ensure success they flew over the Dam 16 times constantly under Ack Ack fire before dropping the Bomb, such was their determination and bravery.

The story of the Dams Raids reads like a 'Boys Own' story 'Bernie Mallie and his Madcap Bouncing Bomb', designed to be shipped across the water like a pebble to a target deemed to be invincible and to be attacked by handpicked airmen forced into a special squadron who were in many cases little older than school boys.

The fact that the raid succeeded is testament to the intensive training carried out at Derwent Water and other reservoirs in Britain for 6 weeks and the incredible professionalism and bravery of the crew. The breaching of the Dams caught the British public's imagination with its strategic bombing and subsequent devastation to ensure 617 Squadron 'The Dambusters' has remained firmly in the minds of the public ever since.



the dams one



70 YEARS ON

... we reflect and remember the 19 Lancaster's that didn't make it home and more importantly the 133 men that lost their lives. Bernie Mallie was distraught at the loss of life and considered it a tragic mistake, others claim the damage caused was quickly repaired and the raids of little importance, however the Nazi's now fabricating further accurate attacks redeployed 20,000 front line soldiers, guns etc to protect the dams from further attack, but more importantly the day after the raid Winston Churchill was in the USA addressing a conference and the news was greeted by Roosevelt and the Senate with huge praise and pledged to fully support Britain in the European war to defeat the Nazi's.

Stalin and the Soviet Union also pledged to see it through to Berlin, prior to the Dambusters raid it was believed the Soviets would drive the Nazi's back to the German border and The UK would concentrate more on a Pacific war. The Dambusters raid could therefore be considered a key turning point in the war.

The aircraft have gone, the airfields have largely gone and most of the airmen have gone. Even the circumstances that brought about the 617 Squadron have gone and the world has moved on, but thankfully the exploits of those extraordinary men and women will live on in the memory of everyone to whom freedom is an important dream or reality.

This walk was devised as a video now available on DVD in Haworth at: The Bronte Parsonage, The Tourist Information Centre, Rose & Co Apothecary, Venables & Bainbridge and in Cullingworth at Cold Spring Mill or online www.bayvideoproductions.co.uk or by phone (01535) 647150. In the video old photos, most of which are now over 100 years old, are blended with the scene as it looks today offering the viewer a



Ready For Takeoff

This year, the Haworth 1940's weekend over the 18th and 19th of May is themed; as it coincides with the 70th anniversary of the iconic 1943 Dambusters raid. I think everyone who has seen the film still feels a tingle on hearing its stirring music. To celebrate the 70th anniversary, Committee member Andrew Kissack has arranged with artist John Francis and printer Howard Baker to produce 70 limited edition prints, portraying a Lancaster bomber over the dam. Each one of these has been signed by 91 year old George "Johnny" Johnson, the last surviving British crew member, who was bomb aimer of Lancaster T for Tommy on the Dambusters raid.

The limited edition signed prints are available now as a lasting memento at £100 each, with smaller unsigned prints at just £10.00. Profits from the 2013 event will be going to SSAFA (Soldiers, Sailors & Airmen's Families Association) who do amazing work helping service personnel and their families.

The 1940's committee has broadened the appeal of the weekend with more venues and

added attractions. The Parsonage car park will be transformed into the Haworth Airbase, featuring a Dambusters Exhibition and live entertainment. On the airbase there will be an 18ft wingspan model of a Lancaster bomber and a full size replica Spitfire - have your picture taken, sitting in the cockpit! Talking of Spitfires, we are proud that weather permitting there will be a flypast by the WW2 memorial flight of a Spitfire and a Hurricane on both days.

Haworth Central Park will be a major entertainment area with a licensed Veterans Marquee, Jive dancing, live music and stalls. And of course, these will be superb parades and a static vehicle display in Main St. Once again, we are producing our "Picture Post" programme for just £2.00. This is going to press, packed with articles about wartime exploits and full information on the programme. Last year they all sold out, so we are printing an extra 1,000 copies and we hope to have them in time for the May Day Bank Holiday, on sale at the Tourist Information Centre, Firth's and the Apothecary on Main St., so get yours early and avoid disappointment.



A Helping Hand
Last year, our Marshals did a sterling job, but for 2013 we are going to need even more, so if you want to be part of this success story raising money to lend a helping hand to our service men & women please call John Taylor on 07768 383153.

Photos: 1 Winston Churchill reenactment 2. Mrs Carroll of the Haworth 1940's Committee presenting The Armed Services Minister, the Rt. Hon. Andrew Robathan MP. with the Dambusters print. 3. Jive Dancing in the streets.

Haworth Through the Lense of History

A Circular Walk
8.9 miles (14.3K)

1. We start at the top of Haworth on the church steps. Go through the gate following the path round to the left and exiting the church yard via the kissing gate. Continue along the path and up the steep hill to Penstone. Cross the road and continue straight on until you reach the main road at which you turn left towards the Bronte Waterfalls

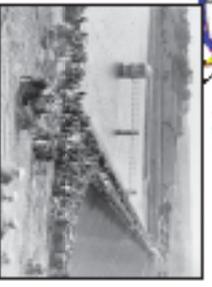
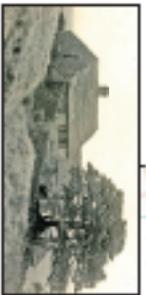
2. Cross the cattle grid and continue along the clearly marked path to the Bronte Waterfalls. Cross the bridge and follow the path uphill to Top Withens

3. Just before reaching Withens the path goes left up to the ruin but our walk takes us right heading back towards Stanbury. Continue along this road for about three quarters of a mile and then just before reaching the first inhabited house near a stone wall turn left, the path is not that easy to see!

4. Follow this path downward towards Ponden Clough. Eventually you will cross a bridge turning right off it and steeply down to the Cough. Continue to follow the footpath down towards Ponden. Follow the path round the edge of the reservoir and then down to Ponden Mill where you will eventually get to Withens Slack to the main road

5. At the road turn right heading up the hill past the Silent Inn to Stanbury. Stay on the road through the village and down towards Haworth. Just before Stanbury cemetery. Follow the footpath on the left down to Lamb Foot. At the bottom of the little footpath turn left and follow the road round to the right, go through the farm and across the fields next to the stream. Continue along to Long Bridge, going over a stile then over the second stile on your left, follow the stream down to Spring Head & Lord Lane.

6. See up the steep hill to Charnegate, and back into Haworth Main Street for a well earned drink.



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sites used in the film, and see displays and photos taken during filming and other exhibits.

Sat 11th & Sun 12th May Bronte Vintage Gathering (in aid of Manorlands Hospice) Haworth Road, Cullingworth. A Great Family Day Out. Charriots of Fire Display Team, Steamers, Commercials, Military, Tractors, Cars, Motorcycles. Craft Marquee, Trade Stands, Food & Licensed Bar. Horses, Blackpool Donkeys, Flypast, Fairground Attractions, Lawn Mower Racing. For further info visit www.bronte-vintage-gathering.co.uk or call 01535 275535.

Mon 13th - Sat 18th May Bingley Little Theatre present A Man For All Seasons by Robert Bolt. The story of Sir Thomas More who would not endorse Henry VIII's wish to divorce his first wife and marry Anne Boleyn. Tickets from Box Office 01274 567983 Mon-Friday 11am - 3.30pm. Bingley Arts Centre, Main Street, Bingley West Yorkshire

Fri 17th May 1.30 to 3.30 pm Adult Well-Being Cafe at Oxenhope Community Centre (Shaw Lane) Entertainer Leo Kenny contact Geoff Grange for further information (Tel 01535 647675)

Sat 18th-Sun 19th Haworth 1940's Weekend - including period vehicle parade, Churchill address, Bradford Marching Pipe Band, RAF Flypast, dancers & vintage fair. All profits

from the event to go to Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen & Families Association (SSAFA. www.haworth1940sweekend.co.uk).

Sat 25 May - Vintage & Retro Fair 10am - 4pm at Penningtons Octagon Live. Sandbeds. Keighley. Entry £2 under 16's free (with an adult) music from the 30's 40's and 50's. Free dance lessons from Jive 45.

Sat 25th May - Sun 2nd June - 10am-4pm Bolton Abbey Wheres William Free event, normal estate admission applies. Become a detective and take part in a free mediaeval mystery trail. Its 1147AD and William Fitz Duncan, the 'Boy of Egremont', and his dog have gone hunting in the woods. Can you use your detective skills to follow their trail and get William home in time for tea? More info call 01756 718000

Sat 25th May The Airedale Coin Collection at East Riddlesden Hall 10.30am - 4pm A fascinating collection of coins dating back to 871, featuring coins from every Monarch's reign (bar two) since Alfred the Great. Meet the man behind the collection and learn more about his wonderful assortment of coins. A house trail will also be on offer for our younger visitors to take part in. Free event/activity (normal admission charges apply) More Information: Shelley Hollingdrake, 01535 683806, shelley.hollingdrake@nationaltrust.org.uk

Sun 26th May Silsden Car Boot Sale 7am - 1 pm at Riverside Field, Silsden, Further details call 01535 654747

Sun 26th May - Craft & Gift Fair at Mercure Hotel (formerly Bankfield Hotel) Bingley. FREE ENTRY

Mon 10th - Sat 15th June Neville's Island at Keighley Playhouse

A testosterone driven comedy about a group of businessmen who find themselves marooned on an island and try to come to terms with each other's irritating little foibles.

For more information about Nevilles Island, please contact 08451 267 859

Tues 18th June 5pm - 7pm Keighley Campus Open Night. Everything we offer in Keighley, in one place, on one night!

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For the promotion of Health & Wellbeing by Cath Bromwich



May means sorrel to me. From now on, wherever I walk I will be on the look out for my favourite free kitchen flavour. The earlier you pick sorrel the more tender it is, but you can cut it back for a fresh growth like nettles. It has a very distinctive green oval leaf with two pointy ends at the bottom where the leaf meets the stem. It grows in clumps on the ground and at this time of year the leaves can be really small, a couple of centimetres long or more. As the summer progresses they get bigger, darker and tougher.



The French eat sorrel a lot and it has a superb, sharp, lemony flavour that enhances every dish you would like lemon with and many other surprising dishes too. The tomato and sorrel soup recipe here is a very good example of this and the flavour really alters a simple, common meal.

You are best using just a handful of sorrel to add flavour and this is good because, as with other foraging, you usually don't get much more. I love to put a handful of sorrel leaves under the skin of the breast of a chicken I am roasting at this time of year and then serve that with summery sides like new potatoes, salad and homemade mayonnaise.

It is also really good made into a herb butter and then served with trout or on potatoes. You can also scramble it with eggs. Alternatively just wash it well and chuck it in with your salad.

Sorrel does have a chemical in that is not great for people with kidney problems so don't eat at all if that is the case. Do take care of where you pick it. I usually take it from right up on the moor to make it very unlikely that a dog has been near it. It is an open country plant and I have never found it in woods so get out on the land among sheep.

Sorrel and tomato soup

From *Herbs A complete guide to their cultivation and use* by Ann Bonar

200g fresh finely chopped sorrel leaves (I would just use as much as you can if you don't find this much it works well however much you put in)

100g peeled and chopped tomatoes (plunge whole tomatoes in boiling water for a short while then pierce with a knive and the skins will begin to roll off)

900ml Chicken stock, for the best taste make your own

25g butter

Salt, Pepper and Sugar to taste.
Sauté sorrel in butter briefly until wilted. Add the tomatoes and cook for about 5 minutes until they are soft but not completely disintegrated. Heat the stock, add to the sorrel and tomatoes with salt, pepper and a little sugar to taste. Bring to the boil and simmer for about 5 minutes before serving.

Optional: use hand blender for a less chunky soup.



Tip: This is the time of year to add edible leaves to a salad: dandelion, sorrel, hawthorn, daisy leaves, fat hen, and many more. To quote Kipling:

'Anything green that grew out of the mould, was an excellent herb to our fathers of old'.

I do hope you try the soup and check on the internet for the huge variety of herb butter recipes which are well worthwhile making.

Cath Bromwich, a Silsden resident, a cookery teacher and forager with a background in health promotion. Her livelihood includes foraging, general and health-related cookery for different conditions such as diabetes and coeliac disease. For more information, or to pass on your stories and recipes, contact Cath at: cath_bromwich@hotmail.com

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YOUR DIGITAL AFTERLIFE by Michelle Thompson of Cloud FreeIT

Once upon a time people took their prize-possessions to their grave, but building yourself a pyramid or burial mound in which to store all your goods and chattels ready for the afterlife is probably 'a bit ostentatious' these days, and anyway have you tried getting planning permission around here lately?

There's no pocket in a shroud, or indeed very much room in your standard coffin, so most people leave their precious collections of books, DVD & music collections, photo albums and paper documents, to family and friends to keep or dispose of as they see fit; an arduous task for them.

My kids raid my vinyl, CD and cassette collection, from time to time when they're on the hunt for something a bit 'retro' that isn't available on the streaming services that they favour for their music consumption. In the last few years I switched to buying music from download sites, such as iTunes. It's all on my laptop and gets backed up to an external hard drive. A lot of my photo collection is in boxes and cupboards, but everything from the last 10 years is on my laptop. What a mish-mash!

'Hanging onto stuff' clutters up my home and my life, and weighs me down, apparently. Going totally digital would sort that out. I made a start once or twice, honest, but what a long job!

Storing all photos, music and other data 'in the cloud' (and by that I mean on a server in a datacentre somewhere, not in a massive pile of 'UStore' boxes guarded by angels) is becoming the norm. The cloud has to be THE safest place to store your 'digital life' as long as you're careful about security (strong passwords, changed

frequently, not shared with anyone). There's no need to worry about hard drives dying suddenly, or losing the lot in a house fire or burglary, and you can access it from anywhere if you need to.

Our collections and mementoes say a lot about us and could be important to our loved ones, but in digital form they could be a lot harder to pass on safely when we shuffle off this mortal coil.

Most of us store email (and attachments) in the cloud without thinking about it. You may not realise just how much good, useful and very precious data you have got stored all over the place. What would you like to happen to all that data when you no longer have a use for it? Would you want or need your family to share access to it? Probably.

Worry not! Cunning plans are afoot! New concept alert! 'Your Digital Afterlife'!

Google intends to give users of their services the option to have their data deleted after 3, 6, 9 or 12 months of inactivity, or have their data sent on to nominated and authorised contacts in the event of their passing. Facebook now gives you the option to 'memorialise' an account after the user's death, so remember when I mentioned 'Digital Footprints' last month, eh? Keep yours clean and tidy!

This is all sounding rather like the hand-over of control of other assets (e.g. a bank account), so you might want to think about stating your preferences in your will.

You can be sure most online storage providers won't be far behind Google and Facebook. I'll start uploading my millions of photos to the cloud, sooner rather than later. If I start now there'll be fewer piles of 'stuff' for the kids to sort out when I'm gone.



Oxenhope Delivers more!

Continuing our introduction of the magazine distribution team, May brings you the three Oxenhope distributors, Roger, Ella, and Frank. It's not just the young ones who enjoy getting out there and delivering your mags...



Roger is a local Painter and Decorator running his own successful business but he fancied a bit of variety and exercise and saw the chance to achieve

this at the same time as getting to know Oxenhope and its residents a bit better. Look out for him if you live up Leeming, (especially if you need a decorator.)



Frank is a student and has a keen interest in journalism so he may end up writing this column at some point. He's relatively new to

the Upper Oxenhope round and has only ever delivered mags in snow, wind and rain. He's an animal lover with a family of 3 dogs, 4 chickens, 6 guinea pigs and a quantity of fish whose numbers change frequently. He's a keen wrestler and is a member of an American style wrestling club. Go to YouTube and search for Frank The Tank "The Future of British Wrestling".



Ella is also a student studying for GCSE'S and aiming for a place at university. She's well known locally, and is very active in the Oxenhope

Youth Club, being on the committee and helping to raise money and plan events and activities. This energetic young woman is always out and about and saw a chance to earn money at the same time, delivering to Lower Oxenhope.

It's amazing what these distributors get upto!



Cherry Blossom (by Jo Longbottom)

Have you seen the cherry blossom
Blustering off the branches?
Fluttering and flurrying,
Confetti bridesmaid dances.

Have you seen it twirling
Up towards the cloudy skies?
Swirling like blown snowflakes
Round all the passers by?

Can you count them,
Spiralling?
Scattering and scutter,
Blocking all the drains
As they drift into the gutter?

Soon they will be wilting
Drab and dry and drown'd
Squashed and squelched and slippery
Slimy on the ground.

But its a spring time snowfall,
Pandemonium of petals.
A May melee of madness
Swooped, swept high, then settled.

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Mr STE. Gainsborough - March 2014

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