

# WORTH VALLEY MAG

COMMUNITY NEWS AND LOCAL BUSINESS DIRECTORY

May 2025

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**Welcome to the May Edition**  
May is a wonderful time in our community—spring is in full bloom, and so is our calendar of local events. As we mark VE Day, we take time to reflect on the bravery and sacrifices of the past, and the enduring importance of peace in our lives today.

This month also brings two much-loved events: the Bronte Gathering, a quirky celebration of rural life, raising money for Sue Ryder, Manorlands Charity, and the 1940s Weekend in Haworth, where the Keighley and Worth Valley Railway host a newly designed experience taking place at the station and along the railway's line between Keighley and Oxenhope. (see p.13 for tickets)

As ever, this magazine is brought to you by local businesses, tradespeople, and community organisations who help keep our area thriving. Please support them—it makes a real difference. Have a lovely month.



Liz Barker, Editor

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were instrumental in the collective war effort.



As we honor VE Day's 80th anniversary, it's essential to remember the unity and determination that defined that era. The sacrifices made by communities like Bradford and Keighley underscore the importance of preserving peace and remembering our shared history.

**Thursday May 8th 2025**, beacons and **Lamp Lights of Peace** will shine across the United Kingdom to commemorate 80 years since VE Day. **Keighley Town Council** is hosting a community celebration at **Town Hall Square (BD21 3QQ) from 6:00 PM to 9:45 PM.**

The event will feature:  
 \* Face painting \* Lindy Hop dance lessons  
 \* 1940s tractor display \* Free picnic for the first 100 attendees \* Beacon lighting ceremony at 9:15 PM  
 Additionally, **Bingley Remembrance Group, in conjunction with the Town Council**, are organising two events for the commemoration of the 80th anniversary of Victory in Europe Day on 8th May 2025. Bingley will also hold a beacon lighting ceremony at its cenotaph. The event will feature local groups, including cadets, choirs, and marching bands. The bells of All Saints Parish Church in Bingley are expected to participate in the national **"Ring Out for Peace" at 6:30 PM.** A family event is being organised in **Bingley Market Square for Saturday 10th May 2025**, in conjunction with RSH Artisan Markets also. The latter will include musical performances, classic army vehicles, food and drink, and even an RAF flypast!

On 8 May 1945, jubilant crowds flooded the streets of Britain to mark Victory in Europe (VE) Day, celebrating the end of World War II in Europe. As the nation commemorates the 80th anniversary of this historic day, it's a poignant moment to reflect on the sacrifices made and the enduring peace that followed.


In London, throngs gathered outside Buckingham Palace, cheering as King George VI and Prime Minister Winston Churchill appeared on the balcony. Street parties erupted nationwide, with communities dancing and singing in shared relief and joy.



Rare color footage captures these spontaneous celebrations, offering a vivid glimpse into the nation's elation.

Bradford and the Keighley District played a significant role in the war effort. Bradford's textile industry was vital, producing uniforms and materials essential for the military. The city's mills operated tirelessly, contributing to the supply chain that supported the troops. In Keighley, local factories shifted to wartime production, manufacturing components and equipment crucial for the front lines. The region's contribution extended beyond industry. Many residents served in the armed forces, with local regiments seeing action across various theaters of war. The community's resilience and commitment

Scan the QR codes above to view historical film from VE Day



# CELEBRATE THE 80TH ANNIVERSARY OF VE DAY!

8TH  
MAY

🕒



6:00PM  
-9:45PM

📍

TOWN  
HALL  
SQUARE

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- ❤️ Stalls from Sea Cadets, Air Cadets, and Army Cadets
- ❤️ Men of Worth sharing the history of VE Day
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- ❤️ 1940's Tractor Display
- ❤️ Free Face Painting
- ❤️ Viva La Vintage Singer
- ❤️ Lighting of the Beacon at 9:30pm

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## Warm Asparagus Mousse with tarragon vinaigrette & toast



by Martin Lingard

### Method

Preheat your oven to 150C (gas mark 2) and butter 4 ramekin dishes. Set these to one side.

Bring a large pan of salted water to the boil. While you're waiting, snap the woody ends off your asparagus spears and chuck in your compost bin. Cut the spears into roughly 2-centimetre lengths and tip into the boiling water. Cook until soft, longer than you'd normally cook asparagus spears. Drain into a colander and cool under the cold tap.

Put your asparagus, 2 eggs and a further 2 egg yolks into a blender and process until really smooth. Pour in the cream, season well with salt and pepper then blend again. Pour this mixture into your ramekins. Cover each ramekin with a small square of tin foil and place them all into a deep baking tray or dish.

Carefully pour hand hot water into the baking tray, avoiding splashing it into your ramekins, until the water comes roughly  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the way up.

Transfer the baking tray to the oven, taking care not to slop the water. Bake for 30 minutes before removing and leaving to cool.

Whilst your asparagus mousses are cooling, make a tarragon vinaigrette by mixing the vinegar, dried tarragon and mustard in a bowl then seasoning with salt and pepper. Once mixed, whisk in the oils before finally adding the finely chopped tarragon. Once the mousses have cooled until just warm, pour a small amount of vinaigrette over each one and serve with buttered toast.

Our English asparagus season is in full swing now. As we get into May, the price drops, and this is a good way of making one bunch feed four as a light lunch or supper. It sounds quite fancy but is really easy. It is really nice served with a soft boiled egg, toast soldiers and a glass of cold dry white wine. You need four ramekin dishes for this.

### Ingredients (serves 4)

- 1 bunch of asparagus
- 4 large eggs
- 125 ml double cream
- Salt & Black pepper
- 1 small lump of soft butter
- 1tbsp white wine vinegar
- Dried tarragon
- 1tsp Dijon mustard
- 3 tbsp sunflower oil
- 2 tbsp extra virgin olive oil
- 1 small palmful of fresh tarragon leaves, finely chopped
- Buttered toast to serve

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 **KEIGHLEY**  
TOWN COUNCIL

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Every month brings new challenges when running a 150+ year old railway, thanks to our increasingly venerable fleet. We regularly run a steam loco built in 1899, and the main carriage fleet dates back to the 1950s. It takes a huge effort to keep the wheels turning, with our teams at Haworth working on the locomotive fleet and Oxenhope on the carriages. It's painstaking work, requiring specialist skills and parts, which are increasingly difficult to obtain and often fabricated in house. The hours and hours of work – and expense – that goes into a locomotive or carriage overhaul is difficult to appreciate. Still, you can see behind the scenes what goes on during the shed tours we regularly offer at Haworth (see the website for dates and times).

The costs are ever increasing, so we are constantly looking for ways to attract more visitors to the railway, which will benefit the wider area too. We held a very successful gala event in March, with visiting locomotives and special services across what is now a four-day event, helping to bring more tourists to the local B&Bs, shops and eateries. We plan to do the same in May when we are hosting the 1940s weekend, following the departure of the Haworth organising group after the 2023 event. So, in a year's absence, we will be bringing the 1940s back to the valley and using the railway to spread the attractions rather than the unbearable pressure that existed when the focus was

on Haworth's constrained streets and spaces. You can check the Railway's website for the programme for the 2025 event.

Later in the year (starting in July) we are hosting the Bradford 2025 City of Culture's Railway Children live show, which we are very excited about because the Railway Children is so important to the history of the Railway. As well as the 2025 season's events and regular programme of steam trains every weekend and through the holiday periods, we are also looking ahead to the future. We have funding (thanks to the Town Deal) for further developments at Haworth to improve our volunteer accommodation and tour group facilities. We are developing plans for undercover storage for our "DMU" (diesel multiple unit fleet), which is vital to the Railways' operation, as well as enhancements to the signalling of Keighley and the working of Oxenhope yard.

We look forward to welcoming you on board soon, especially if you join our volunteer family. The Railway's website has full details of how to apply, our event programme, and timetables for our regular services. With so much going on, it's an exciting time for the Railway, and we hope you can come and take a look for yourself.

~ **Matt Stroh**

Keighley & Worth Valley Railway Chairman

# DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Upcoming events at The Keighley & Worth Valley Railway.



## 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> MAY ALONG THE RAILWAY!

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.

We strongly recommend that you purchase your ticket in advance. There are five stations to explore and two trains steaming along the valley bottom, full of live music, reenactments, and much more!



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

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Matthew Varley is the partner and Managing Director of My Denture

Clinics, here he works as a Clinical Dental Technician (Dip CDT RCS).

Matt was born and raised in Pudsey, where he met his wife Angela Varley at school. They have 2 sons; Ray and Austin, he hopes one day they will follow him into the dental profession and share in his passion for dentistry.

Within his 23 years of experience, Matt has changed the lives and smiles of many, some of which are during one day implant immediate loading cases, and same day smiles, which he specialises in. The regular accolades received from clients and patients alike are testament to his passion for his work. Matt has a keen eye for detail and endeavours to provide the best care possible. Matthew completed his dental technology qualification at Leeds Dental institute, he finished first in his class achieving distinctions throughout and was awarded overall best student and the acclaimed technical achievement award.

Matthew Varley started his journey as a Registered Dental Technician (RDT), however after 23 years experience working as a RDT in highly acclaimed laboratories, Matt made the decision in 2018 to set up his own business alongside fellow business partner Joseph O'Reilly.

Matt also returned to university to further his dental knowledge and become a Clinical Dental Technician, receiving the prestigious royal college of surgeons (Dip CDT RCS).

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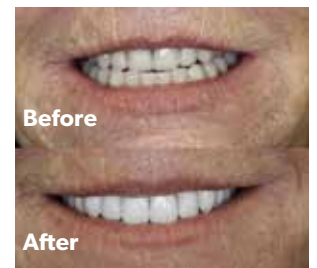
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# COMMUNITY PAGES

## **WORTH VALLEY FOOD BANK**

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**Every first Monday of a month 1.30 - 3.30pm The Welcome Drop-In** at Oakworth Methodist Church Share refreshments and chat.

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

**First Tuesday of a month 2pm Worth Valley Branch of the Yorkshire Country Womens Association** meet at Oxenhope Methodist Church

**First Tuesday of the month 1.30pm Mothers' Union at Christ Church Oakworth.** Contact branch leader Sharon on 07521 318983.

**Every Tuesday 1-3pm Coffee Afternoon at Hall Green Chapel, Haworth** (downstairs). Free refreshments and friendly chat. Hall Green BookPoint .

**First Wednesday of a month's Bereavement Cafe 10am - 12pm at West Lane Baptist Church, Haworth.** Friendly gathering with strangers to drink tea & coffee.

**Every Wednesday** (in term-time) 8.45am - 10.15am, **ABC 'Adults, Babies & Children's' Group** at Christ Church Oakworth, 20 Colne Road, BD22 7PA. For parents/carers to bring their little ones to a

safe welcoming space to play whilst getting together for a chat, cuppa and toast.

**Each Wednesday 10.30am - 11.30am Coffee Morning at**

**Christ Church Oakworth.** All welcome to come along for chat and a cuppa and biscuits.

**Every Wednesday Haworth Senior Citizens Group.** 2 pm - 3.30pm at West Lane Baptist Chapel, Haworth. New Members Welcome. Call Doreen 01535 648928

**Every Wednesday 2 - 4pm**

**Oxenhope Community Café & Welcoming Space,** Oxenhope Methodist Church, 1 West Dr, Oxenhope, Keighley BD22 9LJ

**Every Second Wednesday of a month Worth Reading Book Club** meet at **7pm in the basement of Pavé.** No fee. Anyone wishing to join us can ring Megan on 07443 333581 to get more information

**Every 4th Wednesday of the month. Moorland Writers** - creative writing group at The Old Hall, Haworth 1.30-3pm. No fee. For more information please ring Roger on 07739-300780.

**Oxenhope Pensioners Club (over 65's)** meet at **Oxenhope Cricket Pavilion twice monthly, 1.00pm - 3.00pm, alternate Thursdays.** Please ring Diane on (07970) 720068 for more information

**The Shed - Oakworth,** meets every **Thursday at Oakworth Village Hall** from **1-3pm.** Inclusive group doing crafting/woodworking and regular talks. £2.50 inc refreshments. Contact Carol 07758 710945 for details.

**.Every Thursday Tech Shed** free drop in 5 pm - 7pm at Haworth Village Hall.

**Every Thursday** from 1.30pm 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 Friday 2 - 4pm Haworth Ladies Badminton Group** at Haworth Village Hall. Call Janet: 07966 333 052

**Every Saturday 1-3pm Hall Green BookPoint.** Hall Green Chapel Haworth (downstairs).

**Sat 3rd May 1.30pm - 4pm**

**Haworth Stitch Club FREE**

**Workshops at West Lane Baptist Church.** Open to all ages & abilities. contact [haworthstitch@gmail.com](mailto:haworthstitch@gmail.com)

**Sun 4th May. FREE Train rides for all the family.** Miniature trains running at Marley sports field approx. **12:00 until approx. 16:00.** Free rides celebrating 75 years of the KDMES. Refreshments available.

**Thurs 8th May Keighley VE Day 80th Celebrations, Town Hall Square** with face painting, Street Picnic, singers & beacon lighting.

**Thurs 8th May 1 -3pm The Shed at Oakworth Village Hall** talk and demonstration from the Police Museum. Open to everyone £2.50 inc refreshments. Great fun and lots of information.

**Sat 10th & Sun 11th May** inc Extreme Monster Trucks plus all the usual attractions at **Bronte Gathering. B61444 Haworth Road, Cullingworth (10am start)** [www.brontegathering.co.uk](http://www.brontegathering.co.uk) in support of Sue Ryder Manorlands

**Sat 10th May 9.30 pm Fire Walk for Manorlands at the Bronte**

**Gathering, Cullingworth [sue Ryder.org/firewalk](http://sue Ryder.org/firewalk) Sun 11th May 7am - 10pm Car Boot/Tractor boot sale** in the parking field of the **Bronte Gathering, Cullingworth.** Please book your pitch. In support of Sue Ryder.

**Thurs 15th May, 7.30pm** Jaqueline Iddon from Hardy plants talking about the plants they grow at their nursery in Leyland. Venue **Oxenhope Gardening Club, Oxenhope Community Centre, Shaw Lane, Oxenhope. BD22 9LH**

Website [Oxenhopegardeningclub.co.uk](http://Oxenhopegardeningclub.co.uk) New visitors welcome

**Sat & Sun 17/18th Haworth 1940's Weekend on the KWVR**

This unforgettable weekend will transport you to a bygone era with authentic displays, entrainment and lots more.

**Sun 18th May. 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](http://www.kdmes.org.uk)

**Sun 18th May 7.30pm Oxnop Singers Spring Concert at Oxenhope Community Centre Sun 18th May Sue Ryder Bronte Off Road Bike Challenge Penistone Hill Keighley.** Take on Anne, Emily, Charlotte or Heathcliffe to raise vital funds for Sue Ryder to register on line [www.sue Ryder.org/get-involved/fundraise-for-us/events/bronte-off-road-bike-challenge-2025/](http://www.sue Ryder.org/get-involved/fundraise-for-us/events/bronte-off-road-bike-challenge-2025/)

**Mon 19th May 7.30pm Oxnop Singers Concert at West Lane Baptist Church, Haworth.**



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# Car boot/ tractor boot sale

Sunday 11 May 7am to 10am in the parking field of the Bronte Gathering, Haworth Road, Cullingworth.


Different rates for cars, vehicles with trailers and tractors and trailers. Free buyer entry. Please book your pitch in advance.



To book your pitch go to [shorturl.at/8LAhF](http://shorturl.at/8LAhF) or use QR code

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Sue Ryder is a charity registered in England and Wales 1052076 and in Scotland SC039578. Created in 1944. Charities registered in England and Wales: 1052076 and in Scotland: SC039578. Created in 1944. Charity No: 1052076.




**Limited places, enter today!**

## Firewalk for Manorlands

Saturday 10 May, 9:30pm

Face your fears with this professionally run firewalk evening experience at the Bronte Gathering, Haworth Road, Cullingworth.

For more information visit: [sueyder.org/firewalk](http://sueyder.org/firewalk)

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# BRONTE GATHERING

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Friday Night: **Scarlett and her Rednecks** £10 ticket only  
Saturday Night in the Beer Tent: **Slack Habits** FREE ENTRY  
Saturday Night **Firewalk** 9:30pm. Sign up online! (see above)  
Sunday Mor 7am-10am **Carboot/Tractorboot SALE**. book online!

**More info and discounted advance tickets at: [www.brontegathering.co.uk](http://www.brontegathering.co.uk)**



## Sudoku

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

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

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

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

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The winner will be selected from all correct answers received by May 16 2025.



The location of last month's competition was Wizard's Chop Shop, Holme Mill Industrial Estate, Keighley and the winner was Ben Gill from Thornton, Bradford.



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## BEHIND THE SCENES AT THE MUSEUM

In April the Brontë Society celebrated the very first publication of an important miniature manuscript by Charlotte Brontë.

Written when Charlotte was thirteen, **A Book of Rhymes, sold by nobody and printed by herself**, dated 17 December 1829, contains ten unpublished poems hand-stitched into brown paper covers. After the death of Charlotte, A Book of Rhymes was taken to Banagher by Arthur Bell Nicholls, who held it until his death. It disappeared from view in 1916 following a sale at the Walpole Galleries in New York, and for many

years was thought to be lost, but in April 2022 the book was announced as being for sale by James Cummins Rare Books. Following an impressive fundraising campaign, the book was won at auction by the Friends of the National Libraries, and they kindly donated it to the Brontë Parsonage Museum collection.

After publication by Tartarus Press, in association with the Brontë Society, this

remarkable piece of Brontë juvenilia is now available to read for the first time. With an Introduction by songwriter and poet Patti Smith, and essays by Barbara Heritage (a specialist in rare books and manuscripts) and Henry Wessells (an antiquarian bookseller and author), this first edition features reproductions of Charlotte's original handwritten text alongside a transcription of the poems.



On Tuesday 22 April the publication was celebrated at the Old School Room in Haworth, and featured a reading from the book, followed by the opportunity to view the original manuscript in the

Brontë Parsonage Museum. 'A Book of Rhymes' is available to buy now on [bronteshop.org.uk](http://bronteshop.org.uk). **You can see the original manuscript at the Brontë Parsonage Museum as part of their current exhibition, From Haworth to Eternity.**

For more information on opening times and admission prices, visit: [bronte.org.uk](http://bronte.org.uk).

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This year sees **Keighley and District Model Engineering Society** celebrate 75 years since its formation in May 1950. It was founded with the object of 'fostering the hobby of miniature engineering'. The main interests were in model boats, aeroplanes and railways. The boats included scale models and racing hydroplanes, both of which were sailed on Keighley Tarn. In 1967 a hydroplane built by one of the members set up a new British All-Comers speed record of 108.5 miles per hour. Racing yachts were introduced later and are sailed on the Yorkshire Water reservoir at Weecheer.

A desire to build a permanent railway track led to the site at Marley Sports and Activities Centre which was obtained on lease. It took five years of work before the track was opened to the public in 1971.

To celebrate our 75 years the railway members are holding a special public running day on **Sunday May 4th**. Miss Joan Hall, who was MP for Keighley at the time, opened the original track, and so as a reflection of that event, Robbie Moore MP will attend in the afternoon. More details can be found at our new website [www.kdmes.org.uk](http://www.kdmes.org.uk) or on our Facebook page [www.facebook.com/keighleytrains](http://www.facebook.com/keighleytrains). If you like what you see why not come and join our society?








Janette Haig - Long time member: Donald Haig was a long time member of the society. Janette used to come down with her husband and when he died continued to do so. Many people will recognise her serving refreshments in the club house which she did until recently. She is a Vice President in recognition of her long service. In the photo she is being driven round the track by James Aston.


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