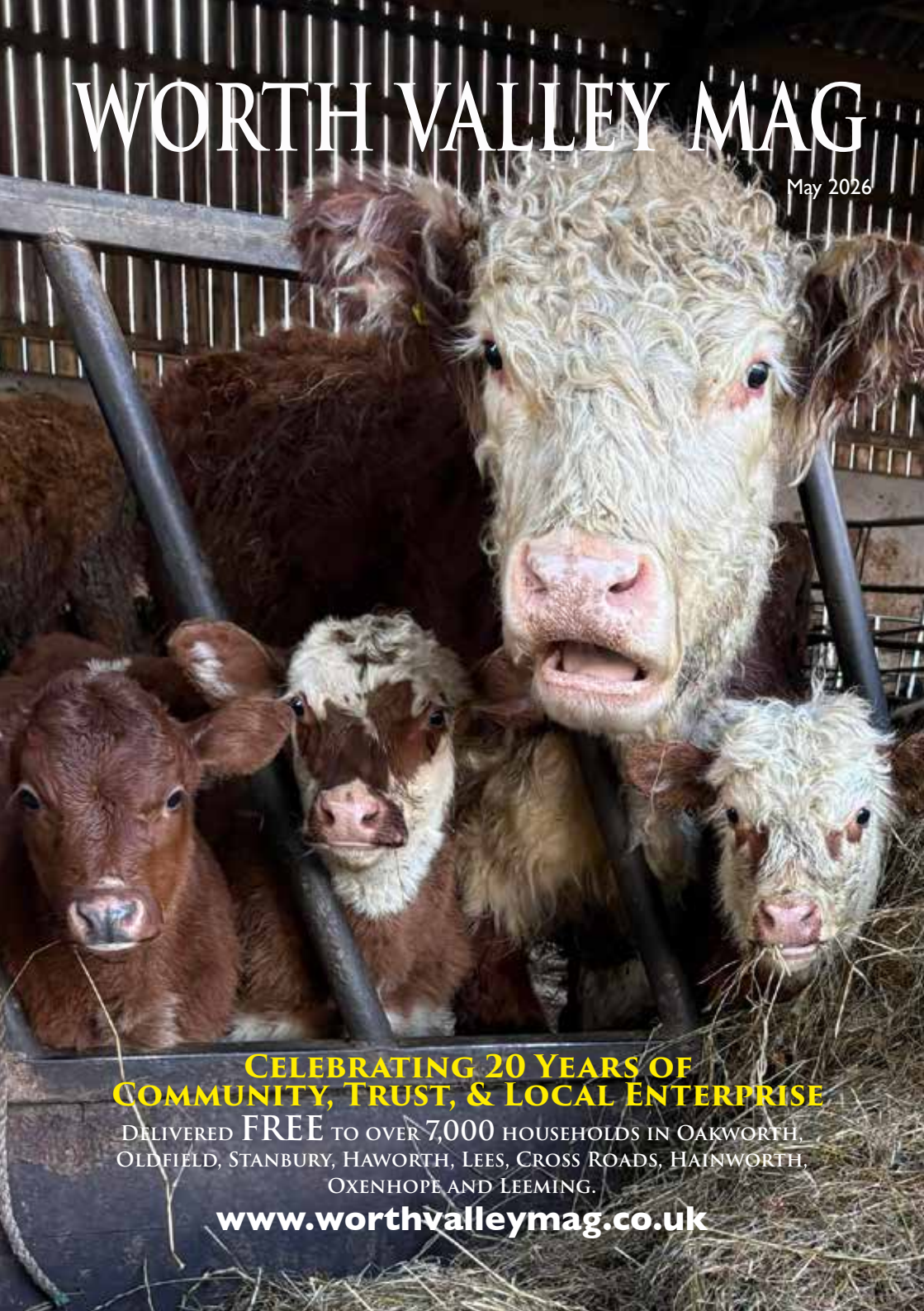


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May 2026



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VISA 

There's plenty happening this May, and it's a good excuse to get out and about in the Worth Valley.

The Calderdale Energy Park consultation is in sharp focus (see page 4). It's one of those decisions that will shape the area for years, indeed, generations, so do take a look at what's proposed, ask questions, and have your say while the door is still open.

The Keighley Annual Town Meeting on May 21 is another good opportunity to hear what is happening locally (p10). That same day, there's a Road Safety Event at Airedale Shopping Centre: a surprising mix of useful and enjoyable, with a few hands-on activities for the whole family to enjoy (p11).

The 1940s Weekend returns along the Keighley and Worth Valley Railway, with Bronte Gathering and other events adding variety and choice this month. More in the pages that follow... Have a great May, and enjoy.



Liz Barker, Editor

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Say you saw it in the Worth Valley Mag!



Mapping Errors Raise New Questions in Calderdale Energy Park Consultation

A significant new development has emerged in the ongoing consultation process for the proposed Calderdale Energy Park, following detailed scrutiny by members of the campaign group Stronger Together to Stop Calderdale Windfarm.

Local campaigner Lydia McPhearson reported that, in response to a request for a specialist map to assist a statutory consultee, Nick MacKinnon, Editor of the Walshaw Turbines Research Group (WTRG), identified what he describes as “material geospatial errors” within the developer’s Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR). While transferring turbine locations onto a working map, discrepancies became apparent, particularly concerning Turbine 28 on Wadsworth Moor. Further investigation revealed that turbine positions listed in the PEIR’s central data table did not align with those shown on accompanying maps, with some locations differing by over 200 metres.

According to Mr MacKinnon’s formal notification, submitted on 21 April to Calder Wind Farm Ltd (CWF Ltd), the Planning Inspectorate, and other key stakeholders, the turbine coordinates presented in the PEIR are intended to be the definitive reference point for statutory consultees. However, he argues that inconsistencies between these coordinates and multiple published maps could significantly affect environmental assessments, including proximity to the Pennine Way, visual impact studies, and peat slide risk analysis.

The notification calls for the withdrawal and full revision of the PEIR, citing what it describes as fundamental errors and a pattern of inaccuracies

in previous project documentation. It further recommends that the consultation process be paused and that earlier public exhibitions be re-run using corrected information.

Following receipt of the notification, Project Director Christian Egal responded to Mr MacKinnon acknowledging the errors and confirming that corrected documents would be issued as formal amendments. He also indicated that statutory consultees, local MPs, and individuals who have already submitted feedback would be notified and invited to comment further. However, the developer does not currently intend to suspend or restart the consultation events already held.

Campaign representatives argue that this episode raises serious concerns about the reliability of the information underpinning the consultation process. They have praised the detailed work undertaken by Mr MacKinnon and the Walshaw Turbines Research Group, whose analysis brought the discrepancies to light at an early stage.

Residents are invited to take part in the public consultation for the proposed Calderdale Energy Park. Online Webinar: Thursday 14 May, 6:30pm – 8:00pm. Join and register at: calderdaleenergypark.co.uk/have-your-say. (via Microsoft Teams) A local drop-in event is also taking place at Haworth Village Hall on Tuesday 19 May (1pm–7pm).

This is an opportunity to view plans, ask questions, and submit your feedback before the consultation closes on 10 June 2026.

~ photo by Kate Haslegrave



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ANNUAL TOWN MEETING



KEIGHLEY
TOWN COUNCIL

ON THE ADGENDA

1. Welcome and Introduction
2. Minutes - For Decision
3. Former Town Mayor Report
4. Chairs of Committee Reports
5. Annual Report 2026
6. Questions and Answers
7. Close Meeting

THURSDAY
May 21st 2026



START AT
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Behind the scenes, our teams at Haworth and Oxenhope work year-round to maintain and overhaul both locomotives and carriages. It is skilled, often painstaking work, requiring specialist knowledge and components that are increasingly difficult to source. In many cases, parts now have to be manufactured in-house. The time, expertise and cost involved in keeping the railway operational are significant.

As those costs continue to rise, attracting visitors is more important than ever not only to support the railway, but also the wider Worth Valley community. Our March Steam Gala was a great success, drawing visitors from across the country and providing a welcome boost to local businesses.

In May, we look forward to the return of our KWVR 1940s Weekend. Following the departure of the previous Haworth organising group after 2023, the railway has taken on the event and will spread activities along the full length of the line. This allows us to recreate the atmosphere of the era across all our stations, while easing the pressure on Haworth itself.

Visitors to the village may also have noticed renewed activity at the foot of Mill Hey, where volunteers have been working hard to reopen The Royal Oak. This much-loved pub, long associated with the railway, will reopen at the end of April as a community-run venture once again providing a welcoming space for locals, visitors and enthusiasts alike.

There is a great deal happening across the railway, and none of it would be possible without the continued support of our volunteers and visitors. We look forward to welcoming you on board soon and, perhaps, to welcoming you into our volunteer family.

~ **Matt Stroh**

Keighley & Worth Valley Railway Chairman

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KWVR

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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.

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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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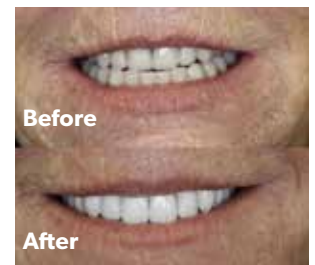


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Mothers' Union

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AT HAWORTH VILLAGE HALL.
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SAT 2ND & SUN 3RD MAY
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SUN 3RD MAY:
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Haworth Craft Fairs 2026

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£1 entry includes a FREE tea or coffee Dogs welcome.

Vintage Gathering

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1940 Weekend on the KWVR

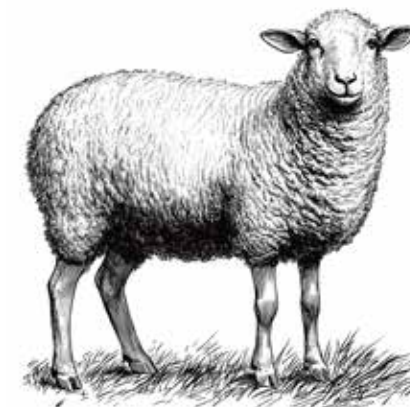
SAT 16TH & 17TH MAY
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Oxenhope Gardening Club Annual Plant Sale

OXENHOPE COMMUNITY CENTRE
THURS 21ST MAY 7.30PM

Wild Wednesday Weird Creatures, Boggarts & Beasties

THE OLD SCHOOL ROOMS, HAWORTH
WEDS 27TH MAY 11AM - 4PM



Sudoku

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COMPETITION

Where is the **red x** located in the photo to the right?

This month's prize is generously donated by The Keighley & Worth Valley Railway: (Day Rover Pass)

Email your answer along with your name & address to:

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The winner will be selected from all correct answers received by May 16 2026.



The location of last month's competition was Furry Tails Dog Groomers in Mill Hey and the winner was Michelle Thompson from Cross Roads.



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BEHIND THE SCENES AT THE MUSEUM

This month marks 180 years since the Brontë sisters' became published writers for the very first time with the publication of their first collection of poetry.

Poems was published by Aylott and Jones of London, however the cost of publishing fell to the authors themselves. They paid £35 18s. 3d. which was more than the yearly wage of a governess at the time, and in 2026 would roughly be over £5000! The sisters had received an inheritance from their Aunt Branwell, and it was from this inheritance that they were able to pay such a large sum. To protect their privacy the sisters' decided to create pseudonyms to publish their work under, they chose the surname of Bell and Charlotte became Currer, Emily became Ellis, and Anne became Acton.

Despite their best efforts, Poems by Currer, Ellis and Acton Bell was not an immediate success. They famously only sold two copies, though many more were sent to writers and poets



that the sisters' admired such as William Wordsworth and Thomas De Quincy. However that wasn't the end for Poems, following Charlotte's success with Jane Eyre, the collection was redistributed by her publisher Smith, Elder & Co, and all remaining copies were sold. Charlotte received a small amount of royalties at the end of 1848, although unfortunately the amount she received didn't cover her initial cost.

It feels very fitting that this month here at the Parsonage we'll be celebrating the

work of another Bradford-born poet, Emma Conally-Barklem. **On Thursday 7 May you're invited to come along to the Museum shop where Emma Conally-Barklem will be giving a live reading of her latest collection of poems The High Flight: 50 Poems Inspired by Emily Brontë's Hawk.** Tickets for this special event are very limited so, if you would like to come along, we recommend booking in advance at bronte.org.uk. See you there!

BOOK LAUNCH

Thursday 7 May, 7pm | £6

Emma Conally-Barklem's
The High Flight:
50 Poems Inspired by
Emily Brontë's Hawk



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Admission Fees Apply - Free Parking
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Wild Garlic Pesto



by
Martin Lingard



Wild garlic is very common around here at this time of year ~ look for it in shady woodland areas near streams and rivers. The leaves make a very good pesto. It's extremely easy, if a little messy. If you go foraging for the leaves, try to pick a few from a wider area, and be careful not to pull the plants out by the roots. The quantities below make enough to go with four servings of pasta. I always make more, as it will keep for a couple of weeks in a sterilised jar in the fridge.

Ingredients

- 150g wild garlic leaves
- 1 garlic clove, finely chopped
- 1 small unwaxed lemon, zested and juiced
- 50g pine nuts
- 50g Parmesan, grated
- 150ml light olive oil
- Salt & pepper

Method

Wash the garlic leaves in plenty of cold water and leave to drain in a colander.



Heat a frying pan until hot. Tip in the pine nuts and toast them, shaking the pan over the heat until nicely golden. Transfer the pine nuts to a bowl and leave them to cool. Roughly chop the garlic leaves and put them in a large, roomy bowl. Add the garlic, lemon zest, pine nuts, and Parmesan in any order you like.

Using a hand-held stick blender, blitz everything until you have a thick, gooey paste. Pour in the olive oil a little at a time, blending as you go, until you reach your preferred consistency—you probably won't need all the oil. Personally, I prefer it slightly runnier than most shop-bought pestos. Finally, add the lemon juice and season to taste with a little salt and plenty of freshly ground black pepper.

I like to serve this with tagliatelle or pappardelle—allow about 100g per person. Spoon the sauce over the drained pasta, mix well, and serve in bowls with extra grated Parmesan.

A tomato salad pairs well with this dish.



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The moorlands have been alive this past week, as though a touch of sunshine has stirred everything into motion. It's remarkable what a few brighter mornings can do. After spending months of mornings out on the moors alone with only the chattering grouse, dark foreboding skies and rain for company, I welcome these longer, brighter days.

Most mornings I have had the pleasure of the barn owl for company for the start of my walk, our paths crossing as he is sauntering home to his barn, no doubt after a night of hunting. His natural inbuilt clock perfectly in sync with my routine. He never lingers, of course, but those fleeting crossings are always a privilege.

The sunshine has brought out the hares and I have been spotting them out most mornings, sitting alert or darting across the moor with that effortless speed. They're always there, I know that, but the brighter days make them easier to see, easier to appreciate.

There's been a noticeable shift among the ground-nesting birds. The skies, once filled with their calls, aerial displays, and the urgency of courtship, have grown quieter: as they all settle down in to sitting on nests and parenthood. I wish my feathered friends a successful season.

Out on the open stretches, pairs of geese have made their presence very clear. Territorial and watchful, letting it be known that I am not welcome across some sections so am giving them a wide berth for as long as they are here.

Meanwhile, the pheasants have been full of fire, males clashing and posturing, the air thick with tension and hormones as the males battle it out amongst themselves.

And then, the true highlight, May's unmistakable arrival. The call of the cuckoo has returned,



echoing across the moorlands: cuckoo, cuckoo, cuckoo. It's a sound that stops me in my tracks every time. Usually, I expect him in early May, but this year he's arrived just a touch early, at the very end of April here in Haworth. A small shift, perhaps, but one that feels significant all the same.

The lambs are a plenty and all growing up fast. Little bundles of joy bouncing around the place. Just need the Stanbury cows to be let out now for the summer.

I can't quite put into words my love for this place that I call home. The quiet encounters, the shifting seasons, the sense that the moor is gently turning a page. There's comfort in its rhythm, in knowing that no two mornings are ever quite the same, yet always familiar. It reminds me to slow down, to notice, and to be grateful for these small, fleeting moments. ~ Kate Haslegrave



Kate Haslegrave is a local photographer with a deep passion for nature and the outdoors. Much of her time is spent walking the moors, capturing the ever-changing landscape and the wildlife that calls it home. She is a strong advocate for mental health and wellbeing, believing that time spent in nature can be both grounding and restorative. Through her photography and writing, she hopes to encourage others, to step outside, slow down, and experience the positive impact of the natural world.

Instagram: @solo_she_hikes bit.ly/4bx8AQF

Say you saw it in the Worth Valley Mag!

The Garage Door Upgrade That Adds More Than You Think

Home improvements often focus on kitchens, bathrooms, or gardens - but one upgrade is quietly becoming a favourite across the UK: the roller garage door.

A modern roller door instantly improves the appearance of a property, giving it a clean, streamlined finish that suits both traditional and contemporary homes. However, it's not just about looks. Roller garage doors are designed with practicality in mind. Unlike traditional up-and-over doors, a roller garage door opens vertically and rolls neatly into a compact box above the opening. This clever design allows you to park closer to your garage without worrying about clearance space, while also freeing up valuable room inside for storage or larger vehicles.

Garolla has become one of the UK's leading names in roller garage doors by combining sleek design with impressive durability and security. Their doors are manufactured using strong, hard-wearing aluminium slats and feature robust locking mechanisms to help protect your home and belongings. Many models also include built-in insulation, which can help reduce draughts, minimise outside noise, and keep garages warmer during colder months, especially useful if your garage is attached to your home or used as a workspace.

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