When we began publishing the Worth Valley Mag seven and a half years ago our first priority was to establish a trusted network of businesses and service providers. Many of the advertisers in the magazine have been included in our directory of services for as many years. When you choose to use the services or take advantage of the offers in the Worth Valley Mag you are supporting the local economy and saying “yes” to local trade. Thank you; your custom is appreciated and valued.

Exciting new developments at the Keighley and Worth Valley Railway are revealed by Chairman Matt Stroh on p4 this month.

If you are feeling an urge to get creative, our decorating feature on p16 may be just the thing to help you get inspired and take action.

Have a great month! Liz Barker, Editor
Keighley & Worth Valley Railway

It has been a long-held ambition of ours to develop our catering facilities to allow passengers to sit down to enjoy a hot meal on the Railway. Visitor feedback for many years - if not decades - has told us that this is our main failing.

We know that other railways’ and tourist attractions’ catering operations make a significant contribution to their organisation’s turnover, profit and cash, and whilst we have worked very hard over recent years to maximise the return from our current catering operation, we concluded that we needed to invest significantly in our facilities to develop them to meet our passengers’ demands.

We have taken a big step towards realising this ambition following the grant of planning permission for a new building, which will extend the stone goods shed at Oxenhope Station, creating a two-storey café on the platform. Whilst the focus of the project - and the focus of the business case for what will be a very expensive build as we seek to use materials that will complement the station buildings - is predicated on serving railway passengers, we already know from consulting with Oxenhope Parish Council that there is potential for real benefit to the local community. They expect that their parishioners will welcome a facility in the village that can be open during the week to provide a meeting point and which may be available for some groups to meet in a space that is more flexible than the Community Centre’s layout permits.

There will be other benefits, including the prospect of paid employment, because we know that the demands of the commercial operation will far exceed what we can ask of volunteers.

Whilst this is a very exciting prospect, I am keen that we don’t get distracted by it from running the Railway, so it’s very pleasing to report that our volunteers have just finished the restoration of ‘Big Jim,’ an American locomotive that has a very distinctive chime whistle, and that has not been in traffic for over 20 years. If you haven’t seen it running already, it will be the star of the show at our forthcoming ‘Steam Spectacular’ weekend (7-9 March) http://www.kwvr.co.uk

If you would like to get involved and join our 500-strong volunteer team or to discuss any of these developments mentioned, please do get in touch either with me directly on matthew.stroh@kwvr.co.uk or via the Railway’s office on 01535 645214 / admin@kwvr.co.uk

Matthew Stroh, Chairman,
Keighley & Worth Valley Railway
Come and join us and help us put the “fun” into “fundraising”

We need your skills, talents and interests. Be it walking, talking, dancing, singing, making a cuppa, bake a cake, knitting, sewing, creating ideas etc.

Living in the Worth Valley, we are touched by the incredible care at Manorlands Hospice.

Wherever you live in the Worth Valley, we invite you to support the hospice. Come to our next informal meet-up on the 12th March, 7.30pm at the Old White Lion Haworth. Or contact me (Judy Newiss) 01535 643410 to help out at events held throughout the year.

The next event takes place in Haworth Church Schoolrooms on the 11th April. Ian Dewhirst talking on “Tales of Old Haworth.” We need you and you and YOU, regularly or sometimes or just once in a while. You are very welcome!
Preparations are hotting up for a major new music festival coming to our area this summer, offering a weekend of great entertainment for the whole community. Summer Jam is on Riverside Fields off Keighley Road, Silsden, over the August Bank Holiday weekend from Friday, August 22, to Sunday, August 24, and promises to be one of the biggest music events held in the district.

Organiser Andrew Conway says it will be a family-friendly event with something for everyone, whatever their age or musical taste and a range of stalls and activities to entertain people throughout the Bank Holiday.

He said: “Our aim is to bring top quality live music to the district and give local people and music lovers an unforgettable weekend and we also want to offer talented young musicians a leg-up. The festival grew out of last year’s community event - the Silsdenbury Fest - which attracted 1,500 people, and the previous year’s Diamond Do. The popularity of these free events inspired the organisers to put on something even bigger and better.

Bands and attractions are still being added every month and we’ll update you regularly in the Worth Valley Mag. Visit the festival website www.dirtyboyinc.com for more info. You can book on line or phone 07581 498817. Early bird weekend tickets, including weekend camping, are still available.

To advertise call us on 01535 642227  Say you saw it in the Worth Valley Mag!
Simple Sticky Shiny Loaf Cake

This is one of my favourite tea time treats; perfect to look forward to after a spring walk on the hills, or a good few hours working in the garden. Its also simple enough for almost anyone to make - just throw everything in a bowl, mix well and pop in the oven. [Subtle hint for Mother's Day!]. It will stay moist in a tin for at least a week, and a thick slice in a bowl, covered in custard and heated in the microwave for a minute or two is utter heaven.

- 250g Self Raising Flour
- 1 teaspoon of baking powder
- 1 teaspoon of ground ginger
- 1 teaspoon of mixed spice
- 100g soft brown sugar
- 75g caster sugar (or another 75g of brown sugar if you prefer)
- 175g soft butter or margarine
- 3 medium or large eggs (or 4 small ones)
- 150g of ginger jam, or your favourite marmalade or honey

Pre-heat your oven to Gas Mark 4/180°C/350°F, a little lower for a fan oven.

1. Line a loaf tin (around 25cm x 12.5 cm, or a square tin around 12cm square) with baking parchment [paint a bit of cooking oil or stork onto the insides of the tin to help the paper take the shape of the tin]
2. Take 2 heaped tablespoons out of the ginger jam, marmalade or honey and leave on one side
3. Put everything else in a big bowl and stir well until smooth and there are no lumps of anything (you can do this in a food mixer if you like)
4. Pour the batter into the tin, and bake for an hour - check its done by inserting a BBQ skewer or cocktail stick into the middle, and if not leave in for another 10 - 15 minutes.
5. Take out and allow to cool for 10 - 15 minutes, and remove from the tin. Gently melt the left over ginger jam (or marmalade or honey) on the hob [or covered at a low heat in the microwave] and spread on the top to make the tempting shiny sticky finish.

Whitegates at Keighley is run by Directors Martin and Michelle who have been at Keighley for 13 years.

We are a friendly and professional team taking all the hassle out of renting your property while you sit back and let us deal with finding you a tenant. Included in this service are: Advertising and marketing of your property, accompanied viewings, 6 years referencing, inventory and photos, tenancy agreement, inspections, all maintenance issues and relevant certificates dealt with on your behalf, rent collecting, full membership of professional bodies ARLA and NAEA.

We are also a busy sales office where we have found the current market climate to be picking up pace, we believe that this is due to the market stabilising and property prices being realistic, bringing in a knock on effect of buyers coming back to market, there are great incentives for first time buyers and some good mortgage deals available subject to individual circumstances, along with good interest rates this seems to be putting the market back where it should be.

Whitegates offers a comprehensive amount of advertising as we believe in marketing to the widest possible audience, this includes all major property portals, Whitegates TV where a professionally animated video and voice over presentation is created, 4 page colour brochure, Property Scene magazine and more importantly a proactive approach.
Theology on the ‘Silver Screen’ in the Worth valley

On the Sundays running up to Easter a group of us will be gathering at 6pm to watch a great film and to consider life as we live it today. Over recent years we have watched many other films together such as The Shawshank Redemption, Babette’s Feast, The Truman Show and Chocolat. The stories involved in all these films are not overtly religious and yet we have found them to be life affirming and much better than Sunday night telly sat at home!

This year we shall be watching “The King’s Speech” starting at 6pm on Sunday March 9th, West Lane Baptist Church. The course is entitled “On Finding a Voice” and provides five group sessions using the film as a starting point. It helps us explore more fully the issues raised, and suggests Bible readings to root it in Christian values.

“Followers of Christ are described in the New Testament as a royal priesthood and inheritors of the kingdom, people with incredible potential and enormous responsibility. Yet the selves we see in the mirror are flawed and failing, all too often tongue-tied and terrified. The King’s Speech was such a runaway success because it holds a mirror to our world and offers hope of overcoming the difficulties. It shows hope built out of friendship, trust and supportive love, and courage in the face of gathering evil. Lent is traditionally a time for strengthening resolve, bringing believers together in trust and encouragement as they strive to follow their calling. The purpose of this course could be summed up in the words of the King’s speech therapist, “to give them faith in their voice and let them know a friend is listening.”

Everybody is welcome, of any faith or of none. The intention of the course is not to ‘convert’ but to provide a place where everyone is truly listened to, where everyone finds their voice’. If the church can help us really listen to each other then there is the chance that we might understand each other, and perhaps even learn how to love each other!

Rev Chris Upton, from the local Churches Together group

To advertise call us on 01535 642227
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Snowdrops
by Jo Longbottom

Here come the snowdrops
Pushing up cold hard fierce frozen earth.
Like wisdom teeth.
Standing strong
Fearless in the freezing gale.
Unwavering as the mighty oak
‘The fraction of the size.
White as winter
But reminding us
In a distant corner of our mind,
Bringing the message
Of Coloured crocuses to come
Primrose.
Trooping of the Colour.
Of Spring.
Helping us
Forget the dark days.
Soothing after barren frost,
Short daylight hours.
Heralding
A glimpse of hope
In winters cold and long despair.
Breath of fresh air.
First brave new year ambassadors.
Winter warriors,
Brave battalions,
First wave of
Secret scouts.
Armed with slim green swords.
Our reinforcement troops.
In silent advance.
Planted flags of victory over gloom.
Stalwart.
Lines upon lines of little trusty snowdrops

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Worth Valley since 1927.
In 2013 Lydon’s daughter Gemma Marshall joined the business. ‘I am privileged to be able to join the business helping and learning from my dad as he becomes busier and to continue the good name he and grandad built up over 80 years. Having done the job for 12 months meeting many families, I find it rewarding to help them in their time of need.’

Providing a 24 hour call out service, LML can arrange everything including the cremation, burial bookings, documentation, cars, ministers, printing, flowers, catering, press notices, memorials and Golden Charter pre-paid funeral plans.

Having the ability to listen and to consider the needs of others is paramount as well as an attention to detail.

Brian P. Carpenter recently said about Lyndon Leeson, ‘Your friendly and courteous manner was such a great help to me that you were able to accommodate all my wishes for my wife’s funeral. I feel I have been so fortunate to have had a funeral director who provides so much more than many of your competitors are able to offer’. A common phrase others say is, ‘They made it all so easy’ ‘Everyone commented how smoothly the funeral went’ ‘They made a difficult time much easier to deal with.’
While many of us would love to take on a professional interior designer to give our home a makeover, it has never been easier to create inspiring and interesting interior treatments for yourself; you can now easily learn and develop your own skills and techniques, and get in a trusted local professional to complete the look where it might just be a step too far to attempt yourself. Result - a high quality spring makeover which truly reflects your own taste and a sense of personal achievement and affordability.

It could be a new colour scheme, highlighted with hand sewn cushions and blinds in a contrasting fabric, or some matching wallpaper and curtains which you’ve hand printed using these amazing paint rollers from The Painted House, used on the TV series.

Our local area has some great friendly professionals who can help you make the right choices, such as Phillipe’s. And if you want to try (and buy) the paint rollers, Damside Mill in Haworth are accredited stockists and even offer a one-day course to learn how to use them.

With sewing and textile classes springing up all around, from Keighley College’s “Felt making and applique” to Damside’s “Sewing and upholstery for interior design”, now might be just the time to learn a skill which will last you a lifetime, and brighten up your home with a new look for 2014.

Contacts: Phillipe’s - www.phillipes.co.uk
Keighley College - www.leedscitycollege.ac.uk
WEA - www.wea.org.uk
Damside Mill - www.damsidemill.com

Who could not be inspired by the Great British Interior Design Challenge and Great British Sewing Bee on TV this spring?
Local farmers and landowners have come together to create a network of idyllic country campsites to ensure there’s enough accommodation for the thousands of visitors expected to descend for Le Tour in July.

And they’ve joined forces with fundraisers at Manorlands Sue Ryder Hospice to raise funds for the Worth Valley’s cherished charity at the same time.

“Le Camping” with Manorlands will give visitors and local cycling fans alike chance to watch the world’s greatest cycle ride from some of the premiere vantage points against the backdrop of our stunning landscape.

Some of the landowners have pledge to give the whole of the camping income to Manorlands, with others donating a big percentage of the takings.

So far, there are eight sites in the Manorlands ‘stable’. Six are in the Worth Valley, with one nearby in Cullingworth and one further away at Oak Tree Farm in Addingham - the only location which sees the Grand Depart route passing through on both days for Stage 1 and Stage 2.

Sue Ryder fundraiser Andy Wood, who came up with the charity camping idea said: “Accommodation in our area has been filling up fast, with cycling enthusiasts from far and wide wanting to watch the spectacle in the beautiful Worth Valley.”

“Even if you live close by, it would be great fun to camp and soak up the atmosphere alongside the national and international visitors – and would be a nice way to make them feel welcome and a part of the local community while they are staying with us.”

“It also makes a lot of sense to get into position at one of the spectacular vantage points like Penistone Hill by camping overnight. We’ve been told that some of the keen supporters find themselves a spot and simply anchor down there - so it may actually be quite difficult to move around on the big day, unless you get up at the crack of dawn to walk to your chosen view point.”

“It’s also a well-priced option for anyone with family and friends coming from further afield but with not enough room to put them up. Or if you know people from other areas who are keen cycling fans – please just let them know that, if they want to view the tour in a superb landscape where there’s lots going on, we still have capacity. But don’t leave it until the last minute to book, though, as there’s likely to be a rush of bookings nearer the time – and there may be visitors turning up on the weekend with no accommodation planned.”

The sites are spread across the route and each has its own niche to suit particular guests.

Up above Oxenhope, where the route heads off over the moors into Hebden Bridge, there are two campsites. Stones Top Farm, Oxenhope, will have its own bar, while next door at Stones Cottage Farm, Oxenhope there will be family fun with an animal petting area for children. This site is particularly well geared up for people arriving by bike.

Mtbcycleyorkshire.co.uk have joined forces with the hospice to promote these two sites and will put on a mountain biking experience for the campers.

The Waggon and Horses pub is not far away for an evening drink and food.

At Westfield Lodge Farm, on Penistone Hill, there will be a small bar and shop. At the site off Haworth Road, Cullingworth, a Park and Ride service will run on the Sunday to cater for those wanting to drive to the perimeter of the road closures, then head off to watch the spectacle in Oxenhope and Haworth.

For details of the sites visit www.sueryder.org/lecamping or contact Andrew.wood@sueryder.org
High hopes for Hubs

Hopes are running high that Haworth’s Central Park and Victoria Park, Keighley are going to be chosen as official Tour de France Spectator Hubs where visitors will gather on the big day.

As we went to press, Nikki Carroll of Firth’s Boutique in Haworth Main Street, who is leading on Haworth’s bid, reported that she has had a positive response and that final confirmation of the Hubs will follow at the end of March.

Nikki has been working closely with Bradford Council’s Event Team on the proposal and was delighted to receive a very positive update from Phil Barker – the Council’s Assistant Director of Sports and Leisure at the end of February.

Mr Barker said: “The three spectator hubs identified as preferred locations at this stage are in Keighley, Haworth and Ilkley. The final confirmation of these locations should be announced at the end of March when the details have been worked through, but we do now need to work locally to confirm these sites.” (Further confirmation has since been reported that Ilkley is the first in the district to be confirmed as obtaining official hub status.)

Nikki will continue to liaise with the council’s team and aims to pull together a small community working group to come up with imaginative ideas to create a weekend to remember, should Haworth achieve final Hub status.

At the last Worth the Tour meeting, held at the University Academy of Keighley in Greenhead Road, Keighley, Nikki reported on the Hub submission and said the team was ‘very, very hopeful of winning approval’. If it does get the go-ahead, there would be stallholders and activities in the park as well as a big screen to entertain visitors.

Tony Wright from Keighley town council is shaping the hub proposal for Victoria Park.

Meanwhile save the date for our next TDF2014 Worth The Tour meeting, April 7th, 6:30 for 7pm start at The Three Acres pub, Bingley Rd, Lees Moor, Keighley BD21 5GE
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In 2013 the UK pet population rose to 24.5 million – 25% of households in Britain own a Dog and 19% a Cat. We also keep well over 2 million Rabbits, Hamsters, Guinea Pigs, Rats and other small furry friends. Research also shows that we in Yorkshire are well above the UK average when it comes to pet ownership.

Watch TV and you’ll notice how many adverts now include pets to capture our attention. In 2013 a well-known mobile phone company spent £10 million on their campaign featuring cats behaving like dogs.

What sort of pets do we like?
Most popular breeds of dog are Labradors and Jack Russells, although Staffordshire Bull Terriers are also now appearing in the top 3. Mixed breeds remain very popular too and it is interesting to note that rescuing a pet from an animal charity is one of the top reasons for ownership.

Over 90% of cats owned in the UK are Domestic Shorthairs (beloved moggies). Among the top 10 breed specific pedigree cats are: Persian (the most popular), Maine Coon, Siamese, Birman, Ragdoll, Abyssinian and Burmese.

Health benefits: Lots of studies have shown that sharing our lives with animals can improve our health and well-being. Having a pet may help lower blood pressure or decrease stress.

Having someone to take care of, someone to exercise with, and someone to engage with – just seems to make us happier!

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* According to the PPMA (Pet Food Manufacturers Association)

Can you identify the building or landmark indicated by the red cross in this photograph?

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Email your answer to:
mail@worthvalleymag.co.uk

The winner will be selected from all correct answers received by MARCH 16, 2014

Last month’s winner was Nathan Mitchell from Oxenhope. The location was Haworth fire station. Google Earth ©

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Fri 7-Sun 9th March Winter Steam Spectacular Keighley & Worth Valley Railway http://www.kwvr.co.uk
Sat 8th March Fairtrade Charity Dinner 7 pm at Haworth Old Hall live music from Reubik & quiz £18 for 3 courses. Booking not necessary just arrive on the evening. All Welcome. Proceeds to twin the pub loos www.toilettwinning.org.
Sat 8th March Fairtrade Charity Dinner at Edinburgh Woollen Mill Cafe, Haworth. All day. All Welcome.
Every 3rd Monday of the Month The Haworth Open Storytelling Circle is an open format storytelling group. They get together in the back room of the Haworth Old Hall Inn. It doesn’t matter if you are a complete beginner wanting to start or an experienced teller of tall tales, if you are a storyteller, come and share your stories with others. If you are a writer or poet, come and share your work. If you would rather someone else read it, you are welcome.
Sun 9th March 6 pm West Lane Baptist Church, Haworth. From Fleece to Jumper by Tim Brook. A Sheep, any medium.

Mon 10th - Sat 15th March
7.30pm The Importance of Being Ernest at Keighley Playhouse, Devonshire Street, Keighley. Period Comedy by Oscar Wilde. Box Office 07599 890769 email boxoffice@keighleyplayhouse.co.uk.

Steve Wood & Ian Palmer invite you to join them for another series of free historical walks in the Haworth area on Wednesdays in March & April. All of this year’s routes are walks to Haworth from various points of the compass. Be prepared for cold & wet weather & wear walking boots - several of the walks have some rough moorland walking in them. Take a packed lunch & a hot drink.


Wed 19th March - from Bingley 7 miles. Bus 663 from Haworth at 09.40, then 662 from Keighley at 10.10. Start from Bingley Parish Church at 10.30.

Thurs 13th March 10 am - 4 pm Beginners guide to making prodded rag rugs at Cobbes & Clay, Main Street, Haworth. A sociable and creative session learning about planning a rug, preparing the base and transferring a design, fabrics, cutting, working, finishing off etc. Please reserve places in advance by phone or email to amy@oaktex.co.uk and pay in cash on the day. Contact telephone: 01535 669605 www.oaktex.co.uk

Thurs 20th March Oxenhope Gardening Club at 7.30pm in Oxenhope Community Centre, Shaw Lane, Oxenhope, BD22 9LS
Matthew Wilson: A tale of two gardens – Hyde Hall and Harlow Carr Welcome Matthew Wilson who regularly entertains BBC Radio 4 listeners on Gardeners’ Question Time. His particular areas of interest include wildlife and landscapes. His talk will draw on his ten years as curator of the two RHS gardens. Small admission charge for non-members. For more info about the club visit www. oxenhopegardeningclub.co.uk.

Fri 21st March Well-Being Cafes at The Community Centre, Shaw Lane, Oxenhope 1.30pm- 3.30 pm. Entertainer is Leo Kenny. Contact: Geoff or Shona on 01535 647675 for further info.

Sat 29th March West Lane Baptist Church Michael Lofthouse presents Songs and Sketches with some of his friends. A concert to appeal to all ages and for all mixed tastes. Refreshments from 6.30pm followed by concert 7.30pm Tickets £10. Call V Waddington 01535 643673. All proceeds in aid of church refurbishment.

Sat 29th & Sun 30th March Haworth Craft Fairs showcase the best of local talent. At Bronte School Rooms, Haworth 10am - 4pm With a selections of handmade gifts, jewellery, toys, chocolates, fudge, truffles, textiles, art, cards, baked goods, soaps, cushions, throws, handbags, and lots more.... For further details see www. haworthcraftfairs.co.uk

Sun 30th March Keighley BigK 10K- Enjoy the multi-terrain 10K course around Keighley’s four superb parks. Tickets range from £6 to £15 or teams of 5 can enter for £50. To sign up for this event visit www. bigk10k.org.uk or call the Manorlands fundraising office on 01535 640176.

Tues 1st April Cross Roads & Lees Church & Chapel Group, Bonanising in the Pindos Mountains - speaker Beryl Dodsworth. 7.30 pm St James Church Hall. All Welcome.


Sun 6th April The Oxnop Singers present “Our Kind of Music” Showtunes, TV themes and popular classics, with guests the Hall Royd Band. 7:15pm at Oxenhope Community Centre Tickets £6 (including refreshments) in aid of St Martin’s Hospice tel. 646158 / 644995
Save the date: Thurs 24th April - Sun 27th April Haworth’s 3rd annual Beer Festival at the Old School Rooms, Haworth.

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Apologies to Claire Barton (formerly Claire Smith) for not including a credit for her article published last month, “There’s nothing quite so delicious as a secret...”
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