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COMMUNITY NEWS AND LOCAL BUSINESS DIRECTORY

May 2022

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Worth Enterprise Park, Valley Road, Keighley

What do you think about the cover this month? The jury is out. Many people when they see dandelions consider them unsightly weeds needing to be pulled up or chemically eradicated through toxic treatments.

I participated in No Mow May last year and I haven't touched my lawn since then. I don't know what my neighbours think but I suspect they are wondering when I am going to tidy up the landscape around my house. The thing is, I've noticed how the birds and bees have been attracted to my 'wild' garden and I am determined to support and extend their habitat. I may well wait a bit longer to mow this year. As for the dandelions that are currently proliferating, I intend to pick them and experiment. I'm told they are very nutritious and even medicinal. Let me know your thoughts.

Have a magnificent May. Liz
liz@worthvalleymag.co.uk



Liz Barker, Editor

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Experience an adrenaline rush like no other this summer by zip sliding from the top of the Cow at the Cow and Calf Rocks above Ilkley Moor!

Following its sell-out success in 2021, **Zip the Cow returns on the 23rd and 24th July 2022**, with hundreds of people set to take in breathtaking views over Wharfedale as they zip wire 270m at speeds of up to 35 miles per hour.

Sponsored by RDC Solicitors, 24/7 Nursing and Woodhouse Grove School, the thrilling zip wire experience raises vital funds for Sue Ryder Manorlands Hospice in Oxenhope.

57 year-old Sharon Bayliss from Cottingley has signed up to Zip the Cow for the second consecutive year, after also completing Zip the Pepper Pot at Lund's Tower in 2019. She is a long-time supporter of Sue Ryder Manorlands Hospice after they provided care and support to her partner before he died in 2008.

"The rush you get is amazing and it's really good fun," shares Sharon. "There's a great atmosphere on the day and the support you get from the volunteers and all the other people watching is fantastic."

"I'd never done anything like Zip the Cow before, and I was initially a bit scared, but it took the leap and I loved

it! This year I am doing it with my daughter, son and their step mum and we'll all be wearing fancy dress and raising sponsorship.

"It's going to be very emotional as both my parents passed away last year and one of my lasting memories of my mum is her watching me do Zip the Cow last summer."

With fun for all the family and people of all ages, this makes not only a great experience but a way to raise vital funds for the hospice's expert end-of-life care, as well as the support they provide for patients' families, helping them through the most difficult times.

Andrew Wood, Community Fundraising Manager, said: "Zip the Cow is an ideal activity for those who want to do something special to celebrate a big birthday or occasion, while benefitting a great local charity in the process. We hope that families and friends will sign up and share a truly memorable experience."

Entry is £25pp and each person must also pledge to raise at least £50 towards the care that Sue Ryder Manorlands Hospice provides.

For more information and to buy tickets, visit: sueyder.org/zipthecow



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The English asparagus season is here, a sure sign of Spring, this is my favourite risotto and it makes one bunch of asparagus go a long way and feed four people.

If you omit the streaky bacon and use a vegetable stock rather than a chicken stock as your base, this recipe becomes vegetarian.

Ingredients (Serves 4)

- 1 bunch of English asparagus
- 750ml chicken stock
- 75g unsalted butter
- 1 medium onion
- 4 rashers of streaky bacon (unsmoked)
- 200g arborio rice
- 100ml dry white vermouth (or dry white wine)
- 1 tablespoon of chopped fresh mint
- 100g Parmesan
- Sea salt
- Freshly ground black pepper

Method

The secret to making a good risotto is to have all your ingredients prepared and to hand, otherwise it can get away from you! So, bring your stock up to a simmer, snap off the woody bits of your asparagus and chuck the woody bits into your stock. Leave to simmer for 30 minutes while you do the rest of your prep' then strain, return to a clean pan and keep warm

on a low heat at the back of your stove. Have a ladle to hand.

Chop the tips off the asparagus and blanch them in boiling salted water for a minute then drain and plunge into cold water then drain again and set aside.

Chop the remaining asparagus stalks into thickish discs on the diagonal (about 5-10 mm) and reserve, finely chop your onion and bacon rashers and finely grate your cheese. Gently melt your 2/3 of your butter in a large saucepan and fry your onion and bacon together, stirring occasionally with a wooden spoon until the onion is soft and a pale gold colour.

Reduce the heat, tip in your rice and stir until well mixed, now chuck in your sliced asparagus but not the tips.

Pour in your vermouth and stir till it's almost all been absorbed by the rice, now add a ladleful of your stock, stirring until it has been absorbed then add another ladleful and repeat until you've used all your stock. Add the asparagus tips when you're about 2/3 of the way down your stock. Once you've used all your stock and it has all been absorbed by the rice, remove your pan from the heat and stir in the fresh mint, the remaining butter, half your cheese and a few good grinds of black pepper, stir then check to see if it needs added salt. Cover your pot and leave for 3 minutes or so then serve onto warm plates and sprinkle over the remaining cheese.

Where in the Aire Valley? COMPETITION

Where is the red X located in the photo to the right?

This month's prize is donated by

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Email your answer including your name & address to:

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Last month's location was Toby Carvery, Keighley and the winner was Kate Paterson from Keighley.



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SCHOOL'S OUT...

...or at least it has been for the last two weeks, and that has given us a chance to open the Railway all week, and we've enjoyed carrying many happy passengers during the spell of good weather.

After the challenges of lockdowns and closures of the last couple of years, it's great for our volunteers to see full trains running, making all our work so much more worthwhile.

Of course, running a heritage Railway continues to present challenges. The locomotives, rolling stock and infrastructure require careful – and increasingly expensive – care and maintenance, particularly with the Railway being over 150 years old, and some of our operational locomotives are now over a century old. As well as the planned maintenance and overhauls, an increasingly pressing challenge is the cost and availability of fuel.

The situation in Ukraine is appalling, and my heart goes out to all those affected. The situation has had a consequence on the Railway because it has contributed to the increase in the cost of diesel

(which we are all experiencing at the pumps) and it has meant that one option for the supply of coal has been shut down, which is a problem because all the coal mines and pits in the UK that produced steam coal are now closed.

The whole heritage railway movement is impacted by the situation, and we have been at the forefront of the work to find alternative fuels by recently being the first standard gauge (ie full size) steam railway to trial a more environmentally-friendly fuel. More research and development is needed to refine the composition of the fuel, but we hope that this paves the way to providing options to heritage railways across the country.

Having said that, we are continuing to operate our full programme of events, and our team of 700+ volunteers look forward to welcoming you onboard soon. Even better would be if we could welcome you to our team. We are always open to new volunteers, and you can apply via the website or by calling into the office at Haworth.

~ **Matt Stroh**

Keighley & Worth Valley Railway Chair

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COMMUNITY PAGES

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Greystones Open Gardens 11 Brown Bank Terrace, Crosshills 11 am - 4pm most Fridays, Saturdays & Sundays Adults £4 children £1 all money raised will go to Perennial. Bookings must be made call 07967 807108

Sutton in Craven WI meet 1.30pm

every second Monday of the month at Sutton in Craven Cricket Pavilion all local ladies are welcome. See us on Facebook.

Every Monday 10 am to 12 noon.

Wellbeing Café at Glusburn Institute. Contact 01535 630223 for more details.

Every Monday 1 - 3pm **Keighley Tea Dance** at the Civic Hall.

Every Tuesday 1:30 - 3:30 pm. **Games Club** at Glusburn Institute. £2.50 per session. A social group playing table tennis, board games and cards.

Every Wednesday 10:30am to 11:30am **Gentle Seated Exercise to Music** at Glusburn Institute. £4 per session. Contact Janet 07787 180202.

Every Wednesday 12 noon.

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Every Thursday 6:30 - 8:30 pm.

Glusburn Youth Club at Glusburn Institute. Ages 11-18. 50p per session. Contact rachel@nyy.org.uk.

Every Thursday 2.30pm - 4pm at Silsden Methodist Church is **Thursday Club** with planned activities. More info contact 01535 654487

Steeton Bobbins WI 7pm meet on the **first Tuesday of a month** at St Stephen's Church Hall www.steetonbobbinswi.com.

Mon 2nd May Steeton & Eastburn are holding a **Village Fun Day** 11am~4pm on the Village green, Mill Lane, Steeton.

Sat 7th & Sun 8th May Bronte Vintage Gathering at Showfield, Haworth Road, Cullingworth. The BVG is a great family weekend of fun. Fairground, SMJ Falconry, Buntons Digger rides, RAF Flypast (weather permitting), Craft tent. Pendle dog agility, trade stands, Falconry, Fire engines, exhibitors, steam attractions, Bouncy castles, children's activities, clay pigeon shooting, beer tent, food outlets, and much much more.

Sun 15th May Train rides for all the family. Miniature trains running at Marley sports field approx. 13:30 until approx. 17:00. Steam and electric trains providing trips for all ages. Great family afternoon out.

Sat & Sun 21st & 22nd May Haworth 1940's Weekend. The village is transformed with decoration,

stalls, dances and re-enactments along Main Street and the park. Join us in a 1940s costume for lots of dancing and merriment.

Sat 21st May - Wharfedale Pub

Walk Lace up your walking boots and gather friends, family and furry friends for a scenic 10-mile walk in the beautiful Yorkshire Dales. All funds generated will go to support Sue Ryder Manorlands Hospice near Keighley, sueryder.org/wharfedalepubwalk

28th May until 30th Oct Welly Walk at Bolton Abbey.

Sat 28th May KWVR The Haworth Haddock Enjoy Fish & Chips by Steam Train.

Thurs 2nd & Fri 3rd June Keighley in Motion Transport Festival. Free circular bus service every 15 mins from 10am - 5pm

Thurs 2nd & Fri 3rd June 10 am - 5pm Craven Old Wheels Vintage Cars Horses & Waggon at Cliffe Castle Park.

Thurs 2nd & Fri 3rd June Renaissance Motorcycles Street Artists at Airedale Shopping Centre.



PaintRush 2022
Sunday 19th June

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As the warm spring days are upon us, and tourists begin to flock towards our beautiful area, we are entering an exciting period for our local attractions. Across the area, we have Yorkshire's, and the country's, finest tourist offerings. Look at The Brontë Parsonage Museum, a great place to learn about some of our most illustrious residents and a fitting tribute to their works, or the famous Keighley and Worth Valley Railway; an amazing way to take a trip back in time for the afternoon. Additionally, Cliffe Castle, East Riddlesden Hall, and the emerging Keighley Creative offer an even broader cultural mix.

With such a fine and diverse cultural offering, it is no surprise to see that our area has been shortlisted to be the UK City, (or as I prefer to say) District of Culture for 2025. It has been great to play my part in this campaign, and bang the drum for why our local attractions mean we are the only choice for this title. Down in Westminster, I have met with relevant Ministers including Culture Secretary Nadine Dorries and Arts Minister Lord Parkinson to make our case for being chosen as the winner on behalf of our great many attractions, local businesses and cultural offerings.

Being awarded the City of Culture title has the potential to have such a positive impact on our local economy. You only need to look at past Cities of Culture like Hull and Coventry to see this, with both



Si Cunningham, City of Culture Communications & Bid Development Manager addressing the Worth Valley Tourism Forum. photo by John Sargent

cities receiving tens of millions of pounds to fund festivals and support local projects. Indeed, in Hull, it is estimated five million visitors went to the city as part of their celebrations. It is of course key the whole District benefits from a potential title and I will be working hard to ensure this is the case. Just think what this funding and tourism could do for our area. Small businesses, whether on Haworth Main Steet, or Keighley and Silsden's town centres, will receive such a boost from extra visitors.

If the District is awarded the City of Culture title, it will be partly down to those amazing cultural spots I have mentioned. Since being elected, I have had the pleasure of visiting local attractions many times and meeting with the volunteers and business owners. They have faced tough times, yet after having periods of no visitors, they could possibly open their doors to millions of people.

That is why I say let's get behind this initiative, shout from the rooftops about what we locally have to offer and back the bid to be City of Culture 2025!

Robbie Moore ~ MP Keighley & Ilkley

Robbie Moore MP




Keighley, Ilkley and the surrounding areas

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BEHIND THE SCENES AT THE MUSEUM

This month, with spring clearly in the air, we thought we'd let you hear from our green-fingered gardening volunteers...

Signs of spring came to the garden early this year thanks to an unusually mild and sunny January. So mild was the weather, that hardly a week passed by all winter without one of the roses still in flower and lifting the spirits. The hellebores were the first of the spring flowers to bloom, soon to be followed by the cheerful, welcome sight of the aconites and then, in quick succession, swathes of snowdrops.

Work in the garden continued throughout the winter with some planting and a little tidying, but in an effort to provide over-

wintering habitats for insects and larvae and create winter interest by leaving seed heads and berries throughout the garden, clearance work was kept to a minimum.

One big change that took place during the winter months was the removal of the large ash tree situated in the graveyard at the side of the Parsonage which sadly succumbed to ash tree dieback last summer. Trying to maintain a positive outlook, this will allow more light to fall on one of the shadiest parts of the garden and so bring the possibility of introducing new plants to the border which would not have flourished there before.



Looking ahead, our main focus is on endeavouring to work more sustainably wherever possible and to have wildlife and biodiversity at the forefront of our decision-making. We are looking at creating more of our own compost to use within the garden and we are also investigating the possibility of harvesting rainwater.

New planting will be carried out with the intention of attracting more bees, butterflies and other pollinators into the garden and a new 'bug hotel' has been created to provide a habitat for them. The hotel has been made from offcuts and recycled materials and filled with foraged materials collected on woodland walks and

so also fits in with our sustainable ethos. We are also looking at ways in which we can eliminate, or at least reduce, the use of plastics in the garden, just as we do across the rest of the Museum.

The garden is the first thing visitors see when they come to the Parsonage and always attracts positive feedback and compliments. Whatever the time of year, we hope our neighbours and local residents enjoy it too.

~ Christine, Theresa, Geoff and Jenny
Brontë Parsonage Museum gardening volunteers

May at the Brontë Parsonage Museum

Defying Expectations: Inside Charlotte Brontë's Wardrobe

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For details of this and forthcoming events, please see www.bronte.org.uk

*Proof of residence is required, please visit www.bronte.org.uk/visit-us for details



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