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COMMUNITY NEWS AND LOCAL BUSINESS DIRECTORY

October 2025



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Welcome to October!

As autumn's colours brighten our valleys, we're reminded of the vitality that comes from supporting one another. By choosing local shops, services, and trusted tradespeople, you help build not only economic strength but also social cohesion and resilience, the foundations of a thriving community.

Thank you for supporting the businesses and organisations you'll find in these pages. Each one contributes to the wellbeing of the Worth and Aire Valleys, helping us stay connected, caring, and strong.

This October, let's carry the season's spirit of gratitude forward, standing together, supporting one another, and keeping our community vibrant in every sense.

Have a great month.



Liz Barker, Editor



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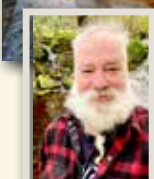
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By Martin Lingard

This is one of my favourite lasagne recipes, as good as the classic Lasagne al Forno, in my

opinion. Use green or brown lentils rather than red lentils for this recipe. You will need a fairly deep rectangular baking dish.

Ingredients

For the ragu:

- 3 tablespoons of olive oil
- 1 medium onion, finely chopped
- 4 cloves of garlic, finely chopped
- 1 large carrot, finely chopped
- 1 stalk of celery, finely chopped
- 1 tablespoon of tomato purée
- 225g green or brown lentils, well rinsed
- 1 x 400g tin of tomatoes
- 750ml water
- 200g bag of fresh spinach
- Juice of 1 lemon
- Salt & black pepper

For the béchamel:

- 1 small onion, roughly chopped
- 2 cloves of garlic
- 1 bay leaf
- ½ dozen black peppercorns
- Pinch of salt
- 600ml milk
- 50g unsalted butter
- 50g plain flour

- 150ml double cream
- 9 sheets of lasagne
- Ground nutmeg
- 3 heaped tablespoons grated Parmesan cheese

Method

First, make your ragu by heating the oil in a large pan, then tip in the onion, garlic, carrot, and celery. Cook gently on a low heat until very soft (20–30 minutes), stirring occasionally. Once soft, add the tomato purée and stir well to mix for a minute, then tip in your lentils. Stir constantly for a minute to combine, then add the tinned tomatoes and water. Bring to a very gentle simmer, place a lid on, and leave to simmer for 40 minutes* until the lentils are tender.

Remove the lid, add the spinach and lemon juice, stir to combine, and increase the heat to a steady simmer. Cook until all the surface liquid has boiled off and you are left with a thick sauce, stirring occasionally so the lentils don't stick to the bottom of the pan. Season well with salt and pepper, then set aside.

In a different pan, melt your butter, then add the flour and stir well to combine. Remove from the heat and gradually pour in the milk, whisking constantly. Return to a low heat, add the cream, and cook slowly for 10 minutes.

Preheat your oven to 190°C. Butter your chosen dish and put three sheets of lasagne in the base. Cover with half of the ragu, then a quarter of the béchamel. Next, add three more sheets of lasagne, the remainder of the ragu, another quarter portion of béchamel, then the last three lasagne sheets, and finally the rest of your béchamel.

Sprinkle the top with a generous amount of ground nutmeg, then smother everything with the grated Parmesan. Place on the top shelf of your oven for 45–50 minutes, until the top is golden brown and blistering.

I like to serve this with a plain green salad.

**When cooking the lentils, use your own judgement as to how long to cook and how much liquid to use. The times and volume below are a guide, as exact timings depend on the variety and age of your lentils. This recipe serves six people.*

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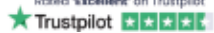
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A People's Mayor: Chris Herd's Call for Kindness in Keighley

By Liz Barker

If you've ever seen a horse and cart making its way through Keighley's streets, chances are you've spotted Mayor Chris Herd at the reins. Down-to-earth, approachable and deeply proud of his roots, Chris has a way of turning heads, not just because of Beauty, his gorgeous draught horse, but because of Chris's warm smile and his willingness to stop and talk to anyone. This year, as Mayor of Keighley, he's using that same approachable spirit to bring people together.

At a time when tensions across the country run high over migration policy, economic struggles and global uncertainty, Chris is inviting the town to lean into what it does best: friendliness, pride and community spirit.

"I am a people's Mayor. I want everyone to feel welcome and to get along. Let's be kind and reach out to each other."

Chris lives in Oxenhope, on the family farm. It's a fitting home for someone who believes so strongly in supporting all aspects of country life, including the visitor economy and welcoming people from all over the world who come to walk the cobbled streets of Haworth, ride the Keighley & Worth Valley Railway, or follow in the footsteps of the Brontës.

Alongside his wife Linda, who is Mayoress, business partner and best friend, Chris has built his life around hard work and service. For years the couple ran a thriving butcher's shop in Ingrow, all while keeping



Keighley Mayor Chris Herd with Beauty, his draught horse.

their farming traditions alive. That connection to the land, to animals and to honest trade is part of what grounds him now as he takes on civic duties.

Meeting People Where They Are

Since taking up the mayoral chain, Chris has thrown himself into the role, visiting local schools, voluntary groups and community organisations. Whether it's a remembrance service in the Worth Valley, a fundraiser in the Civic Centre or just a quick hello on North Street, he takes genuine pleasure in meeting people where they are. And if that meeting happens to be over a pint of Keighley's finest Timothy Taylor's beer, all the better. Chris is never one to shy away from a good chat in the pub, where conversations often range from farming and local history to the future of the town.

Standing Up for Two Important Causes

Each year the Mayor selects charities to support, and Chris has chosen two that reflect both compassion and courage.

Sue Ryder Manorlands Hospice in Oxenhope, which provides palliative and end-of-life care along with bereavement support for families across Keighley, is deeply loved

by the community and depends on fundraising to keep its doors open.

Baton of Hope, the UK's largest suicide prevention initiative, is less familiar to many. It is a growing movement working towards a "zero-suicide society". The baton itself tours schools, towns and workplaces, sparking conversations about

mental wellbeing and breaking down stigma. By highlighting these causes, Chris is not only raising money but also drawing attention to issues that touch every family at some point in life, caring for loved ones and talking openly about mental health.

Choosing Kindness

Keighley has always been proud of its friendly



Keighley Mayor Chris Herd & Mayoress Linda Herd with family members from left: Rebecca, Beth, James, Helena, William & Arron.

reputation, and Chris Herd is determined to keep that spirit alive.

"Be kind, reach out, and remember: we all have more in common than we think."

To support the Keighley Town Council Mayor's Charity Trust, please scan the QR code here: Thank you for your donation.



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As we steam into the second half of the year, I am delighted to share just how much has been happening and what lies ahead across the Keighley & Worth Valley Railway.

Our **CivilWeek** once again showcased the extraordinary dedication of our volunteer and staff teams, as they undertook vital track renewal between last year's landmark Bridge 27 project and Haworth Station. These works ensure our line remains safe, reliable, and ready to carry passengers for generations to come. My heartfelt thanks go to everyone who picked up tools, gave their time, and helped keep our railway in first-class condition.

Alongside the hard work, there is also plenty to celebrate. Our ever-popular **Beer & Music Festival** returns, promising great entertainment and the perfect blend of real ale, live bands, and a unique railway atmosphere.

We are also proud to play our part in **Railway 200**, marking two centuries of railway history with the touring **Inspiration Train** a chance to look back with pride and look forward with excitement.

As autumn turns to winter, the stage will be set for our atmospheric production of **A Christmas Carol**, bringing a touch of Victorian spirit to the valley. And of course, Christmas wouldn't be complete without our much-loved **Elf Explorer**, where festive magic, laughter, and family memories come to life on board our trains.

Thank you, as ever, for your support, whether through volunteering, visiting, or simply spreading the word. The KWVR is your railway, and together we are keeping its story alive.

~ **Matt Stroh**

Keighley & Worth Valley Railway Chairman

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**Our Keighley
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Matthew Varley
(Dip CDT RCS)**

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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The smallest alteration can make the biggest change and Matt is committed to providing the highest level of care, quality materials and the latest digital technology to achieve the best results for you.

Matt's ambition is also his craft, creating lifelike smiles through dentures and implant supported prosthesis.

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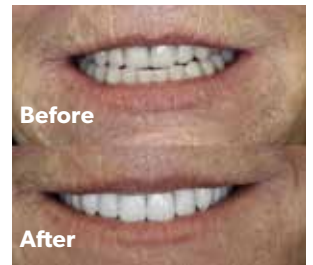
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BEHIND THE SCENES AT THE MUSEUM



taking place in Thornton, the birthplace of the Brontë sisters, and features a private tour of the new Brontë Birthplace Museum. Did you know that the Brontë Society has over 1600 members worldwide? Founded in 1893 the Brontë Society is one of the oldest literary societies in the world, and in 1895 the first Brontë Museum was opened above the Yorkshire Penny Bank, on Haworth's Main Street. In 1928 Haworth



Parsonage was purchased by Sir James Roberts and gifted to the Brontë Society, when it opened as the Brontë Parsonage Museum. The Brontë Society continues to be responsible for the Museum and its collections today, and all of our members across the world help us to keep the Brontë legacy alive for future generations.

If you'd like to join the Brontë Society, go to www.bronte.org.uk/membership, or chat to our Marketing and Development Officer, Hayley, by calling 01535 640195 or emailing membership@bronte.org.uk

Autumn has well and truly arrived in Haworth, and here at the Brontë Parsonage Museum we're excited to share our favourite season with you!

We've got loads of exciting events coming up this month, including our first ever read-along. **From Oct 9th – 30th we'll be reading Charlotte Brontë's Shirley.** Shirley was Charlotte's second published novel and a perceptive exploration of the industrialising Yorkshire she observed around her. Though set in the Luddite era, many of her characters were inspired by people she knew in her own time, including her sister Emily and best friend Mary Taylor. During the read-along we'll be joined by Dr Jo Waugh of York St John University and Dr Claire O'Callaghan of Loughborough University, who will both be sharing their fascinating perspectives of the novel. Behind the scenes at the museum we've been busy preparing for the **Brontë Society Annual General Meeting**, one of the most important dates in the Society calendar. This year's meeting is

Your membership helps us to...

- care for the Brontë Parsonage Museum and it's collection
- collect and preserve even more Brontë artefacts
- protect the Brontë legacy for future generations

Find out more at bronte.org.uk/membership

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COMMUNITY PAGES

Every Monday 9.30am-12 noon South Craven Walking for Health Group. Contact 07757911726 or 01535 538835 for more information.

Every Monday 1pm - 4pm Knit & Knitter Craft Group at Steeton Hub.

Every Monday 1-3pm Tea Dance at Keighley Civic Centre £2.50 inc tea & biscuits.

Glusburn and Crosshills WI meet at **7.30 pm on the first Tuesday of the month at Glusburn Community & Arts Centre.** A friendly group for local women.

Sutton in Craven WI meet 1.30pm **every second Monday of the month** Sutton in Craven Cricket Pavilion all local ladies welcome. See us on Facebook.

Wellbeing Café at Glusburn Institute **Every Monday** 10 am to 12 noon. . Contact 01535 630223 for more details.

Every Tuesdays Community Post Office Counter 12.30pm - 2.30pm at Steeton Hub

First Tuesday of a month Silsden Bereavement Group 10.30 am - 12.30pm at Silsden Methodist Church Safe and welcoming space to share your journey free to attend.

Last Tuesday of a month is Afternoon Coffee, chat & cake at Steeton Methodist Church 2.30pm - 4pm with The Salvation Army food bank collection point.

First Tuesday of a month Crosshills Goldie's Sing & Smile – St Peters Methodist Church 2 -3pm singalong to the popular hits of the 50s, chat and laugh. £3 donation to attend, no need to book.

Games Club Every Tuesday 1:15 - 3:15 pm at Glusburn Institute. £3 per session.

Every Tuesday Rethinking Pain at The Hive, Elliott Street. Silsden **3pm - 4pm** A Group for people living in pain. **Tuesdays (Term Time) 2.30pm - 3.30pm Calm at the Castle** Relaxing & meditation - friendly group. FREE & no experience needed at Cliffe Castle Keighley **Third Tuesday of a month at Steeton Methodist Church 2-3pm**

Goldie's Sing & Smile – sing-along to the popular hits of the 50s onwards, chat and laugh. £3 donation to attend, no need to book.

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

Every Weds Dementia Friendly 10am - 11.30am at Silsden Methodist Church

Every Weds Glusburn Lunch club at 11.45am Glusburn Institute for a two course, home cooked meal, for £6.00 and company. If you are a pensioner and interested, please contact Pauline on Pauline on 07436 113748.

Every Wednesday 1 - 2:30pm Dementia Hub at Glusburn Institute with Dementia Friendly Keighley. Activities and support for those with dementia and their carers.

Buzz Youth Club, The Hive Silsden 8-12 year old FREE Entry 10.30am - 12.30pm alternative Saturdays & every Wednesday 3.30pm - 6pm.

Every Wednesday 1.30pm Silsden Art Club meet at Silsden Methodist Church New members welcome.

1st Thursday of the Month at Steeton Methodist Church 7-15pm -8-15pm invites you to our **Prayer and Praise Service**

Every Thursday at Glusburn Institute 10.30am - 2.30pm Patchwork. A friendly group of like-minded ladies who like to create patchwork throws, bags, cushions and hold-alls. Plus tea/coffee and socialising (previously held at Steeton Hub) More details contact Sylvia 01535 662698

Silsden Methodist Church Thursday Club 2.30pm - 4pm weekly Music, Games, Quizzes, friendly chatter & refreshments.

Every Thurs at 12.00 - 2.30pm Craven Craft and Mosaic Social Group at Sutton Sutton Cricket Club (wheelchair access is good and there is plenty of parking space). The cost is £2 and covers two cuppas and biscuits.

Every Thursday 2-3pm Social Singalong at The Studio, Glusburn Community & Arts Centre. All welcome to this friendly and inclusive singing for fun and wellbeing group. **Free to attend.**

Fridays 10am - 12.30pm Warm Space Group at Steeton Hub.

Every Friday 10am-12pm Digital Drop-in at Glusburn Community & Arts Centre. Help and advice about getting online, using your device, navigating websites and staying safe. £4 including refreshments.

First Saturday of the Month is Saturday Social 2 - 4pm at St James Community Hall Silsden. Have a chat, play games & refreshments All Welcome.

Coffee morning every Saturday morning from 9.30am at the Village Centre, Crosshills. Everyone welcome for a drink & a chat.

Sun 5th Oct 10 am - 4pm Skipton Artisan Market Skipton Canal Basin

Sun 5th Oct Harvest Trail 2.00pm-3.30pm St Stephen's Church Hall, Steeton Crafts, short drama, refreshments fun for all the family. Donations of dried, or tinned food, would be gratefully received to help those in need.

Thurs 9th Oct Lunch Club 11.00am-1.00pm St Stephen's Church Hall, Steeton Bingo, sandwiches & cake Everyone welcome

Fri 10 to 12th Oct Haworth Steampunk Weekend See spectacular steampunk attire & meet delightful people, **Sat 11th Oct Sue Ryder Starlight Hike** in the Worth Valley

Sat 18th Oct Coffee Morning in aid of Martin House Children's Hospice **10.00am-12.00noon** St Stephen's Church Hall, Steeton, Stalls, raffle & refreshments.

Sun 19th Oct. 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.

Sat 25th Oct - 2nd Nov Skipton High Street Monster Trail Ten monsters are hiding around town, are you brave enough to find them! Trail leaflets can be collected and dropped off at Skipton Town Hall and Craven Court.



KEIGHLEY
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REMEMBRANCE DAY 2025

Keighley Remembrance Day Parade and
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November 9th 2025

9:35 - Parade leaves Russel Street
10:00 - Church service at Keighley
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10:35 - Parade to Town Hall Square
10:50 - Acts of Remembrance and
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11:00 - 2 minute Silence and
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amount of our calls from people who have been referred to us by our existing customers - that simply wouldn't happen if we didn't adhere to our overriding principles.

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