

WORTH VALLEY MAG

COMMUNITY NEWS AND LOCAL BUSINESS DIRECTORY

May 2008



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I have really enjoyed putting the magazine together this month. It is a noticeably vibrant issue and reflects the buoyant & hopeful mood of many of the businesses, community groups, and individuals whom I have had the privilege of working with in the past weeks. I am very pleased to add another eight pages, giving you a wider choice of services, offers, local information and general interest. May appears to be a month for milestones...Cobbles & Clay is gearing up for their second anniversary, Whitakers is 25, and Firth's is in their 90th year of trading! (Congratulations to them all.) Do take advantage of the exclusive offers available to Worth Valley Mag readers...I work with local businesses to bring you good value and incentives to keep you shopping locally and using locally based services wherever possible. Tell them you saw them in the Worth Valley Mag!

Your feedback is gratefully received. Please contact me on mail@worthvalleymag.co.uk



Liz Barker

Worth Valley Publishing Ltd., Stanbury, West Yorkshire
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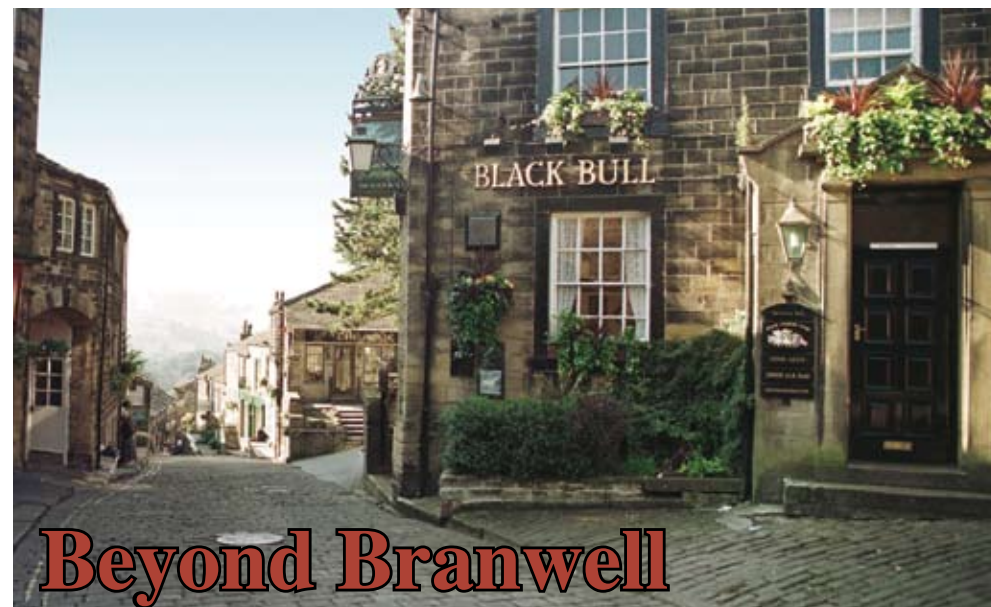
Some suggestions for May:

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Beyond Branwell

The Black Bull, 119 Main St. Haworth 01535 642249 www.theblackbullhaworth.com

The Black Bull in Haworth is notorious for several reasons, not least its connection with Branwell Bronte and a feature spot in Living TV's "Most Haunted" series. But beyond the well rehearsed Bronte tales, spooky stories and touristic patter, this lively local public house nurses community spirit and an authentic native pool of creativity.

Partners Melanie Chantack and James Williams have been managing the pub for the past three years and have actively encouraged and supported artists, musicians, and writers in the village. Live music is a regular feature in the line up of activities; local band Bond Brothers is the "house band" at the Black Bull and can be heard at the regular Friday Night Live sessions.

Following the success of last year's "Wall of Art" project, an initiative instigated by Chris

McCarthy, a local artist, and his friends at the pub, a new art group has been set up called Haworth People's Art. A similar event encouraging local people's participation in art is scheduled to take place in July this year and is supported by The Black Bull.

Melanie and James have also worked hard to ensure that the food at the Black Bull is up to standards. Their popular steak and ale pie and traditional roast dinners keep the locals coming back. The menu has been recently updated and includes more choice. As for beer, The

Black Bull has been awarded a CAMRA award in the most improved pub category and it even gets a mention in the Good Beer Guide!

Food is served
Sat, Sun, Mon, 11:30am - 7pm
Tues-Fri 11:30am - 3pm & 5-8pm
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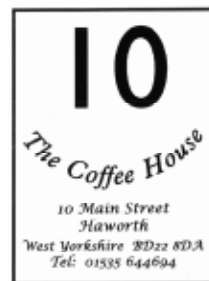
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www.myspace.com/theburdenofparadise

This event is expected to sell out; get your tickets early!

Tickets: £20 available from Cobbles and Clay 8pm

food & drink available (we are licensed)



Cobbles and Clay 60 Main Street Haworth BD22 8DP **01535 644218**

To advertise call Karen or Liz on 01535 642227



WINED & DINED

BY CLAIRE SMITH

We must not look at goblin men, we must not buy the fruits; who knows upon what soil; they fed their hungry thirsty roots "come buy"

call the goblins hobbling down the glen.

Goblin Market - Christina Rossetti

Not everyone enjoys cooking, and almost all of us have probably taken a few shortcuts in our time, but even the most ardent fantasist would have difficulty describing the assembling of ready-made yorkshire pudding, ready-made gravy and a few sausages (toad

in the hole Delia style) as cooking. It would be more truthful to confess to re-heating a dish created by somebody else and flinging in a few sausages. At the

risk of appearing a little over enthusiastic, I have to admit that I actually find the sound of my yorkshire pudding batter sizzling, as it hits the molten butter in the baking tin, quite thrilling and the sense of pride and wonderment at the outcome, akin to that gained from gazing at the Cumbrian mountains or the Swiss alps. I have difficulty accepting that pulling the lid off a can, or snipping the corner from a plastic bag containing little discs of frozen mashed potato can possibly compete with the joy of handling the smooth, waxy skin of a king Edward or a Maris piper which, when you have worked your magic, will become a cloud of buttery, fluffy melt on the tongue mash. In fact the only item in

the freezer that truly excites me (when I'm in the mood) is a tub of chocolate Hagen Das.

Delia Smith admits to spending "two years researching the ingredients" for her latest "cookery" book and awards the suppliers of the pre-prepared goods forming the backbone of many of her "cheats recipes" the title of modern day "servants" providing "real food cooked for you by somebody else". Maybe I'm missing something but I've always believed a "recipe" to be a list of ingredients with instructions on how to cook them, and "real food" to be fresh, preferably organic and not pre-cooked and encased in a suit



of plastic armour. It seems to me that Delia's dishes are more Goblin market than farmers market. Call me unworldly, but I have never seen a recipe which calls for the addition of

monosodium glutamate, emulsifiers or E numbers, nor have I witnessed any of my friends, many of whom are excellent and enthusiastic cooks, glibly adding the afore mentioned, along with handfuls of extra salt and sugar, to the pot when preparing the family dinner.

The joys of chopping, inhaling, sizzling and tasting in a kitchen filled with exquisite aromas are being denied those who choose to follow Delia's disastrous shortcuts, which are unlikely to ignite a passion for food in those already less than interested in cooking. Real ingredients, cooked simply are the only components that will produce the satisfaction required to fire the enthusiasm of a tentative cook.

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Rob Wood and the lads from Whitaker's (from Left) Rob, Rick, Chudders, Binney, Joe, Mick, and Casper the dog. You can meet them at Whitaker's 25th Anniversary Celebration on May 31st when they will all (with the exception of Casper) have a turn on the ducking stool in aid of Manorlands. Call in to Whitaker's for a drink and a chat from 12-4pm. Take advantage of a Special 10% discount on the day.

WHITAKER ANIMAL FEEDS
 Balcony Works, off Oakworth Rd.
 BD21 1QP

When John Whitaker retired a few years ago, it was a natural progression for Rob Wood to step in and take control of Whitaker Animal Feeds, continuing in the success that had been established over 23 years. Rob, himself from a well known farming family in the Worth Valley and clearly knowledgeable about animal husbandry, was already supplying Whitaker's with hay and straw and was also familiar with John's client base. Rob had a good working relationship with Whitaker's suppliers and feed sales representatives too, so the transition and new ownership was fairly seamless.

In the past two years Rob has made his own contribution to the business and has moved things on. He has refit the shop to allow for more space to stock a wider range of pet food including, for example, the popular Hill's Science Plan range and several other domestic animal feeds.

Rob enhanced the equine services, where often specialist feeds or one off mixes are required. One customer commented, "The efficient and rapid response deliveries are a godsend when I have an animal that needs special attention." Another customer said, "I prefer to use Whitaker's rather than those large generic pet food outlets because I can get expert advice and excellent service; and the prices are usually cheaper so I get the best of both worlds."

Bulk discounts are given & free deliveries are available on orders over £50.

On Sat, May 31st, in celebration of their 25th Anniversary, Whitakers will be offering a 10% discount on all available items in stock.* Light refreshments will be served throughout the day. From 1pm don't miss the Ducking Stool spectacle! All welcome.

*Conditions apply & everything must be collected and paid for on the day.

Where in the Worth Valley? COMPETITION

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

This month's prize is generously donated by
The Cheese Place, Haworth
The winner will enjoy a
Taster Food Hamper

April's winner was Steve Johnson from Oxenhope; the location was The Grouse Inn at Oldfield

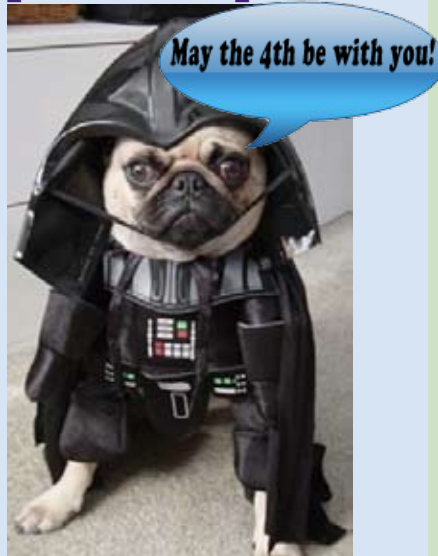
Email your answer this month to:
mail@worthvalleymag.co.uk

The winner will be selected from all correct answers received by the 15th of May 2008.

Google Earth ©



caption competition



And the winner is...
Jennie Ward from Weardale!

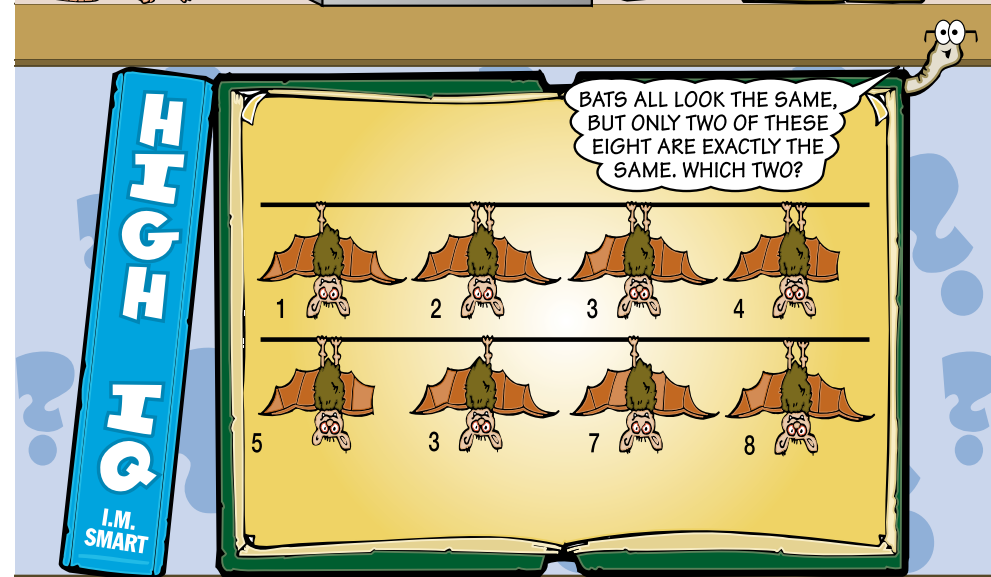
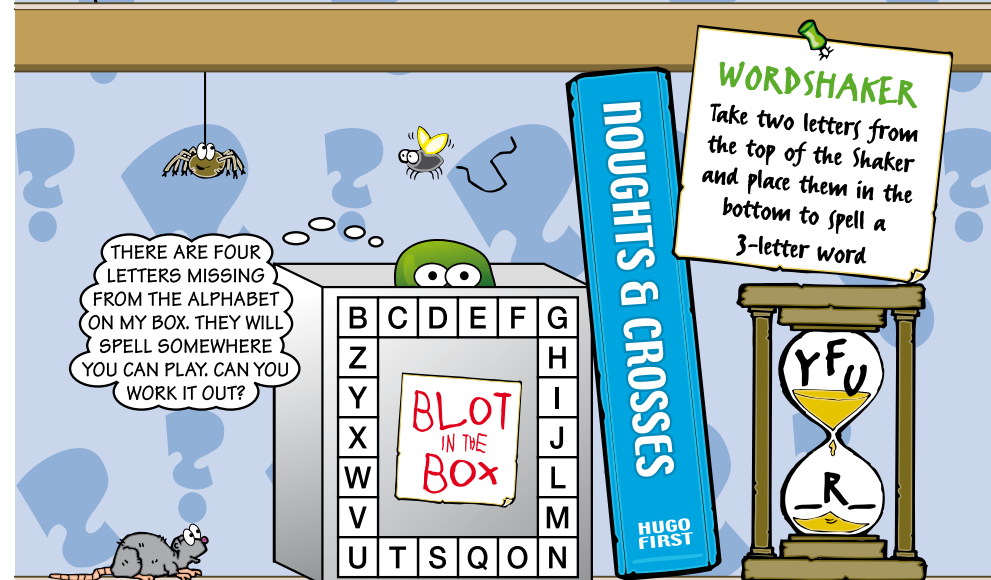
SUDOKU

Fill in the blank squares so that each row, each column and each 3-by-3 block contain all of the digits 1 thru 9.

If you use logic you can solve the puzzle without guesswork.

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

THE Puzzle Cellar



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Answers: Blot's Box PARK. Bats 3 & 8 ARE IDENTICAL.
Wordsaker FRY.



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HIGH HOPES FOR THE FLAPPIT

When Louise & Danny Helstrip took over the license at the Flappit it was clear that there was a fair bit of work to be done to bring the pub back to its former glory days.

Louise, originally from Cullingworth, remembered the time when the Flappit was a thriving and vibrant place; she even worked behind the bar for a while before moving out of the area to continue gaining experience and enjoying success in other public houses further afield.

Seven years later, and Louise is pleased to be living back in her home village and in charge of her old local pub. She, Danny, their two children, and two dogs have moved in to the premises at Flappit Springs and have spent the last few months getting the pub cleaned up and cleared out. "We have a lot of plans and ideas but we are concentrating on getting the basics right," Louise explained, "The first priority is to completely gut the old

kitchen and replace it. We plan to be serving homemade traditional meals from the end of May."

The Flappit has suffered from a lack of care and investment in the past years and Louise and Danny are committed to putting the hard work and money in to make it shine once again. They appreciate the good will of the community and the support from customers who are continuing to patronize the pub while improvements are underway.

All are welcome to call in for a drink and see how the work is progressing. Louise is selling Tetleys for £2.40 a pint, and specials like Theakston's Old Peculier, for £2.50. Opening hours: Mon-Thurs 5-11pm, Fri-Sun 4-12pm

The Flappit Inn

4 Flappit Springs, Cullingworth
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Say you saw it in the Worth Valley Mag!

FROM THE WORTH VALLEY TO THE SACRED VALLEY



Photos:
Vaughan Evans, Paul Harper,
& Paul Barker



Although there have been a few articles in the Worth Valley Mag about Haworth's link with Machu Picchu, we know that there are still lots of people who aren't really aware of the twinning. Town twinning is a practice that grew in the European Union after the Second World War to foster peoples understanding of each other. Places can be twinned with any number of towns and Haworth is also twinned with Haworth New Jersey USA. It's true that twinning did get a bit of a bad name years ago because some people saw it as free holidays for some, paid for by the taxpayers. That has changed and now there's a resurgence of twinning, or linking, as community based activity. Fairtrade and ethical movements have highlighted the need to understand more about the people who provide our food and goods, often in developing countries. With communication channels widening, learning about other countries is now far from the 'Geography' a lot of us used to know, and technology is enabling us to reach out and communicate first hand. What we always stress is that we don't see ourselves as a charity; this is an equal partnership. The Guardian praised our link, reporting



'hearts and minds are open'.
Why Machu Picchu?



Machu Picchu Pueblo (officially Aguas Calientes, but known locally by its world famous name) is in Peru, western South America. It is the village high in the Andes at the foot of the mountain topped by the ruin of the ancient Inca city known as Machu Picchu which is a World Heritage site, also declared one of the Seven Wonders of the World. People arrive at the ruins of Machu Picchu via the Inca Trail, a trek that can take several days; or by a bus from the village which has been reached by train. Thinking about it, there are similarities: although Haworth is a humble place by comparison, it is a magnet for trekkers; both places depend on tourism, have a similar population and size and both are served by a famous railway: so the answer to the question 'Why Machu Picchu?' is 'Why not?' **What has been achieved so far?** With support from the Craven Trust we have purchased a video camera to make a record of 'a year in our village' which we will send to the people of Machu Picchu.

Community Chest funding has provided a display board which was seen by thousands in a Main St shop window over Christmas. Haworth Primary school have embraced the twinning with great creativity: they displayed a model of Machu Picchu at the Keighley festival, they have sent letters, held a Spanish day, raised money and host a yearly Machu Picchu award. We are helping the library and school in Peru by supplying books (this was one thing specifically requested): their library shelves are bare – you'll notice that on next month's DVD which will be distributed via the Worth Valley Mag in Haworth and also made available to the wider community. Each book has a catalogue number and a message in dual language saying it is from their friends in Haworth. Young people in Halifax supported by the Youth Offending Team have worked on a music project and have made a CD for the children at a similar centre in Cuzco, also featured on the DVD. Children with special needs, supported by the Peru-Brighton linked charity Kiya Survivors are sponsored by Haworth individuals and businesses. (More info at kiyasurvivors.org) We are members of the UK One World Linking Association and the Peru Support Group where we did a presentation at the AGM. Recently a Peruvian human rights lawyer visited us and on her return to Peru met with the Machu Picchu Mayor on our behalf.

For the Future

Communication has not been easy but is always very positive and exciting, and with webcams and modern technology it should improve! We hope to find a location in Haworth to house a small library of books about Peru and in the long term to develop exchanges, and maybe even sponsor a teacher to go there. This way understanding will really develop and both sides will benefit. A group visit has also been discussed so if you'd like to go, start saving now! Watch out for next month's DVD (made possible through Cnet Grants for Growth) which will provide a fuller story and images. We hope you'll be inspired to think about how you might like to be involved in this exciting project. It is for everyone in Haworth and the surrounding areas, for the future, to have lasting links and friendships with the people of Machu Picchu Pueblo. More information, photographs and minutes of the Haworth & Machu Picchu Twinning Group meetings are posted on **Haworth-village.org.uk** Whatever your thoughts we would be very pleased to hear from you. **Contact Rita, Sonia's Smile, Main St, Haworth 647776 rita@soniassmile.com or Liz@worthvalleymag.co.uk 642227.**



Brontë Spirit – breathing life into Haworth's old school room



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE BRONTË SOCIETY

Passing along the cobbles of Church Street it's easy to overlook the old building hunched between Church and Parsonage; but Haworth's Old School Room is as important in local history as its more famous neighbours. Built by Patrick Brontë, and taught at by all his children, the school opened in the summer of 1832, to provide instruction to weekday scholars in the three R's, alongside various domestic craft skills of the day. It also played host to Charlotte Brontë and Arthur Bell Nicholls' public wedding feast on the 29th June 1854.

Between 1850-3 an extension was added, and in 1871 a second was built, completing the building we see today. In 1903 it was replaced

as an educational establishment, but retained its community focus. It offered lunches and teas, was used as a gymnasium, and housed a library of 1100 books for borrowing members to read. It later served as a military billet and Youth Hostel. By 1966, however, the building was falling into disrepair, and through an early partnership of the Church and Brontë Society restoration was undertaken.

In more recent times the partnership has been re-established and formalised under the name Brontë Spirit, to address the very real issue of the building's conservation and the desire to keep the building as a valuable community resource. In order to achieve these aims a successful bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund provided

resources to begin formulating long term restoration and management plans. As part of this, to encourage public access to this important heritage site, a free photographic exhibition has been organised. The Captured Past is a collection of early photographs depicting life in Haworth and district, and will run every day from the 21st March until September, between 1-4pm. There will also be an opportunity for the public to have their say on the future of the building via a simple questionnaire.

It is intended that this will be only the beginning of a new lease of life for the Old School Room, for as well as this and other planned events, the building is available for private hire, by calling Eric Bates on 01535 675 927.

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OAKWORTH IN BLOOM

All over Yorkshire towns and villages are being judged in the first stage of this year's Yorkshire in Bloom competition. A new 'Bloom' group in Oakworth hopes that in the future our village can join Keighley and Haworth in the success they have enjoyed in recent years.

The group's aims are: to encourage community involvement in improving the public areas of the village; to help develop a sense of pride in our community; and to foster a sense of competitive spirit to help achieve success in the Yorkshire in Bloom competition.

The group have entered Holden Hall in a special category for public buildings. With the help of a grant from CSV Action Earth, our first task was to restore two flower beds to the side of the Hall and this has been completed. We want to go on to give the front of the Hall a facelift, and to make the area at the rear of the building a more usable space.

Of course the success of the group depends largely on support from the community. So, if anyone is interested in joining the group, do get in touch. Our next meeting is on Thursday 8th May in the Contact Point in Holden Hall at 2.00pm and all are welcome.

For more information please contact us via our base in the local Police and Community Contact Point, Holden Hall, Colne Road, Oakworth, Keighley, BD22 7PB, tel 01535 647574, email contactoakworth@yahoo.co.uk



WEBSITE OF THE MONTH

World War 2 Ex RAF.co.uk is one of the largest dedicated websites on the Internet in honour of those who served in the Royal Air Force during World War 2. It's a great place for ex RAF servicemen to share memories and keep in touch, but perhaps more importantly it's a fascinating site for anyone wanting to learn about what life was like through the war as a civilian with stories about food rationing, the Blitz, air raid shelters and much much more! It's a very busy site with plenty of memorabilia, a fascinating online museum, remembrance pages, photo galleries and a very useful search facility for anyone wanting to trace friends and family from the war years.



www.worldwar2exraf.co.uk

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Heartfelt thanks and appreciation to all who made our fashion show a huge success. Greenwoods of Keighley generously outfit the gentlemen. Passion and Silverland of Haworth provided beautiful accessories for the ladies outfits. Many thanks to the local businesses who donated raffle prizes which totaled £310 towards our final total of £2,075.50 for Marie Curie Cancer Care! Most importantly, to the 170 people who attended, we couldn't have achieved this without you! Kindest regards, Nikki

P.S. There are a few outstanding winning raffle tickets still to claim - call in to the shop to see if they are yours!

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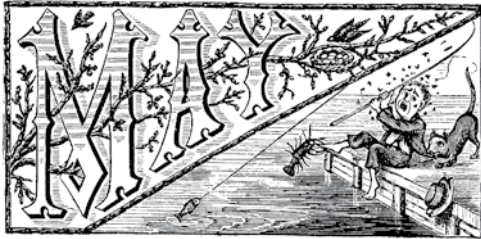
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Thurs 1st May, Worth Valley Ward, Local elections 7am-10pm.

Thurs 8th May, History Walk - Ponden Mill & Oldfield, 5.5 miles. Led by Steve Wood. Bring a packed lunch. Meet at Haworth Tourist Information at 10am.

Sat 10th May, Fair Trade Event - Old School Room, Haworth. There will be tea, coffee, buns on sale (all to go towards the refurbishment of the building), Doreen and Maureen the tea-ladies, a singer and story teller, will entertain you with their witty banter. Open between 12-4.

Sat 10th & Sun 11th May 10th Bronte Vintage Gathering. Annual fundraiser to benefit Manorlands. Huge exhibit, sections of Vintage Machinery, Entertainments, Attractions, Food & Bar, Childrens Entertainment, www.bronte-vintage-gathering.co.uk

Mon 12th May, Gala Queen Disco Oakworth Methodist Church. 6-7pm. New Queen will be picked on the night!



Cost is 50p Entrants must live in Oakworth and be between 5 & 13 yrs.

Mon 12th May, Stanbury & District WI West Lane Baptist Church 7:30pm

Sat 17th May, St. Gabriel's Church, Stanbury 1940's

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Sat 17th, Sun 18th May Haworth 1940's Weekend
Flypast (SAT afternoon only) RAF memorial flight, the Dakota. Haworth Community Centre, Sat night: Dance the night away with The Tony Greenwood Big Band & DJ From 7.30 - Midnight Ticket includes light supper Tickets £15.00 call Haworth Tourist Information Office on Tel: 01535 642329. "1940s" White Rose Pullman



Dining Train on the Keighley & Worth Valley Railway. For more information visit the KWVR website: www.kwvr.co.uk/events/index.htm Contact tel. KWVR: 01535 645214

Mon 19th May (until Fri 25th July)
Exhibition of Photographs by Fay Godwin - Bronte Parsonage Museum, contact bronte@bronte.org.uk or call 01535 642323

Thurs 22nd May, History Walk: Oxenhope Edge & Noonan Stones, 8 miles. Starts at Haworth Tourist Information Centre, 10 a.m. Led by Steve Wood. Bring a packed lunch.

Sun June 1st, To Ponden Kirk & Beyond, 8 mile circular walk. Meet Jeff Brodrick at 10:30am at the top end of Back Lane, Stanbury. (300 yds from the bus terminus.) Limited unofficial parking. No dogs please. Bring a packed lunch.

Looking Ahead:
Can you help? Volunteer buskers, musical

groups, and street entertainers are needed for the 1960's weekend (June 21-22) call Gail 640259 or Ray 640606.

Listen online:

The Radio 4 programme, **Ramblings**, presented by broadcaster Clare Balding and joined by Ann Dinsdale and Judith Bland from the Bronte Parsonage, includes a humorous account of the three women getting lost on a walk to the Bronte Falls! You can hear the programme on the BBC website: www.bbc.co.uk/radio4/factual/ramblings... click on the April 18th edition.

Keighley "Just Ride" Cykle Club is open to all ages and abilities from beginners on stabilisers to those wanting to improve their confidence on a bike.

The club is open every Saturday from 9:30-10:30 Or 10:30-11:30 at Worth Valley Primary School. Sessions are £1.00 per person and you can borrow a bike and helmet.

For more information
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CHOCS AWAY AND TALLY HO!

I speak two languages. Body and English. – Mae West

The older you get the harder it is to keep up with slang and its distortion

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If you're feeling peckish pack your ration book. There'll be no more banana's, but plenty of spam and if you need any new nylons look out for a shady spiv before he's gone with the wind or having a good old bunny with the B.Y.T's. The Jacks will be out for him!

The Juke Joints of Haworth will be getting in to the groove, with the best ducky shin crackers this side of Stanbury. There'll be swinging, jumping, jiving and wailing to the boogie woogie sounds of the best big bands. I'm a dead hooper when it comes to cutting a rug, but there'll be plenty of hep cats & kittens having a ball and quite a few alligators looking to



jitterbug on the side. Not your scene daddio? Grab yourself a nice hot Rosy and cast an eyeball over the rooftops of Main Street. If the bally weather holds out this year and the ack ack's quiet you might see a Hurricane looking to bag a Hun.

If that doesn't leave you totally chin strapped and touting for a flea bag on a biscuit there's the sight of hundreds of sprogs wearing goggle eyed boogers being evacuated.

Excuse me for slinging the bat, but don't drip – it's Haworth 40's weekend on May 17th/18th - If you're not there we'll have to assume you're either totally banjo'd, on the wire or eating pickled monkey with Fritz.

Better than getting hit with a potato masher eh?

of the English language. Every generation creates its own dialect and for those of us the wrong side of thirty it often feels like some kind of secret code exclusively for young people.

T8k txt spk 4 xmp!!!

I wonder what it must have been like for different generations to understand each other through the passage of time, particularly in the 1940's, when language became totally FUBAR.

Did someone mention the war? (I don't think I did) Yes it's that time of year again when the Worth Valley reverts back 60 years in time to the days when ladies wore pompadours on their heads and men wore something called spats on their feet.

Its WW2 in Haworth where you can expect its streets to be bustling with Civvies, Gl's, Tommys, Wrens and Square Headed Boche. Look out for Pongo's, Crabs and Fish Heads, but pray there's no 'Rats After Mouldy Cheese' doing short arm inspections! That wouldn't be too swell!

For the costumiers in the area it will be pennies from heaven as everyone will be toggled to the bricks in their finest drapes.

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REVISION, REVISION, DOUBLE-VISION!

By Lauren Barker



If you're lucky enough to be awaiting those all important exams coming up, whether they're GCSEs, AS Levels, or A Levels, you'll no doubt be sick and tired of hearing the dreaded word...REVISION! Thoughts of hour-long, painful sessions of sitting, trying to cram maths formulae into your head may spring to mind, followed only by the feeling of mind-numbing boredom that usually accompanies it.

When it comes to revision for languages, you may be driving your family insane, refusing to speak anything other than Spanish or attacking the house furniture with post-it-notes which inform everyone

that the item in question is not a toaster, it is in fact a tostadora. And as for Science, well there's always at least one topic that stumps even the brainiest ones, and doesn't even stick after a whole hour of repeating it over and over. There are no two ways around it, revision is a bore and we spend a lot of our potential studying time thinking up ways of how to get out of it.

But think about this... what if revision wasn't such a tedious task? What if it wasn't such a dreary, time consuming chore and what if we actually - dare I say it- enjoyed it? Oh of course not, what a ridiculous idea. But what if?

Here is an idea; if you are one of the students stressing out about your revision (or lack of it as the case may be), why don't you try out one of these methods rather than the conventional 'write, check, repeat' and see if you notice a difference in how efficiently you get the hang of it.

Write a song- I'm not talking a full scale musical masterpiece, but if you take the music of one of your favourite songs and replace the lyrics with something that you have to learn it can really help you remember. I recommend Kylie Minogue's 'Can't get you out of my head' as a good one to start with.

Make a massive poster- Get loads of different coloured pens and write down key facts that you have to know, each in a different colour on your poster. Stick it up on a wall and think of that fact every time you see something of that colour. Eventually you will just associate the fact with the colour without thinking and it will be much easier to remember.

Record yourself- This one is especially

good for language orals but can be used for anything. If you have access to the technology, record yourself speaking whatever it is you want to learn and play it back to yourself whenever you have a spare minute. Putting it onto your ipod or mp3 player works well too.

Above your bed- Write down one thing that you are really having trouble remembering in big letters on a piece of paper and stick it above your bed, so it is the first thing you see when you wake up, and the last thing you see when you go to bed. Say it to yourself a few times each morning and each night and before you know it you'll have learned it. You might even end up dreaming about it some nights.

Try and explain- Explain to someone who has no idea what you are on about what you want to remember, it will help you start thinking about it and how you can put it into words for others to understand. You will have to be very articulate and precise, and leave out any 'you know what I mean' and 'it just kind of does this' or any mental hand gestures. If you can't get family or friends to listen, try the family pet; dogs and cats are always good, as they don't usually look at you as though you're off your trolley.

These are just a few suggestions, but give them a go and see if they help. When you've driven everyone crazy by using up all of the blu-tack in the house sticking up posters, and thoroughly confused the cat with a physics lecture about Einstein's theory of relativity, see if you really have got your brain going and if some of these revision methods work for you. Different people respond to different methods, so it's just about figuring out what's best for you, and what doesn't bore you to death. **Good luck!**

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Robert Gallagher, MOLLY MAID Aire Valley- robert.gallagher@mollymaid.co.uk

01535 649110



WORTH VALLEY WILDLIFE

BY THE BIRDMAN FROM HAWORTH

This month we take a wander down to a spot that's wonderful for wildlife and for everyone to enjoy - Ebor Lane Nature Reserve.

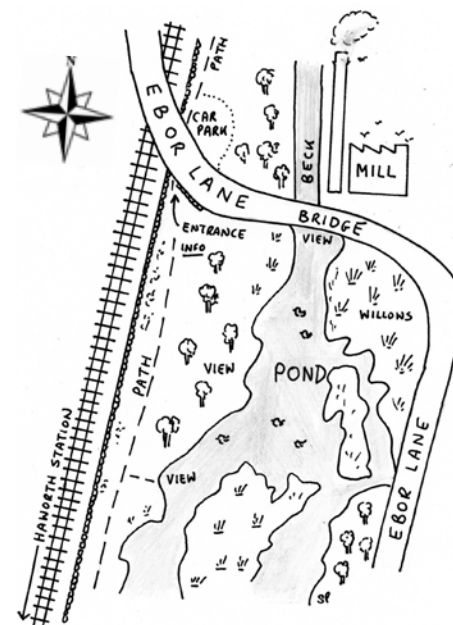
I don't think many people realise that we have our very own nature reserve – well, we do and it's right in the heart of Haworth. The site is the mill pond of the historic Ebor Mill. Ponds like this once powered the wheels of the early textile industry in the Worth Valley. Unfortunately, most were filled in as they became redundant, but those that have survived often become an important refuge for wildlife. Ebor Mill Pond provides not only a good example of how nature flourishes in a wetland environment, but also how business (in this case Airedale Springs who own the site) and councils (Bradford) can work successfully together for the benefit of wildlife.

Bridgehouse Beck which flows through Ebor Dam supports fish including Brown Trout and Bullhead or Millers Thumb. These provide food for Grey Herons which can often be seen standing in the shallow waters looking for fish to spear with their long beaks. If you're patient enough, and with a bit of luck, you might glimpse a Kingfisher - a flash of orange and blue, as it flies up and down the water. Other colourful water birds you may see are: Grey wagtails – which, with their bright yellow underbellies are more yellow than grey and Dippers with their white bibs and characteristic bobbing action. The water reeds are home to

waterfowl such as Coot (big black bob with white beak) and Moorhen (smaller with a red beak).

The footbridge is a great place to view the site and feed the ducks. On many days there is a large black and white Muscovy with its striking red face/beak. This "escapee" is often joined by other hybrids – cross-breeds between Mallards and domestic ducks – probably best described as "funny looking Mallards".

In spring/early summer mornings, the willows are alive with birdsong including our very own Worth Valley Willow Warblers. Just think, they have flown thousands of miles from Africa just to be here, so the least you could do is pop down and say hello!



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