

AIRE VALLEY MAG

COMMUNITY NEWS AND LOCAL BUSINESS DIRECTORY

Dec 2012 / Jan 2013

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Glad tidings of Comfort and Joy. That pretty much sums up our wish for you this season. We are feeling the magic and hope you are too! Our cover captures the spirit and sparkle of Christmas. (Thanks again to

Andy at YouInFrame Photography)

2012 has been a crackin' year and we are grateful for all the kind wishes and loyal support we have received from readers and business clients.

Please spend your money locally and continue to support independent shop keepers and tradesmen...they need your custom to thrive. If a local shop isn't supplying what you need, tell them (nicely); they will appreciate your feedback and most likely make changes to keep your business.

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What a perfect time to visit Haworth's new toy shop, Pippy Longstocking. It's like an Aladdin's cave of gifts and toys specially selected to delight and enthral your little treasures!

From playful stocking stuffers to funky and fun wheelie bugs...there is something to please children of all ages and at prices to suit the pockets of all parents.

Faces will certainly light up on Christmas morning when these retro styled pedal cars are found under the tree. The vintage look is reminiscent of the way toy cars used to be shaped... and it is reassuring to know they are handcrafted in Britain, so you will be supporting British manufacturing if you choose them this year.

And why not take advantage of Pippy Longstocking's offer to deliver FREE of CHARGE to local home/work addresses on large items? That certainly takes the hassle out of shopping!

Daisy Days, the stylish gift and flower shop on Haworth's Main Street is Pippy Longstocking's sister company. You can take a look at a wide range of toys online at daisy-days.co.uk too.

Up until Christmas, Pippy Longstocking will be taking part in the late night opening hours on Wednesdays until 8pm. Otherwise, opening Wed to Sun 9am-5pm **PLUS** Christmas Eve for your last minute purchases!

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RURAL MATTERS Back to Basics by Jonathan Sharp



Honey and Honeymoon

A cow has to have a calf to produce milk. I'm sure most of you know that. It's possible some of you didn't or just haven't thought about it. Once calved she will produce milk for about 18 months and then will go dry if she doesn't calve again.

We aim for the cows to have one calf a year milk for 10 months and have two months off. The most important job on a dairy farm, bar none, is the calving of cows and getting them pregnant again; my whole life revolves around it!

We calve about 150 a year; cows tend to calf during the night and we like

to be present so that is a couple of nights a week our sleep is disturbed. This can really spoil Christmas celebrations so I decided this year to have a month off from calving cows, from the 10th to the 10th

We had a special arrival recently, a heifer calf called Honeymoon. My wife has always called me Honey and has also always helped on the farm so I bought her a cow called Honey (who says romance is dead!) This is no ordinary cow, she descends from a very famous (as cows go) cow, Balsom Brae, Pluto Sovereign, that was aged cow at the Toronto Winter fair in 1963 and known throughout the world simply as "The White Cow". She had a grandson exported to Japan that had such an impact in the dairy breeding in the 70's they erected a statue of him! We have high hopes for "Honeymoon". We also had a cow win a life time achievement award: Tewitthall Rudolf Sal has now produced over 100 tons of milk or 215 thousand pints and she is due again next summer... so watch this space, there is more to come yet!

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TOP TECH TIPS by Michelle Thompson of Cloud FreeIT

Remember when the arrival of the Christmas edition of the Radio Times in the shops got you all excited about what might be coming up on the telly over Christmas? I used to sit for hours circling 'unmissable' programmes, and checking I'd got enough VHS tapes to see us through til New Year.

The 'future of TV' arrived with 'Sky Plus'. We ditched the RT and planned our Christmas viewing by browsing the on-screen 'Planner'. Too slow! Worse, we still missed out when the little box got filled up & stopped recording or started deleting programmes by itself!

Surfing 800 channels of junk is unsatisfying. Finding your Sky Plus or TiVO box full with kids' TV a few too many times makes it tempting to abandon it (Darn that 'series link'!). We went 'FreeView' (aka 'NoView' when I can't get near the TV). Since 'TV on Demand' arrived I gave up planning. You can just browse for something you really do want to watch without having to plan ahead, or lock the kids out of the lounge!

Give me breakfast with Professors Brian Cox and Jim al-Khalili any day (proper 'thinking woman's crumpet' ;-). I can have 'a very good night in' watching back to back episodes of sci-fi and sit-coms my iPad, with a [large] glass of wine and a [small] box of chocs! Connect the laptop via HDMI cable to the big TV and the whole family can watch a movie on demand. Cheaper than renting a DVD!

Being a true Yorkshire lass, I shan't give in to temptation until the current TV dies, but I really do fancy a 'Smart TV' with the 'on demand' services built-in. Santa, Baby... There is currently just one catch to this

new era...

I've had 'up to 40Mbps' fibre since it first became available down our street, mostly to ensure a good connection to the office for home-working (but maybe just a little bit to accommodate my love of internet TV). Warnings about not having 'enough bandwidth to play the programme' should be 'so last year'!

Our connection on fibre is nearly 10x faster than it was on ADSL, yet still gets the hiccups from time to time. When both kids are home using their laptops, games consoles and smartphones, and I've got a date with iPlayer, our connection struggles at peak times. Having checked the wireless network isn't swamped, and no devices are 'misbehaving', the problem can be beyond our control.

Most ISPs conduct traffic management (or 'throttling', or 'shaping'), allegedly 'to share out the available bandwidth fairly for all users', yet when you know you're an 'above average' user and you've opted to pay handsomely for a premium service to accommodate your 'above average' needs, it's insulting to see that buffering symbol still popping up.

Is it insulting enough for me to reach for the Radio Times & a pen and fight for the remote...? Not yet, but ISPs take note! It's not 'TV on Demand' if I have to wait to download the programme in full before watching it! 'TV on Demand' is here to stay, so it's time you upgraded your infrastructure to deliver what we pay for! If I'm paying for 'up to 40Mbps' 10 and a load of buffering simply won't do! If the Dr Who Christmas special gets interrupted there'll be trouble...



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Jilly Beaumont

In the current economic climate it is not unusual to find people holding down more than one job. But imagine being able to state eight different current

occupations on your CV? Eighteenth-century records show that the men of a family at Cowburn Beck in Silsden could boast the combined trades of farmer, mason, joiner, blacksmith, turner, mechanic, bookkeeper and woolcomber. A delve into the history of Silsden soon reveals that this is in no way an isolated example.

In the 19th century Jonas Throup, the village constable, sold beer from the ground floor of his home whilst wool-combing upstairs. In 1874 Thomas Widdop started the first Co-operative Society grocery store selling food from his kitchen window.

Over the years Silsden has found fame in nail and clog making, millinery, chair-making, setts production (hence its local name of 'Cobbydale') and sweet-manufacturing.

A walk along the main streets gives a first glimpse of how well-resourced Silsden is for a small town, with over 60 shops covering trades and services from the traditional (butcher-farmers, cobblers, ironmongers), to the more progressive (hypnotherapists and party planners). Beyond the high street the town hosts a profusion of small businesses, many of them based, as in days gone by, in people's homes, and

their businesses – including butling, doll-making and virtual PAs - are thriving in spite of the rigours of the double-dip recession.

History proves that Silsden folk have always been a hard-working and resourceful lot.

There is no doubt that Silsden has a strong community. Many of the business owners I have spoken to have mentioned this as having a positive effect on the business community. Kinsley Ransom of Red Ransom, a web design and IT company, told me: "For a business trying to build, you need to have the support of the local people." Like many local businesses he aims to use local companies wherever possible, even when they are his competitors. Red Ransom buys its hardware from local IT shop, The Computer Universe, and has sent apprentices there for different types of experience; in return, they have referred clients and jobs to him.

Peter Ford's Silsden.net website is testament to this, and the town is very lucky to have such an excellent resource – I cannot recommend it highly enough.

In 1927, Silsden was described in The Textile Argus as "unquestionably the busiest place in the West Riding". That statement wouldn't be far wrong today!

Jilly Beaumont recently formed Gateway Business Network; it aims to give local businesses a forum within which to share contacts, experiences and knowledge. info@gatewaybusinessnetwork.org

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“When I were a Lad...” and more on white chocolate mice and sticlebacks

Most people have a happy childhood, don't they? Or do we all look back and filter out all the times of boredom and disappointment, leaving only the sun-bleached memories of laughter and the sheer exhilaration of being alive?

Could there have been anything more exciting than kicking your way home through the leaves piled high on the pavement outside St Thomas' Church or rushing to the park after tea to see who was up for a game of football?

The thrill of setting off into the woods for the day, only to be confronted by carpets of bluebells or a harvest of conkers. What about thinking that you were in the jungle spying upon your enemy, when you were actually amidst the bushes in the park.

When you are young, everything seems that much bigger and distances somehow are greater. We had the right weather at the right time of year and it seemed somehow a better place to grow up.

Of course some of these things are patently not true, but I'd like to share a little of the Sutton I knew as a boy.

We came to live in Sutton right at the beginning of the seventies, escaping the urban sprawl of Bradford and the increasing traffic and pollution. I went to St Thomas' C.E. Primary School and, having recently visited again, was pleased to see that little had changed and how the paints

still seemed to be kept in the same places in each class. Mrs Mellin was my first teacher and I still remember the school trip to Utley to her family farm. Mrs Coe, higher up in school, insisted that I continue the recorder as 'we all have things we don't like doing' and Mr Davies compared my writing to a 'spider crawling across a page'. Playtimes were filled with football and only the break in play was when someone accidentally kicked a

ball into the 'bones yard' across the lane. The only test I ever remember taking was upstairs in Mr Davies room, when we had to read words from a gigantic ledger and he drew a line where our pronunciation

began to falter.

Although we are unable to put our finger on the exact amount, Sutton was once filled with thriving local businesses.

My mum walked daily to the bakers or the butchers for a cob loaf, delicious small apple pies topped with cream or a particular cut of meat. You weren't simply in and out of the shop, you took time to linger and talk with people. Shoes could be bought across the road from the bakers (which was near Place's Place) or, and of this I have just the slightest memory, white chocolate mice were waiting to be sold by extremely old and tiny woman in the



Sweet Shop next to the Post Office.

As a child you were never more than 30 or 40 yards from food, whether it was the Fish & Chip hut near the Kings Arms or the two or three shops located between the Black Bull and the Bay Horse. I preferred 'Arthur's', as he looked like a shopkeeper should and had a plentiful

supply of fruit salads. This is where The Family Pantry is now. These were shops that weren't flashy, didn't have perpetual offers and were social hubs where people came to chat and interact. Why there was even an electrical shop, a florists and a haberdashery!

It was a time of imagination where you met your mates in fields and threw hay at each other, where you explored down by the beck or even in

the undergrowth round the back of St Thomas' Village.

I remember winters when it seemed like every child in the village had come to sledge in the field behind Park Drive and you had to queue for a slot.

Without a slavish devotion to TV scheduling the day ended when your mum came to get you or the night sky made it impossible to continue playing outside.

Of course things have to change, but I do wonder how many 'incidents' or fatalities occurred because some bushes were high enough to hide behind or play hide and seek in. I shudder to think of the height of the old slide and the thin steps and meagre handrail. The banana swing was another favourite and sometimes I truly thought the bolts would come

loose and we would all fly to the other end of the park. But still we survived and we knew Sutton like the backs of our hands. From catching sticklebacks down by the beck to the untouched playground that was the Clough,

we walked and cycled these lanes and roads in our endless quest for excitement.

Sutton was a fine place to grow up, what will it look like in another 40 years?

by Antony Silson





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Driver CPC in a nutshell. The Driver Certificate of Professional Competence (DCPC) is a European Union Directive/Law and covers anyone licensed to drive vehicles over 3.5 tonnes for commercial purposes. Both newly-qualified and experienced drivers **have a legal obligation** to make sure they meet the requirements of the Driver CPC and carry a valid Drivers Qualification Card (DQC), once qualified. **(There is currently a £1,000 fine for non-compliance)**

Drivers should plan ahead. (As should companies who employ drivers.) There is no advantage in delaying training or ignoring the knowledge, skills and benefits that training can bring to individuals and companies alike.

You should also know, it is already the legal responsibility of employers not to

employ newly qualified drivers without a Driver Qualification Card, and, after 10 September 2014, not to employ drivers with "acquired rights" who have not attended periodic training and obtained Driver CPC accreditation. It's never been more important for individuals and businesses to ensure that they're up to date and legally compliant before 2014. Invest in your employees or your own employability and get ahead of the pack. The indication is that there is likely to be a rush in 2014 as companies who have not scheduled training realize that they could be faced with a shortage of CPC qualified drivers. The likelihood is also that costs for courses could increase as places fill up quickly.

Freight Train can help. Lesley O'Brien, CEO of Freight Train, the locally based haulage training company, brings 30 years' experience in the haulage industry and a unique enthusiasm in designing and delivering CPC training. As a Road Haulage Association (RHA) training partner, and a RHA Board member, Lesley keeps abreast of all key issues and activities that affect the haulage industry and tailors courses to reflect the most up to date legislation and relevant information.

Built around your specific timescales and delivered by experienced trainers, courses are relaxed, understandable, cost-effective and designed to provide maximum benefits with minimum disruption to your day-to-day operations. **Read more about Freight Train and view the 2013 courses online at www.freight-train.co.uk.**

Still not sure if Driver CPC legislation applies to you? Feel free to contact Lesley directly if you have more questions. 01274 608900 Lesley@freight-train.co.uk

To discover that the feedback from our drivers was very positive could be excused, but for them to claim that they learnt things and enjoyed themselves was alarming. It really is encouraging that we are already fielding questions about when the next sessions will be. If you need any references, any of our drivers will be delighted to oblige.

Chris Wood, Transport Manager Redhead Freight Ltd.

Drivers seem to think it is wasting their time and they do not need to learn, but we all do and I did.

Eric Markey, Proprietor and Driver, ENS Transport



freight train

- JAUPT approved
- RHA training partner
- Hands on industry relevant courses
- Company compliance audits
- Mentoring

Freight Train offers a variety of open courses on both weekends and weekdays and in house Company training, which can, where appropriate, be tailored to a Company's individual needs, processes and procedures. **01274 608900**

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A sudoku puzzle consists of a 9 × 9-square grid subdivided into nine 3 × 3 boxes. Some of the squares contain numbers. The object is to fill in the remaining squares so that every row, every column, and every 3 × 3 box contains each of the numbers from 1 to 9 exactly once.

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Where in the Aire Valley? COMPETITION



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

This month's prize is generously donated by

Keighley & Worth Valley Railway
Day Rover Pass

Email your answer to:
mail@worthvalleymag.co.uk
The winner will be selected from all correct
answers received by Jan 16, 2013

Last month's winner was Georgina Fort. The correct
answer was Glusburn primary school. Georgina
wins a Keighley & Worth Valley Railway
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Google Earth ©

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Creamy butternut and sweet potato gratin with toasted walnuts

A rich and indulgent side dish for celebration meals, and special enough for a vegetarian main course over the festive season.

These quantities serve around 8 generously as a side dish

- 1 1/2 cups heavy cream
- 2 cloves of garlic, pressed
- 1 pound peeled butternut squash, quartered lengthwise*
- 1 pound peeled and trimmed sweet potatoes**
- 1 1/2 teaspoons chopped fresh thyme
- 1 1/2 teaspoons kosher salt
- 3/4 teaspoon fresh ground black pepper
- 2 cups shredded Manchego cheese (or Gruyère)



Peel and slice the vegetables into 1/8 inch (about 2-3 cm) rounds. Put a layer of sweet potato in the bottom of a large casserole pot or roasting tin.

Make a roux sauce by gently melting the butter and garlic, and then stirring in enough plain flour to form a very loose ball. Allow the ball to cook gently for a minute, then add a few tablespoons of cream and stir well until absorbed into the mixture. Add the rest of the cream in the same way, stirring well between additions, and allow to thicken into a creamy sauce. Add salt and ground pepper to taste, and a good handful of thyme leaves – more if you like. Add milk if the sauce seems too thick.

Pour some of the cream sauce over the potatoes, then alternate layers of

squash, cream, potato, cream etc. until all is finished. Top with the grated cheese, cover with foil and bake in a reasonably hot oven for around 20 – 30 minutes, and then take the foil off to let the cheese brown on top – test the top layer of vegetables after about 10 mins – it is ready when they are soft but not mushy.

Put the foil back on top and allow to stand for about 20 mins. Finally, heat a frying pan without oil, and pop in the walnuts and heat for a few minutes until they start getting darker. Sprinkle them over the cheese and finish with any last thyme leaves.

Tips – this will cook just as well at lower or higher temperatures if you are cooking other things in the oven too – just adjust the cooking time. It will reheat beautifully too.

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- Salmon and Cream Cheese Sandwiches
- Glass of Mulled Wine

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CONTACT The Aire Valley Mag ON 01535 642227

SETTING THE SCENE, CATCH-MY-DRIFT

In September 2010 Chris Bowles came to Keighley to help a friend sort out her paperwork following her separation. The friend became something more, and somehow, Chris never went home! He and Kyra married a year later in October 2011 and now have a baby to add to their family. However, unfortunately for Chris his job in Data analysis did not come with him and he found himself unemployed and unable to find a job. He started to think about working for himself, using the internet as a way to start trading, and Kyra was keen to be involved too. She had worked for herself some years previously in Lancashire as a Venue Stylist.

Chris and Kyra pooled their experience; using Chris' technical ability and Kyra's creativity, they decided to set up a business initially trading on-line selling boxed balloons and party supplies, and then later branching out into venue styling and other party planning. Chris spoke to his jobcentre adviser, who referred him onto the New Enterprise Allowance programme.

As part of the programme Chris worked with a mentor, Candy Squire-Watt, an Enterprise Coach from Bradford Kickstart. Chris carried out a huge amount of market research to be able to plan his sales forecasts, and with Candy's support he completed a business plan. The plan was approved and 'Catch my Drift' was born!

Chris and Kyra suffered a few early setbacks when a supplier they had planned to use let them down, but they recovered and started building their eBay traffic.

Sales tend to be small, so they need a lot of them, and Chris discussed with Candy ways of building sales and using other routes to market to strengthen their offer. Chris said: "It has been really helpful having Candy to talk things over with, it's great to have an outside perspective, and it has let me stand back and plan the direction of the business, and look at different ways of doing things."

Chris and Kyra have now moved on a step and have just launched the website for the venue styling and party side of the business, offering centre pieces and focal point displays as well as balloon decorations and their very innovative 'Candy Buffets'. The service is bespoke, and always done in consultation with their clients to incorporate your personal choices, whilst still remaining affordable. You can see the website at: www.catch-my-drift.co.uk.



For information and support about starting your own business please go to: www.bradfordkickstart.com tel: 08009539503 or info@bradfordkickstart.com. Kickstart is part-funded by the European Regional Development Fund

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COMMUNITY PAGES

days – running the full length of the High Street. Together with the market there will be a full

Sun 9th Dec Bingley Handbell

Ringers Christmas Concert at 2 pm Cliffe Castle Cafe, Keighley

Dec 11th, 12th, 13th, 18th, 19th & 20th Super with Santa at Coniston Hotel, Coniston. 3pm until 7pm £7.50 per child includes main course, dessert & gift. Booking essential. More

info call 01756 748080 or visit info@theconistonhotel.com.

Thurs 13th Dec 3 – 5 p.m at Silsden Sports Club, Keighley Rd, Silsden. Gateway Business Network Meeting for businesses to promote their services or products. Bring business cards, brochures etc and a brief 'elevator pitch' (to introduce your business to the group). No joining/ membership fees. Only £10 per meeting, payable on the day. Free tea and coffee/ Licensed bar on premises. For more info call 07956111195 or 01535 657766

Thurs 13th Dec 7.30 pm a fantastic performance of Handel's "Messiah" in Keighley Shared Church - Church Street, Keighley, BD21 5HT. For more info call Rev Peter Mott 01535 601499.

15th, 16th, 21st, 22nd & 23rd



Sat 8th Dec 6pm Sutton Park - Carol Singing and switching on of the Park Christmas Lights.

Sat 8th Dec 10.30am - 11.45am St. Stephen's Church Hall, Steeton

Children you can't miss this free event - lots to do for Christmas; crafts, games and much more. Please bring your parents, don't want them to miss out! For further info Tel. Julie 01535 654422

Sun 9th Torchlight Procession, Haworth famous Sunday Torchlight Procession starts at 5.15pm hundreds of torch and lantern bearers along with choirs and bands singing carols, wind their way up from the bottom of the cobbled Main Street to the Parish Church.

Sun 9th Dec - Sutton at 4 p.m. An outdoor nativity pageant starting at Bay Horse, processing to Sutton - in Craven park via The Kings Arms and The Black Bull. Mince pies and mulled wine afterwards served in the South Craven Baptist Church. All welcome.

Sun 9th Dec Skipton Yuletide Festival And Christmas Market 2012 10am - 4pm. Skipton's famous Market will be in full flow on both

Please support local trade

Dec Meet Father Christmas at East Riddlesden Hall. 11am - 3pm £4.50 per child which includes a small gift and a self led garden trail. Booking essential. Call 01535 607075.

Sat 15th Dec Christmas Craft & Gift Fair 10 am until 4 pm- Riddings Hall, Christchurch, 21 The Grove, Ilkley. Come along and support your talented crafters. There is nothing better than handmade for those perfect Christmas presents. We will also have a small cafe area, serving hot drinks and homemade cakes. ENTRY IS FREE TO ALL

Sat 15th Dec 9.30am - 1pm at Silsden Methodist Church, 55 Woodside Road, Silsden - Christmas Arts, Crafts & Gifts Fair. There will be Handcrafted wedding and christening gifts, jewellery and fresh flowers from Debbie's Jewels, Nina and Co, and Lavender Mouse. Gorgeous gifts for you and your home by Raouli, fabulous local produce including Hampers and goodies Ruth Hall, handmade textiles from handmade bags, greetings cards from two talented artisans both very different and worth a look, and much more!

Sun 23rd Dec 10.30am at St Peters Methodist Church Cross Hills - Carol Service. Everyone Welcome

Mon 24th Dec at 4pm at St Peters Methodist Church Cross Hills Christingle Service. Everyone Welcome.

Christmas Day 10.30 am at St Peters Methodist Church - united service with Sutton Baptist. Everyone Welcome.

Mon 24th Dec to Fri 4th Jan Companionship At Christmas

Abbeyfield invites older people who might otherwise be alone over the Christmas period to spend time with us at a local Abbeyfield for a free festive dinner or an overnight stay (For people who are: Over 55, alone at Christmas, currently living independently) 0845 052 3553 Woodlands - Abbeyfield House, Woodlands Drive, Skipton North Yorkshire BD23 1QU
26th Dec - 6th Jan 12 Days of Christmas Trail Bolton Abbey more info visit www.boltonabbey.com or call 01756 718009

Mon 21st Jan - Sat 26th Jan We'll Always Have Paris at Keighley Playhouse. Experience life in one of the most beautiful, romantic and cosmopolitan capitals of the world. Three English women of a "certain age" gravitate to Paris. There's Nancy, a retired headmistress determined to throw off the shackles; Raquel, a divorcee in search of eternal youth; Anna, recently widowed – and free. Add to the mix a charming French out of work, singing, guitar playing actor, plus an officious landlady and we see how the women's lives have developed since they were at school together and the changes they must make as they reach that certain age. Call Box Office 08451 267859.



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THE Puzzle Cellar

GIFT BOXES
 Which two of these eight Christmas Presents are exactly the same?

CAKE BOXES
 How many cakes should be transferred from box 1 to Box 2, to have the same amount of cakes in each box?

USE THE SIX LETTERS ON MY BOX TO COMPLETE THE WORDS ON DOOR 1

MA _ CH
 F _ OWER
 CLI _ B
 _ LAW
 BRO _ N
 MO _ SE

BLOT M
 T C
 W U L

CHRISTMAS CAKES 1
 CHRISTMAS CAKES 2

PCQX02 @gall&strachan
 www.puzzlecellar.com

Answers: Gift Boxes 1 and 8 are identical. Door 1 Match, Flower, Climb, Claw, Brown, Mouse. Cake boxes you have to transfer 3 cakes to have 8 in each box.

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