

WORTH VALLEY MAG

COMMUNITY NEWS AND LOCAL BUSINESS DIRECTORY

March 2013



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jump
off
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plate
and turn into a million daffodils
trembling in the sunshine.

by Bobbi Katz

Judging by my utility bills, it has been a long hard winter. But the promise of spring around the corner cheers me up and I aim to switch off the central heating by Easter. Woolly jumpers will be on hand and I have ordered another load of wood after reading this month's article by Spanner Man (p10); hopefully, my solid fuel stove will keep the chill away.

I had a sneak peek at the refurbished Bronte Parsonage Museum which has recently re-opened and it looks very smart indeed. There is an expectant feel about the place which is fresh and compelling.

Thanks to Jonathan Sharp, our resident farmer and Rural Matters columnist, I will never look at the white stuff I pour on my cornflakes every morning in quite the same way. (p12)

I say it every year...How about participating in the Manorlands 10k on Mothers Day? I walked it with my 80 year old mother a few years ago and the family still talk about how she beat me to the finish line. But I'm not bitter :) Have a great March.



Liz Barker, editor

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Say you saw it in the Worth Valley Mag!

BEHIND THE SCENES AT THE MUSEUM

by Jenna Holmes Arts Officer Brontë Parsonage Museum



Refurbishment in progress: This photo was taken in January 2013. We hope you will come along and see the final result.

In January and early February the Museum was closed to the public, but behind the scenes we were having the busiest weeks of the year. A team of specialist decorators carried out the first redecoration of the Parsonage in 25 years, with new bespoke wallpapers, paint colours, curtains and painstakingly woven rugs. The project has been a very exciting one, and has taken two years in development, using up-to-date forensic techniques by academics at the University of Lincoln. The Museum also used archive references including Brontë letters, scraps of original wallpaper and watercolours in our collection to find out how the house would have looked when the Brontës lived here. The house now looks much as it did in the 1830s and 40s but also includes some of the features that Charlotte introduced as part of her facelift for the house during the early 1850s (when she spent some of the income she had earned from Jane Eyre, Shirley and Villette).

You will need to visit the Parsonage to see the new scheme in its full glory – and there will probably be a few surprises for those who know the Museum well! – but here are a few examples of what we've been up to:

In the Dining Room - often the focus of the

house because it's the room in which the sisters' famous novels were written - we've reintroduced Charlotte's own decorative scheme from the early 1850s, using details from her correspondence. The curtains are still in the process of being specially woven, in crimson, to match Elizabeth Gaskell's description: 'The parlour has evidently been refurbished within the last few years...The prevailing colour of the room is crimson...' Forensic analysis told us this room was papered both before and after the time of Charlotte's 'gentrification', and the paper we have chosen is a contemporary design, in scarlet to match the curtains.

One of the most dramatic changes is in Mr Brontë's study, which is now a pretty pale green. Clear evidence existed that this room was papered, and that there were several shades of green used. The panelling of the door was picked out in one shade, and the surrounding areas another. The wallpaper is reproduced from one of the period to match.

We hope that you will come along and visit the Brontë Parsonage Museum to see the final result. The Museum is open every day from 11am - 5pm in March. Church Street, Haworth BD22 8DR 01535 642323

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WINED & DINED with Claire Smith from No.10 The Coffee House



I have a penchant for nice things; good food, beautiful architecture, fine silks, music that tugs at my heartstrings, landscapes that move my soul and works of art that depict the beauty

and magnitude of life. A quality experience is something that enhances the lives of all who are fortunate enough to have access to it – no matter how large or small it may be. With both Mothers Day and Easter fast approaching families all across the Worth and Aire valleys will be planning trips and treats for these special occasions. Most of us like to feel appreciated – and so we should, and we all enjoy beautiful and inspiring experiences which enhance and enrich our lives and in turn make us feel special. We also live in a world where most things are accessible to the many and not just the privileged few, but I would like to pose this question – just how thrilled and satisfied do you find yourselves with some of these experiences? In this modern world standards seem to be slipping, especially I believe, in Britain. We appear to have developed a desire for the cheap deal as opposed to the quality experience, and satisfy ourselves with the decidedly average for a set and unrealistically cheap price instead of the dazzling dinner with a sense of occasion that a special evening out should be.

The cheap deal pushes everything downwards, the only possible result being a lower quality experience. How we can expect a top quality product at such a low cost is beyond me – lowering the cost means lowering the standard in my book but that is just my opinion. If the food I am buying is too cheap I find myself questioning its provenance. For some time now supermarkets have been offering three

chocolate Easter eggs for five pounds, which may be fine for the very young who haven't sufficiently developed their skills of discernment to know the difference, but these mass produced, chemical laden confections cannot hope to compare with a handmade, exquisitely iced egg from a specialist store. Apart from tasting much nicer, this kind of Easter gift also speaks volumes about the person who gave it. Personally I would rather receive a tiny handmade gift than an enormous mass produced one that cost the same. The mentality behind the concept of the cheap deal is particularly disturbing; when we cheapen or undermine an experience we consequently begin to see it in a different light ourselves. It then enters the realm of the ordinary and everyday. The magic fades and we ourselves stop trying, stop making an effort – dressing up for the occasion, feeling the anticipation beforehand; and with the sense of glamour gone everything surrounding it loses its sparkle or becomes dull. There has been mention in the media lately of a wedding at which everyone wore onesies. In contrast one of my most enduring memories is of a wedding we came across by chance whilst holidaying in the Algarve. The ladies were dressed in the most beautiful outfits – dresses with flamenco style frills down the back, stiletto heels, flowers in their hair, hips swaying mesmerizingly, and the men, stylish, smart, and chivalric.

Just last night we enjoyed a fabulous dinner at one of my favourite restaurants, just over the moor in the Calderdale valley. The waitresses, dressed in traditional Thai costumes like exotic little birds flitting from table to table, were beautiful, courteous and attentive. Our plates were garnished with exquisite magenta orchids and the food was freshly prepared and of a very high standard. I know which kind of experience I would rather be treated to.

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Conscious Creative Industry

Community heart and business nous are clearly evident at Cobbles & Clay, the art café located in Haworth. At the helm is entrepreneur Jill Ross, a Woman of Worth if ever we've seen one; an inspiration and stellar role model for commerce with a conscience in the 21st century.

With a clear focus on quality family friendly activity, ethical trading and community engagement, Jill established the café in 2006 and has since developed it in to a kind of hub; a wonderful space to gather for food, friendship, music, art, storytelling, and more.

As a woman with a family life to juggle and the ever increasing demands of a growing business, Jill excels at keeping many balls in the air.

Cobbles & Clay is like an incubator for growth; many teens find their first working experience in the café. Jill provides unofficial mentoring to the young people she employs with her natural tendency to nurture and encourage talents and abilities. More often than not the café is a launching point for individuals who gain confidence from their work experiences and go on to pursue further education or new endeavours.

The café is also a space for music and performance. A monthly Open Mic night enables local talent to flourish. Further craft workshops, photography courses, book clubs, and business forums happen at various times in the monthly calendar.

And now one business has turned in to three businesses! Daisy Days, a home

gift shop and flower boutique opened next door to the art café in 2010 and Pippy Longstocking, the toy shop, was recently added to the fleet of shops on Haworth's cobbled Main Street. Jill's success is multiplying thanks to her hard work, a dedicated team, partner, and family.

We're endorsing Jill's nomination for the Special Recognition Award in the Keighley Business Awards. She is a Woman of Worth and certainly worthy of praise. Please join us by participating in the community vote. See the Keighley News for more

details or call in at Cobbles & Clay. Lines close March 7th 2013 midnight.



Jill Ross: Nominated for the Keighley Business Awards 2013

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Ramblings from *The Spanner Man*

Biomass i.e. burning materials like wood, forest residues (branches, wood chips, dead trees, branches, tree stumps), and rubbish is one way to generate heat in our homes. In the North of the UK the use of domestic biomass is becoming more and more popular, with sales of wood and multi fuel stoves at an all-time high.

When it comes to purchasing wood for this purpose things get a little bit complicated. All the other fuels are sold in units: cubic meters, kilowatts, weight or litres. Wood can be sold by weight or volume. To further muddy the waters, different wood has different properties to consider. Hard wood burns longer than soft wood, but soft wood is very good to start a fire. Wood contains approx. 40% - 60% moisture (water). Buying by weight is only relevant when you know what type of wood you are purchasing. Another factor to consider is whether it is seasoned (dried out over time) or kiln dried. Consequently, it is better to know how much you are paying per cubic metre or cubic foot.

Currently, the Worth & Aire valleys we can pay as much as £6.01 per cubic foot and as little as £2 per cubic foot for wood, often sold in netted bags. The best thing to do is to buy in



bulk if you can and keep it dry before you burn it.

Make sure your wood/multi fuel burner is in good condition and that the doors and vents can be shut off and sealed properly. This is the most efficient way to control the rate of wood you burn per hour and the heat output. The fire grate should be clean and the flue mustn't leak. As with a central heating boiler, which should be serviced annually, a stove and its flue should also be serviced annually. Leaky stoves, that is uncontrolled air ingress, use more fuel and do not burn at the correct temperature.

The golden rules for getting the best out of a biomass or multi fuel stove: **1.** Make sure the stove is in good working order, **2.** If it's broken or leaking at all get it fixed before using it! **3.** Buy as much wood as you can store in a dry place, let it dry out as long as you can before burning it. **4.** Summer wood prices are usually cheaper; plan ahead and purchase in advance of the winter months. **5.** Make sure your house is sealed and insulated as much as possible.

We all know that the cost of heating is going up whatever type of fuel we choose. Understand how you are purchasing your fuel and what unit of measurement is being applied. Shop around and ask for a bulk discount.

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RURAL MATTERS The Circle of Life by Jonathan Sharp

A cow has to have a calf to produce milk and to be most efficient she should have one every year. Fertility is one of the most critical factors to manage on the dairy farm. The photo here is of a Bray Breeding board; it shows the herd's fertility status at a glance. Each of the magnets you can see is a breeding female on the farm, they are coloured differently on each side; the one showing white are new calved, the green ones have been on heat, orange ones are served, purple confirmed in calf, yellow dry and blue in the transition group. The pointers move round every day (manually) so I can tell when a cow is due to calve or to dry off etc. It is one of the most useful pieces of equipment on the farm and the first thing I look



at in the morning. My Bray Breeding board was bought second hand at a farm sale for £43 twenty years ago and represents some of the best money I've spent related to my work.

The transition group are the cow three weeks pre calving; they get a special diet to prepare them for the next lactation and imminent calving. It includes a mineral formulated by the vet to make sure the cows are in tip top form and it does work as we have very little calving problems. If calving is easy then the transition into the next lactation should be easy. The next challenge is getting them back in calf again! New calved cows wear a collar

that monitors their movements letting me know if the cow is sick (less than normal movement) or in heat (more movement). Cows mount each other when in heat this is a throwback to the day when they were wild. Males live apart from the rest of the herd so that was a way of signalling that their services were needed.

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I hope I'm not getting too technical with my explanations about dairy farming but I would like you to get an idea about what goes in to providing you with that white liquid you pour on your cornflakes in the morning!



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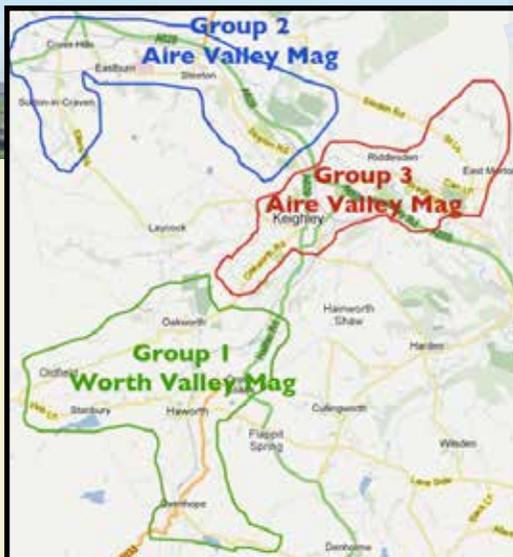
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Say you saw it in the Worth Valley Mag!

Bread and Butter pudding extraordinaire



Creative people will always find a way to create. When Anthony Hartley's Damside Mill workshop caught fire in December, it left him without a place to create his furniture. So he transferred his creativity into the kitchen in his Oxenhope home. Having never baked before, he started with homemade bread, and is (happily for his friends) working through the baking classics. He recently wowed guests with this delicious take on a family favourite. He insists that the quality of the preparation and ingredients will make all the difference – just like in his furniture.

- About 8 slices of good white bread, buttered with good butter and crusts cut off
- 300ml of single cream and 300ml of full cream milk
- 4 medium or large eggs
- 35g caster sugar and a spoonful of icing sugar
- An orange and a lemon, zested
- Sultanas, currants or other dried fruit
- An ovenproof dish about 1.25 - 1.5 litres (find out by measuring out some water and then pouring into the dish - if its within about an inch or two of the top, that's fine), a heat proof 1-litre jug & a roasting tin big enough to put the dish in.

Cut each slice of bread into 2 triangles, and line the bowl (sides and bottom) with overlapping slices. Sprinkle over the sultanas.

Make a custard by beating the eggs in the jug and adding the lemon and orange zest. Then heat the milk, cream and sugar together (gently, don't boil), making sure the sugar has dissolved. Pour slowly into the eggs and stir well. Pour the custard over the bread, and sprinkle with icing sugar to prevent a crust forming on the custard. You can leave this to stand until ready to cook, or just for about half an hour to allow the custard to seep into the bread. Heat the oven to 150 / 300 / gas 3. Place the dish in the roasting tin on the oven shelf, and then pour in enough warm water to the roasting tin to come about half way up the pie dish. Bake for 30 - 40 minutes until set and with a golden top



Anthony Hartley with one of his other delectable creations

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Say you saw it in the Worth Valley Mag!

TOP TECH TIPS by Michelle Thompson of Cloud FreeIT

Security Software – which one is best?



There have been significant strides made in improving built-in security in operating system software (Windows, MacOS, iOS & Android), but still the market is awash with security products purporting to be 'all the security you'll ever need' for your PC, laptop, netbook, tablet or smartphone. Some are free (yay!), but many can prove quite expensive (boo!), some are even malware themselves (eek!). Many of the 'total protection' products do so much scanning and protecting behind the scenes that your computer performance takes a nosedive. If you look at various product reviews online you'll see that the answer to the 'which one is best' question varies, but it takes skill to see through reviewer bias and it's important to assess the results over several months to get a true picture of performance, reliability and consistency. Free products often rank highly in these tests as the core malware scanning engine is the same as for the vendor's paid-for product (minus the extra 'bells n' whistles'). Most 'free' products are only 'free for home use'. If your computer is for business use, a paid-for security product is recommended, because vendors respond quicker to customers who pay for their software. If you run into a problem on a computer that holds business-critical data, you don't want to wait 48 hours for a response from the helpdesk!

I think placing all your trust in any security software (free or paid-for) is, well, foolish (like having a car with great brakes, but driving without watching the road, or eating unpasteurised cheese you know is past its use by date). Spending money on software you may not actually need is...[expletives omitted to

maintain decorum]. If you don't need all the 'bells n' whistles' why pay for them?

Whichever security software you choose, cybercriminals & hackers will always be one step ahead. All security software works on a mostly reactive basis and relies on regular updates (usually every day). New threats may pass under the radar. To

steer clear of trouble you actually need to do some steering yourself! Be proactive and 'use your loaf'!

Be on the look-out for phishing and scam emails – bin them immediately! Avoid dodgy websites, gambling sites, file-sharing/free download services etc. Ignore prompts to install apps which interface with Facebook. Now, I know what you're thinking - '...but that's all the fun bits!' Well, perhaps some of them. But didn't I just mention 'using your loaf'?

It's very easy to block access to the majority of unsafe resources from your home network by using the 'Internet Safety' services offered by the larger ISPs, or by implementing security rules on a PC or router-based Firewall. It's well worth consulting a professional on this though. A few pounds now, getting advice on security, may save you a fortune.

Sensible people avoid dodgy areas of cities after dark. If they have no option but to 'venture into The Hood' they certainly keep their valuables out of sight and steer clear of dark alleys! Why not adopt a similar attitude to your internet usage? Avoiding altogether those 'cyberplaces' that could put your computer and personal security at risk is, well, common-sense! Coupled with the built-in security in your operating system and a well-known free security product this is usually enough for many users. It won't ruin your computer's performance and won't cost a lot either!

If you want to know more, visit www.getsafeonline.org

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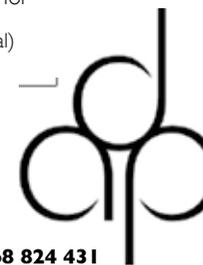
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Say you saw it in the Worth Valley Mag!

Distributing Real Community Connection

It has become apparent over the years that our readers look forward to their magazine arriving each month and they soon let us know if it doesn't get there safely.

We have a trusty back checker who knocks on doors once the mags are out, asking people if they've received their copy and reporting back to us.

We have high expectations when it comes to the distribution of your magazine. And our success lies with our team of 40 local people who, every month, whatever the weather, turn out to post your copy through your door.

Last December's double edition was delivered by the team slipping and sliding on ice and snow, one suffering a painful fall, (I won't name you Mr A!) and some falling over, thankfully injuring nothing more than their pride.

February was a challenging month as well but did they complain? They just got out there and did what they had to do.

We think it's time you met these fantastic people and starting this month it's our intention to begin introducing them to you.

Meet teenage students, Chloe and Joe, two of the distribution team who are also a couple. Chloe has delivered the Worth Valley Mag in Oakworth for the last

18 months (with the support of her mum) and Joe has delivered the new Aire Valley edition in the Fell Lane area for 4 months.

They're a reliable, hardworking pair, both



keen footballers who spend time coaching the under 9's at Oakworth football club. I asked Chloe if she had a message for the readers and she said, "If you young people are interested in earning, this is good. It would also suit older, retired people because it's good to walk around in the fresh air". She said she liked the mag because "It supports local businesses and creates opportunities for people like me". She added that the funniest thing to have happened whilst she was out delivering was the day she got stuck in a garden because spiders had crawled onto the top of the gate. She's terrified of them and dared not open it. She had to wait for her mum to come and let her out! (Aaaw!)

Joe told me that he enjoys delivering the mag because he likes being active and walking around the area where he lives and seeing people who he knows. He said "The mag is free for everybody, the adverts are good because they're all local and it helps keep us busy". He also commented on the quality of the photography, in particular, the front page pictures of local places. I asked him "Who's your favourite reader?" and he replied, "My dad!"

Be sure to say hello to Chloe and Joe if you see them!

Diane (Distribution manager)

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Put a New Twist On Old Ideas for Mothers Day!

Mothers Day is the official day to show our love and appreciation for those who birthed us, raised us or cared for us in our lives. It is a special day which is set aside to honour these amazing women who have given of themselves to create and mold us into the people we are today. Often we scour magazines, shops, and the web looking for creative mother's day ideas which will show her this time just how much she means. Ironically, there really is no gift which we can give our mums which will compare with the sacrifices they have made but there are ways to turn those generic presents into creative and unexpected ones.



This year, surprise your mum by going out of your way to do something different. Something which took you a bit more time and planning rather than a quick purchase is ideal. A gift from the heart is always the best way to go and will create treasured memories.

Believe it or not your mom DOES still want to feel young and beautiful! Take her to a spa for the day, or perhaps to a professional photographer for a photo shoot? Think of something she would enjoy, something to rejuvenate her or make her feel loved. How about planting a garden for your mum? Another green idea is to plant a kitchen herb garden. This is a fabulous gift for someone who loves to cook. Or put together a beautiful recipe book containing all of her secret recipes; get together with the family to collect the recipes which have been shared over the years. Incorporate everyone by having pages such as "Susie's Favourite" and so forth to make it extra special. Include comments about the items to make mum feel extra special. For example, "This recipe is one of my favourites, I remember Mum cooking this every Easter and it is the best!"

Mothers Day is Sunday, March 10th

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

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COMMUNITY PAGES

From 28th February Keighley Art Club has two new Exhibitions to look at, as well as the Mural in the Old Police Station. The first is in the Cafe in the Civic Centre, North Street and the second in Inc Creative, Cavendish Street. Entry free. Open Mon-Sat.

Thurs 7th March Entries close for the **BigK3** (2 bike rides and a 10K) and the Sue Ryder Yorkshire Triathlon. Call 01535 640430.

Sat 9th & Sun 10 March Mother's Day Craft & Gift Fair Bronte School Rooms Haworth 10 am until 4 pm

Sat 9th March 9.45 am Keighley & Craven Cross Country in Cliffe Castle Park Open Age event. www.kcac.co.uk

Sat 9th - Sun 10th March East Riddlesden Hall - 10.30 - 4 pm. Make Mum a beautiful smelling gift using herbs from the garden, complete with a handmade label. Then treat your Mum to a delicious cream tea in the tea-room.

Sun 10th March Keighley BigK 10K run walk. Entries still welcome, entry on the day available subject to capacity. See www.bigk10k.org.uk or call the fundraising office on 01535 640430

Mon 11th until Sat 16th March Making Waves at Keighley Playhouse 5 Devonshire Street, Keighley, West Yorkshire, BD21 2BH Phone: 0845 126 7859 Website: www.keighleyplayhouse.co.uk

Mon 11th March Haworth Film Cafe Vertigo at 1pm at West Lane Baptist Church. Free Event.

Tues 12th March Stanbury & District Womens Institute Bradford Soup Run - caring for the homeless..

Meetings are held at **West Lane Baptist Church, Haworth at 7:30p.m.** Visitors always welcome (£2), maximum three visits before joining.

Weds March 13th Talk and presentation about the Leeds and Liverpool Canal. The Oddfellows 7.30pm to 9:00pm 4 Henry Street, Keighley for more info ring George on 01274 560937 Free Entry

Weds 13th Worth Valley History Group Walk Haworth & Oxenhope Mills- 6 miles. Meet at Haworth Visitor Centre at 10am. Main St.

Fri 15th - Sun 17th March Manorlands Jailbreak Jailbreak from the authentic cells within Keighley Civic Centre in aid of Manorlands. 36 hours to get as far away from the town as you can with no money. For more see www.sueryder.org/jailbreak2013 or call fundraising office on 01535 640430.

Sat 16th March Antique & Collectors Fair held at the **Octagon**, Bradford Road, Sandbeds, Keighley, BD20 5LY approx. 40 stalls, car park, on main bus route, disabled access ... excellent cafe bar on site ... opening times: **10am to 4pm** (early trade entry 9am) .. contact tel. 07866 171722 (Worth Valley Fairs)

Sat 16th March Golden Oldie Evening with DJ Ray at Parkside Social Club, Butt Lane, Haworth, from 7pm, admission £1 tel: 01535 646234..

Sun 17th March Lavenderfields Craft & Gift Fair 10am until 4 pm at Mercure Hotel (formerly Bankfield, Bingley BD16 1TU) Free Entry. further info 01535 211486 www.lavenderfieldsevents.co.uk

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lavenderfieldsevents.co.uk (supporting Cancer Research UK)

Tues 19th March Exley Head Ladies Methodist Chapel present an evening of music fun and humour by the Ritardandos. A male concert group who entertain with a relaxed evening of music monologues and short sketches. Tickets are available from Glenis 640346 or Janet 603065 at a cost of £4 to include refreshments. They are back by popular demand to entertain us. All welcome.

Thurs 21st March Oxenhope Gardening Club at 7.30pm in Oxenhope Community Centre, Shaw Lane, Oxenhope Trevor Nicholson, head gardener at Harewood House, speaks on 'The Himalayan Garden at Harewood'. Professional gardener of the year 2008, Trevor will tell us how he achieved his vision of a mini-landscape of Sino-Himalayan plants. Non-members £3. Membership for the year is £15. For full programme of talks and trips visit www.oxenhopegardeningclub.co.uk

Thurs 21st March 10.30am The Ramblers group walk. Distance 13 miles. Enjoy British wildlife on a Ramblers group walk. Upper Marsh Wadsworth & Howarth Moors, visiting Top Withens & Bronte waterfalls. Tel 01606 48117. All Day. Bring lunch. Contact: Steve Sanderson - 01606 810529. Most walks are intended primarily for Ramblers' Association members. Non-members are welcome.

Fri 22nd March Stanbury Primary School Easter Fair 2.30pm until 4.15pm - Stalls, tombola, Refreshments, Fun & Games for the Children. All Welcome.

Weds 27th March Keighley Astronomical Society at 6.30pm - Star Centre, Keighley Campus, Leeds City College, Bradford Road, Keighley. £3 entry fee. email currdomin@sky.com or call 07976 632989 for further information.

Fri 29th March - Mon 1st April 10am - 4pm Bolton Abbey Easter Party. Easter Egg Hunt Join us to see if you can find all the hidden Easter eggs through Strid Wood. The Easter Bunny will be outside the Cavendish Shop in its hutch to meet girls and boys and give away free chocolate eggs to all those who take part.

Fri 29th - Mon 1st April - Easter Trails and Springtime Crafts at East Riddlesden Hall Come. 10.30 am - 4pm. Take part in this eggciting Easter trail... Will you finish it and claim your prize? Join a host of exciting activities! Including a trail round the garden and lots of other eggstra fun things to do. Trail sheet: £1.50 per child (includes arts and craft activities)

Sat 30th, Sun 31st March & Mon 1st April Easter Craft & Gift Fair Bronte School Rooms, Haworth 10 am until 4 pm Everyone Welcome.

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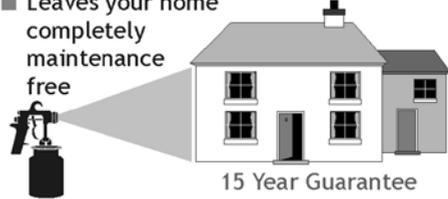
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