

News from West Winds in Buckden at the heart of the Yorkshire Dales

Tuesday 18 October 2011

Apple-tasting festival starts this Saturday



We're joining forces with the monks of Ampleforth Abbey and the gardeners of Helmsley Walled Garden to offer you the chance to taste around 20 apple varieties, nearly all of which can't be found in the shops.

The week-long **West Winds Apple Festival** starts this coming Saturday (22 October 2011) and will include both old and modern varieties, some originally developed in Britain and others from farther afield, including the US, New Zealand and even Japan. The festival marks **National Apple Day**, which takes place this Friday.



We can now reveal the full list of apple varieties to be:

Worcester Pearmain
Howgate Wonder
Reverend W Wilks
Laxton Fortune
Idared
Spartan
Wagner
Kidd's Orange Red
Kent
Crispin
Jester
Greensleeves
Jupiter
Winston
James Grieve
Falstaff
Blenheim Orange (*for tasting and in cooked dishes*)
Orleans Reinette (*for tasting and in cooked dishes*)
Bramley (*in cooked dishes only*)
Lane's Prince Albert (*in cooked dishes only*)

Most of the apples have come from Ampleforth Abbey on the edge of the North York Moors and Helmsley Walled Garden close by. The orchard at Ampleforth has been tended by Benedictine monks for over 100 years. It covers more than 2 hectares with some 2000 trees and more than 40 varieties of apples. Helmsley Walled Garden dates back to 1759. For many years it supplied the Feversham family estate with fruit, vegetables and cut flowers. It fell into dereliction in 1984 but has now been restored by a charitable trust. It hosts the Northern Fruit Group's collection of more than 50 old apple varieties.

And not least, two apple varieties from the West Winds garden – Falstaff

and James Grieve – will also be taking their place on the tasting table.

As well as the apple tasting, Lynn will be tempting visitors with a range of seasonal main course dishes, puddings and cakes, all made with a not-so-secret ingredient – apples. Among items on the menu will be a casserole of Anna's Happy Trotters pork with Yorkshire pudding and apple and cinnamon rings, apple omelettes, great Yorkshire sausages with apple sauce, apple scones, Raymond Blanc's apple and Calvados liqueur tart, spiced apple cake, toffee apple crumble cake, apple and cider teabread, apple pie and apple juice produced at Ampleforth itself.

And of course there will be a chance to buy some of the apples to take home. We've ordered extra quantities of ten of the varieties listed to make sure there are plenty to go round.

The tearooms will be open for West Winds Apple Festival from Saturday 22 to Sunday 30 October 2011 from 12.30pm to 6pm, except Monday and Tuesday. For more information, call 01756 760883 or visit www.westwindsinyorkshire.co.uk For more information about Ampleforth Abbey, visit www.abbey.ampleforth.org.uk/our-work/orchards and to find out more about Helmsley Walled Garden go to www.helmsleywalledgarden.org.uk

The picture shows Nicole Pope (11) with her mother Jane during preparations for the apple festival.

Home Farm Trust Christmas cards on show at West Winds coffee morning



We realise that Bonfire Night hasn't even taken place yet, but it's never too early to start snapping up Christmas cards that have been well produced and are sold in a good cause.

You can see this year's range of **Home Farm Trust Christmas cards** at a coffee morning at West Winds on **Tuesday 25 October 2011** from 10.30am to 12.30pm. As well as a chance to buy cards, there will be delicious cakes, fine coffee and friendly chat, as well as a multi-prize raffle. All proceeds will go to the Home Farm Trust.

The trust is a national charity providing care for people with a learning disability and support for their carers and families. In the North, the trust works with people in and around Leeds, Sheffield, Derbyshire, Cheshire and Wirral, providing day-care packages and supported living arrangements.

For more information call Lynn at West Winds on 01756 760883. For details about the Home Farm Trust, visit www.hft.org.uk

Tearooms to stay open on November weekends



If you're brave enough to go walking in **November** you'll be relieved to hear that **West Winds will be opening its doors at the weekends**. This year the tearooms will be open on Saturdays and Sundays throughout the month from 12.30pm to 5pm. Bed and breakfast will be available on Friday, Saturday and Sunday nights.

Although we won't be offering quite as many menu choices as we do in the summer, there will still be a fine array of hot dishes and sandwiches plus scones and cakes to keep you in good spirits for your walk or drive-out.

And unless we get a heatwave, you can also expect a roaring log fire (*see left*).

Rare 17th century wall paintings found in lonely Langstrothdale farmhouse



If you've ever driven up Langstrothdale on the way to Hawes, or walked up the Dales Way towards Ribbleshead, you may have noticed an isolated farmhouse standing on the fellside with a small group of trees offering it the only protection it can get from the wind and rain. This is **Cowside**, built in the late 17th century and home to generation after generation of tenant farmers. Over recent decades it has been empty and derelict but the Landmark Trust has now completed a restoration project that has made it available as a **holiday let** for those who seek that most valued of things – total peace and quiet.

Cowside is relatively unaltered after almost four centuries, although potential visitors will be relieved to hear it now has some modern conveniences such as underfloor heating. If you stay there, you also won't be expected to use the outdoor privy as up-to-date internal toilets are now available.

Apart from the austere beauty of Cowside and its splendid isolation, people who take a holiday there will enjoy an enormous privilege. During restoration, craftsmen removed layers of limewash to reveal **rare wall paintings** dating from the 1600s (*see picture*). Although such early wall illustrations have been found in other parts of the country, no others are known in Yorkshire.

They consist of biblical texts in gothic script. On one wall is "Whether ye eat, or drink or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God Cor[inthians] X:31" and "For of him and through him, are all things: to whom be glory for ever. Amen. Rom[ans] XI: 36." On another wall is "Better is a dinner of herbs where love is, than a stalled ox and hatred therewith Pro[verbs] XV: Cha[pter] 17 ver[se]."

There has been much speculation about the family for whom the illustrations were painstakingly done, since they point to a literate household that was quite prosperous and religious. It is known that a William Slinger of Langstrothdale went to Sedbergh School in the 1670s

before going on to Cambridge University and becoming a clergyman. It is possible he was the son of the Slinger family known to be living at Cowside in 1682 and grew up at the farm in an educated household decorated with the wall paintings. What is less widely known is that Lynn's family believe they are, back through the thick mists of Dales time, connected to the Slingers.

Further information about Cowside can be found at

www.landmarktrust.org.uk/buildingdetails/overview/891/cowside

New Yorkshire joke book on sale at West Winds

Shaggy Dog Stories



and
Other
Jokes
from
Yorkshire

A Family Joke Book

A full week of stomach-tickling humour...

Many of you will have seen Cat's Tales from the Dales, a joke book produced exclusively for West Winds by Smarter Cat. Well, if you giggled at that, you'll probably like Smarter Cat's new collection of one-liners, dinner party quips and monologues with endings that make you fall off your chair.

Shaggy Dog Stories and Other Jokes from Yorkshire contains roughly double the number of jokes as Cat's Tales from the Dales and sells at a well-worth-it £3.60.

Clearly we need to whet your appetite, so try this:

"Doctor, Doctor – you must help me. I keep losing my temper with people."

"Tell me about your problem."

"I just did, you stupid idiot!"

Or this...

A cosmetics tanker has overturned on the M62 in West Yorkshire, spilling a full load of shampoo on the road. Police are now appealing for 800 gallons of conditioner.

Or this...

Since the snow started, all my wife has done is look through the window. If it gets any worse, I'll have to let her in.

Right, that's enough now. You'll need to buy it if you want to hear any more... !

West Winds



Traditional
Yorkshire tearooms with homely
bed and breakfast

West Winds Yorkshire Tearooms

Behind the Buck Inn...

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