



WWnews

West Winds Tearooms with Walker's Lodge
in Buckden at the heart of the Yorkshire Dales

Monday 19 August 2019

New kittens firmly under the thumb...



West Winds cat Bobby certainly has our new kittens, William and Harry, not just under his thumb but under most of his body mass. Here they all are in the greenhouse basket, showing that we probably need to get a bigger one.

William and Harry are around four months old and are proving very popular with customers at West Winds. Indeed, we suspect they may elevate us into the top ten tourist attractions of the north of England. The kittens are very friendly, particularly with children, so do look them up if you are coming to West Winds. At the moment, they split their time between eating, sleeping and going cracker-kitten around the garden.

Thirty thousand orders taken over 15 years...



At 2.15pm on Thursday 6 June, Carol and Tony Walker from Riddlesden in West Yorkshire placed an order for tea and cake after enjoying a walk around Cray, Yockenthwaite and Hubberholme. Nothing unusual there but when they received their bill they found it was number 30,000, a landmark figure revealing that over the past 15 years, staff at West Winds have provided hospitality to 30,000 tables of tearoom customers and groups of bed and breakfast guests. To celebrate the occasion, Carol and Tony were presented with a box of cakes to take home.

We can honestly say it has been a pleasure to meet so many people over the years but thank goodness everyone didn't come in at once.

Plastic waste prompts return to milk bottles...



Like many people, we have followed the story of plastic waste with growing dismay. Our council, Craven, is actually quite good in terms of recycling, collecting types 1 to 5. However, a lot of plastic is sent abroad for processing, sometimes as far away as to the Far East, which seems to us environmentally crazy, not least when pictures emerge of plastic dumped there along roadsides and even in forests. So, we have stopped sourcing milk in plastic cartons and returned to good, old fashioned milk bottles, which are used again and again.

We have taken on a new supplier, Dales Dairies, based at Grassington in Wharfedale. They provide us with free range milk, bearing the Pasture Promise, sourced from cows guaranteed to be



kept outdoors for at least six months of the year. Today up to 20 per cent of dairy cattle are confined indoors all year round in intensive systems designed to artificially maximise production. Free range dairy farmers are rewarded with a higher price for their milk. Dales Dairies was set up in 1938 by William Oversby. Today it is run by his grandson David (pictured on the right).

More widely, we are pleased to say that we are working to reduce our use of plastics across the board at West Winds and maximise reuse, composting and recycling. If you stay with us, you will be asked to separate out your waste and place it in the appropriate containers and if you order packed lunch items from us, they will come in home-compostable bio-bags.

New products replace old favourites...



We are sad to announce that the future of Swaledale cheese – which has a 1000-year history and is protected under EU law – is uncertain following the closure of the Swaledale Cheese Company earlier this year. The company supplied us with one of our most popular cheeses, Smoked Richmond. Set up in 1987 by David and Mandy Reed, the manufacturer was later run by their daughter and son, Louise and Sam Reed. We have replaced Smoked Richmond on our menu with Bramwell Smoked Apple Bronte cheese, which revives a legend from the 1830s, when Simeon Robinson made cheese close to Top Withens near Haworth, thought to be the setting for Emily Brontë's novel *Wuthering Heights*.

Similarly we have to announce that Three Little Pigs chorizo is unfortunately no longer being made. We have replaced it with chorizo crafted by David Lishman (pictured on the right), a multi-award winning butcher in Ilkley. His product has been given a three star Great Taste Award by the Guild of Fine Food.

Win a bargain-price autumn break...



It's competition time! Book a night for two during October at West Winds Walker's Lodge and get a second night free – that's a total of just £64 for two for two nights. All you have to do to be in with a chance of winning is answer the following question:

What are the names of the two kittens at West Winds?

Just email your answer to lynn@westwindsinyorkshire.co.uk to arrive by high noon on Monday 26 August.



Eat and drink. Sit and chat. Rest and stay

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