

## Tea-garden given new look with wood sculptures and herb trail...



To celebrate the arrival of summer – or what passes as summer in the Yorkshire Dales – we have given the West Winds tea-garden a great new look and added interest with some **stunning wood sculptures** and an **extended herb trail**.

The sculptures, which include a golden eagle, a badger, an owl and a pheasant, are sure to make outdoor dining at West Winds an even more enjoyable experience. Chainsaw-carved by Sherwood Carving at Harrogate and Wood Actually at South Shields, they represent a fast-growing form of art thought to have originated in North America. Although a chainsaw might not instantly spring to mind as the obvious tool for an artist, it is surprising the level of detail that can be achieved when one is in the right pair of hands. We will not, however, be giving live demonstrations at West Winds, so you can rest assured that the tea-garden will remain a place of peace and serenity.



If chainsaw art is not enough to tempt you to West Winds, you can also now follow the much enlarged herb trail. It features around 50 cultivated and wild plants with culinary, medicinal or pot pourri uses.

On show are far more than the proverbial parsley, sage, rosemary and thyme, although all of those do appear. Check out some of our interesting mints, including chocolate mint, pineapple mint and grapefruit mint.



Many of the more conventional culinary herbs grown at West Winds are used in the tearoom menu with rosemary and lovage finding their way into savoury pies, black peppermint and chamomile making a refreshing herbal tea, and a variety of herbs adding zing to fresh salads.

Customers can learn too about some potential food plants not usually thought of as edible, such as dandelion, heather, cowslip and, of course, common stinging nettle (don't worry, these aren't on the menu).

Non-edible medicinal herbs on display, such as lily of the valley, foxglove and feverfew, reveal both folklore and modern ways of



tackling human ailments. And, as you might expect in a household with three cats, there is a prominent patch of cat mint. You might even witness at close quarters the intoxicating effect it has on felines, though always follow the recognised health and safety advice – never dare stroke a cat after it has been on the cat mint!

The herb trail will be open throughout the summer, although different plants obviously grow on different timescales, so they might not all be at their most showy when you visit. Our wood sculptures, on the other hand, remain striking at all times in all weathers.

To find out more about the work of our chosen chainsaw artists, visit [www.sherwoodcarving.co.uk](http://www.sherwoodcarving.co.uk) and [www.woodactually.co.uk](http://www.woodactually.co.uk) For more information on growing herbs, visit [www.herbsociety.org.uk](http://www.herbsociety.org.uk)

### Round off Buckden Gala with proper Yorkshire ham and eggs at West Winds...



This year's **Buckden Gala** takes place on Saturday 18 June and will feature live music, the Buckden Pike Fell Race, a sheep show, a dog show, birds of prey, gun dogs, children's races, a bouncy castle, tractors, a plant stall, the usual grand raffle and traditional games, including bash the rat, a tombola and a coconut shy. The pictures here show scenes from last year's gala.



On the refreshment side, there will be freshly fried Jackson's of Cracoe sausages to keep you going and a beer tent to help you wash them down. Alternatively, you can make the most of all the fun of the fair on the gala field and then pop round to West Winds for something to eat afterwards. We'll be offering an all-day menu of hot and cold meals, snacks and cakes with a wide range of fine teas and coffees. If you want to make a proper Yorkshire day of it all, how about rounding off the gala with a plate of our delicious ham and eggs? It's Yorkshire ham, naturally...



The tearooms will be open on gala day from 12.30pm to 5.30pm and if you bring along a copy of our advert from the gala programme, you'll get a discount of 10 per cent on all items on the menu.

We also have bedrooms available for the gala weekend, so you could even turn the day-out into a short break!

For details of Buckden Gala, visit [www.buckdengala.co.uk](http://www.buckdengala.co.uk) or [www.buckden.org](http://www.buckden.org)

## The pies have it...



Nowadays home-made gourmet pies are served at numerous pubs round about but we like to think our own pies retain the edge. And customers seem to agree with us! If you haven't yet tried one of our **exquisite yet hearty savoury pastry parcels of delight**, then you really should.

At the moment we have Venison and Old Peculier Pies, Chicken, Bacon and Tarragon Pies, Cheese and Cashew Nut Pies and Mixed Bean, Tomato and Herb Pies, all lovingly created in the West Winds Aga using quality ingredients.

And, as the summer develops, we hope to bring you Rabbit and Juniper Pies, followed by Pheasant Pies in the autumn.

## Visit West Winds to learn about the birds and the bats...



A trip to West Winds can often develop into something of a **nature experience** (please note, not *naturist experience*). You probably know that we're keen on wild plants and have created a small wild area in the tea-garden, containing a number of plants that were once common in damp meadow land and along waysides but which have sadly declined over the years. But we're also a bird-nesting destination of choice for a whole range of garden species. Our ivy is usually chock-full of sparrow nests and we have well used nest boxes for blue tits and great tits. Some years we have swallows living in our wood shed and we are sure some thrushes, blackbirds and robins must hang out somewhere within our bushes and trees because we always see their young at this time of year.

Meanwhile, at dusk on a summer's evening, the darting and wheeling of our resident bats can be quite mesmerising. Last summer we sat in the garden one evening and counted 59 as they emerged from under the tearoom eaves and took to the air. We're now waiting for a warm evening and nothing on TV at around 9.30pm to see if we can beat that figure.

## New bus provides vital link in Upper Wharfedale...



The Pride of the Dales Bus Company has been affected by funding cuts and is no longer able to provide a full service between Skipton and Buckden on Monday to Saturday. However, a **new community bus**, part run by local village volunteers, is now carrying passengers between Grassington and Buckden.

The **Upper Wharfedale Venturer** is a white minibus with pictures on the side and a big 'V' on the front. It stops at all the usual places and travels right into Long Ashes Park to the leisure centre. It can also be hailed on the open road if the driver feels it is safe to stop. The Venturer connects at Grassington with the Pride of the Dales service

72 from Skipton and 74 from Ilkley. Through tickets are available and are valid for both bus companies.

To see a timetable of all the current bus services between Skipton, Ilkley, Grassington and Buckden on Monday to Saturday, visit [www.vetch.co.uk/uw\\_bus/UWB\\_web\\_timetable\\_11\\_04\\_16.pdf](http://www.vetch.co.uk/uw_bus/UWB_web_timetable_11_04_16.pdf)

On summer Sundays there is a direct bus service (the Yorkshire Dalesman 874/875) between Wakefield, Leeds and Buckden – see [www.dalesbus.org](http://www.dalesbus.org) for details.

## Win an Afternoon Tea for two in the tea-garden...



To mark the arrival of our fantastic wood sculptures and the opening of our very aromatic herb trail, we're giving away an **Afternoon Tea for two in the tea-garden!** Tuck into tasty sandwiches, scones with strawberry jam, delicious cakes and tea or coffee, all on the house, by answering the question below:

*Question: What is the name of the herb grown at West Winds that has an intoxicating effect on cats?*

To enter, send your answer to [lynn@westwindsinyorkshire.co.uk](mailto:lynn@westwindsinyorkshire.co.uk) or to West Winds Yorkshire Tearooms, Buckden, Skipton, North Yorkshire BD23 5JA to arrive not a second later than high noon on **Saturday 28 May 2016.**

### Terms and conditions

1. Only one entry can be accepted per person or per e-mail or postal address.
2. Staff at West Winds are not allowed to enter. Sorry Polly!
3. The prize will be allocated on Saturday 28 May 2016.
4. The winner will be chosen at random from all correct answers received by the closing time.
5. The winner will be notified by e-mail, phone, post or tin can and string on or soon after Saturday 28 May 2016.
6. The prize must be claimed in person between Wednesday 1 June and Thursday 30 June 2016 and is not transferable to any other date. There is no cash or other alternative.
7. The judges' decision is final and no discussions or ding-dongs will be entered into. Letters from solicitors will remain unanswered.



## West Winds Tearooms

**Behind the Buck Inn...**

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01756 760883

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