

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

Tuesday 15 May 2012

## West Winds launches Summertime Sundays



A glance out of any window in Buckden over the past couple of months has normally revealed the same grim picture – a leaden sky and thick sheets of rain. But your spirits need be dampened no more when you visit Upper Wharfedale because starting this Sunday we are launching **Summertime Sundays** at West Winds.

Exclusively on Sundays we will be celebrating summer whatever the weather with a soundtrack of summer songs to raise you up while you eat and bring sunshine and blue skies firmly to mind (don't worry – we'll still have the fire lit if it's cold...). So, don't sit at home on a Sunday, looking at the rain through the window. Come to West Winds and pretend summer is here!

## Jubilee fever set to sweep Buckden



1

**The Queen's Diamond Jubilee** (see picture 1) is set to reach fever pitch in Buckden with a range of activities being organised to mark 60 years of enthronement.

On Tuesday 5 June 2012 a commemorative **street party** starts at 12.30pm (see picture 2 for last year's Royal Wedding street party in Buckden), followed by a rounders game on the village green and then an evening barbecue in the National Trust garth next to the car park. For details of these activities – open to villagers and visitors alike – visit [www.buckden.org](http://www.buckden.org) The Queen will, of course, be attending in spirit throughout the day. Non-Royalists (see picture 3) should steer well clear.



2

West Winds Yorkshire Tearooms will be open on both Monday 4 and Tuesday 5 June in addition to our normal opening days. On the previous Saturday we will be running another of our popular **Candle-Lit Barbecue Evenings**, serving a range of meaty and vegetarian items grilled over a wood fire, followed by an opportunity to toast your own twisters and marshmallows (see picture 4). There will be hot spiced apple juice and hot chocolate but you can also bring your own wine or beer if you wish.



3

We'll be lighting the barbecue ready to fill your plate from 7pm onwards and later you can sit round the fire as the sunset turns to dusk and beyond.



4

Please note that advance booking for the barbecue on Saturday 2 June 2012 is essential because numbers are limited to around 15. To reserve your place, e-mail us at [lynn@westwindsinyorkshire.co.uk](mailto:lynn@westwindsinyorkshire.co.uk) or call us on 01756 760883. Tickets cost £10 for adults and £6 for 12-16 year olds (sorry, no under-12s or dogs allowed). The Queen is not expected to come, so the event is also anti-Royalist friendly. It means too that you will be safe wearing your old clothes. Indeed, you should look them out anyway

because the one thing we can guarantee in addition to plenty of food is plenty of wood smoke! Expect a rustic but authentic experience.

The following weekend, on Saturday 9 June 2012, there is a **barn dance** in the village at Heber Farm. Boogie in the Barn also includes a disco and supper and tickets cost £7.50 for adults and £3 for children. Contact Gill or Garry Schofield at [garry.schofield@btconnect](mailto:garry.schofield@btconnect) or on 01756 760304.

## Sheep count down the days to Buckden Gala



Where can you see sheep all fresh and clean after a wash and perm (see left), *and* listen to the Lofthouse and Middlesmoor Brass Band perform *Abide with me*, *and* watch impossibly fit fell runners jump clean over walls *and* have the chance to improve your splat the rat skills? The answer, of course, is at the **Buckden Gala**, which this year takes place on Saturday 16 June from 12.30pm.

Buckden Gala offers a gentle day out for the family and entry is free. For more information, keep an eye on the village website at [www.buckden.org](http://www.buckden.org) or call 01756 761024.

West Winds Yorkshire Tearooms will be open from 4pm on the day of the gala, offering a range of tasty treats to round off your outing. And if you want to make a weekend of it, we have a double room and two single rooms free that night with bed and breakfast priced at just £29 per person, including a pot of tea and a slice of home-made cake on arrival. To make a booking, contact us at [lynn@westwindsinyorkshire.co.uk](mailto:lynn@westwindsinyorkshire.co.uk) or on 01756 760883.

## Swaledale cheese makers overcome tragedy to continue tradition



*Beginning a new series of focus-on-food profiles, we introduce one of our most relied-upon suppliers – the Swaledale Cheese Company...*

Louise and Sam Reed are brother and sister cheese makers based at Richmond. The two saw their world collapse earlier this year when their mother, Mandy Reed, was found dead in a neighbour's garden during a period of intensely cold weather. She was aged just 47. Mandy and her husband David had started making Swaledale Cheese more than 20 years ago from a closely guarded recipe entrusted to them by the Longstaffs, historic cheese-makers of Harkerside near Reeth.

The company soon found success with their range of products, which were very well received in the cheese world, but in 2005 David died suddenly, leaving Mandy to struggle on without him. She not only did that but also took the company to new heights, a tribute to her energy and determination. As they grew older, Louise and Sam joined the family firm. Now David and Mandy's children find themselves running things by themselves but are showing the same resilience in the face of loss that their mother did.

The Swaledale Cheese Company has won many prizes, including a Super Gold for its Swaledale Blue (see picture) at the 2011 World Cheese Awards. The company also took four medals at the British Cheese Awards last year. We buy a range of cheeses direct from the Reeds' premises in Richmond, including Swaledale Blue, Smoked Richmond and Swaledale with Chives. They are enormously popular as part of our cheese salad and ploughman's lunch dishes, and we're also rather partial to them ourselves.

For more information about Swaledale cheeses, visit [www.swaledalecheese.co.uk](http://www.swaledalecheese.co.uk) where you can buy online.

## Mystery Buckden drummer identified



From time to time in Buckden the afternoon peace is broken by loud, persistent drumming. One of our neighbours has a drum kit and his grandchildren like to bash away at it when they come to visit, but it's not that.

We can now reveal the mystery drummer to be a great spotted woodpecker named Woody. Like all of his kind, including perhaps drummers in rock bands, Woody is drumming to advertise his presence. He is telling other woodpeckers that this is his territory and they should clear off. Again, just like drummers in rock groups.

Although woodpeckers normally peck at wood, it is apparently not unusual for them to drum away at plastic connection boxes on phone poles. Why? Because that way they can make much more noise! That's drummers for you...

## Bleak conditions fail to stop fritillaries blooming



The ground may be waterlogged and the lawn mower may not have seen light of day yet this year but the flowers in the garden have decided it's futile to wait any longer for spring and they are now racing each other into bloom. We've had some lovely marsh marigolds and fritillaries (see left) in our garden meadow and right now several wild plants are showing colour, including primroses, pink purslane and lady's smock. The water avens are just coming out too.

Meanwhile, in the main flower beds, the tulips are looking great, apart from those that have been flattened by the rain.



## **West Winds Yorkshire Tearooms**

***Behind the Buck Inn...***

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