

WOOD VIEW NEWS

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It takes more than a bit of rain.....

After what has generally been acknowledged as the wettest summer in the last century we can now apparently look forward to the coldest winter for many a year!



Thankfully, our regular visitors at Wood View are a hardy bunch and don't let the vagaries of the British weather stop them from enjoying the Yorkshire Dales. Admittedly, we have had some days with wall to wall water, but we have also had spectacular waterfalls like Janet's Foss in Malhamdale (opposite) and wonderful landscapes with the light and shade constantly changing as the clouds move over the hills.

As with any business, it is important to keep improving and running a B&B is no different. We were very pleased to retain our 4 Star Silver status with Visit Britain again last year after updating some of the bathrooms and we are now in the process of putting new carpets in some of the bedrooms and generally tidying up the décor. Last winter we converted the old outbuildings at the back of the house into a new workshop and bike store which is very useful for our cycling visitors looking for secure storage, to say nothing of David's increasing collection! The Wood View web site is also getting a make-over this year as it is now eight years old and in need of improving, whilst maintaining the present clear, easy to follow format that our guests seem to like. The work will be completed in the New Year, so have a look at it and let us know what you think. We also have a new web site specifically designed for use with smart phones which can be found at: www.bedandbreakfastyorkshiredales.mobi

Once again, we have had a lot of guests who have come to the Dales to walk the 25 miles, 5200 feet of climbing of the Yorkshire 3 Peaks. The challenge is to get around the course in less than 12 hours, a feat that has not been helped in recent years by the ominously named Black Dub Moss, a large area of peat bog below Penyghent, where walkers have literally been known to sink up to their waists and have had to be pulled out by friends or passers-by.



The situation has now been greatly improved with the opening of a new section of footpath from Hull Pot across Whitber Hill to join the Pennine Way above Sell Gill Holes. The new route then follows the Pennine way until it crosses the original 3 Peaks path and then proceeds as normal. The new section of footpath is superb and offers wonderful views of Ribblesdale, as well as keeping your feet dry! We have also got a new section of bridleway between Austwick and Clapham, running parallel to the A65, which allows walkers, cyclists or horse riders to travel safely without having to use this dangerous section of the main road and makes an excellent circular route between the two villages.

One of the most satisfying aspects of running a bed & breakfast is the people that we meet, many of whom have become good friends and who come back to this beautiful part of the world time and again. They come for the scenery, for the excellent walking and riding, whether it be on the open fells or in the quiet leafy bridleways and old drover's lanes that criss-cross the area, like Whitestone Lane at Wharfe, as shown here. They also come for a good breakfast of course and Sue has notched up nearly 14000 of them now, so is just starting to get the hang of it!



We are particularly proud of the many favourable reviews that we have on Trip Advisor that rate us as number one in Austwick and it is something that 'new' guests nearly always refer to when they arrive, so we have to maintain the standard.



In September we took part in the 'World's Biggest Coffee Morning' in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support and raised £332 through the sale of coffee and cakes. This was a great occasion supported by lots of people from the village and guests that were staying with us at the time. One of our regular visitors, Jenny Barr from Motherwell, happened to be visiting us with her husband Willie and, having helped to make the cakes the day before, then spent the whole morning in the kitchen washing up!

Following the popularity of our winter breaks in previous years, we are offering 3 nights bed & breakfast accommodation for 2 people between February 15th and March 28th 2013 at £195 for a Double Room and £220 for a King Sized Room, subject to availability.

Many thanks to everyone who has supported us during the 2012 season and we look forward to seeing you at Wood View again in the near future.

**David & Sue
Wood View Guest House**