

# WOOD VIEW NEWS

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## A Measure of Excellence .....



As we approach our 10<sup>th</sup> year here at Wood View, with some 15000 breakfasts behind us, it was especially pleasing to be awarded a Trip Advisor 'Certificate of Excellence' for 2013, having gained fifty 5 Star reviews and being rated number one accommodation provider in Austwick. Many thanks to those of you who took the trouble to post a review of us on Trip Advisor, not only is it encouraging to be told that we are doing things right, but it also gives prospective visitors to the area a good idea of what to expect when they get here.

The more observant of you will have noticed that the Wood View web site has had a bit of a makeover, with some additional text and pictures to give it a more up to date look, but without losing the original simple, informative layout that guests have told us they like. There is also a direct link now to the Trip Advisor site, with the last 5 customer review headlines appearing on the home page, which again, new visitors have said they refer to when deciding where to stay in the area. If you haven't seen it yet, just go to [www.woodviewbandb.com](http://www.woodviewbandb.com). We now also have wi-fi in the house, so you have unlimited, free access to the internet during your stay.

After several years of dreary, wet summer months, we actually had a good 'traditional' summer this year with an increase in guest numbers and people noticeably staying for longer, presumably deciding to holiday in the UK rather than travelling abroad. We continue to get a lot of repeat business, with nearly 70% of our guests being regular visitors or newcomers trying us out on the recommendation of friends or family. We have also seen an increase in the number of groups using Wood View as a base for walking in the area and then enjoying the log fire and some of Sue's home-made scones when they get back from a hard day on the fells.

The wild flower displays on Oxenber and in the meadows around the village were superb this year, although a bit late due to the cold spring, which saw temperatures during March average barely 3 degrees centigrade over the month, a bitter easterly wind and some heavy, drifting snow. The warm, dry weather came as something of a relief and also made everyone feel better, with less wet walking gear to dry out and David in a better mood because he got out on his bike(s) in the sun, instead of battling against the wind and rain all the time.



Feizor Nick, March 2013

Talking of bikes, the weekend of July 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> 2014 will see the Tour de France Grand Depart coming to the Yorkshire Dales and preparations are already under way to deal with the thousands of extra visitors that are expected to descend on the area to watch the first two stages of the biggest sporting event in

the world. We already have a full house for that weekend and are planning breakfasts with a distinctly continental theme to get everyone into 'Le Tour' mode and help them, and us, to get the most out of the occasion. Full details on the Grand Depart routes can be found at [www.http://letour.yorkshire.com](http://www.letour.yorkshire.com) or <http://www.letour.fr> The nearest place that the peloton will pass to Austwick is the junction between Littondale and Wharfedale, below Arncliffe, but obviously there will be lots of other potential vantage points along the way. However, we can confidently predict that the whole route on both days will be very busy, so if you are planning to come to Yorkshire and see either of the stages, make sure you get to your chosen spot nice and early!

We get a lot of visitors who come to the area to walk the Yorkshire 3 Peaks of Penyghent, Wharfedale and Ingleborough, either for a charitable cause or as a personal challenge. The National Park have now produced an app, where you will find descriptions and OS 1:50,000 maps for the Yorkshire Three Peaks Challenge route, plus alternative routes up each of the Three Peaks. There are route descriptions and OS maps showing suggested mountain bike routes around each of the peaks too. In addition they have packed the app with geolocated places of interest (POIs) which range from archaeological sites through to nature reserves so you can discover even more about the area when you visit. There are also stunning 360° panoramas from the summits;



an augmented reality 'toposcope' for each of the three peaks; advice on what to wear and what equipment to bring; information on travel, accommodation and places to eat. Full details can be found at <http://www.yorkshiredales.org.uk/threepeaks/3peaksapp>

During the New Year we are planning to refurbish the bedrooms that were not done this year, fitting new carpets, heated towel rails and redecorating, together with the general repairs and tidying up and that needs to be done around the house in the quieter months, before we start all over again with guests arriving for season number 10!

We recently came across a really interesting series of images of 'old' Austwick on Youtube and were fascinated to see what the village used to look like and how much it has changed over the years. If you would like to see the pictures they can be found at: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0Jk-ejZzK-I&feature=youtu.be>

Following the popularity of our winter breaks in previous years, we are offering 3 nights bed & breakfast accommodation for 2 people between March 1st and April 12<sup>th</sup> 2014 at £180 (normally £216) for a Double Room and £200 (normally £240) for a King Sized Room, subject to availability. Our dates are a bit limited this year due to the timing of all our refurbishment, but if you would like to take advantage of the offer, please give us a call.

We wish you all compliments of the season and a successful, prosperous and healthy 2014, and hope to see some of you on your next visit to the Yorkshire Dales.

**David & Sue  
Wood View  
Austwick**

