

BORDER HOLIDAYS AND HORSES – Adams Anchorage and New Cwm Farm Newsletter for September 2008



Hello one and all, and welcome to our September newsletter. The summer could have been better – there were some nice days early on and we were lucky enough to get our hay in then. There are farmers struggling to get their hay in even now. It seems to have been autumn for a few weeks already, and our lovely swallows left us early this year. There have not been so many house martins around this summer – lets hope they recover next year. Also down in numbers are butterflies, which is more worrying. There were plenty of cabbage whites, several red admirals, and a few splendid peacocks. But no small tortoiseshells, which used to be so common.

Loadsa Toads

The extra rain recently has meant loads'n loads of toads! In the hay bay, in the stables, in the yard. I even had to evict a toad from my feed room on a couple of occasions (it could have been the same toad which found its way back in!) I try not to scald their cool wonderfully soft little bodies in my hands for too long before I carefully place them on the ditch bank. There must be quite a colony of them there now, which hopefully will mean lots of baby toads next spring.

Steps at Oak Cottage

We have had some steps put in at Oak's front door which greatly improves access.



Oak also has wheelchair access via the back door.

Hatched, Matched and Despatched

Misty (and her foal Thomas) went to Honour's Degree, a thoroughbred stallion, whose offspring can all jump, so we are hoping for a talented competition horse in due course.

Thomas managed to jump out of the field a couple of weeks ago. He was found at the closed road gate saying "Let me in! Let me in!"

Danny (14hh pony club pony) has gone on short term loan to Sarn, approximately six miles away.

Four Footed proFile

Bill – (working sheepdog, failed housedog!)

Bill came to us a couple of years ago aged ten months.

He was farm bred, but had been owned by a young couple who worked all day, leaving Bill in the house terrorising the resident elderly Jack Russell. He must have been a complete nightmare as a house dog as he was overly boisterous, even for a Border collie, and behaved like an Exocet missile for a while when we first had him.

However, Richard managed to curb his enthusiasm with lots of training, and Bill has turned into a brilliant working sheepdog. He has the crouching, stalking action of the traditional Border collie, and he will spend hours sitting and studying the sheep, or even the free range poultry.



It is obvious that Bill considers being a farm dog is boundless joy, and he is an invaluable member of our team.



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The Lamb has a new Shepherd!

Following refurbishments which retain the pub's unique character, the Kerry Lamb in the village of Kerry, has now re-opened. Food is available, both at lunchtimes and evenings. Alcohol is of course available, but also tea and coffee.

The new "shepherds" are Rob and Ceri – see their website www.thekerrylamb.co.uk for details.

Telephone: 01686 670226. Open from 5:00pm weekdays, and 12 noon at weekends. Meals every evening except Mondays; Sunday roast at lunchtime and OAP lunch noon to 2:00pm on Fridays.



Kerry church from the garden of the Kerry Lamb

Sloe Gin

This recipe was given to me by my good friend Ann Jenkins, who runs a B&B near Lampeter.

Half fill a 1lb Kilner jar with pricked clean sloes (or damsons), add 4ozs caster sugar, and fill to the top with dry gin. Screw down the lid tightly. Shake the jar daily until the sugar has dissolved. Leave for about two months shaking the jar fairly often. When ready for drinking, strain through muslin or filter papers into a very clean bottle.



If made in September, it will be just right for Christmas. There is no better way to finish off a splendid Christmas lunch!

(My mother in law insisted that the sloes have the frost on them first. I suggested putting them in the freezer – she was not impressed!)

Powys – Happiest Place in Britain to Live!

Researchers from Sheffield and Manchester universities named Powys the happiest place in Britain to live, citing our beautiful scenery and community spirit. We agree!

September

- 6 - Newcastle Garden Society Show, Newcastle Community Centre
- 13 – Clun Memorial Hall Play area official opening
- 13 – Flicks in the Sticks, Clun Memorial Hall 7:30pm
- 14 – Kerry & Sarn History Groups township walk, 2:00pm in Sarn
- 17 - Clun Ramblers, Peramblers & Amblers Walks Memorial Hall Car Park 10:30am
- 20 - Rhayader Male Voice Choir Felindre Village Hall
- 20 & 21 - Bishops Castle Michaelmas Fair
- 20 & 21 - The Real Furniture Shows
- 21 – Kerry & Sarn History Groups township walk, 2:00pm in Kerry
- 21 – South Shropshire Ramblers Walk, Clun Memorial Hall, 10:00am
- 25 – Harvest Thanksgiving, St Michael's, Kerry, 7:00pm, followed by harvest supper.
- 26 – Harvest Thanksgiving, St John's, Newcastle, 7:00pm
- 27 – Debbie & Lindsey's First Anniversary Party, Crown Inn, Newcastle
- 27 – Bettws y Crwyn Ladies Choir, concert in Sarn Village Hall, 7:30pm
- 28 – Harvest Family Service, St Michael's, Kerry, 10:00am

October

- 1 - Clun Ramblers, Peramblers & Amblers Walks Memorial Hall Car Park 10:30am
- 3 – Harvest Thanksgiving, St Mary's, Bettws y Crwyn, 7:00pm
- 3 to 5 - Clun Valley Beer Festival, White Horse Inn
- 4 – Flicks in the Sticks, Clun Memorial Hall 7:30pm
- 8 - Clun Ramblers, Peramblers & Amblers Walks Memorial Hall Car Park 10:30am
- 10 – Harvest Thanksgiving, St George's, Clun, 7:00pm
- 11 – Kerry's Got Talent, Kerry Village Hall, 7:00pm
- 22 - Clun Ramblers, Peramblers & Amblers Walks Memorial Hall Car Park 10:30am
- 29 - Clun Ramblers, Peramblers & Amblers Walks Memorial Hall Car Park 10:30am

November

- 1 – Flicks in the Sticks, Clun Memorial Hall 7:30pm
- 8 – Clun Methodist Church Autumn Fayre, Clun Memorial Hall
- 9 – Bishops Castle Remembrance Sunday

December

- 1 & 2 – Royal Welsh Agricultural Winter Fair, Builth Wells
- 6 – Bishops Castle Christmas Lights Festival & Street Party
- 6 – Craft Show at St John the Baptist Church, Bishops Castle

See website for updates

If you would prefer not to receive this Newsletter, please let us know by email, snail mail or phone.