

The Balloon Tree Newsletter

¥ ISSUE 1 ¥ WINTER 2004 ¥ GROWN FROM A FAMILY BUSINESS ¥



Welcome... to our newsletter, which I hope to be the first of many. Some who receive this will have heard of us and have hopefully visited us, but those who haven't, I'd like to take this opportunity to introduce ourselves and tell you about all the exciting developments we have experienced since opening in April this year.

The past three years have seen many changes and much hard work in bringing the development of the site from PYO Gate Helmsley Strawberries, to the fully fledged Balloon Tree Farmshop and Cafe open all year round. My wife, Jill, and I are very pleased to have many members of our family and a brilliant team of hardworking, conscientious and friendly staff to help us with this exciting new project.

We still grow the majority of our produce in the fields around the farmshop, which means we are able to ensure utmost freshness and outstanding quality. We are constantly governed by the growing seasons and changing weather which will mean many triumphs but possible disappointments too. So far we are very happy with the way things are going and have had lots of positive feedback from our customers which is very encouraging. We hope you enjoy visiting us and we look forward to seeing you at The Balloon Tree soon.



Digby Machin, Chief Executive and part time washer upper.

Digby Machin.

The Balloon Tree Story

The Balloon Tree name is taken from a local landmark, an old balloon-shaped chestnut tree at Buttercrambe.

The Shop

We have combined the concept of a traditional farm building with modern day ideas, to make your visit easy and enjoyable. Car parking is on the doorstep, with wheelchair access.

We offer a wide range of fresh produce, the majority of which is grown on the farm and otherwise we try to source it from local producers throughout Yorkshire. Our own fruit and vegetables are harvested daily, ensuring quality and freshness. Other products include our own traditional Long Horn and Berkshire rare breed meats, free range eggs, homemade cakes and puddings, chutneys and preserves, locally produced ice cream and honey, as well as a delicatessen, ably organised by Lorraine, Mandy and Char. Pick Your Own is still very popular in the summer, where we have a wide variety of fresh fruits and vegetables available.

The Cafe

This is an integral part of the farmshop building where you can enjoy homemade meals or light refreshments in relaxing surroundings. The landscaped cafe garden was very popular this summer, as was the children's play area. Our aim is to provide seasonal changes to our menu, offering homemade dishes cooked in our own kitchen all year round.



We grow the majority of our own produce in the fields around the farmshop which means the fruit and vegetables are truly fresh - minutes & hours old, not days! You really can taste the difference.



The Cafe serves a selection of homemade meals and light refreshments using the farm's fresh ingredients. Enjoy freshly ground coffee or tea blended in Yorkshire.