



INN FOCUS

NEWSLETTER OF THE ANGEL INN AT HETTON

SPRING / SUMMER 2008

25 YEARS 'INN' EXCELLENCE

The Angel Inn at Hetton is this year celebrating its landmark 25th anniversary – and a quarter century of excellence.

The Angel is marking the milestone with a festival of special events throughout the year – coupled with an opportunity for customers to win 25 glittering prizes in a special 25th Anniversary Prize Draw. The total prize fund on offer amounts to over £1,500 and includes the chance to win free meals, wines and accommodation packages.

On top of this is a bonus prize of a "masterclass" with chef in the famous

Angel Inn kitchens – absolutely priceless! 'It's a very, very special year for us and we are pushing out the boat in true Angel Inn style by staging a spectacular programme of 25-year celebration events, along with our big prize draw. It's our way of not only giving something back to our loyal and committed customers, many of whom have become both regulars and friends over the past 25 years, but also of welcoming new clientele who have yet to discover the delights of the Angel', said Juliet Watkins.

Now, The Angel Inn is looking forward to the next 25 years!



IS YOUR NUMBER UP?

To celebrate 25 years at The Angel Juliet Watkins and the team have 25 prizes to be given away to 25 loyal customers.

- 1 prize of:** A Weekend Break for 2 people, value £470
- 2 prizes of:** 1 Night's Dinner, Bed & Breakfast for 2 people, each valued at £205
- 1 prize of:** A Day with our Chef in The Angel Kitchen – PRICELESS!
- 1 prize of:** A Bottle of 1983 Cote Rotie, value £49 – a 25-year-old Classic
- 5 prizes of:** Dinner for 2 people in The Angel Restaurant, each valued at £69
- 5 prizes of:** 2 Course Lunch for 2 people in The Angel Brasserie, each valued at £19
- 5 prizes of:** A Bottle of House Wine with your Meal, each valued at £15
- 5 prizes of:** 3 Courses for the Price of 2, for 2 people, from any A La Carte Menu, each valued at £10

All you have to do is bring along your copy of Inn Focus containing your unique number and see if you are a winner.

All prizes must be claimed and used at The Angel Inn before the end of 2008. No purchase necessary.

These prizes will be displayed in our Bar against a unique number, to be found on the bottom of each mailed Inn Focus newsletter.



Celebrating 25 years of excellence - members of The Angel Inn team gather outside the historic hostelry.

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UNCORKING HISTORY

I managed to upset the odd customer in my last article by talking about politics, so to be fair to everybody else I should just mention a few things about sex and religion. That way, I will have covered all the no-no's one shouldn't mention at a dinner party.

On the subject of sex, my Dad never gave me a father-son 'peptalk.' The closest we ever got was an occasion in the centre of Beaune when I asked: "Dad? What's Krug like?" He replied: "Oh, Pascal it's erotic!" On the subject of religion, why is the drinking of alcohol banned in Islam? If Jesus was a prophet (according to Muslims), then how on earth do they explain the fact that he's alleged to have changed

water into wine?

On a more serious note, I have spent the last 18 months sourcing a whole host of 1983 wines to celebrate our 25-year anniversary. These all appear at the beginning of our fantastically revamped wine list, and will be used as part of our celebrations throughout the year.

In particular, we will be running a 1983 Wine Tasting Lunch in April, to include a 1983 Cote Rotie from the Rhone and a 1983 Sauternes.

The highlight of these wines is a 1983 Chateau Musar from the Lebanon.

This is the famous vintage where the civil war actually raged amongst the vineyards, and is therefore very rare and quite special.

This will be featured in our 1983 Tasting Menu Dinner in July.

EVENING SERVICE IN WINE CAVE

As Pascal and Sarah have now moved to the village of Hetton, Pascal is pleased to announce that he will be able to open the Wine Cave on evenings for customers specifically wishing to purchase wine.

He will also be available for informal, pre-dinner wine tastings for groups of six or more. In both cases, please enquire about a formal appointment, where Pascal will be happy to discuss his availability. Call 01756 730415.

SILVER JUBILEE SPECIALS

Among the superb special events lined up for The Angel Inn's 25th Anniversary celebrations are:

Saturday, April 12 – Grand Launch Event with two-course lunch and 25-year-old wine tasting.

Thursday, May 15 – Sparkling Champagne Charity Dinner in aid of the Denis Watkins Charitable Trust.

Thursday, July 3 – To eat: Angel Classics. To drink: 1983 wines.

Friday, October 31 – Black Tie & Masked Ball at Cracoe Village Hall. A fitting and mysterious conclusion to the Silver Jubilee Celebrations.

Full details of all special events are contained with this issue of Inn Focus for all mail recipients. Alternatively, pick up a Special Events Leaflet in the inn.

As usual, there will be major demand for these functions, so early advance booking is strongly advised.

Call The Angel on 01756 730263.

FROM SURREY WITH LOVE

Congratulations to long distance Angel Inn customer Mrs Margaret "Maggie" Mowatt, of Haselmere, Surrey, who submitted the first all-correct entry out of the hat in the last Inn Focus readers competition, generously sponsored by Angel seafood supplier Inshore, of Redcar.

Her prize, already taken with husband Ronald, was a 2-night Midweek Winter Break at The Angel Inn Lodgings, with Dinner, Bed & Breakfast, valued at over £250.

Mr Mowatt explained: 'We have been coming to the area for a week's holiday for the past 15 years and every night without fail we eat at The Angel because we love the food and the atmosphere. We are much in love with both the area and the pub'.

Below - one of the truly distinct bedrooms in the Angel Inn Lodgings. Remember, details of late availability accommodation packages are posted on the new-look Angel Inn website.



HOME IN ON THE NEW-LOOK ANGEL INN WEBSITE

Check out The Angel Inn's new-look website. The site has been completely revamped to give it a much more modern feel.

In fact, it contains everything you need to know about The Angel, presented in a user-friendly easy to follow format. Brand-new are details of late availability and special accommodation packages in The Angel Barn Lodgings, which are regularly updated. There's also a new facility that allows visitors to

download current Angel Inn menus, which will be updated as seasonal offerings change. In addition, details of all special events will be posted on the site, so you have plenty of advance notice of what's up-and-coming. All this is supplemented by information on private dining, The Angel Wine Cave, and how you can best explore the Yorkshire Dales. There's also a picture gallery - even listings of current career opportunities.

Here's a taster as we reproduce the Home Page right.



To take to the wing online visit:

www.angelhetton.co.uk

A TRIP DOWN MEMORY LANE

Let's take a trip down memory lane for a brief look at the long and proud 25-year history of The Angel Inn, which remains one of the best known and most popular wining, dining and lodging pubs in the country.

It all began when Denis and Juliet Watkins took control of the 18th Century Yorkshire Dales inn early in 1983.

Until then, Denis, one of the UK's leading chefs, worked in high profile hotel management roles, but gave it all up to arrive at The Angel to "do his own thing" - and launch the country's first ever Gastro Pub, at that time a unique concept. That budding belief quickly blossomed into reality, as The Angel Inn became a magnet for discerning winers and diners across the nation.

The Angel's sustained success and appeal resulted in the inn winning a host of prestigious regional and national awards and accolades.



Another memorable milestone was the opening of the new Angel Lodgings, below, and Wine Cave, above, in 2003. While Denis sadly passed away in 2004, The Angel Inn remains in good hands and fine heart, led by Juliet Watkins and Bruce Elsworth, with the support of a loyal and committed management team and staff, all of whom will go that extra mile to help the inn's valued customers.

Denis' legacy lives on in the form of the Denis Watkins Charitable Fund, administered by Juliet, which has already raised many thousands of pounds for good and worthy causes, particularly overseas in underprivileged countries.

* The Denis Watkins Charitable Trust is registered with the Charities Commission and Gift Aid. Anyone interested in supporting the Trust should contact the Angel office on 01756 730263.



READ ALL ABOUT US

The Angel Inn continues to receive prominent listings and rave reviews in some of the UK's top hospitality industry publications.

The inn again earned a place in the Top 30 Gastro Pubs in "Pub Chef," the food magazine of leading drinks industry national newspaper, The Morning Advertiser. Pub chef reviewers praised The Angel for three things that make the inn stand out from the crowd - quality food and service in a traditional relaxed environment, its excellent picturesque location and five deluxe hotel-standard rooms. Chef's favourite ingredients are listed as: Gluten-free products, flours, pastas using quinoa - this gives a fantastic texture - incorporated into main courses and desserts. And the best business idea in 2007: Changing the Brasserie menu every season, utilising seasonal and local produce.



MICHELIN ROAD WELL TRODDEN

The Michelin Guide Great Britain and Ireland 2008 once more features an entry for The Angel Inn, yet again awarded the esteemed Bib Gourmand symbol for its good, value-for-money food.

SPRING IS IN THE AIR

March is the month when the new 2008 Spring menus at The Angel Inn come into force.

They contain long-standing and much loved seasonal favourites, along with some refreshing new ideas from Bruce Elsworth, Mark Taft and the talented kitchen brigade.

Quality local produce - developing on-the-doorstep partnerships with well-known, reputable suppliers is central to The Angel's entire ethos - will once again feature prominently on the Spring Menu. Go on - treat yourself!



GRASSINGTON FESTIVAL SUPPERS

Grassington Festival – June 13 to 25.

Two and three-course options will be available to Festival attendees at 5.00pm and 9.45pm in the Brasserie, but please note they need to be booked in advance.

Festival-goers who may require overnight accommodation in The Angel Inn Lodgings are advised to book early as demand will be great.

Call on 01756 730263 or visit www.angelhetton.co.uk for details of late availability and special offers on accommodation.



CHOCs AWAY

October, 2008 – return of the Angel Inn Chocolate Festival. Went down a treat when first introduced last year.

NEW YEAR SPECIAL

The new New Year's Eve Gala Dinner with Fun Casino Royal was such an overwhelming success that it will repeated again this and into next year.

SAYING 'I DO' IN STYLE

Tailor-made civil wedding ceremonies and receptions are becoming increasingly popular at The Angel Inn, which is licensed to cater for up to 40 people.

Relaxed and intimate are just two words that spring to mind for couples who tie the knot at The Angel, with bespoke packages available to suit every conceivable individual requirement. Nuptials at The Angel can be accommodated seven days a week - from Monday to Saturday between 11am and 5pm and after 3pm on Sundays.

Call for full details and bookings on 01756 730263 or visit www.angelhetton.co.uk

ALL WORK...

Parts of The Angel Inn have undergone an overhaul during the short annual shutdown in January.

The main Bar has been refurbished - see picture left - with the service area refitted and re-polished, while the Ladies Toilets, below, have been completely revamped, incorporating new marble fixtures and fittings.

As usual, local contractors have been called in to undertake the work, with the refit led by Jonathan Carey Design, with special thanks due to design co-ordinator Rachel Haworth, who already has connections with the inn through her mother Judith, who works in the Angel office and is a familiar voice on the phone.

Norman West was responsible for the plumbing and Malcolm Baines the electrical work. Black Sheep Brewery also supported the project.

...AND SOME PLAY!

While improvement work was in progress, The Angel Inn annual staff outing in January was a capital affair, involving an overnight stay in London, dinner at Bertorelli's Restaurant and tickets to the Palace Theatre in Shaftesbury Avenue to see Monty Python's 'Spamalot!'.



DATABASE UPDATE DETAILS

Your Name:

Telephone:

Address / Postcode:

E-mail Address:

Now, please tick the appropriate boxes. This is important, as we remain aware that some customers receive more than one copy of our newsletter and that others may have

moved, but the newsletter continues to go to their old address.

We are constantly looking to cleanse and update our extensive database. By doing so, we are attempting to be more eco-friendly and environmentally aware. We trust that you will co-operate with us on this request.

- Add my name to your mailing list
- Keep my name on your mailing list (you will continue to receive Inn Focus)
- Delete my name from your mailing list
- Note change of contact details
NB: If you have moved, please provide your old address - first line only will suffice
- Please note that I am receiving more than one copy of your newsletter
- Recommend our newsletter to a friend

Please complete the details below, providing names, addresses and postcodes.

Their Name:

Telephone:

Address / Postcode:

E-mail Address:

Thank you!