

# TAM O'SHANTER TIMES



## winter 2006

### Animal Update

It has been a busy season since the last newsletter.

The hens raised in incubators by schools have grown and some have now moved into the hen house and are now laying eggs, whilst the others have been re-homed.

The Aylesbury ducks reared at the farm have taken up residence in Duckingham Palace to replace our old ducks. The guinea fowl will be joining them and you should be able to see them in the duck field soon.



Snuffles, our breeding sow gave birth to thirteen piglets on the 11<sup>th</sup> July. Sadly one died, but the rest are hale and hearty and are now enjoying themselves, busily digging up most of their field.

Jacko and Arnie are now on their drier winter paddock next to the poly-tunnel until spring, when the grass starts to grow again.

Our three ewes will hopefully be having lambs next spring.



Unfortunately, we lost one of our goats in October; Nan, our brown goat, who died of old age. She was fifteen years old. Both visitors and volunteers will sadly miss Nan, who was born at the farm, and proved a popular attraction.

Elsa our white Saanen goat is still with us, and doing quite well at the age of eighteen. She is usually seen grazing with our old Manx Loughtan sheep, who is twelve, in the paddock behind the animal house. Tilly, the orphaned lamb who featured in the summer newsletter, has happily been re-homed and is now living at a local smallholding.

### Two Awards!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

green pennant  award

In July we were awarded a 'Green Pennant' by the Civic Society, which recognises high quality green spaces managed by voluntary and community groups. We received one of fourteen Green Pennant awards given to city farms and community gardens this year and, although there are 3 Green Flag holders on Wirral, we are Wirral's only Green Pennant



holders this year. The award is only valid for one year and will require an annual application to maintain it.



### The Wirral Tourism Awards for Excellence 2006

Congratulations to Sue McCulloch for landing the inaugural Doug Darroch Memorial Award - in memory of the Wirral heritage champion who passed away earlier this year - which recognises volunteers who work to promote culture and heritage in Wirral. Sue has been involved with Tam O'Shanter since 1975 and Honorary Treasurer of the Trust since 1991. Presenting the award, judges praised Susan's passion, and added: "Susan's passion and commitment to Tam O'Shanter Urban Farm knows no bounds.

Susan has been integral to the survival and development of a vital area for the local community".



## A Volunteer's experience...

My name is Russell Kennedy. I used to come to the farm with the Heswall group on a Thursday, but now I am doing more things like working in the kitchen at the Eastham Centre. I now work at the farm on Sundays with John and Peter the rangers and other volunteers. I like to clean out all the animals, and at 4 p.m. Peter and I put all the ducks, geese and chickens away in their houses. Peter then walks me over the road, where I cut through the graveyard and catch the bus back to Birkenhead, and then to Eastham where I live.

## Come and share the fun at our Christmas Fair



Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> December 12 – 4pm

### **Santa's Grotto**

**Tickets £2 - Numbers limited to 250**

Available from souvenir counter  
from  
1<sup>st</sup> December

Refreshments ♦ Raffle ♦ Gifts and  
Crafts ♦ Fun for all the family

## **Forthcoming Fundraising Event RACE NIGHT**

At

Houlihan's Club, Claughton Village

On Friday, 27<sup>th</sup> April 2007

7.30 p.m. start



Horses are now on sale price £3.00  
each from the ranger's office at the  
farm.

Each winning owner will receive a  
prize.

**Please put this date in your diary.**

## Thanks to:-

Karl Williams, Tree care specialist – supplies of woodchip  
Kathryn Springett – CD player  
Mrs Garroch - fridge  
Mr and Mrs Georgeson – picnic table  
Workers Educational Association, Tom Murphy, Mrs Longworth and Sgt. Ewan Turner for their generous donations and fundraising efforts.  
All the people who donated prizes and cash for the Autumn Fair and who helped on the day to make the event a tremendous success raising over £500.

## Tam O'Shanter Farm Café

The café is run by Richard and Jane Jeffers as a separate business from the farm. If you are interested in holding a birthday party at the farm please contact Richard on one of the following numbers:

0151 652 9197      café at the farm

0151 342 1273      home

07984 173466      mobile

Recently prices have been increased to reflect the inclusion of VAT.

The café is usually open every day but will be closed over Christmas on the following days;- December 23<sup>rd</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup>, 31<sup>st</sup> and January 1<sup>st</sup>.

It will be open on December 28<sup>th</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup> and from January 2<sup>nd</sup> 2007.

## Tam O'Shanter Cottage Urban Farm Trust

Reg. Charity No 505444

**Annual report now available  
£5.00**

Please ask the Farm Manager

Friends of the Farm is the working name of the Wirral Urban Farm Association  
Charity number 515789 based at:  
**Tam O'Shanter Urban Farm  
Boundary Road  
Bidston, Wirral  
CH43 7PD  
Tel: 0151 653 9332 Fax 0151 652 4236**

