



## THE IVY BARN BLOG

### OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2017

It is the end of October and the leaves have turned red and fallen and the nights are getting colder. October for us is the end of the summer season when we start slowing down and thinking of decorating, doing bits around the bed and breakfast and taking long walks on the beach and the Coastal path.

Holbeton although a quiet village is busy in October. At the end of the cricket season the Holbeton cricket team held a memorial match for one of our treasured locals, John Light and held its annual AGM. Rik played for the cricket team a couple of times in the summer but only when they were short on numbers! On both occasions he was injured. Head thinks body is still in its 20s is the phrase that was used.



We celebrated Apple Day which is an annual celebration of apples and orchards. Did you know how many different varieties of apples there are with such interesting and evocative names, Braeburn, Discovery and Red Jonagold to name a few. Apple Day celebrates all of this and includes childrens games and apple pressing to create spicy ciders, both alcoholic and non alcoholic. We also sampled cider that had been made from earlier apples and we were entertained by the local musicians. As there were some of the villagers sheep in one of the local fields there was a guess the weight of the sheep competition.





We have just celebrated Halloween, the night of 31 October, the eve of All Saints' Day. The village is a hive of activity as the sun goes down with children of all ages dressed in their Halloween costumes going from Pumpkin house to pumpkin house to play trick or treat. At The Ivy Barn we join in with the fun and Rik and I carved a pumpkin in the shape of a dragon. I must say it looked good and the children were wowed by it. We decorated the garden with a skeleton coming out of the earth, no we didn't borrow one from next door. We also had a cat and rat skeleton lurking as you came up the stairs. A fire

pit was alight in the garden and the door was opened by our resident skeleton supplying the children with treats. I don't know whether we are scardy cats by not inviting tricks but the children liked their treats.

### **What's new in Holbeton.**

We were sad to see Chris and Vee the landlords of the Mildmay Colours retire but we are pleased that the pub has now been taken over by the delightful Phil and Arthur. Arthur is the chef and his food is amazing. We attended a taster evening on 27th October and we tasted home made burgers, lamb curry, beef curry in a souffle base, spicy pork ribs and chicken wings and much more. The food was excellent. We enjoyed it so much that we commented upon it at breakfast so all of our guests decided to eat in the Mildmay Colours on the Saturday night and were raving about the food at breakfast the next day. We are so pleased to have such another great place to recommend to future guests.

**As we go into November we would like to thank you all for all of our wonderful reviews, good or bad, we learn from them all. We thoroughly enjoyed meeting new people and greeting old friends.**

As we will be closing for some of November for redecoration work please contact us directly to see if any rooms are available during this period.

If you are looking for a relaxing pre Christmas Winter break book three nights between Monday and Thursday/ Friday. Quote Midweek offer17 to get 50% off the third night and a free cream tea or homemade soup and a roll during your stay. Call now on 01752 830484 and quote Midweek offer17 . Offer available for December only and subject to availability.