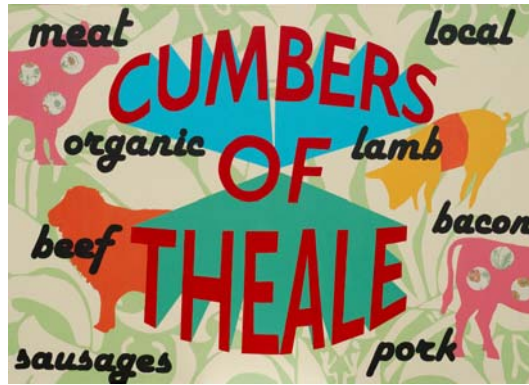


Spring
2006



Newsletter

The shop team (Sally, Liz the Saturday girl, and I) have finally recovered from hectic Christmas trading in the shop, followed by January stock-taking. This was the end of our first full year of trading, and we all feel pleased with what we have achieved. Our trade is growing slowly and much of it by word of mouth, so please pass this on to someone you might think would be interested! We can't usually compete with supermarket prices but we can offer local, responsibly produced and top-quality meat. You will have noticed that we have a much wider range of organic lamb and beef than any supermarket. And I noted in Waitrose last week that their butchery non-organic lamb is more expensive than our organic lamb – so perhaps we are more competitive than we think!

We felt that it was well worth acting as an outlet for Bill Homewood's Peachcroft **turkeys**, and we shall be offering these again in 2006. Ours was certainly the most delicious ever. I have three medium-sized turkeys in the shop freezer if anyone would like to buy one for a party or for Easter.

*We have two new cuts of organic lamb in the freezer:
Best End Cutlets (ideal for Lancashire Hotpot)
Noisette Joints—these are boned and rolled,
and can either be cooked whole as a joint or
cut into individual noisettes.*



Rushall lambs in 2005

We are reaching the end of the 2005 **lambs**: I shall try to stock the freezer to keep us going until the first of the 2006 lambs are ready to eat - hopefully by the beginning of July. Many of our lambs come to Marcham and graze the dairy pastures once our cows have gone indoors each autumn. But our sheep flock is based at Rushall Farm, Bradfield, Berkshire (farmed by the Cumbers for about 90 years), and if you would be interested in a visit there this year's Open Lambing Days are on 18th and 19th March (see the website www.rushallfarm.org.uk for a map and general information). There are bluebell walks too. Rushall Farm has been completely organic since 2000, and is also the home of the John Simonds Trust, formed to promote a love and understanding of the countryside and develop leadership skills in young people. You could be one of the 15000 or so people a year who visit Rushall Farm !

Janey Cumber

You will find us just south of Marcham village 300 metres down Mill Rd (turn opposite the Crown Public House). Look for the sign at the end of the drive and go into the farmyard.

