

## My Visit to The Alpaca Farm

Written by Catherine Watson - age 8 - following a stay with her family in our holiday cottages in July 2003

I went on my holidays to Norfolk and I stayed in a cottage on an alpaca farm. On the Thursday we went on a visit to the farm. It was a bright and sunny morning and the few clouds in the sky were white and very fluffy.

After walking through many grassy paths we reached the first pen. There were older alpacas in this pen. The lady who looked after them was called Su and she took hold of one alpaca to let us feel how soft its fur was. One was a little bit scared and was a bit jumpy so I had to go on my knees so it wasn't frightened of me. We walked on a little bit further until we came to a second pen. In here there were some very young alpacas. One of them was three weeks old and was called Freckles. Another one was called Opal and it was four weeks old. If you were very quiet and knelt down they came up to you and they looked even cuter than they did far away!



Catherine meets Freckles

There was a little pen inside the second pen and we made the alpacas go inside. My dad and grandad held one each. I kissed a little brown gold one. As we walked back up the field Su told us a story about the two new alpacas that had just arrived at the farm. She said "it was early in the morning and I heard loud noises coming from one of the pens. I thought it was the llama chasing the new alpacas, but no, it was the other way round. The two new alpacas were chasing the llama". The two new alpacas were called Brian and Bobby but Su said she wouldn't be keeping those names for very long!

After that we walked back through the many grassy paths to Su's house and she showed us some of the things that they had made using alpaca wool. There were jumpers, scarfs, hats, slippers, models of alpacas and best of all TEDDY BEARS. There were also rosettes which Su's alpacas had won in competitions. Su also had brought things back from Peru which you could buy. My grandma bought me an ocarina and a bracelet.

It was a lovely visit to the alpaca farm and we all thoroughly enjoyed it. It was so nice to meet the alpacas that I made a clay model of my favourite alpaca called Freckles and gave it to Su before we left. Hopefully we will return to the cottage in the near future and I will definitely pay my alpaca friends another visit.