



## BEING GREEN IN AN OLDER BUILDING

CATEGORY: CASE STUDY YEAR: 2008

### Business Details:



**Girl Guiding UK  
Waddow Hall  
Clitheroe  
BB7 3LD**

[www.girlguiding.org.uk](http://www.girlguiding.org.uk)



### Description:

At first glance it may seem that being green doesn't apply to older buildings. However, there are numerous actions that will have environmental, social and economic benefits. Waddow Hall is a training & activity centre owned by The Guide Association on the banks of the River Ribble. The main house dates back to the late 17<sup>th</sup> Century, dominates the 178 acres of land, where self-catering holidays, camping, meeting rooms and adventurous activities are on offer. The main house has a 3 star group hostel grading from enjoyengland and the site achieved the Green Tourism Business Scheme (GTBS) bronze award in 2007 and aims to get silver in 2009.

#### £ Economic

Improving the draught proofing of doors and windows throughout the main hall should save as much as 25% with a payback around 36 months. A product called 'Quattro seal' can be applied to any shape or style window or door, irrespective of fabric or size and as it does not alter the character of the building. The product is recognised by English Heritage. A 500ml water-filled bottle has also been placed in each toilet cistern which has typically reduced water consumption by 400 litres every weekend. Low energy lights are also being fitted around the site.

#### Environmental

The environmental benefits of using less energy and water are obvious. Waddow Hall have adopted some simple actions that should reap environmental benefits straight away, Draughts are responsible for significant heat losses in older buildings typically with wooden sash and case windows – reducing draughts will have the immediate benefit of keeping the heat in and reducing energy use. Using a bottle to displace water in a toilet cistern is a no cost action that reduces water consumption and saves money. Low energy lights should be fitted where possible particularly where lights are left on for longer periods – with an associated energy saving.

#### Social

Waddow hall has made a commitment to get as much food as possible from local sources. This has the dual benefit of reducing food miles and associated transport emissions as well as supporting the local economy. Staff awareness and training has played an important role in going green and staff have been involved at all stages of the green award. They can then take these green practices home with them. Of course the Girl Guide movement has long been associated with education and giving opportunities to those who may not otherwise get the chance.

#### WEB

Forest of Bowland	<a href="http://www.forestofbowland.com">www.forestofbowland.com</a>
Draught proofing	<a href="http://www.quattroseal.com">www.quattroseal.com</a>
Energy Advice	<a href="http://www.est.org.uk">www.est.org.uk</a>
Water Efficiency	<a href="http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/savewater">www.environment-agency.gov.uk/savewater</a>
English Heritage	<a href="http://www.english-heritage.org.uk">www.english-heritage.org.uk</a> (PDF on energy efficiency is available)