

Self Catering

Case Study Year: 2010

Business Details



Lower Gill Holidays Ltd

Orchard Cottage

Lower Gill

Tosside

BD23 4SJ

01200 447023

www.lowergill.co.uk



Business Description



The Wilson family have lived at Lower Gill for over 60 years as dairy and stock rearing farmers. In 1995 they diversified into the self catering holiday market. Lower Gill holiday accommodation nestles in a pretty wooded glade surrounded by open farmland and provides an ideal base for those wishing to enjoy a car-free holiday with excellent opportunities for walking, cycling and bird watching. All properties have their own patio areas which merge into the landscaped gardens, making this an idyllic, peaceful spot for a rural holiday.

Green Statement

// In our effort to be environmentally friendly, we have installed a new heating system fuelled by woodchips, which is carbon neutral. All lighting is from low energy bulbs - saving a total of 25 tons of carbon emissions annually. To further support our sustainable activities we have a committed green team implementing the actions stated in our policy. We have on-site recycling facilities which our visitors are encouraged to use and we are now even producing our own environmentally friendly cleaning products. We continue to learn and develop and ensure the effective conservation of wildlife across our land. //

What's Green about Lower Gill

Lower Gill is a very energy efficient site with features such as a woodchip boiler, solar panels and low energy lighting throughout. The website is an excellent communication tool and includes an abundance of green information for visitors, including details about walking, cycling, wildlife, local produce and public transport. Lower Gill are making their own natural cleaning products and the Wilson family have created a strong green team to assist in developing their commitment to sustainability.

Actions



- Conserved and enhanced the wildlife benefits by restoring derelict hedgerows
- Manage pastures and hay meadows to encourage wildlife and have created two new habitats in the form of wildlife ponds
- Fitted a district heating system for the whole site, fuelled by woodchip, which is sourced locally from Gisburn Forest
- Use environmentally friendly cleaning products, most are made on site from completely natural materials
- Encourage guests to compost their kitchen waste in the vegetable garden
- Sell free range eggs, home grown vegetables and home produced preserves to visitors
- Encourage guests to walk from the site by providing information on local walks, particularly along their own permissive footpath
- Encourage cyclists by providing information on cycle routes and bike hire in the vicinity

Impact



Economic

- Implementation of measures to reduce carbon emissions, especially the conversion from oil to wood fuel has resulted in significant energy cost savings



Environmental

- Ground nesting birds such as lapwing and curlew encouraged through sympathetic land management
- Successful land management for the past ten years in the Environmental Stewardship Scheme, and a commitment to continued management and improvement in the scheme for the foreseeable future
- Considerable reduction in carbon emissions through installation of wood fuel boiler, encouragement of car free activities and providing on-site local produce



Social

- Local economy supported by providing details of locally sourced food and drink, at farmers' markets, restaurants and other outlets

Links



Environmental Stewardship
Wood fuel
Making Environmentally Friendly
Cleaning Products
Energy Saving Trust
Forest of Bowland AONB
Lancashire Green Tourism project

www.naturalengland.org.uk
www.biomassenergycentre.org.uk
www.care2.com/greenliving
www.est.org.uk
www.forestofbowland.com
www.lancashireandblackpool.com

Contact



If you want to find out more about the Lancashire Green Tourism Project or the Green Tourism Business Scheme contact hetty.byrne@lancashire.gov.uk

This project received funding from the following organisations:

