

Sprucing up the Schoolroom



beauty & style, naturally

“Using traditional and sustainable materials in our new Visitor Centre has added an extra dimension to what we can offer to our visitors” says Mary & David Pryse.

“It’s in keeping with the rural landscape and the nature of our business and it is educational in demonstrating to all of our visitors just how easy it can be to be eco-friendly and still live, work, learn and play in comfort”. The new Visitor Centre at the Catanger Llama Centre is equipped with all of the latest carbon reducing technologies and features designed to help the centre achieve it’s goal of a zero carbon rating.

Maintaining the Llama Centres Ethos

Visitors to the Catanger Llama Centre in Northamptonshire are now able to learn more about these unique creatures at the centres new visitor facility. The new building, designed and constructed by Rural Log Cabins Limited and is a purpose-built, eco-friendly facility that provides accommodation for school parties wishing to study the llamas as part of their national curriculum studies and also for other visitors to the llama trekking centre.

Catanger Llamas is run by owners Mary and David Pryse, last year the couple asked Rural to build them a log cabin as their own home on the site and also to make it as environmentally friendly as possible.

The result was the first zero carbon timber-built home and the Pryses loved it so much that they wanted Rural to build their new visitor centre. The Catanger Llamas Visitor Centre reflects an important market for Rural in building sustainable solutions on sensitive rural sites and choosing materials, styles and

technologies that fit in with the environment. Rural has a growing reputation in not only designing but also manufacturing and constructing quality accommodation for a range of purposes and especially for its low and zero carbon solutions.

Achieving the goals.

Mary Pryse of Catanger Llamas said: *“Schools will be able to make so much of the visit at all levels of the curriculum and we are delighted at how well all the environmental aspects of the building have come together. Rural Log Cabins really knew how to help us achieve our design and environmental goals”.*



Visitor centre reception and demonstration area.

Catanger Llamas is a llama trekking and educational facility which provides school parties with opportunities for cross curriculum learning at key stages 1 and 2 (children up to age 11) and eventually also Key Stage 3.

The Llamas come originally from South America and can be studied for both geography and history. Mary will be able to demonstrate traditional skills in spinning, weaving and felting the llama fibre, providing education for design/technology and art together with hands-on experience.

For Nature and Biology the llamas themselves are on hand to study, plus 20 acres of native woodland established since the llama trekking began in the 1990’s. The trees, wild flowers, pond life, birds and wild mammals all provide opportunities to study natural history. The couple also hopes that schools will want to study the alternative technologies they are using as part of the science aspect for the curriculum.

The Visitor Centre get all of it’s power from photovoltaic panels on the roof of cabin which is stored in batteries with shortcomings topped up by a back-up generator on the rare occasions when this is needed. Hot water and heating is supplied by Solar Thermal Tubes. The toilet areas also have ‘Light-Pipes’ fitted to provide ample daytime illumination without consuming any electricity.

All of these features combined has provided a zero carbon rating on the SAP scale, the Government’s Standard Assessment Procedure for the Energy Rating of Dwellings. Our log cabins are constructed from high quality natural materials sourced from sustainable forests, we also take great pains to research the best building technologies available to achieve a low carbon footprint.

We always aim to give the customer exactly what they are looking for.

To find out more about Rural Log Cabins visit: www.rural-leisure.co.uk

or for further information email: sales@rural-log-cabins.co.uk

or telephone: 01827 880697

The Catanger Llamas Visitor Centre with the residential cabin behind.