

Home at the end of the woods



I was delighted to be appointed as an Assistant Relationship Manager to the Bank's Food Farming and Trade team recently. Not least because

my previous role within Triodos was primarily office based. So, although I always heard about the great things our customers were doing, I rarely experienced them first hand. My new role means I can be much more hands-on with the projects we finance and meet the inspiring people behind them.

On a recent trip to Cornwall, I met husband and wife partnership Richard and Annette Tolputt who run Lesquite. The organic farm's name is Cornish for 'home at the end of the woods' and fittingly it is nestled in a peaceful wooded valley between the picturesque villages of Polperro and Fowey. The

working beef farm, with a herd of Aberdeen Angus cattle, also offers accommodation for holiday-makers and a perfect base to explore the peninsular.

Richard and Annette let three rooms in their 17th century farmhouse on a bed and breakfast basis. They've also

"Triodos were the only bank that showed a genuine interest in the project" Annette Tolputt



Lesquite's 17th century farmhouse.

developed self-catering facilities in a stable block next to the house, to provide good access for disabled guests.

Encouraged by this positive experience, Richard and Annette decided to develop their accommodation for disabled customers further. A dilapidated outbuilding presented the perfect opportunity to do just that, transformed with the support of a Triodos Bank loan, into holiday apartments that cater for wheelchair users.

A year or so on, and the fruits of their labour are three beautifully built individual garden apartments. The rooms are comfortably furnished and spacious, with large bathrooms and mini kitchens. But if cooking breakfast isn't your idea of a holiday, then the Tolputts will happily do it for you and deliver it to your room.

Kate Lewis,
Assistant Relationship Manager

Visit www.lesquite.co.uk or call 01503 220 315 for more.