

## WONNACOTT FARM

Lewdown Okehampton Devon, EX20 4QU



SOLAR THERMAL, LOG BOILER PLANNED, ADVICE ON PLANNING AND LBC

Rosie and Paul Yells run a traditional farm near Lewdown. They breed organic turkeys and produce organic beef from their small herd of South Devons and Aberdeen Angus. Organic lamb is produced from their flock of Roussin and Zwartbles sheep. Other produce includes organic knitting wool and apple juice from the orchard.

They are passionate about producing healthy food in a way that is as sustainable as possible and they aim to reduce food miles by being as self-sufficient as they can.

Rosie and Paul are gradually renovating their listed farm house using natural materials and installing a wood-fired boiler to go with their solar water system. Rosie, a member of Transition Tavistock Energy group, is also able to share her experiences of obtaining the necessary consent for solar thermal installations on a listed building.



### Energy generation

#### Solar thermal:

There are 2 separate roof mounted installations.

The first is an East/West array of 40 Thermomax solar tubes installed in 2003 on the cottage adjoining the farmhouse.

A second, south facing array of 40 solar tubes was installed in 2009 on the farmhouse. This installation was by SmartEnergy.



The solar tubes contribute to the domestic hot water requirement and also to space heating for both the cottage and the house via the downstairs underfloor heating. The installations include temperature monitoring and Nu-heat hot water tanks with solar coils.

#### Biomass:

Rosie and Paul are awaiting the installation of a HDG Euro log boiler. This will be housed in an outbuilding. Hot water will be piped underground to the main farmhouse and to the cottage next door. The division of heat between the two properties will be managed by special metering equipment. The log boiler will replace the current use of two oil boilers.

**Source of wood:** There are overgrown hedges and some woodland that needs to be managed. More tree planting and less regular hedge cutting is planned.

**Feed-in-tariff:** Rosie and Paul are fortunate to have been offered a grant towards the installation cost of the wood boiler. However this means they will forego the right to claim the feed-in-tariff.

**Additional information:** Transition Tavistock , Food and Energy: Our growing book of community stories” booklet

#### Contact details

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