

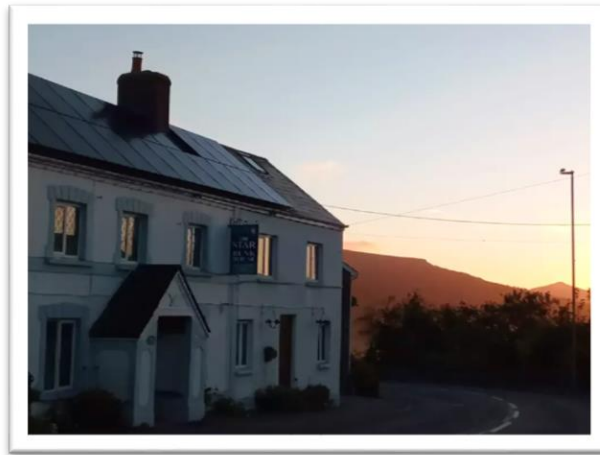
ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY



Since taking over The Star Bunkhouse in 2014, we have strived to improve its environmental performance. We are also acutely aware of the impact of tourism on the sensitive environment of the Brecon Beacons National Park, so we aim to limit this impact through leading by example and by "giving back" as much as we can. We have now signed a 'Green Growth Pledge' with *Business Wales*, and our new 'Environmental Policy' has been created to formalise work already done and our future intentions, and will be reviewed annually. Our commitments are categorised as follows and our progress will be shared with our followers on social media:-

★ Using energy & water wisely

- We source 100% certified renewable electricity from *Good Energy* and we are not on mains gas
- We have added solar PV panels to help generate electricity and hot water during daylight hours, and will investigate adding overnight storage batteries by Summer 2025
- We encourage our guests to switch lights off, and intend to add more motion sensors in key areas by Autumn 2022
- We will replace all light fittings and bulbs with LED by Summer 2023
- We will investigate the installation of self-flushing urinals and rainwater harvesting for the flushing of WCs by Summer 2024
- We will replace less efficient doors and windows, and look at other areas of the building where we could improve insulation by Summer 2026



★ Efficient transport

- We encourage our guests to car share or use public transport in our booking details
- At home, we use a fully electric car for volunteering or business-related travel where possible, with most journeys being within the National Park
- We intend, subject to finance, to install at least one electric car charging point for guest use by Summer 2023

★ Preventing waste & pollution

- We are committed to repairing, upcycling and recycling
 - We provide facilities for guests to recycle food, paper, plastic, glass and aluminium

- We responsibly dispose of end-of-life trade waste such as metal, hard plastics, batteries, electrical items, lightbulbs, bedding, mattresses and hedge cuttings
- We donate unopened, in date food items left behind by guests to Brecon Foodbank
- We reduce our use of single-use plastic by refilling bottles where possible
- We are signed up as a water refilling station with 'Refill', a campaign to help people use less plastic
- Emma was invited to appear on BBC1's 'Money for Nothing' upcycling programme after purchasing a bespoke piece of furniture made by their design team from brass fire furniture rescued from being dumped – still proudly on display in our 'Cwtch': <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m0010s0k>



★ **Working with responsible suppliers**

- We source eco-friendly cleaning products, unless certain products are required for Covid-19 disinfection or to meet food hygiene safety standards
- If providing catering for our guests, we source ingredients from local suppliers, independent shops and like-minded businesses, with preference for products that are organic, have fewer food miles and use less packaging

★ **Impact on our local community & the National Park**

- We are the current custodians of a period property (c1760), and are sensitively preserving it for future generations. Repairs are made using traditional materials where possible
- We are proud that our bunkhouse, as a former coaching inn/public house, has been providing hospitality to visitors for centuries, and that its ongoing presence does not impact on local housing stock
- We have planted and maintain hedging, flowers and shrubs around our property to visually enhance our corner of the village and to encourage wildlife
- We are both involved in litter picking and tending to overgrown rights of way in our village
- We are both qualified Mountain Leaders so, whenever we provide guided walks, we share our professional training, enthusiasm and knowledge of upland environments, the countryside code and caring for the National Park with our clients
- A longer-term project (by Summer 2027) is to seek planning permission to convert our garages into a classroom space to include our collection of educational materials about conservation and the uplands. This additional space would be available for hire by training providers & mountain guides who share our mindset
- Emma is an Uplands Volunteer for the Brecon Beacons National Park Authority. She is involved in projects such as footpath maintenance, dry stone walling, peatland restoration, wildlife monitoring, conservation work and invasive species management in the central Brecon Beacons and Black Mountains. Emma was recently seen on ITV's 'Coast & Country' nature programme helping with a peat restoration project on Pen Trumau in the Black Mountains:

<https://www.itv.com/walesprogrammes/articles/coast-and-country-series-10-episode-1>



Signed

Emma & Peter Harrison

Emma & Peter Harrison t/a The Star Bunkhouse

Date

19th July 2022