

## Wood-fuelled heating – Tanner’s Hatch YHA Hostel wood burner and solar PV, Surrey

<b>Existing or Proposed Project:</b>	Wood burner: EXISTING – Commissioned December 2003 Solar PV: EXISTING – Commissioned December 2004
<b>Location:</b>	off Ranmore Road, Dorking, Surrey, RH5 6BE
<b>Owner / Developer:</b>	Youth Hostel Association
<b>Description:</b>	Heat-only wood-fuelled stove



### Background:

Tanner's Hatch Youth Hostel near Dorking in Surrey is a country cottage owned by the National Trust but is operated by the UK Youth Hostel Association (YHA), offering good-value accommodation to walkers and cyclists passing through the Surrey Hills AONB. It is set in the middle of woods owned by the National Trust, next to its Regency property Polesden Lacey.

The Tanner's Hatch management commissioned the National Energy Foundation to assess the potential for more sustainable energy options for the property. Two of the recommendations that taken up from the report have been a wood stove in 2003 and a set of solar PV panels, in operation from late 2004/early 2005.

### Technology / Scope of Project:

The wood burner is a 'Camargue' from Franco-Belge's range of multifuel/logwood products. It is a cast-iron stove with airwash for the front glass, a fixed grate and is a sturdy object, weighing in at 130kg. This equipment has a maximum power output of 10 kW, and apparently retains heat long after the fire dies down.

Logs as long as 16 inches can be used in this burner and Tanner's Hatch is able to use woodland residue from its surroundings to provide free fuel, ensuring that the investment will soon be recouped and savings made on fuel. It burns approximately half a tonne of fuel per year.

Surrey County Council/the REACH scheme donated £2,000 towards the cost of the project and Ecap Ltd of Horsham were employed to supply and install it.

Solar 4 Us' were the installers used to gain the benefits of six 165W<sub>p</sub> Isofoton solar photovoltaic panels for Tanner's Hatch. These hi-tech 'PV' panels convert energy from sunlight into electrical energy, likely to save the hostel the cost of around 1,500 units of electricity every year.

## Importance to the South East:

If all 26 YHA hostels in the South East were to convert from oil argas (supposing this was the alternative) to wood stoves like this for their main room, the savings in greenhouse gas emissions could be in the region of 50 – 300 tCO<sub>2</sub> equivalent displaced per year. Local woodlands would benefit if they were better managed as a result of a nearby youth hostel's demand for logs. Visitors to the hostels from around the region are likely to notice the visual and energy benefits of the wood burner; they may even consider purchasing a domestic version for their homes.

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