



Director of The Green Register opens 'Superhome' for Bristol Green Doors

*** PRESS RELEASE - for immediate release ***

Architect and Director of The Green Register Lucy Pedler will be opening the doors of her family home in Redland for the annual Bristol Green Doors event on Saturday 13th September.

Lucy's house achieved 'Superhome' status after she and her husband made substantial improvements to the property, which was built in 1934. Members of the public can book online to tour the property and see how Lucy achieved more than a two third reduction in her home's carbon emissions.

Lucy said "Many people want to live in a more environmentally friendly way, but don't know where to start, especially if they live in an older property. When I moved to Bristol ten years ago I saw this older house, built in the 1930s which had the potential to be a wonderful family home. However, it was cold and leaked energy, and the heating costs were extremely high. Over the years I have added many improvements which have made the house really comfortable to live in plus substantially reduced our fuel bills.

At the beginning of the renovation project, I had solar panels fitted to heat the hot water and then added solar photovoltaics to generate electricity in 2010, which now earns us about £450 a year. All the appliances and materials I have used to ensure they are chosen with the environment in mind. For example, we sourced reclaimed floor boards for the entire ground floor and used recycled newspaper insulation to insulate between the joists."

The three bedroom detached house is a whole house retrofit, achieving 73% reduction in its emissions. The total floor area of 216 m² features multiple energy efficiency measures including external wall, floor, and loft insulation along with high-performance windows.

The benefit of all these features combined is a 73% carbon saving. Solar thermal panels have been added to the household water heating system, reducing the stress on the boiler. Compared to houses of the same size, the gas consumption is a third of the national average, and the electricity consumption less than 25%. As such, this home is nearly two and a half times the average size for its type and yet its electricity consumption is lower.

The SuperHome award is given by the National Energy Foundation. Lucy's house has joined 180 other properties across the UK that have achieved 'SuperHome' status - the homeowners have to prove they

have reduced their carbon emissions by at least 60% over the unimproved house- Lucy's has achieved a 71% reduction.

As well as championing sustainable building through The Green Register, Lucy and her husband Paul have a sustainable architecture firm, archipeleco, which specialises in designing buildings with a low impact on the environment. Lucy says *"I am very proud that my home is a SuperHome and that it is included in the Bristol Green Doors event in 2014. It demonstrates that you don't have to build a new property, with all the energy and materials that involves, in order to live a more sustainable life. Retrofitting an existing house could enable millions of homeowners reduce their carbon footprint. It shows that you can live without all the draughts and high fuel bills in an older home in comfort."*

You can see all the changes Lucy has made and book a tour online at www.bristolgreendoors.org

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Notes to Editors:

1. Please direct all enquiries, interviews & press place requests to Sally Collister:
sally@greenregister.org.uk / 0117 377 3490 / 07960 227 015
2. The Green Register is an independent, non-profit training and membership organisation founded in 2000 which pioneers sustainable building practices across all sectors of the construction industry - <http://www.greenregister.org.uk>
3. The Bristol Green Doors event is in its sixth year, and showcases homes across the city which demonstrate how homes can be more sustainable. Visit www.bristolgreendoors.org for more information.
4. For more information on the SuperHome scheme visit www.superhomes.org.uk