

## Case Study: The Our Land Landscape Promise

**Sally Brown**

### The Shepherd's Hut, near Patcham

#### What type of business do you run?

I have a genuine downland shepherd's hut nestled in the South Downs where my guests can wake up in the morning to the sounds of the South Downs and go to sleep looking at the stars.

#### Why did you start it?



I always wanted a shepherd's hut of my own. My family has farmed here for 100 years; in the past the farm

had its own hut for the shepherd watching over the sheep on the downs during the lambing season. Four years ago I purchased a genuine hut from Dorset and transported it home. It took around 18 months to renovate and create the garden. Now the farm and I have our own hut again!

#### Why is the landscape important for your business?



The South Downs brings me my guests. Many of them are travelling the South Downs Way and arrive by

foot or bicycle. For those arriving on horseback we provide stables, fields, food and water.

The hut, tucked away in its own garden, is surrounded by our 1,500 acre farm. When you're in the hut you can keep the top door open and look out onto the South Downs National Park. The only access by car is down a mile long single farm track.

There's lots to see within walking distance. The village of Patcham is just a mile away. A twenty-minute walk takes you to the Chattri memorial. During WWI injured Indian soldiers were hospitalised in the Dome and the Royal Pavilion Hospital in Brighton. The Hindus and Sikhs who died were cremated on the Downs and in 1921;



the Chattri memorial was constructed on the cremation site in honour of their memory.

Devils Dyke and Ditchling Beacon are both within close proximity and boast fabulous views, they are also great spots for picnics and flying kites. The Jack and Jill Windmills are iconic features that stand atop the scenic South Downs. The two traditional Sussex corn windmills have been restored to working order and are open to view on summer Sundays and bank holidays.

The combination of my authentic downland shepherd's hut set in the local South Downs landscape makes a stay here unique.