

## Brecon Beacons Ambassador - Powys Hotel Catering Waste Composting Using Rocket In Vessel Composter at Gliffaes Country House Hotel



By James Suter:

The Gliffaes Hotel, near Crickhowell in the Brecon Beacons National Park occupies a fantastic 30 acre site overlooking the river Usk and is a site rich in bio-diversity. The hotel has 23 rooms, a bar and restaurant open to residents and non-residents alike. The hotel employs about 35 staff, both full and part time. For 2006 the hotel achieved an occupancy level of just over 65%. The hotel is a limited company and has been owned by the same family since 1948. James & Susie Suter are the third generation of the Brabner family to run the hotel.

Like all business we have a waste stream to deal with. The largest volume of waste is cardboard packaging this is followed by glass. Both of these are re-cycled at the hotel's own expense. The hotel also generates a large amount of food waste, generated while preparing meals and also from what is left by customers on their plates. Last summer (2006) I measured the amount of this waste over an average week. The volume of un-compressed waste over one week filled one 1100 Eurobin.

Instead of putting this waste into landfill I thought that we should be able to compost it on site and use the compost on the garden and start to grow more vegetables for use in the hotel.

On investigating the composting of food waste in this volume my search led to a company called Accelerated Compost, who at the time were based in Warrington. I took the time to visit and look at their range of machinery that is built to deal with this volume and type of waste, and discussed the potential application at Gliffaes.

Several Months later I have been approached by the Centre for Environmental Studies in the Hotelier Industry (CESHI) and have become part of their pilot scheme for small businesses, this study and our co-operation will see results of my on site recycling being used in helping other businesses see the practicality of on site composting.

Lastly and most recently we have taken delivery of one of Accelerated Composts A700 Rocket Composters, which we've housed in existing buildings on site, this unit is now to be used for the trials with CESHI and at the end, to continue its work solely for our purposes. We are more than happy to act as "ambassadors" in this area and will be more than happy in communication with others on our progress.

[www.gliffaeshotel.com](http://www.gliffaeshotel.com)

