

Disability Discrimination Act

Access Statement

Brief Overview

10th February 2004
Amended 29th July 2004
Amended 15th May 2008
Amended 22nd December 2008

Tony and Sandy Whitehead have attended a disability awareness course organised by South Somerset District council Tuesday 13th May 2008

The Gables was built circa 1670 originally as a bakery and adjoining cottage. By 1848 the shop had become the village stores and Post Office. The Gables remained unaltered structurally until 1900 when a second storey was added to the front end elevation of the building directly above the bakery.

In 1925 the bakery closed and the shop and Post Office relocated within the village. At the same time The Gables became a Private Hotel and was refurbished accordingly and provided Tea Rooms in what had been the bake house area.

In 1985 a new kitchen extension was added to the rear of the building along with laundry and ironing facilities.

In 2003 electrical re-wiring and extensive re-plumbing was under taken as part of an over-all refurbishment programme. This included the installation of emergency lighting and mains connected smoke detector alarms.

The car park is situated on a steep gravelled slope leading to a tarmac drive to the guests/tea room entrance which is wide enough to accommodate a wheel chair. There is a through access to the gardens at the rear of the building approached up 3 stone steps with hand rail.

The down stairs toilet is approached up 2 steps and serves the tea room and guest ground floor bedroom. There are hand rails inside the toilet. The ground floor bedroom is approached up 2 steps with hand rails into the room.

4 further rooms are situated on the first floor approached by a straight flight of stairs with a hand rail on both sides. Rooms are small and compact and typical of the period of the property each leading off a winding and irregular passageway. Each room has wash basin, TV and electric kettle, shaver point and central heating. 2 Rooms have a shower while 1 room has shower and toilet. There is a toilet and shower on the first landing. All rooms and access areas are guarded by heavy self closing fire doors.

Tea Room menus and guest Registration forms are printed additionally in extra large print
Two lounge chairs with arms have been added to the tea room to facilitate ease of use.

Yeovil Junction rail station is 4 miles to the north and requires a taxi service transportation to reach The Gables. Bus services run spasmodically throughout the day from Yeovil Town Bus Station to Crewkerne 4 miles to the south west. There is a bus stop 150yards away from us down a steep incline in our village of East Chinnock.

Access Statement

Introduction

The Gables Guest House and Tea Room is situated in the Village of East Chinnock midway between Yeovil and Crewkerne on the A30 being equally 4 miles from both these busy centres. The property is over three hundred years old and while we endeavour to meet the needs of all our guests there are aspects which may make access difficult for people with limited mobility. We have one standard (having no en suite facility) guest bedroom on the ground floor which is accessed via two steps up. The remaining four guest rooms are on the first floor via a straight staircase of 20 steps. Guests entrance is shared with the tea room/breakfast room and is wide enough to accommodate a wheel chair unlike the guest bedrooms which are typically narrow.

Pre-Arrival

- We are located on the busy A30 equi-distant between Yeovil and Crewkerne. The car park at the rear of the building is accessed at the end of the driveway into the property.
- The nearest general store and Post Office is approximately 150 yards away but opens only Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday each week. The nearest shopping centres are Yeovil and Crewkerne both 4 miles away.
- The nearest bus stop is 150 yards away. Buses run frequently throughout the day.
- Yeovil Junction and Crewkerne mail line railway stations are equally 4 miles away and require Taxi or private car transport to reach.
- We are happy to make Taxi bookings with the various companies in the area on your behalf.
- Our information sheets and menu and registration form is available in large print but we have no facility to create a Braille document.
- Our website www.thegablesyeovil.co.uk provides details of all our facilities and contact details.

Arrival and Car Parking

- Please advise us of your preferred time of arrival.
- We request that guests arrive after 4pm to ensure that accommodation is ready. However earlier arrival is possible by prior arrangement.
- The car park is situated on a slope at the rear of the building and is approached from the driveway alongside the building which is flat. Both areas are gravelled.
- Assistance with luggage is provided.

Main Entrance

- There is a 3cm step over the entrance to the tea room and guest accommodation.
- Please ring the bell on the wall outside the tea room entrance. During the opening times for the tea room his door will be left open and always locked at other times.

Guest Accommodation—Public Areas

- The main entrance leads directly into the tea room and breakfast room. Directly opposite the front door across the tea room is the entrance to the guest accommodation.
- Immediately leaving the tea room and entering the hall way a ground floor double standard room without en suite facility is accessed on the left via two 20 cm steps up to the room

- Our remaining four guest rooms are situated on the first floor accessed via a staircase comprising of two 20cm high steps 85cm wide leading to a small landing then turns to the right and continues upwards with 14 steps each 20cm high 85cm wide.
- The stairs are carpeted and both sides have wooden hand rails.
- The entire building is centrally heated and radiators offer the facility to individually adjust temperature.
- Hallways and stairway is fitted with smoke alarms and emergency lighting.
- Emergency exits are clearly indicated and directions are found throughout the building and are supported by emergency lighting.

Tea Room/Breakfast Room

- Our tea room doubles as the breakfast room.
- There are two easy high backed chairs either side of a coffee table and standard reading lamp. A variety of magazines are provided.
- Comprehensive selections of information leaflets are provided.

Bedrooms.

- One bedroom is situated on the ground floor while the remaining four are on the first floor.
- Two rooms are Tin bedded, one has a shower only en suite and the other is a standard room.
- Two rooms are Double bedded, one has a shower only en suite while the other is a standard room.
- One room is a family room comprising a double bed and a single bed (2'6" wide) and has a toilet and shower en suite.
- All rooms have colour TV remote control, alarm clock/radio, tea and coffee making facility, central heating, HC wash basin. Shaver point and additional blankets.
- Additional heaters and hot water bottles, hair dryer, iron and iron board are available on request.
- All rooms include a dressing table, chair, bedside table or chest, chest of drawers and wardrobe.
- Each room contains a comprehensive information statement and instructions on the event of fire.
- All rooms are fitted with smoke alarm.

Bedroom 1

- Bedroom 1 is at the end of the landing after turning left at the top of the stairs.
- The doorway is low reaching only 5'10" (200cm)
- The bedroom is accessed through the shower room containing a shower and hand basin and radiator.
- The bedroom has a 4'6" double bed accessed from both sides and a radiator as well as all listed furniture.

Bedroom 2

- Bedroom 2 is first door on right after turning left at the top of the stairs.
- This room contains two 3' wide single beds one accessed from both sides and one from one side only.
- Shower room contains a shower and wash basin only as well as all listed furniture.
- There is one thermostatically controlled radiator.

Bedroom 3

- Bedroom 3 is directly opposite the top of the stairs.
- This room provides two 3' single beds, one accessed from both sides and one from one side only.
- The room contains all listed furniture and a wash basin, radiator.

Bedroom 4

- Bedroom 4 is the last room on the landing after turning right at top of the stairs.
- The room contains one 4'6" double bed and one 2'6" single bed as well as all listed furniture.
- The single bed is accessed from one side only while the double bed is accessed from both sides.
- The room has a radiator and shower/toilet en suite with radiator

Gardens

- We have a garden comprising of lawn. Flower beds and a patio.
- Guests are welcome to relax in the garden at all times.
- The garden also accommodates those customers using the tea room.
- Access to the garden is via the tea room leading to the hallway to the rear door followed by three worn stone steps up 20cm to the lawn area. The patio is reached across the lawn and is raised 12cm.

Additional Information

- All bedrooms have smoke detectors and alarms.
- All hallways and landings have smoke alarms and emergency exits are clearly indicated and supported with emergency lighting in the event of a power failure of any sort
- Fire escape is clearly shown in all rooms and guests are directed to exit via the bolted only rear tea room door into the gardens.
- We do not allow smoking as per the law in any part of the building and only allow smoking in the gardens away from the windows.
- We are happy to accommodate special dietary needs if advised in advance and will refrigerate medicines or any food stuffs if required.
- Mobile phone reception is weak from the house.

Contact Information

- **Address:** The Gables Guest House, High St, East Chinnock, Yeovil, Somerset. BA22 9DR
- **Telephone:** 01935 862237. There is an answer phone if we are not available which gives our mobile number.
- **Mobile phone number:** 07721929471
- **E-Mail :** tands.whitehead@btinternet.com
- **Website:** www.thegablesyeovil.co.uk

We are open all year round.