

Press release – 1st May 2009

Prickly Ball Farm open for season under new ownership

Torquay Real Estate, **team** estate agent on Babbacombe Road in the town, is delighted to have been involved in the sale and purchase of a popular tourist attraction, which re-opened for the 2009 season under new ownership.

Prickly Ball Farm and Hedgehog Hospital, the busy hands-on hedgehog hospital near Newton Abbot, attracts thousands of visitors each season. The hospital cares for hundreds of sick and injured hedgehogs every year. 'Meet the Hedgehogs' talks are run throughout the day where visitors, including those on school trips, learn about the hedgehog year, their feeding habits and how we can encourage them into our gardens.

The large, hedgehog-friendly garden with Hedgehog Village allows recovering hedgehogs time to get used to their natural environment before being released back into the wild. Visitors can meet, touch and learn about hedgehogs and from June to September, see baby Hedgehogs feeding.

The cafe serves hot and cold food, and 'hedgehoggy' items can be bought from the gift shop or online. Also included in the sale, Prickly Ball Farm features a children's play area along with 'Grooming the Ponies', 'Feeding the Lambs', goat racing, Pet's Corner, Nursery, chickens, ferrets, chipmunks and three pigs called Huff, Puff and Blow.

John Lawton, partner of Torquay Real Estate, was extremely excited to receive instructions to sell the attraction for the previous owners and is delighted with the happy outcome. He said: "We had a lot of interest in Prickly Ball Farm from many prospective purchasers but there was one couple who viewed the attraction when it first went onto the market and fell in love with it - however, they had to sell their own property. As it happened, a sale had fallen through on the Farm at the time the new owners received a serious offer on their property and we were able to sell Prickly Ball Farm to the new owners, Stephanie and Steve, who, along with their families, are thrilled and overjoyed."

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Stephanie and Steve have some exciting plans for Prickly Ball Farm. Stephanie said: "Torquay Real Estate helped us get the transaction through quickly, which gave us just a couple of weeks to make some improvements and prepare for opening, but we did it and we are really excited about the Farm and the future. There is always plenty going on and the whole family loves caring for the animals."

Prickly Ball Farm is open seven days a week until the end of October. Admission, held at 2008 prices, costs £5.95 for adults and £5.25 for children (3-14 years). Family rates, group rates and season tickets are available. Prickly Ball Farm also caters for birthday parties. For more information, call 01626 362319.

For a no-obligation market valuation, whatever the property, to view a property for sale or for simple, no-nonsense advice, call Torquay Real Estate on 01803 327287 or visit www.teamprop.co.uk.

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Ariel view of Prickly Ball Farm



Owners' accommodation



Prickly Ball Farm cafe

Digital images are available from bubblepr@mac.com

Notes to editors:

Westcountry **team** is part of **team** Association, the largest organisation for independent estate agents in the UK, with hundreds of members. Westcountry **team** covers Cornwall, Devon and West Dorset, and consists of 70+ members at this time, all of which work together to sell property for clients, and are actively committed to their nominated charity, Macmillan Cancer Support. **team**'s 'blue sky' image, with transparent team logo on a blue sky background reflects the association's and each individual agent's commitment to providing a clear, transparent service to their clients and conducting business in a straightforward, honest and professional way.



Inside the cafe

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