

Lockdown news from West Lodge Park Hotel

The Beale family have been serving Hadley Wood and the surrounding area for 76 years since March 1945 when my father moved to West Lodge Park with his parents. There have been economic ups and downs of course, but nothing could have prepared us for the shock of the last 12 months.



The last year has been pretty awful for the hotel sector - we have been open in most departments only from July until mid-October, but then have been almost completely closed under increasingly tight restrictions and tiers from government. The hundred or so staff of the hotel have mainly been furloughed, and life has been very tough for us all.

Currently in February 2021, the bedrooms are open to essential travellers only, as well as those who are moving house, or having repairs done to their homes. But the Mary Beale Restaurant, Terrace Bar and banqueting rooms are sadly closed. However we have welcomed many hundreds of guests to enjoy walks in the beautiful 35 acres of grounds around the hotel, with takeaway coffee and tea served at the back door of the hotel. The beautiful specimen trees in the Beale Arboretum have thrived in the clean air and reduced pollution of the lockdown months. Nature teaches us all to be patient and find joy in small things on the doorstep.

We have not stayed idle, working hard to develop our new 210 square metre bar terrace, with solid oak gazebos for the terrace arriving next week, which will give shelter on the terrace with heating and lighting to extend the days and the seasons. At the same time we are developing a beautiful garden pavilion which will be available for wedding ceremonies and the like once we are able to reopen.

One day (Easter ? May ?) life will return to some sort of normality and the wonderful team at West Lodge Park will get back to doing what we do best, welcoming our Hadley Wood friends back to your lovely neighbourhood hotel.

Andrew Beale,

Managing Director Beales Hotels

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