



Client

Private self builders

Products

SI 11MSR ground source heat pumps

Partners

WDS Environmental

Grand designs for Dimplex heat pumps

Dimplex heat pumps are at the heart of a 'Grand Designs' style barn conversion that's transformed a country cowshed into a stylish and contemporary, energy efficient family home.

Set in the Heart of England, overlooking the rolling Northamptonshire countryside, the £1.2million conversion is designed for optimum energy efficiency and solar gain, with two SI 11MSR ground source heat pumps providing the energy for the underfloor heating system and the hot water.

The house, completed in spring 2007, was designed to meet the high specifications of its owner Katy Miller, who drew on her previous experience in property restoration to draw up demanding design criteria. Not only did it need to provide high levels of energy efficiency, it needed to combine the best of old and new for a super contemporary feel, using elements such as the original steel structures of the cowshed, plus a new glass and oak feature wall.

The two heat pumps were installed by Dimplex-approved installer partner, Cardiff-based WDS Environmental. They provide all the power for the underfloor heating and the hot water for the 4-bedroom property, drawing on energy extracted from four 100 metre-deep boreholes concealed within the two acres of garden.

Two 11kW output Dimplex heat pumps were needed to supply the power demanded by the 3,100 square ft property and up to 75% of the property's energy for heating and hot water is effectively free.

Unusually, the property's design has a central 'plant room' which cleverly conceals and hides all the essential services and controls for the barn. Due to the property's design, the plant room's height goes up to the apex of the barn and the use of floor space has been kept to a minimum by mounting the hot water and buffer tanks above the actual heat pump units.

"I started the project with a very specific set of objectives and had done extensive research into energy saving initiatives which confirmed that ground source heat pumps were a natural choice for all sorts of reasons including the availability of garden space, topped with the reassurance that Dimplex has over 25 years experience in the market," explains Katy Miller.

"The children just love the underfloor heating and even though the heat pumps are actually in the centre of the house, there's no noise. Our neighbours and friends all seem to want heat pumps and I've been so delighted with WDS and Dimplex, that two more orders are already on their way from people I know!" she adds.

A central external courtyard is a major focal point of the house, with rooms overlooking it and views to the garden which has been designed by acclaimed garden media personality and Chartered Landscape Architect, Bunny Guinness.



Comfort. By design

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