Lytham Life

Warm welcome

The first hotel for decades has opened in Lytham and it's a bit special says Amanda Griffiths







Above centre and above: Some of the bedrooms
Far left top: The freestanding bath in room one
Far left bottom: Only the best in bathroom accessories
Left: The breakfast room

ACKIE Savage and Andy Baker have done their fair share of travelling over the years and they've seen an awful lot of hotel rooms.

So, when the couple decided to put down roots in Lytham and open a hotel of their own, it's not surprising they wanted to do something different.

The Rooms is a gorgeous five-bedroom, boutique hotel on Church Road. The attention to detail paid by Jackie and Andy, who designed each room, is ultimately what makes it so exciting. Bedrooms are all decorated in stylish shades to give them a contemporary feel and space is used to a maximum, wardrobe and hanging space often hidden behind the luxurious padded headboards.

Each of the rooms are individually designed and include features like 37" flat screen TVs with built in DVD players, iPod docking stations, DAB radios and lights are controlled by futuristic-looking panels rather than the traditional light switch.

Each bedroom boasts classic, yet quirky bathrooms/wetrooms with 'rain showers'

and have heating beneath the stone tiles. My favourite bathroom has to be the one in 'room one' which as well as a curvy shower cubicle has a freestanding large bath, from which you can watch the television if you so choose! Due to the layout of the house and maximising space, one en-suite bathroom is reached by going down a small staircase. Many of the bedrooms have sloping roofs and skylights which add to the quirky feel of the hotel.

Rates for the hotel also include breakfast served in the intimate breakfast room which, with bright green lights glowing at the bottom of shelves laden with fresh fruit, home-made juices and freshly made smoothies and other self-service breakfast goodies, has a feel of a cocktail bar. Guests will then be able to sample a full traditional breakfast, cooked by Andy, or choose from an alternative menu, such as roasted field mushroom served on granary toast, or smoked salmon with cream cheese served on potato cake. Champagne breakfasts can also be taken in the garden on hot summer days.

It's taken Jackie and Andy two years to see the project to fruition and they're quite rightly proud of what they've achieved. Their aim was to provide somewhere 'as nice as home, or nicer' and feel that the casual but sophisticated feel and a 'open house' attitude.

Comments from the guest book on their opening weekend show that their efforts have been appreciated. Within weeks of opening they've even had a wedding party staying over night with the bride and her bridesmaids leaving for the church the next day from hotel.

You definitely need to see this hotel to appreciate the charm it oozes and if you're planning a weekend break you might want to book early as I'm sure as time goes by Andy and Jackie are going to be kept busy with a steady stream of guests.

Amanda Griffiths

Rates at The Rooms start from £95 and include VAT and breakfast. The Rooms, 35 Church Road, Lytham, FY8 5LL, 01253 736000, www.theroomslytham.com

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