

**TO GO**

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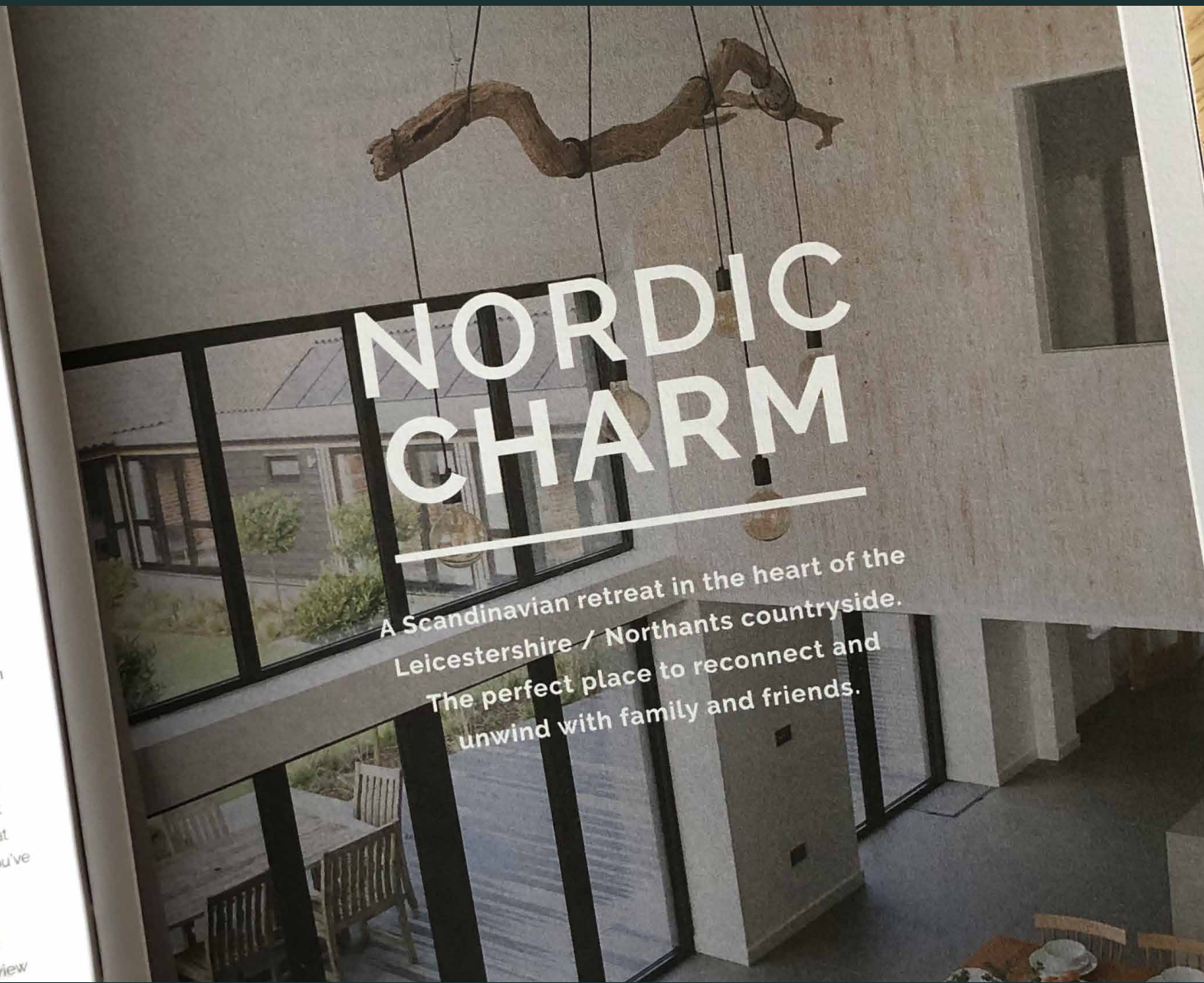
**the Paint Pottle**

**The Paint Pottle**  
43 St Mary's Road  
Market Harborough  
Leicestershire

Art plays a really important part in the way we tell our history. That's why The Paint Pottle and Button Lane Arts & Crafts are asking you to contribute to their lockdown postcard art project, to capture our community's feelings at this time.

All ages and abilities can take part. Maybe you want to express your fears, what you've missed or what you've liked about lockdown.

The deadline for submissions is 31st July



# NORDIC CHARM

A Scandinavian retreat in the heart of the Leicestershire / Northants countryside. The perfect place to reconnect and unwind with family and friends.

“”

THE CHOICE OF TIMBER, CLEAN LINES AND  
CLEVER USE OF SUNLIGHT WORK TOGETHER TO  
GIVE A CONTEMPORARY, YET COSY, FEEL.

When you step through the doors of the Nordic Farmhouse on the outskirts of Dingley, something rather magical happens. Even after a day of rushing around with a never-ending to-do list, I felt my shoulders loosen and my head clear as I took in the calming surroundings.

The muted décor and endless swathes of sunlight streaming through the living area's bi-fold doors were like a balm. It is this that sets the Nordic Farmhouse apart from just another holiday let.

'Building work started in October 2017,' says Laura, owner and renovator extraordinaire. 'Which just happened to be the same week my eldest child was born! It was a lot more work than we thought it would be, but we started taking bookings and opened towards the end of 2019.'

The farm has been in Laura and her husband's family for 20 years, but Laura always knew she could do something special with the disused outbuildings to the side of the farm. 'I originally thought I could run it as a B&B, which is why all the rooms have their own keys, bathrooms and flat-screen TVs. For now we're letting it out as self-catering.'

The farmhouse has an impressive seven bedrooms. All of which are furnished to an exceptionally high standard and have en-suite bathrooms. In the main building there is a large double room that overlooks the living area, while downstairs five of the bedrooms open up onto the landscaped courtyard, which also contains a wood-fired hot tub and, of course, a sauna.

'My Nordic heritage can definitely be seen in the sauna,' says Laura, whose mother is Finnish. 'We have a window inside so you can look out over the fields while you have your sauna. It is how it is done in Finland - although the

builders weren't convinced!'

However, it is not just in the sauna where the Nordic Farmhouse lives up to its name. The choice of timber, clean lines and clever use of sunlight work together to give a contemporary, yet cosy, feel. The house can accommodate 14 people, yet it never feels too vast nor too crowded.

So far, the farmhouse has been used for yoga retreats and family gatherings. 'We had a family to stay whose members lived all over the country and America. Here, they had a base to be together, while each having their own space. We can offer a caterer to come in and cook for special occasions, or some people have organised their own caterers, or cooked for themselves. The dining table can seat up to 26, so it really is the perfect place for a celebration!'

Laura also has lots of ideas for the future. 'I'd love to do a crafting retreat,' she says. It would be great to get local crafters from the area to do tutorials and workshops, provide great food and a weekend of crafting.'

From the stunning log chandelier (made by Laura herself) to the cosy nook by the open fire, to the luxury hotel feel of the bedrooms, The Nordic Farmhouse really is a special place to visit. The kitchen is stocked with all the tools you need for a wonderful gathering, and the accommodation is pure relaxation. Child-friendly, yet high-spec. Country living, yet luxury finish. The only problem you'll have at the farmhouse is leaving.

To check availability or to discuss your holiday or event, contact the Farmhouse at [info@nordicfarmhouse.com](mailto:info@nordicfarmhouse.com).  
[www.nordicfarmhouse.com](http://www.nordicfarmhouse.com)



Life during lockdown

'Bookings stopped in March, inline with government guidelines, which has been a total shame as it was our first summer season and I was really pleased with the level of bookings we had in for the Easter and the early summer period. However, I can't say it has been a quiet and reflective time as I have 2 young children and the farm has carried on as normal. The cows have been calving, the crops have been drilled and we've even had 'virtual' farm inspections.

Sadly, the Farmhouse has sat empty through the whole lockdown period. However, I must say the garden is looking great and we so look forward to our guests being able to enjoy it from July.'



GRAPHY: DORTE KJAERULFF & GEMMA BARDER

NORDIC FARMHOUSE

DINGLEY, LEICESTERSHIRE

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DINGLEY, LEICESTERSHIRE