



Check out this new hotel for guinea pigs

Michele Pannell with the individually named cages, above, and right, with some furry guests.

Pictures Hannah Powell

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IF you're a pet owner there's often nothing worse than organising who's going to look after your animals while you're away on holiday.

Dog owners can put their dogs in kennels, cats get to go to a cattery, while other people rely on friends to take their pets or pop in to their home and feed the animals or birds every day.

But what happens with guinea pigs? These small creatures can be very difficult to look after with some owners not knowing who could care for them properly while they enjoy time away.

But not anymore. Guinea pigs can now enjoy a time of luxury when they get checked in to Andover's new and unique PiggieWiggies Hotel.

Michele Pannell, who has three guinea pigs of her own,

by **Lydia Kinnell**

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set up PiggieWiggies Hotel at her home in Watermills Close after deciding she wanted a business dedicated to something she loved and knew a lot about.

"I've had guinea pigs for about eight years and love them as each one is so individual," said Michele, who is also the local lost and found officer for Cats Protection.

"I noticed a gap in the market and as I'm knowledgeable about how to look after guinea pigs I thought it would be a great thing to offer.

"My guinea pigs are spoilt rotten and any guinea pigs that stay with me will be enjoying a

bit of luxury with soft vet bedding and regular attention.

"I absolutely love it and I'm really pleased it's all come together."

While on holiday owners can receive text updates about how their guinea pig is doing and once they've returned they could even take away souvenir pictures of their pet enjoying their hotel stay.

PiggieWiggies Hotel can currently cater for 16 guinea pigs who can stay in Mint Mansion, Parsley Palace, Basil Barn, Dilly Den or Chive Cottage.

If the hotel is successful Michele hopes to expand in the future to cater for more guinea pigs and maybe rabbits.

For more information visit piggiewiggies.co.uk, email michele@piggiewiggies.co.uk or call 07501 437845.

