



Network

News

May 2007

AECB Listed Member Profiles, The New Way To Find Green Building Professionals

Market your products and services to people looking for Green Building Professionals, many of whom use the AECB website as a first port of call.

The Listed Member Profiles are now active and allow you to differentiate your business by displaying your green credentials.

Members who have filled in their profile will go to the top of member searches. If you go to www.aecb.net/findmembers.php and click 'find' you will see how this works.

Smaller companies without the resources to maintain a website can use this as a mini website whilst all companies are encouraged to provide hard evidence of environmental performance.

Rather than reading more go to www.aecb.net/profiles.php, where existing profiles can be viewed.

From the main website, go to members area/my account in the menu on the left of the page and click on 'edit your member profile' then set up your own profile which can remain hidden from view until you are happy to click 'publish'.

Or go to www.aecb.net/myaccount.php

You will need to be logged in with your user name and password.

The web team, Tom, Chris and Nick

Regional AECB Groups

For those of you who were at the last conference you may recall putting your name down to express an interest in a local group. Well the movement has started. So far groups themselves decide how often to meet and what their aims and objectives are.

We would like to start a discussion going at the next conference about how to facilitate this further to encourage more members to enjoy meeting up outside of this once a year event.

So far two groups have been established and three more are in the pipeline. The discussions regarding this can be seen on the Forum under AECB Business and discussion under Networking/Local Groups

The South East Group have meet in Brighton three times so far, (These meetings are quarterly) our last meeting was at the Brighton Earthship. It is very encouraging to meet and compare latest green issues, planning stories and hot topics.

We currently have around 16 members and are hoping to get a minibus together to go up to the AECB Conference in June.

The North East Regional Group is chaired by Mark Siddall who posts regular updates on the WEB site.

Anyone interested in joining a group in the Humber and Yorkshire region please contact Claire on cwalker@myddelton.co.uk

Similarly for the Norwich area please contact James Livingston james@euphorbia.freeserve.co.uk

The London group is going to start, and I have rescheduled a date for the evening of Wednesday 23rd May. The original date coincided with Ecobuild. Please contact Joanna@ecotecture.co.uk for details of time and venue.

Finally if you did put your name down last June a list was published on the Forum. Feel free to look at it again and contact someone in your area or even start up your own group!

Joanna Saady, Regional Group Co-ordinator

Scheme To Support Greener Homes Hits New Obstacle

The government's support for domestic renewable energy systems has hit another problem as a scheme listing authorised suppliers has been closed before a replacement has opened.

A week ago the Department of Trade and Industry wrote to suppliers of solar, wind and heat pump technologies saying the Clear Skies accredited supplier scheme would close at the end of March, the deadline for firms wanting to be included. But then abruptly it shut the system on Friday evening with only a few hours' notice.

The body that gives the grants for renewable energy systems, formerly also Clear Skies now the Low Carbon Buildings Programme, has also been criticised. Its grants, given monthly, have been running out after the first hour of each month. In the December pre-budget report Gordon Brown did not top up the LCBP funding, which is set at £80m over three years.

The DTI has told firms the new system of accreditation will be the UK Microgeneration Certification Scheme, run by the Building Research Establishment. But the new scheme is not open and industry fears it could be months before it is. Source The Guardian.

Renewables Firms Left Idle As DTI Halts Green Grants - Green Firms Attack DTI Over Grant Fiasco

Renewable energy firms are laying off staff because the government has shut its grant scheme that helps households adopt green energy technologies such as solar panels. The grant suspension means not a penny has been committed to any household since March 1, leading to accusations that it has made a mockery of the government's green credentials.

The Department of Trade and Industry has tried to support the fledgling renewables industry in recent years with a series of grant schemes designed to make technologies such as solar, wind and ground source heat pumps cheap enough to appeal to domestic users.

But the latest scheme, the Low Carbon Buildings Programme (LCBP), has been dogged by controversy as unreliable funding has made it difficult for firms to plan.

In response to criticism that the household part of the grant scheme kept running out of money on the first of every month, Gordon Brown put in an extra £6m in last month's budget, adding to the £12m set aside last year to fund the LCBP until mid-2008.

But the energy minister Lord Truscott then called in renewables firms and said the DTI was shutting the grants scheme until some time in May to better assess how to run it. If they grumbled to the press, he said - according to firms at the meeting - the money would not flow for several more months.

A DTI spokesman denied that any such threat had been issued by Lord Truscott, adding: "After receiving an extra £6m in the budget we decided on a short suspension of LCBP grants for householders while we looked at ways of improving the allocation process.

Environmental campaigners were unimpressed. "This is an astonishing way to treat a fledgling industry that could be a core part of a thriving future low carbon economy," said Dave Timms of Friends of the Earth. "The announcement of job losses means the situation has now descended from farce into tragedy. We need to see a quantum leap in the funding for small-scale renewable energy and a regulatory framework which rolls out these technologies nationwide." Source The Guardian.

Proposals To Cut Planning Red Tape A Potential Boost For Renewables

The Department of Communities and Local Government, headed by Communities Secretary Ruth Kelly, has launched a consultation paper recommending changes in planning procedures to encourage the up-take of microgeneration.

The paper proposes that in future people seeking to install renewable technology in their homes will no longer need to apply for planning permission where it is clear there is little or no impact on neighbouring properties.

The announcement by DCLG was made following the passage into law of the Climate Change and Sustainable Energy Act 2006. Section 10 of the Act requires the government to review the system of permitted development with a view to facilitating the greater uptake of microgeneration, form a view on necessary changes, and implement those changes.

The consultation period is 4 April 2007 to 27 June 2007 and requires responses to be submitted by 25 June 2007, go to www.communities.gov.uk/index.asp?id=1508888. Source The Renewable Energy Association.

Pupils Get Involved In 'School Of Future' Design

Pupils from Watford school Parmiter's take part today in a design evaluation of the 'school of the future' being built by Willmott Dixon Re-Thinking on the BRE site in Watford. The school will be a central feature of BRE's OFFSITE2007 exhibition in 11-14 June.

Charles Tincknell, head of Re-Thinking says, 'Although it's not done frequently enough, engaging at an early stage with end-users such as teachers and pupils in an education project is crucial to the project's success. We want their view on the design, how it looks, find out their best way of learning and how useful our school will be to them as a learning tool, plus their thoughts on improving the design of education facilities generally. Although this school is a demonstration building, we will encourage pupils from local schools like Parmiter's to use it, so it is really important to us to get the design right.'

Architect firm White Design will talk the pupils through the design they developed with Re-Thinking and services consultant Max Fordham to gauge their opinion on the issues faced by modern day students and what can be incorporated into the design of new schools.

The aim of the demonstration school is to show how an inspirational school design, that is both sustainable and affordable, can meet the needs of students and teachers. Although not as big as a real school, its innovative design will demonstrate principles that would be incorporated into a full-size school. Once construction is completed in time for the launch at OFFSITE2007, pupils will be invited back to view the finished building. They will be encouraged to use the facility and complete a post-occupancy type survey for the company.

The school aims to be carbon neutral and will be built from a recycled solid timber system supplied by Eurban, a new product in the UK. The system has great flexibility in that it does not require roof trusses or other projections that normally inhibit future expansion of the school. The inherent thermal mass of the Eurban system coupled with secure night ventilation will keep internal temperatures constant in the summer. During mid season and winter, the highly insulated envelope will retain heat gained through passive solar gain.

The school will demonstrate that modern methods of construction can be

- materially sustainable
- low carbon- embodied and operational
- cost effective
- beautiful

It will also demonstrate natural ventilation and day lighting.

Myddelton Shortlisted For The RICS Pro Yorkshire Awards

Myddelton Construction Ltd, the Ilkley based specialist building contractor, have been shortlisted in the Building Conservation category for their specialist restoration and refurbishment of the Grade 1 listed Myddelton Lodge in Ilkley.

The complete restoration of a Grade 1 listed Hunting Lodge including infrastructure, Chapel, associated buildings and landscaping which was completed in September 2006 was shortlisted and will be being judged in the coming weeks. The winning entrants for each region will form the shortlist for the RICS International awards. The project included careful conservation of the external and internal fabric, and dry rot treatment, timber repairs, lime plastering, lime pointing, stone and structural repairs.

The Pro Yorkshire Awards 2007 will take place at Leeds Town Hall on the 25th May and will once again celebrate the achievements in the built environment within the region.

The awards will reward innovative schemes and developments from across Yorkshire and Humber which make a real contribution to the region.

For more information contact : cwalker@myddelton.co.uk

"Community Responsible Housing" – A Sustainable Future For Abersoch.

Relief is at hand for the Llanenganan areas chronic lack of new housing. Abersoch Watersport's Alex Badley (AECB Member) is 'catching the wave', using the responsible 'plank' of low impact sustainable development.

The UK & Welsh government initiatives are weighing-in with substantial encouragement for the twin objectives of low-ecological-footprint lifestyle, and delivering the affordable homes urgently being sought by Gwynedd County Council.

These homes are intended as a response to the needs of the intermediate market, for local people and key workers in essential local services, such as schoolteachers. Tenure will be mixed between lease or freehold, shared ownership, and rented to create a balanced community.

Alex himself was attracted originally to Abersoch by the quality of life available to residents. However, rapidly escalating property prices are now blighting the community, economically & culturally. Locals need the opportunity to choose to remain an integral part of the community, and to avoid being forced to move away.

The site, Hen Dy Fields (currently rough grazing land) forms part of the western fringe of Abersoch, either side of the Ion Engan road to Llanenganan. Light industrial and Storage units to help year-round local employment are also proposed for the lower field, beside the original works but with improved access and screened by landscaping.

Extensive planting of indigenous species, including fruit, will also help to create microclimate for energy efficient siting, and to integrate harmoniously with existing properties. The sketch plan suggests affordable and sheltered housing grouped around wind-sheltered, communal sunspaces, with cycle routes and footpaths to the village.

The project has attracted support of Gwynedd County Council Economic Development Department.

For further details contact: Alex Badley, Hen Dy Farm, Abersoch, LL53 7HY. Email abadley@orange.net, 07970 880554

Dealing With Impacts Of Climate Change In Wales

Ensuring that Wales is prepared to deal with the impacts of unavoidable climate change is the aim of a consultation launched by Environment Minister Carwyn Jones. Responding to Our Changing Climate outlines the impacts we can expect in Wales as a result of climate change and proposes actions that a range of key sectors need to take in response.

The consultation focuses on three main themes: increased temperature, pressure on water resources and increased risk of flooding and extreme weather events. The Minister said that no-one could any longer deny the reality of climate change and the serious consequences it has for people and the environment across the globe.

The Minister urged people to get involved in the consultation and make their views known.

"This consultation is just the starting point. Everyone has a part to play in helping Wales to adapt to the impacts of climate change. Each and every one of us, as individuals, communities, businesses and organisations, needs to start to think about what climate change will mean for us and what action we can take to ensure that we are fully prepared to deal with the impacts."

The Environment Strategy for Wales, published in May 2006, includes a commitment to develop a Climate Change Adaptation Action Plan setting out the action the Assembly Government, partner organisations and people across Wales need to take to respond to the impacts of climate change.

The final Action Plan will be reviewed on an annual basis, with a full refresh taking place every five years.

The consultation paper is available online – go to www.wales.gov.uk/climatechange and follow the link there.

Wave Power Farm Wins £21.5m Grant

The world's largest wave farm planned off the UK coast has secured sufficient funding for the project to go ahead as early as next year, subject to planning permission. A £21.5m regional development agency grant means the £28m Wave Hub project could soon be producing enough energy to power 7,500 homes.

Wave Hub will be sited 10 miles off St Ives on the Cornish coast and will test up to 40 prototype wave energy machines designed to harness the power of the sea. The "hub" will resemble an "electric socket" on the seabed into which wave energy devices will be connected.

Groups of wave energy machines connected to Wave Hub are expected to float on or just below the surface of the sea to assess how well they work and how much power they generate. The hub will be connected to the National Grid by a 15-mile cable linked to a new electricity substation at Hayle. It could generate 20 MW of electricity, around 3% of Cornwall's domestic electricity needs.

The funding was agreed this week by the South West of England Regional Development Agency. The South West RDA has applied to the UK government for planning permission to build the hub and a decision is expected next month. The project could generate £76m over 25 years for the regional economy and create at least 170 jobs, the RDA says.

Wave Hub could save 24,300 tonnes of carbon dioxide every year when displacing fossil fuels. Three wave energy companies are already working with the RDA to use Wave Hub and a fourth will soon be selected. Source Guardian Unlimited 26th February.

Germany Appears To Be Embracing Both Coal And Solar Technology For Power Generation.

Reportedly, up to 26 coal-fired power plants - which would burn either hard (anthracite) or brown (lignite) coal - are being built or are in the planning stages in Germany. "If all of those plants end up being installed, there is no way we can reach our climate protection goals for reducing emissions," said Reinhard Loske, a member of the German parliament and climate expert for the Green party parliamentary group.

www.dw-world.de/dw/article/0,2144,2396828,00.html Source RIBA World - 4th April 2007

Bahrain's World Trade Centre Completed

Bahrain's World Trade Centre development an extraordinary pair of towers with three wind turbines slung between them, has been completed. The three turbines, each 29 meters in diameter, are supported by bridges spanning between the BWTC's two 240-meter high towers. Through its positioning and the aerodynamic design of the towers, the prevailing on-shore Gulf breeze is funnelled into the path of the turbines, boosting the strength of the wind. Up to 15% of the centre's power could be generated from the turbines. The building was designed by Atkins.

http://pepei.pennnet.com/news/display_news_story.cfm?Section=WireNews&Category=HOME&NewsID=146420 Source RIBA World - 4th April 2007

How Global Warming Erupted 55m Years Ago

Volcanic eruptions 55 million years ago were responsible for the worst global warming the planet has known, but pale beside what mankind could do, a study shows. Eruptions along a 1,200-mile ridge pumped an estimated 4,000 to 5,000 gigatonnes of carbon into the atmosphere in about 10,000 years, warming the oceans by about 5 to 6C (9 to 10.8F).

The eruptions took place along the eastern side of what is now Greenland, and the volcanic activity split the two continents and pushed them apart, creating the North Atlantic Ocean. So much greenhouse gas, mainly carbon dioxide and methane, was emitted that it created what scientists call "a planetary emergency". The sudden surge in carbon emissions was, the study suggests, caused when magma from the increased volcanic activity forced its way into stockpiles of organic material collected over tens of thousands of years from dead animal and plant matter. As these "compost heaps" were cooked by the magma, they released trapped carbon.

Some of the organic material might have formed into oil and gas, and the huge quantities of carbon emitted turned the Arctic seas subtropical. Michael Storey, a British scientist based at Roskilde University in Denmark, led the research, which established the link between the increase in volcanic activity 55 million years ago and the rise in temperatures. The period of global warming is called the Paleocene-Eocene thermal maximum (PETM) and the mechanisms which caused it have long puzzled scientists.

It is ideal to study for climate change science, said researchers, because it offers evidence of how carbon emissions occur, how they cause temperatures to rise and how long it takes – 100,000 years in the case of the PETM – to recover. The study, published in the journal Science, suggests that volcanic activity destroying sedimentary stocks of organic material was the main driver.

The finding that organic stocks were the key reservoir for carbon emissions offers some optimism for the future. One fear is that, as the oceans warm, they will release greater quantities of methane hydrates, one of the most damaging contributors to global warming.

By finding that the PETM was likely to have been caused by volcanic magma cooking organic materials, the study suggests that warming of the oceans is less dangerous today than feared. PETM carbon levels rose dramatically, and led to 30-50 per cent of deep sea creatures becoming extinct, but nowhere near as quickly as is happening today. Source Times Online

Events

Film/Architecture/Narrative Exhibition – Bristol: Friday 20 April – Sunday 27 May

Film/Architecture/Narrative is an exhibition of street-based architectural interventions that explore the rituals of daily life and the stories we discover in the city. Consisting of videos, large scale models and images of student work from a Design Unit of the Bachelor of Architecture course at Bristol UWE, staff and students have been investigating relationships between filmic techniques and architecture, especially their intersection in the construction of narratives.

The projects also explore the way film – such a powerful cultural medium – can be engaged in the design and communication of architecture. The work on display comes from the Unit's initial project to design an architectural intervention in Spitalfields, East London: springing from intensive site studies and documentation of daily life in the area, the interventions were designed to alter, enhance or respond to the ritual behaviour of particular street users.

The interventions were also inspired by readings of short stories about urban life and an analysis of film elements such as montage, depth of field and open-form. To explore their designs and to communicate them, students produced large scale models as well as a video or image sequence. The architecture created is imaginative, responds to the activities of daily life and is designed to be experienced by the public. The

methods of communicating the work are intended to be accessible, engaging and three dimensional - using media that are well understood by many audiences.

Open Tuesday to Friday, 11am - 5pm, Saturday and Sunday, 12 noon - 5pm, Closed Monday

Visit www.architecturecentre.co.uk

Achieving Sustainable Buildings - Clients In Control Thursday 10th May, The Genesis Centre, Taunton

An event intended to raise the awareness of construction clients as to the vital role they have to play in ensuring the sustainability of their construction project. A well informed and 'in control' client is an absolute must for any project, but where sustainable construction is the target, the client's understanding becomes even more important.

Sustainable construction has rapidly become one of the most important agendas of our time. There are numerous reasons for this such as the threat of serious climate change, flooding, resource depletion, the threat to biodiversity and fuel poverty to name but a few. What this means is that it has never been more important to ensure that the building you wanted is the building you actually get. This CPD, we hope, will arm you with the knowledge you need, as a client, to play an active and informed role in the design and delivery of your sustainable building and thus ensure that what matters most is not lost.

The price of this event is £99 + VAT and includes tea, coffee and lunch. For booking details please contact Gillian Hawkey phone 01823 252934 or email gillian.hawkey@somerset.ac.uk

Building With Tradical Hemcrete

By popular demand, we are running regional repeats of our "Building with Tradical Hemcrete Seminars" previously run during 2006 at Milton Park.

- The Midland Hotel, Manchester – 23/05/07
- Bristol City Council Chambers, Bristol – 27/06/07

One hectare of land will grow enough hemp in 14 weeks to build one house. One house built of Tradical Hemcrete can capture up to 10 Tonnes of CO2 from the atmosphere. If you would like to come and learn about building with hemp and lime please refer to the invitation below.

During 2006 two major commercial construction projects have been undertaken using Tradical Hemcrete. The largest is the new Adnams Brewery Distribution Centre in Suffolk and the other is the new Lime Technology Office at Milton Park. Numerous other significant projects are in the pipeline for 2007.

Hemcrete has numerous advantages over other construction methods, not least that it locks up carbon within the structure of the buildings. A typical brick and block house might be responsible for 20 to 40 tonnes of CO2 emissions in the manufacture of the walling materials. Tradical Hemcrete on the other hand can lock up 10 tonnes. Making a difference of 50 tonnes of CO2 emissions per house is a powerful weapon in the fight against climate change.

If you would like to attend this seminar please complete the form below indicating which seminar you would like to attend and post it with a cheque for £75.00 payable to Lhoist UK at the address below. Confirmation and travel details will be sent to you after booking. Sorry no refunds can be given unless cancellation is received 10 days prior to each course.

This seminar may be eligible for CPD subject to the rules of your professional body.

For further information contact 01298 768 671 email Candi.Bond-Gunning@LHOIST.COM or visit www.tradical.co.uk

Weald and Downland Museum, Sustainability Event 20 May 2007 (Public Day) 21 May 2007 (Children And School Groups)

England's leading museum of historic buildings will look firmly to the future on Sunday 20 and Monday 21 May, when it hosts its annual celebration of sustainability and 'green' building technology. The event at the Weald & Downland Open Air Museum at Singleton, near Chichester, West Sussex, includes a day for the general public on Sunday 20 May, and a 'Sustainability for Schools' day on Monday 21 May. Both days will focus on exciting developments in modern building methods, materials and techniques, as well as examining other areas of sustainability such as alternative energy sources, energy efficiency, recycling and sustainable water use.

On the Sunday, the Sustainability Event will interest both domestic users and building professionals who wish to discover more about using environmentally-friendly products and techniques at home or in commercial construction and restoration projects. The event attracts both high-profile industry speakers and a wide range of specialist exhibitors, who will demonstrate low impact building products and other solutions designed to promote sustainable living. These include such diverse technologies as household composting, timber from renewable sources, solar and biomass heating, sun tubes, paints and insulation. In addition, for the first time

this year, there will be a Fair Trade market, giving visitors a chance to browse and buy a range of interesting and unusual products.

The timed programme of seminars takes place in the spectacular modern Jerwood Gridshell Space, the first timber gridshell in the UK and home to the Museum's conservation workshop and rural artefact collection. There will be a presentation by Amazon Nails, a long-term supporter of the Sustainability Event, entitled 'Building with Straw.' An accompanying demonstration of the building of a small straw bale house outside on the Museum site will allow visitors the opportunity to try building with straw for themselves!

The 'Sustainability for Schools' day on Monday 21 will be a day of displays, demonstrations and discovery to help the next generation learn about practical aspects of 'green' living in the 21st century. Held for the first time last year, the Schools Event proved extremely popular and successful, with exhibitors located in and around the Museum's historic buildings on its beautiful downland site. From helping to build a straw bale house, to discovering what happens to our rubbish, or learning about home composting – children are invited to discover environmentally-friendly solutions for home, garden and the wider environment, presented by organisations involved in many aspects of sustainable living.

The Sustainability Event will be held on Sunday 20 May from 10.30am – 5.00pm. Admission charges are: adults £8.25, over 60s £7.25; children £4.40, family ticket £22.65, and include a full day's entry to all the Museum buildings and outdoor exhibits. Group rates are also available. Places for the 'Sustainability for Schools' day on Monday 21 must be booked in advance through the Museum's School Services Department on 01243 811028. More details <http://www.wealddown.co.uk>

The AECB will have a stand on the 20th so come and say hello.

OFFSITE2007 11th – 14th June

The challenge of building in a more sustainable affordable way that provides quality living, learning and working space has driven some major innovations in the way we build. OFFSITE2007 is back for a third year to showcase these build innovations in full scale.

The aim of the event is to demonstrate how innovative methods of construction and technologies can achieve higher levels of performance compared with conventional construction forms. Buildings include a school of the future by Re-Thinking, (a part of Willmott Dixon Construction), and six innovative houses from Hanson, Stewart Milne, Spaceover, Osborne, Kingspan Off-site, ecoTECH.

See www.offsite2007.com for further details

Buildings For The Future - Low Carbon Ways To Build Homes And Community Buildings Tuesday - 19th June

A talk by Professor Tom Woolley Architect, leading environmental consultant and author of 'Natural Building – a guide to materials and techniques'.

Our buildings make up the UK's fastest growing source of CO2 emissions. In other European countries the use of low-carbon materials and techniques is becoming commonplace. We need to be on a crash course to master the language and practice of sustainability and re-appraise our ways of thinking and acting when it comes to construction and occupation of buildings. The culture change necessary will need to run from the client's brief, through the architects design to the building site itself.

Across Shropshire and mid Wales, Fordhall Farm, self-build groups and Land for People are all seeking to build in a sustainable way. Professor Woolley will describe how we can learn from increasing activity in this field and provide practical ideas for actions that can be taken now.

19th June at 7.30pm in the Lantern Centre, Meadow Farm Drive, Sundorne, Shrewsbury. £2 admission on the door.

Limited places – reserve you place at this event now by emailing gail@landforpeople.co.uk

Demonstrating The Costs. Benefits And Savings Of Water Efficient Technologies

From Leading International Pilot Projects and Case Studies - 25-26 June 2007, Hotel Russell, London

With the growing need to maintain adequate water supplies in the face of low rainfall and planned urban developments, UK and overseas water utilities must look at ways on which they can increase water reuse and recycling. This Summit will assess the position of water efficiency technologies within that market and the fundamental role of the regulatory bodies in establishing institutional frameworks for the successful implementation of these technologies.

Global Water Efficiency Strategies is a senior-level international summit that will examine the cost-benefits and effectiveness of water efficient devices within the domestic and commercial spheres. Delegates will be able to assess the commercial viability and payback savings of specific re-use technologies in grey water recycling and rain water harvesting from a range of interesting global case studies.

15% discount to AECB members quote AECB when booking.

For further information please call 0207 749 0470, email info@london-business-conferences.co.uk or visit the summit website at www.global-water-efficiency.com

AECB Annual Conference. Rivergreen Centre, Durham, 29th – 30th June

The final details of the conference are now being put in place.

We now have a full programme of workshops with something of interest to all the membership.

The eco renovation theme is attracting a lot of interest.

As well as this we also have workshops on alternative building materials, The new AECB Gold and Silver Standards and insulation, as well as tours of the wonderful Rivergreen Centre and looking at the details of the building. With a special session on all aspects of the central rammed earth wall.

To take advantage of our early booking offer book today by going to the web site www.aecb.net/conference2007.php

More details from Geoff Stow on 01392 272475 or email geoff.biy@homecall.co.uk

Publications And Websites

The Last Oil Shock: A Survival Guide to the Imminent Extinction of Petroleum Man by David Strahan (Paperback - 5 April 2007) £12.99

This may be the most important book you or anyone else will read in the next fifty years. Assuming humanity survives that long. Draining the lifeblood of industrial civilization, the terminal decline of oil and gas production will spark a crisis far more dangerous than international terrorism, and just as urgent as climate change. World leaders know it, so why aren't they telling?

The last oil shock is the secret behind the crises in Iraq and Iran, the reason your gas bill is going through the roof, the basis of a secret deal cooked up in Texas between George Bush and Tony Blair, the cause of an imminent and unprecedented economic collapse, and the reason you may soon be kissing your car keys and boarding pass goodbye. David Strahan explains how we reached this critical state, how the silence of governments, oil companies and environmentalists conspires to keep the public in the dark, what it means for energy policy, and what you can do to protect yourself and your family from the ravages of the last oil shock.

A book that everyone should read, it is well written and referenced, it shows just how much society is in denial about the problem, and how although the government is fully aware of impending peak oil and the likely outcomes it will cause, it prefers to keep us in the dark over the issue. A good companion to Heat by George Monbiot.

www.oneplanetproducts.com - One Planet Products - Call For Members And Suppliers!

One Planet Products is a members owned bulk buying club focused on making it easier and more cost effective for those engaged in residential building and refurbishment work in the UK, to specify and use high quality, sustainable building products and materials.

By identifying resource-saving products and materials and providing detailed environmental data and information (such as a guide to the available EcoHomes credits associated with each product listed) , One Planet products enables members to select proven sustainable products quickly without the need for carrying out expensive and time-consuming research themselves.

One Planet Products has recently launched a fee free trial for interested members, and for more information on this please visit www.oneplanetproductcs.com

One Planet Products is constantly looking to broaden its list of products and suppliers, and we will be commencing our next supplier recruitment process soon. If you are a supplier of sustainable building products or materials and you are interested in being considered for inclusion on this, please visit www.oneplanetproducts.com for further details on how to apply.

Please note that membership for suppliers is free, although due to the sizeable build program of our members and the combined purchasing power of the club, One Planet Product Suppliers will be able to offer good discounts and rebates on their products and materials.

If you have any news, events or courses you would like to publicise in Network then please email details to network@aecb.net, phone 0845 456 1290, or post to Chris Lord-Smith, y Graig, Llidiart-y-Waen, Llanidloes, SY18 6JT.