



# Network

**News**

**March 2009**

## **Greensteps - Free Eco Streetlights Giveaway**

AECB Members GreenSteps and Primalence would like to offer an eco conscious developer the opportunity to receive the world's most energy efficient street lighting system for free! As used by IKEA for all their new store car parks, the Primalence system uses a patented combination of CDM light bulbs and ingenious lens technology to distribute the light. The result is that 75W or 150W lanterns can be replaced by 35W lanterns at intervals of nearly twice the distance, meaning that only half the number of lighting installations are required to light a street.

The overall result is a reduction in energy consumption of around 75% and improved visibility with reduced light pollution. GreenSteps has 9 Primalence street lanterns to give away to an eco-conscious developer in return for using the street as a showcase for the lighting system. For more information and to put your development forward for consideration, please email GreenSteps at [support@greensteps.co.uk](mailto:support@greensteps.co.uk), marking your entry as 'Primalence giveaway'.

For more information visit [www.greensteps.co.uk](http://www.greensteps.co.uk)

## **Leading Sustainable Builder And Designer Unveiled As A Woman Of Outstanding Achievement 2009**

Founder and Director of innovative strawbale design, construction and training company 'amazonails', Barbara Jones, has been named Woman of Outstanding Achievement 2009 by the UK Resource Centre for Women in Science, Engineering and Technology (UKRC). In recognition of this achievement, a portrait of Barbara is set to be unveiled on 11th March 2009 as part of a unique exhibition.

Now in its fourth year, the Women of Outstanding Achievement Photographic Exhibition is designed to profile pioneering women in science, engineering and technology (SET) as role models in a sector in which women are very under-represented. The successful women each take part in a unique photography session with the aim of creating a growing collection of portraits that will inspire and encourage other women to take part and progress in a career within SET.

This year's portraits will be unveiled at the Welcome Conference Centre, Euston Road, London. Following the event, the portraits will be given to a relevant company, university or professional institute on permanent loan to ensure the exhibition has a lasting impact. To attend the unveiling of the Women of Outstanding Achievement Photographic Exhibition, visit [www.ukrc4setwomen.org](http://www.ukrc4setwomen.org) or call 01274 436485.

## **UK First For Sunderland, As Plans For Revolutionary Low Energy Homes Are Submitted**

Sunderland based people and property business, Gentoo, are utilising a highly efficient German housebuilding standard to ease the strain on the UK's energy bills and help reduce fuel poverty for the people of Sunderland. This project will see the homes being constructed to the world leading PassivHaus standard. Marking a step change for the UK building industry, the development will set a precedent for the design and construction of sustainable low, carbon homes throughout the UK. Gentoo are being advised by AECB Member Mark Siddall, Senior Designer at Architects, Dewjo'c.

The PassivHaus standard was first developed in Darmstadt, Germany in 1990-91 and the benefit of PassivHaus is its simplicity. The homes rely on passive solar gain and air tightness, super high standards of insulation as well as triple glazed, openable windows that are well sealed using a fabric that greatly reduces energy consumption. To comply with PassivHaus guidelines, buildings must have a mechanical ventilation system installed that provides excellent air quality and highly efficient heat recovery. As a result, the homes technically do not require radiators or any of the associated plumbing, and instead rely on a heater that is integrated into the ventilation system.

The PassivHaus standard also requires a quality of build not normally utilised within the UK House Building Industry with stringent controls in place during every stage of construction to maximise thermal performance. With this in mind Gentoo Construction the independent in-house contracting company of the Gentoo Group have been chosen to build the new homes and have been working in partnership with the specialist consultants during every stage of the design process.

The 28 unit bungalow scheme is to be built at the Racecourse Estate in Houghton-le-Spring, Tyne and Wear and is believed to be the first certified Passive House scheme of this scale in the UK. Built with elderly residents in mind, the PassivHaus bungalows will also include solar panels. It is estimated that using the PassivHaus method to construct a house results in an 80% reduction of carbon emissions compared to that of an average home. Energy consumption within buildings that meet the PassivHaus standard is also significantly reduced, with savings estimated to be up to 85%.

The scheme is currently in for planning with a target start on site in early 2009. For more information visit [www.gentooogroup.com](http://www.gentooogroup.com)

## **New Water-Efficient Range To Meet Code For Sustainable Homes Requirements**

Specialist sustainable building products supplier Green Building Store is launching at Ecobuild (Tuesday 3rd March 2009) a new package of water-saving products which can help specifiers achieve Level 3 & 4 in the Water category of Code for Sustainable Homes (CSH). Green Building Store's CSH package contains water-saving WCs, wash basin taps, kitchen taps, shower fittings and baths and can reduce water consumption to less than 103 litres/person/day.

The Code for Sustainable Homes contains mandatory requirements for water consumption. To attain levels 3 & 4 of the Code, homes must have a target water consumption of less than (or equal to) 105 litres/ person/ day. Green Building Store's CSH package uses a judicious combination of water saving technologies to help specifiers meet this goal easily.

The new Ecocomfort bath, introduced by Green Building Store as part of the CSH pack, offers a robust commonsense solution to water-efficiency. Designed to contain only 140 litres when filled to capacity, it has been carefully designed to taper to fit the human form, offering a perfectly adequate but reduced volume bath. The Ecocomfort bath can help specifiers who don't want to get rid of baths altogether but who are working to the strict requirements of the Code.

Other elements of the CSH package have also been designed to offer robust and long-lasting water savings. Green Building Store favours the use of leak-free ES4 siphon flush WCs over valve flush WCs which can leak water imperceptibly down the back of WC pan when the valve fails or wears out. It also aims to offer products which are not obviously water-efficient in performance - in other words products which can be used without causing user frustration or feelings of inadequate flow. For example, 6 litre shower aerators in the CSH pack are designed to offer the feeling of a powerful shower, while kitchen taps offer a high enough flow rate for washing up or filling a kettle.

A full list of products in the CSH Level 3 & 4 package can be downloaded from: [www.greenbuildingstore.co.uk/brochures/CSH.pdf](http://www.greenbuildingstore.co.uk/brochures/CSH.pdf). Green Building Store's water-efficient products and CSH Level 4 package (including Ecocomfort bath) will be showcased at Ecobuild the sustainable design exhibition (Earl's Court, London 3 - 5 March, Green Building Store, stand 1833).

## **Auro UK Natural Paints – Ethical Consumer Magazine's 'Best Buy'.**

Auro UK Natural Paints are pleased to announce the launch of their new look label that incorporates Ethical Consumer Magazine's new 'Best Buy' logo. Auro 321 emulsion paints were first listed as Best Buy in the 2006 paint edition and retains top EthicScore in their review of paints. Auro products have also previously won Ethical Consumer readers' favourite DIY product award. Auro Paints are pleased to have recognition from Ethical Consumer Magazine who lead the way in reviewing products and companies based on their ethical and ecological ethos. This allows people to make clear decisions on what products fits within their personal ethics and is often a valuable eye opener.

Auro's new labels also easily points to their CO2 neutral status in the manufacturing process of their paints. Not only does the factory incorporate rain-harvested water for washing down machinery, it also uses wind and solar technology to reduce energy consumption at the factory in Braunschweig, Germany. Further CO2 emissions gained through energy use, transport, business trips etc. are offset annually through the Climate Neutral Group who finance renewable energy and forestry projects. The amount of carbon offset by Auro is equivalent to the growth of over 13000 trees over a year.

Auro Distribution in the UK is done through the Greenshop Group from their new Ecobuilding which uses the latest light weight timber frame, solar thermal store and green roofs, designed by the award winning eco-architects Architype. The business is, of course, run and managed as sustainably as possible – more info can be viewed at [www.greenshopgroup.co.uk](http://www.greenshopgroup.co.uk)

In this day and age many companies are jumping on to the Green bandwagon and you can't move for new Eco products. We believe a line should be drawn between Eco and Natural products. Many new 'eco paint's for example use a minimal VOC acrylic (petro chemical) binder, and are called eco because they have less smell to conform to EU regulations, which we all have to do. This does not, in our opinion, make them an ecological product especially if you define ecology as incorporating sustainability. We believe producing sustainable products based on natural, grown and ethically mined material is key in creating true ecological products and it is this that makes Auro stand out from the crowd. Auro paints are in fact 100% biodegradable and can be composted together household waste.

Our new label and re-branding points some of these differences out and also positions Auro within the growing designer paint market. We now offer three times the amount of colours than we did last year and continue, as we have done for the last twenty years, to promote sustainable, great quality paints and wood finishes and meet the cry from demanding and environmentally conscious customers. Auro publish and list all their ingredients for all their products and have a full carbon report available on their website – [www.auro.co.uk](http://www.auro.co.uk)

## **Translating Sustainable Design Into Sustainable Construction – Call For Papers**

Detail Design in Architecture's aim is to provide a forum for debate and the exchange of knowledge in relation to the technology, design and science of architecture and the links between the design process and the construction process. During the eighth conference of Detailed Design in Architecture, the focus will be the interface between design and construction from a sustainable perspective.

Papers are invited that address the challenges of translating sustainable design ideals into sustainable buildings and artefacts. We welcome theoretical and practical contributions to this challenge. The Conference is being hosted by University of Wales Institute Cardiff, at Cardiff School of Art & Design, and is being organised by Dr John Littlewood, of

the Department of Architectural Studies in association with Dr John Olie (Joint Origin) and professor Stephen Emmitt (Loughborough University). Keynote speaker - Professor Tom Woolley

Abstract deadline 05.03.09, Abstract decision 17.03.09, Full paper submission 18.05.09, Return of reviewers' comments 18.06.09, Submission of final paper 13.07.09

Abstracts should be of no more than 200 words and should clearly explain the work and its relevance to the Conference theme. Abstracts and enquiries should be submitted to Professor Stephen Emmitt by email [s.emmitt@lboro.ac.uk](mailto:s.emmitt@lboro.ac.uk). Abstracts will be peer reviewed and successful authors will be invited to submit a full paper.

### **The Age Of Stupid – The People's Premiere.**

The Age of Stupid will be launched on March 15th in a solar cinema tent in the park in Leicester Square, and simultaneously at more than 60 other venues, including The Eden Project and a kids-only event in Fulham. As an inclusive, rather than exclusive, premiere, the public can buy tickets (£10, from today) to their local cinema and watch the green carpet arrivals and post-film Q&A live by satellite link-up from London. The whole event - but not the complete film, obviously - will also stream live on the internet and in Second Life.

From Land's End to John O'Groats (nearly). The participating cinemas are in Aberdeen, Bath, Birmingham, Blackburn, Braehead, Bristol, Bury, Cambridge, Cardiff, Carlisle, Cheshire, Clones, Cornwall (Eden Project), Croydon, Edinburgh, Enniskillen, Exeter, Glasgow, Guilford, Harrow, Hartlepool, Hatfield, Hull, Inverness, Kingston, Leeds, Leicester, Lincoln, Liverpool, Livingston, London (8 locations), Maidenhead, Manchester, Milford Haven, Naul, Newcastle, Newcastle West, Norwich, Oxford, Plymouth, Portlaoise, Portsmouth, Preston, Reading, Romford, Scunthorpe, Southport, Staines, Swindon, Tinahely, Tunbridge Wells, Watford, Wigan and York.

List of venues & booking info: [www.ageofstupid.net/premiere](http://www.ageofstupid.net/premiere).

### **Council House Building – Not The Last Straw**

While housing experts are divided on whether local authorities will be tempted to return to house building on any scale, following government proposals for new financial incentives, North Kesteven District Council in Lincolnshire has decided to lead by example and has opted for strawbale construction for its planned affordable housing.

Only four homes are in for planning so far, two pairs of semis to be built in village locations. But the project is sure to generate interest among rural authorities. These will be the first strawbale homes to be built by a local authority as 'typical' social housing, and apart from easing the local housing shortage will also score high on the council's sustainability agenda. The homes are being designed by Todmorden-based strawbale specialist Amozonails and will be built using locally-sourced materials and labour.

Source: RIBA Practice Bulletin, No. 481 - 5 February 2009

### **Statistics Suggests Slow Progress On Cutting Carbon Emissions**

The Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC) has published the 2007 greenhouse gas emissions data for the UK. The headline figure suggests that overall emissions (of the basket of six greenhouse gases covered by the Kyoto Protocol) were 1.7 per cent lower than the 2006 figure (636.6 million tonnes carbon dioxide equivalent in 2007, compared with 647.9 million tonnes in 2006).

Carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>), the main greenhouse gas, accounted for about 85 per cent of total UK greenhouse gas emissions in 2007. In 2007, UK net emissions of carbon dioxide were estimated to be 542.6 million tonnes. This was around 1.5 per cent lower than the 2006 figure of 551.1 million tonnes. There were decreases in emissions of:

- 1.8 per cent (4.0 million tonnes) from the energy supply sector
- 4.6 per cent (3.8 million tonnes) from the residential sector
- 2.6 per cent (2.4 million tonnes) from the business sector.

The UK Greenhouse Gas Inventory is reviewed every year, and the whole historical data series (going back to 1990) is revised to incorporate methodological improvements and new data.

Further information on climate change, include Excel downloads of all the data used in the preparation of the statistics, is available at: [www.defra.gov.uk/environment/statistics/globalatmos/index.htm](http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/statistics/globalatmos/index.htm).

### **Tenants Willing To Pay More For Energy-Efficient Buildings**

Tenants are willing to pay higher rents for sustainable, energy-efficient buildings, according to a report by European law firm Taylor Wessing. The report, Behind the Green Facade, indicates that the economic downturn could act as a spur for the development of more efficient and sustainable buildings. Official figures attribute around 45% of the UK's emissions to buildings, with commercial premises making up about a fifth of this total.

The survey of over 5450 professionals by Taylor Wessing found that 87% believed that companies would be willing to pay more rent for a more sustainable building because of increase public – and employee – pressure to be 'green', as well as the need to meet shareholder demands for corporate responsibility.

For more information go to [www.taylorwessing.com/sustainability](http://www.taylorwessing.com/sustainability)

## **Energy Efficiency Could Reduce Emissions By A Quarter By 2030**

Implementing energy efficiency measures could reduce greenhouse gas emissions by more than a quarter by 2030, according to a major new report by McKinsey and Company. The report, Pathways to a Low Carbon Economy, highlights 200 opportunities – based on existing technologies – that, if adopted, would more than halve greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 compared with 1990 levels. Energy efficiency across buildings, transport and industrial processes offers the single greatest potential saving of greenhouse gas emissions. Many of the technologies in the report – such as improved insulation – are even negative cost as they would generate more savings than the cost of implementation.

But implementing savings – particularly in the transport and buildings sectors – face challenges in terms of the upfront financing even though the costs are low once implemented. In the immediate term, introducing energy efficiency regulation in the form of technical standards for transportation and buildings is key, according to the report. This should be followed by tackling the power and industrial sectors, before embarking on long-term investment in key – more costly – abatement technologies. And the all important question – what would it cost? According to estimates by McKinsey, which do not take into account the costs of doing nothing, the global economy could be looking at a bill of around €200-350 billion a year – or less than 1% of global GDP in 2030. Upfront costs, however, could top €530 billion in 2020.

The report is being backed by The Carbon Trust, ClimateWorks, Enel, Entergy, Holcim, Honeywell, Shell, Vattenfall and Volvo, as well as the WWF.

For more information go to [www.mckinsey.com/](http://www.mckinsey.com/), [www.worldwildlife.org/climate/mckinseyreport](http://www.worldwildlife.org/climate/mckinseyreport) and <http://globalghgcostcurve.bymckinsey.com>

## **All UK Homes To Get Energy Makeover**

Draft plans announced by the UK Government today promise to give all homes an energy makeover to reduce carbon emissions to virtually zero by 2050. Households will receive expert advice on how to reduce energy usage and fuel bills, as well as how to harness low-carbon heat and power in their homes. The proposed Heat and Energy Saving strategy, which is being launched for consultation by Energy and Climate Change Secretary Ed Miliband together with Communities Secretary Hazel Blears and Housing Minister Margaret Beckett, goes further than predictions. The plan aims to have whole-house improvements available for all households by 2030.

UK households currently account for almost half of the country's CO<sub>2</sub> emissions through heating and electricity. By 2020, the new plans aim to have cut household emissions by 33% compared with 2006 levels. The proposals are also looking at how district heating schemes can be encouraged to provide low-carbon or renewable heat for entire communities. Those who don't want to wait 20 years to get involved can aim to be in the first tranche of 400,000 homes to get an energy makeover in the next six years. By 2020, the Government aim to have tackled seven million homes, with the rest following by 2050.

The proposals are now open for consultation. For more information go to [www.decc.gov.uk/hes](http://www.decc.gov.uk/hes)

## **UK Government Expected To Unveil Retrofit Plans For Seven Million Homes**

According to reports in the UK press, the Government is expected to unveil plans to retrofit seven million homes to improve energy efficiency and reduce bills. The voluntary scheme could offer financial incentives for improving insulation or installing small-scale renewable or low-carbon heating systems such as solar cells or wood-fired boilers. The plans are expected as part of a commitment from the Department of Energy and Climate Change to cut greenhouse gas emissions from households by a third by 2020.

For more information go to [www.decc.gov.uk/](http://www.decc.gov.uk/)

## **UK Housing Makeover Plan Has Forgotten Water**

UK water conservation group Waterwise are calling for the Government to include water efficiency measures in their plans to refurbish the country's homes. A quarter of the average household's energy bill comes from heating water, which adds up to around 5% of the UK's total CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, says the organisation.

Waterwise welcomes the Government's proposals to encourage the use of renewable energy to heat water, such as solar water heaters, but says the measures should go further. Saving water will save energy and ultimately reduce carbon emissions.

For more information go to [www.waterwise.org.uk](http://www.waterwise.org.uk)

## **Gordon Brown Announces £10 Million Challenge To Green Homes**

Prime Minister Gordon Brown yesterday announced the launch of a £10 million competition to develop technologies to improve the energy efficiency of the country's existing homes. The UK's housing stock is among the least efficient in the developed world and accounts for 27% of the country's carbon emissions. The Government has set ambitious targets for new housing and to cut the country's carbon emissions by 80% by 2050.

The 'Retrofit for the Future' challenge, which will be run by the Technology Strategy Board, wants companies to bid for a share of the £10 million fund to develop new technologies to improve the performance of existing buildings. The competition, which opens in March, aims to come up with 50 new prototype technologies that can be retrofitted to existing buildings to improve their performance.

Successful technologies could be adopted by the Government via contracts to improve social housing, refurbishing governmental buildings and evaluating their energy performance. The announcement is part of a wider Government campaign, Science [So What? So Everything!], that aims to promote the role of science in everyday lives.

For more information go to [www.innovateuk.org](http://www.innovateuk.org) or <http://sciencesowhat.direct.gov.uk/>

### **UK Opposition Launches Smart Plan For Low Carbon Economy**

UK opposition leader David Cameron today launched a green paper setting out the Conservative Party's plan for a low carbon economy. The plans hinge on updating the country's national grid into a smart 'internet-like' electricity network and introducing smart meters for homes. Together with a system of feed-in tariffs, as the current Government has already committed to introducing, the smart grid would encourage an expansion of both microgeneration and large-scale renewables.

The expansion of renewable energy sources will focus mainly on offshore wind and marine, with the plans including the construction of a new network of under-sea. The Conservative plans also promise a new focus on biogas – methane produced from farm and food waste – to feed into the gas grid and for community heating schemes. More traditional energy generation technologies also get the nod, however. The plans pledge to add carbon capture and storage to at least 5000 MW of new coal-fired power plants and clear the way for new nuclear power.

Setting up a smart grid would also go hand-in-hand with developing a national recharging network to enable a move towards electric and plug-in hybrid vehicles. The third runway at Heathrow would be unnecessary, claims the document, if a high speed network connecting the north and south of the country. In the short term, the Conservatives would focus on reducing emissions from housing, buildings and electronic goods.

Last year the Conservatives mooted the idea of a scheme whereby employers could sponsor energy efficiency improvements to employees' homes and gain carbon reduction credits by doing so. In addition to this plan, the document also suggest introducing an entitlement for every homes to be fitted with up to £6500 worth of energy efficiency improvements that would be paid off through fuel bills over a 25 year period.

Environmental groups have largely welcomed the plans, although some moves do not go far enough.

[www.conservatives.com/News/News\\_stories/2009/01/Our\\_Plan\\_for\\_a\\_Low\\_Carbon\\_Economy.aspx](http://www.conservatives.com/News/News_stories/2009/01/Our_Plan_for_a_Low_Carbon_Economy.aspx) and [www.foe.co.uk](http://www.foe.co.uk)

### **The Green Cities Foundation**

Unless we change the way we live the Planet will almost certainly become uninhabitable for most of mankind. Cities currently occupy only 2% of the World's land mass yet use 75% of the World's resources.

Billions of people need decent homes in a form which is sustainable. The Green Cities foundation aims to create cities harmless to Earth. They intend to get a million Founders and everyone is invited. To find out more go to [www.greencitiesfoundation.org](http://www.greencitiesfoundation.org)

### **Timber Gridshell Case Study**

Learn more about the exciting architectural possibilities of the timber gridshell technique via a new case study published by TRADA, the timber research organisation.

The case study describes Marlowe Academy, a new campus style school, designed by Building Design Partnership (BDP). The central "arena" is the social and circulation hub of the building, featuring a double-height hall with a dramatic exposed timber gridshell roof (22 x 68 metres). The roof rises to a height of one-tenth of its span (virtually the minimum for a structural arch), yet no intermediate columns or struts are used and the ribs - made of Kerto LVL (laminated veneer lumber) from Finnforest Merk - are only 300mm deep. The top and bottom edges of each rib were profiled by Cowley Timberwork.

A summary of the case study, which features dramatic images of the building, is free to view at [www.trada.co.uk](http://www.trada.co.uk)

## **Events**

### **Transition Towns: Low Carbon Innovation In Practice 9th March 09**

Finn Jackson, Change Management Consultant

University for the Creative Arts, Farnham. Organised by: The Centre for Sustainable Design

FREE workshop

The past two years have borne witness to the phenomenal worldwide growth of the Transition Towns movement. From a standing start it has now grown to over 120 'official' Transition Towns worldwide. These include rural locations such as Horsham, Lewes and the Forest of Dean, as well as inner-city areas like Brixton, Coventry, and Liverpool South. Outside the UK, Boulder Colorado in the USA, Wanganui in New Zealand and Fujino in Japan are just some of the places that have become 'official' Transition Towns. And more than 800 other communities around the world are starting the journey,

including Farnham. The driving force behind this movement has not been money or an evangelical leader. The driving force has been a growing grassroots realisation that the issues of climate change and peak oil are real, that we need to act together to address them now, and that if we do so correctly we have the opportunity to create a future that is not only lower in carbon usage but also more vibrant and enjoyable. This talk will explain some of the background to the Transition Town movement. It will explain why the Transition movement sees the coming changes as an opportunity to make our lives better. And attendees will leave not only with a deeper understanding of the issues, but also a flavour of how the transition approach could affect them.

For more information go to [www.cfsd.org.uk/](http://www.cfsd.org.uk/)

### **Design And Use Of Bio-Mass Fuel Systems In Urban Areas – 18<sup>th</sup> March**

Balmoral Room, Queens Hotel, Perth 0930 - 1300hrs

This event is being held to discuss the many issues surrounding the design, specification, installation and use of bio-mass boilers - particularly in urban areas. Currently there is financial and legislative pressure to reduce carbon and become more sustainable. At the same time, the requirements of clean air legislation, along with the environmental health considerations in designated "No Smoke Areas", may conflict with the support for more widespread development and use of these systems.

The event has been set up as a means to bring together people with a wide range of expertise to share experience and good practice in key areas and will include presentations of current projects -what works, where - the appeal of these systems to designers and clients; the pros and cons of specifying and installing biomass systems; the supply and sourcing of biomass fuels; the funding available; the challenges of designing, specifying, installing and using the most appropriate system within the current legislative framework and an examination of the impact that these choices may have within the wider environmental context.

£5 SEDA members/ £10 non members, Reservations/ Enquiries to Mary Kelly, email: [mary@segselfbuild.co.uk](mailto:mary@segselfbuild.co.uk)

### **The EcoVillage At Kent2020 – 2<sup>nd</sup> April**

This year The EcoVillage will be at the Kent2020 on April 2nd with over 20 sustainable businesses. We will also be returning, bigger and better than ever, to the Kent County Show in July with over 70 exhibitors. The EcoVillage is an event which promotes sustainable products, services and enterprise.

The EcoVillage is designed to help people discover the products and services, the advice and the inspiration to change their buying and living behaviour. We also hope to promote the idea that a lower carbon footprint does not mean a lower standard of living. It is simply about responsible decisions that help to preserve our environment for the health and happiness of future generations.

With a good mix of information and entertainment we hope that a visit to The EcoVillage will help people to live a greener life. If you're interested in booking a stand or taking a sponsorship package at one of our EcoVillage events please contact us on [info@theecovillage.co.uk](mailto:info@theecovillage.co.uk), via the website [www.theecovillage.co.uk](http://www.theecovillage.co.uk) or call Amanda on 07739 561254.

If you would like an EcoVillage within your event please call Vicky on 07779 096997.

### **2nd Annual North Norfolk Coast Earth Day – Wednesday 22nd April 2009**

North Norfolk Coast Earth Day is about the environment and sustainability. Exhibitors will be explaining their renewable technologies and environmental services. Advisors will be available to help you with your sustainability questions and offering presentations on a whole range of topics. Action groups will be explaining their schemes and activities.

2008 saw the first North Norfolk Coast Earth Day and about 1000 people attended the day. There were over 50 stands from organisations like the Energy Saving Trust, Sun Wind and Rain, Norfolk County Council, CPRE Norfolk and Just Green Ltd. Visitors had a good choice of presentations to attend, demonstrations of new technologies and the chance to tour the eco-friendly award winning facilities of Deepdale Backpackers & Camping. 2009 promises to be bigger and better. As the credit crunch hits, fuel prices continue to fluctuate unpredictably and generally people become more aware of the environment and their impact upon it, Deepdale expects an excellent day.

FREE entry for visitors. Exhibitors who would like to attend are asked to pay just £25 for the day.

For more information on North Norfolk Coast Earth Day 2009 visit [www.deepdalefarm.co.uk/earthday](http://www.deepdalefarm.co.uk/earthday) or contact: Jason Borthwick, on 01485 210036 or email: [jason@deepdalefarm.co.uk](mailto:jason@deepdalefarm.co.uk).

### **Westminster Energy, Environment & Transport Forum Keynote Seminar – Implementing The UK's Carbon Targets, 24th April 2009**

Lecture Theatre, 1 Institution of Mechanical Engineers, 1 Birdcage Walk, Westminster, London SW1H 9JJ

This seminar focuses on the most current practical and policy issues relating to the implementation of the UK's carbon targets following the inaugural report from the Committee on Climate Change (CCC), which recommended a cut in greenhouse gas emissions of at least 34% by 2020. The agenda is structured to pick up on central themes highlighted by the recent report and is timed to coincide with the Government's response.

David Kennedy, Chief Executive, Committee on Climate Change, and a senior representative, Department of Energy and Climate Change will be delivering keynote addresses at this seminar. Other speakers include: Dr Keith Allott, Head of

Climate Change, WWF-UK; Robert Bell, Group Director, Operations, AEA; Dr Jonathan Scurlock, Chief Adviser for Renewable Energy and Climate Change, National Farmers Union; Richard Lewney, Managing Director, Cambridge Econometrics; Emma Wild, Principal Policy Adviser - Climate Change Group, CBI; Dr David Vincent, Director of Projects, The Carbon Trust; Michael Woods, Partner, Eversheds; and a senior representative from Boeing. Other senior speakers are being invited.

A key output of the seminar will be a transcript of the proceedings, sent out within a week of the event to Ministers and officials at Defra, the Department of Energy and Climate Change and other departments affected by the issues, Parliamentarians with a special interest in these areas, and other agencies. It will also be made available more widely. It will include transcripts of all speeches and questions and answers sessions from the day, along with access to PowerPoint presentations, speaker biographies, attendee list, an agenda and sponsor information. It is made available subject to strict restrictions on public use, similar to those for Select Committee Uncorrected Evidence, and is intended to provide timely information for interested parties who are unable to attend on the day. All delegates will receive free PDF copies and are invited to contribute to the content.

To book places, please go to [www.westminsterforumprojects.co.uk/weetforum/bookcarbontargets.html](http://www.westminsterforumprojects.co.uk/weetforum/bookcarbontargets.html).

Please pay in advance by credit card on 01276 489144. If advance credit card payment is not possible please let us know and we may be able make other arrangements.

Places at Implementing the UK's Carbon Targets (including refreshments and PDF copy of the transcripts) are £190 plus VAT (£218.50). Concessionary rate places for small charities, unfunded individuals and those in similar circumstances are £80 plus VAT (£92). Please be sure to apply for this at the time of booking.

### **Greener Homes And Buildings 2009**

Greener Homes and Buildings National Show is one of the UK's top green construction events. Held at Royal Welsh Showground, Builth Wells from Friday, June 5 to Sunday, June 7, the show organisers are aiming to build on the success of last year's event, which attracted thousands of people.

The show will again open with a Trade and Professional Day on Friday 5th June, which is designed to update developers, architects, specifiers, planners and policy makers on the latest developments in sustainable building as well as offering practical and professional advice. Speakers will deliver a range of case studies, outlining green building projects and sharing practical experience. The following two days are then open to the public, with TV presenter and author, Dick Strawbridge attending on both days.

This major three-day event - a must for all individuals and professionals involved or interested in green building - is organised by the Welsh Assembly Government with support from the Welsh Timber Forum and Local Authority Building Control - Wales. Speakers already confirmed for the Professional Day include John Williamson, of JPW Construction, Machynlleth, who will speak about Passivhaus design. Mr Williamson designed Canolfan Hyddgen in Machynlleth, the first public sector building in the UK to be certified by the Passivhaus Institute.

The building is also designed to BREEAM Excellent standard, a UK benchmark aimed at promoting sustainable development which looks at a wide variety of issues, including the environmental impact of the materials used, the insulation levels and even issues such as distance from public transport. Situated on the Ysgol Bro Ddyfi campus, the £1.2m building is used as a training, education and customer service point for Powys County Council. It was co-funded by the Welsh Assembly Government's Pathfinder programme and the County Council.

Other confirmed speakers are Tim Rotheray of Micropower, who will speak about the way forward for microgeneration and Jeff Perren from the Welsh Assembly Government, who will focus on the Assembly's sustainability agenda and move to zero carbon. Topics to be covered at the seminar include air tightness and thermal insulation in timber framing systems, energy management; cost versus carbon savings, renovation and refurbishment, Technical Advice Note TAN 22: its impact on housebuilders in Wales and the devolution of building regulations.

The BREEAM Wales Awards will also be presented at the Trade and Professional Day.

For more information about the professional day agenda visit [www.greenerhideshow.co.uk](http://www.greenerhideshow.co.uk) or call Tel: 0845 602 4087.

### **PassiveHouse 2009 11<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> September**

A comfortable house, heated for the price of one cup of coffee a day. It's possible! By means of thorough insulation and a well considered house orientation, the use of a conventional heating system becomes superfluous. We now have individual dwellings, offices, schools and other types of buildings in the same, efficient, passive house standard. In times of rising energy prices and urgent climate problems, this concept offers an answer on numerous challenges for the coming years.

The two Belgian Passive House organizations, Passiefhuis-Platform vzw and Plate-forme Maison Passive asbl, have established a tradition in the Benelux years ago with their annual event 'PassiveHouse', the largest symposium and fair exclusively on very energy efficient building. From 11 till 13 September at Tour & Taxis (Brussels) you can pick up the latest energy efficient building trends.

The combination of a SYMPOSIUM and a FAIR aims to inform everybody. Friday 11 September the professional can update his expertise at the symposium. While on Saturday 12 and Sunday 13 September the fair opens its doors for free. Companies, technical experts and occupants of passive houses will provide an answer to all of your questions.

For more information go to [www.passivehouse.be](http://www.passivehouse.be)

## **International Journal of Neighbourhood Renewal Annual Conference and Awards Ceremony, London 19th and 20th November 2009**

The Annual Conference and Awards Ceremony of the International Journal of Neighbourhood Renewal are being held in London, England on the 19th and 20th November 2009. At this two day event, there will be a range of speakers from both the policy and academic world to debate and promote good practice in the field of neighbourhood renewal. There are two strands to this event, a practitioner's forum and a researcher's forum.

Delegates to the event receive a free annual subscription to the Journal of Neighbourhood Renewal. Free Places for Board Members and Volunteers of Local Neighbourhood Renewal Partnerships. Look out for the latest Neighbourhood Renewal Journal updates at <http://neighbourhoodjournal.blog.co.uk/>

To place an entry for the awards ceremony and also register delegates, please email [neighbourhoodjournal@googlemail.com](mailto:neighbourhoodjournal@googlemail.com) and an application form and registration details will be sent to you. In order to take up the free places at the event, organisations have to register at least one paying delegate. Free places are limited to 3 per organisation.

## **Publications**

### **New Publications From IHS BRE Press**

"Sustainability in the built environment – An introduction to its definition and measurement"

IHS 16 February 2009 ISBN 978-1-84806-084-5

The measurement of environmental performance and sustainability in the built environment is one of the most important issues facing policy makers and industry today. This report brings together current thinking on defining and measuring sustainability. It sets out concisely the key issues in this large and complex area. This subject is rapidly moving and this introductory primer provides a clear overview of the key issues and initiatives in the UK and internationally. It outlines a representative sample of the major tools and other initiatives that encourage improved performance in this field and describes the common features of assessment tools.

"Lessons learned from the Barratt Green House – Delivering a zero carbon home using innovative concrete systems"

IHS BRE Press 2 March 2009 ISBN 978-1-84806-090-6

This Information Paper is intended for housing professionals interested in the challenge of delivering housing to zero carbon standards. The Barratt Green House, winner of the 2007 Home for the Future competition, and built on the BRE Innovation Park, uses innovative concrete products to achieve this aspiration with the design and construction involving the application of concrete products in the building fabric.

Tel 01344 328038, email [bypress@ihs.com](mailto:bypress@ihs.com) or visit [www.brebookshop.com](http://www.brebookshop.com)

## **Vacancies**

### **Vacancy For Architect/Architectural Technologist**

Arc Architects are a growing specialist practice based in rural Fife. We are looking for a talented Architect with up to 5 years experience post part III or a design conscious architectural Technologist, for different roles, to join our award winning team. A long term commitment to working as part of this dynamic team is expected. An interest and some experience in conservation and/or ecological design is required to work on our current exciting and innovative projects of varying scales.

Salary will reflect experience. Flexible working available.

Please send CVs and examples of work to: Tom Morton [tom@arc-architects.com](mailto:tom@arc-architects.com) More info at <http://www.arc-architects.com>

*If you have any news, events or courses you would like to publicise in Network then please email details to [network@aecb.net](mailto:network@aecb.net), or post to Chris Lord-Smith, y Graig, Lliidiart-y-Waen, Llanidloes, SY18 6JT.*