



# Network

**AECB News**

**September 2010**

**AGM: Important Notice For All AECB Members**

The AECB's Annual Conference and AGM is being held 1-2 October at the Wise Building, Centre for Alternative Technology, Machynlleth, Wales. The AGM business will be dealt with at 9.00am on 2nd October, and AECB members are invited to attend. The Agenda is set out below and will also be posted on the website with the Annual Report (including the report of the Chairman).

For full details of the conference please visit [www.aecb.net](http://www.aecb.net) or refer to the insert that was sent out with your summer issue of Green Building magazine. If you wish to attend you are encouraged to book as soon as possible as numbers are limited.

Please note that any AECB member can attend the AGM business session (only) free of charge.

Annual Conference and AGM of the Association for Environment Conscious Building (Ltd) (AECB):

Agenda, meeting 9.00 hours on 2nd October 2010 at the Centre for Alternative Technology, Machynlleth

1. Apologies
2. To receive the minutes of the AGM held on 12th June 2009.
3. To receive the accounts for the financial year ending 30th September 2009.
4. To receive the Trustees annual report of the AECB's activities to year ending 30th September 2009
5. To accept the retirement of all existing Trustees.
6. To elect a maximum of 12 trustees - (a list of those standing and profiles of each will be available on the website from early September)
7. To appoint Keith Bridgford and Co as auditors
8. Proposed amendments to Memorandum and Articles of Association
9. To discuss and determine any issues of policy or deal with any other business

If you have any item you wish to include on the agenda for the meeting under Item 9, please let Sally (email: [sally@aecb.net](mailto:sally@aecb.net) or tel: 0845 456 9773) have full details before the 15th September.

The agenda, annual report, accounts, minutes of the last AGM and other relevant information will be posted on the members' document page at [www.aecb.net/members.php](http://www.aecb.net/members.php) in the next few days (ensure you are logged in to view).

The AECB is a company limited by guarantee. Company No 5336768

Company Secretary: Peter Wilkinson. Registered Office: 30 Linden Road, Earby, Barnoldswick, Lancashire BB18 6XR.

**AECB Annual Conference – Less Than 1 Month To Go**

Book Now For The 21st Anniversary Aecb Conference

1- 2 October 2010 | Centre for Alternative Technology, Machynlleth

Don't miss the chance to end the summer at this year's conference:

- In depth workshops (see website for workshop details).
- Practical demonstrations.
- A chance to use the stunning new WISE building at CAT with its amazing circular rammed earth lecture theatre.
- 21st birthday party with live band.
- Keynote speech by George Monbiot.
- Time to wander around CAT.
- Exhibition space. (contact [conference@aecb.net](mailto:conference@aecb.net) if you wish to book a space).

- The AECB AGM.
- Great networking.

The event kicks off at 11.30 on the Friday and ends around 5pm on the Saturday to tie in with trains to and from Machynlleth.

Remember, last year we sold out so please book now to avoid disappointment at [www.aecb.net/conference2010.php](http://www.aecb.net/conference2010.php)

### **Feel A Little Better About Yourself.....**

Are you cycling to the AECB conference? Thought not! In which case, salve your conscience a smidgeon by sponsoring AECB chair Chris Herring, who is.

All proceeds to the appropriate technology charity Practical Action. See [www.aecb.net/conference2010.php](http://www.aecb.net/conference2010.php).

### **Biomass – Not A Green Fuel After All?**

Defining biomass as a low-carbon fuel is not only mistaken, it is also the cause of higher carbon dioxide emissions and lower building efficiency, according to a discussion paper published today by AECB.

The paper, commissioned by AECB from Nick Grant and Alan Clarke, argues that it is fundamentally wrong to define biomass burning as low-carbon, when burning biomass leads to similar carbon dioxide emissions per unit of heat as burning coal.

As the UK prepares to scale up initiatives encouraging more and more biomass to be used as fuel, the AECB decided that it needed to think more rigorously about the issues arising. While it is true that trees do take up carbon dioxide when they grow, this does not mean that the best use for biomass is to burn it.

Instead, the paper argues, the timber can be left unburnt, and put to other uses - for example, as structural timber or other wood products like insulation. Meanwhile we could use other heat sources that emit a good deal less carbon dioxide than the trees have absorbed, to provide for the same heat requirements.

There is certainly not enough biomass available to both usefully sequester and burn. The paper does not argue that we can sequester our way out of climate change by planting trees and stimulating wood product industries alone. However it clearly makes the case that burning wood is one of the least sensible things to do.

In their paper, Nick Grant and Alan Clarke, both experienced building energy consultants, show how the low-carbon definition for biomass burning is used as a "get out of jail free" card in project design – a biomass boiler then becomes a substitute for good design and energy efficiency. By specifying a biomass boiler, design teams feel they have met their carbon targets, and investing time and budget into efficient, truly low-energy design and construction seems superfluous.

According to the authors, the consequences of current mainstream thinking on biomass as a fuel leads to a 'lose-lose-lose' situation:

- Once when the biomass is burnt, releasing twice as much carbon as burning gas for the same heat output
- Again when the building leaks energy, because insufficient attention was paid to energy efficient building fabric and plant design – i.e., the biomass boiler "did it all".
- And further, there is a risk that the timber price is pushed so high by the competition from a growing number of biomass burners, that concrete, bricks and steel have to be created, at very high energy and carbon costs, to make building components that could otherwise have been made from wood.

Explaining why he had written the paper, co-author Nick Grant commented: 'There is a lot of confusion around, with people mixing up the terms renewable, sustainable and low carbon. We need to take a step back from the seemingly endless arguments about the definition of zero carbon, and ask ourselves – what are we really trying to do here? I believe when you do this, it is clear that we need to go back to the simple principle of using less energy, in whatever form.'

The paper "Biomass - a burning issue" is available as a pdf download from the new releases area of the AECB website. Go to [www.aecb.net/new\\_releases/](http://www.aecb.net/new_releases/)

In order to gain valuable feedback from AECB members on the issues discussed in this paper, and to invite questions and challenges to the thinking, the AECB has set up a thread on its online discussion forum. Non members can watch the debate – members can post.

Please go to <http://www.aecb.net/forum/index.php?topic=2649.0>

### **Local groups**

Its all go now we're back to school four meetings in September, two of them with brand new groups!

First of all, the North of Scotland AECB regional group has its inaugural meeting on Wednesday evening (8th) in Inverness AECB business development manager Adam Smith is travelling all the way up from the Great Wen to join you so have a great night!

If you're able to attend, please let organiser Linda Forbes know by 7th September ([linda@lindaforbes.co.uk](mailto:linda@lindaforbes.co.uk) or [dirvine@scribbilib.info](mailto:dirvine@scribbilib.info)) as she needs to provide a list of names to security at the building. Do bring along any work or ideas you'd like to share or discuss e.g. on a memory stick.

More information on the regional groups board on the forum at <http://www.aecb.net/forum/index.php?board=24.0>

And at the other end of the country, in Bristol there has been a great response to Neil Jolliffe's efforts getting a new group together there. As we go to press the details are being sorted out on the forum (see link above) but it looks like a get together in a pub Montpelier or Clifton, next week (i.e. w/c 13th September. So go to the forum (link above) and make your suggestions for dates and pubs!)

After the great success of their inaugural meeting in the summer, the Hampshire group are meeting again on Tuesday 14th September at 7.00 (with snacks, drinks and a catch-up) for a 7.30 start. Please contact Debbie Mauger via the forum board (link above) if you are able to come along.

John Doggart of the Sustainable Energy Academy will be talking about retrofit. John has many years experience in designing low energy properties he developed the first solar house in the UK, the first Passive Solar housing scheme, and co-developed BREEAM.

The venue for the meeting is again the Bricks and Bread Sustainable Living Centre in Aldershot: [www.bricksandbread.com](http://www.bricksandbread.com)

And last but not least, in Milton Keynes there will be a meeting on 20th September go to the forum (link above) to add your suggestions for venues and topics.

### **Carbonlite Courses - New Dates In Newcastle And Bristol Coming Soon!**

CarbonLite training offers you a grounding in the principles of ultra-low energy building design, and then allows you to develop your skills with PHPP software - the tried-and-tested design tool for truly efficient building design. A session devoted to subduing thermal bridges completes the syllabus.

The AECB CarbonLite courses are being organised in Newcastle - look out for dates on the training calendar at [http://www.carbonlite.org.uk/carbonlite/course\\_calendar.php](http://www.carbonlite.org.uk/carbonlite/course_calendar.php) any day now, or keep an eye on the AECB news board on the forum (<http://www.aecb.net/forum/index.php?board=3.0>) or on Twitter (<http://twitter.com/AECBnet>) - or contact Helen Tippett at Warm: Low Energy Building Practice (see below) to be notified.

The courses originally scheduled for October in Bristol, will now take place in late November - watch the calendar or contact Helen Tippett (see below) to ask to be notified of dates. Apologies for any inconvenience caused.

CarbonLite courses are also running in late September/early October in London and Plymouth; follow the link to see the full calendar and book online. And remember there are fantastic discounts available for some delegates from South East England contact [helen@peterwarm.co.uk](mailto:helen@peterwarm.co.uk), 01752 542546, for information on the discounts, and for queries about any of the courses.

## **Member News**

### **Rural Regeneration Centre – PassivHaus Certified**

The Rural Regeneration Centre in Hadlow, is the first certified PassivHaus educational building in the UK. James Anwyl designed and built the Rural Regeneration Centre for Hadlow College, in Kent, one of the top three agricultural colleges in the UK. James is the founding partner at Eurobuild, a company specialising in PassivHaus architecture and construction.

Constructed of super-insulated closed panels, the structure was planned using BIM (ArchiCAD) and assembled in just three days. In under 10 days overall, the structure was airtight to a very high standard of 0.34 h-1. Prefabrication led to a high quality finish with significant time savings.

A monitoring system has been installed to track the energy consumption of the building over the next two years and beyond for Eurobuild to learn from the 'as built' building performance in relation to weather and usage patterns. The ICT display, ventilation unit and heat pump are monitored individually, in addition to a number of lighting and power circuits. The students and staff can see the results displayed on a very visible monitor in the exhibition area and via the online Building User Guide.

The building employs a number of sustainable technologies including a super efficient mechanical ventilation with heat recovery system from Drexel & Weiss; triple glazed windows; and a ground source heat pump for heating & cooling. The sanitary rooms all have waterless urinals, low flush toilets, timed water-saver taps and moderated flow showers. Low energy T5 lighting is used throughout and was carefully planned using DiaLux software.

Natural slate laid on the screed gives a depth of 70mm, whilst the medium density concrete block walls increase thermal mass and absorb the solar gain from the large south facade. Cooling is governed primarily by the GSHX in the ventilation unit and backed up by the heat pump and underfloor pipework. In addition, the seminar room windows are time and temperature operated to enable free cooling at night. Individual window pergolas and a colonnade across the south facade prevent overheating in summer — all solar modeled in 3D ArchiCAD, checked with TAS software and backed up by the PHPP analysis.

All the timber used in the project was derived from FSC sources or from sustainably managed forests in Austria and apart from two 1m lengths of steel section (100 x 50) there is no metal in the superstructure. This was a conscious decision in planning with respect to life cycle and embodied energy. As a result of the careful planning, it seems likely

from Pre-Assessment that the building might achieve BREEAM 'Excellent' rating as well as already achieving PassivHaus certification.

The panels use recycled 'blown' cellulose insulation and were made in Eurobuild's partner factory in Austria and transported directly to the site near Tonbridge, Kent. The factory is ultra compact and one of the most advanced timber frame facilities in the world. Eurobuild are now working to deliver more PassivHaus projects in the UK with a number of residential and education projects in the pipeline.

For more information go to [www.eurobuild.at/EUROBUILD/Home.html](http://www.eurobuild.at/EUROBUILD/Home.html)

## **News**

### **Government To Water Down 2016 'Zero Carbon' Target For New Homes**

Housebuilders to win reduced carbon target for homes

The Homebuilders' Federation says buyers will not be prepared to pay the premium for a new home added on by the zero carbon ruling. Photograph: Frank Baron One of the UK's most radical environmental policies – requiring all new homes from 2016 to be "zero carbon" – is set to be scaled back amid pressure from the housebuilding industry.

Builders claim the proposals would be too expensive and impossible to implement for many flats, and would result in a slump in the rate of homes built. Now The Guardian has learned that the government is ready to water down the target, a move environmentalists have said would be a "travesty".

A "zero carbon home" requires a 150% reduction in carbon emissions, a target which includes emissions from household appliances, heating and lighting. The plan was to achieve these savings from improved energy efficiency and on-site renewables. Housebuilders argued this was too ambitious and agreed a compromise where only 70% of the reduction would be on-site. The rest would be achieved by housebuilders paying £4,500 a house into a community energy fund, to finance small renewable energy projects or energy-efficiency measures.

Now housebuilders say even this is too ambitious. The Home Builders' Federation says buyers would not be prepared to pay the 20% premium for a home. The Zero Carbon Hub, set up to co-ordinate policy, has begun final testing of the target and will make recommendations to ministers this year. But the Guardian has learned that policymakers and senior figures at Communities and Local Government accept the target is too high and more emissions will have to be "offset".

Simon McWhirter, homes spokesman from charity WWF, said: "David Cameron said this would be the greenest government ever but we are already seeing a potential weakening of one of the most progressive environmental policies which would be a travesty."

Housing minister Grant Shapps said: "We need to set a realistic benchmark for carbon emissions in building regulations which also takes account of costs."

Source: [www.guardian.co.uk/](http://www.guardian.co.uk/), Sunday 29 August

### **Government Cuts Low-Carbon Programmes By £34 Million**

As the new Coalition Government continues to pledge its green intentions, the Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC) has announced a £34 million cut to low-carbon programme. The cuts are part of the Government's £6.2 billion savings programme announced in the Budget 2010 in May.

All governmental departments will be making budget cuts, with DECC's contribution standing at £85 million. The major low-carbon losers are the Low Carbon Buildings Fund, which closed early to save £3 million. Efficiency savings and under spending on other DECC programmes will bring a further £6.1 million. The Carbon Trust will also see a £12.6 million cut in its grant for low-carbon technology and business support from DECC. The bio-energy capital grants and bio-energy infrastructure schemes are also casualties of the cuts. DECC says it will honour £5.3 million in grants for 2010/11, but will cancel the final funding rounds to save £4.7 million.

Savings will also come from reducing funding for deep geothermal energy generation by £1 million, scaling back the scope of the offshore wind capital grants scheme to the tune of £3 million and limiting the Central Government Low Carbon Technology Programme to provide a further £2.9 million. Finally, the Energy Saving Trust's technology trials will finish early, saving £700,000 on the £3 million programme.

The cuts have unsurprisingly been condemned by environmental groups. However, DECC is keen to point out that it is still investing more than £150 million in low-carbon technologies this year.

Go to: [www.decc.gov.uk/](http://www.decc.gov.uk/)

### **Government Urges Contractors To Work To Energy Efficiency Code**

The UK Government's Cabinet Office Minister Francis Maude yesterday called on all departments and contractors to work together to reach a target of cutting emissions 10% over the next year. The Prime Minister David Cameron made the pledge to cut central government's carbon emissions by 10% in May this year.

The Government is asking that all departments start working to a new 'energy efficiency code'. The code states that departments should be working with their facilities management contractors to come up with plans to cut carbon

emissions by 10% by next May. Government departments will also be expected to look to the private sector for ideas on cutting carbon emissions.

Greg Barker, Minister for Energy and Climate Change, joined the call, urging the country's facilities management companies to work to the new code. Contractors should also be sharing their expertise with public bodies to identify ways of reducing energy-related emissions, according to the code.

"In this fiscal crisis, it is essential that we take radical steps to increase efficiency and reduce energy use," said Maude at a meeting yesterday. "The public sector as a whole is responsible for three per cent of UK carbon emissions and spends more than £2.5 billion on energy every year, so there is a huge potential to make a real difference."

A first step will be to make energy use and efficiency more transparent, said Maude. Last month, some departments started displaying live energy use information, with others expected to follow suit shortly.

For further information go to [www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/](http://www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/)

Source: Energy Efficiency News.

### **UK Must Protect Low-Carbon Funding, Says Advisory Committee**

The UK's Committee on Climate Change (CCC) yesterday urged that Government funding for low-carbon technology research, development and deployment should be protected. The independent advisory committee warns that without Government support, new low-carbon technologies essential for the UK to meet its target of reducing emissions by 80% by 2050 will not be met.

If current funding levels of around £550 million a year are reduced and commitments to carbon capture and storage (CCS) or electric vehicles lapse, the UK risks missing out on the opportunity to build a green economy, says the CCC report. The report to the Government's Chief Scientific Advisor, Professor Sir John Beddington, warns that inadequate funding – even in these difficult economic times – could leave new technologies floundering and failing to reach market.

The Committee recommends that the new Government should focus efforts on six key technologies – offshore wind, which is likely to provide the cheapest means of decarbonising the UK's electricity supply, marine energy, where UK companies have world-leading expertise, CCS, smart grids and meters, electric vehicles and advanced aviation technology. The UK should also move ahead with the deployment of nuclear power, advanced insulation and heat pumps, while investing in R&D for hydrogen fuel cell vehicles, third generation photovoltaics and advanced biofuels.

The report has been welcomed across the board from industry and environmental groups.

For further information go to [www.theccc.org.uk/](http://www.theccc.org.uk/)

Source: Energy Efficiency News.

### **Norway Tops League Of Green Building, With UK Third**

Norway has topped a global league of green building for the second year in a row, followed by Brazil in second place and then the UK, which climbs to third place for the first time.

The 2009 Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors (RICS) Global Zero Carbon Capacity Index is based on International Energy Agency (IEA) data and covers 34 countries looking at factors such as energy efficiency in households, offices and transport, as well as investment in renewable energy and policies to reduce carbon consumption from buildings. The building sector – both residential and commercial – currently accounts for around 40% of emissions, more than either the transport or industrial sectors.

The UK has climbed a place in the league since last year, mainly as a result of the new policies introduced by the previous government, including zero-carbon housing, the Code for Sustainable Homes and tightened building regulations. But index author Yvonne Rydin, co-director of the University College London Environment Institute, says the UK needs to take further action on residential energy efficiency and invest more in renewables. The poor quality of existing housing stock, in particular, should be addressed to reduce energy consumption.

Other countries showing improvement include the Slovak Republic, France, Germany and the USA, although it is improving less than the other three. Perhaps surprisingly, China makes it into the top ten, joint fourth place with Australia, followed by New Zealand, India, Austria, Germany and Sweden.

Stephen Brown of RICS says that governments must provide incentives and implement programmes to create a zero-carbon built environment. In the UK, he says, the Government should cut VAT to 5% on building materials for repair and renovation work.

However, the UK Department of Energy and Climate Change announced an early end to its Low Carbon Buildings Fund to save £3 million and Housing Minister Grant Shapps announced a 50% cut in eco-town funding for local authorities next year.

For further information go to [www.ucl.ac.uk](http://www.ucl.ac.uk)

### **Finalists Of The Integrated Habitats Design Competition Announced**

RESET Development are pleased to announce that the eight finalists for the first ever UK Integrated Habitats Design Competition have now been announced. Submissions included entries from a variety of backgrounds including students, architects, ecologists, landscape designers and engineers. The judges were impressed by the diverse range of projects proposed and will be awarding prizes to the top three entries. First prize of £2000, runner-up of £1000 and highly

commended places will be presented as part of CIRIA's bi-annual 2-day World Green Roof Congress at 6.00pm on Wednesday 15th September ([www.worldgreenroofcongress.com](http://www.worldgreenroofcongress.com)), with the top three finalists also receiving a free ticket to the 2-day congress which is run in partnership with [livingroofs.org](http://livingroofs.org). The eight finalist proposals will be published online and will also be showcased at the 5 week IHDC Exhibition will open on Monday 13th September.

Based on a similar competition organised by the City of Portland in 2007, the IHDC emphasises the importance of biodiversity in the built environment. The competition invited holistic designs that integrate biodiversity, emphasising the value of good quality design that puts nature at its heart.

"The design of the built environment has all too often ignored the essential life-giving support of soil, plants and animals," says Dusty Gedge, the UK's leading living roofs campaigner and policy writer and one of the competition's instigators. "Ecology and biodiversity are often relegated to a subordinate role in the design process." To overcome this perceived discrepancy, Dusty, Gary Grant, the independent ecologist and master planner, and RESET teamed up to organise the IHDC. The competition encourages an intra-disciplinary approach to design that expresses the potential for nature to produce healthy, low energy, high quality environments that are adapted for a changing climate.

The IHDC Finalists in alphabetical order are:

- City Park Hove: Maria Hawton-Mead, and Jon Turner and Fergus Carr of Turner Associates
- Edge Hill Halls: Maria-Cristina Banceanu, Liverpool University architecture student
- Happy Habitats: Phil Hampshire, Katherine Sydney, Aylin Ludwig, Laura Crawford, Celia Way, Victoria Wilson, Tamasine Scott, Buro Happold & Grant Associates
- Matropolis: Paul Jones and David Dobereiner
- National Wildflower Centre: Grant Luscombe, Ernst ter Horst, Julie Godefroy, Thomas Lefevre: Landlife with Ian Simpson Architects and Hoare Lea Engineers
- Overflow Car Park: Claire Mookerjee and Mat Triebner
- Satoyama: Hiroyuki Ichihara and Atsumi Sako
- The Seed Catalogue: Susannah Hagan, Silvio Caputo, Mark Gaterell: Team RED

The work of the finalists will be unveiled at the opening night of the IHDC Exhibition which will be taking place in the Building Centre, London at 6.30pm on Monday 13th September. The exhibition will also be open to the public from 14th September until the 16th October.

For further information on the competition and the upcoming exhibition please contact Cassandra Dove ([cassandra.dove@reset-development.org.uk](mailto:cassandra.dove@reset-development.org.uk)) or visit [www.reset-development.org](http://www.reset-development.org) & [www.ihdc.org.uk](http://www.ihdc.org.uk)

### **News From The States – Averting The Next Mortgage Meltdown While Cooling The Planet**

There are \$1.4 trillion in commercial real estate (CRE) loans coming due over the next few years, most of these are small building and small business loans (mom and pop operations).

Fifty percent (50%) of these CRE loans are underwater, and a larger percentage cannot refinance. CRE property values are down 40%.

Most of these loans are held by small community banks - to date 250 banks have failed, 750 are on the FDIC watch list.

There are billions of dollars waiting on the sidelines to buy up this distressed CRE.

Walmart, Best Buy and Kinkos won't lose their buildings or businesses - Jane Doe Apparel and John Smith Printing, whose net worth is tied up in their buildings, will. Middle class? What middle class?

Daphne Wysham lays it out in the Huffington Post at: [http://www.huffingtonpost.com/daphne-wysham/averting-the-next-mortgage\\_b\\_699622.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/daphne-wysham/averting-the-next-mortgage_b_699622.html)

### **Inspiring The Next Generation - Southend YMCA Opens Pilot Eco-Hub**

The Southend YMCA eco-hub is a second chance for a socially honest building to inspire and encourage young people to create their dream eco-business.

Southend YMCA has appointed Artillery Architecture and Interior Design to create 200m<sup>2</sup> of new employment space. The project will deliver five affordable and managed workspace units, multi-purpose rooms for group work and meeting rooms and conference facilities. With on-site support and access to business networks, it will also provide young entrepreneurs with advice and support to help them develop eco-efficient, ethically aware, enterprises.

The design incorporates environmental principles, achieving a BREEAM "very good" rating and providing flexible studio space for environmental innovation.

Main positive outcomes of the projects are:

- Retrofitting and bringing back into use a dilapidated historic building, securing improvements to the urban environment through quality design and combining ecological conservation principles.
- Creating an eco-efficient flagship edifice achieving a BREEAM "very good" rating.

- Improving an existing site that had no ecological value by incorporating a flora and fauna scheme to attract wildlife and contribute to enhanced biodiversity.

The design proposals blend the historical context of the existing stables, London stock bricks and aged aesthetic with a contemporary, flexible interior space. The interior is designed to compliment the Victoriana, drawing on the raw existing materials, but creating a modern inspirational interior space with crisp lines and naturally lit spaces.

The exterior space maximises on the flexibility of the Eco-Hub, the existing stable flooring was re-used in the foundations and contemporary benching and planters made from re-used timber provide an infusion of old and new. The exterior has been designed to allow the remediation of the existing grounds whilst increasing the ecological value of the local area.

For more information go to [www.artillery.co.uk/content/projects/323](http://www.artillery.co.uk/content/projects/323)

### **Wind Turbine Free To Good Home**

A small wind turbine has been rescued from the scrap heap. It is thought to be a 300W 12V turbine. It has a mast but needs some repair to blades. Free for collection near Stroud. If you are interested write to [john@johnwilloughby.co.uk](mailto:john@johnwilloughby.co.uk)

### **Building For A Future and Eco Design Magazine – Back Issues**

Building For A Future Magazine – All copies from No1 (1990) to Vol 9 No4 (2000), 1 missing. 37 copies

Eco Design Magazine – All copies from No1 (1990) to Vol 8 (2001), 1 missing. 25 copies

Reasonable offers please, ring Simon Clark on 07737 762313

## **Events**

### **Cumbria Green Build Professional Programme—Knowledge Transfer Event – 9<sup>th</sup> September**

CREA, Redhills Penrith. CA11 0DT.

A range of presentations on the key subjects of refurbishment, new build and renewable energy.

Presentations include: Changes to the Building Regulations; Achieving air tightness in new build; Doors - Options: thermal efficiency, security and materials: An introduction to micro-CHP; PVs—A review of actual performance data; Nanospheres in paint— how effective are they?; Ventilation and condensation in local traditional homes.

Booking: Cost per delegate £50.00. Go to the conferences page of the website at [www.cumbriagreenbuild.org.uk/](http://www.cumbriagreenbuild.org.uk/)

This is in association with the Cumbria Green Build Festival from the 11<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> September, see the web site for more information.

### **Llanidloes Green Fair – October 10<sup>th</sup>.**

It's back again, the wonderful Llanidloes Green Fair, with inspiring speakers and workshops, trade stands, food, children's activities, art and film.

More details are at [www.lles.co.uk/greenfair\\_2010.html](http://www.lles.co.uk/greenfair_2010.html).

### **Renewable Energy In The Public Sector - 'Leading The Way To Zero Carbon' – 26th October 2010**

The Barbican, London - this event is CPD certified

From August 2010, local authorities are allowed to sell energy that they produce back to the national grid, providing an additional source of revenue, ensuring energy security and reducing vulnerability to inevitable increases in energy prices.

The new coalition government intends to implement a full programme of measures to fulfil ambitions for a low carbon and eco-friendly economy very soon. Renewable Energy in the Public Sector Conference 2010 presents an ideal opportunity for delegates from across both the public and private sectors to learn how to achieve targets, save, and even make money with renewables.

Full details of the programme can be found at [www.publicserviceevents.co.uk/event/programme.asp?ID=150](http://www.publicserviceevents.co.uk/event/programme.asp?ID=150).

If you have any queries regarding the conference or registration process, please do not hesitate getting in touch with Mark Almond via email [malmond@publicservice-delegates.co.uk](mailto:malmond@publicservice-delegates.co.uk) or telephone on 0161 832 7387.

### **UK PassivHaus Conference – Monday 11 October 2010**

Islington Town Hall Assembly Rooms

This first ever UK Passivhaus Conference seeks to build on the success of the Camden and Islington Passivhaus Conference of February 2010 ([www.cuttingthecarbon.com/passivhaus](http://www.cuttingthecarbon.com/passivhaus)) where it became clear that there was huge demand for more information about the Passivhaus standard. The UK Passivhaus conference will include case studies, site visits, workshops, debate, an exhibition of Passivhaus products and numerous networking opportunities.

Earlier this year the London Borough of Camden became the first local authority in the UK to include Passivhaus in its Local Development Framework. They are asking developers and architects to aspire to the Passivhaus standard. We are

seeking to encourage other local authorities to introduce the standard into their planning rules. Our big ask to the government is that the Passivhaus standard be incorporated into UK building regulations.

The UK Passivhaus Conference is aimed primarily at planning officers, building regulations officers, architects and housing associations. The cost is £150 (£25 for students on production of a valid student card), which includes lunch and refreshments.

You can register for the UK Passivhaus Conference and the Conference Dinner on our website: [www.ukpassivhausconference.org](http://www.ukpassivhausconference.org).

If you have any questions, then please contact [info@cuttingthecarbon.com](mailto:info@cuttingthecarbon.com)

## **Courses**

### **A Gentle Introduction To Renewable Energy - With Peter Bayliss – 23<sup>rd</sup> October**

Cwmbiga Farm, Penfforddlas, Powys

A one day course at Cwmbiga giving an overview of the different technologies available, the economics of such systems, grants (including the new "Feed in Tariffs". A delicious lunch will be provided and the day will also include a tour of Cwmbiga's wood and solar powered district heating system.

Full details are at [www.cwmbiga.co.uk/energycourse.html](http://www.cwmbiga.co.uk/energycourse.html)

## **Publications**

Health and productivity benefits of sustainable schools (ref: FB 27)

ISBN: 978-1-84806-148-4

This publication reviews evidence from international research that the environmental design of schools has a positive effect on teaching and learning. With large numbers of students in education and major investment in school buildings, the benefits of improving health and productivity in schools through environmental measures are potentially enormous. 'Green' schools should provide healthier and more productive environments because many of the features of 'green' buildings are known to contribute to health and well-being. This publication explores the potential benefits of:

- thermally comfortable school spaces
- access to fresh air, daylight and views out
- acoustics conditions which support teaching and learning
- the size and layout of teaching spaces.

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

## **Vacancies**

### **Business Development Managers**

Natural Building Technologies (NBT) are looking for new Business Development Managers (BDMs) across the country to rapidly expand our growing business. We have an immediate requirement for a regional BDM in the South West and South Wales.

NBT is the leading UK provider of high performance sustainable building envelopes, delivered through our Pavatex Woodfibre systems and our Thermoplan fired clay systems. These are fully certified and warranted systems which are used in mainstream housing, schools, health care and commercial applications, in both new build and renovation. Please see [www.natural-building.co.uk](http://www.natural-building.co.uk) for more information.

Applicants should be experienced in the construction sector, technically competent and sales driven. NBT is an ethical company working with intelligence and determination to transform the way buildings are built and perform in the UK. We are looking for people to join our thriving company and to make this change happen. Applications with CVs should be to Andrew Mitchell at [a.mitchell@natural-building.co.uk](mailto:a.mitchell@natural-building.co.uk)

*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)*