

**ASSOCIATION FOR ENVIRONMENT CONSCIOUS BUILDING
FOURTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT
COVERING PERIOD FROM OCTOBER 2002 TO SEPTEMBER 2003**

<p>Office: <i>PO Box 32 Llandysul SA44 5ZA</i></p>	<p>Telephone <i>0845 456 9773</i> E-mail <i>info@aecb.net</i> Web Site <i>www.aecb.net</i></p>
<p>President <i>Professor Chris Baines</i> Founder <i>Keith Hall</i> Administration and finance <i>Sally Hall</i> Lobbying Liaison Officers <i>Andy Simmonds</i> <i>Cath Hassell</i> Secretary and Events <i>Chris Lord Smith</i> Emails – general enquiries <i>Jerry Clark</i> Network newsletter <i>Chris Lord Smith</i></p>	<p>Bankers <i>The Co-operative Bank</i> Building Society <i>The Ecology Building Society</i> Auditor <i>Ryn Sullinge, Accountant</i></p>

Membership

Income from membership increased by around 6%. The majority of members renewed.

All members were given a free basic listing in *the Green Building Bible*, published by the Green Building Press in partnership with the AECB. Every opportunity is taken to promote the work of members who are known to be working in accordance with the Association's aims.

AECB members are recognised as UK leaders in their particular field and many have written books on various subjects. Members continue to be at the forefront of ecologically sound projects and regularly win many of the environmental and other awards for their work that are reported in the AECB's regular newsletter *Network* and in *Building for a Future* magazine which is circulated to all AECB members. Members are being encouraged to sign up to the newsletter, which is currently circulated to around 600 members.

The Committee As Appointed at AGM on 5th July 2003

Andy Simmonds, Chairman
Chris Herring, Treasurer
Cath Hassell
Sally Hall
Neill Lewis
Chris Lord Smith, Secretary
David Olivier
Peter Warm
Tom Woolley

Nick Grant, Tom Straker and Peter Wilkinson were co-opted onto the committee later in the year.

Mark Gorgolewski (previous Chairman) stepped down as he was moving to Canada. He was thanked for all the work he had undertaken during his term of office and he continues to support the AECB. Sally Hall stepped down as Treasurer but remained on the committee and Chris Herring took on this role. Sally was thanked for all her hard work ensuring financial stability of the organisation since its launch in 1989. David Olivier was welcomed back onto the committee.

AGM & Conference

This year's AGM was held over two days (4th and 5th July) at the Earth Centre, Doncaster (see *Building For a Future*, Vol 13, No 2 for more details). Attendance was excellent with over 200 members attending. The event was co-ordinated by Ali Poole and made a profit. Over the two days, in addition to the normal AGM business, there was a good choice of workshops

- **Towards Zero carbon housing**, led by *Robert Webb XCO 2*
- **Ecological Footprint of Estate and City** led by *Craig Simmons, Best Foot Forward*
- **Micro CHP**, led by *David Bryce, Microgen*
- **Sustainability and Prefabrication**, led by *Mark Gorgolewski*

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- **Detailing for Air Tight Construction**, led by Peter Warm and Mark Gorgolewski
- **Timber Building Large and Small**, led by Paul Leech, GAIA Architecture
- **Hemp Building**, led by
- **Dual Flush WCs and Rainwater Reuse**, led by Cath Hassell, echo and Nick Grant, Elemental Solutions
- **Eco Renovation**, led by Penney Poyzer

This year's key speaker was Bill Dunster, architect of the zero fossil energy development, BEDZED. He had designed the conference building at the Earth Centre. He talked on a range of case studies addressing different construction systems together with their wider implications for a low impact society. The BIG Debate, a new introduction to the conference, was on the subject of timber. It asked how we can source sustainable timber and questioned whether certification schemes were the way forward. A panel of timber experts were on hand for a lively, thought provoking and sometimes-heated debate.

AGM business, in addition to the normal business, included consideration of a Notice of Motion asking the AECB to support the campaign organised by Greenpeace over the illegal felling and importation of rainforest timber, especially from Indonesia. It was agreed that the AECB should circulate a press release explaining the AECB's position and condemnation of this trade. The Motion '*The AECB opposes all unsustainable and illegal logging of timber worldwide as highlighted by the Greenpeace campaign and the committee will work with Greenpeace to further the campaign*' was approved unanimously.

A proposal that the AECB should change its status from an unincorporated voluntary organisation to a company limited by guarantee was approved in principle and the committee authorised to undertake the preparatory work involved.

The well-respected eco-architect, Chris Day, was in attendance at the AGM and was awarded life membership of the AECB, in recognition of all the work he has done to promote and develop sustainable building practice over the years.

AECB Activities

The Committee met five times during the period (copies of any of the minutes from the meetings are available on the web site at www.aecb.net). Meetings were well attended. Sub groups also met separately during the period. *The AGM and Annual Conference Sub Group* met to finalise the annual event, held this period at the Earth Centre in Doncaster.

Training

A new *Sub Group* was established to further an AECB initiative (*The AECB Sustainable Skills and Education initiative or sussED*) to provide eco-building training within the industry and within construction education. Funding is being sought for the Feasibility Study. The committee thanks Andy Simmonds and Adele Mills of AECB members Simmonds.Mills architects for setting up the initial meetings between AECB, CITB, ITDG, NBT and WSSBT to develop this initiative. Adele Mills has been taken on to the committee currently in a co-opted capacity to co-ordinate the project.

Energy

The AECB Energy Standard Sub Group was formed to pick up on past work towards this end by expert AECB members. This group is working on targets for energy efficiency and conservation in new build in order to: provide members with guidance when developing their own projects: act as a position paper for AECB lobbying activities: act as core thinking around which further AECB research will be initiated to enable the standard to be taken up by the Industry if it intends to comply with the Governments CO2 reduction targets under the Kyoto Protocol. Group members are: David Olivier, John Willoughby, Peter Warm, Andy Simmonds, and Liz Reason.

AECB Structure

During this period the committee started to clarify and formalise existing working relationships between AECB committee, Green Building Press and individuals providing services. Contracts and agreements were drawn up, agreed and signed: day-to-day admin and finance work (Sally Hall), telephone answering service (Chris Lord Smith), e-mail information service (Jerry Clark); management of and services relating to AECB web site (Green Building Press).

BFF

Again to develop a clearer working relationship between GBP and AECB in respect of the supply and development of BFF to members, negotiations on a more formal agreement were initiated and are continuing.

AECB Guidelines

A discussion paper was prepared proposing an Ethical Policy. This was also discussed at the 2003 agm in a workshop chaired by Chris Baines. Work on formalising the policy is ongoing and should be agreed in the future.

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Information and Education

Over 300 emails, telephone enquiries and letters are received each week from professionals, students, members of the public and the media. Responses are sent out to each and the committee supplies technical support where necessary.

Promotion

Every effort was made to ensure that the AECB took advantage of all available free publicity. Committee members and other members attended events, conferences, displays, etc, on behalf of the AECB and the display boards, slide packs and videos were in frequent use. We are indebted to all those members who voluntarily man our display. Many members requested AECB leaflets and information to promote the organisation at events etc that they were involved with. We are very grateful to all members who can do this.

The AECB logo is currently available for members to use on their letterheads, promotional material etc whilst membership is maintained. It is available, free of charge, and can be downloaded from the Web Site. The committee are considering a tiered membership structure that may restrict use of the logo in the future.

The Internet

The AECB has its own domain name (aecb.net) and virtual server. Thousands visited the site, with most new members now joining via the Net. The site is regularly updated and includes a 'home' page with general information about the AECB and the building industry together with membership information, application form (which can be printed out by those accessing the site), extracts from *Building for a Future* magazine and as well as membership listings by profession and county. A separate area (pass-word controlled) is available to members only. This includes discussion forums on a range of subjects relating to sustainable building, committee information (annual reports, minutes, profiles of committee members etc) and lobbying updates. The website is an important point of contact with current and new members. There is also an on-line book service organised with Amazon books.

Terminal 5, Heathrow Airport

Neill Lewis continued to be the AECB's representative on this group. There were no meetings in this period.

Campaigning / Lobbying

Reports and information relating to the areas in which the AECB are involved are regularly posted on the web site. Mark Gorgolewski was lobbying officer until he handed over this work to Andy Simmonds and Cath Hassell in September 2003. The AECB was involved with the following during the period of this report.

- DTI Consultation on a UK Sustainable Energy Policy
- The Sustainable Energy Campaign
- Green Party Energy Consultation
- Treasury Consultation on Household Energy Efficiency
- Clean Dozen Campaign (HECA Partnership)
- Joint Seminar on Sustainability (Association of Consultant Architects (ACE))
- ODPM Working Group on Sustainable Construction
- Parliamentary Sustainable Design in the Built Environment Working Group
- Energy Saving Trust Consultation about how to influence developers
- Sustainable Energy Bill (ACE)
- Commented on various government draft papers, including Draft Planning Policy Statement (PPS) 7 on 'Sustainable Development in Rural Areas'; Draft Supplementary Planning Guidance 'Planning for Renewable Energy Technologies and Energy Efficiency'; Framework for Sustainable Drainage Systems (SUDS) in England and Wales. *All available on the web site.*
- Met with the Associate Parliamentary Group for Design and Innovation (www.designinparliament.org.uk)

Neil May, a long standing AECB member, founder of the company Natural Building Technologies and Neil May Builders, represented the AECB at the Non-Food Crops Strategy Workshop in October.

The AECB will continue to seek to comment and contribute to initiatives of relevance to sustainable construction, and to work with others to develop our aims. If members have particular issues that they feel that the AECB should be campaigning about please contact Andy or Cath.

Funding

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The AECB is still independently funded from membership subscriptions. Much of the work is still done voluntarily or for minimal payment. No funding applications were made during this period.

Affinity schemes exist with the Environmental Transport Association (ETA) and the Phone Co-op.

The audited accounts for the period are attached and form part of this report.

Membership Benefits

Network

This is the newsletter of the AECB and contains news, events / courses / awards information and keeps members informed of the work of the committee. It is also a platform for members who can air their views, comment on the work of the association and suggest ideas for the future. It is produced regularly and is currently done voluntarily by Chris Lord Smith. In order to keep costs to a minimum it is emailed to members with hard copies available on request.

Building for a Future Magazine

The membership fee includes for AECB members receiving Building for a Future magazine (BFF), edited and published by the Green Building Press, quarterly. It reports on a diverse range of topics relating to the sustainable building sector, including eco projects, events, news, practical eco building, product news, reviews, opinions and comment. The AECB also currently receives a proportion of the advertising revenue. GBP takes care to ensure all products and services advertised are in accordance with the BFF advertising policy.

The Green Building Bible

This was previously called the Real Green Building Book. AECB members currently receive this publication, published by the Green Building Press. The 2003/4 issue was published during this period and included a directory of AECB members. This issue contained more articles than previous issues and was published in a larger format than previous issues. It included a summary of eco-building principles, with general information about all the main issues.

Members Discounts / Offers

£10 off membership or £9 off renewal of Environmental Transport Association (ETA) 0193 2828882, quote S387 (alternative to AA, RAC etc)

18% off Auro range of organic paints 01799 584888

10% off O&S range of natural finishes 01895 234899

2.5% off EcoPlus windows and 5% off Lindab guttering 01484 854898

2.5% off Energy Services heating products (and VAT free zone too!) 01481 722299

5% off lime products (lime mortars, plasters, cob blocks, cob bricks etc) 01409 281644

15% off products and services supplied by Solar Sense (Energy Engineers) 01792 371690

10% off O&S natural finishes and 20% off Impra Profilan water based stains 0207 639 5106

5% off products purchased from the Green Shop 01452 770629

10% off most products from Construction Resources 0207 450 2211

10% Thermomax & FILSOL solar water heating systems Alternative Wales 01239 891271

10% discount for design auditing and air leakage testing. Air Leakage Services 0113 2887551

Legal helpline, 20 mins free advice Laytons 0117 930 9500

Cheaper tel calls and free local rate number at Phone Co-op - tel Chris 0845 456 9773

Special rates for hiring air leakage test equipment Retrotec 01453 836700

Free 20-minute legal support from Laytons Solicitors in Bristol

Discounted telephone calls from the Phone Co-op 0845 456 9773

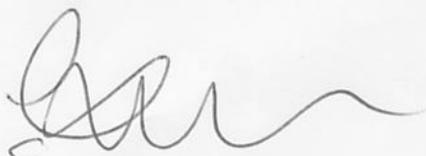
Discounted set up rate to GreenPro, the on-line eco building database www.newbuilder.co.uk

THE ASSOCIATION FOR ENVIRONMENT CONSCIOUS BUILDING, SARON, LLANDYSUL, DYFEL

RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS ACCOUNT YEAR TO 30TH SEPTEMBER 2003

	2003	2002
	£	£
INCOME		
ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS	39,469	37,262
BFF SUBSCRIPTIONS	4,406	4,499
INTEREST RECEIVED	327	385
SALE OF "GREENER BUILDING"	0	757
DONATIONS RECEIVED	42	135
MAGAZINE SALES / FACT SHEETS	1,930	1,229
ADVERTISEMENT RECEIPTS	32,776	27,345
MEMBERS CONTRIBUTIONS TO AGM EXS.	11,576	7,897
GREEN PRO	271	46
BBA TERMINAL	0	1,311
PII PROJECT	0	220
SUNDRY	1,252	461
TOTAL INCOME FOR THE YEAR	92,049	81,547
EXPENDITURE		
POSTAGES	(2,058)	(3,355)
PRINT./STAT./PHOTOCOPYING/COMPUTER	(518)	(1,248)
COMPUTER COSTS	(666)	(633)
ADMINISTRATION COSTS	(3,828)	(3,600)
COSTS "GREENER BUILDING"	0	(1,325)
AGM EXPENSES	(9,403)	(5,242)
AUDIT FEE	(140)	(135)
MAGAZINE PRODUCTION COSTS	(32,356)	(39,220)
COMMITTEE MEMBERS EXS.	(1,061)	(1,013)
DISPAYS/EVENTS ETC.	(1,018)	(1,505)
TELEPHONE	(3,457)	(2,713)
NET AOL	(6,180)	(6,890)
REAL GREEN BOOK	(17,331)	(13,601)
LOBBYING	(1,014)	(1,996)
B.B.A. TERMINAL GROUP	0	(1,186)
NETWORK	(233)	0
SUNDRY	(223)	(149)
TOTAL EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR	(79,486)	(83,811)
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR	12,563	(2,264)
OPENING BUILDING SOCIETY BALANCE 1ST OCT.2002	12,366	12,027
OPENING COOP ACCOUNTS BALS. 1ST OCT.2002	14,884	17,487
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR	12,563	(2,264)
	39,813	27,250
CLOSING BUILDING SOCIETY BAL.30TH SEPT 2003	12,598	12,366
CLOSING COOP ACCOUNTS BAL.30TH SEPT.2003	27,215	14,884
	39,813	27,250

We certify that the above Receipts & Payments Account are in accordance with the books records and the information and explanations as supplied to me by the Association for the year to 30th September 2003.



Ryn.Sullinge F.C.A.

Chartered Accountant

20th November 2003