

## AECB News

### Welcome



A warm welcome to the following new members who have joined the AECB recently;

Richard Coles - Chartered Construction Manager

Ian Hendry

Mike Sharp

Richard Sabey

Tabitha Binding

Sustainable By Design LLP

Evangelia Mitsiakou

Caroline Massey

Gary Stenning

Holos Form Ltd.

David Neely

Kingfisher Ecology

Terra Perma Limited

Thompson Ellis Ltd

[Roberts Limbrick Ltd](#)

Kate Morland

Olifemi David Olaiya

Zecosense

Bruce Coram

Surrey

Edinburgh

Kent

West Yorkshire

Powys

London

Bristol

Exeter

Exeter

West Sussex

Inverclyde

Wiltshire

Devon

Hampshire

Gloucestershire

Ireland

Hampshire

London

North Yorkshire

## **September**

Nyman Green Management

[Ecomerchant](#)

[K-HAUS Ltd](#)

Matthew Stevensen

Earthborn

Energy Triangle Ltd

Keryn Freed

Adam Harper

Clara-Larissa Lorenz

Charles Lyons

West Yorkshire

Wiltshire

Suffolk

Surrey

Cheshire

West Yorkshire

Lancashire

North Yorkshire

Bristol

Wicklow

To ensure you are making the most of your membership, please visit <http://www.aecb.net/membership-benefits>. In order to have full access to our website, you will need to log in with your username and password. If you need a reminder of these, please email [emma@aecb.net](mailto:emma@aecb.net). If you have joined as a company, you can then enhance your member profile listing on the popular [Member Directory](#). Both members and non members are able to browse or search this directory of products and services provided by our membership.

We are also keen to hear from AECB members wishing to share a news item about themselves or their company to include on the [AECB News Platform/Member News](#). This could be an award you have recently won for a project, a product or your service. This is strictly an area for promoting AECB member news only and we will therefore not be able to publish any items which AECB considers to be purely advertising of products or services. AECB retain the right to reject straightforward advertising items. Please send your short item (max 200 words) plus a link to your website and one picture, to AECB Business Operations Manager, Gill Rivers – [gill@aecb.net](mailto:gill@aecb.net).

## **Masterclass: Passivhaus Classic, Plus & Premium**



**Date:** 19th October 2015

**Time:** 11.30am – 4.30pm

**Venue:** London South Bank University, London

Jessica Grove-Smith of the Passivhaus Institute will present the new Passivhaus standards and provide an overview of the new features and functionality of PHPP v9.

As Passivhaus continues to grow both in the UK the rest of Europe, the Passivhaus Institute has introduced new categories for its building certification; in addition to the established 'Passivhaus Classic', there are the 'Passivhaus Plus' and 'Passivhaus Premium' which include the use of renewable energy generation in the certification assessment.

In PHPP v9, a new evaluation procedure focusing on 'Primary Energy Renewable' (PER) target will replace the 'Primary Energy' (PE) criteria with new worksheets entitled 'Cost Comparison' and 'PV'.

### Cost

£150+VAT PHT members

£200+VAT non members

Go to [http://www.passivhaustrust.org.uk/event\\_detail.php?eld=397#.VhJhsGtBSOg](http://www.passivhaustrust.org.uk/event_detail.php?eld=397#.VhJhsGtBSOg)

## UK Passivhaus Conference 2015



**20 October 2015**

### **Business Design Centre, London**

The 2015 UK Passivhaus Conference, organised in partnership with the Passivhaus Trust and BRE, will offer an exciting and concentrated update of what has happened in the UK Passivhaus movement over the past year. Delegates will have a chance to learn about the development of large-scale UK housing projects and the challenges this provides. This one day conference will be held on October 20th 2015 at the Business Design Centre, London

For the first time, there will be a mini trade show in the exhibition area, which will also include demonstration sessions on special feature product models. The trade show will also be open to non-conference attendees - we will promote free tickets in advance through our media partners, exhibitors and selected media or tickets can also be purchased on the door.

Tickets are now available for the 2015 UK Passivhaus Conference. Book now to receive 10% early bird discount! As an AECB member you will also receive the partner discount.

For the first time the UK Passivhaus exhibition space will be open to non-attendees of the conference during the afternoon on 20<sup>th</sup> October from 2 to 5pm. This one day exhibition and conference will host over 30 exhibitors, models and demonstrations; plus some special features such as sponsor seminars and scheduled exhibitors demonstrations, student competition entries and the 2015 Passivhaus Awards shortlisted project displays.

Tickets are priced at £10.00 +VAT and can be purchased from the BRE website. Click [here](#) to book.

**AECB members are invited to visit the exhibition for free** and all that you need to do is email Roger [roger@passivhaustrust.org.uk](mailto:roger@passivhaustrust.org.uk) and say that you are an AECB member to claim your free exhibition pass.

To find out more and book your ticket please visit <http://www.ukpassivhausconference.org.uk/home>

## **AECB CarbonLite Passivhaus Designer course in London, November!**



**Early Bird Rate extended until 2<sup>nd</sup> October! The full course for £2000+VAT\***

Our next course is coming up on the 2<sup>nd</sup> November. Book now & get the early bird rate! The full course for £2000+VAT\* . Contact Ingrid Bravo on 01752 542 546 or email [training@peterwarm.co.uk](mailto:training@peterwarm.co.uk)

Passivhaus and Low Energy Building Design is rapidly becoming an essential skill for Architects, Consultants and Self-builders. Our course will give you the confidence to tackle UK low energy projects along with more specific guidance on achieving the standard of air tightness and thermal bridge free construction required by the Passivhaus standard. Our course is delivered by highly experienced UK professionals and leads to international accreditation as a Certified Passivhaus Designer or Consultant.

Why AECB Carbonlite? [www.aecb.net/carbonlite/carbonlite-programme/training-courses/](http://www.aecb.net/carbonlite/carbonlite-programme/training-courses/)

- Obtain an international accreditation as a **Certified Passivhaus Designer or Consultant**.
- Our Course is the only one developed specifically for the UK and uses **UK building examples**, rather than the European CEPH material taught by others.

- This course is written and taught by leaders in UK Passivhaus development, They are the experts who are actually successfully designing/ building Passivhaus in UK: amongst others, **Bill Butcher, Alan Clarke, Sally Godber, Nick Grant, Eric Parks, Marine Sanchez, Mark Siddall, Will South, Peter Warm** and the WARM staff who have supported over 200 buildings in low energy design as well as being Passivhaus certifiers.

#### Our London Course Programme:

	dates	Cost+VAT	for AECB/PHT members
Week 1	M 2 <sup>nd</sup> Nov	£300	Fundamentals of Passivhaus
	T 3 <sup>rd</sup> Nov	£600	Science of Passivhaus
	W 4 <sup>th</sup> Nov		
	T 5 <sup>th</sup> Nov	£300	Construction of Passivhaus
	F 6 <sup>th</sup> Nov (am)*	£300*	Introduction to Psi values designPH**
	F 6 <sup>th</sup> Nov (pm)*		

Week 2	M 16 <sup>th</sup> Nov	£600	Building Services of Passivhaus
	T 17 <sup>th</sup> Nov		
	W 18 <sup>th</sup> Nov	£600	PHPP**
	T 19 <sup>th</sup> Nov		
	F 20 <sup>th</sup> Nov /4 <sup>th</sup> Dec	£600	Revision and exam

\*Additional modules are not included in the full CEPH course price.

\*\*needs suitable laptop for this module

Find out more at <http://www.aecb.net/carbonlite/carbonlite-programme/training-courses/>

### Online Therm course

How bad are your thermal bridges? Thermal bridges are one of the key ways that buildings lose much more heat than expected. Understanding them is critical to designing low energy buildings. Learn how to use the (free) software "THERM" with the experts from the AECB CarbonLite team. The new online Therm course allows people to learn at their own speed and in their own time.

Watch our 2 min promotional video here: [www.carbonlitetraining.co.uk](http://www.carbonlitetraining.co.uk)

To sample the course you can log in as a guest and use the set up instructions "Setting up THERM for Use in Thermal Bridge Calculations" that will guide you step by step to install Therm on your computer. The initial set up of Therm can be a bit tricky and as part of the course we offer assistance if you get stuck.

The on-line course cost is £200+VAT for one year's access to the Moodle course and a nominal 2 hours support by email. Contact [training@peterwarm.co.uk](mailto:training@peterwarm.co.uk) for more details.

### Early Bird Rates for CoRE's Retrofit Coordinator Training this Winter



With many of CoRE's Summer courses sold out, we are now promoting our Autumn and Winter courses. Can you afford to not get it right with retrofit? Avoid the consequences by learning retrofit best-practice from CoRE's specially-selected tutors.

[Click here](#) to book your discounted, RIBA-endorsed Retrofit Coordinator Training Modules

The Retrofit Coordinator Diploma is a 10-module training programme run by the [UK's leading experts in domestic refurbishment](#). The Retrofit Coordinator courses can be completed in a fast-track programme in just a couple of months or, alternatively, units can be booked individually to suit your diary.

**The Diploma consists of the following single-day units:**

- Introduction to Domestic Retrofit
- Assessing Dwellings for Retrofit
- Funding Retrofit
- Building Fabric Retrofit
- Building Services Retrofit
- Fundamentals of Solid Wall Insulation
- Ventilation for Retrofit
- Retrofit Building Physics
- Responsible Retrofit of Traditional Buildings
- Coordination and Risk Management

**Why Attend the Courses?**

The training days are designed to help you lead, project-manage and quality-assure retrofit projects and programmes:

- **Manage:** Helps to effectively manage retrofit projects and deliver on time and within budget
- **Coordinate:** You will be more informed and able to offer advice to support all members of the retrofit project
- **Quality-Assure:** Provides you with the skills to assure retrofit clients and minimise project risk

**Who Should Attend the Courses?**

- Architects
- Asset Managers
- Building Services Engineers
- Building Surveyors
- Construction Managers & Site Foremen
- Construction Project Managers
- Energy Assessors & Consultants
- Energy Managers

The completion of all 10 modules provides participants with a fully CPD-accredited diploma certification.

Discounts are available if eligibility criteria is met.

Please contact us to find out about pricing.

Call us: 01782 792900 - Email us: [louise.williams@core-skills.com](mailto:louise.williams@core-skills.com)

**Passive House Planning Package (PHPP) 2013 Version and SketchUp Design plugin: design PH**



The English version of the 2013 issue of PHPP (PHPP8) has been released and is available to purchase at £125 plus VAT online from: [www.aecb.net/carbonlite/carbonlite-programme/phpp-software](http://www.aecb.net/carbonlite/carbonlite-programme/phpp-software).

If you already have a copy of an earlier version of PHPP (eg PHPP7) you can upgrade to PHPP8 at the reduced price of £105 plus VAT. This can now be done online at [www.aecb.net/carbonlite/carbonlite-programme/phpp-software](http://www.aecb.net/carbonlite/carbonlite-programme/phpp-software)

The AECB has entered into a contract with the Passivhaus Institute (PHI) to sell the new SketchUp plugin designPH (English version). You can buy it now at the AECB member rate discounted prices online via the AECB website at: [www.aecb.net/carbonlite/carbonlite-programme/phpp-software](http://www.aecb.net/carbonlite/carbonlite-programme/phpp-software)

Prices are listed below. Please note these exclude VAT and depend on the version of PHPP you have. For full details of the new designPH please visit: [www.designph.org/](http://www.designph.org/)

- Upgrade from PHPP7 to PHPP8.5 PLUS designPH plugin: £210
- **NEW** PHPP8 PLUS designPH plugin (includes latest upgrade for PHPP8 to PHPP8.5): £280
- If you have a copy of PHPP8 you can have the designPH plugin only : £170  
(including upgrade to PHPP8.5)

*Please note that if you do not have a copy of PHPP you cannot purchase DesignPH on its own. **The above prices are for AECB members only.***

## Omnisense Remote Monitoring System



The AECB has negotiated an ongoing rate of benefit to members and can offer the Omnisense remote monitoring system at significantly preferential terms to AECB members for projects that would benefit from environmental condition monitoring. The Omnisense system is a web-based remote monitoring system for buildings that measures relative humidity, temperature and moisture level. Currently members who have taken up this offer are monitoring various internal wall insulation constructions, insulated suspended timber floors, conditions within brickwork that has been externally insulated, etc

To obtain a quotation for the Omnisense Remote Monitoring System please contact [gill@aecb.net](mailto:gill@aecb.net). A forum board has been set up for discussion – click [here](#) to read more.

## AECB Member News

### Eco Design Consultants and Giffard Park Primary School – Eco Warriors Group



Giffard Park Primary School, like many school, is struggling to recruit governors, especially with skills in building maintenance. A governing body effectively acts on behalf of the stakeholders (children, parents and the local council) to

ensure all that needs to be in place and happen to the benefit of our children does, including welfare, education and safeguarding. We act as a critical friend to support the Headteacher and senior leadership team. It is a voluntary role but hugely rewarding working with the school and being part of our children's and school's success.

Giffard Park Primary School has launched their Eco-Warriors group to tackle energy use, recycling, gardening and waste in the school and local community. The seventeen children in the group will meet weekly and interview staff and children in order to audit the school's eco-performance before training other children to become greener. The school as a whole is aiming to lower its energy usage and waste, use more renewable energy and develop a nature area for children to explore during Science lessons. By July, the Eco-Warriors aim to make the school a Bronze Eco-School on the path to become a beacon 'Green Flag' school. So an eco-warrior governor would be welcome.



If you'd like to find more out more about being a governor your local authority will be able to answer your question or if you live in Milton Keynes contact [donna@ecodesignconsultants.co.uk](mailto:donna@ecodesignconsultants.co.uk)

## News

### Freedom of Information Laws



The government want to introduce fees - of up to £600! - for people who use Freedom of Information laws to find out the truth about what they're doing.

The Freedom of Information law means that journalists, academics and campaigners can find out what the government is really up to. The list of scandals it has helped laid bare is endless: it exposed the MP expenses scandal, helped uncover details of historic child abuse allegations and revealed the huge number of NHS contracts being handed out to profit-hungry companies.

38 Degrees is a movement of people fighting to make our democracy work better. We hold our politicians to account, and make sure that politicians hear the voices of ordinary people. But we can't do that if we're shut out. Unless we stop this dodgy cover up, it's going to be even harder to now what politicians are getting up to in our name.

Please can you sign the petition calling on the government to protect FOI?

<https://secure.38degrees.org.uk/protect-FOI-laws>

### Cement and steel industries need 'urgent' introduction of CCS technologies

Europe's energy-intensive industries such as cement and steel are in 'urgent need' of innovative carbon capture and storage (CCS) technology if they are to reach EU-wide emission targets by 2050, a new report has found.

[The report](#), developed over several years by researchers at Chalmers University of Technology in Sweden, concludes that there is the potential to reduce emissions by between 60%-75% from large industry sources if the full potential of emerging CCS technologies was realised and implemented; a target that is in line with the emissions targets set for 2050. The thesis warns of a 'ticking clock' for these industries due to the plants' long life span and the drawn out time it takes to introduce new technology. Rootzén warns that there is only "a few investment cycles left" before 2050. The continued high demand for bulk products like cement and steel means that the sector needs to find new ways to cut back on emissions without stifling production.

The researchers have called for the establishment of a large-scale demonstration of the entire CCS chain from capture to storage, a move that would only have a 'marginal effect' on the final price of end-products such as cars or buildings. The UK Government has reiterated its support for the implementation of CCS despite energy giant Drax pulling out of a consortium to build the White Rose CCS project in Yorkshire. The UK has also made the potential sites for carbon storage projects freely available to the public in an attempt to encourage more companies to invest in CCS by reducing initial costs and making information more readily available.

Full story at <http://www.edie.net/news/6/Cement-and-Steel-industries-need--urgent-introduction-of-CCS-technologies/>

## Oil and gas majors investigate 'fuels of the future'

Two of the world's largest oil and gas companies have announced new research partnerships with universities in a bid to accelerate progress towards the 'sustainable fuels of the future'. Norwegian firm **Statoil** has embarked upon a \$6m partnership with the Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU), while American firm **ExxonMobil** has entered a \$1m agreement with Michigan State University (MSU).

The Statoil project aims to build "a world-leading research group to develop sustainable energy solutions, including renewables, energy efficiency and carbon capture and storage.

Statoil's vice-president of sustainability Charlotte Wolff-Bye – who is speaking at the Sustainability Leaders Forum in November – recently told edie that collaboration is vital for low-carbon development as the problem of climate change was too massive for any one company, industry or nation to tackle alone.

That view seems to be an increasingly popular one, as Exxon Mobil announced its own collaboration with MSU in a new research project which aims to improve the efficiency of algae-based fuels. ExxonMobil said it wants to have algae bio-oils processed in its refineries to supplement crude oil as the raw material to manufacture gasoline, diesel, aviation fuels and marine fuels. In addition to fuels, the company also is examining potential applications for other products such as chemicals and lubricants.

Full story at <http://www.edie.net/news/6/Oil-and-gas-majors-partner-with-universities-to-research-sustainable-fuels/>

## Majority of UK electricity wasted before reaching households, report finds

The UK loses 54% of its electric energy - worth £9.5bn and enough to cover half of every household's annual electricity bill - before it even reaches end users, according to a new report. The report, 'Less Waste, More Growth: Boosting energy productivity', was produced by a 14-member coalition which includes Greenpeace, the Association for Decentralised Energy (ADE) and the Food and Drink Federation (FDF). It found that the 54% loss in electricity - caused by an inefficient energy system - is one of the worst in Europe and equates to the annual carbon emissions of every car in the UK.

The report highlights three main recommendations that could save the UK over £3bn a year - £116 on every household energy bill:

- Government should adopt a model similar to Germany's which sees energy system productivity improved on a yearly basis to improve costs for consumers. The UK could save £23 per household just by matching Germany's electricity network.
- Generators, networks and businesses should contribute to a stronger economy by implementing revised energy tax regimes and updated power stations from the 1970s where less than 10% currently recover heat waste, losing £2bn in the process.
- Enhancing natural markets with more solution-based approaches allowing supply and demand to remain on a level playing field. Long term policy support could reduce both public and business sector bills by £570m.

Greenpeace's contribution to the report comes weeks after the organisation's own report stated that renewables' share of the global electricity supply could more than triple in the next 15 years - from 21% today to 64%. Government figures revealed at the start of the year revealed that 35% of electricity came from low-carbon sources in 2014.

Full story at <http://www.edie.net/news/5/Over-half-of-UK-electric-energy-is-wasted-before-reaching-households/>

## Scottish renewables displace record levels of CO2 in 2014

Scotland's renewable energy sector displaced 12.3 million tonnes of carbon emissions last year - a 120% increase since 2010, new data has revealed. The figures, released on the 1<sup>st</sup> October, were published in response to a recent Parliamentary Question tabled by Callum McCaig and answered by UK Energy Minister Andrea Leadsom.

They confirm that renewable energy projects - including wind, hydro and solar schemes - prevented the release of more than a million tonnes of CO2 per month in 2014. Twenty six million tonnes of carbon was displaced by the renewables industry in England, along with 2.2 million tonnes in Wales.

WWF Scotland welcomed the "fantastic news" and urged Westminster to "change its attitude towards renewables".

The Scottish Government has also confirmed this week that it will continue to provide 'grandfathering' subsidy support for small-scale solar projects, following the UK Government's "misplaced" decision to close the Renewables Obligation.

Analysis by the Solar Trade Association (STA), also released yesterday, revealed that the Conservative Government's proposed cuts to the Feed-in Tariff subsidy scheme could leave the solar industry with just £7m of funding over the next three years – a 98% cut.

Full story at <http://www.edie.net/news/6/Scotlands-renewables-displace-record-12-3m-tonnes-CO2/>

## Events



### Innovating with Low Impact Materials

*The Green Register joint event with The Alliance for Sustainable Building Products, supported by Vision.*

**\*\*\* Discounted rate to AECB members \*\*\***

Low impact products have low environmental & health impacts; derived from biological and/or plentiful mineral sources and ideally locally sourced with low embodied carbon.

The use of bio-based and low impact materials provides an opportunity to reduce the amount of energy consumed during manufacture and transport, whilst potentially providing a number of significant performance benefits during operation, such as thermal performance, moisture control and good indoor air quality.

Co-hosted by The Alliance for Sustainable Building Products and The Green Register, this event will provide an opportunity to hear from the leading innovators in the sustainable materials sector and discover the pioneering approaches in which designers, manufacturers and academics are researching and developing low impact materials.

From timber to straw bale, clay to hemp and lime, the event will discuss a range of ground-breaking research projects and cutting edge methods of practice that are increasingly used by leading companies and individuals within the industry. Please join us as we explore the current state of the sustainable materials sector, and debate how we can further the uptake of low impact materials and accelerate the UK's transition to a low carbon, healthy built environment.

Date: Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> October 2015

Time: 1:30pm to 5.00pm

Venue: CREATE Centre, Smeaton Road, Bristol, BS1 6XN

Event fee: Members : £59.00, Non-members : £85.00

**Discounted rate to AECB members : £59.00**

**SPECIAL OFFER - BOOK 3 PLACES FOR THE PRICE OF 2!**

Book 3 places at this event and get the 3rd place free. Book your places online as normal and we will deduct the cost of the 3rd place once your booking is received. This offer may not be used in conjunction with other offers.

For more information and to register click [here](#).

## STBA/SPAB Old Building Energy Efficiency Seminar

**Date:** Tuesday 3rd November 2015

**Location:** The Albert Halls, Dumbarton Road, Stirling, FK8 2QL

The popular SPAB (The Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings) Old Building Energy Efficiency Seminar is now in its sixth year and is being organised with support from Historic Scotland and the STBA. This annual event brings together expert speakers from leading heritage organisations to present their latest research and discuss the most up-to-date thinking on how traditional buildings actually perform both pre and post retrofit.

SPAB have been carrying out research into energy efficiency in traditional buildings since 2009 and will present their latest findings at the seminar.

Following on from the success of previous years, there will also be an exhibition of retrofit products and systems appropriate for use on traditional buildings.

The event is a must for anyone involved in traditional building retrofit or energy efficiency research, as well as any building professional, owner or contractor who wants to gain up-to-date research findings, thinking, products and information in order to upgrade and retrofit a traditional building sympathetically and appropriately.

Tickets: £100 - More information and booking details via the SPAB website <https://www.spab.org.uk/builders-professionals/>

**\*\*\*A discount of 10% is offered to AECB members\*\*\***

The fee per person will accordingly be £90 instead of £100. To book a place, members will need to contact Lucy Jacob at SPAB directly by email [education@spab.org.uk](mailto:education@spab.org.uk) or telephone 020 7456 0915, quoting **AECB** when they book. It will not be possible to book at the discounted price via the SPAB website.

If any of your members would like to have a trade stand at the seminar, we would be able to offer this at £180 + VAT, instead of £200 + VAT

This event is recognised for continuing professional development by the [Institute of Historic Building Conservation \(IHBC\)](#).

## Vacancies

### Ecodyfi Job Opportunities

- [Development Officer](#)

To assist the Manager in delivering activities in the Dyfi Biosphere, and to lead on the Community Energy Fund and our community role in [www.cymerau.org](http://www.cymerau.org). Other emphases will depend on the competencies of the successful candidate, but will include tourism. You will be a good bilingual communicator, understand sustainable development and know how to get results.

18 hours a week. £20,400 pro rata

Closing date: 4pm 12 October

- [Technical Officer](#)

To lead ecodyfi's work in the remainder of the EC-funded citizen science project [www.cobwebproject.eu](http://www.cobwebproject.eu). Our focus is shifting from managing local participation to testing the usability of the digital platform, in Greece as well as in the Dyfi Biosphere. You will need organisation, communication and analytical skills and familiarity with mobile technologies (e.g. smart phones).

26 hours a week. £20,400 pro rata

Closing date: 2pm 22 October

Go to <http://www.ecodyfi.org.uk/> for the documents, including the application form.

*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).*