



AECB
the sustainable building association

2011 Annual Conference

**Retrofit: Moving
in and Moving on**

16-17 September 2011

Jubilee Campus, University of Nottingham

Organised by:

AECB
the sustainable building association

In association with:

 **The University of
Nottingham**
Department of Architecture
and Built Environment

2004 - 07

- Members call for effective guidance on low energy design
- review best international and UK practice
- prioritises, 'the design/reality gap', 'whole building performance approach' and 'buildability'
- develop energy standards
- talks Standards with EST, BRE – and promotes to AECB members
- Survey shows members building to Silver, Gold + 1% of new buildings by floor area

2007 - 09

- awarded £140,000 Carbon Trust Grant for CarbonLite programme
- awarded Esmee Fairbairn money & publishes SAP/PHPP report
- awarded 3 yr EU funding as UK partner for EU passivhaus promoters network, PASS-NET

2009 -10

- promotes CarbonLite and Passivhaus to members and the mainstream
- funded by Technology Strategy Board to help deliver the £17M Retrofit for The Future Competition
- Builds low energy buildings database
- WARM starts running the CarbonLite training courses for the AECB
- AECB sets up Passivhaus Trust with commercial and non commercial partners

2011

- AECB business and organisational strategy developed
- Local Groups, new Staff, improved Communications, ongoing improvements....
- Commissions 'big picture' report looking at UK Energy and Climate Change Policy.....

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Learning together, leading by example, lobbying for change



Technology Strategy Board
Driving Innovation

● WARM: low energy building practice



Is the AECB all about Energy & Carbon?

Yes, and No.

Demonstrably low energy use & GHG emissions must be at the core of sustainable design and construction thinking and practice.

- AECB has played an important role in ensuring this is now the case – we have a *reduced*, ongoing focus on energy
- Following the setting up of the Passivhaus Trust we now have space to look at other aspects of sustainability, however the intellectual landscape is ‘confused’ ...
- different aspects of sustainability should be explored in a holistic, ‘ecological’ context, informed by the scientific approach and evidence based experience. We hope ‘Less is More’ will help us here.....

Current AECB focus?

- *Growing the sustainable design and construction movement*
- *Refurbishment*
- *Energy and Climate Change Policy*

Delivery & Partners

Technology Strategy Board
Driving Innovation

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AECB members project based activities are here



The UK Passive House Organisation



Mainstreaming Low Energy

Showcasing AECB members' projects

Educational resource, showcasing AECB members' projects

Training

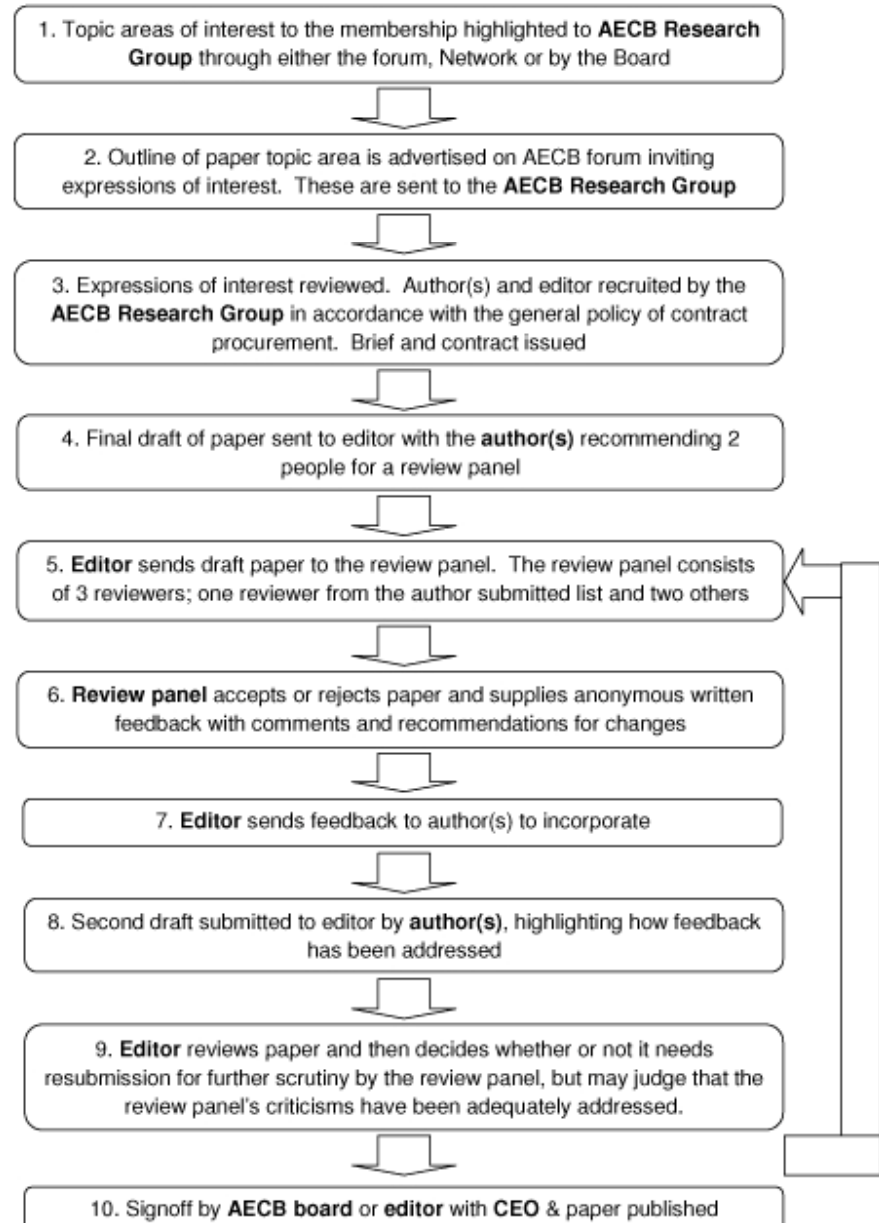
Other Member Benefits

New for members

- Local Groups movement (separate speaker)
- Improved buildings database
- Improved communications:
 - News platform (inc. AECB Network newsletter)
 - Members 'soapbox'
 - AECB feature articles
- Improving website and access to online resources
- Silver Standard self certification system (this quarter)

Peer Review Process

- Background to development
- Response to members
- Outline process
- Responsibility at each stage
- Used for academic papers
- Will be developed for articles



AECB buildings database

www.carbonlite.org.uk/carbonlite/lowenergybuildings.php



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- New build & refurbishment, even existing...
- Domestic and non-domestic
- Current version being improved
- Will take performance data on RfF projects from EST's database
- Will feed project to BRE/EST's National Refurbishment Centre site
- Will be basis for Passivhaus Trust's database
- Will be linked to European Passivhaus database
- Can be expanded to include other aspects of sustainability – discuss!

122 projects – please add yours!!

- A quick look at some new features: <http://www.pheriche.com/dev/buildings2010/>

News and features platform

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Category Archives: *AECB Latest News*

All the latest news from the AECB. For more general news on sustainable building, see our Network newsletter

Cath Hassell to appear in Panorama

Posted on [September 14, 2011](#) by [emma](#)

Cath Hassell, director of ech2o consultants (www.ech2o.co.uk), will appear in 'Drinking Our Rivers Dry?' on Monday September 19th 2011 on BBC 1 at 8.30 pm. The Panorama programme investigates whether the water industry and its regulators are doing enough to ... [Continue reading →](#)

Posted in [AECB Latest News](#) | Tagged [panorama](#), [water industry](#) | Comments Off

Jonathan Porritt at the Town and Country Planning Association

Posted on [September 8, 2011](#) by [emma](#)

Jonathan Porritt recently gave the Frederic J Osborn Memorial lecture 2011 for the Town and Country Planning Association. A witty and devastating appraisal of the Localism bill – where 'sustainable development' is mentioned an uncountable number of times, but is ... [Continue reading →](#)

Posted in [AECB Latest News](#) | Tagged [sustainable development](#) | Comments Off

The UK Passivhaus Conference, 24-25 October, London

Posted on [September 5, 2011](#) by [emma](#)

The UK Passivhaus Conference 2011 is being organised by the Passivhaus Trust and the BRE. The conference exists to spread learning and academic research between all those who are interested in working in the field of low energy and healthy ... [Continue reading →](#)

Posted in [AECB Latest News](#) | Tagged [low energy](#), [passivhaus conference](#), [passivhaus trust](#) | Comments Off

2011 Conference: Get ready for Nottingham!

Posted on [September 2, 2011](#) by [emma](#)

Join us on 16-27 September 2011 at the University of Nottingham for the 2011 AECB Conference and AGM. Final programme information is now available to download from the AECB website here if you have not already booked, delegate places and ... [Continue reading →](#)

Views

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Upcoming Events

September 16, 2011

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AECB Soapbox – get it off your chest!

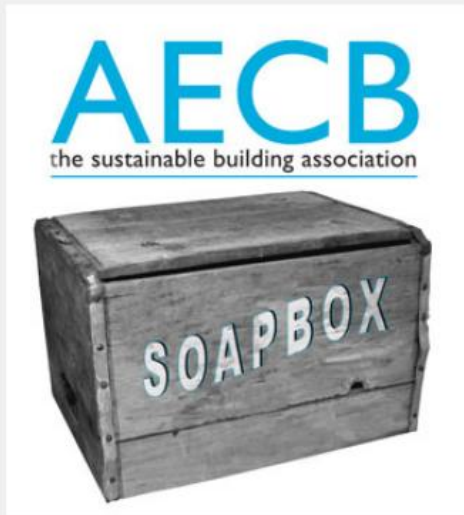
With AECB features editor support

← New Local Group for the North West (Cumbria) from October

Milton Keynes Group talk on "Building Augmented Wind Turbines" by
Derek Taylor 18th July →

It's time to think 'Inside the Shell'

Posted on July 12, 2011 by emma



AECB invites members to climb on our Soapbox and share your expertise on something that excites, inspires or bugs you, with the 4000 discerning viewers who visit this website each month. Contact kate@aecb.net if you would like to have your say here.

Angie Kraft is Creative Director and founder of www.geccointeriors.co.uk a retail website and eco design practice offering the consumer a more sustainable way to furnish and decorate their home.

By 'shell' I mean of course the structure of a building, and it is time for architects and designers to

think beyond the shell and look more carefully at what we propose to put inside.

As an ardent 'greenie', eco interior designer and founder of eco interiors website www.geccointeriors.co.uk I am increasingly concerned about the extent to which we are focusing on the carbon footprint and thermal efficiency of our new buildings without carrying the thought process through to the interior. Sustainable Building Codes 5 and 6 are of course striving after reduced CO2 emissions and energy usage, which is only to be applauded. Passivhaus building techniques are making headway into British construction,



Angie Kraft

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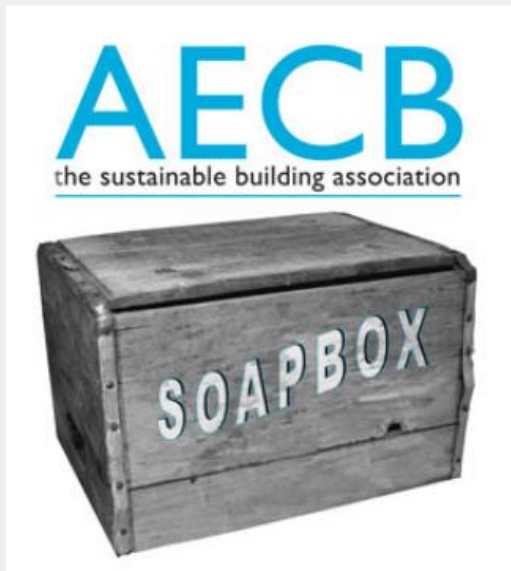
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← Brighton and Hove Eco Open Houses (www.ecoopenhouses.org) 8th to 11th September 2011

Soapbox →

Who will protect householders from the dodgy ‘green tech’ salesmen?

Posted on [September 2, 2011](#) by [emma](#)



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Geoff Stow teaches the theory and practice of sustainable building and self-building. He is a Trustee of AECB and has been a supporter of the Association for many years, representing it at exhibitions and conferences around the country.

In this month’s Soapbox Geoff Stow shares his personal reaction to how he has seen green technologies being sold, to householders anxious to



Geoff Stow

improve the energy performance of their homes. His concern is that consumers are being left to the mercy of over-enthusiastic – and potentially downright dishonest – salesmen, when contemplating major investments. Where, he asks, is the reliable, and above all objective, advice?

Having run “green building” advice stands on behalf of AECB at the Homebuilding and Renovating Show in Birmingham and Grand Designs Live this year, I am increasingly convinced that the public

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Architectural Designer, Project Manager and Certified Passivhaus Consultant with over 35 years experience. His company, new bold design limited, specialises in sustainable building design, accessible building design for people with disabilities and conservation/restoration design for listed buildings.

In this topical soapbox Philip challenges the assumption that new development around villages cannot be 'green' and argues that true sustainability requires more, not less development for many rural communities. He argues that the planning system as it stands is worse than useless as a tool for delivering truly sustainable development, and that the whole system needs to look again at what

you, with the 4000 discerning viewers who visit this website each month. Contact kate@aecb.net if you would like to have your say here.

Philip Newbold is a Senior



Philip Newbold, Director & Passivhaus Consultant

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AECB NETWORK NEWSLETTER AUGUST 2011 →


Air Source Heat Pumps – Friend Or Foe?

Posted on July 28, 2011 by emma

A review of current technology and its viability

A peer reviewed article for the AECB by John Cantor and Kate De Selincourt

John Cantor has 30 years experience with heat pump systems. His enthusiasm to experiment combined with a hands-on approach has led to a broad and detailed knowledge of the topic. He now mostly acts as an advisor and consultant.



John Cantor - Heat Pumps Ltd.

Heat pumps have for a long time been presented as a 'green' and 'cost effective' heating technology, but there seem to be as least as many sceptics as proponents. Tales of poorly performing systems are not uncommon, but equally, there are plenty of satisfied customers.

There is no shortage of gadgets that don't actually do what the salesman claim, and it's clear that heat pumps are often over-hyped. Do over-optimistic claims fuel the sceptics' mistrust? What do heat pumps deliver in reality?

In this article we look at heat pump technology and air source heat pumps in particular, since these seem to be gaining in popularity. We look at possible reasons why the reality seems to have fallen short of the claims, reveal some common pitfalls and advise how to avoid (or remedy) them, and offer some pointers to assessing when a heat pump might be good option – and when something else might be the better option.

[View article here](#)

With thanks to Dr D Strong, Independent Consultant for reviewing this article

This entry was posted in [New Articles from the AECB](#) and tagged [air source heat pumps](#), [heat pump systems](#), [heat pump technology](#). Bookmark the [permalink](#).

← Local Groups October visit to Ecotecture's 'Curly House' and the Weald & Downland Museum 'Building Crafts Gallery' →

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The screenshot displays the AECB News website interface. On the left is a navigation menu with links for Home, About, News, Find a Member, Forum, Standards & Guidance, Conference & Courses, Information & Publications, Carbon100, Membership, and Members Area. The main content area features the article 'The Green Deal: will it deliver?' posted on July 27, 2011, by Russell Smith. The article text discusses the AECB's concerns about the Green Deal's delivery and includes a link to view the full article. On the right, there are several utility sections: 'Views' with a list of news categories, a 'Search AECB News' box, 'Latest Items' with a list of recent news items, and 'Upcoming Events' for September 16, 2011, including the AECB Annual Conference and AGM 2011. An 'E-mail Scanner' window is visible at the bottom right, showing it is scanning e-mails.

AECB News

— Talk by EcoLiving at The Natural Garden near Newbury on 18th August — Local Groups October visit to Ecotecture's 'Curly House' and the Weald & Downland Museum 'Building Crafts Gallery' —

The Green Deal: will it deliver?

Posted on [July 27, 2011](#) by [emma](#)



Russell Smith - Party Projects

The AECB is concerned to see that the Green Deal genuinely delivers improved comfort and reduced GHG emissions – as well as being affordable and socially equitable.

In this article AECB has asked AECB member and refurbishment pioneer, Russell Smith of Party Projects, to give us his view of how the Green Deal is shaping up, informed by his recent active engagement with DECC.

In a question-and-answer format, Russell responds to questions about how he sees the practicalities of the scheme, the way measures will be assessed beforehand and whether there should be monitoring afterwards, and the all-important question of whether the finances can really stack up to ensure that measures can be paid for by the householder, out of savings on their bills.

[View article here](#)

To view links to additional Green Deal information, and for AECB members to respond to this article and add insights of your own, please go to the AECB forum [here](#).

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Please come and talk to us

We welcome *your* views on *your* organisation



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