

# selfbuilder & homemaker

January/February 2017

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## FEATURES IN THIS ISSUE:

Air Conditioning & Ventilation

Interior Design

Groundworks & Drainage

Smart Home Technology

Underfloor Heating

Ask the Expert: Internal Doors

Show Previews: Ecobuild / Ideal Home Show /

National Homebuilding & Renovating Show

## KEEP AN OPEN MIND

An expert answers your questions on specifying internal doors  
See page 11

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See pages 11-12 for more.



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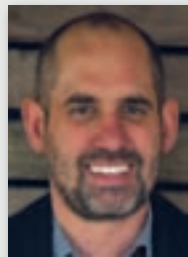
Simon Reed

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## editor's letter



Hello and welcome to the first edition of Selfbuilder & Homemaker of 2017, a year which is already proving to be just as 'off the wall' as 2016. From Donald Trump actually pursuing the building of a giant border wall, to political turmoil around the likely effects of Brexit, it is certain to be far from business as usual.

Away from all the turmoil happening across the world however, it is very heartening to see that there are some positive signs of progress on the ground to help drive forward the self- and custom-build sector. And not least in the toughest area of all – getting plots.

Right to Build is certainly a step in the right direction, with its provisions enshrined in the Housing and Planning Act requiring councils to help self-builders acquire serviced plots. As you probably know, this starts with the council compiling a register of people wishing to self- and custom-build in its area so that it can establish the demand – and work out whether it has the necessary sites to enable that demand to be satisfied.

Although councils are now legally required to do this first step, 20 of them still hadn't started their registers by the end of last year, prompting criticism. This is all before they work out how to engage the HCA or other bodies in the complex task of releasing the land. Thankfully, an awful lot of councils have jumped on board, and are helping self-builders realise their dream.

James Parker

## diary

### Build It Live!

4 - 5 February, Dartford

Build It Live! is designed to help self-builders find everyday solutions to manage their homebuilding, renovation or conversion project. Each show features companies to help you complete your project on time and on budget.

[www.builditlive.co.uk](http://www.builditlive.co.uk)



### Eco Design, Planning & Sustainability Workshop

11 February, Swindon

NSBRC's eco workshops run throughout the year on a variety of topics. The first one of 2017 will help you learn how the designs you choose at the beginning of your project can impact on your home's energy performance. The workshop will also cover government initiatives and legislation.

[www.nsbrc.co.uk/eco-workshops](http://www.nsbrc.co.uk/eco-workshops)

### Ask an Architect

25 February, Swindon

NSBRC's Ask an Architect events are held every month and offer self-builders the chance to attend a session with a RIBA chartered architect to discuss matters such as the design of your project, creating extra storage and adding value to your home.

[www.nsbrc.co.uk/ask-an-architect.html](http://www.nsbrc.co.uk/ask-an-architect.html)

### Selfbuild & Design Show

4 - 5 March, Peterborough

The Selfbuild & Design Show East features a range of seminars, product demonstrations and masterclasses on all topics that matter to self-builders. It also allows visitors to meet builders, architects, designers and suppliers.

[www.selfbuildanddesignshow.com/east](http://www.selfbuildanddesignshow.com/east)

# 18,000 prospective self-builders sign up for their Right to Build

Research carried out by the National Custom and Self Build Association (NaCSBA) has revealed that around 18,000 people have signed up to local authority self- and custom-build registers under the Government's Right to Build.

NaCSBA requested freedom of information data from England's 336 councils to compile its report, which was launched in December at the Right to Build Expo in London. The association revealed that 14,300 people signed up to the registers between 1 April and 31 October 2016. In addition a total of 12 councils were chosen as "vanguards" in 2014 to pioneer the scheme, with 3,700 people signing up.

Richard Bacon MP, chair of the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Self-Build, Custom and Community Housebuilding and Place-Making, commented on the results so far: "I'm delighted that about 18,000 people and groups of people have so far signed up to the Right to Build registers across England."

He added however that despite individual councils such as Cherwell seeing over 2,000 people registered, "showing the true potential of custom and self-build," some others were lagging behind. "There are still 20 laggards that have not set their registers up or have yet to market them," said Bacon. "Imagine the potential once all the registers are up and running and, like Cherwell, all councils apply full effort to marketing their registers."

Chair of NaCSBA Michael Holmes commented on his organisation's research. He said: "This amount of people and



groups of people signing up to the Custom and Self Build demand registers is a great achievement, but it is also the tip of the iceberg. Some councils have only operated their registers for a few months and some have yet to establish theirs."

He said that local authorities have up to three years to meet their obligation to grant enough development permissions for serviced plots to meet demand, adding however: "With the number of people now registering month on month it is essential they start consenting serviced plots now to stay on top of meeting demand."

Housing Minister Gavin Barwell commented: "In countries like Holland and Germany, far more people build or commis-

sion their own home than in the UK, and all at reasonable prices.

"We want Britain to catch up, so self- and custom-build becomes a mainstream, affordable choice. That's why we've set a target of 20,000 self- and custom-build homes per year by 2020.

"18,000 people have already signed up [to Right to Build registers] and it shows there is a real appetite across the country for doing things differently."

The Right to Build Expo was staged at the Building Centre in London in December, and attended by planners, developers and custom-build professionals, who discussed what more can be done to further the self- and custom-build sector.

## European inspiration

# Javid learns lessons from continental self-builds



Communities Secretary Sajid Javid recently visited the Netherlands and Germany in order to research European housing models and learn how they could be used in the UK.

In the Netherlands, Javid visited Almere – Europe's largest self- and custom-build city. Talking to a local news channel, he said: "It is great to see a project where you have got so many people with self-build properties. The creativity is really exciting to see and I think it is something that we can learn from."

He continued: "We have a significant housing challenge in the UK and I think it makes sense to look at what other countries are doing."

Javid added: "In the rest of Europe we do see a lot more self-build, a lot more custom-build and what you call factory building and that kind of diversity is important."

The Communities Secretary visited Potsdam on the outskirts of Berlin where he toured modern, prefabricated housing – which is a technique that is beginning to grow in popularity in the UK.

In an interview with Sky News Javid commented: "These are made-to-measure, ready-to-go modern stylish homes, and if Germany can do it and other countries can do it I think they can play an important part in what we can deliver in UK. It can really make a difference, especially in terms of speed."





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## letters to the editor

Just to say how much I enjoyed reading the November/ December selfbuilder and Homemaker magazine. The articles on low budget and problem solving ingenuity are particularly refreshing.

We do not all have huge ambitions or limitless funds. Our own project had the usual limitations, and suffered from heart-stopping months when no progress was made. Thankfully the end is in sight now, and we are already able to enjoy our new self designed home. We have used several of the companies who advertised in the magazine and received excellent service. Thank you.

P. Potiphar

I enjoy your excellent magazine SBH but advise that until the antiquated planning system is scrapped there will remain a huge shortage of all types of housing.

All planning officers **MUST** disclose their professional memberships at all times and also everyone who owns a home should be barred from decision making due to a serious conflict of interest, as the more homes built the greater the reduction of values on the basis of supply and demand and in respect of their own houses.

The corruption in the planning system is well known and elected councillors should prioritise removal of these practices.

My son works in Germany where house prices have remained without the huge increases we have seen in the U.K.

Permission to build takes 7 days on average and the German authorities conduct planning in an open and fair manner for all to see.

I suggest you now chase for change in the system to give young potential home owners a chance.

W.P.Howard, FRICS

## new project

# Keeping a low profile on a Suffolk farm



Situated on the edge of Reydon Grove Farm, a working farm in Suffolk, the Scott House by Norm Architects has been designed as a long and narrow flat-roofed pavilion.

The architects chose this design to give the building "the magnitude and scale to correspond with the sizes of the existing barn and old dairies on the site." The long structure, said the architects, "conveys the transition from the meadows to the cultivated farmland and private enclosed garden."

The house sits on a slightly elevated sandstone plateau, providing a view over both the garden and the fields in the horizon. The large overhang of the roof and thin fascia board make the building light and airy.

The internal layout is open plan, only divided by freestanding elements into different functional zones. The design of the facade makes the building highly transparent to "allow nature into the house." The house is constructed with wooden beams and features vertical cladding of locally sourced larch wood, creating a harmony with the vertical cladding on the existing buildings on the site.

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# Playful Edinburgh home crowned House of the Year

The Royal Institute of British Architects has announced the quirkily-designed Murphy House in Edinburgh as the 2016 House of the Year.

Richard Murphy of Richard Murphy Architects designed the house for himself. It was announced in the final episode of *Grand Designs: House of the Year* which had seen a total of seven finalists announced in weekly episodes.

The house is built in Edinburgh's UNESCO-listed New Town on a tricky plot at the end of a traditional terraced street. Richard Murphy has designed a highly personal space filled with tricks, surprises and references to his own design heroes. From a hidden bath in the master bedroom and a folding corner wall, to sliding bookshelf ladders that glide around the subterranean library, the house is filled with a unique charm. Murphy was inspired by the work of the late Carlo Scarpa, a 20th century Italian architect.

RIBA President Jane Duncan said: "The Murphy House is this year's best example of how to overcome challenging constraints

– from planning restrictions and an awkward site in an urban location – to build a stunning house."

She continued: "Nearly a decade in the making, this house is a true labour of love for Richard. Part jigsaw puzzle, with its hidden and unexpected spaces, and part Wallace and Gromit with its moving pieces and disappearing walls, this is a model house of pure perfection and a worthy winner of the RIBA House of the Year 2016."

The architect Richard Murphy said: "We celebrated our 25th birthday last month and to receive this award is a wonderful present with such astonishing levels of public interest. It's our 21st RIBA award, sitting alongside buildings small and large and of a whole variety of types including domestic, educational, health, arts and a new British Embassy."

He added: "The project shows the practice's great versatility and consistently high quality in both its current and past work. It has been a huge pleasure to develop a lifetime's themes in Murphy House, and now it gives me



© Keith Hunter

great pleasure to live there."

Also announced during the final episode of the show was the seventh and final home shortlisted for the RIBA House of the Year: Tin House in west London by Henning Stummel Architects. The full shortlist for the 2016 RIBA House of the Year award was as follows:

- Ansty Plum, Wiltshire by Coppin Dockray
- Covert House, Clapham,

south London by DSDHA

- Garden House in Hackney, east London by Hayhurst and Co
- Modern Mews in central London by Coffey Architects
- Murphy House, New Town, Edinburgh by Richard Murphy Architects
- Outhouse, Forest of Dean by Loyn & Co Architects
- Tin House in west London, by Henning Stummel Architects

## Garden villages announcement holds potential for custom-build

The announcement of 14 new garden villages by the Government holds great potential for self- and custom-build, according to the NaCSBA.

While not explicitly mentioned in the announcement, the association said it expected that "the majority of these villages will look to include opportunities for self- and custom housebuilding." It added: "If custom-build developers and enablers are engaged in the process early enough, they can help assess development potential and identify suitable parcels of land."

This type of building, said NaCSBA, could include "shell or package homes" and "permissioned serviced building plots that both self- and custom-builders can buy at affordable prices."

Developer Eco-Bos has put forward plans

for one of the chosen village locations – West Carclaze in Cornwall – that include space for both self- and custom-build housing.

The garden villages are an expansion of



the existing garden towns programme and a continuation of the Government's aim to support locally-led development. Each village will consist of 1,500-10,000 homes.

The Government will be making £6m available in project support funding to local authorities. This will be used to "unlock the full capacity of sites, providing funding for additional resources and expertise to accelerate development and avoid delays."

Housing Minister Gavin Barwell said: "Locally-led garden towns and villages have enormous potential to deliver the homes that communities need."

NaCSBA has stated that it will look to engage with the councils and agencies as soon as possible, "in order to provide support and advice on bringing forward self- and custom-build opportunities."

## From dated bungalow to west London des res



Coupdeville Architects has transformed what it says was a “dated” bungalow into a 5,000 ft<sup>2</sup> family home in West London which the practice describes as “elegant and contemporary.”

The substantial three storey building has been designed to be environmentally efficient. Despite its size it remains similar in scale to its immediate neighbours and was awarded early planning approval.

The design is a series of stepped, framed boxes which provides a series of terraces and overhangs.

The client commented on the finished building: “With our growing family, the small bungalow on the site was no longer viable. The architects designed a spacious, warm and inviting family home which is filled with light.”

### hab

## HAB launches “mini-bond crowdfund”

**H**AB Land, part of the developer HAB (Happiness Architecture Beauty) started by Kevin McCloud in 2007, has announced the launch of a “mini-bond crowdfund” aimed at sustainable housebuilding projects.

Having secured over £600,000 of investment in the pre-launch phase from its existing partners and investors, HAB said the mini-bond has a maximum target of £3m and will offer an 8 per cent gross annual return over five years. Entry level is £1,000 with a minimum two year term.

Commenting on the launch, McCloud said: “The response to our new fund-raise from our current investors has been outstanding and we’re now very excited to open this opportunity to all. As stakeholders in a triple bottom line business, our investors will be able to see potential returns through social and environmental means as well as gaining a good financial return.

“We’re a team of dedicated, passionate professionals, building innovative housing schemes and changing the way the UK approaches housebuilding. We don’t just build homes; we make streets and neighbourhoods proper places. Our mini-bond supports that.”

The launch of the mini-bond comes off the back of recent success for HAB, having just sold the final custom-build house at The Acre in Oxfordshire and two thirds of its Lovedon Fields project in Winchester off plan.

Kevin McCloud launched HAB with the aim of “challenging the way identikit volume housing is built in the UK.” The company claims to have broken records with its previous crowdfunding opportunity, raising 197 per cent of the target before closing. HAB is working in partnership with CODE Investing on the new crowdfund and anyone interested in investing will need to register via the CODE Investing website.

### interior design

## GIDC winner launches interior design workshops

**M**artin Holland – a previous winner of BBC2’s *Great Interior Design Challenge* has announced plans to launch a series of interactive design workshops.

Martin – who runs MartinMark Design along with business partner Mark Walters – will host and present each of the eight hour workshops. His aim is to “guide attendees through the creative process and help them achieve design success.” The workshops have been curated to include a mix of creative

ideas and interior inspiration along with practical hints and insider tips.

A variety of leading interiors brands will be supporting the workshops, allowing guests to sample products from various ranges and learn how to use them. Highlights of the workshop include: ‘the design process – where to start,’ ‘space planning – layout and scale,’ and ‘colour, pattern and texture.’

Martin commented: “I designed these workshops for people with a passion for interior design, but are perhaps lacking the confi-

dence and experience to know where to start. The ethos at MartinMark Design is that good design should be for everyone.

“The workshops provide guests with an opportunity to hone their skills and develop their individual styles in a creative and relaxed environment, making sure they get the most out of the day.”

The first workshop will take place on 22 April at Scene Studios in Nottingham. Tickets cost £160 and can be bought from: [www.martinmarkdesign.com](http://www.martinmarkdesign.com)





# Internal doors: doing it right

Simon Johnson from Derbyshire wooden door specialists JB Kind, answers your questions on choosing internal doors



## What style should I go for?

Everyone has their own sense of style – no one more so than the creative and determined self-builder – but it can be hard to work out how that translates right down to every fixture and fitting in your home. You want to be different – that's why you're building your own home – but sometimes it helps to be aware of what's currently in vogue so you can work out how that might fit your own design aesthetic. It's also good to gather ideas so you can rule out what you definitely don't want!

But with so much choice out there, where do you start? One key trend we've seen recently is the use of texture, whether it's wallpaper, tiles or internal doors. This trend led to textured ripple effect doors being introduced to the market in 2016, enabling homes across the country to be tactile as well as stylish.

If you want the option to choose your own individual colours for internal doors, and you like the painted look, then there are hundreds of different door designs that can be bought either pre-finished or unfinished, meaning you can do the brushwork. And if you'd rather stick to popular 2017 colour schemes then the trend for grey doors, whether dark or light, continues to thrive with many people loving the calm sophistication they bring to a home.

If you want lots of light flooding your rooms, then there are plenty of glazed options that can be very striking and really help spread the sun's rays throughout your home whatever time of the day. Plus, as well as plain glazes that offer complete sight transparency, there are many alternative glazes that combine the benefits of natural light and privacy.

If you're after a simple classic style with timeless appeal, the most popular door finish in the UK is still a real wood veneer. Walnut doors are a big seller with people who like a touch of luxury and warmth. The other consistently popular wooden door is oak veneer, which works to complement a wealth of styles and comes in plenty of different designs.

## What if I can't find the door I like in the finish I want, and what if it doesn't fit?

Getting the details right is key. Many door suppliers will offer bespoke options, so if you like a design you see in a catalogue or on the shelf, you are likely to be able to order it in different sizes, veneers, colours and finishes.

## I've been told I need fire doors to comply with Building Regulations. Won't that spoil the look of my house?

First of all, be aware that fire doors do not need to look like fire doors. Most internal door designs – including glazed options – can be ordered as FD30 fire doors, with no difference in the design and finish of your doors. You do need to comply with Building Regulations, but that doesn't mean compromising on the look, design or style of your property.

## Where's the best place to buy doors?

If you want to look at and feel your doors first – which is advisable as it's such an important decision – and are not quite sure what to go for, the best way is to visit a door showroom. Being able to see and touch what's on offer will make a surprising difference to your decision-making. You'll find door displays at some builders' merchants as well as specific door retailers.

If you visit a builders' merchant or other door specialist you'll also have the advantage of being able to talk through the details with an advisor to make sure you know all the specifics. From delivery times and different finishes to fire door questions and professional fitting recommendations, you can find out all you need to know in one trip.



## I don't have much space. How will doors impact on my interior layout?

If space is at a premium, it's well worth taking a look at clever space-saving door designs such as bi-fold doors or pocket doors. The pocket door system works by sliding right into a wall cavity, thus not taking up any space at all, while bi-fold doors work a little bit like a concertina. Both types come in a wide range of styles, finishes and glazed options so there's no need to compromise on your desired design.

## When I order a door, will I get latches and hinges automatically?

Probably not. It's important to remember that when ordering doors, you'll need to think about the ironmongery too: latches, hinges and handles will all need to be considered. Be aware that these do need to be separately ordered, unless you go for a door set, where all these extras are included.

## I don't want any hidden costs cropping up at a late stage in my build. How do I make sure my doors keep to a tight budget?

As with all elements of self-building, sticking to a budget is key, and to do that, the budgets you set need to be realistic in the first place. Talk to an advisor in a builders' merchants or door retailer and get a clear list of everything that you will need. An alternative way to ensure that you stay on budget is to opt for latch packs, which will include everything you need to fit a door for a fixed price.



## How long will my doors take to deliver?

Again, as with other fixtures and fittings in your home, it's important to consider the lead times for your door order. If you choose an off-the-shelf door, this should be delivered promptly. Check with your merchant as to how long the goods will take to arrive. This will be important when it comes to liaising with workmen so everyone can work to schedule. Be aware that if you have ordered a bespoke option, it will take longer. Checking with your supplier at the outset should avoid nasty surprises where timing's concerned.

*Simon Johnson is sales director at JB Kind*

Enq. 102



## Need help with your wooden floor?



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Enq. 103



# product focus



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Enq. 104

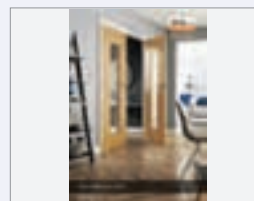
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Introducing the exceptionally durable and weather-resistant Exterior Extreme doors made with MEDITE® TRICOYA® EXTREME, supplied pre-finished in white with the benefit of a 10 year guarantee. Exclusive new Laminate internal doors, available in two contemporary colours with a textured timber grained effect, plus much more. Request or download your copy now from JB Kind's website.

Enq. 105



Blink, the affordable, wire-free, home security and HD video monitoring system, today announces that it is now available in the UK. Blink is a battery-powered home security and HD video monitoring system that's simple to set up and use, giving peace of mind to people who worry about the security of their property while away. Blink provides a watchful eye and one-click connection to the home through the free Blink Home Monitor app for iOS and Android devices. As opposed to traditional security systems which add video as an afterthought and may have ugly wires which require professional installation, Blink offers quick and simple do-it-yourself installation.

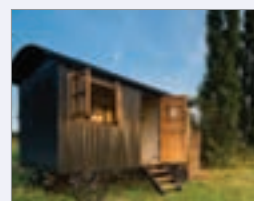
Enq. 106

Blink

Powerguard

Elmley National Nature Reserve is an inspirational place just one hour from London. It's a place that Powerguard has had a close association with for three years providing eco-friendly solutions to power remote buildings. Powerguard's revolutionary off grid power generation systems have provided bespoke self-sufficient solution to meet Elmley's extremely delicate environment. Powerguard used an advanced technology system to ensure maximum efficiency and savings on fuel and maintenance costs. Taken from Powerguard's standard PS System range, it is specifically designed to offer simply the best in off-grid electricity supply around.

Enq. 107



A Loxone Smart Home intelligently automates lighting, heating, blinds, security, music and more. The brain behind this level of automation is the Loxone Miniserver which combines all the components of your home into one central system. It gives you simple, unparalleled command of your home. The system perfectly performs tasks in your home according to schedules, while taking into account information such as the weather, time of day, day of the week, occupancy and more. The Loxone Miniserver will know to do something before you've even thought about doing it: bringing to life Loxone's concept of Autopilot Living.

Enq. 108

Loxone

Radnor Oak

Radnor Oak are one of the UK's market leaders in free standing oak framed garages & outbuildings, oak annexes & home offices, multi-purpose oak complexes and oak gazebos & pavilions. Using the finest green oak, selected on quality, they create the finest additions to your home. Radnor Oak can provide the pre-jointed oak frame to be constructed by your builder, or they have a team of Regional Consultants to offer the full turnkey service. To find out more, or to 'Design Your Own' oak framed building, visit the Radnor Oak website today.

Enq. 109



# Interior inspiration: Living rooms showcase

The living room is one of the most important rooms in any house, with most of us spending the majority of our time at home there. The furniture that you choose says a lot about you, so let your personality shine through and be inspired by our choice of bold and unique products.



1. No sofa is complete without cushions, and as part of its Scion Living lifestyle brand, "fashion-forward" British interiors company Scion has produced a retro cushion collection inspired by its latest fabric and wallpapers. The collection comprises 10 designs in 29 options, in a mixture of square and rectangular shapes. The colours range from punchy retro shades of cobalt, sunshine and tangerine to sophisticated greys, blush tones, stone and linen, as well as evocative combinations.  
[www.scion.uk.com](http://www.scion.uk.com)

Enq. 110

2. This maharaja chair from Ian Snow makes a stunning statement piece. Every chair is hand-made in Jaipur, India, using traditional and artisan techniques. It features crewel work embroidery and dark, carved wooden legs. The vivid colours make the chair a bright addition to monochrome-themed interiors. The chair is also a fairtrade product – Ian Snow supports education for children and families in poverty, holds a blood donor programme and has two wind power plants. It's priced at £999.  
[www.iansnow.com](http://www.iansnow.com)

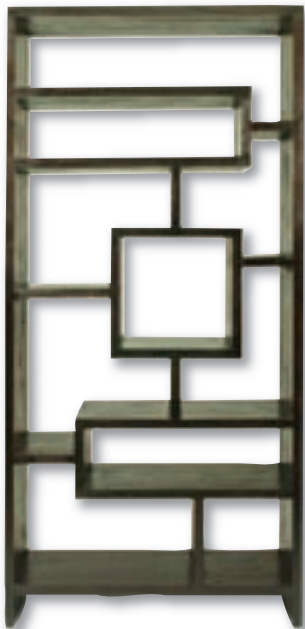
Enq. 111

3. The Indah Dark Cubic Display Unit is a modern, solid wood set of shelves that combines contemporary good looks with the rustic beauty of old teak. Solving the age-old problem of a lack of storage, it's artistic in form as it twists to create functional shelving. This unit is designed to be a statement style piece that will bring the wow factor into any home. The unit is crafted from reclaimed teak wood in Indonesia and is stained to a warm brown finish that highlights the rustic characteristics. It is priced at £895.  
[www.puji.com](http://www.puji.com)

Enq. 112



3



4



4. The Alveare brass and antique mirror coffee table features a stunning design that will create a glamorous focal point in any living room. The steel frame is finished with an electroplated brass, while the surface of the table consists of a toughened antique mirror. If your space is big enough more than one table can be used to create a large, honeycomb effect centrepiece. The table is 35 cm high and has a diameter of 100 cm. It is available to buy from MYFurniture, priced at £219.99.

[www.my-furniture.co.uk](http://www.my-furniture.co.uk)

**Enq. 113**

5



5. Bring a touch of timeless elegance into your home with one of the most luxurious fabrics. Soft to the touch, velvet is making a grand come-back and becoming a firm favourite with interior designers and customers alike. With a range full of these textiles in a variety of colours and patterns, iLiv will make sure your interior is on trend. The sofa pictured has been upholstered with Tilia velvet – from the Dimensions Collection – in Flint, a subtle grey that keeps the design simple. The fabric is priced from £34 per metre.

[www.i-liv.co.uk](http://www.i-liv.co.uk)

**Enq. 114**

6



6. With the television now the focal point in many living rooms, the TV stand is an increasingly important piece of furniture. This highly crafted media storage unit epitomises a classic traditional design. The subtly textured doors conceal a storage solution for all your entertainment necessities, while the exterior channels an industrial luxe aesthetic. The Traveller TV cabinet is encased in leather (L0001) with contrasting leather profiled corners and matching handles. It is 240 cm wide x 47 cm deep x 58 cm high and is priced at £6,714.

[www.touchedinteriors.co.uk](http://www.touchedinteriors.co.uk)

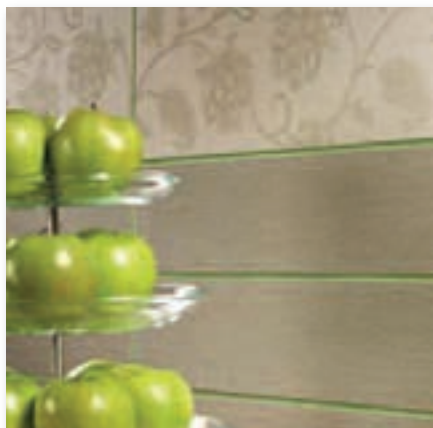
**Enq. 115**

# Mapei present new grout colours for 2017

51 grout colours were unveiled by Mapei at Cersaie 2016. The new range of colours called 'Set the mood' is divided into five collections: Serene, Traditional, Natural, Romance and Glamour, making it easier to choose the right grout according to the requirements of each tiling project and personal preference.

Innovation through Research & Development is always at the forefront of Mapei's philosophy; the recent additions to the Coloured Grouts range were developed using a sophisticated 3D imaging programme. With the latest design trends in mind, Mapei are the first company operating in the ceramic sector using 3D imaging to study and develop the Coloured Grouts portfolio.

This cutting edge research has enabled Mapei to develop a new colour chart comprising of five coloured grout collections, each with its own unique personality. With 16 different products available in 51 shades, the



collections help simplify your search for the best results, ensuring complete client satisfaction.

With the latest design choices in mind, Mapei's Kerapoxy CQ coloured grout in shade 183 'Lime Green' is a matching shade with the Pantone 'Greenery' colour, perfect

for refurbishment projects and new installations alike in residential and commercial buildings. Pantone's colour of the year sets the trend for 2017, 'Greenery' is evocative of new beginnings. Pantone invites consumers to "immerse themselves in the physical beauty and inherent unity of the natural world." Mapei's Kerapoxy CQ grout is a two-component epoxy grout, easy to apply and with excellent cleanability due to innovative BioBlock® technology.

Whether you prefer complementing your tiles with a harmonized or a contrasting Coloured Grout, Mapei's Coloured Grout Collection adds a special finishing touch to any tiled surface allowing the client to personalize their space, setting the desired mood.

Contact Mapei UK for more information on using coloured grouts in your project.

0121 508 6970  
www.mapei.co.uk

Enq. 116

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Enq. 117

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Enq. 118



# Westbury Windows & Joinery celebrates 25th anniversary



February 2017 marks the 25th anniversary of Westbury Windows & Joinery (WWJ), the British-based manufacturer of premium timber windows, doors and roof lanterns.

The company, which was established by Jonathan Hey following the success of Westbury Garden Rooms, has seen steady growth over the last two decades, and the appointment of window industry guru, John Mumford, as co-Director in 2011 has resulted in further success. Having launched a new range of products in 2015, and opened a new showroom in London's famous Lambeth Walk in 2016, the company continue to go from strength to strength. But success does not come without its challenges.

Managing Director, Jonathan Hey, explains that the timber window industry has changed quite dramatically since WWJ's conception:

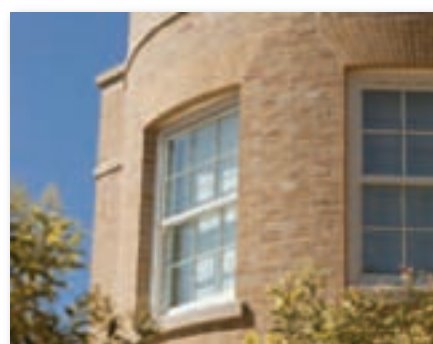
"Around the time that WWJ was founded, timber windows had a particularly poor reputation. This was due to the fact that during the post war era, Douglas Fir stocks sourced from Canada had diminished, and cheaper, more readily available softwoods had been used instead, and unfortunately manufactured with poor profile designs and treatments processes. By the 1970s and 80s these softwood windows were pretty rotten. uPVC was on the rise at that time and part of its

success was due to the fact that wood was mistrusted and the belief that timber was high maintenance and not fit for purpose.

"These days, wood is back in vogue but it has become an extremely competitive market and we have different challenges, such as explaining to customers that not all timber windows are created equal. We've seen many companies do away with what we'd consider to be important British architectural details – such as flush joints, sharp edges, traditional mouldings – in order to save money on manufacture, or due to having their products made abroad."

## John Mumford steered new product design

John Mumford's appointment allowed WWJ to re-energise the business and gave new impetus to create 'best in market' products. He has helped steer the company towards a new range of products that doesn't compromise either technically or aesthetically. In fact, he has combined the best technical and energy-saving features of proven continental design but with a traditional British architectural heritage appearance. Additionally, as an environmentally conscious company, building sustainable, eco-friendly products was an added objective.



Hey continued: "We spent two years researching the latest in manufacturing technologies and sustainable materials before designing our latest range, which we believe is the best available today. We find that many of our customers are the discerning type; either architects or developers looking to build a property to a certain standard, or self-builders for whom the long term quality, detail and sustainability of their 'forever home' really matters.

"To still be going strong after 25 years in the business and producing market leading products, is certainly something to celebrate!"

01245 326510  
www.westburyjoinery.com

Enq. 119





# European inspiration

Eve and David Jervis travelled to Germany to find inspiration for their spacious, contemporary eco self-build in Yorkshire

Words by Heather Dixon  
Pictures by Feature Services







THE OWNERS' PLANS FOR THE KITCHEN CHANGED SEVERAL TIMES BEFORE THEY SETTLED ON A MINIMAL DESIGN

Eve and David Jervis didn't know whether to celebrate or commiserate when they realised that the building plot they bid for at auction was actually theirs.

"It was quite surreal," recalls David. "We felt a mixture of real excitement and that feeling of 'what on earth have we done?'"

But any misgivings quickly vanished when they started to plan a house that would become the complete antithesis of their previous home.

"We lived for 10 years in a lovely modern apartment in a 100-year-old former girl's school," says David. "It had fabulous sea views and loads of character, but unfortunately it haemorrhaged energy."

Although they had no experience of self-building, they were keen to build a house which was individual, ultra modern and as environmentally friendly as possible.

## International inspiration

The three quarter acre plot in a village near Scarborough belonged to a local farmer, who had already been granted planning permission for a traditional dorma-bungalow. Eve and David knew they wanted something less conventional – a modern, eco-house with plenty of light and a spacious, open design – and Eve knew exactly where to look for inspiration.

She is from Germany, "where around 65 per cent of all new build properties are kit houses." So the couple travelled to a specialist kit house site and factory called Fertighauswelt Wuppertal to study the options – initially

favouring a timber-frame property with a large, open plan interior.

"We spent five hours there and learned so much," says Eve. "We hadn't appreciated how much choice there was, not just in terms of the design of buildings but also in the eco elements. So we did lots of drawings to create a design which was unique to us – a house with plenty of natural light, big windows and open spaces."

A year later, in 2010, planning was granted for their new design, which would be built on the same footprint as the proposed dorma bungalow. The build didn't however begin until November 2013.

"We didn't rush into the build straight away," says Eve. "We were not working to a timescale – we wanted to do plenty of research and make sure we had a clear vision of what we wanted before we began. It was three years before we finally bit the bullet, sold our last home and moved into rented accommodation."

"Renting was a good option because we had no idea how long the build would take," says David. "Eve is a bit of a gypsy at heart so she had no problem with leaving our old place, and we both liked the idea of having a blank canvas to work with. We stored anything we wanted to keep in a friend's garage and sold, or gave away, the rest."

The plot is accessed via a long drive and has open fields to the back, but is situated on an incline. The block and beam foundations were dug into the slope, towards the rear boundary of the plot, with the aim of creating shelter to the

back of the house and a bank of windows across the south-facing front to maximise the natural benefits of the sun as a heat source.

The external block walls were built with a thermal layer and the property taken up to roof timber level in what was, at this stage, a fairly standard build.

"We didn't want noisy stud walls inside so every internal wall is also built in block to create a solid, quiet home," says Eve. "The first stage of the build was relatively straightforward, but we soon came to realise that we wanted a more contemporary look on the outside than the timber and tile roof exterior we had planning for."

## Last minute changes

The build ground to a halt while they decided to go back to planning for permission to change the exterior to rendered walls and a metal roof. Eve also wanted opposing roof lines to create interesting angles and sharp lines – ideas which were given a cool reception by Scarborough Borough Council planning authority, who felt these modern materials would be out of keeping with the area. Eve and David argued their case, highlighting the wide range of build styles in neighbouring properties. Three months later their proposed changes were finally approved.

"We realised that a timber-led house would feature too much exposed wood and, although we love wood, I'm not Heidi," Eve jokes. She continues: "Everything ground to a halt at roof level because we didn't know what



“We soon came to realise that we wanted a more contemporary look externally than the timber and tiled roof exterior we had planning for”  
– Eve Jervis

weight of tiles we were catering for. We had to cover the trusses with tarpaulin until a decision was made.”

They were glad that they had held onto their vision for a metal finish for the roof. It looks like slate, but reduces the weight of conventional tiles by around 70 per cent. The roof also features integrated photovoltaic roof lights.

Unfortunately the six-week lead time on the Profile 49 Britmet roofing panels caused a further delay, but eventually the property was made watertight and double glazed four metre windows were craned into place.

“There were three huge sheets of glass which had to be manoeuvred by six people into the openings,” says David. “The saving grace was good access and very understanding, supportive neighbours. It’s a private lane with shared responsibility for the upkeep, so we tried to cause the minimum disruption.”

## Making savings

One of the key elements of the property is a plant room at the back of the garage, with the lighting and heating systems all located together and easily accessible.

The property is kept at a steady all-year-round temperature of 23 degrees and there’s no condensation, as a result of having under floor heating, extra thick insulation, a heat recovery system and argon filled, triple-glazed windows.

“It’s very different to our previous home which had awful heat loss,” says David. “We have saved a huge amount just in electricity and heating alone. We did consider having a stove in the corner of the sitting room but we didn’t particularly want to lose the space and we felt we didn’t need the extra heating.”

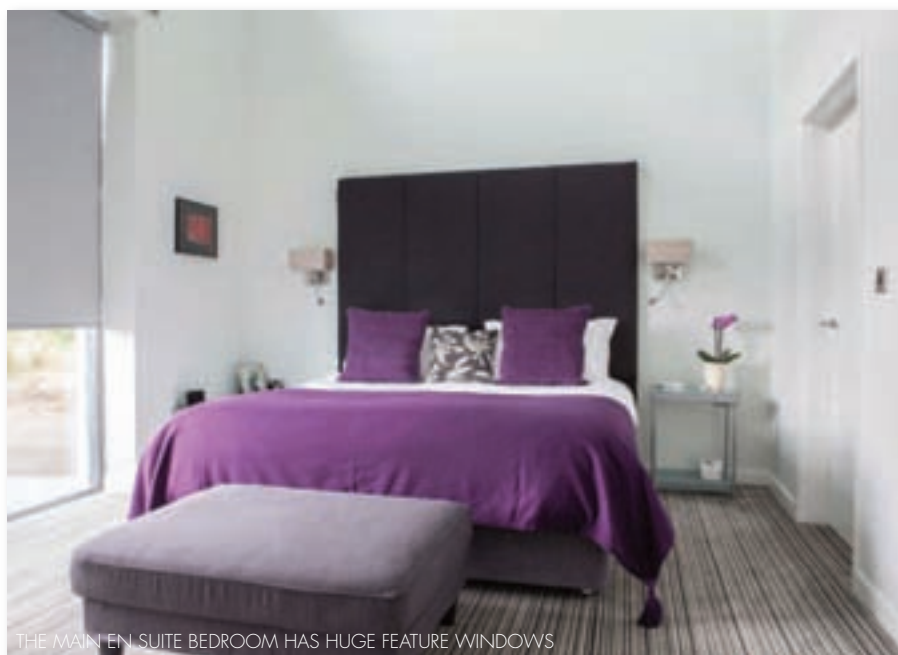
They also initially considered a ground source heat pump, but agreed instead to an air source heat pump – which was almost half the price to install.

They made further savings on the staircase which leads to a light, open plan mezzanine where David has his office.

The first quotes they had were around



THOUSANDS WERE SAVED ON THE STAIRCASE BY SHOPPING AROUND



THE MAIN EN SUITE BEDROOM HAS HUGE FEATURE WINDOWS

## HIGH POINT

Moving in and enjoying the look on people's faces when they walked through the door. One friend came in and said: "Wow, what a pad!"



### Project summary

Build cost: £350,000

Current value: Approx £500,000



THE OPEN PLAN LIVING AREA IN THE CENTRE OF THE HOUSE INCLUDES A WALL OF TOP MOUNTED DOORS

£30,000 for a design which included floating glass treads. Although they loved the design, they could not justify the expense. Rather than give up, they shopped around and eventually found a metalwork company, Strafford Fabrications, who came up with a design which, at £12,000, was less than half the original estimates.

"It certainly paid to do our research, rather than settle for the first thing we saw," says David. "We had to compromise with the design – we initially asked for a half landing but to keep it level with the wall at the bottom it had to be a step landing, but it was a small price to pay to achieve something we are really pleased with."

The house covers 150 m<sup>2</sup> and according to Eve and David feels 'even bigger' because of the free flowing living spaces, 'airiness' and large amounts of natural light.

Eve and David chose not to have a stove in favour of more useable space, but the house is kept at a constant all-year-round temperature thanks to its eco-elements. They paid particular attention to detail such as mood lighting created in zones and sockets – well hidden to keep the look streamlined and modern.

"The renewable heating and high spec insulation means our home is one of the few EPCA officially rated properties in the UK," says David. "There couldn't be a bigger contrast between here and our last house."

And if they were concerned about sacrificing their coastal views they needn't have worried – the field to the back of the property changes

with the seasons and from the mezzanine they have wide, open views across countryside.

"The key to this place is flexible living," says Eve. "Although it is open plan, each living area is well defined. It's practical as well as sociable."

If there's one thing they would change about the design, it would be to have a window in the utility room.

"It gets very warm in there and although it vents into the garage it would have been a bonus to have a window as well," says Eve. "Unfortunately it would have meant totally changing the layout in that part of the house so we agreed to leave it as it was. It's been a huge

learning curve but considering the fact that we haven't built before, we think we got it about right."

David agrees. "It's a lot tougher than you think it's going to be, and you have to be very determined to see it through. Towards the end of the build we were on site every day. We were in the fortunate position of being able to build without the pressure of a specific timescale, and we were also on the same wavelength in terms of what we wanted from the house. We listened to each other, and also to the experts, and always kept an open mind. Consequently we enjoyed the whole process and we are absolutely delighted with the result."

## Contacts/suppliers

Builder: Springvale Homes  
[www.springvalehomes.com](http://www.springvalehomes.com)

Roofing: Metrotile  
[www.metrotile.co.uk](http://www.metrotile.co.uk)

Windows: Vulcan Commercial Glazing  
[vulcancommercialglazing.uk](http://vulcancommercialglazing.uk)

Heat Pump: BCPH  
[www.bc-ph.co.uk](http://www.bc-ph.co.uk)

Garage Doors: Oxley Garage Doors  
[www.oxleydoors.co.uk](http://www.oxleydoors.co.uk)

Paving: Cockerill Paving  
01262 678 704

Fencing: Red Roof Repairs  
01723 890 408

Kitchen: MKM  
[www.mkmb.co.uk](http://www.mkmb.co.uk)

Flooring: The Carpet Station  
01723 515 995

Stairs: Strafford Fabrications  
[www.straffordfabrications.co.uk](http://www.straffordfabrications.co.uk)

Upholstery (for headboard): R Tait Upholstery  
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Enq. 121

# Keep it clean

Robert Dennis of Airflow Developments explains why installing an effective ventilation system is so crucial to health, and how best to approach it

Self-builders are encouraged to make their homes as airtight as possible to maximise energy efficiency and reduce the carbon footprint of their property. However, this means that installing an effective ventilation system is vital to the removal of potentially harmful indoor air contaminants and ensuring that the property benefits from clean, fresh air.

The UK Government is committed by law to deliver a 50 per cent reduction in greenhouse gas emissions in the built environment by 2025. As a result, Building Regulations are becoming more stringent, meaning self-builders are under pressure to make their homes as energy efficient as possible.

Playing a fundamental role in this is the need to make a property as airtight as possible – and capable of retaining warm and cooled air effectively. An airtight home will help to reduce energy bills and minimise its day-to-day impact on the environment. However, a sealed building can be more susceptible to damp, mould and condensation, especially in areas such as kitchens and bathrooms. Over 50 per cent of us have experienced damp or mould in our home and without effective ventilation, this can cause the building fabric to deteriorate and lead to potentially serious health problems for homeowners.

For example, over 15 million homes in the UK are at risk of Toxic Home Syndrome. This is a condition where a person's health declines as a result of poor indoor air quality. The extent of the problem has been revealed with high-profile reports such as the Royal College of Physicians' 'Every Breath We Take: the lifelong impact of air pollution' being published in national newspapers. Worryingly, the report warns those exposed to poor indoor air quality are at risk of major health conditions such as cancer, asthma, heart disease and obesity.

Cognitive functions, including concentration and productivity at work, were also shown to be negatively affected by poor indoor air quality. Given that people spend around 90 per cent of their time indoors and that the average adult requires 15,000 litres of clean air every day, it is crucial that people are made aware of the ventilation solutions available.

## Central extract ventilation

Central extract ventilation – also known as Mechanical Extract Ventilation (MEV) – is a

continual form of ventilation. Ideal for residential properties, a centrally mounted unit is typically installed in a loft space or cupboard. The unit is then ducted around the home to each wet room, for example, a kitchen or bathroom, and extracts the moist air from the room – preventing damp and mould from developing.

Units are available where the level of ventilation can be adjusted based on changes to the quality of air in the dwelling – for example, increasing ventilation if increased moisture is detected in the air. This ensures that excess moisture is swiftly removed from the room.

This cost-effective, low-energy method of ventilation offers vital whole house protection against harmful air pollutants.

Localised versions, known as decentralised MEV (dMEV) units are also available. These single room fans can be mounted in wet rooms for quieter, constant extraction. These units offer multiple trickle and boost speed functions available to suit the homeowner's requirements.

## Mechanical Ventilation with Heat Recovery

Mechanical Ventilation with Heat Recovery (MVHR) systems don't just remove air contaminants, they also recover otherwise lost heat. Essentially, these units take the stale air from inside the home and extract energy from it via a heat exchanger recovering heat that would normally be lost as part of the usual ventilation process. This energy is used to pre-warm clean fresh air that is continually being brought in from outside, which is then filtered and circulated around the home.

MVHR units also offer increased levels of control to suit varying climates. During the summer months, the units' summer bypass facility uses dampers to isolate the heat exchanger. This means that no unnecessary heat recovery takes place and only cool air is being circulated; minimising overheating in the home.

Many industry experts now view MVHR units as the best whole house ventilation solution – due to the presence of an air filtration system. By specifying a high-quality filter, an MVHR unit can prevent pollutants as small as pollen from entering the property – ideal for those with allergies. Furthermore, these units can reduce yearly heating bills. Depending on factors such



as the efficiency of the heat exchanger, systems can return cost savings of up to £350 a year. This is a result of the reduced time needed to heat the property, as less heat is leaving the building.

For enhanced efficiency, MVHR units are now available with smart control technology, to monitor and immediately adjust ventilation at home, or 'on the go.' They can provide real-time monitoring and control of the indoor air environment. Once registered to a cloud service, the parameters and settings of the system can be monitored and controlled via a computer or mobile device.

These units can be designed with various different profiles to choose from, meaning homeowners are able to programme the units according to their personal routines and preferences. For example, setting ventilation to an 'Away' profile during workdays will avoid unnecessary air being filtered into the premises. This will, therefore, reduce energy costs and wastage.

For self-builders, embarking on building a dream property is a huge undertaking. Protecting the fabric of that home for the long-term and ensuring that those living within it benefit from the clean and healthy air is vital. As such, it is worthwhile talking to a reputable manufacturer that can provide support and guidance to ensure whatever ventilation system is selected, it is fit for purpose.

*Robert Dennis is product marketing executive at Airflow Developments*



MVHR UNITS ARE NOW AVAILABLE WITH SMART CONTROL TECHNOLOGY TO MONITOR AND ADJUST VENTILATION REMOTELY

Enq. 122





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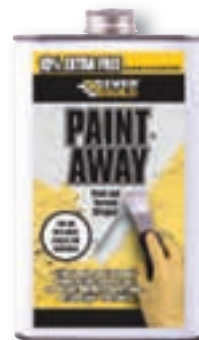


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Enq. 123

## Paint Away – the ultimate paint stripper!



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The new triple strength, non-drip formula of Paint Away can remove up to three layers of paint or varnish from masonry, wood, metals and most common building substrates in just one easy and fast application.

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Available in 750ml tins with 10 per cent extra free, Paint Away can be used with most paints and varnishes on both vertical and horizontal applications.

For further information on Paint Away or any other product in the Everbuild or Sika ranges, contact your local sales representative, call the sales office or visit the company website.

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**AIRFLOW**       

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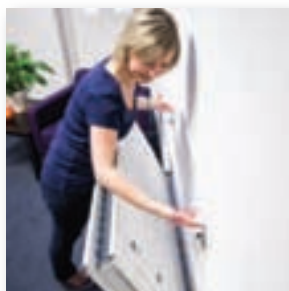
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Dressing in 'Layers' is a top priority for keeping you comfortable on site. **Snickers Workwear** is pioneering the design and development of amazing 'First Layer' underwear that will keep your body dry and comfortable throughout your working day. The 'First Layer' garments with the 37.5 Technology fabric dry out five times faster than any other to deliver fresh working comfort. The Merino Wool underwear is extremely lightweight and soft for natural warmth and comfort in really cold conditions. While the XTR garments are body-engineered for an effective combination of ventilation, insulation and protection.

Enq. 126

## Decorating made easier with Rotarad



Reaching that awkward space behind the radiator to decorate has long been a time consuming issue for people looking to do a perfect job. However, now there's a solution. The **Rotarad** radiator valve kit enables easy access to the space behind the radiator, for decorating and for cleaning with no need to turn off the water or get the plumber in to remove the radiator. The kit is an easy retrofit for existing radiators and an obvious benefit when having new radiators installed. It

enables the radiator to be lowered away from the wall to a 45 or 90° angle for easy and safe access. For more information, please visit the Rotarad website.

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## More is more from Simpson Strong-Tie



The 2017 edition of **Simpson Strong-Tie's** flagship catalogue is here. Alongside the UK's largest range of connectors for timber and masonry construction, sit over a dozen new products and several range extensions, including: Post Bases; Joist hangers; Angle Brackets; Structural screws and Masonry Ties. The catalogue is also brimming with installation advice, performance characteristics and safe working loads. Sales Director, Jon Head explains: "It's been a busy year for Simpson Strong-Tie, with all new ranges for Light Gauge Steel and CLT construction, as well as our significantly expanded nails and screws ranges. We've really pushed the boat out to increase our core range though, which, coupled with our rapid made-to-order service, we really can say that if we don't have it – you don't need it". The latest version 'Connectors for Timber and Masonry Construction' is available from Simpson Strong-Tie on request and can be downloaded from the website.

01827 155600 [www.strongtie.co.uk](http://www.strongtie.co.uk)

Enq. 128



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Enq. 130



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**SCHÜCO**  
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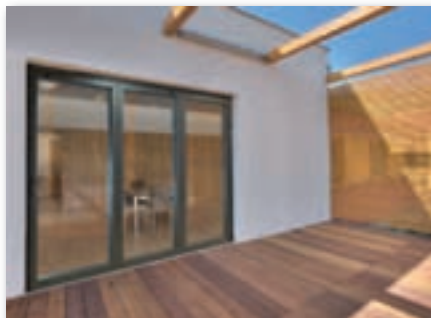
# Bi-folding & sliding doors showcase

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[www.westburyjoinery.com](http://www.westburyjoinery.com)

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## ARBOR

Arbor manufactures sliding and folding doorsets, hinged doorsets, casement windows and glazed screens in European Oak and durable hardwoods. Bi-fold doors are available in standard sizes (the E60 range) and to bespoke dimensions and designs up to a maximum width of eight metres and a maximum height of three metres. Internal bi-folds are also manufactured in single or double glazed specifications.

[www.arborbifold.co.uk](http://www.arborbifold.co.uk)

Enq. 134

## DURATION WINDOWS

Emperor Concealed Aluminium Bi-folding doors have no unsightly hinges breaking up the clean lines of the doors. When closed, the cleverly engineered patented hinges are fully concealed within the door leaf, resulting in a contemporary, clean and aesthetically pleasing bifold door. When open they give you over a 90 per cent clear opening and have a uniquely designed flush-line handle, which allows for tight panel stacking.

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Enq. 133



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01952 581100 [www.frameXpress.co.uk](http://www.frameXpress.co.uk)

Enq. 135

## VMZINC facade for Cotswold home in AONB



A Standing seam **VMZINC® QUARTZ-ZINC® PLUS** facade has been used in Hayward Smart Architects design of a two-storey home for one of its partners and which replaced a 1930's bungalow within the Cotswolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. The result is a contemporary home constructed using sustainable materials to provide a low carbon footprint. Designed so as not to extend above the height of the building it replaced, zinc rainwater systems have also been

used, the end result complementing natural dry stone walling and timber boarding to the principal elevations.

01992 822288 [www.vMZinc.co.uk](http://www.vMZinc.co.uk)

Enq. 136

## Loft conversion to increase living space in London apartment



Having purchased an apartment in the conservation area of Barnsbury Square, North London, the clients were seeking to add a master bedroom and en-suite bathroom, and to create an outdoor space where they could enjoy the rooftop views. The conversion of the attic presented the architects with a number of challenges, primarily the need to be sensitive to the character of this conservation area and the requirement to respect the stringent planning restrictions governing the roofline. Mindful of the need to maintain the roofline, free of any bulky external casing, and yet keen to make the master bedroom feel light and airy, Azman Architects incorporated two large skylights into the roof. **Glazing Vision's** Flushglaze flat rooflights, one single unit and one modular unit in two sections were specified for these skylights and were both precision engineered to fit. Their minimalist external finish ensured that the external aspect of the roof remained unchanged and thus adhered to the local planning restrictions. The lack of any external cladding meant that dirt would also not be trapped above the rooflights, which was seen as an important additional benefit. Critically Glazing Vision's Flushglaze fixed rooflights, ensured that far from negatively impacting on the low ceiling, the room height was actually maximized and the natural light falling into the master bedroom and stairwell thereby optimized.

01379 353 741 [www.glazing-vision.co.uk](http://www.glazing-vision.co.uk)

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In this issue of Selfbuilder & Homemaker we look at recent trends in stairs, balustrades and balconies



#### 4 ID SYSTEMS

For 17 years ID Systems has led the way in the supply and installation of advanced bifold doors, sliding doors and glazing solutions for self-builders. ID Systems understands that taking on a project as complex as building your own home can be daunting, which is why its industry leading project advisors are on hand to talk you through the multi award winning products that are available to you, whatever your budget.

[www.idsystems.co.uk](http://www.idsystems.co.uk)

Enq. 138

#### 5 ALUMEN

Using leading systems, as well as its own brand, Alumen Ltd manufactures high performance aluminium windows, bifolding and sliding doors, rooflights, conservatories and contemporary doors. The team are specialists when it comes to providing a choice of high end bespoke or top quality off the shelf products, with the expert advice available to always get it right. Investment in machinery means everything is available on short lead times.

[www.alumen.co.uk](http://www.alumen.co.uk)

Enq. 139



#### 6 MANORWOOD JOINERY

Manorwood Joinery's sliding folding door system is one of the finest UK manufactured products on the market for a truly seamless transition between outdoor and indoor spaces. All systems are purpose made to any configuration and size in either European Oak or durable Hardwoods available in both and bottom hung systems using the multi award winning Centor system. Additional options include multi point locking and integral blinds.

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## SmartSecure is new addition to the NSBRC



Carl F Groupco's SmartSecure range is now featured at the National Self Build and Renovation Centre (NSBRC) in Swindon. SmartSecure is an exciting new addition to smart home technology that will aid any new build or property enhancement scheme. Options include 'SmartConnect easy' for app based access control; 'SmartTouch' enables easy entry by simply touching a sensor and radio-based systems include a radio keypad, transponder and fingerprint scanner for keyless biometric access control. Designed to be accessible to everyone working in the self-build and renovation sectors.

01733 393330 [www.carlfgroupco.co.uk](http://www.carlfgroupco.co.uk)

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## New ECOSlide consumer brochure proves popular



A new brochure has been published by Victorian Sliders which is aimed at UK homeowners and fully details the company's best-selling ECOSlide PVC-U vertical sliding sash windows. Entitled 'ECOSlide – putting the style and beauty back into your home', this eight-page publication is A4 landscape in format with key illustrations picked out in eye-catching spot UV varnish for greater impact. ECOSlide sash windows are A-rated as standard and a section explains Window

Energy Ratings in plain and simple terms to build confidence amongst homeowners with energy-efficient PVC-U sash windows.

01269 846200 [www.victoriansliders.co.uk](http://www.victoriansliders.co.uk)

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## Left out in the cold



Cold, wet, windy weather – British people are used to protecting their homes against the elements. But what about the contents in the garage? Valuable equipment and items stored in garages along with any vehicles also need protection.

Install a specialist **Garador** Sectional Door and its outstanding engineering and excellent thermal insulation will offer protection plus add value to any property. Insulation is key throughout Garador's Sectional Door range and the Premium range all offer a 42mm thick double skin steel section evenly filled with CTF-free PU foam plus flexible rubber seals on all four sides.

There are other big advantages too from these advanced Garador Sectional garage doors. Lifting vertically, they offer maximum drive way space plus extra width to enter the garage and are available in a wide range of sizes, designs, colours and surface finishes.

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# Construction's big event regenerates for 2017

A reinvented Ecobuild returns in March with what's been hailed as an immersive exhibition and conference programme, under the umbrella theme of regeneration

The leading show for the built environment, Ecobuild 2017 will see ExCeL London transformed into a 'city' – complete with a main street, distinct destinations and special feature attractions. Central to the experience will be Regeneration Drive, a boulevard running through the centre of the exhibition floor, linking different aspects of the show and enabling visitors to experience the very best examples of innovation and creativity from across the built environment.

Martin Hurn, brand director at Ecobuild, explained: "For 2017, we're completely overhauling and innovating the Ecobuild experience. We asked our visitors what they want and need from the show, and sustainability overwhelmingly came to the top of the agenda. To deliver this, we've ripped up the floorplan and reinvented Ecobuild as an immersive city centred around Regeneration Drive.

"Imagining the exhibition as a city allows us to deliver a unique programme focused on regeneration, in a way that is relevant and inclusive to all our exhibitors and visitors. Different aspects of construction and the built environment deserve specific focus, and each of Ecobuild 2017's destinations will have something distinct and exciting to offer."

As visitors make their way up Regeneration Drive, they will be introduced to key destinations including The Arena, City Hall, The Campus, The Gateway and The Performance Lab.

The Arena will be home to the Ecobuild Conference, with headline guest speakers, staging a range of keynote speeches from industry thought leaders and innovators across the three days. As part of the programme, UK-GBC (the Green Building Council) will host daily leadership panels chaired by CEO Julie Hirigoyen.

The show's sustainability hub, City Hall, will be home to the UK-GBC and World Green Building Council, representing the culmination

of Ecobuild's Redefining Sustainability campaign – which seeks to create an industry-wide understanding of sustainability objectives and drives, along with a clear direction for the future.

Architectural collective Assemble will also present its award-winning Granby Workshop project at the Campus – the show's "destination for innovative thinking and the latest technology." Visitors will be able to view and interact with a unique installation created by Assemble, telling the story behind the collective's Turner Prize-winning regeneration project. Attendees will be also able to interact with Future Materials, a gallery curated by ARCC, previewing next-generation materials and processes currently in either research or testing stage.

The Gateway is where visitors can explore national and social infrastructure projects in partnership with ICE, as well as a separate seminar theatre dedicated to Green Infrastructure. The Performance Lab, meanwhile, will showcase the

latest in smart home and smart building technology in association with Ecobuild 2017's building performance partner, the Chartered Institution of Building Services Engineers (CIBSE).

In response to the increased Government and industry focus on offsite construction, Ecobuild has also partnered with Explore Offsite to bring a significant showcase of the exciting opportunities offered by offsite technology in the future of construction, with the industry's leading suppliers and a series of daily masterclasses.

Another new partnership sees Ecobuild and UK District Energy Association creating a new and exciting area: the ukDEA District Energy Town Square, host to leading British suppliers and also international pavilions from Sweden and Denmark, two of the most mature district energy markets in the world. The ukDEA District Energy Town Square will be located adjacent to Ecobuild's Performance Lab.







## 'Redefining sustainability'

More than two thirds of professionals in the built environment identify sustainability as the industry topic of greatest interest, but the term's actual meaning is constantly developing. Ecobuild's Redefining Sustainability campaign has been developed to drive discussions about, and ultimately create, a universally accepted understanding of sustainability that's "appealing, engaging and accessible to all."

Ecobuild has announced key collaborations with Lead Partner UK Green Building Council (UK-GBC), World GBC, RIBA, BRE, the Construction Products Association, the Institution of Civil Engineers (ICE), CIAT and the Chartered Institution of Building Services Engineers (CIBSE). There will also be pavilions showcasing associations including the Builders Merchants Federation, Passivhaus Trust, NFRC, Concrete Pavilion, TRADA and the STA.

With such a wide variety of exhibitors and partners, Ecobuild will provide visitors with the platform to collaborate and address the key issues of regeneration and its role in shaping sustainability.

Day one of the Ecobuild Conference will focus on future-proofing building and construction. Key topics will include large scale domestic refurbishment, carbon reduction in the built environment and promoting 'green infrastructure' through planning, while Ecobuild's Big Innovation Pitch reaches its climax with finalists presenting solutions to M&S and a panel of industry judges.

The second day will see industry leaders debate solutions to the housing crisis, featuring a panel including Jules Pipe, deputy mayor for planning, regeneration and skills, Greater London Authority and Ben Derbyshire, HTA Design partner and RIBA president-elect, among other sector experts. Topics covered will range from improving energy efficiency in non-domestic buildings to meeting the new zero carbon

homes standard as part of the 'Low Carbon London' initiative. Broadcaster Will Gompertz will also interview Niall McLaughlin of Niall McLaughlin Architects, recent RIBA Charles Jencks winner.

Among other things, day three topics include the possible legislation binding developers in an agreement to consider the wellbeing of future generations when planning.

Free registration is now open for visitors. For more information on this year's event, exhibitors and conference topics, visit [www.ecobuild.co.uk](http://www.ecobuild.co.uk)

### New product innovations from Ancon at Ecobuild



Keeping innovation at the top of its agenda, high integrity structural fixings manufacturer, **Ancon**, will further expand its wide product range with new product launches at the UK's largest event for specifiers in the built environment, Ecobuild 2017. On the Ancon stand B135, key product zones will include the innovative Nexus brick-faced support system for prefabricated soffits, a comprehensive range of low thermal conductivity wall ties and structural thermal breaks for balcony

locations. The Ancon stand gives visitors an excellent opportunity to talk one on one with our experienced technical and sales support team.

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stand no's B135

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### 70 new models in Hitachi's latest line-up



Completely redesigned to meet the needs of specifiers, installers and homeowners – and utilising common components, common outdoor units and simplified design to benefit both end users and installers – **Hitachi's** extended Yutaki air source heat pump product line-up includes a total of 70 new models which are more compact for small installation spaces and are lighter weight for easier handling. Hitachi's expanded Yutaki air source heat pump product range is one of the widest on the market. Hitachi's innovative Yutaki-SCombi integrated solution has been designed specifically for the UK market. For more information, please visit the Hitachi website.

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## The new standards in electric fires



With today's highly efficient homes it's not always essential, or sometimes even possible to have a gas or wood burning fire fitted. However, if you want the warmth, plus the look and feel of such a fireplace, then an electric suite is perfect for you. The two new Infinity electric fires are based on Charlton & Jenrick's best-selling gas fires, and are available to fit frameless in the wall or into a fireplace suite. There are Infinite possibilities of how you can present these fires. The fires feature the new 3D Ecoflame™ technology from Charlton & Jenrick, which offer a very exciting realistic flame effect with four mood settings. The fires come complete with a loose realistic log fuel bed and fire bed media kit.

Enq. 158

## Make a statement for modern living with Jide



A feature fireplace can give any room instant impact, adding warmth, character and charm. The Decor Plus from Jide – part of the Eurostove family is a stunning statement stove that can be either an inset stove, or double-sided for a stunning view of the flickering flames within from either side. It's perfectly designed for open plan spaces, as it can sit proudly in the centre of a room or create a handy visual division between two areas. The inset style is available in four sizes – 16/9, 67, 70 or 77cm wide – while the double-sided version comes as 16/9 or 77cm.

01934 750500 [www.eurostove.co.uk](http://www.eurostove.co.uk)

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# The lowdown on drainage installation

Stevie Fairbairn looks at the most common mistakes made when installing drainage systems – and how to avoid them

If there is one area of a new build project where the expression 'once it's in, there is no going back' applies, it's the drainage system.

Drainage is one of the first things to be done in a build, and much of the subsequent construction sits on top of it, whether it's the building itself or the hard landscaping. As such, making a mistake with the drainage system often only becomes apparent once the building is complete, and can be painful and expensive.

That's why every effort should be made to get things right first time. Yet, there is a key problem, which can be summed up as 'out of sight, out of mind.' Because systems are hidden from view, some builders may be tempted to see it as an area of the project where corners can be cut.

It is a temptation that many have found too great to resist, but the results can be very expensive to put right. They can also result in substandard drainage performance, meaning annoyance, if not misery, for the property owners perhaps for years to come.

## Common installation blunders

So, what are the most common mistakes (or examples of negligence)? And how can they be avoided?

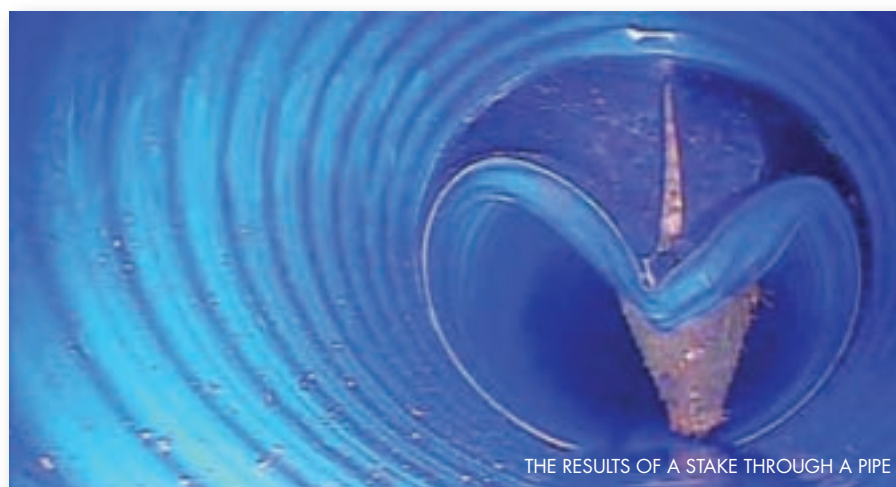
### 1: Incorrect sizing of pipework

The architect, civil engineer and surveyor on any project should establish the correct type and diameter of pipework to install. Yet subsequent drainage surveys regularly find this does not lead, for whatever reason, to the right sized pipes going into the ground.

If the pipes do not have the hydraulic capacity for the demands placed on them during periods of peak flows, problems occur. Blockages can increase, pipes can surcharge, backing up into manholes, toilets and sinks, and they will also be at greater risk of structural failure.

### 2: Incorrect pipe gradient

Drainage systems should be self-cleansing – the force of the water through the system from gravity should be strong enough to carry waste out into main sewers. For this to happen however, the pipes have to be installed at the right



THE RESULTS OF A STAKE THROUGH A PIPE

gradient. If they are too shallow, or a necessary pumping system is not installed to reduce build costs, there will be a higher risk of blockages.

### 3: Incorrect backfill

The trenches which drains are installed into are backfilled with material called ballast. If the wrong type is used, or it is not properly distributed or compacted, pipes can settle over time, causing 'flat spots' which hamper the self-cleansing process, resulting in a build-up of debris and blockages. Normally the solution is excavating and re-bedding the pipe but this is costly, particularly if something has been built over the top of it.

### 4: Cross-connections

These occur when a surface water and foul water drain are wrongly connected together, which if it is from foul to surface water can result in waste being discharged into open water courses, causing potentially serious pollution. This is surprisingly common, even with relatively large housing developments.

This will eventually result in prosecution by the Environment Agency – and a lot of expense from fines, court costs and remedial action. If it is a surface water to foul, and not accounted for in the engineer's hydraulic calculations, the system can be overloaded, causing blockages, surcharging and sewer floods.

Making the wrong initial choices can lead to problems later

### 5: Poor drainage design

Drainage systems are under more pressure now than ever before, so designing them to cope with the added demands placed on them is essential. Unfortunately many people put wet wipes, sanitary products and other items down toilets, sinks and drains, yet systems are often installed with inadequate maintenance access, such as manholes and rodding points.

Different types of pipes have different strengths and weaknesses. For example, plastic pipes need more bedding, and can be less resilient to modern maintenance and cleaning techniques. Clay pipes on the other hand are more susceptible to being invaded by roots. Making the wrong initial choices can lead to problems later.

### 6: Poor drainage construction

This is one of the biggest issues, as badly installed drainage systems often perform badly.



Examples of poor drainage construction include:

- Wrongly fitted bends (e.g. having too tight a turn) slowing down water flows
- Manholes with inadequate benching (concrete sloped section going down to the open pipe) creating snagging points for waste material
- poorly fitted pipes and connectors resulting in more points, as well as open joints that can let roots in more easily.

All these issues result in the higher risk of blockages, as well as pipe subsidence and cracking. Badly fitted manholes also allow debris to enter drains, increasing blockage risk.

## Future-proofing solutions

All the failings above contribute to potentially major future drainage problems and costs – whether it be weeks, a year, five years or 10 years. So, what can be done to ensure they do not occur, and maintenance is as stress-free as possible?

### 1: Future-proof your system

Make sure the drainage system has the correct hydraulic capacity to meet future demands, especially if you are planning further building work on the plot.

### 2: Build in multiple access points

When budgets are tight, not installing a manhole might look like a sensible saving. But, as

we have seen, not having adequate access can lead to serious problems later. Spending hundreds now might save thousands later. Installing rodding eyes at key points could also pay dividends when they help a drainage engineer clear a future blockage in minutes rather than hours or even days.

### 3: Carry out a post-works drainage survey

Whether the property owner is installing the drainage themselves, or contracting a groundworks specialist to do the work, a post-works drainage survey is a very sensible move.

A drainage maintenance specialist has the equipment needed, most importantly remote access CCTV cameras, to check the drainage system thoroughly before further building makes remedial work difficult and expensive.

It is not uncommon for items such as spikes and stakes to be mistakenly driven into newly installed pipes, concrete can be poured into pipes by incompetent groundworks teams, and joints can work loose because of poor bedding, or because of diggers working above them.

A CCTV drainage survey, with its HD quality video footage, can establish the extent of any problems, and the likely cause of them, while the work teams responsible are still on site and can be held to account. It is another cost, but it's one that pays off if it reveals something has gone awry.

### 4: Prepare drawings of as-built system

This allows future maintenance issues to be



understood, and quickly shared with a drainage maintenance company. Costs and time taken to solve future drainage problems will then be greatly reduced.

*Stevie Fairbairn is Scottish regional manager for Lanes Group*

Enq. 162

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Enq. 163

## Innovative new heat pump matches requirements



Mitsubishi Electric has launched a new 4kW Ecodan air source heat pump designed specifically to tackle the needs of new-build homes, with a system that matches the hot water requirements, whilst still meeting the lower heating demand of today's well insulated properties. The Ecodan QUHZ unit is MCS-Approved and straightforward to install, delivering water at 70°C to a packaged 200 litre thermal store. From this thermal store, mains water is heated directly up to 65°C via Mitsubishi Electric's unique plate heat exchanger, meaning the homeowner receives hot water on demand.

01707 282880 [www.mitsubishielectric.co.uk](http://www.mitsubishielectric.co.uk)

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## Dependable heating from Vent-Axia

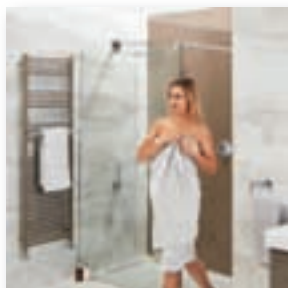


New energy efficient electric heating has come of age. While many of the UK's 3.9 million off-grid households have been benefitting from this highly efficient heating technology for some time, those on the gas grid should consider electrical warmth too. With gas security now being brought into question with gas reserves lower than usual at this time of year, the option of electric heating is coming into focus. Sussex-based Vent-Axia's range of energy efficient electric heating includes Opal Aluminium Radiators, towel rails and Bluethermal™ underfloor heating as well as portable heaters for occasional use.

0844 856 0590 [www.vent-axia.com](http://www.vent-axia.com)

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## Heating up the bathroom



Abacus Bathrooms has been developed to offer the most comprehensive list of world class products to bathroom retail customers. The portfolio is comprehensive and one area which is seeing fundamental change in terms of design is heating. Today's consumer is looking for something different in the bathroom. Although white and chrome/steel will always be popular, designers are being asked for new colour-matched, powder-coated radiators and modern

warmers. In essence, almost any colour can be developed and different materials and textures used. Specifically, popular trends encompass texture, wood tones and functionality.

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## Raychem take comfort to new levels



Raychem from Pentair Thermal Management has launched its new SENZ range of thermostats, enabling users to control their electric floor heating system simply and easily through an innovative touchscreen functionality and WIFI capability. Combining modern design, easy-to-use touch and swipe controls, and intelligent operation for new levels of comfort and performance, Raychem SENZ and SENZ WIFI feature the latest cutting-edge heating control

technology. The smartphone-style functionality of the SENZ range enables easy operation and set-up. The new range also shows electricity consumption for the past week, month and year.

Enq. 167

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Enq. 169





# Inspiration for an ideal home

Discover everything the UK's biggest home show has to offer at Olympia, London from 24 March – 9 April

The Ideal Home Show is now the longest running-show in the world spanning 109 years, closing only during WWII and reopening in 1947. Launched in 1908 in London, it is also the biggest retail show and shopping event, a British household name which has over the years presented a vast array of gadgets and new inventions and been the launch pad for many of the products that we now take for granted. The vacuum cleaner, electric kettle and toaster all made their debut at the Ideal Home Show.

While being the perfect event for the house-proud, it also attracts the biggest celebrities of the time and the Royal Family has always taken a keen interest in the show – HRH Queen Elizabeth II has visited 11 times!

Despite the event's enduring appeal, the Ideal Home Show experienced a time of uncertainty a few years ago, and was 'supersized' in 2008 with the introduction of a Christmas edition and a Manchester show. It is now so successful that approximately 420,000 people in the UK attended an Ideal Home Show in 2016. The



organisers are now planning to launch to global audiences, starting with a Chinese edition of the event this year.

Whether you're looking to realise a substantial home project or want to add those finishing touches that make a house a home, the Ideal Home Show offers everything imaginable. From 24 March to 9 April 2017, the event will transform Olympia London with plenty of inspiration, advice and products.

Catering to every need and taste, the show includes eight enhanced sections: Interiors, Home Improvements, a brand new Food & Drink show, Style, Technology, Gardens, Kitchenware and Home Accessories. Each section will present a wealth of great brands and beautiful new products. There will also be exclusive show offers, innovative product launches and items not available on the high street.

In addition, spectacular features will impress

visitors such as the in-built show homes and gardens, inspirational room sets and a relaxing Champagne Bar.

There will also be two interactive theatres, hosting a variety of talks and demonstrations from experts who are at the top of their game. The Interior Styling Stage will offer visitors inspiration and encouragement to take home new ideas, while the new Home Improvements Theatre will see talks on all things self-build, from planning advice to renovation tips.

Lastly, celebrity chefs and more industry experts will also be on hand to share their knowledge and skills through thousands of demonstrations and workshops. Among them, Katie Piper continues as the Ideal Home Show Fashion & Beauty Ambassador, George Clarke will be giving his top tips for home improvement projects and Money Saving Expert Martin Lewis will share his invaluable expertise with visitors to the show.



The Ideal Home Show will run from 24 March – 9 April at Olympia. Book your tickets now by calling **0844 858 6763** or visiting **[www.idealhomedshow.co.uk](http://www.idealhomedshow.co.uk)**

# Natural living

Interior designer at Stovax Hannah Stone sheds some light on some key emerging trends in interiors, which are all about embracing nature

Taking inspiration from the world around us is a time-tested way of making your home truly yours. This idea of embracing nature is one of the most popular interior design trends for this year – which is great news for self-builders. Why? because this trend is intrinsically linked with a homebuilder's goal: to create something new and fresh, from natural materials and textures. This earthly idea is inspiring home builders to bring the outside inside, and reflect their living space with the natural world that surrounds it.

When taking the time and effort to design your own home, you want to make sure as much attention is spent on the interior as the exterior. Which is why it's so important to think about how you want your home to look and feel, and begin building around that. One way of harnessing this idea is to use the setting of a truly natural entity, a fireplace, as a centre point in your space – here, I've outlined some of the best ways to embrace the latest in interiors trends.

## Eco design

The overall themes for this season feed off each other and interlink – but it really all begins with a general focus on the natural world. Using textures and shapes from our environment is key, as well as reflecting that eco mindedness within the rest of your space. Consider how you power your home and what resources you'll be using – can you display that idea in your interiors as well? A visible fire can really make a room feel at one with nature.

A log store also adds a rustic aesthetic as well as functionality, even if you will be relying on gas. Stack them any which way you want – this trend is all about being informal and relaxed



People are getting bored of things being so structured – they want free flowing patterns and textures

– but I like to make them into a feature piece. Try displaying them on a neutral shelf, and add this season's latest must-have items: copper or marble accessories with organic shapes.

## Aquatics and botanicals

This bohemian design approach of embracing nature is all about bringing the outside in, taking inspiration from far off lands, bodies of water and lush forests. I've been working with a deep blue/green palette recently, inspired by Dulux's Colour of the Year, 'Denim Drift.'

To adopt this trend, create a statement: use powerful navy blue shades on your walls with warm overhead lighting in a copper finish for a



## Blues don't have to be cold

great contrast. Or, team up multiple shades of blue and grey to mimic the colours of the ocean. Thanks to a revival of 20s style with its metallic

and mirrored surfaces, you can offset some of these bold colours with a glint of light and space from a copper or glass frame. With this trend you want to welcome the natural elements with a fire with a clear flame picture – find a style with non-reflective glass.

Botanicals will also feature heavily this season. One of the easiest ways to incorporate this leafy trend into your home is by adding a range of natural materials into the space. Add drama

by using green accents to bring excitement to a neutral room, or create a statement feature with slate or marble tiles – these kinds of natural textures are exactly the sort of earthy look set to be popular this season. Think marble, wood, glass, wool, cork or rattan – all of these textures can be mixed and paired together to create contrast and depth. Try pairing this season's aquatic colour palette with muted woven, rattan accents and earthy ceramic accessories.



## Rustic chic: a Cornish loo with a view

If you watch *Poldark*, you'll recognise the rustic cliffs surrounding model-turned-property developer Charlotte Thomson's loo with a view, a great example of rustic chic. Bought for £115,000 and renovated from an old WC into a rustic two bedroom luxury holiday home, Harbour Lights channels the organic shapes and white washed scenery that frames it, bringing the Cornish landscape right through its front doors.

### How did the project start?

"My partner Joey has always been involved with property in some form or another – I often get dragged along to derelict water towers, tin mines, coastguard huts and other unusual buildings that come up for sale... Hence why we ended up buying a toilet at auction!

"The guide price was £75,000-£90,000, and we had agreed between us to go not a penny more than £95,000. However, I got a bit carried away and told Joey to just "do what it takes" – I wanted that toilet!"

### The house has quite a rustic feel – were there any must-have interior features?

"We really wanted to use some ancient reclaimed wood as feature walls to get a real earthy, natural feel, so I suppose the rest of the furnishings and finishes adapted from that. We needed to keep the furniture light and airy, quite minimalistic and reflective, because the wood on the walls is rather dark. The one thing that was a must was a wood burner, especially with the property being so close to the sea – it's so romantic."

Enq. 171



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## BLANCO supplies in new inspirational space



The Home Space from Express is a unique 27,000 square foot showroom space featuring three full-sized display homes along with inspiring room sets. Designed for anyone who aspires to extend their home with a new beautiful space, The Home Space in Leeds provides all the answers under one enormous roof. As the leader in sink, tap, and waste technology and design, BLANCO was a natural partner. Included in the BLANCO products on show in eight kitchen displays are undermount sinks, the BLANCO ELON and CLARON sinks and the CARENA tap, along with innovative waste solutions. Each customer, however, has the option to choose from BLANCO's entire range.

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## Shaws double bowl sink



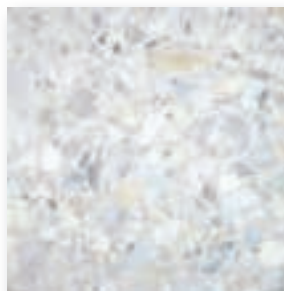
For a typically traditional style kitchen the Shaws fireclay compact double bowl sink comes with a central dividing wall and is the perfect choice for a busy kitchen looking for a traditional multi-purpose sink. The Classic double is available in both white and biscuit finishes and available in 800 and 1000mm sizes. The sink has a round overflow and 3½" waste outlets to accommodate basket strainer or waste disposer. These distinctive Shaws fireclay ceramic sinks require bespoke

cabinetry and it is recommended that they should be professionally installed. Visit the website to view the complete range of sinks, taps and accessories.

01254 775111 [www.shawsofdarwen.com](http://www.shawsofdarwen.com)

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## Inspirational marble from COMPAC



COMPAC has just launched new marble colours to complement its inspirational range of technological marble for use on walls, floors and vanity tops. Classic colours offer four stunning designs with a coarse grain pattern – Classic White (featured), Classic Grey, Classic Beige & Classic Brown. New Greys colours feature three on trend designs, each with a fine grain pattern – Aluminium which is suitable for interior and exterior use, Palladium & Anthracite for interiors.

COMPAC offers a range of finishes including polished and matt. Technological marble is a product of exceptional beauty with the appearance and feel of marble but delivering higher performance values.

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## Brochure gives landscapers new secret weapon



Updated and refreshed from top to bottom, Brett Landscaping, have launched their Garden & Drives 2017 aimed at supporting merchants and contractors selling into the homeowner audience. The brochure provides comprehensive guide to the stylish and innovative products and services available from Brett next year. Gardens & Drives 2017 has been designed to be of maximum benefit to consumers facing difficult decisions over their landscaping requirements.

The brochure provides clear and concise information as well as high quality imagery to show the Brett product range with new clarity.

0845 608 0570 [www.brett paving.co.uk](http://www.brett paving.co.uk)

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## Jonathan mark GARDEN DESIGN



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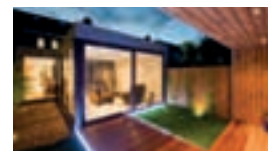


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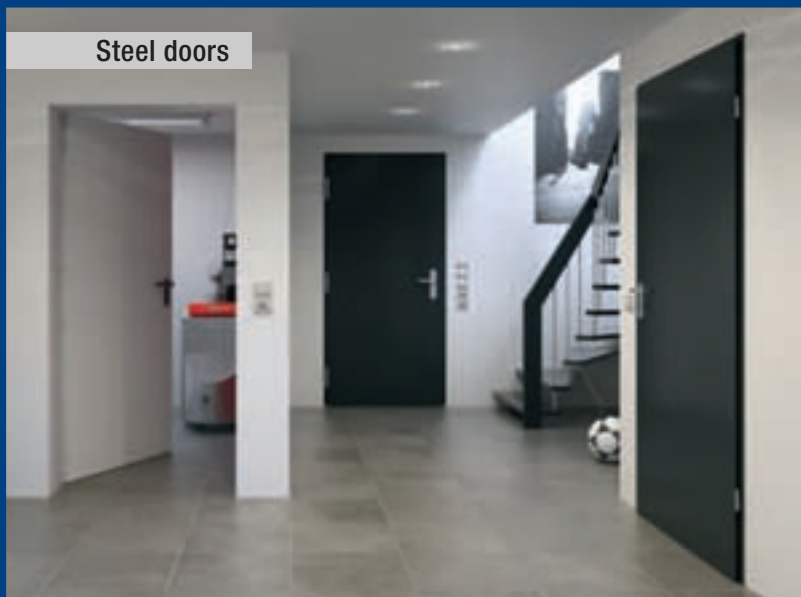
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## Self-build made simple

The National Homebuilding & Renovating Show returns with its largest exhibition ever at the NEC Birmingham from 23-26 March



There are more people looking for a home in the UK than there are houses to choose from, according to the latest RICS UK Residential Market Survey. In addition, monthly house buyer demand has risen by 10 per cent since October, outstripping supply. To help address this shortfall, The National Homebuilding & Renovating Show is gearing up to return to the NEC in Birmingham from 23-26 March 2017, sponsored for the first time by Everest.

Over the last couple of years, the UK's largest self-build exhibition has grown by over 10 per cent and is expected to grow by a further five per cent this year, hosting 16 free seminars and masterclasses and accommodating over 500 companies that have already signed up from a multitude of sectors including kitchens, heating, flooring and structural systems.

Nick Noble, deputy managing director of Centaur Home Interest Media, says: "We are expecting more growth in visitor and exhibitor figures at the national event compared to last year's shows. This prediction is based on our



strategic marketing activities and the information we're continuously updating, and also because of the increasing unmet demand in the UK's property market. This year, we've also signed a key partnership with Everest, a trusted British brand which will support our presence in Birmingham, Glasgow, Surrey, Edinburgh and Harrogate. As a result, our upcoming exhibitions are already attracting companies from all around the UK."

The Homebuilding & Renovating Shows, part of Centaur's portfolio, attract exhibitors across a wide range of sectors to cater for all interests. From design, architecture, financial services, kitchens, bathrooms, doors and windows, ventilation, heating, planning permission and much

more, companies will offer visitors an overview of the latest products, services and technologies available in the UK market.

The show's resident DIY Doctor, Mike Edwards, will be returning to host live demonstrations to inspire visitors to take matters into their own hands and address some of the key aspects of their projects without the help of a contractor. He will prepare tutorials on topics ranging from installing insulation to coating walls, which will help transform a home into a better place to live and encourage both men and women to roll up their sleeves, which will ultimately save time and money.

The exhibition will also feature an Advice Centre. This hub will host the Ask the Expert

zone, where people can attend a 15-minute consultation via interactive sessions with some of the UK's resident property specialists including Michael Holmes, Charlie Luxton and Jason Orme.

In addition, it will also provide access to the Ask an Architect area, where chartered specialists from RIBA (Royal Institute of British Architects) will offer free one-on-one appointments covering topics including Building Regulations and structural engineer calculations for loft conversions, extensions, internal alterations, new builds and more.

For practical recommendations, the Advice Centre will be introducing an Ask a Builder zone, where members of the Federation of Master Builders will be offering visitors tips on effectively finding vetted and approved construction workers to commission for a project.

During the event, The National Homebuilding & Renovating Show will also support and raise awareness of a new legal duty within the Housing and Planning Act 2016, dubbed the 'Right to Build', which commenced on 31 October 2016. Through this, the local planning authorities in England have to ensure the delivery of sufficient serviced building plots to meet local demand for self-build and custom build homes.

Visitors who are at the start of their property ventures will be advised by experts on their legal rights and guided on how to find and apply for a plot of land, a step which will significantly influence the pace of their projects.



Standard tickets for the show are £12 in advance or £18 on the door (children under 16 go free). For further information visit [www.homebuildingshow.co.uk/national](http://www.homebuildingshow.co.uk/national) or call the ticket hotline on 0844 854 0503

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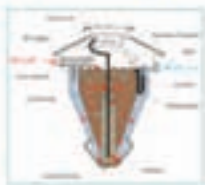


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## Galvanised steel rainwater systems from Rainclear



Rainclear Systems' galvanised steel rainwater systems – a sensible alternative to uPVC. The initial outlay is slightly higher but with stylish looks that last, it is durable, lightweight and easy to fit, 100 per cent recyclable, with six stylish colours in stock for next day delivery, coming as it does with a 15yr manufacturer's product warranty and a 20 per cent larger capacity than comparable systems to cope with the worst British weather, it makes perfect sense to get in touch by email or free

phone number to request a sample or visit the website and get an extra 10 per cent in our January sale.

0800 644 44 26 [www.rainclear.co.uk](http://www.rainclear.co.uk)

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## Yeoman Rainguard's XL Aluminium for new build



Yeoman Rainguard's XL Aluminium rainwater systems were chosen for Bridge House, a stunning new build property in Norfolk. XL Aluminium 75mm diameter downpipes along with 125 x 100mm MOG gutters, finished in a black textured polyester powder coating, were installed on the property. The powder coating finish ensures that the pipes and guttering will offer years of maintenance free service. Not being susceptible to colour bleaching the coating eliminates the need for any repainting and keeps the system looking pristine many years down the line. For more information contact Yeoman Rainguard.

0113 279 5854 [www.rainguard.co.uk](http://www.rainguard.co.uk)

NHB&R stand no C121

Enq. 187



## Handmade bricks at Homebuilding & Renovating show

Self-builders can find out more about the importance of bricks and how to add character and value to their projects on the Imperial Bricks stand E204 at the Homebuilding and Renovating Show, 23rd-26th March. At the NEC in Birmingham, visitors can ask experts for advice about bricks for new build, renovation and restoration projects. Imperial Bricks offers the widest range of traditional handmade, wirecut, pressed and reclamation bricks available from a single supplier in the UK. Its full range of 35 bricks, with many available as brick slips, will be on display. In addition, complementary products including natural slate, handmade roof tiles, stone paving, sleepers, oak flooring, reclaimed building materials, Yorkstone and architectural salvage will also be available to purchase. This means self-builders can source many of the materials required for a new-build or renovation project from just one supplier. In addition, Ruth Hughes, specification manager at Imperial Bricks will present the seminar, 'How to choose the right brick for your restoration, renovation or new build project' on March 23rd at 3:30pm in the Masterclass Theatre. Ruth explains: "This is an ideal opportunity for self-builders to find out more about regional variations in brick size, colour and texture and to choose the right bricks for their projects." Visitor tickets are £12 in advance or £18 on the day.

01952 750816 [www.imperialbricks.co.uk](http://www.imperialbricks.co.uk)

NHB&R stand no E204

Enq. 188

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Enq. 190



# Creating a home fit for tomorrow

Richard Hayward of Legrand takes a look at how technology can support not only homeowners' currently fast-changing lifestyles but also those of future generations



Understanding the needs and wants of a growing and diverse population is imperative for our future housing stock, whether building single or multiple dwellings. The importance of macro issues such as our changing demographic can and should impact a home's design.

The UK's population is transforming before our eyes and the impact upon everything from our homes to building stock and infrastructure must be reflective of the changing needs of society. In 2014, the UK population stood at 64.6 million – the third largest population in the EU – according to the Office of National Statistics (ONS). Growth can be influenced by a number of factors such as births, deaths and the volume of people entering and leaving the country, but it is projected to slow over the coming decades.

While many self-builders may not see this as an issue for their own new development, what's important to consider is how their home will support their future needs. By 2039 it is estimated that almost 25 per cent of our total population will be over the age of 65. At the same time, the UK death rate has continued to fall over the last two decades.

Understanding how each and every core population group uses the home should be key in a property's design. Themes such as security and accessibility may become more important, just as entertainment solutions and lighting requirements may alter.

Understanding the core demographics of the country is important in order to clearly understand the varying needs of the population – and your family – and, therefore, the design of homes and technology to meet these needs. Technology is just one incredibly important factor, particularly when we consider the volume of internet-enabled devices in our homes and

how this is impacting upon family life.

According to Ofcom, most 16-24 year olds watch programmes on demand rather than at the official scheduled times – TV viewing is in decline. For future home designs this figure is interesting, as it highlights a potential decline in families getting together in front of the television, and an increasing focus on mobile devices that can be used throughout the home. This doesn't necessarily herald the end of the living room, more the need for flexibility as we grow to understand more about consumer behaviours in the home.

The mass adoption of internet-enabled devices is a fascinating driver for design and underlines the increasing relevance of technology in our homes today and tomorrow. Particularly so when we consider the differing ways in which the population uses it. For exam-

ple, there has been a rise in home working – a recent study by the Trades Union Congress (TUC) shows that there is a quarter of a million more people working from home than there was a decade ago. Therefore, there is an increasing desire for working zones away from the main social space.

Just scratching the surface of some of these factors shows that our homes need to be more flexible in order to accommodate modern living. More than ever before, people are using technology in new ways to meet their own individual needs.

For the future, therefore, homes must be diverse in nature – responding to the changing needs of family life from birth to old age. This is where some elements of the lifetime home come into being – while nothing new, it focuses on the idea of inclusivity of design, meaning that a home can adapt to a family's needs as it grows. Another school of thinking is the idea of building a greater proportion of new homes that meet the individual needs of certain demographics, namely the over 65s. This in turn can potentially free up more existing family homes, ripe for renovation.

The All Parliamentary Group on Housing and Care for Older People has researched and documented a series of 10 design features that 'underpin age-ready housing'. From the requirement for outdoor space and natural light to high levels of efficiency, the Housing our Ageing Population (Happi) report provides a guiding note for future builds. The report also highlights the benefits that technology can bring to the home, a fact that transcends age –

Understanding how each and every core population group uses the home should be key in a property's design

More than ever before, people are using technology in a variety of ways to meet their own individual needs



enabling greater communication with the outside world, assisted living and a number of other benefits such as energy efficiency.

The role of technology therefore has great potential within our future homes – to help people live life better. Wiring integrated into the home's design from the beginning can be linked to a wide range of home automation functions, from security and door entry, to heating, fire detection and lighting control.

For the young, the key function in an automated home may be entertainment – for example the ability to stream music throughout the home via a single control panel or internet-enabled device such as a smart phone or tablet.

For families, comfort and security may be top of the wish-list, enabling the end user to answer

the door remotely via video link or via a tablet or smart phone, or to activate pre-set heating and lighting levels via a single switch.

An older resident, however, may be more interested in energy efficiency, security and the ability to upgrade the system to make it more suitable in older age, with home safety alarms or activity monitoring that allow them to live independently at home for longer.

While our basic requirements may seem the same on the surface – in terms of keeping ourselves, family and friends safe, warm and happy – there are some fundamental differences and it's important that we consider this. Building in a core electrical infrastructure should be key in all properties – a basic in the property specification. With this in place, individuals can then

pick and choose the elements that best meet their needs today, and update them tomorrow. Property design should of course be influenced by the needs of the individuals living there, but shouldn't be limited by it.

How we use our homes and technology is quite individual, so our homes should never be identical in form or function. For the self-build market, many opt to build their own homes to ensure they design a property that is unique to their requirements. However through a deeper understanding of how these needs change over time, and the potential that technology can bring, it is possible to truly build a lifetime home.

*Richard Hayward is lead marketing manager for Legrand's wiring devices business*

Enq. 191

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# LOXONE

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# Get the wow factor with smart home technology

Over the last couple of years, home technology has been referred to in a number of ways: smart home, home automation, custom installation and the integrated home.

To give a simple definition, it is the integration of technology in the home. This includes a wide range of features, such as entertainment systems, multi-room audio, lighting control, smart security, heating systems, blind control and so on. The majority of people now use some sort of technology in their life, for lifestyle and/or work. Thanks to iPhones, iPads and other devices, we as a society have never been more in tune with technology. Home technology provides a multitude of benefits to us.

The benefit of home technology is that all integrated technology can be controlled from one interface, either on control panels situated throughout the home or via mobile devices, proving the simplicity and ease of managing home technology.

From finger-tip electronic control over any aspect of your home, to pre-programmed settings that turn on your lights and unlock your doors when your car pulls in the drive, home technology is the future of 21st century homes. Capable of assisting us with everyday duties to bespoke requests, home technology is becoming the norm for homeowners up and down the country, with more and more of us installing it in our homes.

Today's integrated home allows you to control, conceal and operate electronic systems within your home as never before – this is the world of CEDIA, the leading global authority for home technology professionals, who can make this dream a reality.

## Home cinemas sweep the nation

Home cinemas are increasingly being seen as somewhat 'essential' in modern family homes and are fast becoming the new social hub for the family. Today's home cinema is multi-functional as families use the room to rekindle, bond, entertain guests and relax and unwind.

The latest trends in home cinema design are varied and dependent upon how the space is used within the home. Each household has their own preferences, and you can design your home cinema room exactly to your wants and needs.

Many homes reflect the idea of a 'Hybrid space'. This is where the media and technology is incorporated into the living space, as it still



allows room for family living and comforts, with the benefits of having access to media, sound and visuals as and when required.

However the room is used, an integrated smart home automation system is a must.

Touch panels, voice controlled systems or app controlled technology are the latest essentials to give you full control of your automated system without the need for multiple remote controls. At the touch of a button, living rooms can be transformed into a luxurious home theatre. Blinds drop, LED's dim, the large screen on the wall turns on and your favourite media all appears seamlessly through an integrated control system.

Standing out in today's competitive housing market can be difficult, so future proofing your property and offering something unique will increase its market value to prospective buyers. An integrated home cinema is an asset to any property if correctly wired and installed, even if you take the removable technology – projector, DVD player, soundbar – with you. As well as giving a property that added wow factor, a home cinema with a prewired cabling infrastructure is highly appealing to many prospective buyers.

## How CEDIA can help

CEDIA is the leading global authority in the home technology industry, representing professional designers, installers and manufacturers of smart home technology systems. All CEDIA professionals are trained in the latest technologies, design, project management, and installation techniques. Working with a CEDIA member is the best insurance homeowners have that the final system will meet their expectations, without any

unexpected setbacks. Your professional will also be able to look after your system, servicing, maintaining and upgrading the technology as required, long after your installation is completed.

## Build a relationship with a home technology professional

To ensure the best service from design to installation, it's important to build a relationship with a home technology professional from the get-go. CEDIA members are the best informed and trained in the latest technologies, design, project management and installation techniques. CEDIA members understand that technology in the home is a significant investment and will be able to advise on what technology solution is best for you and your budget.

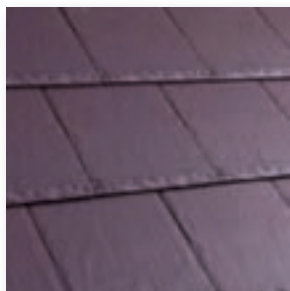
## CEDIA Finder Service

CEDIA offers a Finder Service on its website, which allows homeowners to locate their nearest home technology professional. Users can search CEDIA member companies by postcode, services, and certification. This provides the homeowners with enough information to decide who they should contact. If you are interested in finding out more on what technology is best for an open-plan space, please contact a CEDIA professional who will be able to provide you with expert advice. You can find your local CEDIA member via [www.cedia.org/find-a-edia-professional](http://www.cedia.org/find-a-edia-professional).

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## Clay leads the way – new innovative Rivius roof tile

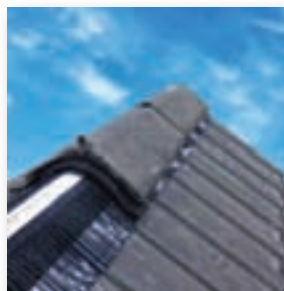


Following a growing demand for the Rivius slate range, **Wienerberger** has continued its product innovation with the development of a new colour to replicate Heather Slate – a product that boasts all the aesthetic beauty of slate, while featuring key benefits of clay such as being inexpensive to lay. As a cost effective alternative, the new Rivius Heather Slate adds to the range developed by the leading supplier of wall, roof and landscaping innovations. The new product features a riven surface and dressed edges, which provides the roof tile with an authentic appearance of a natural slate, while being made from natural alluvial clay.

0161 491 8200 [www.wienerberger.co.uk](http://www.wienerberger.co.uk)

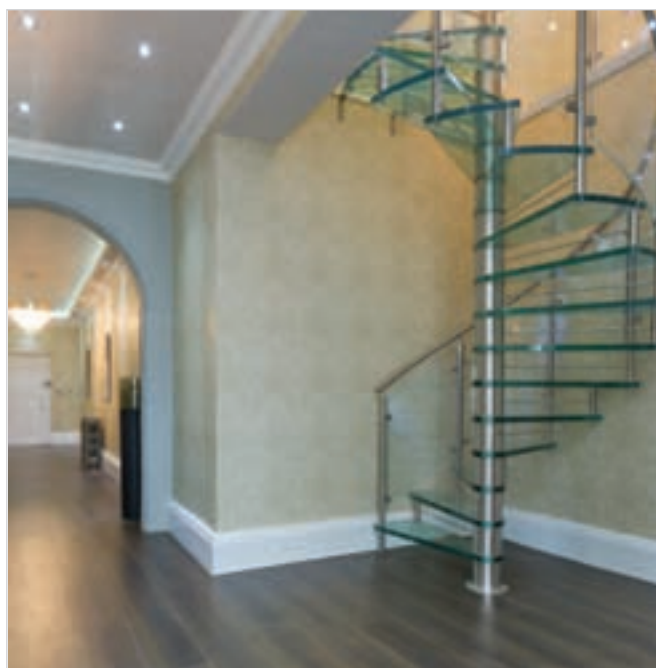
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## Klober Roll-Fix® makes dry fixing simple



The absence of a British Standard and lack of effective building control in the RMI sector has encouraged use of cheaper dry fix kits for ridge and hip. These may not contain all of the essential components and use ridge rolls with poor quality adhesive backing. The **Klober Roll-Fix®** kit not only supplies everything to fix five metres of ridge or hip (including hip trays and cro clips in the hip kit) but uses universal ridge seals for half round/angle ridges and third round/uni-angle hips. Its Butylon backing also provides an immediate, lasting bond on almost any surface. For more information, please visit the Klober website.

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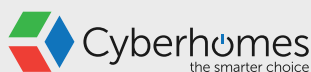
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# Bottom-line benefits

Offering even heat and better energy efficiency, underfloor heating is an increasingly popular choice for self-builds. Steve Harris of Wavin offers some advice on the practicalities

**Why install underfloor heating rather than more conventional heating methods such as radiators? What are the benefits?**

Compared to radiators, underfloor heating is a more subtle and less obtrusive solution when it comes to heating your home. More often than not, radiators are big and bulky and can therefore disrupt the overall look of any given room or space.

Underfloor heating also offers improved thermal comfort compared to conventional heating methods. Radiators, for example, use room air to transfer heat, resulting in uneven warmth and higher temperatures at ceiling height compared to floor level. With underfloor heating, the floor is gently heated by piped warm water and the heating energy is evenly emitted from the floor by natural radiation.

Likewise, the process of heat radiation helps to create a healthier living environment for occupants. The warm floor inhibits the growth of fungi and dust mites meaning less dusts circulates in the air, while maintaining an even distribution of heat.

**Is it expensive?**

Although there is an increased upfront cost to underfloor heating, it can be a more cost-effective solution in some applications. As the temperature required is lower than that of conventional heating, you could see your energy bills decrease by up to 20 per cent. If your build requires low surface temperature radiators, which are considerably more expensive than standard radiators, underfloor heating would be a cheaper option.

**What are the challenges of renovation projects for self-builders when it comes to installing underfloor heating?**

Ease of installation of underfloor heating will very much depend on what lies beneath your floorboards or carpet. For example, if your property has an old, joisted floor, installing an underfloor heating system between existing panels can be a challenge and it is likely that the new panels will need to be cut to size. Depending on when it was built, your property may also already feature a screed in which all pipework is buried, posing further challenges.

**Is it often complicated and time-consuming to install underfloor heating in a renovation, i.e. do floor heights have to be increased?**

In most instances, the existing flooring will need



to be lifted to increase its insulation value and as such, it isn't necessarily more complicated or time-consuming to install underfloor heating as part of a renovation. You can simplify the process by overlaying a system directly on top of the existing floor, however you may need to alter door heights and lift skirting boards to accommodate this. Safety is a key consideration here, especially if adjusting floor heights by stairs as this can change step heights and potentially cause a trip hazard for residents.

**How can underfloor heating be installed more quickly?**

Underfloor heating can often be less labour intensive to fit and therefore quicker than conventional heating methods. Fitting an entire

underfloor heating installation, complete with pipework and manifold, could take up to one day. Boiler connections and electrical works are then required to complete the job.

If you're installing underfloor heating as part of a floating floor where there is little height build up, the process can be very time-efficient. Panels can be laid directly on top of the existing floor and the conductor pipes and plates are simply 'walked' into pre-cut grooves.

**Does it need to be done by a specialist installer?**

You do not need a wealth of plumbing or heating experience to lay and secure an underfloor heating system. However, you should ensure all electrical works and boiler

Underfloor heating can often be less labour intensive to fit and therefore quicker than conventional heating methods

connections are carried out by qualified and reputable installers. Your new underfloor heating system will also need to be commissioned for use, and this can be carried out by a specialist engineer or certified plumber.

**I want to be able to lay floor tiles directly over my underfloor heating, is this possible?**

Tiles can often be laid directly over an underfloor heating system. If a screed has been installed then laying tiles above the system is an easy option, so long as the surface is level and flat.

**Are lightweight systems strong enough to last? What if there's a leak?**

Underfloor heating systems are available that are made from high quality insulation boards



specifically manufactured to last for the entire life cycle of a home. Such boards have a high compression value and are capable of withstanding years of footfall from residents. In the instance of a leak, an easy to install push-fit fitting can rectify it.

**What guarantees are available on systems?**

As an example, Wavin's Hep2O underfloor

heating products are manufactured under a quality management system which is approved to BS EN ISO 9001:2008. The heating and cooling pipe as well as the system's push-fit fitting are guaranteed for 100 years and 50 years respectively.

*Steve Harris is technical support engineer for Heating and Cooling at Wavin*

Enq. 199



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## Gaia allows homeowners to retire in style



Specialist retirement home developer, Beechcroft, has installed **Gaia** wet underfloor heating throughout a new scheme in the village of Theale, Berkshire. Gaia's wet underfloor heating is used in the ground floors of the five new houses to ensure warm, comfortable and energy-efficient living space, free of the clutter of wall-mounted radiators. Gaia installed the system over a total floorspace of approximately 330m<sup>2</sup> and supplied WFD digital display manual thermostats for installation in each room, ensuring maximum flexibility for temperature control. For further information on Gaia Climate Solutions, please contact the company directly.

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## Waterproofing simplified with Multi-Tight 2K



Multi-Tight 2K from **Remmers** is a new, flexible, mineral based waterproofing product which has all the performance properties of older technology polymer-modified thick bitumen emulsions, whilst being 'bitumen free'. Using unique rubber granulate filler technology Multi-Tight 2K has a crack-bridging capacity which is five times more effective than standard flexible mineral-based waterproofing systems. The versatility of the product allows it to be used to waterproof below ground externally and internally offering excellent resistance to ground or water pressure as well as frost and salts.

01293 594010 [www.remmers.co.uk](http://www.remmers.co.uk)

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## Norcros Pro 30 Fast Track Eco Levelling Compound



Norcros Pro 30 Fast Track Eco is ideal for encapsulating under-tile heating mats and cables, protecting the heating elements during the tile-fixing process. It provides a level surface for tiling and is suitable for use on timber floors which have been overlaid with 15-18mm WBP or marine-grade plywood. It is the most environmentally friendly product yet from Norcros Adhesives, being made from recycled crushed glass, rather than quarried sand. It is a flexible, single-part leveller

that's suitable for use from 2mm to 30mm in a single application, without the need for additional aggregate.

01782 524140 [www.norcros-adhesives.com](http://www.norcros-adhesives.com)

Enq. 203

## Terraxx takes the pressure



Efficient protection and drainage for basements and flat roofs is offered by the high density polyethylene Terraxx range from **Delta Membrane Systems**, which is featured in a brochure from the company. The brochure shows how the two-ply sheet is a highly efficient protection and drainage system, and offers an 'all-round' solution for horizontal and vertical applications on compression-resistant substrates. With its fused-on polypropylene geotextile and integrated self-sealing edge, the

product offers the functions of a protection, filtration and seepage layer, making it particularly suitable for herbaceous roofs. For more information, please visit the Delta Membrane Systems website.

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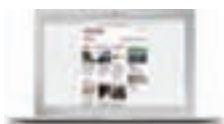
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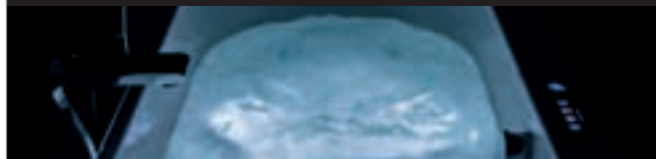


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**NSBRC (National Self Build & Renovation Centre)**  
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[www.nsbrc.co.uk](http://www.nsbrc.co.uk)

## AIR CONDITIONING & VENTILATION

**EnviroVent**  
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[www.envirovent.com](http://www.envirovent.com)

## ARCHITECTURAL IRONMONGERY

**Ironmongery Direct**  
0808 1682288  
[www.ironmongerydirect.com](http://www.ironmongerydirect.com)

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**Abtech Basement Systems**  
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[www.abtechbasements.co.uk](http://www.abtechbasements.co.uk)

## BATHROOMS & SHOWERS

**Better Bathrooms**  
0844 4847678  
[www.betterbathrooms.com](http://www.betterbathrooms.com)

**Matki**  
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[www.matki.co.uk](http://www.matki.co.uk)

**Hansgrohe**  
01372 465 655  
[www.hansgrohe.co.uk](http://www.hansgrohe.co.uk)

**Victoriaplum.com**  
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[www.victoriaplum.com](http://www.victoriaplum.com)

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**Hultafors**  
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www.kloeber.co.uk

**Velfac**  
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www.velfac.co.uk

**Swish Window and Door Systems**  
0808 178 3040  
www.swishwindows.co.uk

**Apropos**  
0800 328 0033  
www.apropos-conservatories.com

**Jeld-Wen**  
0845 1222890  
www.jeld-wen.co.uk

**Internorm Windows UK**  
02082 059991  
www.internorm.co.uk

## FASCIAS & SOFFITS

**FasciaExpert.co.uk**  
01254 918005  
www.fasciaexpert.co.uk

## FINANCE & INSURANCE

**Self-Build Zone**  
0345 230 9874  
www.selfbuildzone.com

## FIRES & FIREPLACES

**Capital Fireplaces**  
01462 813138  
www.capitalfireplaces.co.uk

**Opies**  
01245 468977  
www.john-opie.co.uk

**SpecFlue**  
0800 902 0220  
www.specflue.com

## FLOORS & FLOORING

**Bona**  
01908 525 150  
www.bona.com

**Floors Of Stone**  
01509 234000  
www.floorsofstone.com

## FURNITURE

**Vitra**  
01235 750990  
www.vitra.com

**Herman Miller**  
0845 2267202  
www.hermanmiller.co.uk

## GARAGE DOORS

**Discount Garage Doors**  
01691 670394  
www.discount-garage-doors.co.uk

**Hormann (UK)**  
01530 513000  
www.hormann.co.uk

## GLASS & GLAZING

**Saint-Gobain Glass UK**  
01977 666100  
uk.saint-gobain-glass.com

## GREEN ROOFS

**Optigreen Ltd**  
0203 5899 400  
www.green-roof-online.co.uk

## HEATING & PLUMBING

**Uponor**  
01455 550355  
www.uponor.co.uk

**21st Century Radiator Company**  
01767 627500  
www.21stcenturyradiators.com

**Discounted Heating**  
0844567 8884  
www.discountedheating.co.uk

## HEAT PUMPS

**Spirit Heat Pumps**  
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www.spiritsolar.co.uk

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www.iceenergy.co.uk

## INSULATION

**Superfoil Insulation**  
01636 639 900  
www.superfoil.co.uk

**Insulation Giant**  
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0870 7770099  
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www.poggenpohl.com

**Rangemaster**  
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**Shaws of Darwen**  
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www.shawsofdarwen.com

## LAUNDRY CHUTE SOLUTIONS

**GED Chute Solutions**  
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www.potton.co.uk

**Scandia-Hus**  
01342 838060  
www.scandia-hus.co.uk

**Davinci Haus GmbH & Co. KG**  
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www.davinci-haus.com

**Hanse Haus**  
0845 6589780  
www.hanse-haus.co.uk

**Flight Homes**  
01787 222336  
www.flyhthomes.co.uk

## PLANT, TOOLS & EQUIPMENT

**Brandon Hire**  
0870 5143391  
www.brandontoolhire.co.uk

**Machine Mart**  
0844 8801250  
www.machinemart.co.uk

## PUMPING STATIONS

**J T Pumps**  
0844 414 5800  
www.jtpumps.co.uk

## ROOFING & CLADDING

**Tata Steel (Corus)**  
01904 454600  
www.tatasteel-europe.com

**Greys Artstone**  
01484 666400  
www.greysartstone.co.uk

**Hoppings Softwood Products**  
01992 578877  
www.timber-cladding.co.uk

## ROOFLIGHTS

**Vision Rooflights**  
01162 791900  
www.visionrooflights.co.uk

## SOFTWARE

**Eleco**  
02074 228000  
www.eleco.com

**House Builder XL**  
0845 1234065  
www.hbxl.co.uk

## STAIRS & STAIRCASES

**Meer End Staircases & Joinery**  
01676 534226  
www.meer-end.co.uk

## STONEWORK & MASONRY

**Mandarin Stone**  
01600 715444  
www.mandarinstone.com

## STRUCTURAL INSULATED PANELS (SIPS)

**SIPS Eco panels**  
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www.sipsecopanel.co.uk

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**Caravan Hire UK**  
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www.goldensandscaravans.co.uk

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**Oakwrights**  
01432 353353  
www.oakwrights.co.uk

**Carpenter Oak & Woodland**  
01225 743089  
www.carpenteroakandwoodland.com

**Silva Timber Products**  
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www.silvatimber.co.uk

**Osmo UK**  
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www.osmouk.com

**Neatwood Homes**  
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www.neatwoodhomes.co.uk

**Carpenter Oak**  
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www.carpenteroak.com

**Maple Timber Frame**  
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**Taylor Lane**  
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www.taylor-lane.co.uk

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www.nuheat.com

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