



GHA Site Visits 2010

September 2nd: BSRIA, Bracknell

September 14th: Creative Energy Homes, Department of Architecture and Built Environment, University of Nottingham

September 15th: Joseph Rowntree Housing Trust, York

September/October (tbc): Gentoo's Passivhaus, near Sunderland



Background

This series of site visits for GHA members in late summer 2010 will provide an opportunity to visit sustainable homes that are under construction or were recently completed. The wide variety of sites demonstrates the diverse approaches that leading edge sustainable developers are taking, and each one encompasses the various aspects of sustainability that need to be considered for truly Good Homes.

The combination of presentations and site tours will explore:

- How have alternative building systems and materials been used?
- How has this affected skills and methods of contracting on site?
- What lessons have been learned from procurement and site practice?
- What impact has this had on waste, money and building performance?
- What about the wider issues of community, neighbourhoods and the local environment?

At this series of GHA visits we'll be investigating how the developers have adapted their construction processes to deliver sustainable housing. Each event will also include short presentations on the use of new building systems and materials, how these can be insured and incorporated into developments, and the approaches being adopted to monitor performance.

Who should attend?

GHA members, developers and housebuilders, who are interested in seeing how the planning, procurement and design of sustainable homes affects aspects of building systems and construction on site. The event will also be of interest to those in the region with an interesting in seeing different examples of sustainable housing delivered in practice.

The information will be shared through presentations and through informal discussion. This will include the developers and their teams explaining how sustainable homes have become the core focus for their business.

Numbers are strictly limited- booking is essential, and attendees must be prepared for all weathers.

Programme

September 2nd: Site visit to BSRIA, Bracknell: 15.00 to 17.00

Meet London Paddington at 13.20.
Catch 13.32 train to Bracknell station.
Refreshments from 14.30, Tour starts at 15.00

BSRIA is a test, instruments, research and consultancy organisation, providing specialist services in construction and building services. BSRIA describes itself as the leading independent UK laboratory for testing, certification and performance verification of a wide range of building services products including radiators, fans, flues, coils and boilers. Our visit will include a tour of the UKAS accredited laboratory complex, and an overview of how the performance of products such as heat pumps is measured.

BSRIA is currently involved in the monitoring of homes across the UK for the Energy Saving Trust on their solid wall insulation project and the Technology Strategy Boards 'Retrofit for the Future' competition, so the visit will also encompass a tour of the Instrument Solutions laboratory looking at their comprehensive calibration facilities.

Free to GHA members, £50 + VAT to non-members: please email info@goodhomes.org.uk to book a place

September 14th: Creative Energy Homes, Department of Architecture and Built Environment, University of Nottingham, 14.00-17.00, Nottingham

Further arrangements will be forthcoming

The Creative Energy Homes Project is a showcase of six innovative, state-of-the-art low-energy homes built at Nottingham University in partnership with a number of companies from the house-building sector. Our tour will visit several of the dwellings, and include talks from Tarmac on the Code 4 and Code 6 house, plus input from the Nottingham team.

Free to GHA members, £50 + VAT to non-members: please email info@goodhomes.org.uk to book a place

September 15th: Elm Tree Mews, Temple Avenue and Dormary Court, York with the Joseph Rowntree Housing Trust, 13.00 - 17.00
Further arrangements will be forthcoming

In partnership with the JRHT, we are pleased to offer this site visit to Elm Tree Mews, Temple Avenue and Dormary Court. Elm Tree is a development of EcoHomes Excellent standard which has benefitted from a partnership with Leeds Metropolitan by receiving forensic monitoring. Temple Avenue is built to CSH 5 and comprises two recently completed new builds – featuring Kingspan Tek and Celcon thin joint masonry - and a 1930s refurb. Dormary court is under construction and is timber frame with Hemcrete. Come and find out more.

Free to GHA members, £50 + VAT to non-members: please email info@goodhomes.org.uk to book a place

September/October (date tbc): Gentoo Group's Passivhaus, The Racecourse, Houghton-le-Spring, near Sunderland
Further arrangements will be forthcoming

Construction has now begun on 28 revolutionary low energy homes, designed and built by Gentoo, in conjunction with Devereux Architects. It is believed this will be the first certified Passivhaus scheme of this scale in the UK. It requires a quality of build not normally achieved within the UK house building industry, with stringent controls in place during every stage of construction to maximise thermal performance. With this development, Gentoo is hoping to set a precedent for the design and construction of sustainable, low carbon homes throughout the UK.



Free to GHA members, £50 + VAT to non-members: please email info@goodhomes.org.uk to book a place.