



**SOUTH EAST**  
**24-25 FEBRUARY 2024**  
**KENT EVENT CENTRE**

# Make your dream home happen

**\*PLAN YOUR VISIT**



Meet over 100 suppliers at **Build It Live** this February and find out everything you need to know about home extensions, renovations, barn conversions or building a new home.



**THE ESSENTIAL  
 EVENT FOR  
 CREATING AN  
 INDIVIDUAL HOME**

BROUGHT TO YOU BY BUILD IT INCORPORATING SELF BUILD & DESIGN

**WWW.BUILDITLIVE.CO.UK**



# Plan your visit and make your dream home happen

Whether planning an extension, renovation or building from scratch, you won't regret your visit to Build It Live. This handy guide is designed to help you plan your day (or whole weekend!) as effectively as possible, to ensure you get all the answers you need to make your dream home happen.

**Don't forget to pick up a Show Guide when you get to the event, which will give you the full list of suppliers you can meet at the show. From architects to timber frames, kitchens & bathrooms to beautiful glazing, finance, home tech and everything in between - meet over 100 of the UK's most innovative suppliers offering 1000s of products and services.**

- FIND INSPIRATION FOR YOUR DREAM HOME PROJECT
- FREE ONE-TO-ONE PROFESSIONAL EXPERT ADVICE
- 1000S OF INNOVATIVE & TRADITIONAL PRODUCTS
- OVER 100 EXHIBITORS
- THE ONE-STOP SHOP FOR SELF BUILDERS
- TOP TIPS ON EXTENSIONS AND RENOVATIONS
- VISIT THE LAND ZONE FOR ADVICE ON FINDING THE PERFECT PLOT - PLUS, SEARCH AVAILABLE PLOTS FOR SALE



**SEE OVERLEAF FOR TIMETABLES OF WHAT'S ON OVER THE WEEKEND**

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# Ask OUR EXPERTS

The Ask Our Experts lounge is many visitors' first destination at the show. Discuss your project with some of Build It magazine's regular contributors, who are all specialists in their field. Our Experts will provide you with practical, impartial advice that could be worth £1000s. Come prepared with your questions, floor plans or other documents, and take advantage of this fantastic opportunity. **N.B. Slots can only be booked on the day, not in advance.**



## CHRIS BATESMITH CONTENT DIRECTOR, BUILD IT

Chris has dedicated the last 15 years to writing about self build and is a champion for pushing the boundaries of self build in the UK. Chris is a trained site-carpenter and recently project managed Build It's very own self build project - the Build It Education House.

## JULIA RIDDLE PLANNING

Julia is a planning consultant with over 15 years of experience in a variety of planning work, including advising on, and achieving, planning permission for residential developments on a range of scales. She has been involved in writing guidance on custom and self build, to inform the national planning approach and has been specifically advising self

## GERALD COLE SELF BUILD

Gerald Cole is an experienced self builder and was the launch editor of SelfBuild & Design magazine. He has over 25 years' experience providing detailed practical advice, based on his own genuine home building experiences, and is the author of Build Your Own Brick House.

## TOM MCSHERRY FINANCE

Tom has worked in the financial services industry for 28 years - 15 of those specialising in self build mortgages and finance at BuildStore, providing expert advice to hundreds of customers embarking on major home building projects. Tom has completed two major home building projects himself and is widely regarded as a self build finance expert.

## OPINDER LIDDAR ARCHITECTURE & DESIGN

Opinder is a Build It Award-winning architect and a director at Lapd Architects. He specialises in self-build homes and renovation projects. Opinder is a regular expert at the National Self Build & Renovation Centre as well as the Build It Live exhibitions. He is also the design brains behind the Build It House.



## ALAN TIERNEY PERIOD PROPERTIES & RENOVATIONS

Alan is a period property and building conservation specialist. Until recently he ran an historic buildings consultancy offering hands-on advice to heritage homeowners, but is now focussed on his current project: renovating a grade II\* listed cottage.

## NIGEL GRIFFITHS ECO HOMES

Nigel advises on sustainable new build, retrofit of existing buildings and renewable energy. He is a consultant advising UK and overseas governments, and until recently was Director of the Sustainable Traditional Buildings Alliance. He is also the author of the Haynes Eco-House Manual.

## MARTIN GAINE PLANNING

Martin is a chartered town planner, founder of planning consultancy, Just Planning, and author of How To Get Planning Permission - An Insider's Secrets. He champions homeowners in the planning system, helping them to solve sticky planning problems, get planning permission, win appeals and deal with enforcement issues.

## JULIAN OWEN ARCHITECTURE & DESIGN

Julian Owen is Build It's design doctor and is a self build architect with his own practice. He is the founder of the Association of Self Build Architects. Over the years he has written a number of books on the subjects of self build, alteration and extensions, loft conversions and timber frame buildings.



**BOOK YOUR SLOT EARLY  
TO AVOID MISSING OUT!**

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# SEMINAR THEATRE

**9 FREE SEMINARS  
EACH DAY**

Our series of free seminars are developed by Build It's editorial team and our panel of experts to ensure all common questions are covered and to give you the knowledge to take control of your project. Please ensure you turn up promptly to get a seat. The programme is repeated each day.

**10.20**

## **A STEP BY STEP GUIDE TO SELF BUILD**

Discover the pros and cons of building your own home. Build It's self build expert explains the process - from finding land, to setting a budget, designing your dream home and finding a builder.

**11.00**

## **DESIGNING YOUR DREAM HOME**

Getting your design right is the essential element in creating your dream property. Architecture expert Opinder Liddar discusses how to plan and realise a home that works for you and your family, whether you're looking to renovate, extend or build from scratch.

**11.40**

## **PANEL SESSION: ECO HEATING DEBATE**

In this lively session, sector specialists will argue the pros and cons of various home energy solutions, from heat pumps to gas boilers.

**12.20**

## **RENOVATING A HOME WITH CHARACTER:**

**UPDATING AN OLD HOUSE FOR MODERN ECO LIVING**

Period property specialist Alan Tierney gives advice on the potential minefield of renovating or converting existing homes, including older houses.

**13.00**

## **HOW TO ADD MORE SPACE & VALUE**

Design expert Julian Owen identifies the best value-adding projects for existing homes, from extensions through to loft conversions, and helps you to assess which option best suits your family's needs.

**13.40**

## **PANEL SESSION:**

## **THE PERFECT WAY TO BUILD YOUR HOME**

**- PLUS THE GREAT BUILD SYSTEMS DEBATE!**

Uncover the pros and cons of the most popular construction systems in the UK: timber frame, brick & block, SIPs and ICF. A build systems expert discusses which structural option will suit your design, plot, budget and energy efficiency requirements.

**14.20**

## **THE DIFFERENT ROUTES TO MANAGING YOUR PROJECT**

What are the routes you could take to build, renovate or extend your own home? Our project management expert explains what's involved in running the project yourself - from purchasing materials and hiring tradesmen to finishing on time and on budget! He'll also guide you through the other routes available and how costs vary.

**15.00**

## **BUILDING A SUSTAINABLE HOME**

Our eco specialist, Nigel Griffiths, talks through everything you need to know about creating a low-energy home that's cost-effective to run - including why it's important to get the house's 'fabric' right before you invest in renewable technologies and what you need to consider during the construction stages.

**15.40**

## **HOW TO FIND LAND AND GET PLANNING PERMISSION**

Your dream home starts with obtaining planning permission. Our plot and planning gurus guide you through the essential elements from submitting an application and gaining consent to appeals and tips on dealing with planners. They also give invaluable advice on finding a plot of land.

FOR FULL PROGRAMME & TIMES VISIT [WWW.BUILDITLIVE.CO.UK](http://WWW.BUILDITLIVE.CO.UK)



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# WORKSHOP PROGRAMME

**20** FREE WORKSHOPS

Whatever your question, you're bound to find the answer at one of our free workshops. Presented by leading suppliers and specialists, each session focuses on specific problems and choices that self builders and renovators face every day. Arrive early to get a seat!

## SATURDAY 24 FEBRUARY

- 10.30** Heat Pump Benefits & Which Type is Best for My Home? - SGS Energy
- 11.00** Protect Your Project: Why Insurance & Warranties are Must-Haves - Protek
- 11.30** Triple Glazing - The Best Option to Meet Future Homes Standard - Internorm
- 12.00** Funding Your Self Build & Renovation Plans - Buildstore
- 12.30** **Real-Life Project: Martin Gurnett's Barn Conversion in Essex**
- 13.30** Benefits of Natural Insulation for Your Home Building Project - Unity Lime
- 14.00** Extend Your Home: The Modern Way to Add Space & Value - EcoHUP
- 14.30** Home Renovations: How to Assess & Value a Project - Collier Stevens
- 15.00** Right to Build: New Routes to Finding Land for Your Dream Home - Custom Build Homes
- 15.30** Passivhaus: Design & Build Your Timber Frame Eco Home - MBC Timber Frame
- 16.00** Basement Benefits: The Best Ways to Add High-Quality Living Space - Surrey Basements

## SUNDAY 25 FEBRUARY

- 10.30** Finding Land: What Makes a Good Plot? - PlotBrowser
- 11.00** Glazed Doors: Benefits of Lift & Slide Door Systems - Internorm
- 11.30** Self Build Insurance: Protecting Your Build Now & in the Future - Self-Build Zone
- 12.00** Funding Your Self Build & Renovation Plans - Buildstore
- 12.30** **Real-Life Project: Freddie Pack's Countryside Self Build Home in Kent**
- 13.30** Self Building Your Dream Home in Kent - Orchard Farm
- 14.00** Windows & Energy Performance: Why Good Design, Detail & Installation are Key  
- Green Building Store
- 14.30** Extending Your Home: Design Ideas & Practical Steps to Success - Paul Archer Design
- 15.00** VAT Reclaims: How to Save £10,000s on Your Self Build or Conversion Project  
- Andrew Jones the VAT Man
- 15.30** How to Find a Quality Builder - Build It



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\*THE ORGANISER RESERVES THE RIGHT TO CHANGE  
THE PROGRAMME AT SHORT NOTICE

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# BUILD IT'S SELF BUILD TRAINING TASTER SESSIONS



At the exhibition, you can enjoy some taster sessions of Build It's Self Build Virtual Training courses. The interactive series of online courses are presented by Build It's expert contributors and Potton's highly experienced self build team. Take a seat to get an understanding of how the training courses can help you with your project. Build It Live features short, 20-minute taster sessions of the courses. **You can also pick up a special discount for the courses!**

## SATURDAY 24 FEBRUARY

- 11.00** Project Management Routes & Steps to Success
- 12.00** Got Planning?  
How To Move Your Project Forward
- 14.00** What You Can Do Without Planning
- 15.00** Is a Heat Pump Right For You?

## SUNDAY 25 FEBRUARY

- 11.00** Introduction to Self Build
- 12.00** Got Planning?  
How To Move Your Project Forward
- 14.00** What You Can Do Without Planning
- 15.00** Is a Heat Pump Right For You?

FOR MORE INFORMATION AFTER THE SHOW GO TO [WWW.BUILDIT.CO.UK/TRAINING](http://WWW.BUILDIT.CO.UK/TRAINING)

## VISIT OUR HANDY DROP-IN CLINICS FOR FREE INFORMATION AND ADVICE

### HEATING ADVICE CLINIC

If you're looking for a heating system for your project, then you know there are a myriad of options. Visit our Heating Advice Clinic to help you decide on the best heat source for your home. From gas boilers (mains & LPG), oil boilers, ground source, air source to solar, come and discover the pros and cons, and talk to our heating expert.



### BASEMENT ADVICE CLINIC

Building a basement is a cost effective way to create high-quality space ... and to beat the planners! In Europe they are common place, but here we've overlooked this opportunity for too long. Visit the Basement Advice Clinic to discover how it could give you the extra space you need.



### EXTENSION ADVICE CLINIC

If you love your current home, but want to add more space, then an extension might be the right route for you. When executed properly, extensions can add thousands to your property's worth. However, sometimes obtaining planning permission for your extension can be tricky. Visit the Extensions Clinic at the show for professional one to one advice!



### BUILD COST CLINIC

Getting a grip with what your self-build or renovation project is likely to cost will help you focus your design choices, check builders' quotes and may even save you money! Visit the Build Cost Clinic for free advice!



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# SELF BUILDERS'

## OWN STORIES LIVE

Visit the Workshop Theatre at the times below to hear successful self build stories from the self builders directly. Hear these self-builders' true stories and gain practical knowledge and tips to help you with your project.

### SATURDAY

**12:30**

#### MEET MARTIN GURNETT

More than 40 years after Martin Gurnett's father built an atcost barn on the family farm in Essex, Martin and his wife Fiona Jenkins converted the structure into a contemporary home. Utilising brick and block, as well as an impressive zinc roof, the home is modern and striking while respecting and referencing the building's origins at every turn. Hear from Martin as he shares the couple's story.



### SUNDAY

**12:30**

#### MEET FREDDIE PACK

While living in a tiny cabin on the family farm, Freddie and Katie Pack saved up to build their dream eco home on a plot a few fields away. Opting for a timber and steel frame, the couple created a stunning, open-plan and fuss-free property that has plenty of wow-factor, both inside and out! Plus, thanks to a fabric first approach, their new home is cost-effective to run. Hear from Freddie as he discusses the ins and outs of the project.



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# SO MUCH UNDER ONE ROOF!

MEET THE UK'S MOST INNOVATIVE SUPPLIERS  
OFFERING 1000s OF PRODUCTS & SERVICES...

From new and cutting-edge to classic and traditional, there's plenty at the show to suit your style (and your budget!)

- Architects & Designers
- Bathrooms
- Bricks & Masonry
- Central Vacuum Systems
- Conservatories & Outbuildings
- Design & Build Home Packages
- Doors & Windows
- Eco Products
- Exterior Finishes
- Finding Land
- Folding Sliding Doors
- Heating & Ventilation
- Home Security
- Home Technology
- Insulated Concrete Formwork (ICF)
- Insulation & Sound Proofing
- Insurances & Warranties
- Interior Fixtures & Finishes
- Kitchens
- Lighting & Electrics
- Lofts & Basements
- Project Managers & Professionals
- Rainwater Harvesting
- Renewable Energy
- Roof Structures & Coverings
- Self Build Mortgage Specialists
- Staircases
- Structural Insulated Panel (SIPs) Manufacturers
- Timber & Stone Flooring
- Timber Frame Specialists
- Underfloor Heating

## DON'T MISS...



### ● HEATING ADVICE CLINIC

By popular demand, visit our Heating Advice Clinic to help you decide on the best heat source for your home.

### ● BUILD COST CLINIC

Discuss your project with one of our Estimators to better understand how much it will cost to build the home of your dreams.

### ● STRIKING GLAZING OPTIONS

Meet a host of glazing manufacturers demonstrating a huge range of bifold & sliding doors, windows & rooflights. From kitchen extension to a whole new build, create a wonderfully bright and airy home!

### ● EXTENSIONS CLINIC

If you love your current home, but want to add more space, then an extension might be the right route for you. When executed properly, extensions can add thousands to your property's worth. However, sometimes obtaining planning permission for your extension can be tricky. Visit the Extensions Clinic at the show for professional one to one advice!

### ● LAND ZONE

Make sure you visit the Land Zone, brought to you by PlotBrowser - the online portal dedicated to real building plots. Here, you'll be able to discover the various routes to finding the right plot. Gain valuable tips for finding land and browse real, available plots currently on the market.

### ● BUILD SYSTEM OPTIONS

Meet the widest range of exhibitors specialising in each of the key construction methods for self build, helping you assess the right route for you.

### ● BASEMENT ADVICE CLINIC

Building a basement is a cost effective way to create high-quality space ... and to beat the planners! In Europe they are common, but the UK has overlooked this opportunity for too long. Visit the Basement Advice Clinic to discover how it could give you the extra space you need.

### ● THE SUSTAINABLE BUILDING PRODUCTS PAVILION

Whether building from scratch or renovating an old house, if you want a truly sustainable, healthy home, then every aspect of your project needs to be considered in detail - from low-energy design strategies through to the products and finishes that go into both the structural fabric and the internal fit-out.

### ● DESIGN KNOW-HOW

Meet a wide range of Architects and Designers offering free advice & inspiration to guide you to the home of your dreams.

### ● SELF-BUILDERS' OWN STORIES LIVE

Gain inspiration and confidence from Build It readers who have realised their self-build dreams. Hear their stories in the live theatre on the show floor.

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# LAND ZONE

FIND  
YOUR  
PLOT

## @ Build It Live

Make sure you visit the Land Zone, brought to you by PlotBrowser – the online portal dedicated to real building plots. Here, you'll be able to discover the various routes to finding the right plot for your build. The Land Zone will offer valuable tips for finding land, and you'll be able to browse live listings currently for sale, in order to secure your very own piece of land.

### SO MUCH TO THINK ABOUT!

There is a lot to consider when hunting for a plot of land to build your dream home on.

Does the plot have planning permission granted? If so, what type of planning permission – detailed with specifics in place or more flexible outline permission?

When does the planning permission expire, or has it already done so?

And so the list of considerations goes on.

### LAND-FOCUSED SEMINARS AND ADVICE

At the show, we have seminars and expert one-on-one advice dedicated to this first stage of your self build. Don't miss the Seminar Stage at 15.40 each day for "How to find land and getting planning permission".

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# WHERE TO FIND US!

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## BOOK IN ADVANCE

Don't forget to print  
your tickets or bring  
on your phone/device



## OPENING TIMES:

Saturday 24th February **10:00am to 5:00pm**  
Sunday 25th February **10:00am to 4.30pm**

**LOCATION: KENT EVENT CENTRE, KENT SHOWGROUND, DETLING, ME14 3JF**

## Getting to the show this weekend

The Kent Event Centre is located within the Kent Showground and is close to the M2, M20 and M25.

The first section of the southbound link (A429) from the M2 to the M20 is closed this weekend, so approach the Showground via Junction 7 of the M20, or Maidstone, to avoid a 15-minute diversion via the A229. Exiting the show will not be affected and no traffic problems are anticipated.

## FAQs

- Unlimited free parking is available next to the indoor exhibition halls
- There is a wide range of drinks plus hot & cold meals at the catering outlets within the halls
- Children go free and do not need a ticket
- You may use your tickets for both days
- Animals are not allowed inside the venue other than registered assistance dogs



**VISIT THE BUILD IT  
BOOKSHOP AT THE SHOW**

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offers plus a wide  
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