

REINVENTING PRACTICE

GUERRILLA
TACTICS



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CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

REINVENTING PRACTICE

Monday 9 November – Friday 13 November 3.30–5.30pm

“How we spend our days is, of course, how we spend our lives” – Annie Dillard

While the art and craft of architecture is greatly rewarding, the pressures of professional practice can impinge significantly on the work-life balance and quality of life of many architects. The pandemic has forced us to stop in our tracks and provided an opportunity to re-assess the way we live and work. Profound change suddenly seems more possible than before. And in the face of an uncertain economic outlook, the most agile and resourceful practices are best positioned to weather any storm.

Held entirely online, the conference highlights opportunities for architects to broaden their reach and influence, investigates alternative business models designed to share profits and responsibilities more equitably, and explores new locations of innovation, while offering practical tips and strategies for working smarter, thereby freeing up architects time.

CPD PROGRAMME

Monday 9 November – Friday 13 November 9.00–12.30pm

Mornings are dedicated to a diverse offer of CPD seminars covering all ten RIBA Core Curriculum topics, with a particular emphasis this year on sustainability, online working and communications delivered by expert practitioners.

Seminar 1: 9.00 – 10.00h

Seminar 2: 10.15 – 11.15h

Seminar 3: 11.30 – 12.30h

Sessions designed to help architects gain the skills needed to practice sustainably include Rory Harmer's 'Beginners' Guide to Passivhaus Projects', Tomas Gaertner's introduction to 'Building Biology Principles', and Ben Hopkins 'Tips for Reducing Your Building's Embodied Carbon'. As a low carbon material, Amin Taha's 'Building with Stone' joins the ranks.

Ever more relevant in today's online-only working world are 'Getting on Top of Your Digital Marketing' by Ayo Abbas and Susie Lober, and tips for 'Working Well Together Remotely' offered by Kate Marks.

Featured essential core topics include: the RIBA Health and Life Safety Competency, an Update on Building Regulations including Fire Safety, and not least an Introduction to the RIBA Plan of Work 2020. To find out more about these and other topical seminars, please see the detailed CPD Programme from p.10.

REINVENTING PRACTICE

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME 9–13 November

Monday:	Making Projects Happen
Tuesday:	Alternative Practice Structures to Build Resilience
Wednesday:	The Rural as the New Location of Innovation
Thursday:	Office Systems for Small Practices: Finding the Goldilocks Zone
Friday:	The Craft of Making: Occupying the Gap Between Design and Construction

MONDAY 9 NOV

15:30-15:40	Welcome and Introduction of the day's topic Tomas Millar, Creative Director
15:40-16:00	Keynote: Tapping into the Software of the City Charles Landry, International Cities Adviser
16:00-16:10	The Architect's Superpower – An Anthropological Study Dr. Thomas Yarrow, Durham University
16:10-16:30	Behind the Scenes of Granby Four Street Xanthe Hamilton, Steinbeck Studio
16:30-16:50	Building the Vision and Connecting the People Melissa Mean, We Can Make, Bristol
16:50-17:10	The Power of a Big Idea Jeremy Alain Siegel, BIG
17:10-17:30	Panel Discussion chaired by Charles Landry All speakers
17:30	Closing words Tomas Millar, Creative Director

TUESDAY 10 NOV

15:30-15:40	Welcome and Introduction of the day's topic Tomas Millar, Creative Director
15:40-16:05	Connecting with your Social Purpose as an Employee Benefit Trust Catherine Ramsden, The Useful Simple Trust
16:05-16:30	Pioneering the Co-operative Practice Model Katie Reilly, Transition by Design
16:30-16:55	Stronger Together – Sharing Resources and Collaborating within the London Practice Forum Russell Curtis, RCKa
16:55-17:25	Panel Discussion chaired by Tomas Millar All speakers
17:25-17:30	Closing Words Tomas Millar

WEDNESDAY 11 NOV

15:30-15:40	Welcome and Introduction of the day's topic Tomas Millar, Creative Director
15:40-16:00	Keynote: Rural Innovation Niall Maxwell, Rural Office for Architecture
16:00-16:20	Housing System for a Highland Vernacular Alan Dickson, Rural Design
16:20-16:40	The Rural as a Place of Production Fergus Feilden, Feilden Fowles
16:40-17:00	Leveraging Paragraph 79 for Affordable Rural Homes Sarah Broadstock, Studio Bark
17:00-17:25	Panel Discussion chaired by Niall Maxwell Featuring all speakers. Opportunity for audience questions
17:25-17:30	Closing Words Tomas Millar

THURSDAY 12 NOV

15:30-15:40	Welcome and Introduction of the day's topic Tomas Millar, Creative Director
15:40-16:05	Crafting Digital Tools Dan Sutch, CAST
16:05-17:10	Office Systems – Finding the Goldilocks Zone Interactive Workshop led by Tomas Millar. With contributions by: Jake Edgley, Edgley Design Claire Fear, Thread George Legg, Millar + Howard Workshop
17:10-17:25	Q&A
17:25-17:30	Closing Words Tomas Millar, Creative Director

FRIDAY 13 NOV

15:30-15:40	Welcome and Introduction of the day's topic Tomas Millar, Creative Director
15:40-16:00	Why We Make Piers Taylor, Invisible Studio
16:00-16:20	Cultures of Making Naeem Biviji and Bethan Rayner, Studio Propolis
16:20-16:40	Crafting Automation Mollie Claypool, Automated Architecture
16:40-17:00	Innovations in Timber Construction Charley Brentnall, Xylotek
17:00-17:25	Exploring the Gap Between Design and Construction Panel discussion
17:25-17:30	Summary of the Conference Tomas Millar, Creative Director

WELCOME

Why We Are Here

Tomas Millar
Creative Director, Guerrilla Tactics 2020
@tomasmillar

What I love about Guerrilla Tactics is that it connects with what is happening on the margins, with people who are doing things differently. It gives you permission to explore. With this year's programme I would like to invite architects to celebrate our skills and the power of great design, but also to apply their creativity beyond the narrow definition of the profession.

In some ways we want certainty at this time and not rock the boat too much, but the world is changing and there are opportunities to move towards a way of practicing that better connects with our passions and our beliefs. The conference is an invitation to come join the conversation if you feel things could be done differently.

On Monday we will hear from speakers who are initiating their own projects and connecting more closely to the communities they build for. On Tuesday we will be exploring the benefits of alternative practice structures and practice to practice resource sharing in uncertain times. Wednesday's programme is dedicated to investigating the emerging opportunities in rural locations that are rising to the fore thanks to remote working. Thursday's workshop will give viewers an opportunity to assess what office systems and digital tools are right for their business needs, and the potential of AI to relief architects of many of the mundane administrative tasks.

The conference concludes with a session on the Craft of Making – exploring how traditional crafts and digital technologies can occupy the gap between design and building and help empower architects to be more at the heart of construction. Each speaker, in their own way, is thus adding to the building blocks of a reinvented practice and demonstrating that while we are part of the system, we are in turn all building the system together.

I hope you enjoy the conference

Tomas Millar

Tomas Millar
Director, Millar + Howard Workshop
@mhworkshop

Tomas lives and works in the Stroud Valleys in Gloucestershire. Co-founder of Millar + Howard Workshop, Tomas has found considerable success in practice, winning awards and founding a business spin-off for custom build development, all while exploring the scope for digital technologies to transform everyday practice. In his early career, Tomas started out with a direct relationship to materials and craftsmanship, building treehouses with his business partner Tom Howard. More recently, he has pioneered the use of technologies such as Virtual Reality and Photogrammetry in architecture to help the practice connect more with their clients. Tomas is currently undertaking a one-year data fellowship through the South West Creative Technology Network and Bath University and is exploring the use of AI in the practice of architecture.

DAY 1 15.30-17.30

MAKING PROJECTS HAPPEN

As the future economic outlook appears uncertain, practices that are able to not only wait for enquiries but help make projects happen will have a distinct advantage. Projects are often born of the vision and determination of one or a few individuals. Those who have the ability to inspire others and the grit to see the project through both the good and the hard times. This role can be played by many people from the client to a project manager, however, architects are in a perfect position to take on this role themselves or provide invaluable support to someone else who does. Executing this role is not easy – it involves employing a wide range of skills. However, the rewards are that you get to set the foundations and values of the project and to initiate new work.

15.40 Keynote: Tapping into the Software of the City

Charles Landry
International Cities Adviser
@LandryTweet

Charles Landry is an international authority on the use of imagination and creativity in urban change. He is currently a fellow at the Robert Bosch Academy in Berlin. Charles helps cities make the most of their potential by triggering their inventiveness and opening up new conversations about their future. His aim is to help cities become more resilient, self-sustaining and to punch above their weight. His recent book *The Civic City in a Nomadic World* highlights his concepts of 'civic urbanity', the 'creative bureaucracy' and 'the management of fragility'.

16.00 The Architect's Superpower – An Anthropological Study

Dr. Thomas Yarrow
Associate Professor in the Department of Anthropology,
Durham University

Thomas Yarrow is a social anthropologist whose work focuses on the social life of expertise. He is particularly interested in everyday interactions through which professional knowledge is produced, and the personal and ideological commitments that propel this work. For his book *Architects: Portraits of a Practice*, Yarrow turned his attention to the team members of the Millar + Howard Workshop.

16.10 Behind the Scenes of Granby Four Street

Xanthe Hamilton
Founding Director, Steinbeck Studio
@SteinbeckStudio

Xanthe started out as a documentary filmmaker, later initiating an arts and film festival on Jersey which she ran for six years. Concerned about the lack of affordable housing in the UK and the failure of various renewal schemes, Xanthe brought together a social investor, Granby 4 Streets

Community Land Trust, Liverpool City Council, architects Assemble and other partners to refurbish derelict Victorian terraced houses in Toxteth, Liverpool, herself acting as Project Manager for the Community Land Trust. In 215, Assemble received the Turner Prize for this project.

16.30 Building the Vision and Connecting the People

Melissa Mean
Project Lead, We Can Make, Bristol
@MelissaMean

Melissa manages the Arts Programme at Knowle West Media Centre (KWMC), a digital arts charity based in Bristol. KWMC supports people in developing ideas about social change, and prototyping new approaches to addressing people's needs and aspirations. Melissa develops exhibitions, installations and artist residencies. She produces a wide range of digital, photographic and film projects, and explores the role that the arts can play in business development, social activism and regeneration.

16.50 The Power of a Big Idea

Jeremy Alain Siegel
Associate, BIG
@BIGstertweets

Jeremy has been working with Bjarke Ingels and BIG since the establishment of its New York office in 2010, bringing a focus on issues of urbanism, landscape, infrastructure, and climate change. Jeremy led the BIG team in its winning 'Big U' proposal for the U.S. federal Rebuild by Design competition. He leads on urban design for the subsequent East Side Coastal Resiliency project and other complex planning efforts. Jeremy is a Forefront Fellow with the NYC Urban Design Forum and has taught widely including at Cornell and the University of Pennsylvania.

17.10 Panel Discussion chaired by Charles Landry

DAY 2 15.30 – 17.30

ALTERNATIVE PRACTICE STRUCTURES TO BUILD RESILIENCE

All directors of small practices know the pressures of juggling a score of responsibilities at once: winning work, keeping on top of the cashflow, wearing the hat of Project Architect and Head of HR, and trying to find the time to plan for the future of the business while busy with the daily grind. It is not a surprise that many are losing the joy of architecture. But does it have to be that way? In this session we will explore the benefits of alternative practice structures, as well as emerging models of collaboration between practices for the purpose of sharing resources and balance uneven workloads. Given the heightened uncertainty of a post pandemic economy, can practice collaboration help to reduce overheads, avoid redundancies, and enable practices to win bigger jobs together?

15.40
Connecting with your Social Purpose as an Employee Benefit Trust

Catherine Ramsden
Deputy Chair of the Board, The Useful Simple Trust
@UST_London

Catherine founded Useful Studio in 2013 following a long career spanning sustainable planning and design in California and later on work at Foster and Partners in London focusing on public housing, education and infrastructure projects. The studio is a recognised Social Enterprise and seeks to improve social value in all their work through lean and circular design with maximum community benefit. Catherine also serves on the Board, as Deputy Chair, of the Useful Simple Trust, a multi-disciplinary business of architects, engineers, communication designers and sustainability consultants with a shared mission to trail blaze for people and planet. Using the business to do good, they are an established EBT (Employee Benefit Trust) and a pending B Corp.

16.05
Pioneering the Co-operative Practice Model

Katie Reilly
Architect, Transition by Design
@TransitionbyD

Transition by Design is an RIBA Chartered Practice and registered cooperative based in Oxford and specialising in ecological architecture, community engagement, citizen-led and participatory design, action research and community-led housing. Katie combines her architectural expertise with her understanding of community-led design and co-production, working on Transition by Design's action research on housing and homelessness to better inform the design and delivery of the practice's architectural projects. As a member of the cooperative, Katie keeps on top of their finances in her role as the Finance Lead.

16.30
Stronger Together – Sharing Resources and Collaborating Between Practices

Russell Curtis
Director, RCKa
@russellcurtis @rckarchitects

Russell is a founding director of RCKa, a London based architectural practice that specialises in innovative residential, community and commercial projects. RCKa was winner of the RIBA London Emerging Practice of the Year in 2015, has won a RIBA National Award for its TNG Youth & Community Centre in Lewisham as well as two Housing Design Awards. Russell is founder of the London Practice Forum, a founding member of Project Compass CIC which campaigns for better procurement of public buildings, a trustee of the Architecture Foundation, and a Mayor's Design Advocate.

16.55
Panel Discussion chaired by Tomas Millar

DAY 3 15.30 – 17.30

THE RURAL AS THE NEW LOCATION OF INNOVATION

Since the industrial revolution, the world has experienced an ongoing trend to urbanisation. However, in an increasingly digital world is the significance of the rural shifting? Since the lockdown there has been a surge in interest for rural locations as people discover that they can work remotely. Also as a location of production and distribution the rural is gaining increasing importance. Will this lead to a new rural boom? What does this shift mean for ex-urban opportunities and rural architecture? We speak to architects who have been working in rural locations for years about why they can be considered a breeding ground for architectural innovation. We will hear about how certain building types and land uses are more feasible in a rural location and how practices can position themselves to access new work.

15.40
Keynote: Rural Innovation

Niall Maxwell
Principal, Rural Office for Architecture
@Rural_Office

Niall is an architect, strategist and masterplanner with over 25 years of professional experience in practice. He is the principal of Rural Office for Architecture based in West Wales, best known for winning the RIBA House of the Year in 2017. Niall has spent the past 15 years working in rural contexts across Wales and England, designing individual homes as well as developing arts venues, cultural centres and university facilities. He lectures widely and has held teaching positions at UCL and Cardiff Universities, and currently Falmouth University. Recently, he hosted a series of global conversations called 'The Rural Condition', exploring the pleasures and pitfalls of living and working in a rural setting.

16.00
Housing System for a Highland Vernacular

Alan Dickson
Director, Rural Design

Alan is a co-founder and Managing Director of Rural Design. Alan is also co-founder of RHOUSE, a Skye based pre-fabricated housing company. Starting out as a print boy in a Glasgow architectural practice, he took a circuitous and lengthy route to qualification. A love of the West Highlands led to Skye, and the foundation of the practice together with life partner Gill. Alan is a frequent lecturer at universities and other institutions, and has acted as an advisor to local and national government planning policy development and training.

16.20
The Rural as a Place of Production

Fergus Feilden
Director, Feilden Fowles
@FeildenFowles

Fergus is passionate about working with enlightened clients to create shared visions and de-livering complex and challenging projects. Current commissions include the first new building at Carlisle Cathedral for over 300 years, a masterplan for Yorkshire Sculpture Park and the National Railway Museum in York. Fergus led on the design of the Weston, a new gallery and visitor centre at Yorkshire Sculpture Park, which won RIBA Yorkshire Building of the Year, an RIBA National Award and was shortlisted for the Stirling Prize. He has lectured widely, is a RIBA Awards judge and visiting professor at Sheffield University.

16.40
Leveraging Paragraph 79 for Affordable Rural Homes

Sarah Broadstock
Architect, Studio Bark
@StudioBark

Sarah has been a member of Studio Bark since 2017, where she has designed a number of rural homes under Paragraph 79 of the National Planning Policy Framework. As the focus of the Studio shifts, Sarah is helping develop alternative ways of running an architecture business, often using a rural site in Worcestershire as a base. Previously, Sarah worked with local authorities and community groups across Yorkshire and managed the Yorkshire Design Review Panel. This provided a valuable framework for understanding planning processes, policy and the complexities of delivering high quality spaces.

17.00
Panel Discussion chaired by Niall Maxwell

DAY 4 15.30 – 17.30

OFFICE SYSTEMS FOR SMALL PRACTICES:
FINDING THE GOLDBLOCKS ZONE

In challenging times, the way you run your practice behind the scenes can become critical to survival. Selecting the right tools to handle the mundane administrative tasks can be invaluable in saving time and money. However, with so many different approaches – from running the practice on a couple of excel spreadsheets to investing in heavy duty project management software – how do you decide what is appropriate for your business? Where is the Goldilocks Zone that allows practices to harness their data to improve their business and find more time to spend on design? In this session we will hear from architects who have adopted a range of approaches from off-the-shelf solutions to developing bespoke software. Creative Director Tomas Millar will guide viewers on a journey to help you decide on the digital strategy that works best for your practice.

15.40
Keynote: Crafting Digital Tools

Dan Sutch
Director, CAST
@dansutch

Dan is Director of the Centre for the Acceleration of Social Technology (CAST), an organisation set to drive social change through digital technology. He works with funders, investors and mission driven organisations to use digital technologies to address big social challenges. Before leading CAST, Dan was behind the funding and investment strategy at Nominet Trust. Prior to that he was Head of Development and Senior Researcher at edtech innovator Futurelab. Dan is currently focusing on addressing the systemic challenges that stop socialtech ventures from scaling, and is exploring new models of using digital technology for the public good.

16.05
Office Systems – Finding the Goldilocks Zone (Interactive Workshop)

Jake Edgley
Director, Edgley Design
@edgleydesign

Jake founded Edgley Design in 2004 while building his first home, Secret House, and this dual approach to architecture and development has remained his focus ever since. Before starting his own practice he worked at Foster and Partners as well as Squire and Partners. His designs have won numerous awards and have been widely published. Jake is interested in supporting design-led architecture and currently sits on the RIBA Small Practice Expert Advisory Group. Jake is a regular awards judge and has judged RIBA London awards.

Claire Fear
Founding Director, Thread Architects
@Thread_tweets

Claire is a Founding Director of Thread Architects and Accredited Conservation Architect, skilled in identifying the significant characteristics and fabric of heritage sites, with a strong empathy for client needs. Following an imaginative and contemporary design ethos she aims at uniting conservation integrity, contemporary function and an environmental focus. Currently concentrating on significant industrial heritage sites, Thread facilitates a collaborative and reflective studio environment. The practice operates transparently with all staff, regularly reviewing the design and operation of the business itself as much as the architecture and research projects.

George Legg
Associate Architect, Millar + Howard Workshop
@mhworkshop

George studied Architecture at the University of Sheffield and the Bartlett School of Architecture. Since qualifying with distinction, he developed his knowledge of sustainable construction techniques and green building legislation in practice and by gaining an MSc in Environmental Design and Engineering at the Bartlett. While working at Facit Homes, he designed digitally manufactured timber frame dwellings. George has a particular interest in the way in which simple digital tools can help manage data and inform decision-making processes. Since joining Millar Howard Workshop, George has been overseeing the systems and internal operations of the company, streamlining working practices and improving productivity.

17.10
Q&A led by Tomas Millar

DAY 5 15.30 – 17.30

THE CRAFT OF MAKING: OCCUPYING THE GAP
BETWEEN DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION

In recent years, much of the profession has been growing ever more distant from the construction process and consequently lost influence as well as opportunities for young architects to learn the skills needed to reverse this trend. However, many smaller practices are using their passion and knowledge of making to engage with the built environment in ways which are simultaneously ancient and new. Not only does this afford greater creative control, getting involved in the making can also make a smaller project stretch further by increasing the architect's fee. At the other end of the spectrum, automation is beginning to enter the construction industry - with 3D printed concrete buildings, robotic bricklayers and factory produced homes. As architects, how can we actively steer automation in a direction that benefits communities and creates agency at a grass roots level rather than take it away?

15.40
Keynote: Why we Make

Piers Taylor
Founder, Invisible Studio
@invisiblstudio

Piers Taylor is the founder of architecture practice Invisible Studio, an inaugural studio master at the AA for the Design & Make Programme, a former Design Fellow at the University of Cambridge, an anniversary scholarship PhD Candidate at the University of Reading, and an external examiner at the Arts University, Bournemouth, as well as the convenor of Studio in the Woods. He has presented several architecture shows on television including BBC programmes The House that £100k Built and The World's Most Extraordinary Homes.

16.00
Cultures of Making

Naeem Biviji and Bethan Rayner
Founders, Studio Propolis

In 2005 Bethan Rayner and Naeem Biviji, partners in life and work, co-founded Studio Propolis, a design studio based out of Nairobi, Kenya and the North-West of England. Working across disciplines and scales, they use their workshop studio to produce a diverse body of work ranging from prototyping and making small runs of their own furniture to architecture commissions. Their wood and metal working workshop forms the core of their studio's practice, and their ability to continually test ideas through prototyping and production underpins their methodology. They value curiosity and experimentation and their approach favours working with local materials to produce paired back, precisely crafted yet highly tactile pieces and spaces.

16.20
Crafting Automation

Mollie Claypool
Director, Automated Architecture
@mollieclaypool

Mollie Claypool is an architecture theorist focusing on the future of automation in design production and issues around social justice including the future of work, platforms and circular economies. She is Director of Automated Architecture (AUAR), a design and technology consultancy based in Bristol and London, and a Lecturer in Architecture at the Bartlett School of Architecture. There, she is Co-Director of AUAR Labs (previously Design Computation Lab) and Coordinator of History & Theory in MArch Architectural Design.

16.40
Innovations in Timber Construction

Charley Brentnall
Co-founder, Xylotek

Charley Brentnall is an internationally recognised leader in timber construction and conservation. With work spanning four decades and continents, he has developed a unique approach which combines intimate understanding of material with the ability to lead the delivery of large and complex timber structures. As the founder of Carpenter Oak and Woodland in 1987, Charley pioneered the renaissance of timber-framing in the UK and became the country's leading expert in traditional construction. His work has since evolved to embrace new technologies and he seeks, as a founder of Xylotek, to marry a deep understanding of wood with the opportunities of advanced fabrication.

17.00
Panel Discussion chaired by Piers Taylor



Seminar 1: 9.00 – 10.00h

Seminar 2: 10.15 – 11.15h

Seminar 3: 11.30 – 12.30h

GUERRILLA TACTICS

CPD PROGRAMME 9–13 November

MONDAY 9 NOV	
09.00–10.00	Curating Co-Design Processes Matthew Springett and Fiona MacDonald, Matt + Fiona
10.15–11.15	Guide to Accessing R&D Tax Relief for Architects Reena Champaneri, BDO; Will + Tom Wimshurst, Wimshurst Pelleriti
11.30–12.30	Navigating Contract Administration Christopher Reeves, Reeves James Solicitors
TUESDAY 10 NOV	
09.00–10.00	What Recent Changes to PD Rights and Use Classes in England Mean for You and Your Clients Tom Davies, Jennie Baker and Owain Nedin, Lichfields
10.15–11.15	What non Conservation Architects Need to Know About Heritage Projects Sarah Morrison, Feilden + Mawson; Helen Axworthy, R H Partnership Architects; Paul Chatham, Peregrine Bryant Architects
11.30–12.30	Working Well Together Remotely: A Guide for Practice and Team Leaders Kate Marks, Evolution HR
WEDNESDAY 11 NOV	
09.00–10.00	Update on Building Regulations including Fire Safety Mark Taylor, Allies and Morrison
10.15–11.15	Introducing the RIBA Health and Life Safety Competency Dieter Bentley-Gockmann, EPR Architects
11.30–12.30	Building Biology Principles for Healthy Buildings Tomas Gaertner, SE3Design

THURSDAY 12 NOV	
9.00–10.00	Introducing the RIBA Plan of Work 2020 Dale Sinclair, AECOM
10.15–11.15	Beginner’s Guide to Passivhaus Projects Rory Harmer, Tate Harmer
11.30–12.30	Rebooting your Comms for a New Reality Dominic Morgan, ING Media
FRIDAY 13 NOV	
09.00–10.00	Getting on Top of your Digital Marketing Ayo Abbas, Abbas Marketing; and Susie Lober, LO Marketing
10.15–11.15	Tips for Reducing Your Building’s Embodied Carbon Ben Hopkins, Bennetts Associates
11.30–12.30	Building with Stone Amin Taha, Groupwork

DAY 1 09.00–12.30

09.00–10.00 Curating Co-Design Processes

Matt + Fiona
Matthew Springett, Architect; Fiona MacDonald, Educator
RIBA Core Curriculum: Architecture for social purpose/ Inclusive environments
@MattFionaBUILD

Dedicated to giving young people a say in shaping their built environment and empower them to bring their vision to life, architect-educators Matt and Fiona have built up an extensive catalogue of creative collaborations with children and students across the UK, in close liaison with their local communities. Having garnered the attention of Mikhail Riches, they are now embarking on a collaboration for client York City Council's new sustainable housing programme. In this session they will share their approach to facilitating engaging and inclusive co-design processes. This session is for architects and other design professionals seeking to involve young people or other community stakeholders in a meaningful way. User-led design not tick box exercise!

10.15–11.15 Guide to Accessing R&D Tax Relief for Architects

Reena Champaneri, Will and Tom Wimshurst
Manager, BDO; Directors, Wimshurst Pelleriti
RIBA Core Curriculum: Business, clients and services
@WimsPell @bdoaccountant

A mainstay of the Guerrilla Tactics CPD programme, each year we invite practice leaders to familiarise themselves with the scheme's qualification criteria and application process. Those who have gone through the process happily report up to tens of thousands worth of tax breaks. To qualify, you do not need an R&D team or have made a world beating invention. Join to find out if your projects would qualify (chances are, many will do). BDO's Reena Champaneri will introduce the what + how, while architect-developers Will and Tom Wimshurst share practical examples of their work which qualified for exemptions.

11.30–12.30 Navigating Contract Administration

Christopher Reeves
Construction Lawyer, Reeves James Solicitors
RIBA Core Curriculum: Procurement and contracts

Christopher Reeves will cover topical issues around contract administration and project management, appointment documents and identifying scope of duties such as inspection or supervision, managing Covid-related delays with respect to time and money and more.

DAY 2 09.00–02.30

09.00–10.00 What Recent Changes to Permitted Development Rights and Use Classes in England Mean for You and Your Clients

Tom Davies, Jennie Baker, Owain Nedin
Planner and Associate Directors, Lichfields
RIBA Core Curriculum: Places, planning and communities
@LichfieldsUK

Surrounded by (justified) controversy since their introduction some years ago, the Permitted Development Rights regime in England is once again in flux. The latest changes were introduced this September alongside an overhaul of Use Classes. Planner Tom Davies will give an overview of these and likely future changes in the context of the wider reforms of the English planning system being pursued by the Government. These include PD rights for upward extensions, replacement of commercial buildings with residential developments, and a relaxation of rules affecting the high street. Yet far from being a free for all, numerous limitations and exclusions are in place or are being introduced that architects need to be aware of, as Tom will explain.

10.15–11.15 What non Conservation Architects Need to Know About Heritage Projects

Sarah Morrison, Helen Axworthy, Paul Chatham
Associate, Feilden + Mawson; Associate, R H Partnership Architects; Senior Architect, Peregrine Bryant Architects
RIBA Core Curriculum: Conservation and heritage
@FeildenMawson @RHPartnership @PBArchitecture

Many architects work with historic buildings at some point in their career. Whether listed buildings of national significance or heritage buildings valued by a client, architects should have an awareness of the principles of conservation practice and know when to involve a specialist. Led by three highly experienced Conservation Architects, this session will highlight key tools and resources including the new appointment documents for conservation services, how to approach an assessment of the building fabric, and how to develop an effective narrative for Heritage Statements and stakeholder engagements.

11.30–12.30 Working Well Together Remotely: A Guide for Practice and Team Leaders

Kate Marks
Founder, Evolution HR
RIBA Core Curriculum: Legal, regulatory and statutory compliance/ Business, clients and services

In a world of continued home working and expectations of enhanced flexibility, practice leaders and project teams have had to adapt to new ways of working. Kate Marks, founder of Evolution HR and author of the book 'HR for Creative Companies', will remind employers of their statutory duties when staff work from home, and address the important soft skills of communicating and managing remotely. She will offer tips for practice leaders needing to manage expectations and the practicalities of flexible working, address staff's health concerns, support the team's and their own mental wellbeing, and navigate team changes.

DAY 3 09.00–12.30

09.00–10.00 Update on Building Regulations including Fire Safety

Mark Taylor
Director, Technical Design, Allies and Morrison
RIBA Core Curriculum: Legal, regulatory and statutory compliance/ Health, safety and wellbeing
@alliesmorrison

Mark Taylor will provide an update on recent changes to Building Regulations and Approved Document guidance and proposals for key changes that are expected to come into force in due course. The session will cover Part B: Fire safety, including scrutiny of the ban on combustible materials in residential buildings, proposals for updating the requirements for sprinklers and other fire safety measures. Mark will also cover updates to Part M: Access to and use of buildings, and Part L: Conservation of fuel and power and Part F, ventilation as part of the government's proposals for a new Future Homes Standard.

10.15–11.15 Introducing the RIBA Health and Life Safety Competency

Dieter Bentley-Gockmann
Director, EPR Architects
RIBA Core Curriculum: Health, safety and wellbeing/ Legal, regulatory and statutory compliance
@EPRArchitects

Author of the new RIBA Health and Safety Guide, Dieter Bentley-Gockmann will explain what to expect of the RIBA Health and Safety Test, which will become mandatory late next year. The session will also introduce the institute's guidance on personal site safety including being adequately prepared to undertake a visit safely, significant or typical hazards architects might face and how these might be managed, as well as the principals of design risk management including key duties, communication and coordination, and regulatory compliance. For competent practising architects, this will be a reminder of what you already know, and a re-affirmation that safe practice and design should be at the heart of architects' work.

11.30–12.30 Building Biology Principles for Healthy Buildings

Tomas Gaertner
Director, SE3Design
RIBA Core Curriculum: Health, safety and wellbeing/ Sustainable architecture
@se3_design

Building Biology is a standard originating from Germany which is aimed at creating healthy, people centred, environmentally and socially sustainable buildings and communities. It is not the only one concerned with health and wellbeing, but favoured by architect Tomas Gaertner for its simplicity and scientific rigour. In this session he will focus on the principles as applied to the indoor environment and occupant wellbeing, highlighting common concerns including pollutants from materials and components, acoustics, thermal comfort and wider sensory impacts. Tomas will share design strategies for improved wellbeing and point to studies which have demonstrated measurable benefits including higher productivity.

DAY 4 09.00–12.30

09.00–10.00 Introducing the RIBA Plan of Work 2020

Dale Sinclair
Director of Innovation, AECOM
RIBA Core Curriculum: Business, clients and services
@AECOM

Dale Sinclair, author of the RIBA Plan of Work 2020 Overview guidance, will explain the key changes to the framework based on feedback from over 5 years of use of the 2013 version. Digital innovation, modern methods of construction, building safety, climate change and the rise of circular economy thinking have had significant impacts on all sectors. The session will demonstrate that the updated RIBA Plan of Work remains applicable to all, while providing greater clarity for clients and project teams on a number of aspects including the delineation of work stages.

10.15–11.15 Beginner's Guide to Passivhaus Projects

Rory Harmer
Partner, Tate Harmer
RIBA Core Curriculum: Sustainable architecture
@TateHarmer

London based architects Tate Harmer are among the early adopters of the Passivhaus standard in the UK, combining high sustainability aspirations with a design-led approach. Partner Rory Harmer will introduce the benefits of Passivhaus buildings and dispel common misconceptions. He will offer practical tips for getting started for those with little to no prior experience, touching on required expertise and how to acquire it (in-house or through external consultants), design process, cost implications, construction and certification.

11.30–12.30 Rebooting your Comms for a New Reality

Dominic Morgan
Director, ING Media
RIBA Core Curriculum: Business, clients and services
@INGmedia

If you want to use communications to develop your business, your voice needs to be heard outside the architectural bubble. Think of your intended audience, who are you aiming to reach and what element of your work may be relevant to them? Leading PR and Communications agency ING Media are closely following the most talked about topics among different client groups and wider built environment stakeholders. Dominic Morgan will share insights into the changing comms landscape and discuss how architects can refocus their communications to address the pressing issues of today authentically and impactfully, demonstrating thought leadership to clients and the wider community.

DAY 5 09.00-12.30

09.00-10.00 Getting on Top of your Digital Marketing

Ayo Abbas and Susie Lober
Founder, Abbas Marketing; Marketing Consultant,
LO Marketing
RIBA Core Curriculum: Business, clients and services
@AyoAbbas @verysmallshoes

In this brave new all-digital world, using the tools of digital marketing effectively has become imperative for architectural practices. But who has the time to stay on top of the latest digital trends and to create engaging content for all possible channels? Ayo and Susie know that like most small practice leaders and sole practitioners, you likely don't. Their re-assuring message is: you don't need to be on every platform, one is enough. They will share practical tips for time poor architects including the benefits of available channels and types of content, how to create and repurpose appealing content easily, and how to benchmark your audience' engagement rate to sense check that what you are doing is working. We recommend attending this session in conjunction with Dominic Morgan's talk on Thursday.

10.15-11.15 Tips for Reducing Your Building's Embodied Carbon

Ben Hopkins
Associate, Bennetts Associates
RIBA Core Curriculum: Sustainable architecture
@BennettsAssocs

Ben leads Bennetts Associates' sustainability group and actively contributes to LETI's (London Energy Transformation Initiative) embodied carbon workstream. He will share a common sense and rules-of-thumb approach to minimising the carbon footprint of your building that does not require undertaking calculations. He will highlight common pitfalls and provide viewers with a list of intuitive questions to interrogate your choices. For those interested in going a step further, he will explain the principles of measuring the embodied carbon of building elements and flag up available resources including free-to-use databases.

11.30-12.30 Building with Stone

Amin Taha
Chairman, Groupwork
RIBA Core Curriculum: Design, construction and technology
@Groupwork_arch

Well-known for his work with structural stone and a co-curator of the recent London Building Centre Exhibition 'The New Stone Age', award-winning architect Amin Taha is on a mission to re-introduce stone to the material vocabulary of the architectural profession. Join this session for an opportunity to hear first-hand about the inherent benefits of structural stone, how to design and build with stone, associated costs, getting planning, and working with clients and contractors.



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