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SELF BUILD & RENOVATION SHOW

Following the success of last year's Self Build & Renovation Show, the National Self Build & Renovation Centre is to host its second Self Build & Renovation Show next month (Thursday 6th – Sunday 9th March 2008) offering a unique practical learning experience for anyone interested in building their dream home.

With a shortage of the right kind of affordable homes and uncertainty in the existing property market, 'doing it yourself', whether self building or renovating, to create a home that is compatible with individual lifestyles' is becoming more appealing and is a very realistic option for many people looking to get on, or move up, the property ladder. Whilst developers and housebuilders are under increasing pressure to deliver the government's new homes targets in a tough market, self builders continue to make use of the small pockets of land around the country, build quickly, and always save money.

The Self Build & Renovation Show, being held at the National Self Build & Renovation Centre in Swindon between 6th and 9th March has a unique offering to visitors – a packed programme of seminars; product demonstrations, and presentations. Visitors can get to grips with a selection of the newest technical gadgets, professional tools and accessories from Festool, sample the latest in kitchen cooking ranges and appliances from AGA and Britannia; learn about finding land, choosing finance and buying materials from self build and renovation experts, book one-to-one sessions with CAD designers and take part in practical skills workshops in plastering, bricklaying and tiling, with Trade Skills 4U.

There will also be an exclusive launch of 'Tommy's House by Potton', a new eco-friendly timber frame package range, inspired by Tommy Walsh's eco house, which he built for £60,000 in 60 days. Tommy challenged Potton, the UK's leading timber frame package company, to design an affordable, sustainable timber frame superstructure for the house. Potton was impressed with the completed house and decided to incorporate *Tommy's House* by Potton into its growing house style portfolio (details can be found at www.potton.co.uk). *Tommy's House* designer, Steven Willis, was commissioned by Potton to design a range of similar house formats, taking inspiration from

Tommy's original design, and the full range can be viewed exclusively at the National Self Build & Renovation Centre during the Self Build & Renovation Show.

Visitors to the Self Build & Renovation Show will be inspired by great ideas in design and innovation and can get the inside knowledge on everything from finding land and securing finance, to finding a builder and choosing your materials. Hosted in the unique educational setting of the National Self Build & Renovation Centre, just off Junction 16 of the M4, visitors will meet the experts who can help get property projects off the ground.

The Show's programme of seminars, presentations and product demonstrations is complemented by the National Self Build & Renovation Centre's permanent features, which include an audio-guided tour of the Renovation House, which shows how to transform an 'old wreck' to a modern home; a Trade Village, where visitors can learn about the latest products, services and technology available from over 240 leading suppliers, featuring everything from roof tiles and doors, to lighting and security; and an inspirational Potton show house, full of the latest design ideas and technology. Visitors can also get advice on finding a plot of land or renovation project with PlotSearch, explore finance options with BuildStore's unique financial services offering, and can take advantage of exclusive discounts and offers on products and materials from top builders merchant and suppliers with a TradeCard. With handy hints and straight-forward, easy to understand advice, a visit to the Self Build & Renovation Show at the Centre will ensure visitors walk away with the confidence and knowledge to unlock the potential in their home.

Tim Doherty, Managing Director of the National Self Build & Renovation Centre, comments: "Whether it's 'know how' like finding land, planning, or shopping for the right products and materials for your project, or 'show how' like plastering, and bricklaying, and tool demonstrations, we've got it covered at The Self Build & Renovation Show.

"Our Show is interactive and dynamic, and with a refreshing and entertaining mix of seminars, face-to-face consultations and live product demonstrations, we believe it's unlike any other event or exhibition. We know our visitors love to meet and talk to experts about their projects, so throughout the Show, our Centre will be packed with lots of experienced professionals and industry experts to offer advice and practical solutions. Whether you want to brush up on your practical skills, discover the latest in home appliances and tools, or build your construction knowledge, we can help make that self build and renovation journey that little bit easier."

The Self Build & Renovation Show will run between Thursday 6th and Sunday 9th March, at the National Self Build & Renovation Centre in Swindon. Entry cost £10 per adult, or £15 per couple. A limited early booking 2-for-1 ticket offer is available until the end of January – log on to www.mykindofhome.co.uk to pre-book your tickets now!

ENDS

NOTES TO EDITORS:

A half price ticket offer is available for all your readers. To arrange the offer and set up a promotion code, please contact Jaclyn Thorburn on 01506 409 466 or email jaclyn.thorburn@buildstore.co.uk

BuildStore, the company behind the National Self Build & Renovation Centre, offers an end-to-end service to the self builder and people wanting to renovate or convert an existing property. To capture this rapidly growing market, The National Self Build and Renovation Centre was opened in February 2007.

The 67,000 sq ft Centre is on a different scale to anything seen before in the UK self build and renovation sector. It has a dual role of helping to educate people interested in self building and renovating and ensuring those actively building can find all the services and materials they need.

Visitors can learn about the different stages of the self build and renovation process from the "Education Zone", which features six life-sized exhibits including, plant, groundworks, walls and roof structures. They can also find inspiration inside the Potton show home, and in the "Renovation Zone", discover techniques for renovating, with a full-sized house transformed from an 'old wreck' to a fully renovated home.

For visitors just starting their self build or renovation journey, the National Self Build & Renovation Centre can help them find a plot of land, renovation or conversion opportunities, with PlotSearch, consider finance options for their project with the in-house financial advisors, or simply get advice from the team of experts. Those actively involved in the process can take advantage of TradeCard, a unique card which offers discounted prices building materials and tool hire from leading merchants and suppliers. Plus, over 240 industry suppliers showcase their products and services in a dedicated "Trade Village", complete with a bar code system, allowing visitors to easily order brochures and further information, which will be sent to them at home.

For more information on the Tommy's House range by Potton, log on to www.potton.co.uk

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