Self-Build Homes

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Notes on contributors

**Michaela Benson** is a sociologist and ethnographer based at Goldsmiths, University of London. Underlying her research has been a long-standing interest in the intersections of space, society and the individual. She is known for her contributions to understanding privileged migration, the micro-geographies of home, belonging and place-making practices.

**Katherine Collins** is an academic and creative writer working across the disciplines of sociology and life-writing, interrogating the relationship between evocative writing, identity and inequality. She works with arts-based methods like creative non-fiction and poetic transcription. She is a visiting fellow at the Oxford Centre for Life-Writing.

**Peter de Wilde** holds a chair in building performance analysis at Plymouth University. He is an expert in building science, with a focus on thermal aspects. His particular interest is thermal building performance simulation and its use in the building services and engineering community.

**Andreas Feldtkeller** was head of the Office for Urban Restoration of the City of Tübingen, 1972–97. He oversaw the redevelopment of the historic old town, residential environment programmes and management of the French Quarter scheme. He was educated at TH Stuttgart and TU Berlin.

**Melissa Fernández Arrigoitia** is a lecturer in urban futures at Lancaster University. With degrees in urban sociology, international development, women’s studies and philosophy, she is an interdisciplinary scholar whose work focuses primarily on housing issues and critical geographies of home across the Global North and South.

**Martin Field** has been a keen advocate of community-led housing in its many forms for some considerable time, both as a practical member and supporter of different self-build projects and as a director of national organisations set up to help a variety of local projects to progress.
Elaine Forde holds a PhD in anthropology from Goldsmiths, University of London, and is part of the Morgan Academy at Swansea University. Elaine has conducted research into living off-grid in the DIY, eco-activist context. Her new research examines energy provisioning, renewable energy resources and community microgrid projects in Welsh rural villages and the African islands of São Tomé and Príncipe.

Iqbal Hamiduddin is a lecturer in transport planning and housing at the Bartlett School of Planning, UCL. He is particularly interested in the production of new sustainable settlements and urban quarters.

Emma Heffernan is a research fellow at the Sustainable Buildings Research Centre, University of Wollongong. Emma is an architect with over a decade of experience in architectural practice in the UK. She holds a PhD in architecture, design and environment from Plymouth University. Her research interests include energy efficiency in residential buildings and sustainable communities.

Julia Heslop is an artist/writer. She is undertaking a PhD in human geography at Durham University, which aims to draw lessons for the UK housing context from participatory and informal housing practices in Albania. Her art practice spans architectural installation and video and examines potentials for deep participation in recreating the urban environment.

Stephen Hill is a chartered planning and development surveyor, with over 40 years of public and private sector experience of housing, planning and delivering mixed-use development, urban extensions, new settlements and community-led neighbourhood regeneration. He is a Churchill Fellow, and has written extensively on housing, land reform, regeneration and citizenship.

Jim Hudson is currently preparing a PhD, researching the social dimensions of ageing, specifically groups of older people creating collaborative housing or ‘cohousing’ projects in Berlin. He originally trained as a building surveyor, progressing through various roles that spanned building design, construction management and urban planning.

Jenny Pickerill is a professor of environmental geography at Sheffield University. Her research focuses on inspiring grassroots solutions to environmental problems and on hopeful and positive ways in which we can change social practices. She has published three books and over 30 articles on themes around environmentalism and eco-housing.

Kathleen Scanlon is Deputy Director of LSE London. She has a wide range of research interests, including comparative housing policy.
(across all tenures – social and private rented housing as well as owner-occupation), comparative mortgage finance, and migration. **Ted Stevens** is a former award-winning journalist. After building his own home, he founded the National Custom and Self Build Association. He then managed a research project looking at how other countries support and encourage self-build. He was awarded an OBE in 2014 for his various self-build activities.