

**Green Building Encyclopaedia (GBE) [www.greenbuildingencyclopaedia.uk](http://www.greenbuildingencyclopaedia.uk) is a growing information resource about creating healthy, environmental and efficient buildings, giving you the know-how to be able to engage robustly with these and other issues and still have the freedom to make them beautiful.**

GBE includes design advice, guidance and technical detail regarding the selection, design or specification of building methods, materials, services, systems, products and whole buildings.

Your challenges include designing, choosing methods, materials; systems, products and accessories; and specifying them for building is complex.

Even more so if you are trying to ensure they are healthy, environment-friendly: indoors, outdoors and globally; and make them energy, material and resource efficient.

Choosing between them is a mind blowing complex affair that is difficult to get right.

Trying to make sense of all of this information is a challenge for architects, design professionals and constructors, it is made more complex if you are not trained in the subject, let alone self-builders BIYers, DIYers or first time clients.

If it is your own home or place of business, this is an opportunity to invest well and not penny-pinch, to create low or bill-free, healthy living and working spaces.

There are too many options and alternatives that are full of financially tempting short term compromises with long term implications.

Quantity Surveyors are well practices at helping build cheaply and will habitually use violet pricing books, to get a violet building cost plan, ignoring all the client's aspiration to invest well in a good or green building.

When tendered to violet builders, violet tenders come in above the violet cost plan and inevitable cost cutting disguised as 'Value Engineering' takes place to strip out all of the green aspirations.

The Grenfell enquiry has reported on the 'race to the bottom' of materials properties and costs; and discourages the use of Value Engineering as it is practiced in the UK.

With the right guidance multi-functional multi-property materials can be included in projects that hold there own in 'Value Engineering' exercises.

Authoritative information can also be biased due to the history of its development or its funding.

We are all surrounded by eager manufacturers or their advisory associations, all-vying for your attention.

Many have their own single system with emphasis on single-issue or single-property that top-trumps, ignores or discounts many others and their guidance will usually be against alternatives and towards that one system, rightly or wrongly.

Even in the presence of good information, there is often little joined-up bigger-picture thinking.

Storytelling is a valuable selling skill, we all need to be able to tell the difference between fact, fiction or fantasy. A challenge at the best of times.

### Your Requests

Students regularly want all the answers without the learning.

Everybody wants all the answers all in one place and GBE provides this.

### Learn about Sustainability in the built environment

Green Building Encyclopaedia Learning <https://gbelearning.com> comprises a series of online and face-to-face events, was launched in February 2020.

Since the arrival of Greta Thunberg and her behaviour change campaign, public awareness of the issues surrounding climate change and biodiversity loss have never been higher. Presenter Brian Murphy commented:

"Local authorities, universities, architects and homeowners that have declared a climate emergency, construction and property professionals, self builders and the public at large are now crying out for easily accessible green building know-how. I have already detected a marked change in the audience's demeanour. There is more focus, intention to learn and a flood of great questions looking for answers. This is so encouraging. Thank you Greta."

GBE Learning's offer includes online and face-to-face events, in order to fit in with your busy schedule:

- Webinars
- Workshops
- Exemplar Building Visits
- Learning Archive
- In-house CPDs and workshops
- 'Chosen by you' sessions

Join us on this learning programme and be 'the change that you want to see in the world'.

Brian Murphy aka BrianSpecMan is the founder of Green Building Encyclopaedia. He is a technician and architect by training, specification writer by choice, university lecturer / studio tutor, author and environmentalist by action.

