

Sustainability Explored Event Series

The Sustainability Explored event series has successfully delivered 35 events over the last 4 years across the UK. Over 1500 individuals have attended the events from over 750 organisations. The event series has been designed so that the topic is explored in a great deal of depth with the audience playing a very important interactive role within the process. A focus on true examples of practical global best practice is essential so that the audience is facilitated with useful, applicable knowledge that they can use to effect change directly in their place of work and in their greater lives. As each audience is unique with its own experiences, perspectives and skill sets, the events become a holistic learning environment where individuals develop a firm understanding of the issues discussed as they query, question and engage with the speakers of the day. All views are encouraged be they supporting or dissenting, as we see this as very important when it comes to finding the truth, especially when it comes to such a broad and complex issue as sustainability.

Jae Mather, Director of Sustainability and Co-Founder of the Carbon Free Group, designs, manages and facilitates the event series.

Jae Mather Overview

Sometimes climbing out of the valley to the surrounding hills is essential in order to get clarity and perspective. Jae Mather takes his audience on just such a journey where they get to see a huge range of other perspectives on business, government, society and the greater world. He is a sustainability specialist with a background that spans local government, central government, European Union, Multi Nationals and small to medium sized business. Originally from Canada and a world traveller he has had the privilege of visiting over 80 countries and living in 8 of them. He is a pilot, a Geographer, a Permaculturist, and with a Post Graduate in Environmental Decision Making he is outfitted with a breadth of knowledge that integrates the many complexities of Ecology, Economics, Philosophy and Political Science that are essential for truly good decisions to be made.

Jae wrote a Sustainable Procurement policy for a local authority in the UK that led to an innovation award from the European Commission. The eco-friendly cleaning contract was the first of its kind in the UK. He worked with Birmingham City Council on their Innovation in Sustainable Procurement program. As a result of this work he is now a guest lecturer on sustainable procurement at the University of Birmingham Business School Executive MBA course. Subsequently he worked as the Eco-Enterprise Manager for the Business Link Kent Eco-Enterprise Project which involved managing the UK side of a European Union Interreg 3 funded project which supported the development and growth of companies offering environmental technologies, products or services in Kent, East Sussex and the Nord-Pas de Calais region of France. This was the first sustainable business, environmental technology support project in the UK for small to medium sized businesses.

As a result of working with numerous innovative environmental companies he co-founded the Carbon Free Group which is a Sustainability Consortium of companies that are dedicated to making zero-carbon living both practical and affordable today. Its members' skills and

expertise deliver projects from an outline idea to a completed building or renovation using the best talents, technologies and designs. He has spoken at over 100 events over the last 5 years and regularly presents across the UK and Europe about a wide variety of topics that relate to practical sustainability in the real world.

Event Sponsorship

The events have been sponsored at various times by the [Bay Trust](#), [Bauder](#), [English Partnerships](#), the [Housing and Communities Agency](#), [Marchday Group](#), [Compass Group](#) (in association with [Asset Skills](#)) and all of the events in 2010-11 have been supported by the [Gateway to SusCon project](#) which is co-financed by [SEEDA](#) and the [European Social Fund](#).

Sustainability Explored Events to date:

The Pines Calyx, St Margaret's Bay, Kent.

Green Roofs Explored: 8th November 2007

Zero Carbon Houses Explored: 10th September 2008

Low Carbon Technologies Explored: 19th November 2008

Sustainable Communities Explored: April 8th 2009

Understanding Energy and Carbon Auditing Explored: May 28th & September 8th & October 20th 2010 & January 12th 2011

Lingfield Point, Darlington

Sustainable Communities Explored: July 10th 2009

Hamsons, Haywards Heath, West Sussex

Understanding Energy and Carbon Auditing Explored: May 19th & September 9th & October 21st 2010

Four Spires Hotel, Oxford, Oxfordshire

Understanding Energy and Carbon Auditing Explored: June 9th & July 21st & November 10th 2010

Low Carbon Technologies Explored: June 23rd 2010

Bricks and Bread, Aldershot, Hampshire

Understanding Energy and Carbon Auditing Explored: May 20th & July 7th & September 29th 2010 & January 19th 2011

Highbury College, Portsmouth, Hampshire

Understanding Energy and Carbon Auditing Explored: June 10th & July 22nd & November 11th 2010

Sustainable Careers Explored: September 22nd 2010

Low Carbon Technologies Explored: October 13th 2010

The Old Ship Inn, Brighton, East Sussex

Understanding Energy and Carbon Auditing Explored: July 8th & September 30th & January 26th 2011

Sustainable Careers Explored: July 14th 2010

Low Carbon Technologies Explored: December 8th 2010

Crawley Library, Crawley, West Sussex

Sustainable Developments Explored: November 3rd 2010

Birmingham Business School, University of Birmingham

Sustainable Procurement Explored: July 1st 2009, April 25th 2010 & April 16th 2011

Compass Group PLC, Twickenham Stadium, London

Understanding Energy and Carbon Auditing Explored: 29th March 2011

A number of the courses are accredited to NVQ level 2 or 3 and CPD accredited. We will shortly be getting the Understanding Energy and Carbon Auditing Explored event IEMA accredited as well.

We are currently delivering a number of these courses/events to private companies for in house to staff as well as clients.

Course Overviews:

Green Roofs Explored

Covering 'The How?', 'The Why?', 'The Where?' and 'The How Much?' of Green/Living Roofs.

Low Carbon technologies Explored

There are a huge range of Low Carbon Technologies that are available today that are moving us towards the low carbon future. On this day we explore some of the world's most cutting edge environmental technologies (Clean Tech). All of the products are examples of best practice practicality and cost effectiveness as this is key to successful integration into our homes and businesses.

Zero Carbon Houses Explored

A day of practical exploration of 6 cutting edge best practice examples of zero carbon house designs. Technologies, materials, aesthetics, practicalities, training, skills and cost discussions are embedded within the day.

Sustainable Communities Explored

Listen to leaders in the field from around the world; find out about what has (and hasn't) worked in building sustainable communities. **Discover** how the current recession is leading to a boom in practical sustainable community initiatives. **Explore** how the latest environmental technologies and new financing models combine to make zero carbon communities a practical reality in the UK today. **Network** with like-minded professionals, committed to effecting positive change within their communities.

Sustainable Developments Explored

Sustainable Development has become somewhat of a buzz-word in the last few years, but when it really comes down to it how much of it is really occurring and where? This event focuses on practical examples of real sustainable development from across the UK. It brings together a wide variety of exceptionally interesting speakers who will explore a wide range of projects that are both ongoing as well as those that are being designed to integrate the best of sustainable development. Technologies, buildings, site designs, food, landscape, community energy and the creation of new towns will all be discussed during the day.

Understanding Energy and Carbon Auditing Explored

This course gives learners an introduction to the principles and practices behind energy and carbon auditing for those who are new to this field or in the early stages of being involved. It will provide a practical foundation for those needing to develop skills and understanding of energy and carbon auditing for buildings and property portfolios. Learners will gain an understanding of the methodologies which can be used reliably to measure energy use and carbon emissions, to understand the cost implications of various measures that can be taken to reduce energy use and carbon emissions, and to develop strategies to achieve low or zero carbon building performance in the medium or longer term.

Sustainable Careers Explored

This one day event is aimed at exploring the opportunities that are arising in careers in sustainability across a wide spectrum of industries. Sustainability has become a mainstream concept in the last few years and all aspects of the job market are now influenced in a variety of ways by sustainability. The event is designed around looking in detail at specific industries and they are also designed in a way the bigger picture is also looked at. Immediate, short term and long term outlooks will be addressed, with insights from key professionals who work in all aspects of sustainability from the Chief Executive level to practical individuals that have forged new paths in mainstream fields.

Sustainable Procurement Explored

Procurement is often the core of the problem when it comes to sustainability as many people speak of achieving best value when in reality the skills and the tools are not being used to deliver anything other than best price. As there is a huge difference between PRICE and VALUE, organisations often find themselves choosing the cheapest solution only to find that it ends up costing much more than many of the more expensive options originally offered in the procurement exercise. Sustainable procurement offers a huge range of tools and techniques that can be brought to bear on the procurement process so that the correct questions are being asked, the right things are being required and that the outcome is much more completely understood so that success becomes the norm instead of a rarity. This

course explores a number of global best practice tools that are available to help deliver sustainable procurement and it explores a number of very practical case studies that demonstrate some amazing successes. In addition the principles and framework of the new BS 8903 – the world’s first sustainable procurement guidance standard, will be explored on the day.

Future Course;

Sustainable Renovation Explored

In the UK a very small percentage of the existing housing stock is replaced annually, as such by 2050 we will still have nearly 70% of today’s houses still occupied. As a result of this sustainable renovation has a key role to play in our low carbon future. This event explores a wide variety of technologies, methodologies and case studies that relate to sustainably renovating properties.

Some feedback from the Sustainability Explored Event Series

“Jae is one of those people who leaves you feeling inspired and wanting to make a difference. He delivered his carbon auditing course at the Centre and it clearly had a profound impact on the people who attended the day, their comments ranged from 'Great guy, at last someone who talks sense about carbon auditing' to 'Jae's witty and forthright style entertained me so much, I forgot I was in a training course and ended up learning more in one day than I have in a whole year of searching for answers". I can highly recommend Jae as a guest speaker and training delivery partner, his depth of knowledge is reassuring.”
May 28, 2010

Trudy Thompson FRSA, Founder, Bricks and Bread Sustainable Living Centre

“No-one is left in any doubt about Jae’s grasp of the subject and his ability to communicate it. He is, quite simply, a speaker/lecturer/advocate of sustainable procurement of the highest order”

Dr Chris Lonsdale, Head of Procurement and Operations Management Group, Birmingham Business School, The University of Birmingham

Your session on Sustainable Procurement was extremely well received by delegates, amongst the many comments received were;

–“Best speaker I have seen in years.”

–“I thoroughly enjoyed this workshop. It was very informative and interesting, best part of the day”

-“Very interesting session, engaging audience totally. Enjoyed very much”

It was a huge success and attracted nearly 200 delegates, once again thank you for your involvement.

Mike Haslin, Deputy Director, North Western Universities Purchasing Consortium Ltd

"The Sustainability Explored event series is simply the best of its kind I've been to in the past few years: passionate, cutting edge, inspiring and – above all – practical. With the beautiful venue and setting at the superb Pines Calyx centre, this Sustainability Explored Series is now a firm “must attend” in my calendar – one of precious few in a sea of mediocre sustainability and climate change events across the country."

Thurstan Crockett, Head of Environmental Policy and Sustainability, Brighton and Hove City Council

“Excellent! Wide-ranging overview of potential Carbon & Energy saving opportunities.”

Paul Cockaday, Strategic Carbon Buildings Officer, NPS

“Excellent! Large amount of detail: Well explained: Very useful real-life examples.”

Steven Syddall, Director, Hamsons/NPS

“I attended the event at the Pines Calyx and found it most stimulating and enjoyable which seemed to be the general feeling of all who attended. I do not profess to being especially well informed about "green" issues and count myself as a pretty good representative of Jo Public who by and large glaze over when presented with anything remotely green. As a town councillor who supports our Deal With It group, I gained plenty of useful information to present to interested local residents about practical measures they could implement to help their carbon foot prints. Often people feel so helpless in the face of what appears to be a looming overwhelming global catastrophe so anything practical and giving a glimmer of hope is often seized upon enthusiastically. Thank you for the opportunity to consolidate my knowledge and join things up. Needless to say, the Pines Calyx is a wonderful place and absolutely the right place to have this event.”

Sue Delling, Deal Town Councillor

“Fantastic event. It showed not just what is possible, but what can be done, should be done, and by a view pioneers: what is being done to build a better future for homes and workplaces.”

Sean Furey, Deputy Director Protect Kent – The Kent Branch of CPRE

“Jae Mather was the star of the day. His knowledge and enthusiasm could not be surpassed. He had factual and wide-ranging information on the tip of his tongue. His communication urged you to take right action immediately and no longer put it off with the inevitable 'manana'. His delivery, with humour and wit, made the day come to life. If anyone is going to change the world, it is him. If anyone gets people and organisations taking action, it will be him.”

Caroline Latham, Author, Therapist and Coach

"I'm just emailing to thank you for yesterdays illuminating and inspiring lectures. The humour, clarity and drive of all those who presented was infectious."

Jerome Dutton, Art Director, Awake Imaging

"The workshop was excellent and very informative. I really enjoyed the day."

Valerie Pondaven, Enterprise Europe Business Advisor, Business Link Kent