

# Creating Cohousing Together

Organised by

**the UK COHOUSING NETWORK**

Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2010, Friends House, Euston, NW1 2BJ

## Creating Cohousing Together - A national conference exploring how to get cohousing done

### Key Note Speakers

Charles Durrett and Kathryn McCamant

Award-winning Californian architects who pioneered cohousing in the USA and are authors of the cohousing 'bible'.

### Speakers from established cohousing communities:

Sarah Berger, Project Manager, UK Cohousing Network

Melanie Nock, Community Project, Laughton Lodge

Alan Heeks, Threshold Centre

David Michael and Max Comfort, Springhill

### Speakers from developing cohousing communities:

Mark Westcombe, Forge Bank Community

Berkshire Cohousing

Older Womens Cohousing (OWCH), London;

**A once-in-a-lifetime UK opportunity** to learn from the experiences of keynote speakers Chuck Durrett and Katie McCamant, authors of the *Cohousing* book. Chuck and Katie have been involved in over 50 cohousing projects and the conference provides an opportunity to discuss with them the factors for ensuring success. Chuck's keynote address will discuss: site feasibility, design priorities, overcoming obstacles and planning for project completion. Katie McCamant will examine the process of getting it built from the perspectives as a developer and architect in addition to running a workshop on marketing. Other workshops will include: finance/legal structures, getting going, group structure, overcoming barriers & more still to be determined. Speakers will include representatives from pioneering UK groups talking about developing cohousing as well as building and living in community.

**Now is the time.** Cohousing is attracting increasing interest from government and housing professionals as a model for building a sustainable communities. The Government's HAPPI report (Housing for an Ageing Population - Panel of Innovation) advised the government to adopt and promote cohousing as one of their key recommendations last December. The Homes and Communities Agency has welcomed bids for eligible costs within cohousing projects within its 2008 – 11 prospectus. Synergy Housing and Hanover Housing are pioneering partnerships with several cohousing groups and a number of other housing associations are showing interest.

Organised by the UK Cohousing Network [www.cohousing.org.uk](http://www.cohousing.org.uk)

**the UK COHOUSING NETWORK**

Sponsored by  
 hanover

the  
Tudortrust

 THE  
LAB

 NESTA  
Innovating  
public  
services

# Creating Cohousing Together Programme

subject to change

- 8.45 - 9.15 Workshop registration  
9.15 - 10.45 **Pre- conference workshop**  
(This workshop is free to participants of the main conference)  
**Marketing your own cohousing scheme - finding and keeping members**  
**Led by Katie McCamant**  
**US architect and developer and co- author of 'Cohousing'**

## Main Conference

- 9.00 – 5.30 Market place stalls
- 10.30– 11.00 Registration, coffee
- 11.00 **Start of main conference**  
**Welcome & introduction**  
**Recent developments in cohousing in UK**  
Sarah Berger, Project Manager, UK Cohousing Network  
**Lessons from the USA**  
Chuck Durrett , Architect & co-author of 'Cohousing '  
**Questions & discussion**
- 12.30 **Voices from the cohousing field**  
*We made it* - Springhill, Stroud; Threshold Centre, Dorset; Community Project, Sussex.  
*We're on the way* - Lifetime Community, Bradford; Older Womens Cohousing (OWCH), London;  
Berkshire Cohousing
- 1.00 **Lunch & market place**
- 2.15. **Getting it Built - perspectives as a developer and architect**  
Katie McCamant, Architect and co-author of 'Cohousing'  
Questions & discussion
- 3.00 **Workshops** Including:  
marketing your project – Katie McCamant  
overcoming barriers & site acquisition – Chuck Durrett  
how to do it - in 4 steps – David Michael, Springhill  
partners: working with housing associations and/or private developers – Alan Heeks  
finding and Joining Cohousing – Elizabeth Mills, Lancaster Cohousing  
finance/legal structures  
group structure  
planning permission strategies
- 4.00 **Tea**
- 4.15 **Panel of speakers Q & A**
- 4.45 **Forge Bank Community – Secrets of Success.**  
Mark Westcombe, Lancaster Cohousing
- 5.00 **End**  
– 5.30 **Market place**

## Other information

### Catering

Tea & coffee will be available to be purchased. Lunch is not included but may be purchased from Friends House cafe or delegates may go out to eating places nearby.

### Getting there

Friends House  
173-177 Euston Road  
London  
NW1 2BJ

**By rail:** From its position opposite Euston's rail and tube stations, it is a ten minute walk from King's Cross Station and St Pancras International Terminus. All major rail terminals are easily reached by tube.

**By tube:** The nearest tube stations are Euston and Euston Square, which are on the Northern, Victoria, Metropolitan, Circle and Hammersmith & City lines.



### Stalls

Free to cohousing groups. All other organisations - £50.  
Stall holders need to set up by 8.45 am.  
A limited number of stalls & display spaces are available.

**Please register your interest in having a stall by emailing the following information → to [events@cohousing.org.uk](mailto:events@cohousing.org.uk) by 15th April 2010.**  
Confirmation if space has been allocated will be sent on the 19th April.

Delegate Information:

Organisation/Cohousing group, if any.

Title, Full Name

Organisation

Email

Address

Tel No

Would you like stall &/or display boards if available? - If yes, please specify which.

### Online booking and Paypal

To book a place and pay, please visit our website [www.cohousing.org.uk](http://www.cohousing.org.uk) where you are able to pay with debit/credit card or a paypal account.

**Fee** £25 per person

Places are limited and will not be reserved until full payment has been made. We regret that there is a no-cancellation policy.

In case of difficulty with Paypal please send cheque made out to UK Cohousing Network, 15 Laughton Lodge, Laughton, Lewes, East Sussex BN8 6BY . Please include your name & address, whether member of a cohousing group and email address for confirmation of registration. Receipts will be issued at the conference. Queries about registration should be emailed to Monica at [events@cohousing.org.uk](mailto:events@cohousing.org.uk)

the UK COHOUSING NETWORK



the Tudor trust



THE LAB  
Innovating public services