

Exterior

The house sits side on to the lane and is clad in K-rend and cedar. A retaining wall forms part of a sunken garden.

A family affair

PHOTOGRAPHY:
WAYNE VINCENT &
COLIN SHERWOOD



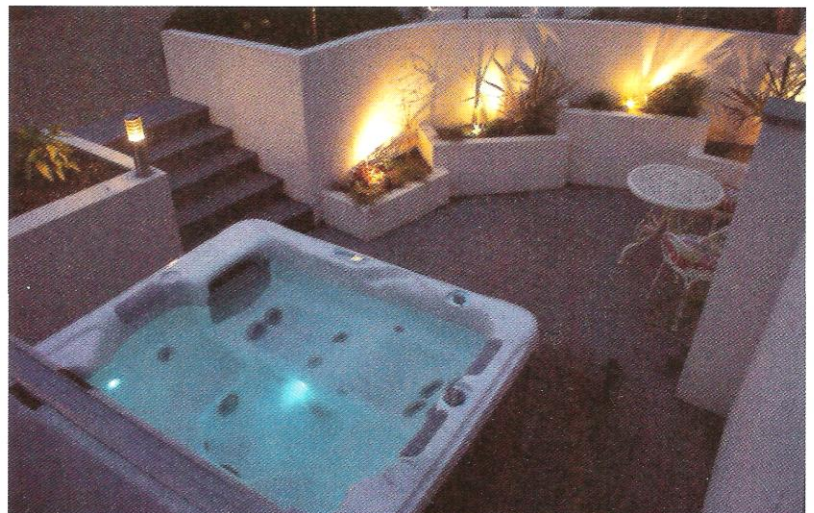
Colin Sherwood has realised a long-held dream to build his own home – with some hands-on help from his wife and family.

Sandra Sherwood thought she had found her dream home when together with her husband Colin they bought a four-bedroom chalet bungalow in a sought-after area of Southampton. The home did not require much work, which was unusual for the couple who had renovated and extended a number of homes over their 36 years together.

But Colin had his own idea of a dream home, and had a long-cherished ambition to do an eco self build. Three years later when they were offered first refusal on a plot, Sandra conceded that a new home with virtually no utility bills made sense with approaching retirement. “I had always wanted to build my own house,” says Colin, a former project manager for Royal Mail. Despite being the son of a builder, he confesses to not being able to knock in a nail when he renovated his first home. ➔

IN BRIEF

Project Eco home
Build Block-work and timber frame, clad in render and cedar.
Location Southampton
Plot cost £132,000
Spent £240,000





Right: Sandra at work on the roof.
Left: K-rend does not require painting.
Above: Terraces are accessed via glazed doors off the dining room and kitchen
Below: The timber-framed bedroom takes shape.



BUILD COST BREAKDOWN

Architrave	£220.00
Bathrooms PC Sum	£3,745.24
Blocks	£4,269.30
Bricks	£300.00
Cedar wood cladding	£3,694.00
Doors Internal	£2,214.14
Electric heating	£296.00
Electrics	£4,878.79
Fakro windows	£3,527.65
Floor screed	£1,870.00
Flooring	£3,400.00/£1,494.05
Hedging	£538.26
Sprinkler system	£3,600.00
Foundations	£19,557.60
Garage doors	£1,654.80
Glulam beams	£1,296.00
Granite worktops	£4,530.76
Guttering	£855.00/£2,785.55
Insulation for roof 60mm @ £103.12/m ²	£1,119.75
Insulation for roof 140mm @ £95.42/m ²	£2,981.74
Insulation for walls 140mm @ £201.65/m ²	£6,326.43
Kitchen including appliances	£10,361.07
Photovoltaics	£7,186.30
Plasterboard	£750.00
Plumbing	£1,500.00
Render & plaster PC Sum	£5,140.00/£3,644.58
Roof tiles etc	£1,847.55
Section 106	£6,629.43
Electric supply	£1,851.92
Rainwater harvesting	£2,394.00
Stairs	£5,466.00
Steels	£1,054.41
Solar thermal & cylinder	£4,472.53
CVC MVHR	£3,971.46
Water services	£1,401.88
Web Joists & chipboard	£3,126.13
Windows/cills & panels	£33,131.14
Front Door	£3,312.00
Wood-burner & Flue	£3,779.64
Labour	£24,650.00



Our self build EXPERIENCE



What was the high point?
 Pouring the screed was a big moment for us as we were up late the night before tanking the floor, then the guys came the following day and within a couple of hours we were the proud owners of a beautiful flat floor. Also getting the EPC 104, fitting the front door, and having a plumbed toilet.

...and the low point? Winter 2013, water coming through a 215mm block and worried what would happen if it froze.

What did you enjoy most about the experience?
 Seeing the decisions made at the design stage coming to life.

What do you like most about your new home?
 The family room.