

Business Energy Sustains Success

Everybody has a eureka moment. For Dr Keith Farmer it was decades ago. For well over 40 years his businesses have built an enviable reputation and an impressive list of satisfied clients. In 2010, reorganising this suite of businesses resulted in forming Keith Farmer Associates. Combining the multiple skills of a diverse and dynamic architectural and planning team, Keith Farmer Associates continues to provide a one-stop for property owners across the region. Conversions, alterations, and renovations plus new builds are all handled with skill and empathy by this highly professional company.



“Today, buildings are altering at a furious pace, yet older buildings will always need a traditional, specialist approach. We continue to develop long-term sustainability in all our projects through practical design, use of appropriate technology and careful cost control” said Ian Firth (MD).
“Totally sustainable buildings make the most of modern construction methods and renewable energy. With careful planning, many buildings can become extremely practical, plus financially and energy efficient”

“Every project begins with a well planned design and specification. Our experience in design, construction, project management and maintenance brings experience, innovation and advantages on every level” said company chairman, Keith Farmer.



Introducing the **“SIRIAS”** service to the renewable energy market shows innovation alongside the company’s traditions. **“SIRIAS”** user Simon Lord (Director of SOL Electrical Ltd) said ***“Renewable energy is increasingly popular. “SIRIAS” certification guarantees peace of mind to our customers; that their roof is in a safe and fit condition for secure PV installation.”*** The Feed in Tariff makes Photo Voltaic panels an attractive investment for many property owners. Guaranteed income from otherwise redundant space is a

win-win situation.

"Technology continues to change the way we plan, work and build?" said Dan Keyword, Architectural Services Director at Keith Farmer Associates. **"We are delighted to support growing and developing technology, especially working with specialists like Carl Benfield and his team at Prescient Power. Our buildings consultancy team has developed ?SIRIAS? to ensure maximum sustainability at every level. Traditionally, we regard roofs to keep weather out. Today they provide an income.?"**

Keith Farmer?s approach to new projects has always been to make the best use of available technology, but without pushing untested limits. **"That?s something we leave to conceptual Architects!?"** he jokes. Modern materials integrated with efficiency and proven systems, such as heat pumps and passive solar design, deliver financial benefits for years to come. **"It's a question of designing for the future, yet building in every available financial advantage?"**

When acclaimed sculptor [Philip Simmonds](#) ^[1] moved to Devon he needed a modern studio. He approached Keith Farmer Associates to undertake a quality conversion of a redundant hay-shed next to his listed farmhouse. **"This was a classic example of highly sustainable re-use of a redundant farm building in the Blackdown Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty?"** said Ian Firth. Today, this internationally renowned sculptor travels to work across his garden, and creates his trademark sculptures in light, warm and comfortable surroundings. The professional experience and innovative skills of Keith Farmer Associates have provided Philip Simmonds with an ideal working environment.

Decades of devotion to high standards, and pioneering practical solutions, have benefited hospitality clients across the country. When Samuel Palmer of Huntley and Palmer Biscuits built a grand house in London he never imagined that it could one day become a leading luxury hostel for today?s young affluent travellers. The ingenuity of Keith Farmer and his colleagues not only fulfilled their clients brief but also won them an international tourism award.

A local authority letter to a [firework company](#) ^[2] nearly became an explosive confrontation. But the calm, professional experience of Keith Farmer Associates Planning Team defused the situation and delivered measurable benefits for the company?s future. **"A basic cost analysis suggested the company should move?"** said Ian Firth who co-ordinated the project. Accepting his advice, the owners moved, which opened new opportunities. They developed a property which is igniting significant interest in similar small businesses in the area. A clear example of reward and success achieved through the professionalism and empathy of the Keith Farmer Associates Planning team.

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Mike Elleston

Tel: 01647 433388

Email mike@andwords.com ^[3]

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