

# An honour



**Architect George Clarke presents *The Home Show*, *Restoration Man* and *George Clarke's Amazing Spaces* on Channel 4**

Since 1974 the National Home Improvement Council (NHIC) annual awards have recognised achievement in UK housing and have grown over the years to become highly regarded as the premier event in the home improvement and modernisation sector.

This year the NHIC is pleased to announce the creation of The George Clarke Medal, which it will host as part of its awards ceremony on 22nd November 2018.

Entries are now invited from across the spectrum of home improvement projects and associated activities in the following five categories:

- Delivering community benefit through home improvement, sponsored by Quality Assurance
- Best use of aluminium systems for windows, doors and facades, sponsored by Schueco UK
- Innovation and education to reduce fuel poverty, sponsored by the NHIC Educational Trust
- Innovation and initiatives to promote consumer safety through compliance in bathroom products and installation, sponsored by the BMA
- The business that has delivered the highest levels of consumer confidence to its customers, sponsored by TrustMark

The National Home Improvement Council encourages vibrant renovation, modernisation and home improvement in the private and public housing sectors.

“To maintain the highest standards of improvement in the nation’s housing stock it is vital we reward those organisations which are striving and delivering excellence,” says Anna Scothern, NHIC chief executive. “The NHIC annual award winners this year will, for the first time, feature alongside The George Clarke Medal inaugurated to recognise and celebrate the UK’s best architect-designed home refurbishment / conversion or renovation scheme.” □

**The 44th NHIC Annual Awards Luncheon will be held on Thursday 22nd November 2018 at One Whitehall Place, London. To download an entry form, find out more information or book your place at the awards event of the year, please visit [www.nhic.org.uk/awards](http://www.nhic.org.uk/awards)**

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# A day to inspire

More than 240 delegates from Independent Network (IN) companies across the UK came together at the organisation's 'Best of British' themed members' weekend in Warwick.

The event kicked off with a specially built business centre, where attendees could chat to IN's affiliate partners and learn more about the opportunities for members to gain favourable rates and services thanks to their IN membership.



Kevin Thomas

In the afternoon, finance director Graham Fitton welcomed members, reviewed the financial results for 2017 and conducted the official AGM business before sales director Neil Evans discussed recent market developments and expectations for the year ahead.

Marketing director Dawn Stockell highlighted the increase in IN brand awareness and leads over the past year and announced two pieces of exclusive

news for members. One: that FENSA will now be recognising the IN insurance-backed guarantee. The second item which was shared with members is due to be announced publicly soon. Business consultant, Jeff Grout, rounded off the afternoon by encouraging members to think more critically about effective leadership and what makes a respected leader in the 'real world'. □

[www.inveka.co.uk](http://www.inveka.co.uk)

Duration Windows has been named as one of London Stock Exchange Group's 1000 companies to inspire Britain. The report is a celebration of the UK's fastest-growing and most dynamic small and medium sized businesses across the UK.

To be included in the list, companies needed to show consistent revenue growth over a minimum of three years, significantly outperforming their industry peers. (More detail on the methodology can be found in the report online at [www.1000companies.com](http://www.1000companies.com))

Established in 1985 and based on Canvey Island, Essex, Duration Windows is a family run business specialising in the manufacture of aluminium bi-fold doors, windows, doors, secondary glazing and roofs.

Grant Chelton, MD, Duration says: "We are proud to be recognised in this report. Our growth has been possible because of our continued investment in machinery, product development and staff. We will continue to strive for even greater quality and efficiencies to ensure our customers get great products at the best prices. Our customers are the reason that we are here, they are at the heart of everything we do, so thank you to all of those that have supported us over the years." □



[www.1000companies.com](http://www.1000companies.com)

## Guide from the guild

A raft of revised British standards has prompted the publication of three new technical guides from the Guild of Architectural Ironmongers (GAI) for door and window hardware specialists.

BS 3621: 2017 specifies the performance requirements and test methods for a thief-resistant mechanically operated single-point lock assembly. It gives ironmongers clarification on how to conform to BS 3621.

BS 8613: 2017 covers finger protection devices for pedestrian doors. It will help specifiers, architects, facilities managers, health and safety and risk assessment professionals to select the appropriate finger protection products to prevent entrapment at the hanging stile of doors.



Douglas Masterson

In January 2018 BS 8300 was revised. The 2018 version was split into two standards.

The guild's new technical guide focuses on the second topic being the most relevant to the architectural ironmongery industry.

Douglas Masterson, GAI technical manager, says: "Architectural ironmongery companies play a crucial role, working with architects, contractors and others to schedule and specify the hardware for every door and window in a building and to produce a full fixing schedule of hardware items. So it is important that our members are up-to-date with the latest standards." □

[www.gai.org.uk](http://www.gai.org.uk)