

# EARTHA

East Anglian Regional Telluric House Association

**22<sup>nd</sup> November 2009**  
**EARTHA 15<sup>th</sup> AGM**  
**Pickerell Inn, Ixworth**

Our AGM this year, held at the Pickerell in Ixworth, was a resounding success with over 40 people attending from far and wide. On arrival we had a round or two of drinks before commencing our Annual General Meeting.

This began with the chairman's address, given by the current chairman Henry Sanders, which briefly outlined the previous year's high points, including our attendance of the SPAB Building Conservation Fair, and our progress with the Cittaslow survey. He went on to discuss the recent changes which have been made to our website and the future of EARTHA in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. The treasurers report was similarly interesting and certainly surprised a lot of people.

The election of committee members then followed, with Henry Sanders being re-elected as Chairman & Dirk Bouwens being re-elected as Treasurer.

We then proceeded with the evening two lectures:

Firstly Malvern Tipping gave us a fascinating overview of the Cittaslow project, its successes & its failures.

Then Colin Williams discussed some of the obstacles to be overcome for earth block to become once more a commonplace contemporary material. He examined examples of earth block production and construction in the USA, France and the UK and contrasted the different techniques which grew from the differing climatic conditions and soils of these regions. He outlined the environmental advantages of earth block compared to conventional construction as well as the cost penalties currently associated with earth construction.