

## **SIA confirms renewal of Andy Hill as chair**

The [Stove Industry Association](#) (SIA), the UK trade association for manufacturers, suppliers, and retailers within the solid fuel stove sector, has confirmed the renewal of Andy Hill as its independent chair.

Andy, who was appointed in 2021, has worked in the UK organics and alternative fuels sectors for over 19 years, with 9 years spent at SUEZ recycling and recovery UK where his focus was on the commercial development of alternative fuels for a range of markets.

Following his successful career at SUEZ, Andy set up his own consultancy business, Cynosure Partners, and he is also the deputy chair of the Wood Recyclers' Association, which represents both UK producers and European energy and panel board consumers.

Hugh Wells, vice chair of the SIA, who confirmed Andy's renewal to members at the Association's recent General Meeting, commented:

"The last 24 months have been a particularly busy and challenging period for the Association with the introduction of Ecodesign legislation and a very high demand for stoves. Andy's leadership has been crucial in ensuring that the Association can continue to represent the interests of its members at all levels and further develop the dialogue around the many benefits of modern, wood burning stoves. The SIA Executive is delighted to renew Andy's position."

Andy said:

"The UK stove industry is a thriving and innovative sector, delivering sustainable, renewable, low emission, low carbon, energy grid independent, highly efficient and cost-effective heating solutions for consumers up and down the country. I work with a fantastic team, and I am genuinely honored and excited to be continuing in the role of chair as we advance the SIA's general public and key stakeholder engagement programme in order to promote the stove industry and the role it will play in our low carbon future."

**ENDS**

Editor's Notes:

- The Stove Industry Association was formed in 2008 and is a trade association of stove manufacturers, distributors and retailers, wood fuel suppliers, flue and component manufacturers and other interested industry bodies.
- With over 40 manufacturing members and over 65 retail members, the SIA represents the stove industry in discussion with government departments such as Defra and DESNZ, Welsh Government, Scottish Government, and the Greater London Authority.
- The SIA represents the UK in CEFACD, the European Committee of Manufacturers of Domestic Heating and Cooking Appliances and engages openly with all stakeholders.
- Please contact Erica Malkin SIA Communications Manager on 07891 097842 or [erica@stoveindustryalliance.com](mailto:erica@stoveindustryalliance.com) for further comment on this press release.
- Further information on the work of the SIA can be found at [www.stoveindustryalliance.com](http://www.stoveindustryalliance.com)

### **SIA Top Tips:**

- Choose an Ecodesign compliant wood burning stove such as a [clearSkies](#) certified appliance. If you currently use an open fire or an older, very basic wood burning stove, consider upgrading. A modern Ecodesign compliant wood burning stove releases up to 90% less emissions than an open fire and can be up to 80% less than some older stoves. Your local [SIA Retail Group member](#) can help advise on the best stove for you and your family.
- If you live in a [Smoke Control Area](#), your stove will also need to be Defra exempt. All clearSkies Level 3 and above models are certified as Defra exempt.
- Visit your local stove retailer for guidance on choosing the right size stove for your property and for a detailed installation quote. You can find your nearest [SIA Retail Group member showroom here](#).
- Ensure your stove is fitted by an appropriately qualified competent person such as one who is [HETAS](#) or [OFTEC](#) registered.
- Ensure you use quality wood fuel. Look for the [Ready to Burn](#) logo to ensure your wood logs are at or below 20% moisture content. Never use chemically treated wood or burn waste on your stove.
- Ensure your stove is serviced and your chimney swept at least once a year – the SIA recommends NVQ qualified sweeps for the ongoing maintenance and servicing of your stove and chimney. The [Federation of British Chimney Sweeps](#) has links to all the main sweep associations. Chimney sweeps are a valuable source of information for good practice and advice.