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celebrity angels

# Home

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with Phil Spencer

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SOUND SYSTEM

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REVAMP  
UR HOME**

**il Spencer:**

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another decade  
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**GEORGE  
LARKE**

*living the  
O WAY*



**11 IDEAS**  
*to glamourise  
your garden*



GUEST EDITOR  
**PHIL SPENCER**

FROM CHANNEL 4's *LOCATION, LOCATION, LOCATION*

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orbit reflections **VIE MANN**  
EXPANSION AND IMPROVEMENT climate of innovation

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Our heating and water used to cost around £160 a month. This has now been reduced to around £45. We've saved over £1,000 in this first year



...ly no soot or sulphur emissions. Built underground, it didn't affect the look of the house. As well as having the tank stored underground, our boiler room, which is built on the roof of the cottage, has been built in the same place as the conservatory. All internal pipe work is in ducts under the floors and the same as the conservatory. We also installed a Calor LPG gas burner which looks like our old wood burner, and lots of our friends! Robert and Elaine get a lot of sun on the conservatory and decided to make use of it and install solar panels. Initially worried they would be too expensive, instead of installing them on the conservatory, we were given an alternative solution. 'We are sure if solar panels were right for us as our conservatory roof was too small for the panels, and we were unsure whether we could use them with

our other fuel source, but Paul came up with a solution to house the panels discreetly behind the building, so we thought why let all that free heat from the sun go to waste. The solar power has been great, it produces up to 300 litres of hot water a day, which is far more than we ever use.' With a budget of £10,000 for all of their eco renovations, including installation, they managed to stick to their target, and the savings mean the work will soon have paid for itself. 'Our heating and water used to cost around £160 a month. This has now been slashed to around £45. We've saved over £1,000 in this first year.' So impressed with their eco changes, the couple are thinking of making more environmentally friendly renovations. Robert says, 'We're looking into wind power, we've thought about solar photo electric panels too.' ■

**Thinking of making some eco renovations?**

First, find out if the renovations you want to make are possible – consult an expert such as a recommended architect or plumber who can assess your home. Visit [www.ecovation.org.uk](http://www.ecovation.org.uk) to read about other people's eco home makeovers before you start to find out what has worked for others doing similar renovations. Check with the Energy Savings Trust as you may be eligible for a grant to help towards the costs of any work, visit [www.energysavingtrust.org.uk](http://www.energysavingtrust.org.uk). If you don't want to spend thousands, small changes can make a huge difference. Try switching to energy efficient light bulbs, consider switching energy suppliers and by turning your thermostat down just one or two degrees. If your home has a conservatory, then that too can be given an eco-makeover. Roof Revive has developed a unique and patented system that can successfully insulate the roof of your conservatory, which means that it reduces the heat build up in the summer by a staggering 80 per cent, and retains approximately 90 per cent of the heat in winter. This enables you to save on your energy bills while keeping the conservatory at a perfect temperature 365 days a year. Tel: 0808 178 9358, [www.roof-revive.co.uk](http://www.roof-revive.co.uk)

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