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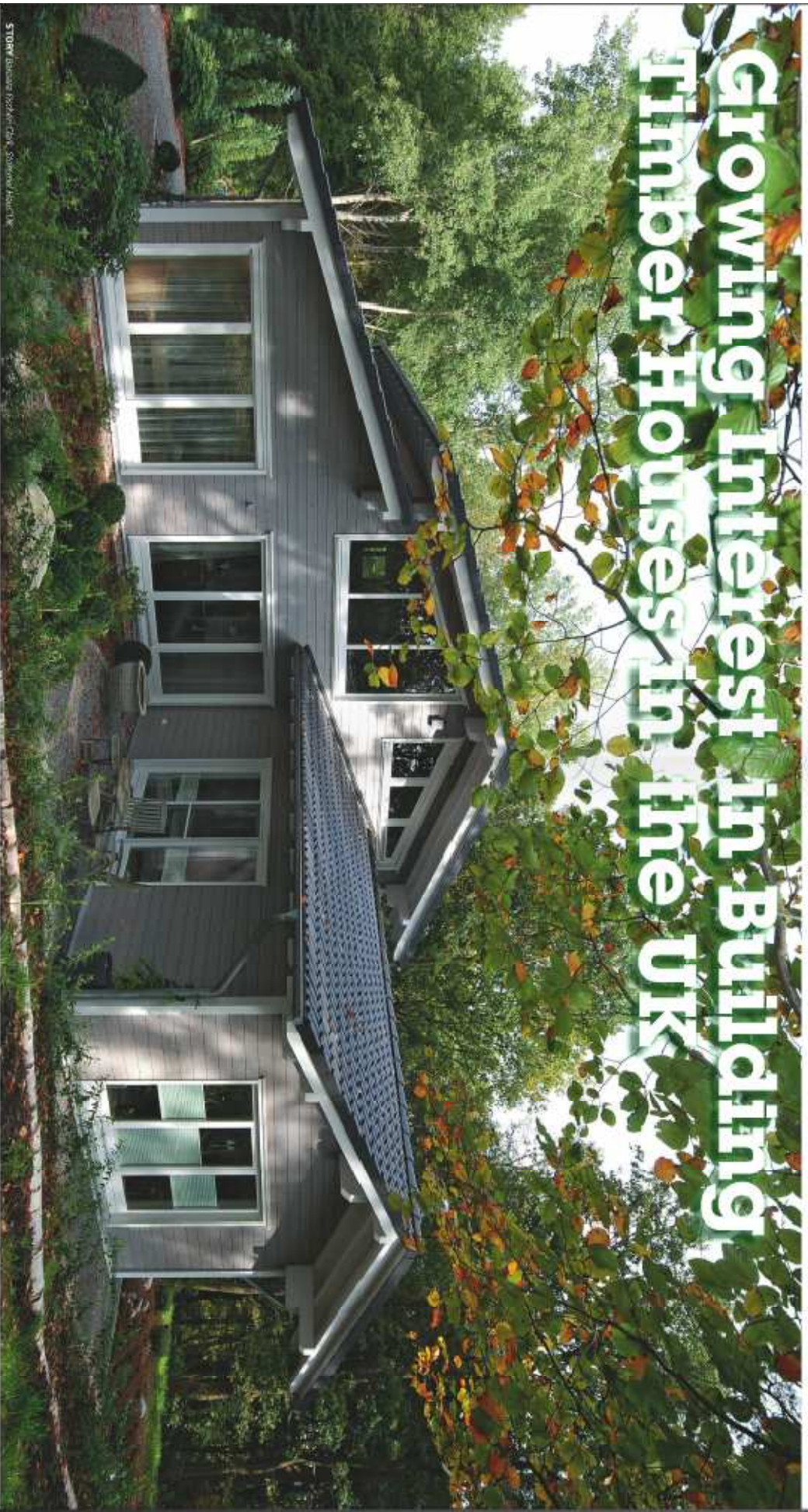
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Growing Interest in Building Timber Houses in the UK



STORY: Rebecca Pridmore; CHILL: Simon Aspinall

There is a growing interest in building with wood in the UK – and there are good reasons for it. Timber is the ideal material for energy efficient buildings: it looks good, smells good and beats good – wood is a simply wonderful material. It is a very

sustainable material when grown in certified forests and treated with care. Modern timber buildings are healthy buildings devoid of any toxic chemicals. Architects love timber as a very flexible material which allows for modern designs. Furthermore, wood lends itself to be used for the

pre-fabrication of modern houses with the benefit of a quite efficient. Premium manufacturers deliver bespoke homes made to fulfil the dreams of their clients and deliver high quality buildings on-time and in-budget.

Energy efficiency

When looking at the energy efficiency of a building, the so called “u-value” is a very important figure. The u-value measures the rate at heat loss through materials a building should strive to reach the lowest possible and economically sensible

u-values. The lower the u-value the less heat escapes. Let’s look at a simple example: 6.3 cm spruce wood has the same u-value as 100 cm concrete.

Besides the u-value of walls, roof and windows air-tightness is an important aspect for energy efficiency

of a building; therefore the latest British Building Regulations set much higher standards on air-tightness today. Premium manufacturers such as Stomax Haus outperform those requirements by achieving results which are twice to three times better.

Eco

Building with Timber

Sustainability

Wood is ecological and sustainable and a truly renewable building material. Its sustainability is unsurpassed: Timber is grown quicker than it is used by most of the main timber supplying countries which have long-standing policies to re-grow more timber than is felled. Since the 1990 environment symposium in Rio de Janeiro, international standards for forestry and timber trading such as PEFC and FSC have been introduced and are adhered to by suppliers delivering to the premium timber house manufacturers.



Healthy Homes

Good quality manufacturers use constructive wood protection and apply timber devoid of any chemical treatment adhering to the extensive standards and guidelines for non-toxic wood protection.

Living and working in a timber building means being in a pleasant and healthy environment. Timber has unique properties: it is diffusible and hygroscopic; it filters the air and thus provides a fresh and healthy atmosphere in a building. It has humidity regulating properties which have positive effects on the atmospheric conditions of a room. Timber smells good, looks good and feels good and thus has a positive effect on our wellbeing. Timber positively affects all human senses.

But there is of course more to a house than rationality.

The contemporary designs of modern timber houses demonstrate the dreams and visions of homeowners, the creativity of architects and the capability of premium manufacturers.

Modern timber houses have high ceilings, lots of glass, open plan living areas and are fitted with the latest heating and home automation technology. The combination of traditional craftsmanship, the vast experience in timber construction and contemporary fabrication methods allow premium manufacturers to provide their clients with beautiful homes where they can enjoy a comfortable living space at low energy cost.

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