

Self-build World:

'Rolls Royce' German Kit Importers Set Up Unique Owners Club

Top-end German kit importer, Huf Haus has its own support network to help owners share tips and to spread the message. Jason Orme investigates

Most homes aren't like cars, or football teams, or shops. They aren't brands that elicit loyalty or fanaticism — but Huf Hauses aren't like most homes. Their unique mix of post and beam construction in a very contemporary dressing and classic European looks (heavy, overhanging A-frame roofs, open plan interiors and loads of glass) has drawn the heads of a steady number of UK self-builders over the past decade.

As a result, and such is the level of involvement Huf Haus owners have with their new home, that some early Huf Haus UK pioneers, including Richard Thurbon — who featured in H&R last month, some eleven years after we featured our first Huf Haus — have set up their own 'Huf Haus Owners' Club'. It's a website and contact point for owners to



In the August issue of H&R we published an article called 'The Glass Haus'. We would like to issue our sincere apologies and condolences to Richard for referring to and picturing his wife Jan, who died eight months ago after a battle against cancer. The words and pictures were put together shortly after the home was completed in 2005.

Jan loved the house and it was her detailed knowledge of Buckinghamshire, where she was a renowned and much-loved estate agent, that enabled her to purchase the stunning plot.



share tips on what works well (and what doesn't); where to source furniture that looks great in a Huf Haus; and to help interested people get a real-life, perspective on what living in a Huf Haus is really like. Sara Scott (BELOW RIGHT), the group's administrator, says: "In the early days there was a lack of information for owners on things specific to Huf Hauses such as how others gained planning permission, as well as more prosaic things like dealing with some of the specific German fittings. The group offers good advice and we are really a network of friendly people looking to spread the message."

There are now over 160 Huf Hauses in the UK. Huf Haus are now developing an ultra energy-efficient model that can meet Level 6 of the Code for Sustainable Homes, with greater wall thickness and triple glazed windows. Build costs are dependant on exchange rates but are currently in the region of £2,000/m².

- huf-haus.com
- huf-haus-owners-group.co.uk

