

Another branch of business

Birmingham-based Fusion Building Consultancy has been climbing high in Cornwall and North Yorkshire with an unusual contract to project manage the design and construction of two tree houses for Forest Holidays at its Deerpark and Keldy resorts.

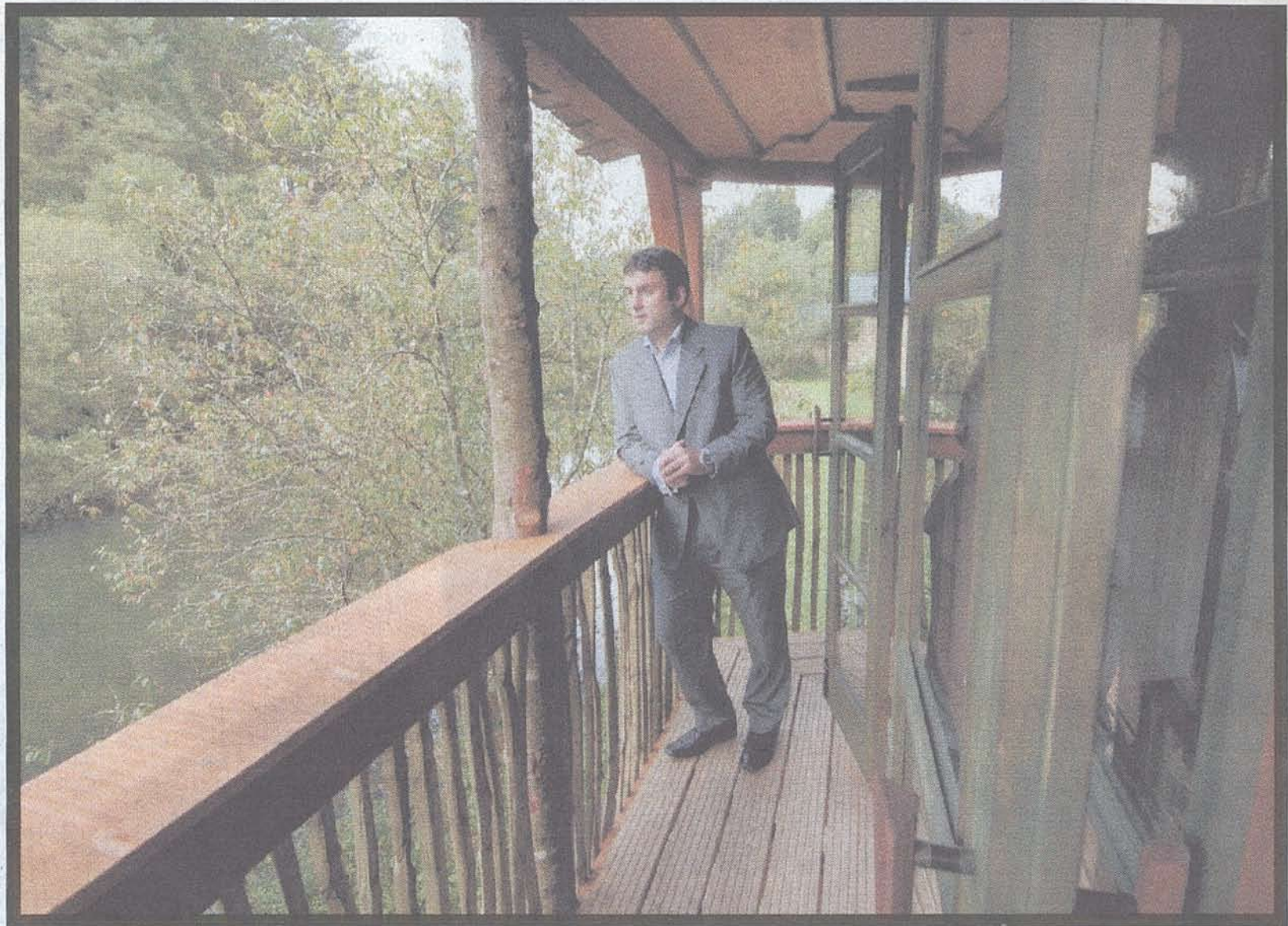
Commissioned by Forest Holidays, a joint venture with the Forestry Commission and The Camping and Caravanning Club, the luxury tree houses were completed within a five week programme and provide an extra bedroom for a number of the log cabins, which were refurbished earlier this year.

"Fusion's remit was to assist in agreeing a suitable location for the tree houses and coordinate their design with Building Control on resolving a number of difficult design issues. The fire escape was a particularly difficult issue which was actually resolved by providing rope ladders from the tree houses, which are very in-keeping with the surroundings," said Gavin Stephens, director of Fusion Building Consultancy.

"Fusion also undertook a value engineering exercise with the contractor to reduce the cost of the scheme with a view to constructing further tree houses at another site in Strathyre, Scotland."

The project is the third to be awarded to Fusion by Forest Holidays, after the building consultancy project managed the fit-out of the national organisation's new HQ in Moira, Derbyshire, followed by 25 log cabins across sites in Cornwall, North Yorkshire and Scotland.

"This was a challenging project and a first for all of the team. A flexible approach and the ability to apply a breadth of knowledge enabled us to create innovative and cost effective solutions to achieve the desired result for the client," said Gavin.



Gavin Stephens with the new Tree House Project

Richard Palmer from Forest Holidays added; "We are extremely pleased with the success of this project.

Delivering the quality of tree house that we desired within a tight budget was a tall order but they are a fantastic addition to the log cabins which are now

fully booked for the next 18 months."

Fusion has now been appointed to provide project management advice on the second phase of the log cabins refurbishment programme and a further tree house at Strathyre in Scotland all to be completed over the next six months.

Fusion Building Consultancy was formed in Spring 2002 and is based in Ludgate Hill.

It employs ten surveyors and works with a variety of national and local clients on medium to multi-million pound contracts.