

Our cover story

7 JUST PLODDING ON

The planned flooding of the Mary Valley to create a new dam put a halt to Lin and Wayne Dillon's project back in 2006. The decision was finally overturned in 2009 and they could resume building their straw bale dream home.



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14

14 EBAA INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

Speakers, workshops, demonstrations and tours.

16 BUILDING A MUD HOME

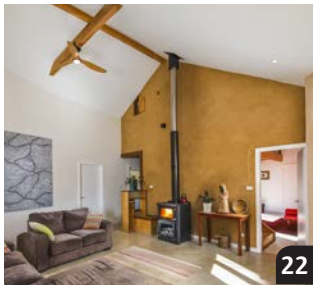
Earth plastering is more than throwing mud on a wall; Atulya shares some of her secrets with us.



16

22 LESSONS FROM EXPERIENCE

How on earth do you build a sustainable house?



22

28 ELTHAM MUDBRICK TOUR

Five 'mature' homes show how adaptable mud brick is.

31 ONE STEP AT A TIME

Planning was by far the lengthiest process when adding a straw bale extension to an ex-fibro cottage.



28

38 BROOM HANDLES AND BUTTRESSES

Old ways in stone and timber.

46 LIVING THE DREAM

Owner building allows you to be flexible.



31

50 WEAVING WALLS

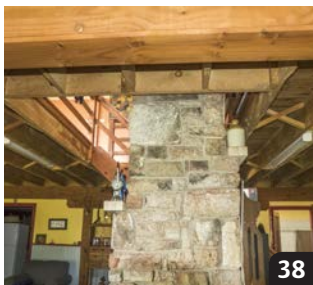
Building a wattle & daub cottage using split bamboo.

54 BUILDING A STEEL-FRAMED KIT HOME

Thorough research and detailed preparation before building is often the hardest but pays huge dividends.

60 CONTROL JOINTS...

...in straw bale or hemp lime walls reduce cracking.



38

66 RETROFITTING THE SUBURBS

Downshifting and retrofitting instead of building from new can lead to 'songful regeneration'.

78 ENERGY EFFICIENT STRAW BALE HOME

Preparing for the final render coat.

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