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HOME WORK

50 pages of houses to pore over

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stylish storage solutions

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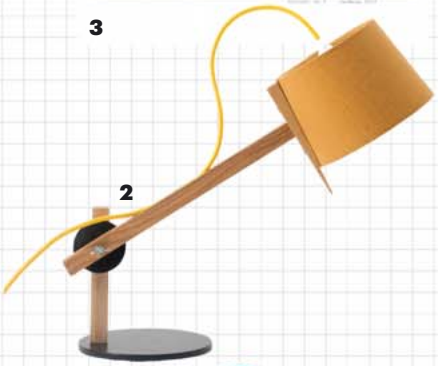
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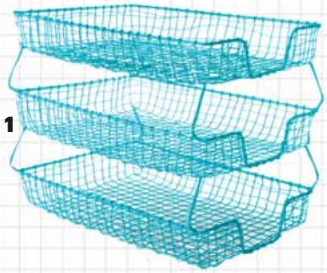
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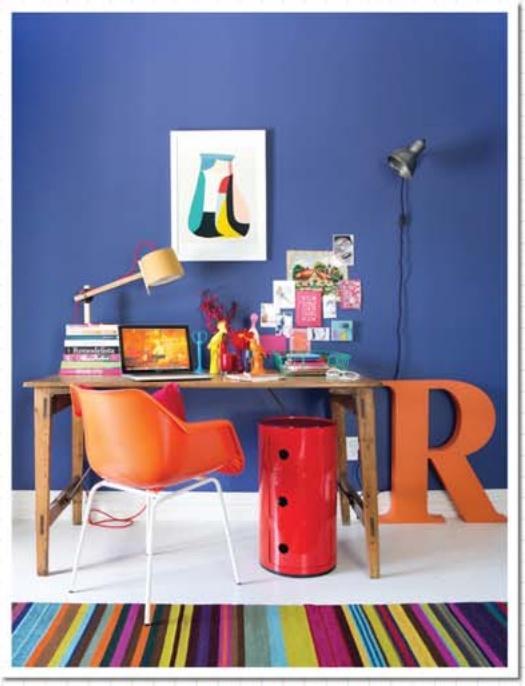
The get organised issue

Get the cover look









COVER PHOTO Larnie Nicolson STYLING Anya Brighouse



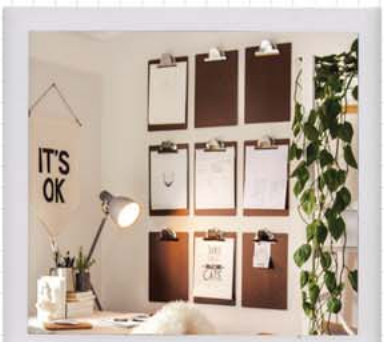
With the holiday season over, 'tis the season to get organised. But you can make it fun by making your home office over into a space you want to work in. Anya Brighouse shares how it's done in her Live Colourfully column on page 30.

1. Wire filing tray, $64.90, from ikoiko.co.nz **2.** Make Your Own Angle Lamp, $289, from douglasandbec.co.nz **3.** *Inaluxe Message No 9.* print, $260, from endemicworld.com **4.** Robin Day Poly armchair, $285, from bobandfriends.co.nz **5.** Lined notebooks, $33 each, from fatherrabbit.com **6.** Kartell Componibili round, $276, from Kartell **7.** Zumba rug, $995, from Bo Concept **8.** Yellow parrot, $17, from thearomatherapycompany.co.nz. Also in the picture Marimekko Pirput Parput in pink cushion, $94, from boltofcloth.co.nz. Walls painted in Double Denim, from Porters Paints.

Looking for more fresh ideas to get organised? Try these



39
storage to display and hide away



118
make over your home office



68
create a blackboard planner

Living + homestyle

The Living Channel and *homestyle* have partnered up to bring you great ideas and inspiration for every home and lifestyle. To receive updates straight to your inbox visit homestyle.co.nz/signmeup or livingchannel.co.nz

COCKATOO THEATRE

Red Tailed Cockatoos are wild birds that let you know they're around with their loud squawk. Likewise, the combination of Ink Well on the walls and accessories in Toby's Collar red makes a statement that you can't help but notice.

PPG Toby's Collar

PPG Ash Wednesday

PPG Ink Well



"Whether you're motivated by a kaleidoscope of bursting buds or focused in on one single bloom, using colours provided by nature is the perfect place to start – Mother Nature rarely gets it wrong."

Award-winning interior designer Shaynna Blaze has created stunning interiors for over 20 years. As a designer and artist, Shaynna is passionate about colour and how it can transform any room or home. PPG has partnered with her to develop colour schemes and room designs to inspire you to create your own personal design style.

GRAND OWL

The Barn Owl is smaller and more delicate in stature than their cousins – but still make their presence known. The softness of their feathers along with their white and neutral palette gives inspiration to a cocoon-like interior. Using Bedford Road on the walls gives a soft canopy to the room while the stark Akimbo on the chest of drawers sits proud like the puffed chest of the wise owl.

PPG Akimbo

PPG Stoney Fields

PPG Bedford Road

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RADIANT WREN

The Fairy Wren builds its nest from grass and twigs and is even known to gather threads of hessian to entwine into the structure. The colour palette is influenced by the bold Dinkum Blue in small bursts featured in the side tables; the rest is taken from the bird's habitat. Fairy Wren nests are the perfect inspiration for a beautiful interior of blues and browns.

PPG Moon Man

PPG Dinkum Blue

PPG Snow Goose

Birds of a feather



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The get organised issue

FEBRUARY/MARCH





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When a tragedy ground renovations to a halt nine years ago, there was just one room left. Now, with the help of a few friends, it's done

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A creative couple were excited to find their dream home in LA – even more so when they explored out the back



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Printed by PMP Print, distributed by Gordon & Gotch
SSN 1177-0015 Published By The Pluto Group Ltd,
PO Box 911 577, Victoria St West, Auckland 1142, New Zealand

Average audited circulation per issue: 16,797
(NZ Audit Bureau of Circulation, October 2012 – September 2013)

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CONTRIBUTORS



Shaye Woolford *Stylist/foodie*

Drawing on her experience running her own business, On My Hand, in this issue Shaye shares her combined love for cooking and styling with recipes to preserve the season (page 102). **How do you like to entertain at this time of year?** This is my favorite time of the year for produce – my garden is overflowing with tomatoes and beans. I love to make a simple salad and get my husband on the barbecue. **What is your top tip for getting organised?** If I'm away from my desk, I like to email myself when thoughts come to mind, so that I'm always on top of things. **What organisational tools do you take with you on the go?** I've always got my iPhone, diary and secateurs. When I'm working on site, I have a kit of things like twine and 3M strips. **Do you have renovation resolution for the year ahead?** We're building a house, so there will be no need for renovations, but the garden is going to be the area I make over – something I'm very excited about!



Greta Kenyon *Photographer*

With an eye for capturing 'real life' Greta teamed up with Shaye Woolford this issue to shoot and style our summer preserves story on page 102. **When I'm not photographing I'm...** Enjoying the chaos of family life as the mother of three small children, or indulging my passion for real food and wellbeing by either creating healthy meals or finding the best places to eat out. **How do you like to entertain at this time of year?** Long, lazy, outdoor lunches in the sunshine at the bach in Mount Maunganui, with lots of friends and children laughing and relaxing. **What is your top tip for getting organised?** Planning in advance and writing lists. I normally have several on my iPhone that I'm working off at any one time – normally one for urgent shoot-based work, one for admin and accounts and a couple more for personal tasks. **Do you have a renovation resolution for the year ahead?** More of an organisational project rather than a renovation – on our huge rumpus/playroom on the bottom level of our house, which is bulging with books, toys and sports equipment.



Esther Gordon *Direct sales manager*

Esther has recently joined the sales team, bringing a wealth of publishing experience from both New Zealand and Australia with her. **When I'm not working I'm...** Looking after my young daughters. **How do you like to entertain at this time of year?** Outdoors, preferably, with the help of cold drinks, plenty of food and warm evenings. **What is your top tip for getting organised?** Be ruthless – don't keep something for the sake of keeping it, you end up with a house full of too much of everything. **What organisational tools do you take with you on the go?** My phone. **Do you have a renovation resolution for the year ahead?** Let there be light! To quantify, we're starting renovations on our home this month. The single most important change I hope this will bring about is a light, sun-filled house! Whatever style of house you have, if it's light, warm and sunny, it's going to be a space you want to be in.

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My home project list for the year ahead isn't very long, as we're currently renting. In fact, top of the list is finding a house we'd like to make our own – and saving for it.

Contrary to popular opinion, this is a task made no easier by my work – as **each issue I'm introduced to a wide range of covetable homes**. So, aside from the extortionate house prices, my main concern with buying a house is settling on a style we like – not to mention throwing the idea of building into the equation too!

The homes we're sharing this issue have introduced more than a few creative ideas to the list of possibilities. Visiting an architectural bachelor pad in the country (page 56) saw **a lap pool and cleverly placed picture windows added to the wish list.** Then again, on seeing a lovingly restored mid-century original, brought back to its former glory by a creative couple with an eye for design (page 76), I was back on a renovating buzz.

For now all these ideas will be stashed away, and instead **I'm taking steps to edit down the things that are filling our current abode** (essential when you live in a 60 square metre part-villa). But storage doesn't have to be sterile. I like to think it's equally important to have stylish solutions to tidy away life's essentials, as it is to make space for the things you want to have on show. With this in mind, we have ideas for the kitchen, living and bedroom to display and hide away (page 39).

We also have a few inspiring projects looking at what is often the **organisational hub of a home** – the kitchen. Check out our workbook section (page 123) where we find out from three designers how to create kitchens for modern living.

I love organising my work space for the year ahead. It puts me in the best frame of mind for making plans – not only personally, but for *homestyle* too. **I'm excited to share what we have in store for the magazine as we move forward for 2014.**

Alice

Alice Lines

PS We'll be sharing more great ideas for getting organised on facebook.com/homestyleNZ, and Instagram @homestylemag. Join us online for a sneak peek at what's going on in the *homestyle* office.

GETTING ORGANISED

I'm coveting the String shelf spotted in Meadowlark's studio, it's the perfect size for a vignette by the desk. $325, from bobandfriends.co.nz



My goal this year is to make a place for all of my everyday essentials that I constantly seem to be unable to find! The Factory Empty Pocket Tray, $161, from selettiboutique.co will be the perfect solution. Another favourite new trick is using an Expression Manikin from gordonharris.co.nz to stack jewellery bed-side.





We'll be tracking time in style with this design classic – the Stendig Calendar, originally designed in 1966 by Massimo Vignelli. Available from paperroom.co.nz, for $125.

PORTRAIT Larnie Nicolson, shot on location at Mildred&Co showroom. Mildred shirt and Tulip skirt by Juliette Hogan.

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We're all friends here, so go on, steal some ideas that our clever homeowners have realised in their own houses.



We've been watching fun new online stores popping up, like this wee beauty: bonweek-end.com



Our Editor, Alice, is taking on the challenge of meat-free Mondays – and will be sharing her recipe ideas on Facebook.

@homestylemag





"Selfie" may have been added to the dictionary in 2013, but our new word round these parts is "shelfie". We're sharing those we find and create on Instagram @homestylemag. Have a go yourself and hashtag #homestyle and #shelfie — we want to see what you come up with too!



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homestyle has some exciting things planned for the year ahead, including workshops and events. Sign up to our monthly newsletter at homestyle.co.nz. You'll be the first to know what we're up to, as well as first in line to hear about – and nab – our frequent giveaways.

...or write to us at myhome@homestyle.co.nz

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STYLE

A CURATED SELECTION OF OUR FAVOURITE FINDS



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BRANZ, New Zealand's leading research, testing, consulting and building knowledge company have just launched their new "Renovate" website.

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NATURAL DESK TOPS

1. Wooden storage **box**, $39, from fatherrabbit.com **2.** Radio **dock** in natural, $69.90, from letliv.co.nz **3.** Horse shoe **magnet**, $19.90, from letliv.co.nz **4. Diamond** in natural, $21.90, from letliv.co.nz **5.** Magnetic **tower** by Daniel Emma, $78, douglasandbec.co.nz **6.** Wilde leather and canvas **satchel**, $299, from shop.cittadesign.com **7.** Hiero leather **phone sleeve**, $29.90, from shop.cittadesign.com











SCOUT&ABOUT

We've been shopping for your home office



FROM LEFT Karlsson Railway clock, $83, from fatherrabbit.com. Exotic Colour Birdhouse clock, $14.99, from The Warehouse. LEFF Amsterdam felt clock, $399.95, from petergower.co.nz. En Suspend hook clock in gold chrome, $225, from corso.co.nz. Bloomingville wall clock, $199, from perchhomewares.co.nz. Neon pink diamond carved wall clock, $120, see decorliving.co.nz for stockists. **WIN** *We have two LEFF Amsterdam felt clocks by Sebastian Herkner, valued at $399.95 each, to give away. Head over to homestyle.co.nz/competitions and enter the code LEFF to be in to win*



WHITE OUT

CLOCKWISE FROM ABOVE A3 Storage box, $29.90, from kikki-k.com. Giant paper clips, $29 (set of 3), from fatherrabbit.com. Rollerball Kontor pen, $24.90, from kikki-k.com. White Moleskine journals, $22.95, from fatherrabbit.com

WRITE IT DOWN



1. Berry Red Bloom notebooks, $34 (Set of 2), from forkeeps.co.nz **2.** Farm Animals journal, $8, from paperplanestore.com **3.** Rifle Botanical journal, $26, from fatherrabbit.com

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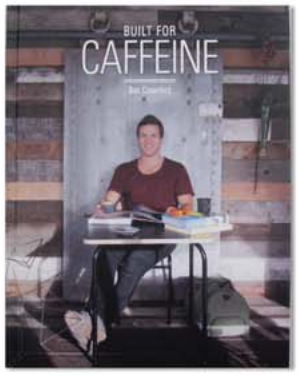
THE READING CORNER

OUR LATEST BOOKMARKS AND YOUR OTHER FAVOURITE READS



HOME: 25 Amazing Projects for Your Home, by Beci Orpin. Published by Hardie Grant Books, RRP $39.95

Design legend Beci Orpin introduces clever ways to turn your house into a home. Each project – from making a box shelf to constructing a cardboard playhouse – is simple and simply laid out. In fact, this book is so beautifully designed that you needn't worry if you never get to the DIY and it lives forever on your coffee table. **Check out page 146 for a DIY project from *HOME*, plus the chance to win your own copy of the book.**



BUILT FOR CAFFEINE, by Ben Crawford. Published by Beatnik, RRP $49.99

It's only fitting that the land of the long black – or flat white, as the case may be – produces a book called *Built for Caffeine*. Ben Crawford has showcased some of our best cafes – a tough job given the number we've brewed up over the years. This book is a comprehensive look at the interiors and stories of all your favourite caffeine suppliers – and those that could well be after you have a flick through these pages.



COLOUR: Deconstructed, by Tricia Guild. Published by Quadrille, RRP $64.99

Contents: black, slate, chalk, raven smoke, charcoal, page eight. Right from the start there's no doubt that this book is about just what it says it's about: deconstructing colour. It talks about colour, it showcases colour and it illustrates how to use colour – in everything from a Japanese office to a floral wonderland of a bedroom. Basically, if you're in need of some light or bright inspiration, you'll find it in here.



WORKING SPACE, by Martyn Thomson. Published by Hardie Grant Books, RRP $75

The master of light, Martyn Thomson, has put together this beautiful book showcasing the creative spaces of the world's most creative people. Peek inside the studios of fashion designers, artists, lighting designers – and all kinds of other hotbeds of creativity. This is the perfect book to flip through before you get started on making your own workspace a place of wonder (see page 118).

ONLINE FINDS WHERE TO GO WHEN YOUR DREAMS ARE RUNNING LOW



All things nice

Amy Tennent describes her style as, "black, white, patterns, stripes, industrial mixed with vintage – country with a touch of modern". We describe it as highly covetable and fortuitously follow-able. **miloandmitzy.blogspot.co.nz**



Neat and tidy

"Symmetry", "perfect lines", "even spaces" – if these are all words that make your perfectly aligned wheels spin, you'll delight in this blog that features all kinds of things arranged just so. **thingsorganizedneatly.tumblr.com**

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PHOTOGRAPHY Rachel Hadfield

FANCY FLOORS

DESIGN BLOG FANCY! AND DILANA RUGS HAVE COME TOGETHER TO CREATE TWO OF THESE GORGEOUS HAND-TUFTED RUGS – AND YOU COULD WIN ONE OF THEM!

We spoke to Alana Broadhead of design blog Fancy! about her collaboration with Dilana – an artisan rug company that often works with artists, designers and architects in the design and production of extra-special floor coverings.

How did the Fancy! rug project come about? Dilana was keen to share what they do with a new, more design-led market. I suggested we create some special Fancy! rugs and involve blog readers in the process of choosing the designs, documenting how the rugs get made and then give them away. Call me Santa – I basically look the same, just without the beard. **Did you plan on creating your own products when you started the blog?** Heck no! I started Fancy! as a way of inspiring myself and others by sharing all the super-awesome design coming out of New Zealand. A couple of years in, I made some prints for my own home, and decided to see if Fancy! readers would like them too. I'm blessed that the stuff I like, others also seem to like. Now I have so many ideas – just not enough time. **We know these are designs you've played around with for Fancy! before, but what inspired them?** I knew I didn't want to do a traditional rectangle-shaped rug – I love how playful and graphic a circular rug looks on a floor, and circle rugs are hard to come by. So I designed four circular rugs in total, then put them on the blog to let the readers choose their two favourites. The So Fancy rug, that we're giving away here, comes directly from a blog graphic and my most popular print – and it just happened to get the most votes. The second, the My Dane rug, is a play on the iconic Scandinavian black and white striped rug. I just wanted to take a classic and change it up a bit – and stripes rule! **What are your favourite resources for finding inspiration at the moment – online or otherwise?** I've developed a keen sense of what I love and, over the years, a confidence in my aesthetic taste. I can trawl through 30 websites to find just one gem – I don't have favourites really. I'm a voracious consumer of interiors and design – nom nom nom. All-design-all-the-time. **Any more Fancy! design collaborations planned for the future?** I'm really interested in collaborating; super-exciting design babies can be born when two brands work together on a special project. I'm planning lots of design babies in 2014.■

newzealanddesignblog.com

win

Thanks to Fancy! NZ Design Blog and Dilana rugs, we're giving away the So Fancy rug – a hand-tufted, 100% New Zealand wool piece of special-ness, worth $2600. Just pop over to homestyle.co.nz/competition and enter the code: SO FANCY



Happily ever after

Paris and San Francisco – these are creative kinds of towns. Jordan Ferney is an event planner and blogger who's lived in the former and now dwells in the latter. What does that mean for you? Whimsical ideas for living well wherever you are.
ohhappyday.com



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LOOK BACK TO LOOK FORWARD

The future would not look as bright without retrospective design. Influenced by the styles of the late 20th century, replete with vibrant hues and clever colour-blocking, this palette is quirky, colourful and energetic.

Dulux COLOURS OF NEW ZEALAND

Cavelli Islands	Moorehouse Street	George Street	Hakataramea	Lake Unknown	Grove Arm

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The future is bright

Classic homeware from the past looks set to have a colourful future

Styling **Sophie Peacocke**

1. String shelving system, $325, from Bob and Friends. **2.** *Five squares* print, $25, from ineednicethings.com **3.** Vattenblank tray, $118, from boltofcloth.co.nz. **4.** Kitchen canister, $15.90, from letliv.co.nz. **5.** Eclectic by Tom Dixon tower grinders: salt grinder, $115; pepper grinder, $130, both from simonjamesdesign.com. **6.** Day bed, $2490, from douglasandbec.co.nz. **7.** Centella cushion (front and back), $79, from tasselandgaine.com. **8.** Tea cup set, $49, from paperplanestore.com. **9.** Indoor pot plant, $9.99, from thewarehouse.co.nz

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SPOTLIGHT ON LAMPS

Before you buy that lamp, see how your choice stacks up here



Mr Dowel Jones desk lamp, $250, from theminamalist.com



Infratherm lamp, $295, from mrbigglesworthy.co.nz



Baltic table lamp, $139.90, from lightingdirect.co.nz



Telegram lamp, $244.90 from letliv.co.nz



Make Your Own Angle lamp, $289, from douglasandbec.co.nz



Margaret Howell Anglepoise lamp, $315, from everyday-needs.com



Icon table lamp in steel, $49.95, from freedomfurniture.co.nz



HK Living lamp, $399, from mintsix.com



George and Willy 109-piece lamp, $485, from yoyo.co.nz



Jellyfish table lamp, $679, from boconcept.com



Fellow lamp, $695, from yscollective.com



Joska & Sons Scissor lamp, $1220, from yoyo.co.nz

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THE AIR UP HERE

WE TALK TO THE TEAM AT VIDA CONCEPT ABOUT HOW THEY SERVED UP A ROOFTOP APARTMENT OVERLOOKING THE HEINEKEN OPEN

Who came up with the concept for a pop-up apartment to be created and given away for the Heineken Open? We were approached by Spark PR who collaborated with Heineken to develop the concept. The brief they gave us was to subtly include the brand colours and execute the design in a way that was premium, fresh and contemporary. **What were your key design ideas?** Because it was a temporary structure and very small we had to work within some limitations – such as not being able to bolt things to the walls and being conscious that it would be very hot up there. So we used fabric walls as a starting point to have something where air could breeze through. Our furniture was sourced from nood – they have a lot of Scandinavian stuff which worked in with our palette. **What kind of ambience were you trying to achieve?** Luxurious but relaxed – because the space is small, we were conscious of making sure it didn't look too cluttered. How did you divide the space? The viewing platform is on one side and the bar is on the other, so we treated it as two separate areas, split down the middle with a green runner, with the bedrooms off in a cross-section. We briefed our builder to make a bedroom divider that could be open or closed off, by pivoting the circles. All the walls could concertina back during the day too, to open the whole place up. **What are the elements that made it special?** Definitely the bar. The occupiers didn't have to cook, and this place isn't about the food! The bar lit up at night; it had a great feel to it – everything else came off it. **Did you get to stay a night in the apartment?** Well, I stayed till 5am getting it finished! ■



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GET THE LOOK

DON'T LET YOUR ABODE FEEL NAKED – DRESS IT UP WITH NOOD



1. Kaari coat stand, $279.99 **2.** Abin nest of tables, $379 **3.** Katu cushion, $49.99 each **4.** Kurvet lamp, $499 **5.** Replica R160 contour chair, $1598 **6.** Airfoil sideboard, $2399 **7.** Wise Old Owl, $49.99 **8.** Gable wooden alarm clock, $159.99 **9.** Spindle candlesticks, from $29.99, all available from nood.co.nz. Due to popularity stock availability may vary from store to store or be limited.

nood.co.nz

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Home from the street

Even streetwear gets tired of roaming the streets all day – sometimes it wants a cosy house to come home to. Enter design label, Shooting Sparrow

Words **Gena Tuffery**
Photography **Duncan Innes**

STREETWEAR IS FOR the streets, homeware is for the home. Simple – right? Well, until recently, yes. But in April 2013 Ben Dundas went from working in streetwear to starting his own streetwear-inspired homeware company, Shooting Sparrow.

"I noticed from working in retail for 10 years that more and more guys were shopping for themselves, as opposed to letting their girlfriends do it for them," Ben says.

"At the same time, I noticed more young people were taking an interest in decorating their homes – but there was no collection of homeware around that reflected these people; that was an extension of them."

The obvious solution – to an artistic and entrepreneurial spirit like Ben – was to start one.

Having arrived at the name from a desire to juxtopose something morbid (shooting sparrows) with something beautiful (well-designed products), he began producing different embodiments of the Shooting Sparrow motif.

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CLOCKWISE FROM OPPOSITE LEFT An array of Shooting Sparrow wares, including tinned candles in My Sweet Little Pea, Neverending Story and Black Orchid with two Thumbs Up candles. Target and Sleeping Bird plates, vases and wall hangings sit alongside a Sleeping Bird pillowcase. The Anchor candle and Target plate fit well in a bookcase. The Flying Sparrow three-piece wall hanging doesn't have to hang on a wall. Ben wears the Denim and Orange baseball cap; the Fresh Prince cap lays next to him.

First was a new take on the classic ceramic three flying ducks wall-hanging, with two flying sparrows and one prone one. Then came the open-mouthed sparrow vases; candles sculpted into thumbs and anchors; cheeky pillowcases and dinnerware, and of course, various dead sparrows.

But Ben hasn't abandoned streetwear completely – he has produced a series of caps in three styles which are sold alongside his homewares in 20 stores around the country. "The interesting thing is because they're part of the range, the caps have made their way into homeware stores and the homeware has made its way into the streetwear stores, alongside the caps."

But Ben's not happy with that small crossover – he plans to confuse genres further, with "a lot more fabric work" as well as more ceramics and all other things street-home. "It's also time for another creature to join the collection," he reckons. ■

shootingsparrow.com



COLOUR BLOCKING

CAN COLOUR ON COLOUR WORK WITHOUT BEING OVERWHELMING? IT CAN IF YOU MATCH YOUR TONES

Words & Styling **Anya Brighouse** *Photography* **Larnie Nicolson**



*See the inside front cover to shop the look.



YOU'RE PROBABLY getting the idea by now: I'm all for the use of colour in pretty much any form. And the easiest form at the moment is to choose one background colour and add bursts of other colours to it. This way you can add as much or as little brightness as you want – turning the volume up (as I would), or down, according to your taste.

The home office I've done up here could have been painted in almost any background colour and the accents would still work. The trick is keeping the intensity of the colours pretty much the same. Here we see teal, dark blue, orange, mustard yellow, red and a shot of pink all in a similar tonality – there are no pastels and no strict primaries.

I always find the whole process of finding inspiration an interesting one – you never know what will start you off. Here I started with the Inaluxe print, as it had some great colours in it – almost all the other colours in the room were influenced by it. The Robin Day Polo chair is the most perfect shade of orange. The Kartell Componibili (used here as extra office storage) is red, but works with the chair because of their similar colour saturation. And you can make the Douglas & Bec Make Your Own Angle Lamp work in any room, as the base, shade and cord can all be chosen and put together in any combination.

So go on – have a go at using colour on colour. Just watch your tones. ■

ANYA'S TOP TONE TIPS

1. Keep your palette to four colours or so, making sure they're all the same intensity level (how bright they are).

2. Use a piece of art or fabric as your inspiration. Many paint companies will happily colour match this for you.

3. If all colour on colour is too much for you, use some white or natural timber to break it up.

4. Have fun – if you get it wrong, you can always paint it out.

Anya Brighouse loves wearing black and living in colour. For more of her decorating tips see what she has to say at beautifulbedlam.co.nz

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CLEAN AND SIMPLE

Introducing a simple and highly functional shelving unit from Simon James Design. Made from a solid oak frame and powder-coated folded sheet metal, the unit comprises of a bookshelf, tray shelf, deep box end and shallow box. By adding an extension kit, the shelving unit can be adapted to your specific needs.

Tall unit from $1540; low unit from $806. Exclusive to Simon James Design, 61 Upper Queen Street, Newton, Auckland.

simonjamesdesign.com

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MEADOWLARK

After six years Meadowlark has left the nest – moving from a home base to pretty premises

Words **Gena Tuffery** *Photography* **Larnie Nicolson**

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PHOTO Olivia Hemus

LEFT Meadowlark directors, Claire Hammon and Greg Fromont. **ABOVE** A String shelf houses a collection of crystals and objects hunted down online, interwoven with chain of hearts and air plants. **ABOVE RIGHT** Photos from Meadowlark's Ritual campaign photographed by Darren McDonald and styled by Bex Sheers hang above a custom-made display table and totems by Mark Spraggon. **ABOVE FAR RIGHT** Bespoke pieces line the entrance, including a hexagon mirror that was custom made to match Meadowlark's logo.

JEWELLERY LABEL Meadowlark wasn't named after a lark, but it was started on one. It was 2006 and graphic designer Claire Hammon had just got together with jewellery designer Greg Fromont; Claire had been getting quite a bit of jewellery custom made and Greg was thinking about starting a business. "We just decided to do it one night while we were having dinner at Ponsonby Foodcourt," says Greg.

So they did – setting up shop in Greg's flat. Over the following years Claire moved in, and one by one Greg's flatmates moved out as the business took over bedrooms, staff arrived to work in them and baby Gigi took up a corner of her own. "At one stage I had four people working in a bedroom with me while I designed, and Greg was making the jewellery in the neighbour's basement flat with another staff member," Claire says.

In March 2013 the long-awaited time came to move into a designated work and design space in Newton – one so beautiful, it was almost worth the wait. Incorporating an office at one end, a workshop at the other, and a reception-slash-lounge in the middle, the new Meadowlark HQ was put together with the help of Claire and Greg's friend Charlotte Rust. "She's a not-an-interior-designer who should be one," says Claire.

The process was surprisingly straightforward, given the striking results. "It was just a case of finding stuff to buy and get made, asking ourselves, 'is that Meadowlark?' along the way," Claire says.

SHOP THE LOOK

50s Ukrainian army **stool**, $150, from The Vitrine. The Lilith Doll **candle**, $160, from curionoir.com. String **shelf**, $325, from Bob and Friends. Heart **iPhone case**, $49, from meadowlark.co.nz





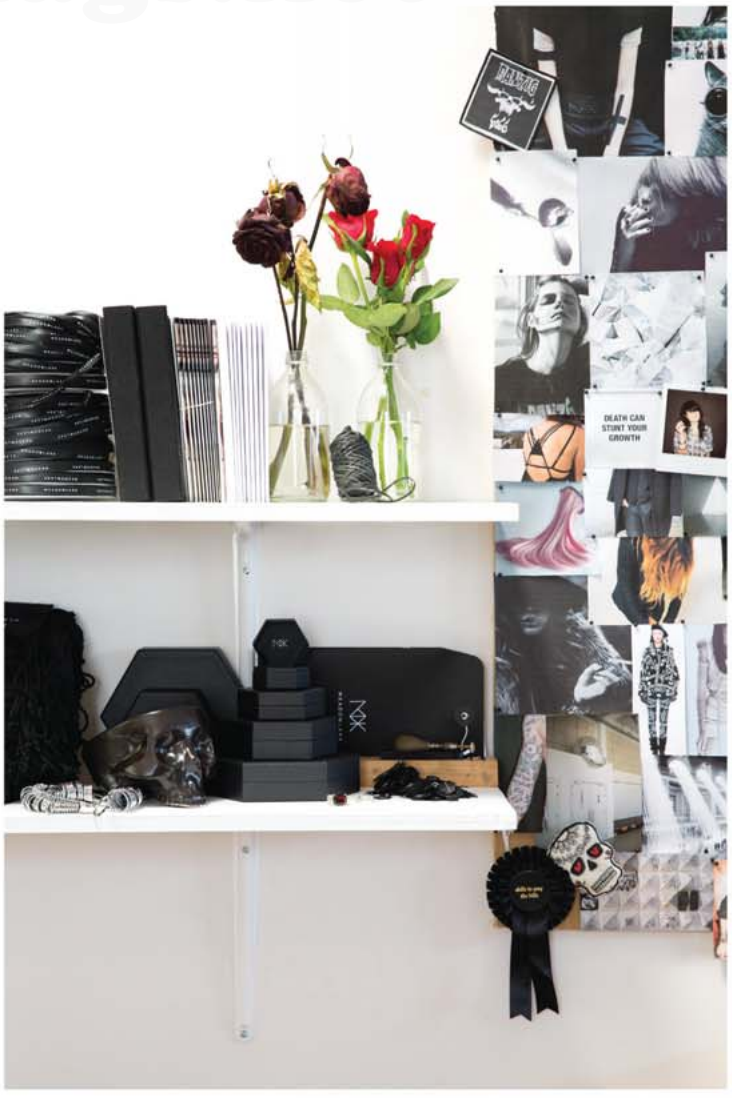




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"WE ALWAYS LIKE TO HAVE PUSH AND PULL BETWEEN DARKNESS AND LIGHT"

And what is that? "We're all about darkness, strength and boldness. We like a bit of mysticism too," says Greg. Claire adds: "We always like to have push and pull between darkness and light. You can see this in our jewellery and in our showroom." You can indeed – the patched insignia cushions by Andrew Mcleod on the Meadowlark couch and their latest collection, Ritual, both have this dark versus light aesthetic.

And has the space itself influenced the work in any other ways? "The way we create it doesn't really matter where we are," says Greg. "But having a bigger place does make me feel like I have more mental space to wander around in." ■

meadowlarkjewellery.com

RIGHT Based on bespoke designs, pieces from the new Ritual collection were created by Greg and Claire to symbolise eternity. **ABOVE** The Meadowlark mood board and covetable new packaging. **ABOVE LEFT** The magic factory – aka the workroom. **ABOVE FAR LEFT** The magic itself: rings, rings and more gorgeous rings.











Crystal **poster**, starting at $40, from debiecarlos.com. Three Hex **ring** , starting at $429, with zigzag **bands**, starting at $329, from meadowlarkjewellery.com. Esme **rug**, $550, from siggada.co.nz. Leather and suede oblong **cushion**, $160, from theminimalist.com.au

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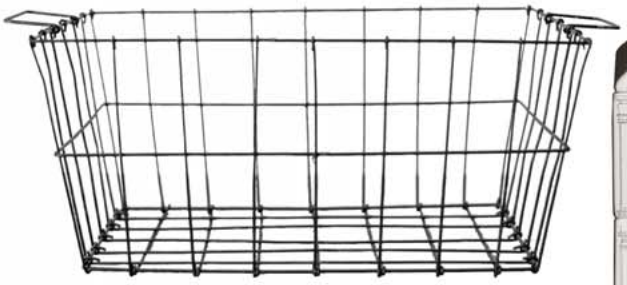
Display & hide away

As William Morris once said, "have nothing in your house that you do not know to be useful, or believe to be beautiful" – here we find the right spaces for both

Styling **Alice Lines, Amber Armitage & Sophie Peacocke** *Photography* **Melanie Jenkins, Flash Studios**



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Market basket, $36, from everyday-needs.co.nz



Alessandro Zambelli Palazzina container, $164, from selettiboutique.co



Typhoon Summer House scales, $74.99, from livingandgiving.co.nz



Bambus canister, (short) $16.95; (tall) $24.95, both from freedomfurniture.co.nz



Bacchus wine storage, $699, from freedomfurniture.co.nz



Washable Paper Shoulder Bag, $110; Washable Paper Storage Bag, $89 both from paperplanestore.co.nz



White ceramic butter container, $75, from everyday-needs.co.nz

Kitchen

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STYLING Sophie Peacocke. See page 46 for product credits

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Bed boy $930, from timwebberdesign.com



Brass wire scarf hanger, $14, from everyday-needs.com



Glass and metal box, $46, from fatherrabbit.com



Jelly vase by Patricia Urquiola, $198, from Kartell



Wooden mannequin hand, $34.99, from gordonharris.co.nz



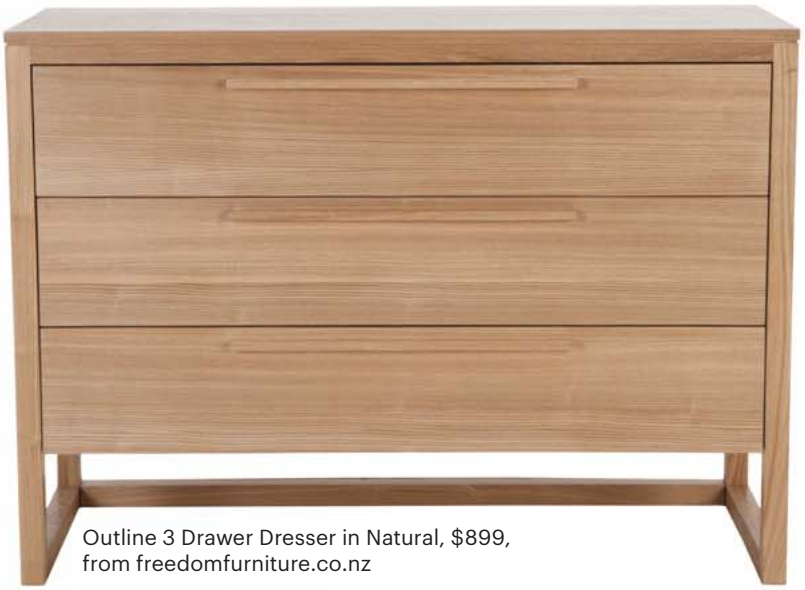
Hay boxes, $118 (set of 5), from Corporate Culture



Graph Varpunen sacks, $59; Orange Rope bowls, starting at $36, both from paperplanestore.com



Large Tiva tray, $64.90, from countryroad.com.au



Outline 3 Drawer Dresser in Natural, $899, from freedomfurniture.co.nz



Sacrificial chair, $180, from thingindustries.com

Bedroom

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STYLING Alice Lines. See page 46 for product credits.

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Edge cupboard, $2599, from nood.co.nz



Wooden milk crate by Page Thirty Three, $269, from fatherrabbit.com



Sailing ship and whale ceramic milk bottles, $52 each, from macyhome.co.nz

Shelf with hanger, RRP $199, from Nelson and Co



Urban cabinet in natural/grey, $1999, from freedomfurniture.co.nz



Cabin washed rattan barrel basket, $99, from freedomfurniture.co.nz

Replica Offi magazine rack, $164.50, from nood.co.nz





Magazine rack, RRP $350, from Nelson and Co

Living

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STYLING Amber Armitage. See page 46 for product credits.

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HALLWAY

TOP SHELF Copper **bowl**, $78, from Nelson and Co. **Postcard set**, $12, from paperplanestore.com. Hay yellow **pen organiser**, $78; Hay small grey **tray set**, $140, both from Corporate Culture. Black **vase**, $55; black **candlestick**, $59, both from Nelson and Co. Fokus **tray**, $118, from boltofcloth.com. Shooting Sparrow **candle**, $49.95, from collected.co.nz. *Small Talk* **print**, $69, from paperplanestore.com. Marimekko **bowl**, $34, from boltofcloth.com. Moda self-watering **pot**, $38, from Bunnings. MIDDLE SHELF Hay **boxes**, $118 (set of 5), from Corporate Culture. Fort Standard white oak **vessel**, $92, from douglasandbec.co.nz. Copper **bowl**, $145, from Nelson and Co. BOTTOM SHELF Leather **bin**, $49, from paperplanestore.com. A4 **storage box**, $24.90; A3 **storage box**, $29.90; wool blend A5 **notebook**, $29.95, all from Kikki-k.com. Bob Steiner Ceramics **vase**, $70, from collected.co.nz. Jack Jr **bag**, $345, from mattnash.com. **Ecobox** small, $115; standard, $134.55; medium, $158.70 from lundia.co.nz. All other items stylist's own.

KITCHEN

ABOVE TROLLEY **Hanging rack** made by the *homestyle* team with **leather strips**, from $8; and harness post **fastenings**, $21.58 (pack of 10), from lapco.co.nz. **Dowel** 22mm, $11.30, from Mitre10.co.nz. ON THE HANGING RACK Bella Vista **hanging lights**, $245, from selettiboutique.co. Pallarès stainless steel **butcher hook** No 14, $3 each; stainless steel **egg beater**, $35.50; Riess 9cm milk **jug**, $58.50; **crepe pan**, $34, all from fatherrabbit.com. Enamel **mug** with red rim, $8, from paperplanestore.com. ON THE WALL Flip **clock** by Karlsson, $279.90, from letliv.co.nz. ON THE FLOOR Hand **brush**, $25; stainless steel **dust pan**, $35, both from izzyandjean.co.nz. Forhoja kitchen **trolley**, $439, myflatpack.co.nz. Nordic Fushion **sandals**, $199, from The General Trading Company. ON THE CHAIR Striped kitchen **towel**, $10 each, from izzyandjean.co.nz. ON THE TROLLEY **Chopping board** with marine rope, $95; grey ceramic and natural cork **bowl**, $20, both from paperplanestore.com. Balloon style **whisk** with copper handle, $47; Best **masher**, starting at $21; rubber **spatula**, $9; **wooden spoons**, starting at $5.50; porcelain **egg holder** by Seletti, $32, all from fatherrabbit.com. Tajika copper **scissors**, $178.25, from everyday-needs.co.nz. Small glass container, $5, from The General Trading Company. Colour pop **serving board**, $85; **pot brush**, $10, both from izzyandjean.co.nz. Alessandro Zambelli Palazzina **container** (other half on middle shelf), $164, from selettiboutique.co. French 40cm **wooden spoon**, $7; Colonna 5-litre **olive oil**, $198.90, both from sabato.co.nz. MIDDLE SHELF Ceramic and natural cork **container**, $29; large rope **bowl**, $49; espresso **cup**, $18, all from paperplanestore.com. Rustic kitchen **towel**, $22; striped kitchen **towel**, $10, both from izzyandjean.co.nz. BOTTOM SHELF Enamel **teapot** with red rim, $45, from paperplanestore.com. **Bottle holder**, $20; glass **bottles**, $3 each, all from perchhomewares.co.nz. All other items stylist's own.

BEDROOM

ON THE FLOOR Ponsonby **chair**, $289, from icotraders.co.nz. Support Surface **cushions**, $99 each, from kowtowclothing.com. A4 **storage box**, $24.90 ON THE TABLE Dante shallow **tray**, $44.90; Gio **votives**, large, $39.90; small, $34.90, all from Country Road. Muuto Corky **carafe**, $105, from douglasandbec.co.nz. Expression mannequin right **hand**, $34.99, from gordonharris.co.nz. Assorted **rings**, starting at $125, from companyofstrangers.co.nz. Kristian Vedel **bird**, $69.90, from letliv.co.nz. Siirtolapuutarha espresso **cup and saucer**, $45, from boltofcloth.com. Copper storage **boxes**, $199 (set of 3), from Nelson and Co. Oil **Cleanser**, $89, from martinaorganics.co.nz, Chassis **side table**, $790, from Citta Design. ON THE WALL Birdhouse **bookshelf**, $120, from thingindustries.com. Black **vase**, $55, from Nelson and Co. Button **hooks**, medium, $45; large, $60, from mintsix.com. Matt Nash **rucksack**, $525, from mattnash.co.nz. ON THE RACK Manhattan shirt **dress**, $460, from pardonmyfrench.co.nz. Check **tunic**, $159, from kowtowclothing.com. Horizon long **robe**, $530, from Otsu. Blak Basics Draw The Line tee **dress**, $119, from blak.co.nz. Caroline Z Hurley linen **throw**, $228, from fatherrabbit.com. Hay wire **hangers**, $60 (set of 5), from Corporate Culture. **S Hook**, $42, from douglasandbec.co.nz. Washed linen **pillowcase**, $59 (set of 2), from nest-direct.com. Vow **boot**, $369, from chaosandharmony.co.nz. **Garment rack**, from $1190, from douglasandbec.co.nz. All other items stylist's own.

LIVING

ON THE WALL Workshop pivot **lamp**, $389; Edison medium tube filament smoke **bulb**, $29, both from Weekend Trader. Wooden bracket **shelf**, $125, from douglasandbec.co.nz. Jujumade cluster **necklace**, $178, from douglasandbec.co.nz. ON THE SHELF House **plant**, $14.95; white Moda self-watering **pot**, $38, both from Bunnings. Wooden **houses**, $28 from paperplanestore.com. Horse head **bookends**, $55, from Zoo Warehouse. English **Classics** by Penguin, $13 each, from paperplanestore.com. ON THE SIDETABLE Recharging horse **photographic print** by Stephen Perry with A3 black frame, $168, from endemicworld.com. Parrot framed **print**, $99, from fatherrabbit.com. French ceramic **pots**, $9.50 each, from Flotsam & Jetsam. Heath ceramic bud **vase** in olive, $69, from everyday-needs.com. Fort Standard marble **trivet**, $110, from douglasandbec.co.nz. Margaret Howell concentric **trays**, $395 (set of 5), from everyday-needs.com. Glass **dome**, $76, from Weekend Trader. Small **cacti**, $2.95; terracotta **pot** (painted in Resene Black), $3.50, both from Bunnings. Small **cup** by Sarah Backler, $32, from paperplanestore.com. House **plant**, $14.95, and White Moda self-watering **pot**, $38, both from Bunnings. Small **fern**, $14.95, from Bunnings. White **pot** with handles, $101, from selettiboutique.co. Vintage rose bird **print** by Georgie Malyon, $95, from endemicworld.com. Tall **cup**, $45; **vase**, $99; small **cup**, $32, by Sarah Backler, all from paperplanestore.com. Thrive **greenhouse**, $60, from ponylane.co.nz. Small **cacti**, $2.95; terracotta **pot** (painted in Resene Black), $3.50, both from Bunnings. ON THE GROUND Henderson **console** in natural, $849, from Freedom Furniture. Striped **laundry bag**, $39.95, from Nelson and Co. All other items stylist's own.

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ONE LAST THING

Renovations in a family home halted abruptly nine years ago, with one room left to finish. But now the kitchen has been done – and it was worth the wait

Photography **Larnie Nicolson** *Words* **Anya Brighouse**

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OPPOSITE "Beloved" had a special meaning for Stacy and John. It is also the tattoo that Stacy had done to celebrate her 50th birthday. **LEFT** Stacy's collection of vintage aprons hangs in her new kitchen space on Muuto wooden hooks from Douglas and Bec. **BELOW** Stacy couldn't have completed her kitchen project without her great builder Brendon Beattie, who made the shelves and the rangehood out of reclaimed timber.

THIS IS THE STORY of a beautiful kitchen that was very patiently dreamed about – and waited for.

Twenty-three years ago Stacy McIvor and her husband John bought their three-bedroom Californian bungalow in Ellerslie, Auckland, after deciding it would be the perfect place to raise their two daughters, Beth and Holly. It was a definite do-up, but they were happy to do the work that was needed – and to slowly work through the house room by room until it was all finished.

John did just that, working through the house, fixing each room as he went, leaving the kitchen and the small outside area off the back of the house till last. They used to joke about turning their "sow's ear into a silk purse". But unfortunately John wasn't able to finish all that he wanted before he died of cancer on Christmas Eve 2004.

Stacy and the girls remained living in the house, which is full of John's handiwork – from the bookcase in the dining room through to the windows in the kitchen. After two dear friends built the covered deck off the back of the house – the fulfillment of a final promise to John to see it finished – the kitchen became the last spot left untouched.

When dreaming of her ideal space, Stacy wanted to remove the wall between the kitchen and dining room and make one large room, as the tiny lean-to kitchen could only fit two people at the most. The walls were still covered with wooden veneer panels and the rimu cabinets had been well used even back when they'd moved in 14 years earlier.

Nearly nine years later it happened. By this stage Holly was living in London (where she still is) and Beth and her husband Mikey had made a home of their own. But it was still going to be a combined family effort to do the kitchen – with the help of a few other special people. ▷



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"EVERYTHING JUST LOOKED LIKE IT WAS MEANT TO BE THERE. JOHN WOULD HAVE LOVED THE KITCHEN JUST AS MUCH AS I DO"



Enter family friends Olivia (Liv) Harper and Toni Brandso from Material Creative – an interior design company with an architectural focus. It probably helped that they knew Stacy and the girls so well, but Liv and Toni were soon extremely adept at reading what was wanted. In fact, when Liv turned up with the tap for the kitchen, Stacy recognized it immediately as the one that she and Beth had on their Pinterest page – which Liv had never seen.

It was Liv and Toni that suggested the deep blue kitchen colour with the ply detailing. The units were made with set-back kick plates so that they almost look like separate pieces of furniture and helped create the illusion of more floor space in the small area. The butcher's tiles and sink have a classic feel, and have helped to highlight the beautiful cottage windows John put in originally. The three bulbs across the back were Stacy's idea. Stacy and John found the old metal shade under the house when they first moved in, and it was unanimously decided to keep it with the random lettering on it as it was a perfect tieback to the old house.

For Stacy the actual renovation itself has been long, and at times tiring – a year from start to finish – but she is thrilled with the result.

"The best thing about the kitchen was that all my pieces that had been away in cupboards because of a lack of space just fitted perfectly into the new kitchen. Everything just looked like it was meant to be there. And I do think John would have loved the kitchen just as much as I do." ■

DINING All the painting was done by Stacy, Beth, Mikey and Liv's brother Ben Harper. The ceiling was painted in Resene Alabaster, with the walls in Resene Black White and the trim in Black Jack. The specially made light fitting was designed by Liv to be a fantastic focal point in the room. The bookcase in the background was made by John.

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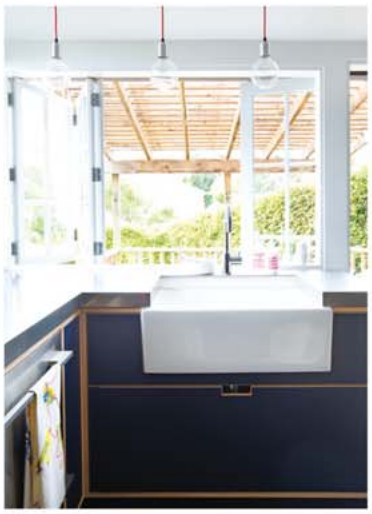
DINING ROOM The sideboard is from the The Cat and The Fiddle in Kingsland. The artwork is a framed tea towel by Third Drawer Down, from Douglas and Bec. And the stool is part of a set of three that were gifted to Stacy by design house FINN.



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LEFT The deckchairs have been painted in Resene's Lustacryl in shades of Daredevil, Windfall, Bullitt and Alabaster to brighten the small space. **BELOW** From left to right, Toni Brandso, Mikey Peters (standing), Stacy McIvor, Beth Peters and Liv Harper.

IT WAS A COMBINED FAMILY EFFORT TO DO THE KITCHEN – WITH THE HELP OF A FEW OTHER SPECIAL PEOPLE

design space

with Material Creative's Liv Harper and Toni Brandso

What was it like working with people you knew so well? It was great because I guess I had more of a vested interest as I wanted to see it all come together perfectly for Stacy. The benefit of doing work for friends is also that I too get to inhabit the space far beyond the completion date – I will most likely be visiting far more often now! **How did the amazing light fitting you made come about?** We didn't have any sort of budget to purchase one of either Lindsey Adelman's creations, or Douglas and Bec's beautiful fittings, but I quickly realised that I could probably make a variation if we could find the right pieces. I started off with the large bulbs, which we both loved and went from there. Amazingly, it worked! **Where did the blue bent come from?** Stacy is a dream client in that she is creative, artistic and loves colour. I knew a white or neutral kitchen was not for her. The navy High Pressure Laminate on ply was the perfect choice. Oasis Interiors organised the joinery and they showed such amazing attention to detail. They used four different shades of silicon to make sure everything tied in with the different finishes – they went above and beyond! **Where can we see Material Creative's signature on this room?** We always work to have something unexpected in our designs. With this project it was the deep navy blue of the cabinetry with exposed edges – and, of course, the light fitting.



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Windfall plate by Driade Kosmo, $108, from mildredandco.com

Rob Ryan Our Place dinner plates, $20, from collected.co.nz





Chandelier in brushed brass, $POA, from Douglas and Bec



Mora dining chair, $299.50, from nood.co.nz





Revolver jewellery dish, $85, from macyhome.co.nz

style this look...

Ivory swan by Douglas and Bec for Kate Sylvester, $135, from douglasandbec.co.nz



Stainless steel Flytta kitchen trolley, $599, from myflatpack.co.nz

surface palette



Royal HPL from Laminex



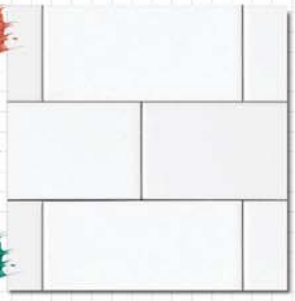
Resene Daredevil



Resene Bullitt



Resene Windfall



Vitra RAL white matte tiles $45 p/m² from Heritage Tiles

LeeAnn Yare for General Eclectic storage canisters, starting at $13, from collected.co.nz



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A MAN AND HIS HOUSE

Garth O'Brien has combined a farmhouse with an art gallery to create the ultimate single man's quarters

Words **Gena Tuffery** *Photography* **Laura Kay**



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IN SOME WAYS Garth O'Brien's house is a typical country home, sitting on subdivided farmland five kilometres along a south Waikato bush line. In fact, Garth refers to his house as his "single man's quarters" – because he lives there alone, but also because traditional farm hands' houses were often located in similar surroundings.

But Garth is not a farm labourer; he's an art-collecting solicitor. And this Pirongia house is not small and permeated with the smell of home kill; but 249 square metres that incorporate a grand foyer often filled with the soaring notes of live opera.

One thing many of those old farmhouses share with this new one, however, is a magnificent outlook. Four years ago, a couple of Garth's friends offered him a subdivision on their farm to build on – giving him free reign to choose his site. "I chose it for the views," he says.

Looking around, you're inclined to reply, "really?" with no small amount of sarcasm. Located on the southern slopes of Mount Pirongia, on a ridge within historic farmlands, the site offers unobstructed vistas of Ruapehu, Tongariro and Ngauruhoe to the south and Te Awamutu and Cambridge to the north.

Visibility was clear in more ways than one when Garth set out to build. "I knew what I wanted," he says: "A living space, a sleeping space and somewhere to display my art collection." He also knew he wanted to work with young people, "to create something fresh but simple." So he employed the services of Richard Mauriohooho from Hamilton's Antanas Procuta Architects.

The realised design is a series of simple forms that meld into the landscape, including living and sleeping wings. Some structures are fixed to the land and some float – with a bit of help. The lounge area, for example, is cantilevered to the wall that forms the stairs to the pool. One-and-a-half metres of structure overhang the landscape on either side, giving views that stretch out to visual eternity.

To aid with this, there are windows everywhere – even low ones so the view can be appreciated while in bed or from the bath. But, in this case, having many windows doesn't mean that there aren't many solid walls – when you've been collecting art for 30 years you need somewhere to hang it all.

"My friends call this place 'the art gallery with a bedroom attached'," Garth says. Add on another bedroom and an office and they'd be right. The impressive collection

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"THE WHOLE HOUSE FEELS LIKE A NICE SET OF CLOTHES. ONE THAT FITS ME VERY WELL"

ENTRANCE, LEFT TO RIGHT The four-metre-stud foyer, where Garth often hosts live opera nights, can be opened up further with sliding doors. A large Ralph Hotere rug by Dilana sets the cross theme that's echoed throughout the house. When you don't have a TV, you need a reading nook – and a piano. The 'concrete couch' is from Design 55. In front of it lays a Dilana rug and above it is an artwork by Darren George.

begins in the foyer with a Ralph Hotere rug by Dilana, extends to all corners of the house – even the bathroom where a series of neon Judy Darragh installations live – then ends outside at the end of the lap-pool, where a large ball of number-8 wire by Philippus Meier overlooks its relatives on the farm.

The whole property is quintessentially Kiwi, yet has such a majestic outlook that overseas visitors often say it feels a bit like being in Tuscany. Certainly, Garth is not going to let his home become provincial – whatever its postcode may suggest. Four times a year he lends out his grand foyer to a group called Opera Lovers, whereupon around 50 people descend to listen to live opera bouncing off the four-metre stud. "Acoustically it's very good."

The house took two years to build and Garth's been living in it two years since – very happily. And, in some ways, very much like single farm men would have done in their own quarters a century ago. "I don't have a TV – I read," Garth says. "When I need company I get people over – I have 20 people coming around tonight."

The house complements the persona of its occupant perfectly. "The whole house feels like a nice set of clothes," Garth says. "One that fits me very well." ■

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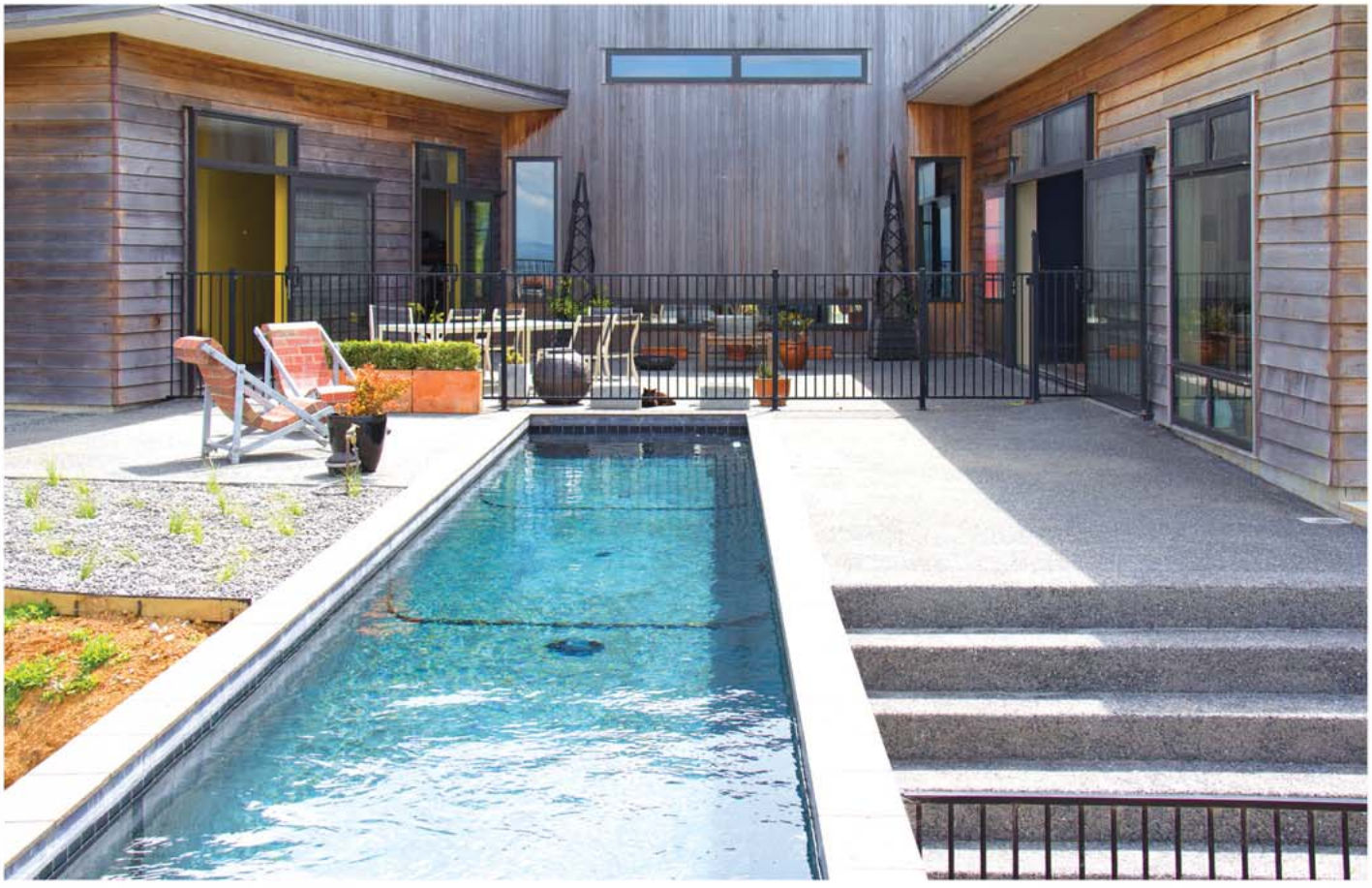
KITCHEN Although the house currently only has one occupant, it was designed to easily be converted into a family home. For example, there is a provision in the kitchen for an island to be installed and the second lounge can be made into a dining room.

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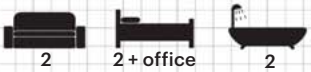
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INDOOR/OUTDOOR FLOW Both wings of the house open out to an internal courtyard surrounding the lap pool, so that outdoor living can be enjoyed while taking in the wider landscape. The brick deck chairs are by Peter Lange. **BELOW** The front entrance features a mixed use of materials, including horizontal and vertical cedar weatherboards, plywood and zinc sheet.

at a glance

PROJECT New home **SIZE** 249m²







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"I KNEW WHAT I WANTED: A LIVING SPACE, A SLEEPING SPACE AND SOMEWHERE TO DISPLAY MY ART COLLECTION"

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ABOVE, LEFT TO RIGHT The reading nook features a '50' artwork that Garth's daughter Jo created for her dad's 50th birthday. The lap pool comes in handy in summer, but it has an even more practical reason for being – if there was ever a fire in this isolated location, this would serve as a water source to put it out. The large-scale ball of number-8 wire perched at the end of the pool is by Philippus Meier. Bedroom: windows were positioned throughout the house specifically to appreciate the views – even if you're in bed. Above the dressing table: A collection of smaller artworks such as *Love Knot*, by Mary Louise Brown. In the bathroom, fluoro flowers by Judy Darragh hang above another picture window.

design space

with architect Richard Mauriohooho of Antanas Procuta Architects

What was the brief? There were three key attributes the owner was seeking. The first was to respond to the drama of the site; the slopes of Pirongia, a place that has tremendous spirit and views, but also harsh weather exposure. The brief noted particular landmarks to be revealed through the architecture of the house. The second element of the brief – and as important as the first – was to provide places for the display of an extensive collection of art. Thirdly, the owner required a straightforward design, using simple materials. **How did you accommodate an art collection that needs a lot of walls while providing visual access to the views?** First the design ensured that the house had a lot of free wall space within eye level to allow artwork to be displayed. Then we had to balance the essential structural requirements with windows showing the key landmarks. It was important to the owner that these views weren't revealed in an immediate and obvious way, but rather in a selective manner as one progresses through the house. **How did you design the exterior to meld with the surrounds?** We used a simple material palette of horizontal and vertical cedar weatherboard, plywood and zinc sheet for a subdued appearance that doesn't compete with the landscape.

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Alessi coffee maker, $209, from simonjamesdesign.com





Fornasetti linen cushion (feather inner), $395, from design55.co.nz

style this look...



Moth Rug Exclamation by Richard Killeen, $5175 (edition of 5), from dilana.co.nz

Orla Kiely beach towel, $139, from perchhomewares.co.nz





Designtree Pil pendant, $790, from yoyo.co.nz



Karlsson Time Talks flip clock, $749, from superette.co.nz



Katherine Smyth ceramics, starting at $16.99, from smallacorns.co.nz

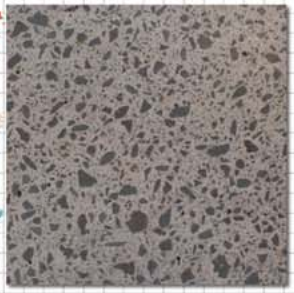
surface palette



Nocturne Oak HPL, from Laminex Group



Aalto Breakfast Room



Polished concrete, from $50/m, from peterfell.co.nz

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GET SET FOR HOME LOAN CHANGES IN 2014

***homestyle* speaks to Mike Columbus of New Zealand Home Loans to bring you expert home loan advice.**

Mike, if you're in the market to purchase a home in 2014, what are some of the key points to consider in making it happen? If you are looking to purchase this year, due to the reserve bank new regulations, it means it is tougher than what most purchasers have recently experienced. Standard bank lending is now limited to 80% of purchase price meaning far greater deposits are now needed. 90% lending is still possible, especially if you are looking to build, however your options are more limited.

If you're considering your first home you want to present yourself in the best possible way to make yourself more attractive to a lender. Lenders will look for the following as part of a credit assessment:

EMPLOYMENT – stable history. Being one month into a new job can present some risk to a lender as you're typically within the trial period. The more time you have been in a job the more comfortable a lender will be. If you're a contractor or self-employed they will often want you in the position for one year or more.

SHORT-TERM DEBT Credit cards, store cards and hire purchases do not shout 'good with money'. If possible, get rid of these (credit cards are fine if you pay them in full each month).

NATURE OF THE DEPOSIT – being able to show the money has come from genuine savings shows you can manage money, which is a good sign. Having the deposit from selling a car and boat... not so much.

It is also prudent that you **explore all avenues** if you don't have the full deposit. Family with equity in existing homes is a great option. They don't necessary have to tie up their house with yours, they can simply borrow the required deposit and have you service the loan. These loans can often be paid back within six to 24 months as well, so it can be done as a short-term proposition.

Once you have the house and mortgage it is not over. Typically a new home purchaser will end up with a 25- or 30-year mortgage. In reality there is no reason why a mortgage should take longer than 20 years to pay off. Most lenders will not inform you of this as the interest you are paying them is very profitable. While you're preparing to purchase your home it is very beneficial to ensure you **get the best mortgage advice and set up possible**. For more: www.sortmymortgage.co.nz

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Mike Columbus is a business owner of New Zealand Home Loans. This advice is of a general nature only and before acting on it please read my disclaimer which can be obtained by emailing me at mike.columbus@nzhomeloans.co.nz If you have any questions about home loans email myhome@homestyle.co.nz

new zealand HOME LOANS

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DIFFERENTSTROKES








IF AT FIRST YOU DON'T SUCCEED, PAINT, PAINT AND PAINT AGAIN

Words & production **LeeAnn Yare** *Photography* **Larnie Nicolson**

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LIVING ROOM Annick used a black-and-white striped wallpaper to make the fireplace in the formal lounge even more of a centrepiece.

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MOULIN ROUGE
MOULIN ROUGE
LA GOULU

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ANNICK LARKIN'S BOLDNESS with a paintbrush is there for any admiring visitor to see. But, she admits, it has led to some valuable lessons along the way. "I wish I'd understood early on how the light in a room can affect the undertones in paints!" she says. "When we first moved in I made critical errors in the living room and master bedroom – the colour would look great on the swatch, but once it filled the entire room it ended up feeling cold and uninviting."

Still, Annick stuck to her painting motto: "if you don't try, then you'll never know" – with further 'oh dear' results. "There was an orange feature wall in the kitchen which was a surprise for my husband Tim, that I intended to be tangerine but looked more like rust," Annick recalls. "Painting the inside framework of the windows and doors in our master bedroom black was another surprise for my very tolerant husband. And my most recent disaster was attempting to paint vertical, multi-coloured stripes in the downstairs living space by myself – suffice to say I should have definitely left that one to a professional!"

Which all sounds like a bit of a disaster doesn't it? Not when your second motto is: "once you know it's a no-go, paint, paint and paint again". The busy mum to four-year-old Lottie, Esther (3), and Tom (18 months) has managed to paint the entire interior by herself – some rooms more than once. "Tim happily leaves all the house decorating and designing to me, and I have to say he's incredibly tolerant of all the changes I make along the way," Annick says.

When house hunting towards the end of 2009, both her and Tim had their heart set on a character-filled home in Remuera, that would cope with a growing family. "We fell in love with the pretty façade, original wooden floors and the four-metre high stud," says Annick.

There were other things to love too. The previous owners had very recently added a lean-to at the rear of the house, which included a huge open-plan family kitchen, dining and second living area and study – as well as adding a new laundry, guest bedroom, bathroom, living area and workroom downstairs.

But there was one problem for the self-admitted colour junkie: "Every wall in the house was painted cream aside from one rather ghastly green feature wall," says Annick.

So began the painting madness – with some method. The girls' bedrooms have been made over to be feminine, but not too child-like. "I tried to create rooms that are playful, reflect each kid's personality and are spaces they are proud of and enjoy spending time in," says Annick. "I'd seen Porter's Pumpernickel and planned to paint it in our master bedroom, but Lottie's room took priority, making it feel peaceful and cosy. Esther's room is painted in Porters Mulberry Stain, a colour which appears opposite on the spectrum to the yellow in her curtains." ▷



LEFT Annick decided to repaint the entire lounge in bright blue Porters Avalon while her husband was at a function. Luckily it worked out. **ABOVE** The kids can play while Annick watches over them from this large kitchen with an adjacent casual lounge. **BELOW LEFT** Floating shelves in the kitchen have been given a facelift with yellow paint. **BELOW RIGHT** A blackboard paint calendar keeps the family's schedule in order.





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With an interior style that's "not too serious, given it's primarily a home of three small children", Annick says she is a huge fan of fluidity and loves nothing more than the challenge of constantly changing any room's function, layout, or most importantly, colour.

So it is that Tim is unsurprised to come home to a barely recognisable room – sometimes finding one of Annick's experiments has worked first time. Porters pale blue Elegance once coloured the lounge. But, finding it too cold, Annick decided to repaint the entire room in electric blue Porters Avalon while her husband was at a function.

"I thought I'd surprise him with a new room," she says, "but I didn't have a ladder at home to reach above the dado rail, so that's how the room became two-toned. I wish I could say it was an intended design feature, but it's really one of those things that magically worked by giving it a go." ■

"I tried to create rooms that are playful, reflect each child's personality and are spaces they are proud of"





KIDS' ROOMS These rooms are all about colour. While Annick chose bold hues, the colours are deep so they don't overpower. Porters Grass in Tom's room provides a fresh backdrop to his white nursery furniture, while Porters Mulberry Stain in Esther's room satisfies her love of pink and pairs perfectly with its orange accents. Porters Pumpernickel in Lottie's room is more of a grown-up choice.

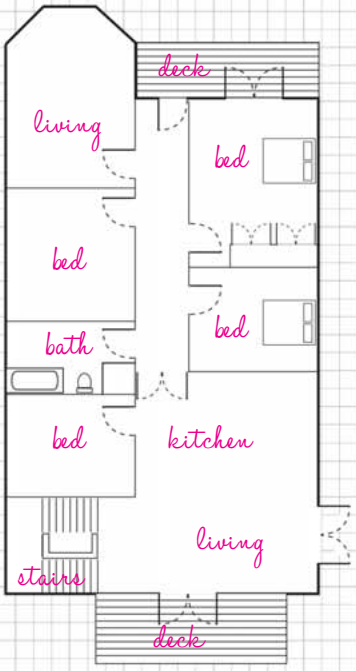
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at a glance

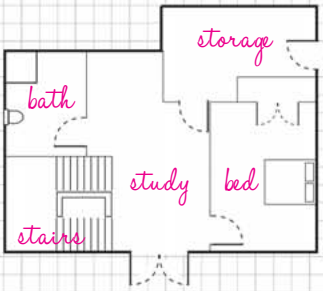
PROJECT Renovation **SIZE** 200m²

2 5 2

Ground floor



Lower floor





our place

at home with Annick Larkin

I'm a big fan of... Bold and beautiful colours – especially pinks. **My favourite thing in our home is...** Our large pink dresser. I bought it on TradeMe for $50 and had it professionally stripped and sanded, then I painted it myself and added new glass handles to it. **What tips would you give when it comes to being colour confident?** Be bold with paint – if it doesn't work, it's only two coats away from being rectified. **Something that really inspires us that was translated into this house was....** Maybe it's having a dad as a jeweller, but I love the idea of our house looking like a jewellery box bursting with beautiful, exotic-coloured gems. **I'm obsessed with...** Crafty projects! Revamping old pieces of furniture, making a padded headboard, stretching fabric onto frames to make wall hangings, painting anything – it just makes me happy! **We love to shop at...** With three pre-school children I've decided internet shopping is the only way to go for a soothing shopping experience! For homewares I love Jamie Kay, Tea Pea, Father Rabbit, Madder and Rouge and Collected. For furniture I'd rather purchase something antique and then up-cycle it myself, so TradeMe, Junk & Disorderly or Antique Alley are my usual haunts.

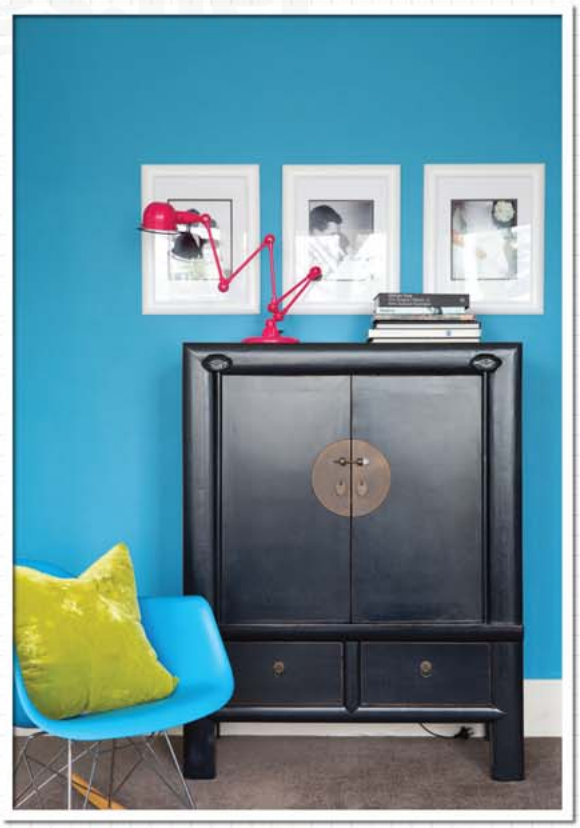


"Be bold with paint – if it doesn't work, it's only two coats away from being rectified"

FAMILY LOUNGE Annick has created a family gallery wall in the casual lounge adjacent to the kitchen. It's the perfect place to hang framed pieces of the children's own art.
MASTER BEDROOM A large piece of framed Marimekko fabric paired with geometric Kip & Co bed linen gives the room a colourful, modern edge.



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Velvet cushion, $79, from collected.co.nz

Lean floor lamp, $1160, from douglasandbec.co.nz

Kip & Co duvet cover in Croc Pastel, $190 (queen); pillowcase set, $65, both from collected.co.nz

style this look...

Mamasita chair, $350, from mamasita.co.nz

Phat Ottoman in Basis Teal, $99, from freedomfurniture.co.nz

Kiss lights by Catherine David, $295, from collected.co.nz

surface palette

Marimekko Ho-Hoi! Panel, $345, from boltofcloth.co.nz

Porters Paints Mulberry Stain

Porters Paints Pumpernickel

Porters Paints Avalon

Studio velvet mustard, $90/m, from marthas.co.nz

Over the Hills mini bowls, $29 (set of 4), from windandwillowhome.com

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Return to form

You can restore what was there before – kind of, mostly, or all the way. This Devonport couple uncovered Vernon Brown's vision and brought it back to being the life of the party

Words **Gena Tuffery** *Photography* **Duncan Innes** *Production* **Janice Kumar Ward**

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VERNON BROWN WAS an architect active in the 40s and 50s, known for sensible ideas that seemed radical at the time. He looked at New Zealand's transplanted bungalows and villas that spoke of life "in a foreign accent" and said: yeah, nah.

Although transplanted from England himself, Vernon spent all his adult life in New Zealand and was a large jigsaw piece in the Auckland social scene until his death in 1965. Yet he couldn't stand posturing – in a person or a house. Vernon sought to take the plain yet convivial aspects of New Zealand living and turn them into honest pieces of architecture – most notably weatherboard rectangles, stained dark with creosote, trimmed in white and topped with a mono-pitch roof, otherwise and widely known as "Brown boxes" – or the bach you could build anywhere.

As a kitchen designer and an architectural metal supplier, respectively, Kady and Adrian Ward are also people who appreciate honest design implemented in a distinctive way. But that's not why they bought one of Vernon Brown's few remaining residential houses in 2009. ▷

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"WE DECIDED TO TAKE OUT ANYTHING THAT HAD BEEN ADDED ON, TO RESTORE THE HOUSE'S INTEGRITY"





our place

with Kady and Adrian Ward

What are the main differences you found doing up an architecturally-designed house, as opposed to your last one, which wasn't? (Adrian) Material selection. Obvious high standards were to be met because of the architect's involvement. **What were the most pleasant surprises you encountered when you began stripping things back?** (Adrian) The roof construction: cedar rafters with individual rimu sarking, which allows the whole roof and home to breathe and function properly – it's a method we don't see today. **Would you recommend people pay a bit more for an architecturally-designed home?** (Kady) For a home from this era, definitely. The materials and the logic behind the build simply make sense and function well. It is an honour and privilege to own something that is commonly referred to today as great historic architecture. **What is your favourite part of this house?** (Kady) The north-west facing aspect in the living and kitchen area. It is such a welcoming, warm and social hub of our home. **What part of the reno do you think Vernon Brown would be most pleased with, if he were able to see it?** (Adrian) If only he could see how it was changed through the eras and how we have returned it to its origins. We hope he would be pleased with the flow we have created from the entrance through to the wide open back of the house and deck. Also how we've honoured his classic exterior style of the home by incorporating this theme though the interior.



After finishing their first do-up, the couple were simply looking for another project. Kady took Adrian along to an open home in Takapuna, telling him on the way that a well-known architect named Vernon Brown had designed the house. "I didn't think anything of it," says Adrian. "It wasn't till I Googled him later on that I realised how special it was."

Because "it" wasn't immediately apparent. Built in the 50s, the weatherboarded, creosoted, mono-pitched city-bach was a typical Vernon Brown creation on the outside – but on the inside it had been done up as if its main purpose in life was to be the location for the Liberace biopic, *Beyond the Candelabra*.

The surfaces were all fake marble; every wall was pink, blue or mirrored. And speaking of walls, there were many more of them than Vernon Brown, the man who believed in open living spaces, would have ever dreamt of erecting. "We came in and knocked down every wall we could," says Kady.

Which was not as haphazard as it sounds – in fact, it was not haphazard at all. After some careful investigation, Adrian discovered hidden gems such as 12 x 2 cedar rafters with solid rimu cladding and heart matai floorboards underneath the blue carpet. "You just don't see great, solid materials used like that these days," he says. "I could see the love that had been put into this house. The treasures had all been patched over and we wanted to resurrect them." ▷



KITCHEN It was only fitting that Kady, head of kitchen design at Matisse, designed the family's kitchen. She started with the rangehood and island back panel using copper from Ambro Metals, the architectural metal company Adrian works for. Then came cabinetry in laminate edged in plywood, a Corian benchtop in Glacier White, and Softline Samba barstools from Matisse.

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GUEST BEDROOM An Eames rocker, Bitossi vases and a reindeer hide make this guest bedroom a pretty special place to stay. **MASTER BEDROOM** Letting the light in, in all kinds of ways, was a major concern for Vernon Brown. Here, Kady enjoys the sun in one of his many solutions. **ENTRANCE** This slatted balustrade is the result of collaboration between Adrian and Janice Kumar Ward, with textured paper artworks by local Auckland artist and friend Greer Clayton.

So began a silent contract between the Wards and Mr Brown. "We decided to take out anything that had been added on, to restore the house's integrity," Adrian says. "We stripped it all back to the basics – to what we hope Vernon would have intended. He did a lot for New Zealand architecture and we wanted to honour that."

First off they stripped away "all the inferior materials" – aka the imposters that had been added over the years and materials Adrian thought were likely to expire sooner than the original bones of the house. Then those bones were polished till they shone – all the original rimu framing was utilised and brought back to life, and the original heart matai flooring was enhanced with a dark stain.

The restoration process was long and painstaking – made more so by the arrival of twins Bjorn and Seth halfway through. But Kady and Adrian are creative and determined people with ideas of their own – ideas that they implemented in a complementary and thoughtful way. For example, a floor-to-ceiling slatted balustrade feature now greets visitors in the entrance, cloaks the stairwell to the basement, and sends light dancing down the hallway on a sunny afternoon. It's a feature in keeping with the Vernon Brown ethos: "He tried to angle his hallways to meet the afternoon sun," Adrian says.

The couple have put their own stamp on the kitchen too – a copper stamp. As the head of kitchen design at Matisse, it was only fitting that Kady designed this room – using the copper Adrian works with at Ambro Metals. The beautiful metal lining the breakfast bar and above the rangehood echoes the tones of the matai floorboards flawlessly.

But the best move Kady and Adrian made in the kitchen was actually moving it. One of the previous owners had set up stove on the side of the house, in a small room off the hallway – which the Wards have now made into a more fitting spare room. "It was the best thing we did moving the kitchen into the living space – in terms of entertaining and just making the house work," says Kady. "It's been a convivial change – from being confined to being social."

It's likely Vernon Brown – the man who the Auckland Architecture Archive says "liked nothing better than a good party" and who believed "social life should be facilitated by house design" – would approve of this move too. In fact, looking around this lovingly restored home, you get the feeling all-round approval would be given. Adrian hopes so: "We like to think if he were able to walk through today he'd be proud of what he saw." ■

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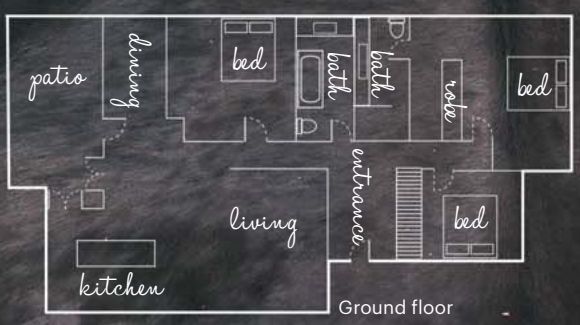
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THE SLATTED BALUSTRADE FEATURE SENDS LIGHT DANCING DOWN THE HALLWAY, WHICH VERNON BROWN DESIGNED TO MEET THE AFTERNOON SUN

at a glance

PROJECT Renovation **SIZE** 180 m²

3 4 2





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BATHROOM The bathroom was made over with the help and advice of Adrian's sister-in-law and interior designer, Janice Kumar Ward. The vanity features a Corian top with Methven tapware and black porcelain tiles.

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Coral Tide mixed media artwork by Greer Clayton, 120 x 120cm, $2600, from parnellgallery.co.nz





Hurricane lamp, $59.90 (tall) and $69.90 (wide) from shop.cittadesign.com



Replica Viento chair, $68.95, from zuca.co.nz

style this look...





Hex bowl by Tom Dixon, starting at $115, from store.simonjamesdesign.com

Marimekko Fokus tray, $118, from boltofcloth.com. Squirrel candleholder by Jonathan Adler, $158, from mondegreen.co.nz



Nimikko bath towel, $84.90, from boltofcloth.com. Copper Base table lamp by Tom Dixon, $1070, from ecc.co.nz

surface palette



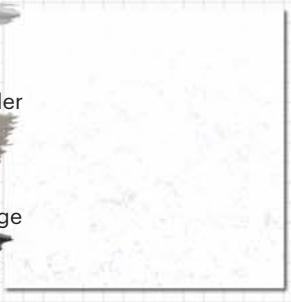
Detroit Black 60, $39.50m² from Heritage Tiles



Resene Quarter Surrender

Resene Triple Stonehenge

Resene Bokara Grey



Polar White HPL from Laminex

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Hidden treasure

The excitement a creative couple felt at finding their dream home in LA was heightened when they found what was inside – and out the back

Words & Production **Julia Mincarelli**
Photography **Birgitta Wolfgang Drejer/Sisters Agency**

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DINING ROOM Don's photos of his girls Ella and Edie hang on a grey-washed wall. The chairs were designed in the 50s by Walter Gropius and had originally been used in a school. Don had them lacquered in various colours.

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ABOVE The living room is dominated by a picture wall. The collection features paintings, drawings and photographic art created by artists, friends, the kids, or Don. **BELOW** Half the kitchen wall was removed to open up the space. The original kitchen cabinets were retained, but moved into a new configuration; the chef's island was constructed out of some of them.



WHEN AMERICAN photographer Don Flood and his model wife Jenny Brunt went house hunting in Los Angeles in 2009, they didn't expect their search would end in the affluent community of Brentwood. But here it was, The One; an architecturally-designed home built in 1958, with a fabulous garden full of sculptures left by the previous owner to boot.

"We were living in New York, but often worked in LA, so we made the decision to relocate," Don recalls. "We'd already seen hundreds of houses when the realtor showed us this one in Brentwood. He was convinced that we wouldn't like it as it had 'a rather unfortunate room' as he called it."

But the realtor was wrong. The room, as it turned out, was the previous owner's atelier – and Don liked it very much. "I immediately became very excited and envisioned my own photo atelier there," he says, "but I had to keep a straight face in front of the realtor." Not for long though – just a few weeks later the family's moving truck arrived from New York.

The house was built by an unknown architect in 1958, but it's thought there is a good chance it was the renowned Quincy Jones, as he often built homes with a patio and very large open rooms in this area. "One of the great advantages of this house is its layout as the girls [Ella, 11 and Edie, 9] have their own area, we have ours, and so do any guests," says Don. ▷

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MASTER BEDROOM The wall is clad with African Sapelli wood; remnants of a previous cupboard that the couple tore down. Each night-stand features a lamp with a vintage shade. **LEFT** A collection of vases by California ceramic artists such as Moye Thompson. **MASTER BATHROOM** Large windows on every side make this room very bright and open. There is space for green plants behind the bath tub designed by Philippe Starck for Duravit. All the fixtures are from Italian company Gessi. The cabinetry was already there, but Don installed new cabinet doors in a zebra-striped wood.

The only thing the home lacked was light – and that was easily fixed. "We took down 12 trees in key areas which opened the house up to much more light," says Don. "The small patio outside was also overgrown with plants which didn't allow any light through to the living room. It felt like a miracle after it was all removed and light flowed through the large windows."

Removing the walls between the kitchen and the living room and replacing the solid wood entrance door with glass doors also unleashed a flow of light into the living area, turning the part of the house that was once the darkest into the brightest.

It took a full year for Don and Jenny to finish their home, but the result is impressive. Today the rooms are large and the panoramic glass doors allow light to flow in from east to west. The light emphasises the many architectural details such as the living room's asymmetrical walls.

Wow-worthy elements were found outside too. The previous owner, Sy Rosenwasser, was a very talented sculptor – evidence of which can still be seen on the property. "There are four of Sy's sculptures in the garden which actually belonged to the UCLA Museum of Art," says Don, "but as they weren't removed prior to our possession date, they became ours."

In fact, it seems the family inherited treasures in every corner. The house's floor had been painted in several areas of the house, but when Don and Jenny stripped it back beautiful tiling was revealed. Where the tiled floor had been damaged, a poured concrete floor was installed in its place.

Today the house feels very open and the large glass doors can all slide to the side, facilitating the seamless blending of the exterior with the interior. Nature is also welcome inside in the bathrooms, with plants growing in what was previously a shower. "In LA it's rare to find a large garden, so we really appreciate ours, which has large, mature trees and beautiful plants," says Don.

And, in the back of the garden is a small gate which leads to the biggest treasure of all: a large field which has been made into a communal area. "So not only do we have our own garden – which we didn't have in New York – but also a park." ■

NATURE IS ALSO WELCOME IN THE BATHROOMS, WITH PLANTS GROWING IN WHAT WAS PREVIOUSLY A SHOWER



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GUEST BATHROOM The shower in the guest bathroom has been converted into a greenhouse of sorts, where plants thrive.

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OUTDOOR LIVING The house as seen from the garden. The main entrance was originally solid wood, which has since been replaced with glass doors that allow light to flow in. The dining room can be seen through the large panels of glass.

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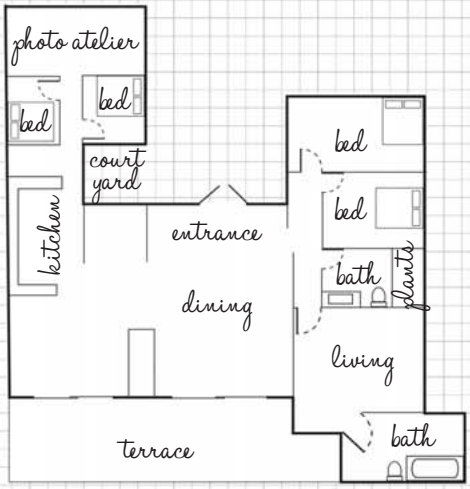
our place with Don Flood

What was it that sold this house to you after looking at so many? We loved the open areas of the house. The rooms flowed effortlessly and it was evident, even though the home was engulfed in overgrown plants, that the light would be magnificent once everything superfluous was peeled away. We also wanted to bring one of LA's many amazing mid-century homes back to its proper state. Too many homes of this quality are transformed into a hideous combination of mid-century, traditional and post-modern styles. **What change did you make that made the biggest difference to the feeling of the house?** Definitely opening up the home to the light by taking away years and years of overgrown trees and bougainvillea. It was actually a very exciting process, because once the light was able to make it into the big spaces, the house just came alive. We also added the glass doors to the front of the house and a gate for privacy from the street, which gave the home real indoor/outdoor flow. **What is the best part of living here?** That indoor/outdoor flow. Because of the amazing weather in LA, and the lack of mosquitoes, the sliding doors and front doors can be left open and the inside and outside become one. **What's your favourite room?** Probably the dining room and courtyard combination. Eating in the dining room with the sliding door open to the courtyard is such a beautiful spot for a meal.

at a glance

PROJECT Renovation **SIZE** 250 m²

2 4 2



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PATIO The tiled wall was made by Don with tiles from Heath Ceramics. The chairs were left for garbage on one of the side roads, but fit perfectly here. The sculpture was left by the previous owner and is by C. Jeré. **GARDEN** A view of the house toward the road. The tiled entrance is encased with palm trees and exotic flowers. **OUTDOOR LIVING** The low vintage garden furniture dates from the 50s, and creates a cozy corner at one end of the terrace.

TODAY THE HOUSE FEELS VERY OPEN. THE LARGE GLASS DOORS CAN ALL SLIDE TO THE SIDE, FACILITATING THE SEAMLESS BLENDING OF THE EXTERIOR WITH THE INTERIOR



007 Catches Ursula, by Studio Salt, $210, from mildredandco.com



Heracleum II Small Pendant, by Bertjan Pot for Moooi, $4370, from ECC Lighting



style this look...

Blue/natural coloured bamboo vase, $119, from boconcept.com. Round sugar bowl, $41, from steinerceramics.com

Vase, light dust blue stoneware, $99, from boconcept.com

Mid-century steel and enamel standard lamp, $425, from mrbigglesworthy.co.nz

American Modern Pitcher in Stone, $144, from everyday-needs.com

Archie Shine Knightsbridge sideboard, $3250, from mrbigglesworthy.co.nz

surface palette



Pacifica hand-glazed tiles, from Middle Earth

PPG Sea Angel

PPG Spring Iris

PPG Titanic



Zebrano HPL, from Laminex



Tangerine chair, starting at $698, from Simon James Design

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1993

Founded by Rick Armstrong in August 1993, the Armstrong Motor Group began its first operation in Tuam Street, Christchurch, with 33 vehicles from Japan.

1999

Rick developed a site on St Asaph Street, Christchurch, purpose built to house new cars. It contained the country's first dealership café, which proved a great success with customers.

2001

The St Asaph Street site became home to the Group's first franchise – **Peugeot**.

2002

Mercedes-Benz, **Chrysler** and **Jeep** were added to the group.

2004

Rick opened the country's first **Mercedes-Benz** Autohaus in Dunedin, 533 Princes Street.

2006

In April 2006 **Subaru** is added to the redeveloped St Asaph Street site.

2007

In April 2007 Rick set his sights North and opened Armstrong Motor Group Wellington selling **Subaru** and **Peugeot**. Shortly afterwards adding **Chrysler**, **Jeep** and **Dodge**.

2007

In December 2007 the Armstrong Prestige dealership in Christchurch was relocated to 6 Detroit Place, becoming multiple recipients of the **Mercedes-Benz** Dealership of the year awards and arguably the flagship **Mercedes-Benz** dealership in the country.

2008

February 2008, **Audi** and **Porsche** were added next door to the Armstrong Motor Group dealership in Wellington, soon afterwards Rick added the **Land Rover**, **Volvo** and **Jaguar** brands. Today this dealership runs under the Armstrong Prestige banner.

2011

Armstrong Motor Group in Christchurch added the **Ssangyong** brand in March 2011. Rick was thrilled to take on the challenge of opening Armstrong Prestige Palmerston North in July 2011, selling and servicing **Volkswagen** and **Audi**.

2012

August 2012 saw a major redevelopment of Armstrong Motor Groups Lower Hutt site at 37 Railway Avenue. Creating a modern **Subaru** & **Peugeot** dealership and service centre. Very Shortly after Railway Avenue reopened, **Nissan** joined the group in Lower Hutt.

2013

August 2013 **Fiat** and **Alfa Romeo** brands are added to High Street, Lower Hutt. September saw the **Honda** brand added in Timaru. **Fiat** and **Alfa Romeo** franchises added to Armstrong Prestige Dunedin beginning of November. Also in November **LDV** Vans were added to Armstrong Motor Group Christchurch.



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ISUZU · DODGE · CHRYSLER · Mercedes-Benz · HONDA

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LIVING

TIME TO COOK, CREATE AND DECORATE



100 PICK, PRESERVE AND SERVE ***Quick pickles*** 108 BITES ***New on the shelf*** 109 WHITE WINE ***And all things fine*** 111 THE GOOD LIFE ***Grow your own fruit trees*** 114 AT HOME WITH... ***Annie O*** 118 GET CREATIVE ***Organise your office area***



111



114



118

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PICK PRESERVE & SERVE

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Recipes & styling **Shaye Woolford** *Photography & styling* **Greta Kenyon**


BUFFALO MOZZARELLA AND
PICKLED FENNEL SALAD



EGGPLANT KASUNDI AND FETA WHIP BRUSCHETTA



ROASTED MOROCCAN TOMATO RELISH WITH HALOUMI AND MERGUEZ SAUSAGE



ROSEWATER AND RASPBERRY MERINGUES WITH BOYSENBERRY AND ROSE GERANIUM COMPOTE



RASPBERRY AND BLACK PEPPER CORDIAL







PICKLED FENNEL

Makes 500ml

2 cups white wine vinegar
1½ cups white sugar
1 tbsp pickling spice (found in the spice aisle at your supermarket)
1 bay leaf
1 large bulb of fennel
2 sprigs of fennel tips
1 large clean sterile jar

In a medium saucepan, place white wine vinegar, sugar and pickling spice and bring to the boil, stirring to dissolve sugar. Reduce heat, simmer uncovered for 5 minutes, then turn off heat. Add bay leaf and set aside.

Wash fennel and peel off one outer layer, making sure it is clean between layers. Slice off the bottom core, then thinly slice to about a 3mm thickness – the thinner the better. Once sliced, immediately pack into a clean, sterilized jar with the fennel tips.

Using a sieve, pour the warm vinegar and sugar mixture into the jar, making sure to cover the fennel right to the top. Discard the spices and seal at once. Store in the fridge for up to 3 weeks, and use as a pickled condiment.

BUFFALO MOZZARELLA & PICKLED FENNEL SALAD

Serves 4

1 pomegranate
2 large rounds of Italian buffalo mozzarella
3 tbsp pickled fennel (see above)
2 tbsp fresh fennel tips
Micro herbs such as ruby radish or pea shoots
Extra virgin olive oil
Sea salt and pepper

Slice pomegranate in half and squeeze out the seeds into a bowl. Pick out any membranes that fall out.

Tear the mozzarella into big chunks and lay the pieces on a platter. Add the pickled fennel, as well as a sprinkle of the pickling juice. Sprinkle over fennel tips, micro herbs and pomegranate seeds. Drizzle with olive oil, season with sea salt and pepper and serve.

ROASTED MOROCCAN TOMATO RELISH

Makes 500ml

10 ripe vine tomatoes
1 sprig of rosemary
Extra virgin olive oil
2 tsp pomegranate molasses
Sea salt and black pepper
1 brown onion, finely chopped
2 cloves garlic, finely chopped
1 knob of ginger, finely chopped
2 whole star anise
1 whole cinnamon stick
1 tbsp coriander seeds
1 tsp nigella seeds
2 tbsp golden raisins
2 cups apple cider vinegar
1 cup brown sugar

Place tomatoes in a roasting tray with rosemary and drizzle with olive oil and pomegranate molasses. Sprinkle with sea salt and black pepper. Roast at 180°C for 1 hour, or until tomatoes are caramelised and juicy.

In a frying pan, add 2 tbsp of olive oil and sauté onion, garlic and ginger over a low heat, taking care not to colour or burn them. Add whole spices, raisins, vinegar, sugar and the tomatoes. Stir to combine and mash everything.

Cook tomato relish for 30 minutes on a medium heat, or until it has a slight jam-like consistency.

Eat immediately – or, if you wish to preserve, pour while still hot into a hot sterile jar, sealing at once. (You can sterilise a jar by putting a clean jar into an oven for 20 minutes at 120 degrees and boiling the lid for 10 minutes in a pot).

This will keep for up to 3 weeks in the fridge – or, if you have preserved correctly, 3-6 months in the pantry. Serve with grilled haloumi and merguez sausages.

QUICK SMOKY EGGPLANT KASUNDI

Makes 300ml

Extra virgin olive oil
1 large eggplant, sliced 1 cm thick
2 tsp whole cumin seeds
1 tsp whole coriander seeds
1 small brown onion, finely chopped
4 tbsp fresh ginger, finely chopped
4 cloves of finely chopped garlic
Pinch of sea salt
2 tsp ground turmeric
3 tsp yellow mustard seeds
½ red chilli
¼ cup malt vinegar
¼ cup brown sugar

Fire up your barbecue or cast iron grill plate until smoking hot. Drizzle with olive oil and fry the eggplant slices until well cooked and a little charred on the outside. Once you've cooked all the eggplant, set aside to cool.

In a frying pan, dry toast the whole cumin and coriander until fragrant. Grind in a mortar and pestle or spice grinder, then set aside.

Heat 2 tbsp olive oil in a frying

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pan, then gently sauté onion, ginger, garlic and a pinch of salt over a medium to low heat for about 10 minutes, taking care not to colour or burn, until onions are sweet and caramelised. Add the ground spices, turmeric, mustard seeds, chilli, malt vinegar and sugar and cook until reduced and syrupy – about 5 minutes.

Meanwhile, chop the eggplant roughly and place in a non-metallic bowl. Add the spice and onion mixture, mixing to coat well, and a little extra olive oil if you wish.

Makes 1 small jar, and keeps for a week in the fridge.

EGGPLANT KASUNDI AND FETA WHIP BRUSCHETTA

Serves a crowd

1 block of feta, at room temperature
2 tbsp sour cream or crème fraiche
Extra virgin olive oil
1 stick of sourdough baguette
(I used Pandoro Bakery)
1 clove garlic
Smoky eggplant kasundi (see above)

Mash feta in a bowl with sour cream or crème fraiche until as smooth as possible, adding a touch of olive oil to enrich the mixture. Set aside.

Slice baguette and drizzle with olive oil. Toast on the barbecue or on a cast iron grill plate until charred and toasted through then rub a cut clove of garlic over one side of the bread.

Top bruschetta with feta whip and a spoonful of the kasundi, drizzle with olive oil and serve.

BOYSENBERRY AND ROSE GERANIUM COMPOTE

Makes 500ml

500g boysenberries, fresh or frozen
1 cup sugar
¼ cup water
5 young rose geranium leaves, whole

Place boysenberries, sugar, water and whole geranium leaves in a pot and bring to the boil. Once boiling, turn down heat to low and reduce by a third.

Discard rose geranium leaves, and pour compote into a clean jar. Will keep for up to 2 weeks in the fridge.

ROSEWATER AND RASPBERRY MERINGUES

Recipe by Maggie Thompson of Florabunda Cakes, Makes 14

600g castor sugar
300g egg whites (about 10)
2 tsp rosewater
1 packet of Fresh As raspberry powder
50g pistachio nuts, finely chopped

Heat the oven to 180°C. Place the castor sugar on a baking tray spread evenly with baking paper. Put in oven for about 8 minutes or until the sugar is just starting melt around the edges.

In the meantime, whisk egg whites in the bowl of an electric mixer for about 1 minute, or until frothy.

When the sugar is hot, start adding it to the egg whites gradually – I use a large cooking spoon to do this. When all the sugar has been added, beat the mixture on high until very stiff or until the meringues are no longer hot. Add the rosewater and beat in well.

Lastly, add the raspberry powder (I just put this in gradually and scrape down the sides of the bowl 2 or 3 times in order to mix it all in).

Put ½ cup amounts of mixture onto a baking tray lined with baking paper. Leave space around each one so they can expand on cooking (remember they will almost double in size).

Place in oven at 100°C without the fan (make sure you turn it down from baking the sugar) for 1 ½ -2 hours. When they are cooked the bottoms should be firm and the centres should still be soft and chewy. Leave in the oven as long as possible before removing.

Pile into a beautiful bowl, pour over boysenberry and rose geranium compote and serve with chopped pistachio nuts on top and whipped vanilla cream on the side.

RASPBERRY AND BLACK PEPPER CORDIAL

Makes approximately 1L

500g sugar
10 black peppercorns, crushed lightly
500g raspberries, fresh or frozen
2 tbsp red wine vinegar

Place sugar, pepper and raspberries in a medium-sized pot and bring to the boil, mashing and stirring to dissolve sugar and release raspberry flavour. Cook on medium heat for 5-10 mins until syrupy. Add vinegar and stir to combine.

Strain mixture through a sieve into a clean bowl, pushing rapsberries through. Discard the seeds and the peppercorns.

Pour into a clean bottle or jar, and keep in the fridge. Add 1.5 litres of water if you're serving to a crowd, or add to water to taste as and when you like it. ■

PROPS White enamel plates and bowls; chopping board; distressed antique shutter, all from Indie Home Collective. Wire basket; cordial vessel; small vase, all from Father Rabbit. Natural linen napkin with white stripe, from Wallace Cotton. Pastel bowls and plates, from Freedom Furniture. German preserving vessels, from Everyday Needs

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ON THE SHELF

All the little things you need for entertaining





1. Spoon and well by Up in the Air Somewhere, $42, from douglasandbec.co.nz. **2.** Falconware mixing bowl set, $40, from fatherrabbit.com. **3.** Bambus wine rack, $39.95, from freedomfurniture.co.nz. **4.** Menu multi-basket, $274, from simonjamesdesign.com. **5.** Kashiwan oak bowls, $65, from everyday-needs.com









TOP TEA TOWELS

1. You Are The Brightest Star tea towel, $28, from forkeeps.co.nz **2.** Tas Ka tea towel, $28, from simonjamesdesign.com **3.** Third Drawer Down David Shrigley tea towel, $42, from douglasandbec.co.nz **4.** Pair of Marimekko Juhanistaika tea towels, $48, from boltofcloth.com



FROM LEFT TO RIGHT J.Friend & Co Tea pairing **honey** (box of 3), $13.87, from nzartisanhoney.co.nz. Marou **chocolate**, starting at $4.95, from marou.co.nz. Ghiotti cold pressed extra virgin **olive oil**, $28.99, from europeanfoods.co.nz. Cec's Smart Start gluten free **muesli**, $13.99, from participating supermarkets and specialty food stores. Sweet As **popcorn**, $3.33, from sweetaspopcorn.co.nz. Taihiki Orchards Fresh Fig **vinaigrette**, $13, from nzfigs.co.nz. Elderflower Sparkling **rosé**, $10.99, from participating specialty food stores and supermarkets nationwide. Pale Ale **jelly**; Blonde **jelly**, $7.99, both from beerbellyjellies.co.nz

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PALE AND INTERESTING

Words **Jules van Cruysen**

Every industry is on the lookout for the next market success – and winegrowing is no different. Here are some of my favourite examples of the new varieties popping up on the market.



2011 Esk Valley Verdelho, Hawkes Bay, $22

Most famous for the insanely long-lived fortified wines of Maderia, Verdelho is also suited to making dry wines. Esk Valley is a pioneer of the variety in New Zealand, crafting weighty but searingly crisp wines with vibrant fruit, lime blossom and musky aromatics, textural complexity and a hint of smokiness.



2012 The Doctor's Gruner Veltliner, Marlborough, $22

This Austrian grape produces vibrant, fresh, zesty wine; akin to Sauvignon Blanc but without the overwhelming aromatics. Spending time each year with a leading Austrian producer the winemaker has created a wine that is true to form with grapefruit and greengage plum and the characteristic note of white pepper.



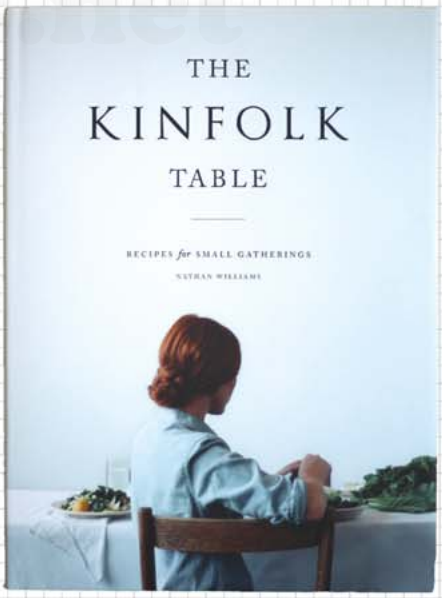
2013 Coopers Creek 'Alison' Marsanne, Gisborne, $22

This is New Zealand's first single variety Marsanne, a grape variety that comes from the same region of France as Syrah. It is rich and broad but also refreshing, with a hint of honeysuckle and ripe rock melon. A wine of purity and poise, expect a lot in future years.



2011 Trinity Hill Arneis, Hawke's Bay, $30

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THE KINFOLK TABLE: Recipes for Small Gatherings by Nathan Williams, Distributed by Bookreps NZ, published by Artisan Books, RRP $69.99

You've been connecting with creatives across the world via Kinfolk the magazine since 2011, and now you can get together around The Kinfolk Table. This book expands on the ethos of the magazine – making entertaining more about the social aspect, rather than a formal event. The Kinfolk folk have travelled around the world collecting recipes from interesting home cooks – and sharing meals with them as they go. More casual entertaining ideas; even more gorgeous design.



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TREES LADEN WITH GOLD

It's time to plant some treasure in the backyard

Words **Holly Brooker** *Illustration* **Angela Keoghan**

I HAVE RECENTLY embarked on an exciting and slightly daunting project – one which I hope will bear fruit, literally. After recently purchasing a small bungalow on the fringe of Auckland city, I've set out on the ambitious task of creating an edible urban garden using the small spaces we have available with a couple of goals in mind – to enable our family to become more self-sufficient through learning how to grow our own produce (and hopefully saving some coin), while creating an outdoor living space which is an extension of our abode.

Not knowing where to begin, I called in the experts. Landscape architect Helen Mellsop sketched out our section, identifying the best areas to plant fruits and vegetables as well as highlighting which trees and shrubs needed pruning or removing to best enhance our outdoor space.

With an abundance of overgrown, non-fruiting trees throughout the section, our initial step was to clear space to plant replacement fruit trees and let some sunshine in – with a quick phone call to the local council made first, to ensure there were no scheduled or protected trees on our property. Calling on dads, friends, husbands, an arborist and stump grinder to help manage the arduous job gave us a much cleaner and simpler space to work with. Not to mention the benefit of providing our two year old with hours of free entertainment, gleefully watching the action from the lounge window. Over the course of six weeks we cut, ground, pruned and chopped, swept and bagged trailer load upon trailer load of over-growth, to eventually create a fresh canvas.



Then the planting began. Planting fruit trees can be as simple or as complicated as you want to make it. Analysing soil composition can be beneficial as certain fruit trees are fussier than others, requiring ideal levels of lime, nitrogen, acidity, phosphate, potash, zinc, gypsum... it goes on. If you are of the classic 'she'll be right' mentality, you could take the advice of my mother-in-law and "just plant them" – figuring it out as you go along by watching how the plant is coping.

If you're keeping things simple, I would think about at least using mulch, as it covers the top of the soil, protecting the tree from temperature changes. Keep it a little bit away from the trunk, however, to avoid collar rot. And give fruit trees a really good water every second day, depending on rainfall.

Being a novice gardener myself, I have planted a few of my absolute favourite fruits to grow; including a row of blueberry bushes (Tasty Blue and Blue Dawn) alongside blackberries, raspberries and a berry-fruit hybrid bramble in a couple of good sunny spots.

Along our boundary we have planted feijoa and mandarin trees. Ensuring good quality soil has been important as our yard contains volcanic soil and rock and experiences some very dry conditions. Compost and mulch (sawdust) help add nutritional value to the dirt as well as keeping moisture in the ground.

The waiting game begins. ▷

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FEIJOA
FRUITS MARCH TO MAY

The feijoa tree will tolerate most soil conditions – from heavy clay through to light and sandy. They're also frost-hardy, though they prefer to grow in full sun. The feijoa tree is fairly pest and disease free, but can benefit from some general NPK fertiliser.

MANDARIN
FRUITS SEPTEMBER TO OCTOBER

Easy to grow, this attractive evergreen shrub will provide plenty of fruit during the harvest period, from September to October – which in turn offers high levels of vitamin C. Mandarin trees like the warmth, so need a sunny spot with protection from the wind.

PEAR
FRUITS IN MARCH

Pear trees produce an easy-to-eat fruit, and can look really attractive when grown as an espalier (tied flat to a frame). Plant the tree along the fence or wire to espalier against, planting 15cm away from the fence line. Tie the single-stem of the tree to the post or training cane with twine. Allow it to grow its top three buds and prune the rest, using the cane to train the centre lateral and the other two to the lower wire. As the tree grows and the laterals extend, continue to tie the branches above on the higher wires, pruning off unwanted branches.

BLUEBERRY
FRUITS IN FEBRUARY

Plant your blueberry bush in full sun – though it can handle some afternoon shade. These plants are cold-hardy, needing some cold weather to set fruit and leaves. They prefer free draining acidic soils with a high proportion of organic matter. Mulching with sawdust (untreated) or compost can help conserve moisture.

PEACH
FRUITS IN MARCH

Peach trees thrive in a sheltered, sunny position which has well-drained, enriched soil. They are self-pollinating and will fruit well for 12-15 years. There are a range of varieties and sizes to suit your growing area – whether it's the yard, or the deck.

BLACKBERRY
FRUITS IN FEBRUARY

Blackberries are high in vitamin C and fibre and contain calcium, phosphorus and potassium. The blackberry is a roaming bush – but they can be contained by training onto a trellis or alongside a deck or fence. They love morning sun and some shade from the afternoon heat. The birds love them as much as we do, so a net can be a handy deterrent.

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LEMON
FRUITS JULY TO AUGUST

Planting lemon trees in a sheltered spot with good draining soil is ideal, with a few tablespoons of slow-release fertiliser and half a bag of compost to help give your tree a good growing base. Adding mulch around the base helps retain moisture in the soil, but keep it away from the trunk. They need deep, slow watering for the first three years, so saving grey water could help keep costs down. Lemon, lime and orange are all just as easy to grow, requiring little pruning while producing much fruit.

OLIVE
FRUITS APRIL TO MAY

Olive trees are easy to grow and suit most conditions. They tolerate drought well and are productive for years. They can look great as a hedge or as an ornamental stand-alone tree. The fruit is initially inedible and must be treated before eating.

Q&A
with Fiona Boylan from online nursery Incredible Edibles

What is the easiest and most fruitful tree to grow for the novice gardener? The easiest fruiting plant in the Incredible Edibles range is the blueberry. Blueberries love acid soil but Rabbiteye varieties like Blue Dawn, Tasty Blue and Blue Magic aren't so fussy. Mulch well with organic matter like shredded bark. This will help hold the moisture in the soil as well as providing nutrients as the bark breaks down. Initially it's a good idea to remove all flowers when you plant so the plant can concentrate on putting down roots. An annual application of Incredible Edibles Fruit Tree & Berry Fertiliser is recommended in spring. No pruning is required until the plant is about three or four years old – and this is to remove dead and weak growth and to shape. See edible.co.nz for more details. Blueberries can be eaten straight off the bush; they are a wonderful grazing food for kids – instant lollies – or they can be frozen for later use in muffins and desserts. They're highly nutritious and full of antioxidants. **What would you recommend adding to keep the soil in good condition?** Incorporate lots of organic matter prior to planting and mulch your plants to suppress the weeds and reduce the soil drying out. Mulching may need to be topped up annually. To make sure your plants are getting all the nutrients required fertilise with Incredible Edibles Fruit Tree & Berry Fertiliser in spring. **Over summer, what should you watch out for to protect your fruit trees?** Any sign of insects or disease. If your fruiting plant gets stressed, perhaps from too much or too little water, it will be more susceptible to insects and diseases. Keep an eye out for insects or the leaves becoming distorted or yellowing. A mild number on insects on your plant aren't a problem, nature can find her own balance, but when the plant is suffering we need to step in. Talk to your local garden centre for remedies they sell and you can apply safely. Or be proactive and plant insect-attracting or deterring plants underneath your fruiting plants. ■ *edible.co.nz*

A FLORAL LIFE

Filled with excitement, creativity and oh-so-many flowers, we step inside the whimsical world of botanical stylist Annie O

Words **Sammy-Rose Scapens** *Photography* **Heather Liddell**









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TUCKED AWAY IN a semi-hidden garage in Auckland's Takapuna sits the loft home and combined studio space of the wonderfully iconic Annie Oxborough – aka Annie O. Known for her innovative botanical styling and whimsical personality, it's fitting that Annie's space is filled like a cabinet of curios with oddly shaped plants, miniature figurines and everything in between.

As well as serving as a collaborative working studio, the space is home to Annie, her partner Mark, son Elliot and their energetic dog, Lilly. With a bright pink door welcoming visitors, the studio is as eclectic as its inhabitants, with every inch utilised with prints, plants and vintage hanging macrame, and every table exploding with bunch upon bunch of flowers.

Sipping black coffee and talking a million miles an hour, Annie explains why the industrial garage attracted her late last year. "We needed somewhere to live but weren't in a position to pay for a separate studio on top of that. With this space I was able to fill both requirements."

The warehouse is split into two sections; the front three quarters houses a collective of creatives (Red Creative, event stylists and fashion designer Yujlia from Silence Was), plus Annie's worktables, trinkets, terrariums and flowers, while the back quarter is divided into a small kitchen with a petite loft-style lounge and two adjoining bedrooms.

Although fun, the weaving of both her home and work lives has been a trial in the human psyche for Annie. "Living with this many people all day, every day, can be chaotic," she says. "Having phones ringing, people shouting, Elliot skateboarding through the flowers, Lilly barking and the courier arriving, yeah, life can get a bit nuts!" ▷

ABOVE The reception space is always changing as Annie hires things out for events and brings in new pieces. **BELOW LEFT TO RIGHT** A collection of mid-century and industrial treasures picked up from Junk and Disorderly fit in well with Annie's childhood rocking horse; Elliot often hangs in his room, but can be lured out with snacks; a favorite artwork from Cut Collective hangs in the main bedroom; these antlers can be purchased from The Department Store – but Annie will enjoy them till they have been.









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ABOVE An assortment of mid-century furniture collected on Annie's vintage hunting trips is arranged to break up the open space.
BELOW Annie preps for one of her botanical styling jobs.

Constantly buzzing and filled with people, Annie says the space is like a creative melting pot that almost never sleeps. "The studio is always going – there is always something happening, or someone cooking in the kitchen, and at night we host workshops so it never really stops."

Never having any people-free time, or space to really call her own, is something most people would struggle with, but for Annie, for now, the advantages of the space outweigh the disadvantages. "I like to think I could one day be in a situation where I can separate my personal life and my working life, but for now the space works and Elliot loves having all the people around."

A little like a commune, Studio 46, is an experiment in housing a shared creative space within a home. And with so much space to fill, with so many wonderful things coming in and out, it's a constant interior decorating project too. ■

Annie O's botanical creations can be viewed and purchased at the Department Store in Takapuna, Auckland



Foraged fancies

CREATE A FLORAL VIGNETTE WITH STORE-BOUGHT BLOOMS AND FORAGED FINDS

Styling **Annie Oxborough** *Photography* **Heather Liddell**





YOU WILL NEED

- Wide-mouthed vessel, we used a vintage Crown Lynn vase
- Roses, Bells of Ireland, sweet peas and green chrysanthemums
- Foliage from your garden or snipped from the roadside
- Fruit
- Secateurs
- Florist's wire
- Oasis
- Vintage props



Soak the oasis overnight and cut into the shape of the interior of your chosen vessel.



Place the larger pieces of greenery around the outside edge of your vessel, then add smaller pieces towards the front of the arrangement.



Add in any branches with foliage or berries, allowing them to drape over the edges. Following the shape created by the greenery, add long-stemmed flowers to the centre of the arrangement.



Working from the back towards the front, varying the height and direction the flowers are placed in, group together a couple of lush blooms to create a focal point at the front of the arrangement. Once you have your flowers sorted, experiment with adding vintage props to take your vignette to the next level.



Homework

Working from home can be a great experience – once you've got your space organised

Words & Styling **Gem Adams** *Photography* **Heather Liddell**

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Styling tips

Trash and treasure

Time to cull. The best workspaces are streamlined – not boring or barren, but clean, organised and free of junk. As you cull, separate into three boxes. One: trash. Two: stuff to move (all the things you will use or you love, but they don't belong in the home office). Three: to give away. One woman's trash is another woman's treasure and all that.

A place for everything, and everything in its place

When you're in the swing of creativity, or finally getting around to that To Do list, you don't want to give your momentum over to trying to find something. Places like Kikki-K and Typo have lots of storage gems. But get adventurous! Use a jar for brushes, a suitcase for kids' artwork and a wire basket for wrapping paper.

Prettiness is enough

Let's get this straight: things don't have to be practical all of the time. Where is the fun in that? Create your own vignettes to brighten up your working space. Pop in a print; show off a treasure in a glass dome; stack some books you love; find a brilliant wall hanging and add some greenery – it brings so much life to a room. Cacti, succulents and philodendrons thrive with little attention when you're on deadline.





Project

Clipboard

Boy oh boy do I love to be organised. And who wouldn't when your clipboard system can look this great! Warehouse Stationery sells these puppies for $10.95 a pop. So all you need to do is work out a layout you like the look of, then hang them up using finishing nails (these are very small and only leave a tiny hole). This way you can take the boards off and on as you need to. Have each clipboard allocated to something or someone different – a job, a family member, a month, a project, to show off the kids' artwork, or even to create a mood board.



Gem Adams is an all-round style betty. A stylist, photographer, and maker of things, she has a knack for turning nothing into something. Follow her at blackbirdgem.blogspot.com

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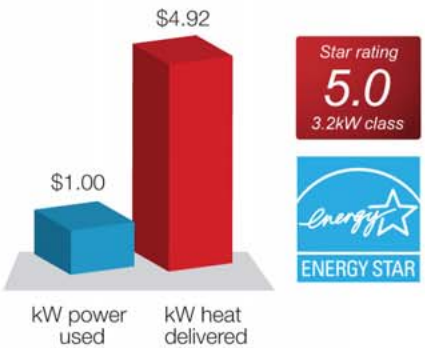
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WORKBOOK

HEAT UP YOUR KITCHEN



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PHOTOGRAPHY Larnie Nicolson/Fisher & Paykel



THE OPEN-PLAN KITCHEN

DESIGN Gerrad Hall Architects

THE BRIEF The clients were looking for clean lines and for the end result to be quite minimal. The idea was for the kitchen to be a culmination of the ideas within the house, so there was thematic consistency running throughout.





GET THE LOOK

For the benchtop go for honed concrete and stainless steel. Add cabinetry in light reflective tones such as Resene Alabaster lacquer, with natural light materials such as American oak. For detailing Halliday + Baillie handles were used here along with a honed cararra marble splashback.

How did the material palette come together? There are oak floors that run throughout the house and concrete block walls. So we used oak on the kitchen island and shelving, but it has been treated more decoratively. The marble backsplash is really similar tonally to the concrete, and then the body of the kitchen is white cupboards, same as the kitchen walls. I personally think white kitchens are quite hard because you often expect a feature colour. So in a white kitchen it's important to detail everything really immaculately, because you tend to notice when a detail is a bit jarring. Texture is really important to me. I'm a bit colour blind, so I think that may make me think about other things like texture in materials – it makes you rely on some of those other things a little bit more. **It's a very long, linear kitchen, how does this layout work in the open-plan space?** The kitchen occupies an entire wall of the space. In a sense, it becomes a centre for putting items on the shelves. The cabinetry almost ends up as a decorative feature. It provides an opportunity within the space for everyday life, for storage, for different activities. In a way, it is a frame for the the owners to present their personalities on to the rest of the space. **How has it worked with the study and the kitchen merging together?** I think having a computer close to the kitchen is going to become pretty standard soon. I think its actually quite a natural migration and progression, actually. **This is a kitchen for a busy family, how did this influence the kitchen design?** I think it was about having a very relaxed space where everyone could participate; having a very flexible space was what they were after. **How has the space been designed to be flexible?** As one of the clients worked for Fisher & Paykel, appliance choice was important to them. The decisions that they made – the CoolDrawer where they would prep vegetables for dinner but could be changed to wine storage for a dinner party, or the two DishDrawers that can be used at different times – brought additional flexibility into the layout.

gerradhallarchitects.co.nz



A kitchen fit for great conversation!

With open-plan living becoming the standard in home design, the need for kitchens to operate as quietly as possible has become more and more of a necessity. The Quiet Kitchen range addresses the problem of noise pollution and allows you to be speak easy and better still - be heard. Apart from being quiet all have unique features that will make your kitchen the place to be for sharing great conversion!



The Evolution Food Waste Disposer.

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The Steaming Hot Water Tap.

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Finally we need no longer put up with the noisy jug cluttering up the bench top. With the InSinkErator Steaming Hot Water Tap you can obtain instant boiling water or filtered cold water at the touch of a lever without the intrusion of space or sound. The taps don't just bring style to the kitchen, they also bring a new level of convenience that fits today's busy lifestyles.

The Silent Range Hood

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A common complaint regarding range hoods is the noise. Schweigen has the answer with its exterior-mounted fan technology. The highly-efficient German IsoDrive Motor is able to generate a lot of power due to being positioned outside the home, meaning that it does not push air up, against gravity. This lets the range hood concentrate all of its power on its primary purpose of removing large volumes of cooking steam, smoke, grease and odours from your home.





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THE SMALL KITCHEN



PHOTOGRAPHY Larnie Nicolson PRODUCTION LeeAnn Yare

DESIGN Paul Kennedy

THE BRIEF Paul is Product/Marketing Manager for Bestwood, so it made sense that this was both the starting point and centrepiece for his kitchen. But he also set out to create a chameleon décor: "I wanted to allow for the space to be easily converted into other styles in the future. With appropriate furnishings, the space can change into Mid-Century modern, Minimalist, Americana, or even Pop-art."



How did you go about putting a modern kitchen into an older-style 70s unit? With units like these, you find once the 70s décor is stripped away the structure itself is actually very linear in design. Once you get to that stage, it really is a blank canvas from which you can express your own design aesthetic. For me, I envisioned my own preferred style: modernist, sleek, masculine and minimal, but it could've just as easily lent itself to a number of other styles, such as Scandinavian or Japanese. **What space saving strategies did you use?** The drawers in this kitchen utilise all available space – by having more than one layer within a drawer, or having various compartments. The unexpected bonus of having these features is that not only does it free up a lot of space, it's actually very functional and easy to use. You can always find things easily! **How have you integrated the kitchen with the rest of the open plan space?** It's interesting because the kitchen is often the first thing people see and comment on, but when you're socialising or just relaxing, it blends itself nicely into the décor. By using Supermatte Black, as opposed to a gloss, or a bolder colour, it doesn't draw attention to itself – and that essentially makes the open space work. **What challenges did you face with the renovation?** The big challenge was fitting so much into such a small space! It was necessary to have enough room for a fridge, stove, sink, bench-space, dining, and a laundry – all while ensuring that there was still enough



THIS KITCHEN WAS DESIGNED TO ALLOW THE SPACE TO BE EASILY CONVERTED INTO OTHER STYLES IN THE FUTURE



room to make the area functional, and without making the space look cluttered. This is why cupboards seemed like the best idea. Having a lot of storage meant that I could put things away for a sleek look, including major appliances and whiteware, yet they are still so accessible at the same time.

Any advice for people taking on the challenge of renovating a small space or apartment? Do your homework, educate yourself on surface finishes from flooring to kitchen textures you will be amazed at how many options are available at your fingertips. Don't be afraid to ask loads of questions if you are unsure. Be open to non-conventional ideas, as often you need to be clever with layout and space within a smaller space.

GET THE LOOK

The cabinetry was manufactured by Nice Kitchens in Bestwood Black, Supermatte, with Hettich tech systems. The benchtop is stainless steel with a satin finish, with a splashback from The Tile Depot. Balance out the modern look with vintage touches, as Paul has here with a bench table and chairs from The Vitrine and scales and vintage tins from Waihi Junk Shop.



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Questions to consider when deciding which storage solution is the right one for you:

What are the challenges in your current kitchen that you want to avoid in your next?

What is your cooking style – how many cooks at one time need space?

Have you purchased any appliances or artwork that need to be incorporated?

Do you have any items needing special space, wine glasses, appliances etc?

Do you like the height of your current bench-top?

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wake up to the whole kit and...



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INDOOR-TO-OUTDOOR KITCHEN

DESIGN Hamish Guthrie from Hecker Guthrie

THE BRIEF The kitchen is the core this mid-century home. The clients wanted to modernise it, while retaining the essence of the 60s architecture. As the clients are both landscape architects, it was also important to them to open the space up and create indoor/outdoor flow.



PHOTOGRAPHY Shannon McGrath



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GET THE LOOK

The honed marble benchtop is called Elba and it's from The Marble House. The tile floor is Terrazzzo in green from Signorino. Storage solutions were found in things such as wire basket pull-out drawers, and a revolving corner unit, both by Hafele.

What was your starting point for this kitchen? We wanted to create a design that modernised the home, yet maintained the original essence of the 60s architecture and remained sensitive to the nature of building. Much of the house remained in its original condition, so it was really important that the kitchen was seamlessly integrated. Any alteration had to be true to the roots of the house, but not just a replication of what had been done before. So retaining integrity while modernising was key. **How did you create the indoor/outdoor flow your clients were wanting?** A criticism of the original kitchen is that it was quite sparse, with no central hub and so much under-utilised space. By incorporating the central island, we were able to free up 'kitchen real estate' and incorporate a connection to the outdoors. We focused on creating social family spaces, while putting all the storage areas on the periphery. That said, there seems to be a move away from big, open plan kitchens, so we wanted to define the kitchen area without completely separating it out. **What other design features did you incorporate to make the kitchen a family hub rather than just somewhere to cook?** The study nook was another key element when we were approaching this kitchen design. The clients wanted to encourage the family to engage in family time when working on the computer, to get the kids out of their bedrooms. Adding this nook also gave us another spot to layer lighting and texture. **How did the material palette come together?** We used honed natural stone on the floors to echo the sandblasted version outside. Also, Terrazzo is a material that has a 60s sensibility but is also very current. We used a marble benchtop as it's also a material that we felt had a contemporary feel, while retaining a relevance to 60s architecture. All together, this mostly sage palette leads seamlessly to the natural one you can see outside.



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COLOUR IN THE KITCHEN

KITCHEN DESIGNER MAL CORBOY TAKES US THROUGH HIS LATEST CREATION



Corian Organic Rain Cloud, from Laminex Group



Mosaic tiles in Toffee, from Middle Earth Tiles



Peacocke HPL, from Laminex Group



Photo Kallan Macleod



Cole and Sons Palm Jungle wallpaper, from Icon Textiles



Mokum Oasis Basalt fabric, from James Dunlop



Tasmanian oak one strip flooring, from Ekowood

GET THE LOOK

I took inspiration from the existing feature wallpaper in the lounge, using the colour on the cabinetry and repeating the pattern on the custom glass lightbox under the island, on the extraction unit, and on the custom wall unit. The orange splashback and toe kicks add warmth. Corian Organic Rain Cloud was chosen for the benchtops, as it complements the design and is also an easy-care surface.

PAINT



Resene Guggenheim



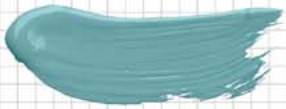
Resene White Pointer



Resene Free Spirit



Resene Mint Tulip



Resene Kumutoto



Resene Fuel Yellow



Resene White Thunder



Resene Whizz Bang

You can call it retro or historical richness, but brilliant yellows, pumpkin oranges and tomato reds are the accent colours of the season. Mix them with pretty pastels for a colourful balance and you have the hottest colour trends for 2014. Think bold, luminous hues from your childhood paintbox – colours that provide the energy you need when you have a lot of cooking to get through. resene.co.nz



Sensory feast

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Oh so neat (and tidy)

You may wonder why we've included a $1995 cutting tray. But, hey, when it features the best kitchen utensils in the world, and is organised so superbly, how could we resist? Produced by the renowned Malle W. Trousseau, this is a set of tools any aspiring master chef would be proud to own. corso.co.nz



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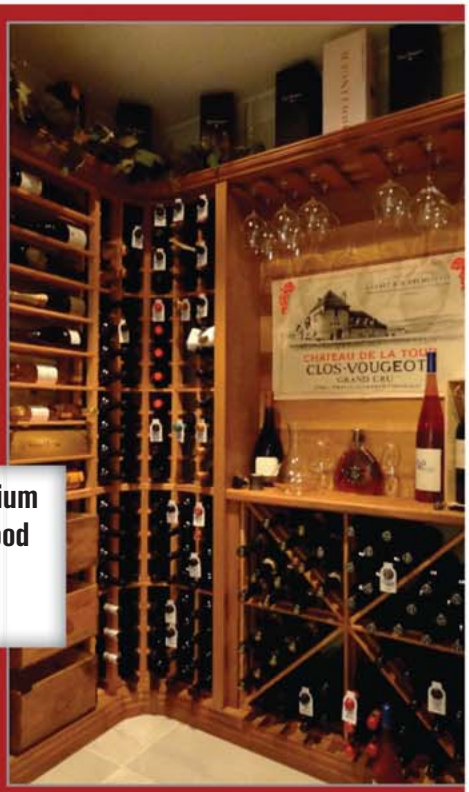
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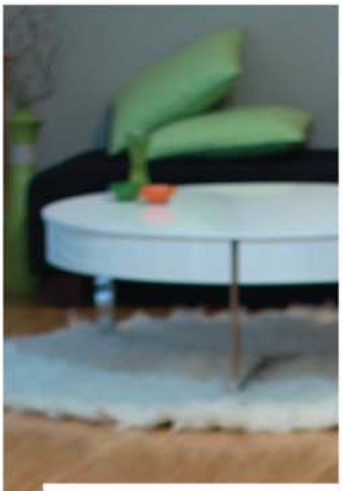


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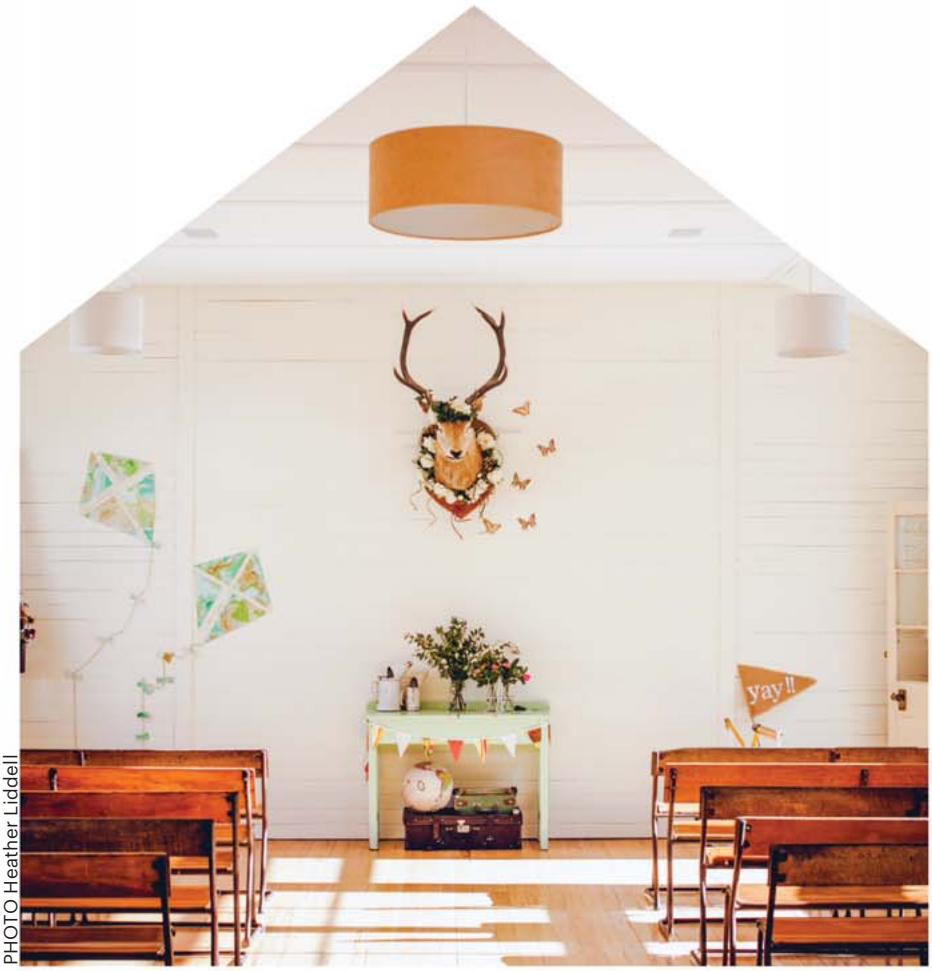


PHOTO Heather Liddell

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PAPER PATCHWORK *Project* **Beci Orpin**

"I come from a long line of patchworkers – okay, maybe 'long line' is a bit of a stretch, but my granny and my auntie made quilts. I still have the 'crazy' quilts my granny made for me and my sister when we were little. They are made from beautiful scraps of fabrics from the 60s and 70s, and are some of my most treasured possessions. Although I have designed a few quilts, I'm yet to delve into actually sewing one myself. It is high on my bucket list, though. Patchwork has also been a common theme in my work and I reference it often: I love the use of repeats and simple shapes, and then putting pattern inside those shapes, which is where the idea for this project came from. It is an inexpensive way to make a nice piece of wall art for a room, and it is a lot easier and quicker than a fabric patchwork." *For instructions on how to make Beci's paper patchwork visit homestyle.co.nz*

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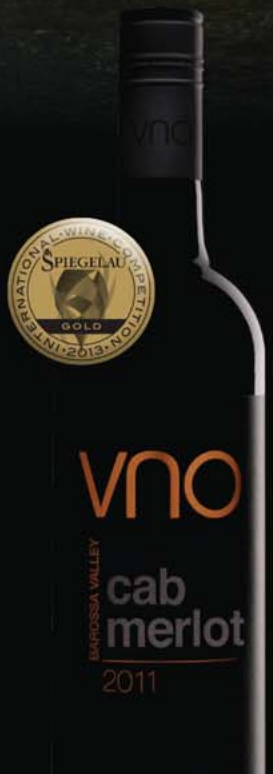


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