



INTERIOR
DESIGN
GUILD

Term 2
2013



Calendar of Events

26th June Wednesday 11.00am - 2.00pm 6.30pm - 8.00pm	Sharon & Bruce Prichard 3 Eastbourne Road Remuera Note \$10 entry per person
2nd July Tuesday 5.00 - 7.30pm	Osborne Lane, Newmarket Off Osborne Street
12th August Monday 11.00am - 2.00pm 6.30pm - 8.30pm	Erica Whineray Kelly & Mark Kelly 53 Beach Road Castor Bay
5th September Thursday	Warkworth & Matakana Visit
11th September Wednesday NOTE 10.00am - 2.00pm	Margaret Walsh 4 Park Road Titirangi
11th September Wednesday NOTE 10.00am - 2.00pm	McCahon House 67 Otitori Bay Road French Bay Titirangi

Front page

Prada Building, Tokyo designed by Hertzog & De Meuron

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Committee News

It is with pleasure that we offer this 2nd newsletter for 2013 which will take us through to the end of September. Please be reminded that we do not follow the 4 school terms preferring to adhere to our 3 newsletter per year. This may explain the reason for some members expecting their newsletters to coincide with the school terms and calling to see where the newsletter is. Once again the line-up of visits has been mainly offered by our members with a little nudging from friends. Thankyou to Robyn & John Wylie, Lisa & John Mallett, Margaret Walsh & her family and Erica Whineray Kelly & her family.

Also a very big thankyou to Dianne Kendall who has prompted many of her friends to open their homes for us to enjoy and learn from. Some may remember we visited Dianne Kendalls' home in Coates Ave many years ago and Erica & Mark were her neighbours and Dianne talked her into allowing us in to their home. I think it was before the children arrived!

This is an exciting year for the Guild as we are supporting Objectspace celebrating Nanette Cameron as their Master of Craft for their October exhibition. We will furnish more details for the opening event later in the term.

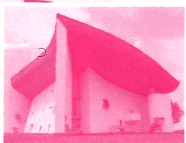
We have received a big thank you from The Christchurch Cardboard Cathedral Appeal for our financial support. \$8600.00 was raised from the Gibbs Farm held earlier in the year and these funds are going towards

the chairs for the project which have been designed by Shigeru Ban himself.

The Nanette Cameron Unitec Scholarship awards for 2012 went to Emma Hoyle and Emily Cain who received \$2500 each from NCIDG. The event was well attended by Unitec design students, partners and families, all anxiously waiting to see who would receive the awards. The students work was up on the wall and every year we are seeing a leap in the quality of work presented. Both recipients mentioned that the money would be put to good use updating their computers to complete their final years work.

We look forward to your attendance at the visits & events we offer here. Don't let the winter weather put you off braving the elements!. Rug up in your winter gear and come out and have some fun. We don't get many opportunities to wear our heavy coats in Auckland!

We are asking for RSVP's please for the Warkworth visit and the Osborne Lane event, so that we can work out the logistics for Warkworth visit and for catering for the after event @ York Street Mechanics, so please don't let the rain stop you from coming out. The retailers are making a huge effort to ensure that the Osborne Lane evening will be a special winter event and York Street Mechanics are roping off part of their exciting restaurant for us to congregate and hear Nat Cheshire's inspiring talk. Brenda & Committee.



Nanette's News

Thinking it was twelve or maybe a little more years since I made my first visit to Japan, I was surprised when I discovered the old Itinerary and found it was nearer twenty years ago. Things have changed since then, particularly with electronics, there were no mobile phones let alone I-Phones or I-Pads. We surprisingly managed very well without them.

I loved Japan, the beauty and simplicity of its traditional architecture, the care, and reverence that was given to landscaping, the philosophy behind their garden design. I remember in the small public garden near where we were staying, as we left in the morning two gardeners were beginning to prune the trees. On returning in the afternoon they were just finishing and their work had been so sensitively done it was barely noticeable. In New Zealand then, it would have been a quick "short back and sides"

On last years Stage 111 visit to the O'Connell Sculpture Park on Waiheke Island, the owners Jo and John Gow, told us of one of their greatest recent experiences, which was a visit to Japan for the Setouchi Art and Architectural Triennale,

which is held on the Inland Islands in the South of Japan. The Gows are widely travelled with a deep interest in Art. I made a mental note but did not think it very likely that I would go there.

Imagine my delight when Lois Perry, who takes the really great Art Today Course at Te Tuhi said she was planning on taking a group to Japan this year, as it was the year of the Festival and invited me to join it. Jo Gow, who had already been wanted to repeat the experience and decided to come again and was a great help in the planning.

It was a good time to visit Japan, from a practical point of view as our Dollar being high worked for travellers and the Japanese Yen was of lower value and so was helpful to tourists.

Four days in Tokyo began our tour. This very interesting city, displays the contrast between the traditions of the age old culture of Japan with its emphasis on simplicity and gentle elegance with the more brash intrusions of Western culture and architectural styles. On our first day, a Sunday we headed for Omotosando. Here we were very aware of this contrast, as it is a

Sunday ritual for teenage girls to come out in force, attired in a super abundance of pink frills, the "Pink Kittens" as they are called, proudly displaying themselves, the teenage boys in heavy black, studded in silver. This is such a distance from the elegance of the Kimono regrettably, but understandably, seldom seen in public today.

From there we headed towards Aoyoma, where many of the worlds top label fashion houses have buildings of dramatically competing design. But on the way we diverted off into little narrow side lanes where we found all sorts of small experimental galleries and charming old buildings. We were intrigued by the electrical wiring, it was a tangle of impossible confusion and looked like a nightmare for a repair man, yet so close to a main street.

Back to the world of high fashion, The Comme des Garcon's store was designed by the company's breakaway fashion designer, a young Japanese woman, Rei Kawakubo. Renowned for its sloping, curved glass façade, originally covered in small blue spots, now white, it is also known for the originality of its window displays. One of our group bought an attractive top. You can guess, yes, a spotted top, but in navy and white. Her charming assistant came out to the door to bow her farewell. It could not have happened in New Zealand.

Close by is the famous Prada building designed by Pritzker Prize Winning Swiss duo,

Jacques Hertzog and Pierre de Meuron. Set back from the profiles of the other stores in the street, it gains an extra presence. Its six storey, five sided glass crystal is soft despite its sharp angles. Signature diamond shaped glass tiles varying from flat to concave to convex appear as glass bubbles on the exterior. In the luminous interior white predominates, from the thick white carpet to the elegantly slim white metal stair rails and the luxurious dressing rooms. In our casual clothes, comfortable walking shoes, day packs on our backs we felt slightly out of place but this did not deter us. Climbing the stairway which swept up beside the glass walls made us appreciate the beauty of the building even more.

At night it is all glamour and sparkle, it has been described as the largest diamond ever dreamed about by Scott Fitzgerald for "The Great Gatsby" - very topical at the moment because of the film now showing.

Along both sides of this street are beautiful stores, the potent rainbow of colour that was Marimekko, three stores by Issey Miyake, one called "Creases" showing clothing made using his famous pleating process, another "Folds," where all the handbags are highly tempting, the size of the folds as varied as the styles and the colours.

To finish the day of this rich diet, we visited the peace of the Nezu Museum, which was very close. In true Japanese style it was



Nanette's News continued...

calm and beautiful, designed by Kengo Kuma. A gently ceremonial walk led one to the entrance, past, on one side the stretch of the simple timber façade of the museum, on the other a long line of tall delicate trees. Surprisingly for the centre of this crowded city, where real estate reaches very high stakes, to have a Museum opening out to a beautiful extensive Japanese garden with pavilions, pools and moving water is a delightful surprise. It is deserving of more time than we had as it closes at 5.00pm but cannot be entered after 4.30pm. The Museum itself is devoted to the traditional Tea Ceremony and all the ceremonial vessels that accompany the ritual, all the gift of a wealthy benefactor. Another day we visited more big name fashion stores in the Ginza area. The Dior building designed in 2003 by the Japanese Sanaa architects, a male and female partnership, who won the Pritzker Prize in 2010, is tall, stately and understated, no flash and trash! A smooth but dimpled effect is achieved by an outer skin made of steel punctuated with thousand of holes which reveal the illuminated inner skin also patterned, creating

a delicate pattern behind the glass exterior. Fibre Optic lighting positioned between the perforated screens creates a magical effect at night.

Hermes of handbag and scarf fame, although their business is wider than that, asked Italian architect, Renzo Piano, to design their flagship store in Tokyo. This is a tall elegant building that is inspired by traditional Japanese lanterns. Its exterior is completely composed of glass block, which in the daytime gives a hint of what is beyond but a blurred vision. By night the entire building glows from within. At eye level the glass block is punctuated by clear glass which displays the Hermes products beyond. In the corners the glass blocks change to curved ones, giving a soft edge. The glass blocks also act acoustically to create a calm mood inside., the revered interior of Hermes.

Designed by the latest Pritzker Prize winner, Japanese architect, Toyo Ito is the Mikimoto Building. Famed for its pearls and jewellery the company has decided on a playful approach. A white prism is perforated by a series of irregular windows like a Swiss cheese, apparently arranged at random.

Some are placed at corners where there would typically be a column. Sophisticated construction was required to achieve what, Ito describes as his architectural moleskin. The irregularly shaped display window endearingly had a full sized bright pink mother giraffe with baby pink giraffe, sharing a long strand of perfect pearls.

The whole Interior was the height of glamour. On the floor that was devoted to diamonds, to enhance their brilliance the intensity and wonderful depth of Klein Blue had been chosen. This sublime shade of blue was patented by the French artist Yves Klein. That floor to me remains an indelible memory.

Our last call was to the Hayek Centre. Nicolas Hayek was a Lebanese Swiss entrepreneur, co-founder of the Swatch Engineering group. His genius saved the Swiss watch industry from being undercut by the Japanese, as the Swiss had not realized the importance of the quartz watch although it had been invented in Switzerland. The group now includes eighteen leading brands under the Swatch group, including Omega. Shigeru Ban, designer of the Christchurch Cardboard Cathedral, was chosen to design their Tokyo flagship. He conceived an innovative plan that would work for the narrow space that was available when an existing building was removed in the desirable Ginza area. Like an expertly crafted Swiss watch, the

Hayek Centre is an assemblage of moveable pieces, that work together with machine like precision. Although the Centre's wavy steel roof is fixed the facade moves. Eight separate elevators animate the ground floor public plaza. The elevators take you to the watch department that you wish to go to, at the same time displaying the brand you are considering. In the Omega elevator the brand is elegantly and discreetly displayed, in the Swatch elevator, taking you to the Swatch Showroom the elevator walls are completely lined with colourful, fun but still highly technically developed watches. As one member of the group was really interested in buying a couple of Swatch watches for grandchildren we were embraced in the ceremony of the sale.

As this area was close by The Imperial Hotel we had planned to meet the rest of the group for a drink there. The original Imperial Hotel was designed by the famous Frank Lloyd Wright and finished in 1923. and amazingly survived the devastating Earthquake of that year. By the sixties it covered too greater an area, as it was only one storey high with extensive pools. In this central Tokyo, where land is at a premium it was too greedy of space so against world protests it was demolished and this new high rise building replaced it. Some of the original features such as stained glass, lights and decorative timber detail have been installed as a memento to history.



Nanette's News continued...

As a complete contrast to the elegance of The Imperial Hotel some of us went with a member of the group to a street cafe right under the adjacent railway lines. As a young man sent there on business, he remembered the nights he and his colleagues visited the same street café. We had a lively night there at slender cost. In fact the original waiter was still there or so he told us? Evidently they both commiserated with their loss of hair.

The choice of dining places near our hotel was easy, we found that wherever we went if you just walked into a restaurant on the street you could be assured of really delicious food at reasonable cost. We kept our more special dining experiences for Naoshima Island.

A member of the Interior Design Guild and also a student of Lois Perry's very popular Art Today Class, Liz Watson, her brother, Mark Sinclair, is the New Zealand Ambassador to Japan and she organized for the group to visit the Embassy. We had an appointment for 10.00am one morning, feeling very important as we were ushered through the gates. The Embassy is

not grand but has a light, spacious understated mood with blue and white mattress ticking covering all the groupings of settees. These look charming against the golden brown Parquet floors, but Mark feels it is all a little too casual and would like to upgrade it budget allowing. They have an extensive selection of New Zealand Art, but again most of it older artist's work. We were served morning tea by a very pleasant Japanese staff member, all of us sitting at the very long specially made Kauri table, designed for formal dining, and being regaled by Mark's partner, who is taking Japanese lessons, no easy feat and studying Japanese culture. Mark had an urgent matter to complete, so could not give us a lot of his time.

To finish we wandered out into the beautiful Japanese style garden. Standing beside the pool at the end of the garden, under the trees with the Spring lime green of the leaves back lit by the sun, we felt the peace that emanates from a typical Japanese garden. We did not want to hear about the summer plague of mosquitoes.

From the Embassy we walked down the hill to Shibuya Centre, where

there is a major store of the chain Uniqlo, a company that stocks well designed, well made clothes at very reasonable prices. As many of us had come prepared for cold windy weather as the two previous weeks had been, but Tokyo turned on the sun for us, we were short of lighter clothes. There was an immediate dispersal of the group round the several floors of the store and meeting afterwards there were several bulging bags.

We visited a number of Art Galleries but as always happens some are closed for renovation or installation of new work. An art gallery not to be missed is The Museum of Contemporary Art, a dramatically designed large and grand building that has always major interesting exhibitions by world renowned artists of all nationalities. It is in the Uneo area and the walk from the tube station to the Museum is delightful, making one linger. Temples with Bonsai gardens are scattered on the way, new modern style narrow houses are scattered successfully between old homes, interesting cramped little shops demand a look. We

were intrigued by a Kindergarten, the small children looking enchanting in uniform with tiny bowler type hats firmly on their heads. I am not sure how long they would stay on a N.Z. pre-schoolers head?

One thing I would advise any visitor to Tokyo to purchase is a Rail Pass to use on the JR Line, which covers most of the underground and most of the trains. It saves so many hassles of the continual buying of tickets. The trains are the best method of travel and so fast, as long as you know which exit to take. We bought a seven day pass and it did us for all our train travel out of Tokyo as well.

My message is visit Japan, especially at present but do not wait until the heat of Summer, maybe think of the beauty of the autumn colour on the masses of Cherry trees and Maples. The best of the Cherry blossom had past for us because of the earlier wind and rain but when we did come upon a mature Cherry tree in full flower sheltering in a protected corner, it was like finding a treasure.

Nanette



House Visits

Sharon & Bruce Prichard

3 Eastbourne Road, Remuera

Wednesday 26th June

11am-2pm & 6.30-8pm

N.B. ENTRY \$10 per person.

Proceeds to go to the Waiheke

Volunteer Fire Brigade

NO PHOTOS

This is a rare opportunity to visit the home of one of our foundation members, Sharon Prichard. Sharon works as an Interior Designer and with husband Bruce has been both passionate and patient in transforming their house into a beautiful home. An inveterate collector of objets d'arts she introduces the things she loves into her home in original and often quirky ways. Sharon recognizes that today a 'look' is instantly achievable for relatively little expense. However in her own practice she believes that true design, both interior and exterior, evolves over time, believing that it is the layering of a house, with quality items acquired with passion, that creates a home with soul.

This philosophy is evident in the much-loved and beautiful Prichard home.

The large Italianate Villa was built

in 1890 and has been owned by the Prichards since 1990. They spent 7 years living in the house in its 'original' state needing to leave the lights on day and night just to see!! Sharon and Bruce had the foresight to hedge the property in 1991 to 'frame' the house, create a green belt, and provide a backdrop to the formal Italianate garden they later created.

In 1997, with a clear understanding of what they wished to achieve, the Prichards called on the expertise of Architectural Designer David Irwin to help with the house alterations, garden layout, and landscaping. The builders were there for a year! During this time the house was reroofed, restored, the kitchen repositioned, an addition made to the existing upstairs area, two additional bathrooms created, and landscaping commenced.

The kitchen, finished in 1997, is testament to her philosophy of thoughtful design using quality product, developed from a place of passion. Punched metal panels in the cabinetry, honed Irish basalt with pitched edge, French hand-dipped tiles, glossy stainless benchtops, and a Paul Bocuse range. Every decision made then

has stood the test of time and they love the space.

Throughout the house there is an extraordinary attention to detail and finish. Sharon has resisted the use of white paint on the woodwork (with the exception of the bathrooms) using sophisticated shades of grey/neutral on skirting boards and scotias and commissioning a European artist to create aged effects where needed. The original floorboards were not sanded but hand-cleaned with meths and buffed.

The internal staircase to the garage is hand painted with Botanical panels. The curtains throughout are unlined and relaxed juxtaposing the architectural formality. Old curbing stones were collected for the garden steps and Sharon and Bruce designed the pivotal water feature.

Favouring an eclectic mix of periods and styles in her decorating Sharon has cleverly used Sandberg wallpapers, Osborne and Little fabrics, Vivace trims, Schumaker linen, Philippe Stark basins, mid century furniture, French lamps, mixed with her unique collections of contemporary art, memorabilia, and 'treasures' to create an elegant, eclectic, welcoming and much-loved family home. NOT TO BE MISSED!!

Osborne Lane, Newmarket

Off Osborne Street

Tuesday 2nd July

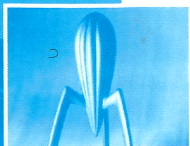
5.00-7.30pm

The Interior Design Guild is excited to invite you to an evening ramble through Osborne Lane Newmarket and its newly opened group of retail spaces on Tuesday 2nd July from 5pm – 7.30pm and thereafter at York Street mechanics cafe & restaurant. This is a free event and you can bring your partner and meet at the end of the evening to enjoy refreshments at your own cost to meet the architect Nat Cheshire from Cheshire Architects Ltd at York Street Mechanics Restaurant.

Nat says - Osborne Lane set out to offer the antithesis of the polished mall. The architectural work on the heritage buildings fronting Osborne Street, including their facades and interior strip-out and stabilisation work, was carefully undertaken by heritage architects Matthews & Matthews. We arrived toward the end of that process to give shape and energy to the emergent laneway behind and to extend that network through the block, interlinking and progressively converting the warehouses and sheds it opened up.

Our fit-out of the Dry & Tea warehouse was conceived as the kick-starting of that process, building on Bureaux's pioneering work at York Street Mechanics to shape a reclaimed gateway of rich, warm and exciting spaces.

From 5pm the following retailers welcome us and we will mingle and meet up as a group at 7.30 or before to York St



House Visits continued...

Mechanics to hear Nat Cheshire speak.

Sanderson Contemporary Art Gallery owned by Kylie Sanderson & assisted by Arron Santry & Tamara Darragh are opening their galley to us on the night and will be there to talk to us about their current exhibition of Cruz Jiminez-Bubble Boy.

Sandersons will have some copies of their sought after book "The Artists" 21 practioners in New Zealand Contemporary Art to give away for some lucky visitors on the night.

At Knock-Knock across the lane you will meet Graham & Peter (previously of Republic in Ponsonby) in their pop-up furniture store showing their wonderful eclectic array of furniture and design pieces. Right next door to them Suzannah Tonascia from Bolt Of Cloth in Christchurch is opening her first ever dedicated Australasia Marimmeko store which will be stocking the entire exciting range of fabrics . A must see. Check out her website www.boltofcloth.com

Across the lane, Anna from Selletti Boutique in Queenstown is opening her new permanent store and is looking forward to hosting us in

her new space. Some of you will know her store and her exciting range of homewares & furniture in Queenstown.

Louise Pilkington is a well known hairdresser & invites us all to take the opportunity to see her salon Dry & Tea blow wave & tea house with her very up market, tea garden leading out from her salon into Osborne Lane. An absolute delight and great addition to this little, hidden enclave designed by Nat. Louise says she will have some special teas & high tea plates for us to enjoy at a nominal cost and plans to light up the lane with lanterns for the occasion.

Sarah Barty a Guild member will open her Little Stich boutique which opens out onto the lane.

Please RSVP to Brenda on brenda@sulco.co.nz or call on 5757985.

There will be more surprises on the night, but we send this out in haste, so that you can all mark your diaries to come along on Tuesday 2nd July from 5pm – 7.30 and on to York Street Mechanics for some food & warm drinks afterwards

Erica Whineray Kelly & Mark Kelly

53 Beach Road, Castor Bay

Monday 12 August 2013

11am-2pm & 6.30-8.30pm

Erica and Mark bought a modest brick house in a great location in Castor Bay with views to Rangitoto and Motutapu Islands about 8 years ago, always with a view to live there long term with their children, Olivia and James, now 9 and 7.

They knew they needed a larger home and debated whether to build new or renovate. Renovate won out because they loved the character the home had, particularly the beautiful Matai floorboards. They engaged Jonathan Smith, a director of Matter, an innovative architecture practice, because they had seen a wonderful renovation he had completed for friends. The interiors were finished by Trinity Interior Design Solutions.

On the outside of the house long-run metal flows from the roof down to the walls and through to the soffits. Where windows have been removed or resized slightly, the external wall has been clad in dark stained cedar. The joinery is new Rylock double-glazed units. You can also see some of the bagged brick of the old house on remaining walls.

The front door opens into a hall and Olivia's bedroom is to the right and James' bedroom to the left. The public spaces of the house are painted Resene Rice Cake. Olivia has chosen Resene Conch for the walls and her collection of horses, including her horse

wall decal has pride of place. James room is decorated in an interesting shade of blue (Resene Powder Blue) and he has some of his favourite Lego displayed on painted shelves. His bed is from Forma. The children's bathroom is located down a hall to the right and is tiled in white matt wall tiles. The flooring is Matai boards.

Carrying on, you pass the staircase down to the lower level and then arrive at the master bedroom, complex. In this tranquil retreat Erica and Mark have the joy of waking to views of the ocean. A soft shade of Resene Half Truffle covers 3 of the 4 walls, the 4th West wall is papered with Arte Xanadu fabric paper. There are two paintings from the now deceased Aboriginal artist, Minnie Pwerle, depicting breasts, painted at a special ceremony for women only. They are particularly special to Erica as she is a breast cancer surgeon. Their bed is from Forma.

If you turn right in the hall you come to the kitchen and living area. A floor to ceiling bookcase accommodates Erica and Mark's large collection of books and also separates the children's space from the living areas. The kitchen has a Caesarstone island bench where the family can breakfast, seated on modern industrial Tate barstools. There is a brushed stainless steel bench running along the back wall with a gorgeous mosaic glass tile splash back, Mutina Mix 2 in Bianco Nero. The lacquered cabinetry is



House Visits continued...

Resene Half Rice Cake.

Although the space is open plan, the separation of spaces is well defined. The dining area has a dining table from Forma and the lights over the table are Normann pendants from Design Denmark. The living area is oriented for the view and a settee and Hudson chair are from Forma. The view takes in the harbour and out to the Coromandel and Rakino and Rangitoto Islands. There is a wonderful artwork by Sam Mathers, commissioned by Mark and Erica – it is a story of their Whakapapa - hanging on the wall above the credenza.

The lower floor steps down to follow the site and contains a gym, media room, rumpus room and carport. The rumpus room has 2 walls papered with Cole and Son 'Palm Leaves' and has views to Castor Bay beach. The floors on this level are polished concrete, apart from the TV room, which is carpeted with 'Meteor' Feltex nylon carpet. The couch and ottoman in this room are also from Forma. From this level you step out to a deck with an infinity pool. Jonathon designed the deck to be an amphitheatre, complete with outdoor couches and umbrella. Just when you think you

have seen everything the house offers an element of surprise. On the wall below the pool, which you can only see if you are at the lowest level of the garden, is a mural by street artist BMDBMDBMD. It adds another layer of personality and individuality to the house.

(Part-taken from Houses Issue 28)
Charity – KidsCan (www.kidscan.org.nz)

Warkworth & Matakana Visit Thursday 5th September

Warkworth/ Matakana visits will be full of adventure. We are fortunate to be able to visit these homes and then to take part in the many other culinary and visual activities the area has to offer, so allow yourselves time to enjoy the splendour and understated casualness of this area offering both historical and modern experiences.

RSVP interiordesignguild@ihug.co.nz

**Donna Jones Phone 537 5286
Reply by 30th August**

John & Robyn Wylie

On the brow of a hill on Sharp Road, and with sweeping views to the north and east over the wider Sandspit area, lies the 2 1/2

acres' of land that Robyn and John Wylie chose to build their place in the sun. It all started with significant earthworks to form a flat area that today encompasses their extensive back garden. While some earth was trucked away the rest was moved to fill in behind major retaining walls that stretch across in front of the house, swimming pool and driveway.

Entrance is gained by passing through chunky post and rail gates down the drive past their barn (more on this later) to a built up area outside their double door garage. Entry is gained at the front of the house on the eastern side by way of two flights of heavy tread concrete stairs. You are immediately impressed with the strength and weight of concrete works, the heavy wooden double-glazed joinery and the steep steel clad gable roof. This is a house that epitomises strength in construction, a house that will not blow away.

The concrete and block exterior has been rendered in Penetron, a coating commonly used to treat inside water tanks. This results in an exterior with a patina that is extremely pleasing to the eye. Shades of white, grey, cream and beige all intermingled in a restful and timeless fashion.

A solid concrete deck runs the full length of the house and this makes an ideal place to relax in the chairs positioned to take in a truly expansive view. The property stretches down a hill covered with native

bush abundant in birdlife (Tuis and Wood Pigeons) on the right hand side and over the open land away to the north and east. An area has been planted in fruit trees and Robyn has made a neat house and run to cage the new addition to the family, 6 red hens. At this time of the year the scene is filled with lush rolling hills of green.

On entering the house via the double opening doors from the front deck into the lounge, or a single door into the kitchen dining room area, you are immediately aware of the structure of the building. Vaulted ceilings sarked in white painted tongue and groove timber. Heavy beams supporting the roof are exposed showing the honesty of construction. The walls in all rooms are clad in Tri-board, cut into 200cm widths, which gives a casual feel to the interiors. Robyn has a wonderful gift for interiors and the placement of the style of the furnishings gives this area a wonderful homely feel. The dining area is complimented with a generous kitchen facing the view with a separate pantry and work area to one side.

The Den is adjacent to the dining room, and is cosy and inviting. On this the Southern end of the house is also a Guest WC and separate laundry area that has a door for direct outside access. This is not a house that one can describe in a few paragraphs. Doors allow easy egress from the dining room to the outside covered loggia BBQ



House Visits continued...

area to the back or western side of the house, complimented by an expansive lawn for the grandchildren to play cricket. You can picture the many happy family times that must be had with this easy indoor outdoor flow. A place to relax away from inclement weather no matter which way the wind blows.

Walking through the house to the northern end you pass through a generous sized lounge, resplendent with fireplace and cosy chairs. Its here that you pick up the theme that flows through the two floor levels of this house. The windows have a very strong presence in this house and frame the fabulous views. They match the look and strength of the concrete blocks and structure. There are more double doors in the expansive main bedroom at the northern end with ensuite etc. The generous day bed lounge facing the view in this room captures the eye. Makes you want to curl up and relax with a good book maybe even catch a few zzzzz's while you are about it. This house takes full advantage of our wonderful winter sun.

The dark stained Oak floors give further feeling of solidarity, in

particular when descending the flight of stairs to the lower level. At the southern end of the lower level is a large double garage, wine cellar and Robyn's workroom. Walking through the hall to the northern end you pass bedrooms and bathrooms all furnished in Robyn's unique style. All bedrooms enjoy good views. High stud ceilings add to the feeling of spaciousness, not always present in two storied dwellings. A clever inclusion is the glass blocks set into the top outside concrete deck. On the lower level its amazing the refraction of light that enters through these two rows of glass blocks, bringing natural light into an area that would otherwise need to be lit by other means.

A barn with accommodation for family and friends sits near the road and entrance and further helps to shelter the main house from the westerly winds. Robyn and John lived in the barn whilst the house was being built. It is now set up for the grandchildren, with two bunkrooms upstairs and a compact kitchen and living area down. There is also a double bedroom and bathroom downstairs. When the family isn't in residence, Robyn lets this magical little haven out to

townies wanting a weekend escape.

The house is complimented with gardens and plantings that look to be thriving on this full sun site. Robyn and John seem to be blessed with green thumbs and are well on the way to planting a wide variety of plants and vegetables. It's obvious from what they have created that they entered this project with a vision in mind and they are certainly well on their way to achieving their goals. This property is in a word impressive.

Robyn is an ex-NCIDG committee member and now her daughter Kim is a committee member. She still works about 3 days a week in her design consultancy.

We suggest everyone leaves Auckland to arrive in Warkworth around 10am. RSVP is essential as we will need to organise arrivals once we have numbers. PLEASE, PLEASE book early as we have a cap on the numbers. We will need to advise where we want each vehicle to be and at what time so it is essential that when you book, you provide your cellphone number AND who will be in the car with you. We ask that you car pool and we will try to avoid anyone going up on their own.

Both of these visits have minimal car parking on the sites but it can be managed with patience and meticulous planning. This is a visit to the country in the middle of winter and whilst we have ordered a fine winters day we all know that this is

not always the case. Please wear sensible shoes, a raincoat, umbrella etc.

We will have clear markers on the busy roads outside each house visit. Please be aware there is NO parking outside either visit and you will be directed where to park. We have also organised a visit to an artists studio and home which we will direct you to closer to the day.

Once we have visited all three homes, you will be free to head into Matakana for lunch and the following establishments have been suggested.

Plume Cafe, Matakana Village pub, Matakana Market Kitchen (under the theatre complex) If you are part of a group it may pay to make a prior booking.

Other places of interest are:

River Nile Egyptian Linen- well worth a stop.

Board & Batten Design studio.

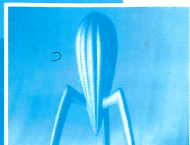
PIECE Gallery – underneath the theatre complex, currently showing beautiful glass sculptures.

Vivian Gallery- 39 Omaha Valley Road.

This should be a most interesting day and will be well patronised. Numbers do have to be limited so book in early.

John & Lisa Mallett

Up a steep drive and through a variegated hedgerow a surprise awaits you. Standing proudly on a hill overlooking the lush countryside near Warkworth lies Lisa



and John Mallett's family home, modelled on an Italian country mansion Lisa saw in Home and Garden May 2003. Lisa knew the design would sit nicely on their land bought for their growing boys now 11 and 15.

The concrete block rendered façade, painted Resene Tobacco Brown and window and door surrounds painted Resene Off White. The front door leads you into the hallway, with dark-stained, polished macrocarpa floors and church pew, inviting you into the family living room on the right with its oversized fireplace and ample sized furniture. Lisa's own artwork graces the walls in this room. The large ottoman was made by John and upholstered by Lisa. To the left is a TV /den /games room that is used by the boys.

The long hallway leads to the sun and light filled kitchen with a double stove, specially shipped out from England, taking pride of place along the back wall. Lisa has kept the palette neutral with stainless steel, offset by colourful artifacts on the open shelves. The kitchen looks out over undulating pasture and must be a delight with the morning sun pouring in through

double doors leading out to the garden from this area.

Off the kitchen is the dining room with a macrocarpa rectangle dining table beautifully crafted by John and the balloon-back chairs have been distressed and upholstered by Lisa in colourful plush velvet.

The Mallett sons, John and Jake have a wing on the ground floor that includes their bathroom. Jake's bedroom is painted "Jakes donkey grey" and has bunkbeds so he can have friends to stay. Jake designed and built a miniature skate park in his room for his mini skateboard collection. He should set up manufacturing these!

His older brother John's room is at the end of the hall with one wall is dedicated to his favourite music groups posters, and the windows were sporting accomplished practice "tags" (removable) as John is majoring in graphic design at Long Bay High School. Lisa says he is showing great promise, picking up an award for his design of a bach! . With such creative and passionate parents is it any wonder. John chose a smart navy blue for his walls.

Going up the ample staircase with stout balustrades, again designed

and built by John, you arrive at Lisa and Johns retreat. The landing leads to their exciting bedroom where Lisa's wonderful sense of colour and use of luxurious fabrics shine. The views that they wake up to every morning are absolutely stunning. The sideboard that Lisa resurrected from the greenhouse and painted up was rescued from John as he was about to throw it out. It looks great with a display of Lisa's interesting collections. There are 2 large artworks in this room by Lisa, one which was her first painting she did in memory of her Grandmother's love of white roses. The oversized bed, which is currently on the diagonal, is decorated with plump cushions made by Lisa with fabric purchased on our design trip to Sydney in 2011 from Chee Soon and Fitzgerald.

The ensuite is a large room with a claw foot bath looking out over the lush green valley and is accessed through double glass doors from the bedroom. There is also a guest bedroom on this level.

Lisa and John were very clear about what they wanted in their new home and drew detailed plans which were given to a draftsman friend Brendan Coghlan to draw up for the council nine years ago. The house sits on 3 acres, high on the hill overlooking farms off Woodcocks Road. They are reluctantly planning to sell this house to move closer to where the boys are being educated. Lisa very kindly offered

to open her home to the Guild before they place it on the market.

This is a warm inviting family home, filled with light, love and a passion for design.

Thank you Lisa and John, we all wish you well for your next move and watch with interest.

Margaret Walsh

4 Park Rd, Titirangi

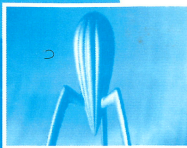
Wednesday 11th September

10am-2pm

Margaret Walsh and Craig Shearer's Titirangi home is surrounded by bush and views, and with a garden that now requires just four hours maintenance a month, it offers lock-up-and-leave apartment living, says Margaret.

Located on Titirangi's eastern slopes, the views are mesmerising. One aspect reveals Auckland city, watched over by the Sky Tower, with Rangitoto standing sentinel in the distance. Take in another aspect, and all you see is native trees. Viewing their own garden, again mostly natives, is just as rewarding though, especially given the years of toil spent establishing it.

The couple purchased the 2.5ha property 14 years ago and there was an old cottage on site, which Margaret, daughter Natasha and Craig lived in for seven years. Featuring hessian for insulation, no curtains and an old chip heater, Margaret says the dwelling was held together by ivy. Quarterly



ivy cut-back sessions ensured the rapacious vegetation didn't get the better of the place before the family was ready to build.

The original cottage was home to Mr and Mrs McAndrew – an architect and music teacher respectively and respected local entities. The McAndrews donated land and funds to build the local community hall which still stands, further along Titirangi Road. Demolishing the cottage was an exciting time, but it was a little poignant too, given the McAndrews' legacy. But Craig and Margaret have honoured this in gestures such as the rocks that surrounded a sauna built by the McAndrews, being incorporated into the new home's foundations. The gardens and landscaping were established first, and given that the site was used as Titirangi's unofficial dump – with cars pulling off the main road and drivers depositing debris regularly – leather gloves and work boots were mandatory gardening garb. The trio cleared everything from gin bottles to light bulbs as well as the unwanted vegetation.

Architect Richard Priest was the logical choice for the project. Margaret was already sold on

Priest's concepts for living, having previously lived in a Titirangi Priest designed-home. And when Richard first visited his new clients, they already knew the views they wanted from every room.

Margaret and Craig were also inspired by Frank Lloyd Wright's designs. Interpreted by Priest, these can be seen in the structure's solidity – being anchored into the hillside, with its sense of a core from which platforms radiating outwards.

Prior to building, Margaret enrolled in Nanette's design course at Te Tuhi. She wanted to be more knowledgeable; so she could contribute to the design and build process, create the colour scheme and dress the home. Their brief to Richard was for the perfect home for entertaining, with easy flow between indoor and outdoor spaces.

Twelve years old at the time, Natasha wanted her own space, away from her parents! So, Richard designed a bridge that led to her space above the garage. It's called the Girl Cave, but with its dreamy, feminine feel and painted in soft white, it's nothing like a cave.

The \$100,000 pool requiring

complex engineering didn't survive the journey from the plan to the site. The clients couldn't justify the price and realised foliage from the trees falling into the pool would have caused problems. Instead, the spa pool is filled with cool water every summer.

The striking exterior entrance features schist stone, and this same material appears throughout the interior as well. Craig's a southern man, and stone was chosen to symbolically connect the home to the land. This schist came from India, though, selected for its depth of colour, and it throws turquoise and purple tones at particular times of the day.

The long view from the front door through the main interior space is emphasised by a large feature window leading the eye out over the trees. The large deck is a favourite feature, with visitors claiming they feel they're visiting a bird's nest.

Margaret and Craig are great ambassadors for New Zealand art and their family photographs also enthrall visitors as they move throughout the home. The precise positioning of every photo and painting is immediately obvious, and is thanks to assistance from Art Associates, who hung the precious pieces. There are numerous artworks too by long-term friend and artist Maxine Jepson; her Mayan necklaces are exquisite.

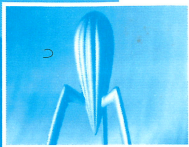
Bamboo flooring was chosen for the living

areas and while it doesn't mark, stilettos are still discouraged. Walking past the garden view on the left, you'll find the lounge; here, the painting on the far wall is by emerging artist Jessica Kessell. This space then flows into the dining area – more lightness and great art – and into what Margaret calls 'Nanette's kitchen'.

Margaret designed this kitchen in Nanette's class at the same time Richard Priest was drawing up the house plans. When Margaret asked Richard to leave a blank space for the kitchen – because she was designing it – the award-winning architect was more than a little surprised. And Margaret wouldn't change a thing.

The TV room is intimate, bright and cosy. The lampshade was bought from Cavit & Co soon after the store opened, the Aboriginal art was bought in Melbourne, and other precious pieces adorn the shelves. Every year the Portage Ceramic Awards are held up in the Village at Lopdell House, offering fertile purchasing opportunities. And Margaret has collected iconic Crown Lynn pieces (which used to be made just down the hill), for years.

To the right of the entranceway are Craig's office and utility rooms and there are three bedrooms upstairs – where of course, the views are even more breath-taking. Selected furniture throughout is an eclectic mix of Modernist design classics and intriguing antique finds, such as the tall



wooden writing desk just off the entranceway. An essential piece for monks writing calligraphic works, apparently.

The generous spaces beneath the living areas are accessed via external stairs to the right of the home and accommodate Craig's cave and Margaret's office, or 'head office', as it's called. Margaret's staff, from the Face & Body Clinic just around the corner, often come for meetings, team building sessions, a glass of wine and good laugh.

On the plan, the architect made provision for an internal staircase leading from the main level to the one below, but Margaret already works too much and wanted separation between living and work spaces. Her instruction to Richard over the proposed stairway: "No, thank you."

Craig and Margaret have lived here for five years now. They primarily wanted a home that celebrates its stunning location, and could effortlessly accommodate a crowd or two. It has certainly succeeded on all counts.

McCahon House
67 Otitori Bay Road
French Bay, Titirangi
Entry by donation

In addition to the Margaret Walsh Titirangi house visit we have been given the opportunity to visit the McCahon House Museum and resident artist's studio, which will be opened exclusively for the Guild. Fiona Pardington who is one of New Zealand's great artistic photographers who continues to push the boundaries of all her photographic practices is the recipient of the Arts Foundation Laureate Award, and will be in the last week of her residency. Fiona has agreed to be available in the studio during our visit to discuss her work and practice with Guild members, this is a great opportunity so take the time to venture down to the McCahon House. Fiona is planning a series of still life images interweaving her work and life experiences with the life of Colin McCahon, his painting, and his relationship with land. Entry by donation will go to the McCahon House to maintain the history of New Zealand's greatest artist.

INFORMATION FROM TE TUHI

Saturday August 3rd 2pm William Pope.L opening all Guild members, family and friends welcome

Te Tuhi presents a new performance based work and exhibition from prominent Chicago based artist William Pope.L.

See the gallery transformed into a large purpose built set, within which Pope.L stages an absurd performance.

The artist holds a mirror to race, class and gender issues.

This is a rare opportunity to view this international artist performing his work in person.

Visit Te Tuhi website www.tetuhi.org.nz/events for all information on what is happening at the gallery.

Perspective Drawing Workshop starts 6th August and runs for 6 weeks Thursday 7pm – 9pm contact Te Tuhi ph 577 0138 for more information.

DESIGN NOTES

PAPER ROOM now at 25 Jervois Road Ponsonby at the Three Lamps end of Jervois Road. Annabell and Sarah invite all Guild members and friends to call and view their new showroom or for online shopping go to www.paperroom.co.nz Ph376 5675

