

Seaside Sanctuary

After 30 years of enjoying the north island holiday destination of Pauanui, the Coleman family have built their dream home and never looked back.

Words **Soraya Nicholas** Photography **Craig Robertson**



Water views, space and designer details make this holiday residence truly one of a kind.





To complement the stylish interior walls, the Colemans turned to **Home Fabrics Ltd** for all of the window furnishings. They sought a relaxed, textured style, which was created by the use of a continuous fabric in the lounge, in James Dunlop Garda, which means there are no joins in the drapes or blinds. In addition to assisting in the interior design by helping Vern and Shannon select their drapes, Home Fabrics also supplied curtain rods by Windoware and Track Magic, and bed linen by Baksana. Like the window coverings, a comfortable holiday feel was created through careful fabric selection.

With their home full to overflowing during holiday time, the Colemans knew they needed a sizeable and functional kitchen. **Peninsula Joinery** designed and crafted the kitchen, which was positioned

to face the living area, with a breakfast bar separating the two spaces. The cabinetry is all made from low pressure laminate with a high pressure laminate benchtop used for heightened durability. In addition to their work on the kitchen, Peninsula Joinery also custom-made the vanities for each bathroom and the Plywood fireplace shelves, as well as three sets of bunk beds, which were based on a photo Shannon had seen in a magazine. They are made from pine and stainless steel, and provide sleeping quarters for the Coleman's grandchildren.

While the vanities for the bathrooms were specially crafted, all of the other fittings and fixtures were sourced direct from **PlaceMakers Thames**. They supplied Robertson Agencies tapware, which is guaranteed to be drip-free for life,



ABOVE Hannah and Georgia, the Coleman's granddaughters, relax in the bunk room.

LEFT The open-plan living area features an assortment of Vern and Shannon's favourite things. They love the Plywood shelving, furniture sourced especially for the home, and the stainless steel feather placed above the fire.

BELOW The bathrooms feature the same light blond walls and tiles as the rest of the home. **OPPOSITE PAGE** With so many visitors coming to stay for extended vacations, the kitchen was designed to be large, open and with enough space for multiple cooks at any one time!

THREE DECADES AGO, VERN AND SHANNON

Coleman found their dream section in the beautiful holiday area of Pauanui, and proceeded to build a modest cottage on the site. But in more recent years, the Colemans felt they were ready to expand. "We had renovation plans drawn up by Graham Pitts, the original architect of the cottage, to extend it. But as we mulled over these, we realised that so many things needed replacing, that there wouldn't be much left" explains Shannon. "So we approached Coastwood Homes, who listened to our requirements and came up with the current plan." It was not a fast process though, with Vern and Shannon sitting on the plans for four years before giving Coastwood Homes, the local Lockwood Homes franchise, the go ahead.

The new home needed to accommodate for a large number of potential visitors, and provide Vern and Shannon with somewhere private to escape to. They have three adult children and their respective spouses, seven grandchildren and three dogs, as well as many friends who often come to stay, so it is a busy, bustling holiday home. After so long considering the plans, the

Colemans knew the design was going to work, and within seven months of the old cottage coming down, they were enjoying their first family holiday, looking out from their new home to the sparkling water and adjoining reserve.

Aside from falling in love with the design Coastwood Homes had created, the Colemans were also very taken with the Lockwood method of construction, which is a unique style of building. "The boards lock in together rather than being nailed together," explains Katie McDonald of Coastwood Homes. "This gives the Lockwood homes their strength in things like cyclones and earthquakes, and this method of construction also makes the building time on site very fast."

The roofing material chosen for the home was also selected for its strength and durability. Supplied and fixed by **Taylor Roofing**, the Colorsteel long-run roof profile is ideally suited to the coastal nature of the home, and is covered by extensive warranties. It has been specifically designed and made to withstand the often-harsh nature of the

New Zealand climate. In addition to the general installation of the roof, Taylor Roofing also constructed a special pan flashing to the chimney, to ensure absolute weather-tightness was achieved where the chimney penetrates through the roof.

While the classic Lockwood home always featured natural timber, the Colemans chose a more contemporary finish, with the internal timber all blonded. To create the unique ambience inside, **Steve Levien Painting** was invited to work on the home, completing all the finishing touches. The painting team supplied all of the paint, stain and polyurethane for the internal timber walls, with a Wattyl Taubmans Estapol water-based polyurethane used for all the Lockwood Homes, along with a secret formula to establish the perfect blond finish. The water-based product used is environmentally friendly and allows the timber to breathe, which stops any potential yellowing of the boards. Prior to any product being applied to the timber, each board is carefully sanded to ensure an even, smooth finish.





Our Place with Shannon & Vern Coleman

Favourite room?
The living area, because it has turned out even lighter and brighter than we had hoped it would. We also love the way it looks out to the estuary and reserve, and opens to the patio.

Home is ...
A dream come true without a doubt! We used to dream of this when we had our little cottage.

Favourite Possession?
The furniture in the living room, and also the feather above the fireplace. It is made from stainless steel, and is by Merv Sarson.

What do friends and family like most?
The blond timber because it has such a lovely, comfortable feel, and also the covered veranda where we eat all of our meals over summer.

Advice to others preparing to build?
Because we live in Auckland and couldn't be on site regularly, we really had to trust our builder. Communication was very important, and they phoned us often and sent photos of the progress each week. We wanted to trust the builder, let them manage everything, and just let the process run smoothly, and it all worked out perfectly.



Directory

BUILDER

Lockwood Homes Coromandel
07 868 8733
www.lockwood.co.nz

BATHROOM

Placemakers Thames
07 868 0130
www.placemakers.co.nz

DOORS

Doors 2000 Ltd
07 866 4295
www.doors2000.co.nz

KITCHEN

Peninsula Joinery
07 868 6323

LANDSCAPING

All Garden Works
07 868 5453
www.allgardenworks.co.nz

LIGHTING

Coastal Electrical
0274 734 835

PAINTING

Steve Levien Painter
0274 758 396

PLUMBING

Pete Donnelly Plumbing
0274 714 963

ROOF

Taylor Roofing
07 868 9271

TILES

Designa Ceramics
09 579 0714
www.designa.co.nz

WINDOW FURNISHINGS

Home Fabrics
09 486 1103
www.homefabrics.co.nz

to create a sophisticated look, in addition to basins and toilet suites from the same range. In keeping with the rest of the modern fixtures, Clearlite Millennium showers were selected. This unique shower design features a Sureseal tray, which means the entire shower is crafted to sit within the tray to reduce the risk of future leaking.

Also a main feature of the bathrooms are the Italian tiles, which were supplied by **Designa Ceramics Tiles Ltd**. Placed on the floor in the bathrooms as well as in the kitchen, the Artech tiles in colour Perlato complement the light, holiday-inspired colour scheme inside the home, and they are exceptionally easy to keep clean. This particular range of tiles are made in Italy, chosen by the Colemans in a 300x600 size, and the style is matched only by the quality of the product. Mosaics to match the neutral tiles were also supplied, installed in the downstairs shower.

The property adjoins a reserve and faces out to the estuary, so the Colemans never tire of lounging on their large deck and soaking up the holiday ambience.

The substantial holiday home couldn't be more different to the cottage the Coleman family originally built on their section. Now they have a unique house that faces the estuary and adjoining reserve, and ample space both inside and out.

However when they proceeded with their new home, they decided it was time to invest in landscaping. For this they turned to **All Garden Works**, who were charged with building the requisite retaining walls, as well as laying an instant grass lawn, completing all of the concrete work for the pathways around the home and the driveway, and also the creation of some large structural walls at the rear of the section. The LIANZ accredited landscape team also assisted Shannon and Vern when it came to selecting the correct plants, and completed all of the planting for the garden.

The entire Coleman family adore their new holiday residence, and have already enjoyed two extended vacations there together. "We just don't know ourselves," says Shannon. "It is a dream come true, without a doubt." ■

THE SPECS

xxxxxxx
\$x00,000 - \$x00,000
xxx Sq m

