

Making Magic

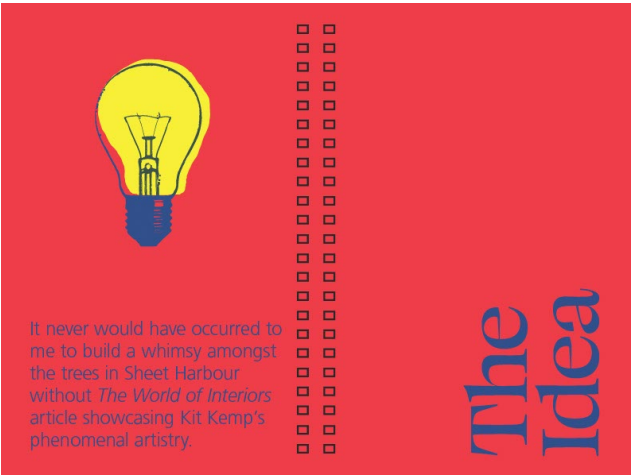


I connected with Kir's "everything," her love of colour and pattern, her eclectic aesthetic, her willingness to push the boundaries of sensory overload.

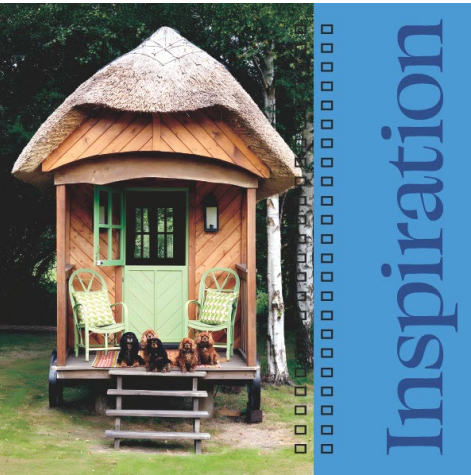


To my friends who have given me so much to smile about.

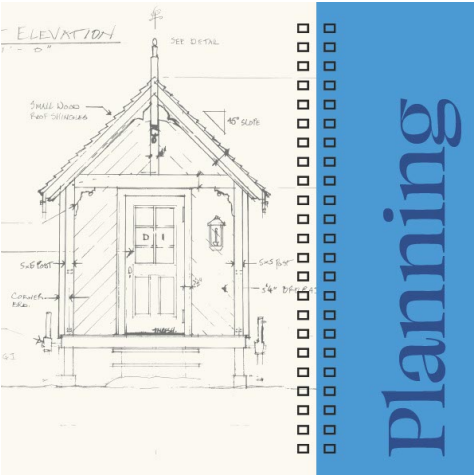
Rubbing a belly for good luck also puts a smile on my face.



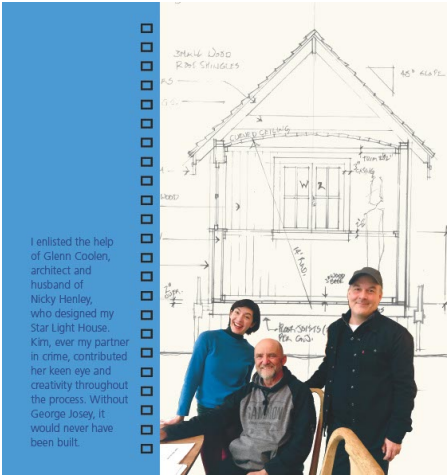
It never would have occurred to me to build a whimsy amongst the trees in Sheet Harbour without *The World of Interiors* article showcasing Kit Kemp's phenomenal artistry.



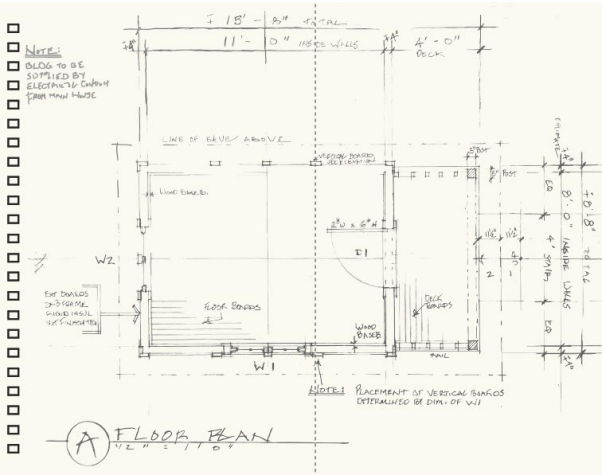
Inspiration



Planning



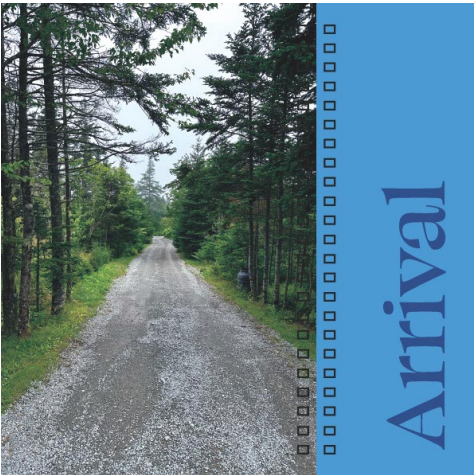
I enlisted the help of Glenn Coolen, architect and husband of Nicky Hanley, who designed my Star Light House. Kim, ever my partner in crime, contributed her keen eye and creativity throughout the process. Without George Josey, it would never have been built.



FLOOR PLAN



Setting the Stage



Arrival



The long gravel drive lined with evergreens begins the process of scruffing off the weariness of the world. Barry's brightly coloured mailbox hints at something special to come.

A playful sign directs visitors down the meandering drive to the main property.

This way or that?

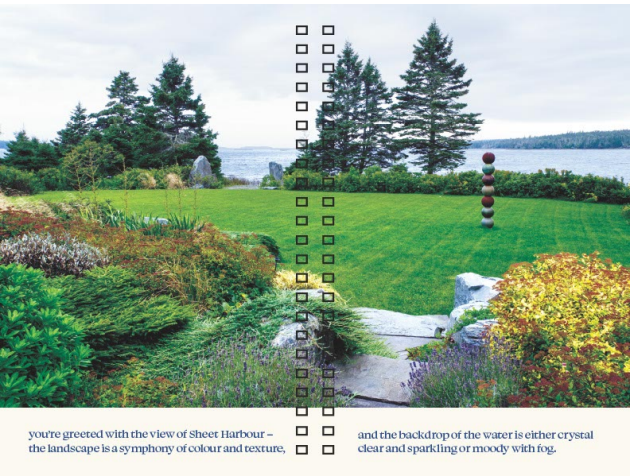


As you come down the drive, a hidden pond and fountain add a quiet dappling of sound.



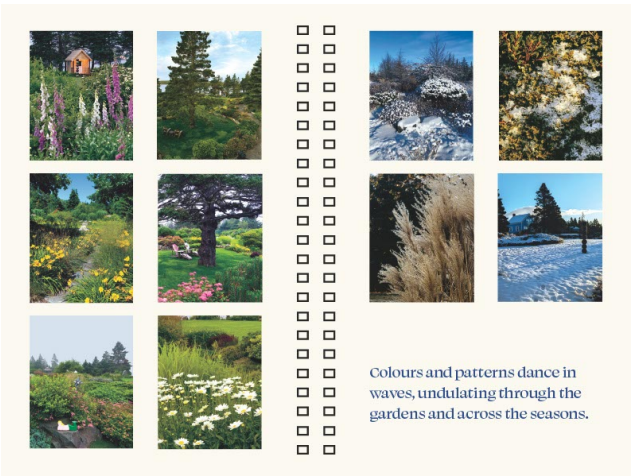
You walk in and through and all of a sudden...

@barry's sign wasn't really made for here, dear, dear, dear...

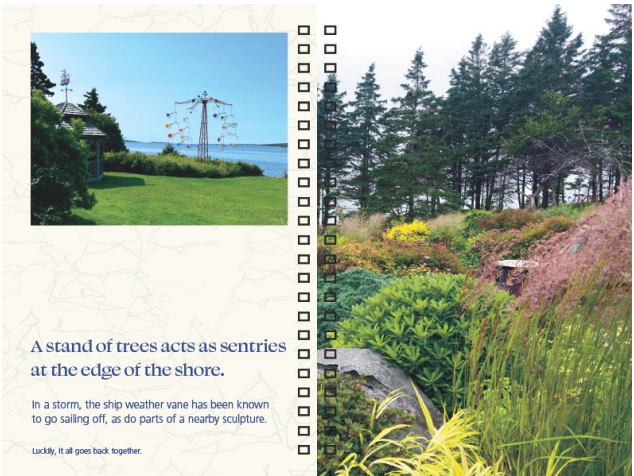


you're greeted with the view of Sheet Harbour – the landscape is a symphony of colour and texture,

and the backdrop of the water is either crystal clear and sparkling or moody with fog.



Colours and patterns dance in waves, undulating through the gardens and across the seasons.



A stand of trees acts as sentries at the edge of the shore.

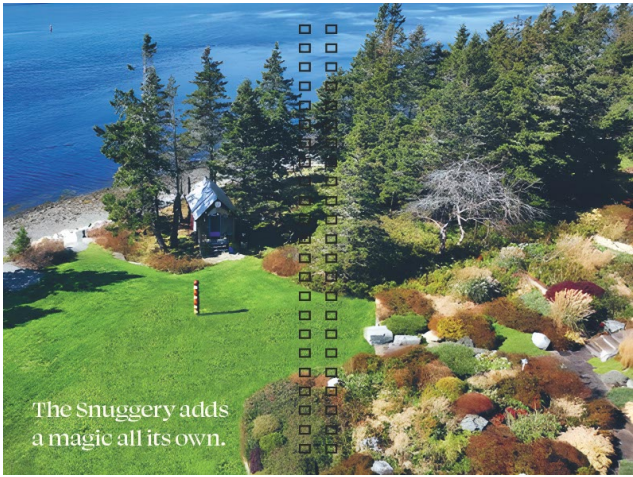
In a storm, the ship weather vane has been known to go sailing off, as do parts of a nearby sculpture.

Luckily, it all goes back together.

The light of a full moon casts its own magical spell, transforming the ocean into a sparkling path to adventure.

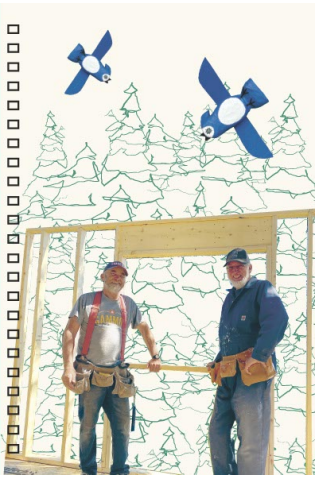


The Snuggery adds a magic all its own.

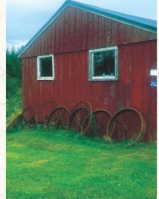


Banging Nails

As George and Ronnie erected The Snuggery, the excitement and possibilities began to bloom.



Well worth waiting to have George available.



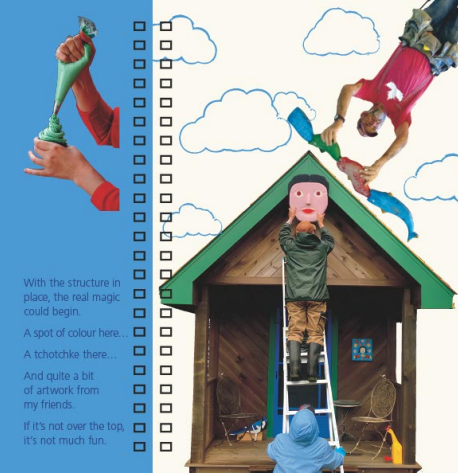
I picked my wheels from fishy stacks of antique goodies.



My whimsy had found its shape.

It was like a cake waiting for icing. Without it, it would not be the confection I had in mind.

Icing



With the structure in place, the real magic could begin.
A spot of colour here...
A tchotchke there...
And quite a bit of artwork from my friends.
If it's not over the top, it's not much fun.

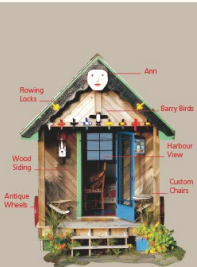
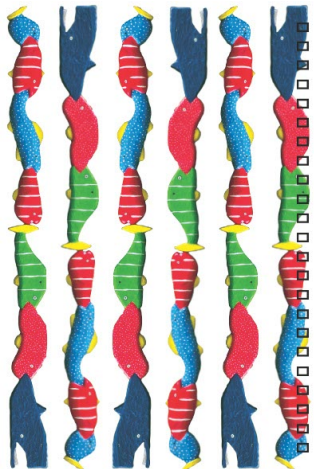


Four antique wagon wheels found new life as exterior decorations.

A conga line of Barry's brightly coloured creations dance across the edges of the roof.



Tony Asprey's hand-carved raccoon waits patiently to greet visitors.



Anatomy of The Snuggery

Behind the Scenes

The Snuggery's charm lies in its details: the brightly coloured trim studded with my friends' artwork, as well as every nail, paint stroke and flourish laid down by their hands.

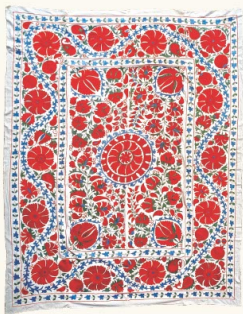


Buddy may be the most animated decoration of all.

Decor



Like the exterior, the interior exceeds expectations. Here, an extensive mix of patterns, rustic furniture and folk art conspires to enchant.
It's the perfect place to write, create, relax and dream.

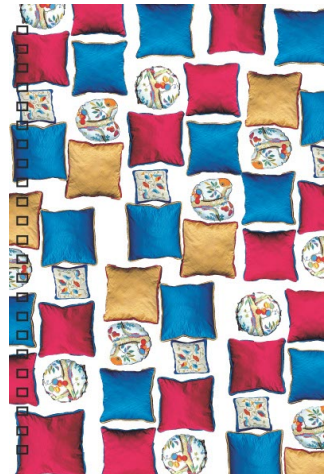


Surprises can be found anywhere, even stitched into the pillows.

Sometimes the surprise is a visit from Buddy!



Theo

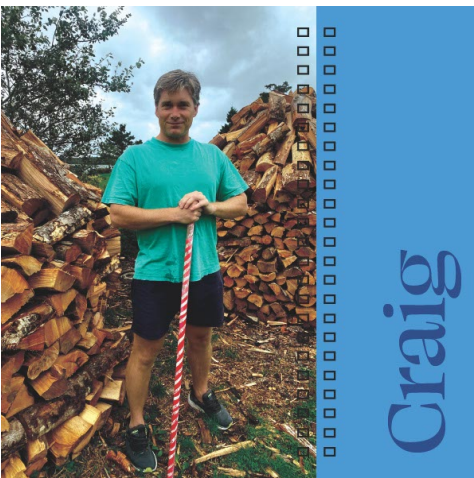
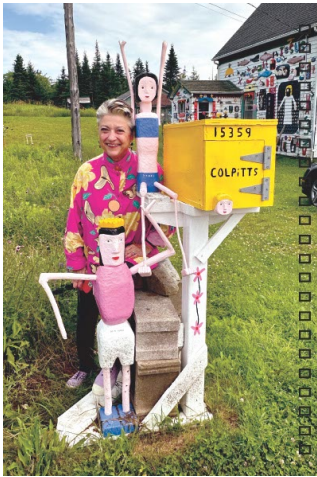
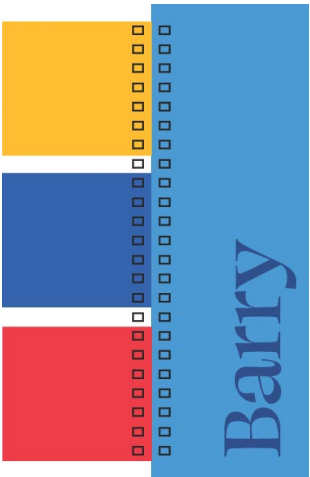
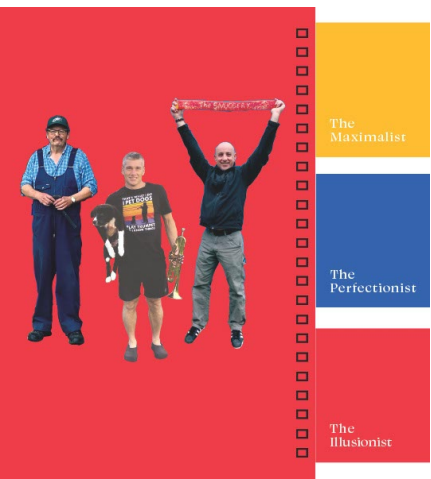


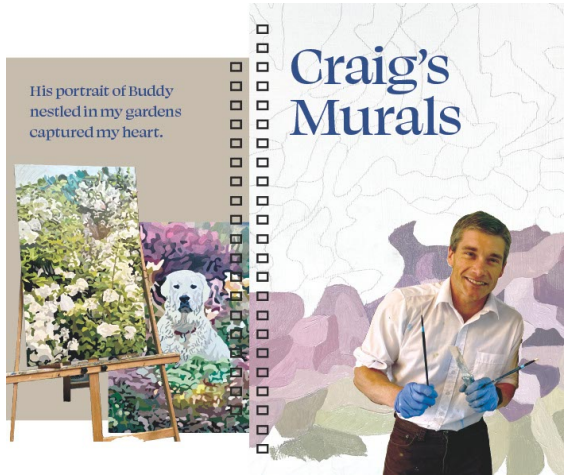
Theo has been my friend and courtier for more than 30 years. His imagination and skill with a needle and thread are unmatched, and his creations are museum-worthy. I am lucky to be the beneficiary of such talent and attention. His latest creation is a custom leather bomber jacket with bright accents of grosgrain ribbon, all hand sewn.



A young friend discovered a hidden message inside each of Theo's bohemian cushions!







These are much more impressive in the round. But short of a visit, this is probably the best way to understand the total package.



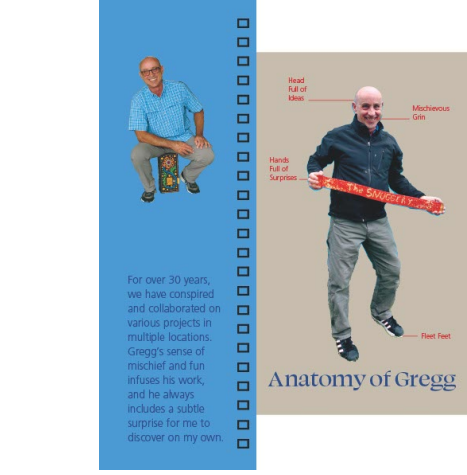
Recreating Craig's mural of Buddy as a hand-hooked rug was a challenging task. After more than 300 hours, I have a new respect for Craig's attention to detail.



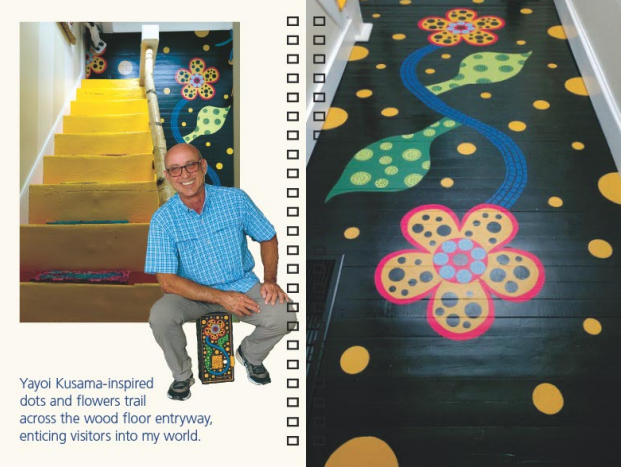
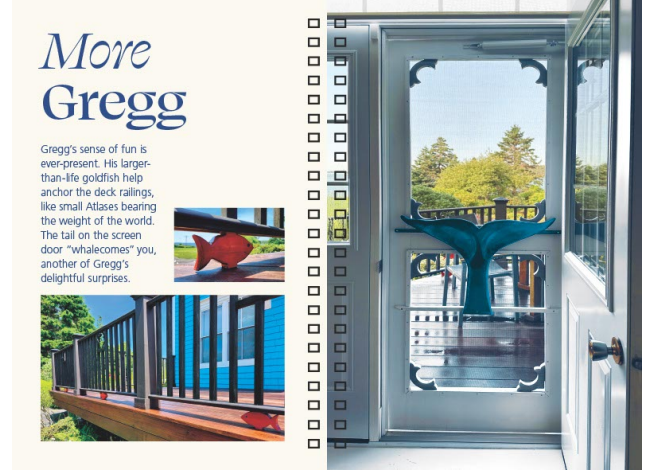
Craig is the Pied Piper of pups – no matter the game or task, the dogs are always nearby.

No surprise, he's as meticulous in training his dogs and constructing his wood piles as he is in creating his paintings.

What if Buddy just lets go?



Birch, plastic beads, epoxy resin, how else would a push bar be made? It started life as twigs, then flower petals, and ended up as an amalgamation of shining plastic beads.



Sharing ideas with friends has always brought magic to my doorstep.

I hope the same is true for you.