

welcome back

I'VE BEEN TRYING to get my house renovated for, wait for it... eight years! I know, I know, it's ridiculous. But there's a reason why I've been waiting for so long. My architect just happens to be a good friend (big mistake) and he knows I won't moan when I get shoved to the back of the queue – again! But my house is now seriously falling apart and I'm not joking. I must admit I'm a bit embarrassed about the state of the place especially as an editor of a homes and lifestyle magazine. I do cheat it by entertaining only at night – the darkness hides all the flaws, especially if you only use candles! With my disaster zone of a house in mind we decided to fill this issue with lots of stylish makeovers – from home interiors to hair transformations (see page 138). Look out for the stamp (see right) throughout the mag and get ready to be inspired.

Talking of makeovers, do you remember last year we ran a competition in conjunction with myhome.com.au to win a fab new-look interior? We were flooded with entries and the lucky winner was Amanda Mooney who had been living in an eighties timewarp. She couldn't afford to update her Melbourne family home, so we sent stylist Clair Wayman to the rescue (I am sooooo jealous). Amanda's house is now beautiful and completely unrecognisable – check it out on page 88. All this talk of makeovers has inspired me to have a whinge about my place and get motivated to make it happen (honestly!) – so watch this space because I am definitely next.

Hope you love this issue and that it motivates you to get cracking at home, even if it's only giving one of the rooms a lick of paint, or better still winning your own \$10,000 garage makeover – see page 37 for details. Happy reading – and decorating!



tea & Tim Tams – for charity, of course!

I'm wearing my Ralph Lauren Pink Pony tee in support of breast cancer awareness this month. I love it! You can also do your bit for the Breast Cancer Foundation by eating lots of Pink Wish Tim Tams – I am!



A stylish and quirky way to give gifts. Made from recycled paper.
Rubbergob gift tags, \$4.95 for 4, Rubbergob.

things we love this month

This is one dream machine! Espresso from this coffee maker will have you revved up and ready to go.
live "Ascaso Dream" coffee machine in Red, \$889.



These cool cards contain a paper insert so they can be used again. Made from recycled paper, too.
Rosebarnett "Twice" card, \$5.95, Madeit.com.au

An adorable handmade wooden "fat bird" with reversible coloured inserts and sides (white/brown).
Limited-edition "Bird&Eggs" ornament, \$130, Brideandwolfe.com.au



Take a seat – indoors or out!
SunnyLife floor cushions in (from top) Scandinavian Floral, Blue Circle and Neutral Check, \$79.95 each, David Jones. For stockists, see page 161.

Try this for funky storage of pens, keys, loose change...
Fabric cylinder In Aqua, from \$19 for 13cm, Articleproduct.com



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PS Don't miss me at the Domayne Alexandria (NSW) store on Oct 14 – I'll be running an "Outdoor Room" workshop and answering decorating questions. If you can't make that date I'll be back again on Oct 21 at the Fortitude Valley (Qld) store. So come along with your questions!



Recorded at his home studio in Byron Bay, Pete Murray's latest album is the perfect soundtrack for summer.
Pete Murray's new CD, "Summer At Eureka" (Sony BMG), \$29.95.