

# Dream home that Scott the lot

- 1 Garage
- 2 Bathroom
- 3 Guest bedroom
- 4 Bunk room 1
- 5 Bunk room 2
- 6 Open plan living and dining
- 7 Kitchen
- 8 Laundry
- 9 Master suite
- 10 Existing outdoor deck

**DREAM HOME**  
with Scott Cam

## HOW ARCHICENTRE CREATED A DREAM

### A Japanese layout designed for good luck

**I**NSPIRED by his meeting with Scott Cam, Justin Quinlan started work on the Archicentre design solution.

"We've used a simple Palladian system. All rooms and living spaces are placed in accordance with Japanese tatami-mat layouts," Quinlan says.

"Tatami mats, full-size and half-size, have a set layout configuration to ensure good luck.

"With that strategy in mind, the design for the Cam residence evolved into a series of separate wings connected by external walkways that surround the existing deck.

"Other key factors were maximising northern exposures but also providing accessibility to the surrounding views.

"We designed the living area beneath a huge sloping roof that can be opened along the northern and southern facades.

"But it is still able to retain a formal hearth reminiscent of the original dwelling.

"The bedrooms are heavily influenced by the indoor-outdoor pavilion architecture of the tropics, with private outdoor courtyards and bi-fold glazing.

"The building materials assigned to each wing are based on function — local stone and prefabricated glazing for the living wing, local timber for the master wing and a basic render for the more utilitarian areas.

"Importantly, the new spaces are sympathetic to the existing deck, external fireplace and barbecue — in keeping with the client's desire to use them as the new dwelling's focal point."

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### Archicentre and the RAINA create a new home for Scott Cam.

#### Archicentre's Shane Moritz tracks the project

**S**cott Cam, the bloke responsible for carpentry on the TV shows *Backyard Blitz* and *Renovation Rescue*, lives by the old working-class maxim "work hard, play hard".

Cam spends his days on site working up a hard-earned thirst. By 4pm he's ready to retire to the traditional Australian pub he has recreated in his back shed, where the beer flows.

Taking a break from building the family home in Sydney's southeast, Scott joins Archicentre architect Justin Quinlan to discuss renovating his holiday house in Mudgee, in country New South Wales.

"It's a great little country set-up, but it's an old fibro shack and it's falling down," he says.

Cam dreams of a new house he respects as much as the outdoor entertainment area he has there — which has made the Cam's the toast of the neighbourhood.

Quinlan gets a frigh when he sees Cam has stuffed his beloved black and tan kelpie. It sits on the floor, eyeing him, its tongue hanging out.

"That's my old dog, Lizzy. She was a terrific mate," Cam says.

The Cam's cottage occupies a flat ridge halfway up the surrounding mountains. Beyond the fence is a road drop to a river.

Between the fence and the house, Cam has built a 90sq m deck and dining area with bar, an external fireplace made of 600 bricks, and a barbecue pit in which Cam likes to "swing the big post".

"I built massive tools to go with this barbecue and they're called Cam's Big Barbie Tools," he says.

"I've even engraved the handles. I have to find a big pole like this (arms



All I want for Christmas: television presenter Scott Cam and Archicentre architect Justin Quinlan talk tactics for Cam's dream home.

get 360-degree views from all areas of the house.

**Cam:** I really love the idea of separate pavilions for shower and toilet when you're out in the bush.

**Quinlan:** It's how the Balinese do it — the shower is in an external courtyard that has bush in it, and there's a privacy wall beyond that.

**Cam:** It has to be inside, though, because it's freezing in winter and my wife would never have that.

**Quinlan:** That's OK, but there could be a scenario where a glass side to the shower looks into a private courtyard

outside the house, with lots of sun and light coming in.

**Cam:** That sounds great.

**Quinlan:** Should we create a guest wing? It's your dream home, after all. Do you want a separate TV room and lounge?

**Cam:** No, and I'll tell you why. Up there the kids play all day and they're bugged by about 6.50pm. Normally about eight or nine of them are up here and they all swing out in the main DVD about 7pm and they're all asleep in 10 minutes.

At the moment I have a big fireplace and on the mantelpiece

there's an old clock that chimes. I love it. And a big Murray cod head hangs on the wall — stuffed — and a set of antlers that my cousin bought me 20 years ago. Also, there's a cobra and a mongoose fighting that I bought at an auction.

So that's 1, 2, 3 with the antlers in the middle and the clock. I took a photo of it and told Am it was our coat of arms. I'm going to try to get that done with a bit of Latin underneath.

**Quinlan:** Latin has a great word for labour, which is *laboriose*.

**Cam:** Oh yeah — more labour equals excellence.