

# Shipshape and Bristol fashion



This Claremont home combines a nautical theme with a compact, low-maintenance design.

**T**RISH AND KELL Quinlan used to live in a home on a large corner block in Floreat. The home had a big garden and plenty of room for their two children. But as the children grew up and then moved out, the garden seemed to take up more and more of the couple's time.

"We were reaching retirement age and not prepared to do the gardening the whole time," Trish says.

"We began thinking about moving to a smaller place."

To do this they enlisted the help of their son Justin, who was 22 at the time and studying for a degree in architecture at the University of New South Wales.

"We had talked about making use of a small block," Trish says.

"Justin said he'd design the home if we found the right block."

Trish and Kell spent two years searching.

In 1997 they found the ideal location in Claremont.

In the meantime, Justin had regularly discussed concepts with his parents over the phone — taking two years to finalise plans for the home, his first commission.

The contemporary design has a nautical theme and is compact, functional and stylish.

The home was constructed from brick, which was then finished with a white render.

Occupying 210sqm, the two-

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The salty theme of this trim Claremont home is reinforced by careful attention to detail and a minimum of superfluous ornamentation.

bedroom home is mostly obscured from the street by a white rendered wall.

Access to the front of the home is through an unusual, angular gate and across a small bridge over a pond.

The side of the home has an angled pine-beam canopy which is reminiscent of the supports for a boat up on the slips.

This device is repeated at the rear of the upper storey.

The nautical theme is continued in the use of long corridors with

porthole-like windows and a study, dubbed "the bridge", which has a row of windows — mimicking the bridge of a ship — giving a view down onto the street.

Inside, special consideration has been given to making use of all available space and to ensuring the home has plenty of natural light.

An extra-wide staircase at the entrance immediately instils a sense of space and there are abundant windows.

Blackbutt floorboards throughout

and an opal-and-white colour scheme contribute to the sensation of spaciousness.

The upstairs master bedroom with ensuite has a balcony, accessed through French doors, with views to a rear courtyard which includes a small garden with two ponds and water fountains.

A second bedroom with ensuite is on the ground floor. Both bathrooms are fitted with Grohe accessories.

The family and meals area is

separated from the formal dining and lounge areas by a galley kitchen which features drawers and cupboards for all appliances.

Cupboards, vanities and wardrobes were designed by Justin.

Mechanical engineer Kell also was involved in the design of the home's fittings.

Kell says that initially he had some misgivings about Justin's design but, being a keen sailor, he was soon won over by the home's nautical theme.

**Mike Edwards**

**Building designer:**

Justin Quinlan  
K. Quinlan & Associates  
83B Princess Rd, Claremont;  
9284 2330

**Builder:**

PR Constructions; 9298 9550

**Cabinetmaker:**

Ray Panzic; 9295 2942

**Paving/fountains:**

Warren Beaman;  
041 990 3093



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