



EXTERIOR PHOTOGRAPHY BY BOB NEWNHAM

COMFY, COSY & CHARMING *in the* KAWARTHAS

BY EILEEN ARGYRIS
PHOTOGRAPHY BY SANDY MACKAY

Some of our happiest memories dwell upon time spent at the cottage – the relaxed, carefree days, the opportunity for play and recreation, the evenings spent around campfires or indoor fireplaces, the friendly neighbours, the family togetherness.

It was the memories of good times spent at their beloved century-plus cottage that inspired this family to recreate all that warmth, all that character, in an efficient new structure.

Their original 150-year-old cottage in the Kawarthas was a charming blend of the arts-and-crafts and Cape Cod architectural styles. When they discovered that repairs to the aging building would cost almost as much as a new cottage, and as they realized they really wanted to live lakeside year-round, the owners decided to invest in a snug, newly-built home that would offer them all the charm of the old, coupled with the efficiency of the new.

Their choice of builder was **Paul Barber**, president of **Infinity Fine Homes** of Lindsay. Barber collaborated closely with **Brian Lee** of **Brian Lee Architect**, who specializes in estate recreational and residential properties. “I’ve done a lot of homes with Brian,” Barber says.

The original cottage was not a small building, but the current home offers a total of 4,000 sq. ft. of living space on three levels. It sits on approximately one acre of land, offering 130 feet of lake frontage. Anyone can see why the owners would cherish this location, whatever the drawbacks of the original building. The new house offers conveniences, amenities and advantages in a legacy for generations to come.

With today’s construction methods, the family is able to enjoy the lakefront setting even more fully, in all seasons. The home was framed by **Van Halteran Brothers Carpentry Ltd.**, of Fenelon Falls. *Continued on page 24*



The ambience of lakeside cottage living has been captured in a new, year-round family home in the Kawartha Lakes area. **OPPOSITE TOP:** An arcade provides all-weather cover at the entry from the driveway. **OPPOSITE BOTTOM:** Looking up from the dock and boathouse, the new home nestles its lakefront lot.



The large and numerous all-wooden windows and doors by Ridley Windows & Doors Inc., are from the Kolbe Ultra Series, combining the best materials and quality of heritage construction with modern, energy-efficient technology. You may sit in this home for hours and never feel a draft as you gaze at the ice-fishing huts perched on the glacial winter lake. “They told us we’d be able to heat it with a candle,” says the homeowner.

These windows are not just weather tight: the millwork and trim are individually crafted, using multiple layers of bent wood, to achieve the effect of old-world craftsmanship. In summer, an entire wall of windows in the dining room can fold back to allow full, wall-to-wall access to the deck overlooking the lake with its refreshing breezes. We may call this a deck but it is really an outdoor sitting area with a safety enclosure made of tempered glass. The view is unobstructed. Along the outer edge of the deck, an otherwise invisible fold-up screen can be lowered to keep bugs at bay. **Vision Glass** of Peterborough sourced the custom glass for walls, showers and railings.

To retain the character and craftsmanship of the older building, Lee, Barber and the sub-contractors studied the design of the original cottage, consulted in depth with the homeowners and made sure no attention to detail was spared. All doors are panelled, the trim is moulded, baseboards and ceilings are high.

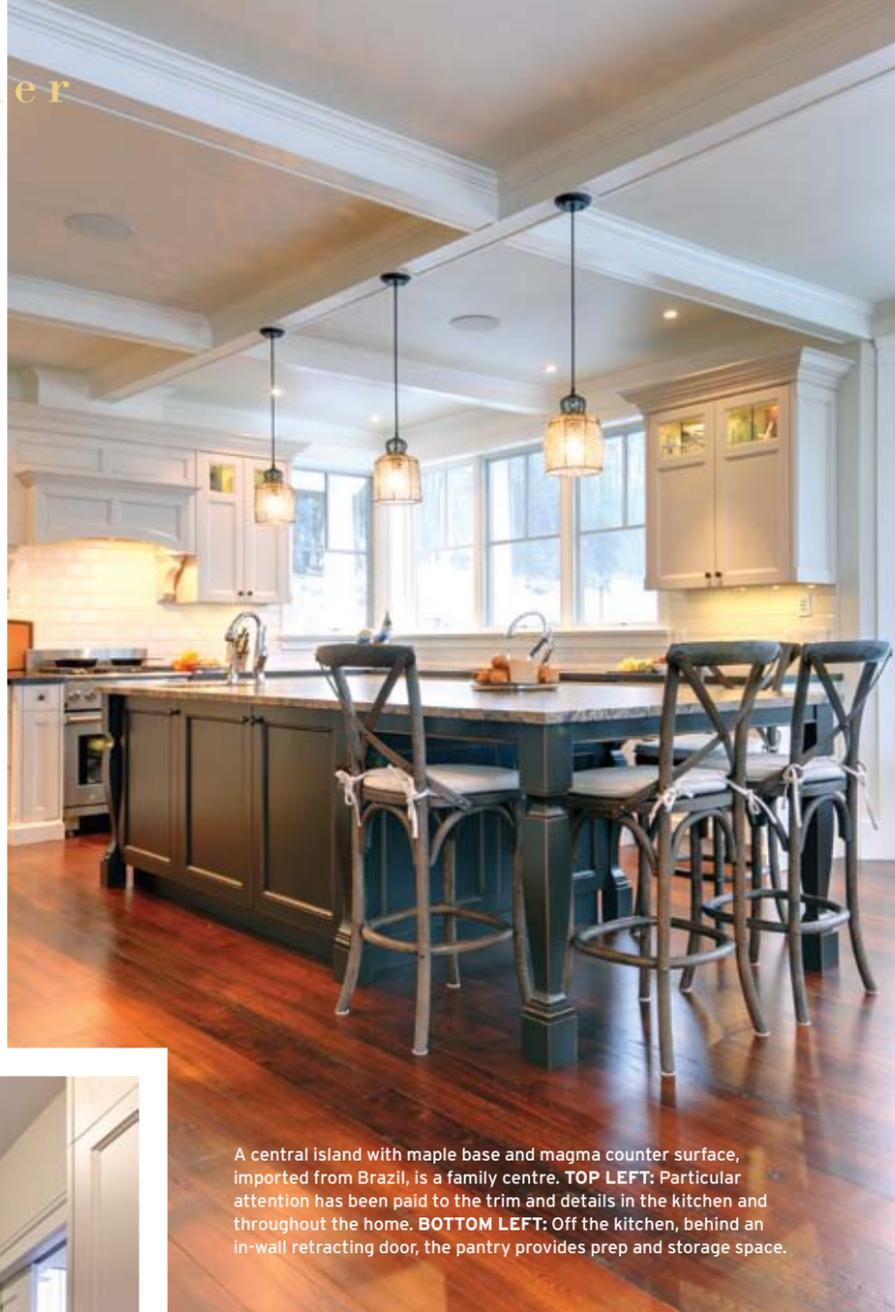
The wide-board hardwood floors in the main living areas are reclaimed elm, stained by **John E. Goudey Manufacturing Ltd.** to a deep red-brown reminiscent of cherry or mahogany. Treads and banisters on the sweeping two-storey custom staircase are also made of reclaimed elm, stained to match.

“This is really a furniture stain, not originally intended for floors,” the lady of the house says. “But nothing else offered the same depth and richness.”

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The home’s main-floor living room is beneath a vaulted tongue-in-groove, wood-panelled ceiling. **OPPOSITE TOP:** Adjacent to the living room is the dining room. The glass, door panels retract for open-air access to an exterior deck overlooking the lake. **OPPOSITE BOTTOM:** The living room’s stone fireplace has a hand-hewn butternut mantel.



A central island with maple base and magma counter surface, imported from Brazil, is a family centre. **TOP LEFT:** Particular attention has been paid to the trim and details in the kitchen and throughout the home. **BOTTOM LEFT:** Off the kitchen, behind an in-wall retracting door, the pantry provides prep and storage space.



The house is designed to offer great flow, to be practical as well as beautiful. The spacious foyer, with distinctive Indian Autumn slate floor, leads in one direction to a handy powder room, the attached garage entrance and a well-equipped main-floor laundry room. In another direction, it leads past the curving showpiece staircase and pantry entrance into the dining room with its panoramic views and access to the outdoor living room.

This space adjoins the indoor living room with its stone fireplace with hand-hewn butternut mantel, vaulted tongue-in-groove wood-pannelled ceiling and, of course, panoramic lake views. The fireplace, by **Chemong Chimney Ltd.** of Bridgenorth, combines the appearance of a wood-burning unit with the flick-of-a-switch convenience of natural gas. This sitting area looks out toward the lake and inward to the large, open kitchen and its pièce de résistance: the family-sized central island with its magma counter surface imported from Brazil and maple base with ample drawers for storage. The cabinets are from Prestige Wood Design, Newmarket. *Continued on page 28*

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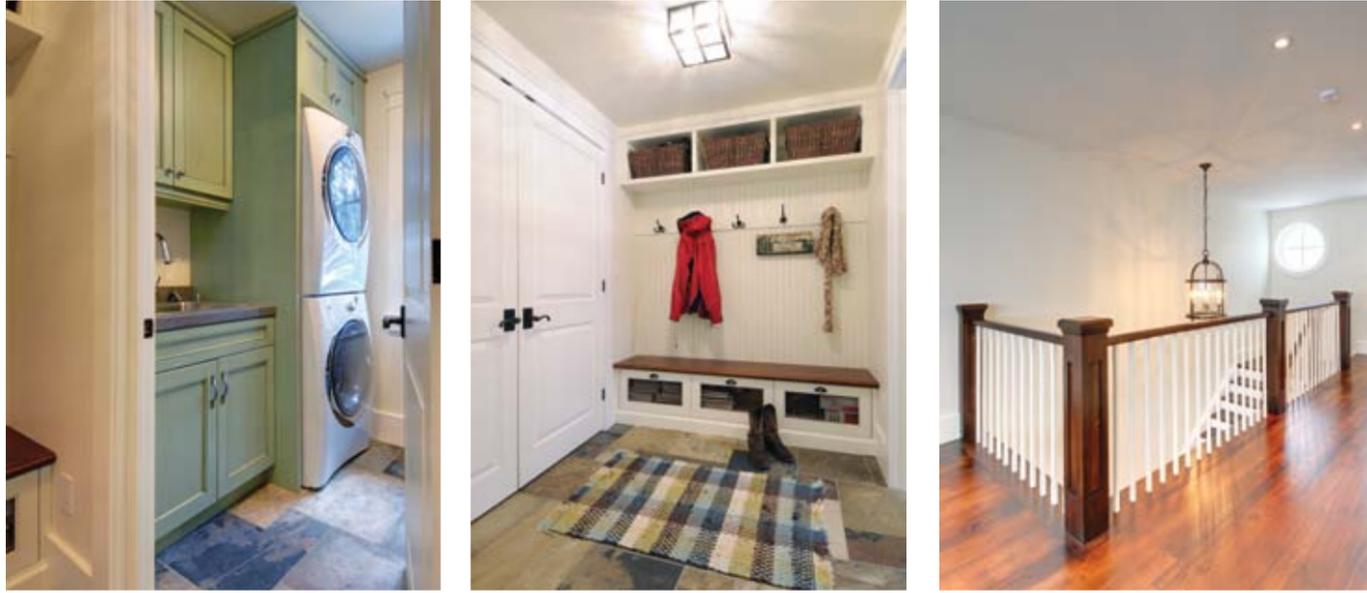
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The main-floor master suite also overlooks the lake because the mistress of the house hates to miss a sunrise – or a sunset. In fact, she readily admits the moonlight on the water often beguiles her. The master suite includes a luxurious en suite with tile from Tile Plus, installed by **Turco Tile Limited** of Peterborough. Tile has been judiciously used throughout the hallways,

mudroom, laundry and additional bathrooms. Plumbing throughout the home was installed by **Benson Plumbing** of Lindsay.

Upstairs, the lofty open mezzanine overlooks the dining room, with bedrooms and bathroom thoughtfully positioned and the ever-present high windows overlooking the water. *Continued on page 30*



TOP, LEFT TO RIGHT: The ground floor laundry room and adjacent cloakroom lie down the hall to the left of the stairway to the lower floor office, fitness and games rooms. **ABOVE:** The master ground floor bedroom suite captures both sunrise and sunset views of the lake. **RIGHT:** The master en suite bathroom includes a steam shower.



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The lower level features a rubber-floored exercise room and an Irish-pub-style entertainment space with a real brick, bake-oven-styled gas fireplace at eye level. Down the hall is a home office, again with lake views. It holds a Murphy bed for guests. Throughout the home, a custom sound system augments with ambience.

The exterior is clad in pre-finished wood from Goodfellow Inc. of Quebec with stone veneers. It is roofed with 40-year CertainTeed Building Products architectural shingles that resemble heritage cedar shakes.

The exterior lakeside landscaping was designed by **Helen Batten** of **Basterfield & Associates** of Peterborough with site work by **Milt Peel & Sons** of Fenelon Falls. **OH**



The Irish pub-style games room incorporates the lakefront view and Arts and Crafts architectural style on the lower floor. **TOP LEFT:** The lower floor fitness room looks out over the lake. **TOP RIGHT:** Infinity Homes builder Paul Barber is partial to the finished games room and delights in pointing out all the finishing touches throughout the home.

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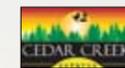
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