

comfort zone



## WHERE YOU'LL FIND THE VERY BEST

BY JIM FOX // PHOTOGRAPHY BY BONNIE FOX

**THE PLACE:** In a stately red brick Victorian house, steps away from the main street in Thornbury is a unique shop with the intriguing name of Pamper & Soothe. Owner Renée Desrochers selected the perfect name for her store. "Our personal product lines are meant to pamper the body and our furniture and giftware soothe the soul," she says. "When people drop in, the unique items we carry sing to their hearts." Desrochers is the engaging, knowledgeable chatelaine of a shop that carries several exclusive lines of European couture. *Continued on page 56*



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**THE STYLE:** Pamper & Soothe's eclectic, one-of-a-kind product lines appeal to discerning, well-travelled customers with a taste for quality items from top manufacturers in Europe and North America. Desrochers began her apprenticeship working with her mother in a similar shop in Port Perry. Five years ago she opened the shop in Thornbury because of the area's four-season reputation. "My mother and I were looking for an upscale version of a body shop that would be a unique experience for customers and provide products they could not find elsewhere." The store offers an array of items that combine Old World charm with Parisian elegance.

**WHAT'S HOT:** Right now, Lampe Berger – the oil-burning lamp developed by a French chemist in the late 1800s to purify indoor air, and still used today in the hospitals of Europe – is very popular. Other brands that appeal to the store's clientele include boudoir items by Caswell-Massey – the oldest apothecary firm in America

– unique lamps and chandeliers in renowned Italian Murano glass, Lady Primrose toiletries and Fragonard fragrances.

**SEASONAL:** In the cold of ski season Desrochers invites you to cuddle up in a pure lambs' wool throw. She recommends fighting winter dryness with any one of a variety of body butters or bath balms. Relax with a cup of one of her Tea Posey flowering teas.

**FAVOURITES:** The boutique presents a variety of décor and personal items, which appeal to the discriminating shopper, from Rubinato pen sets and Florentine writing papers to reproduction Galle lamps and Aubusson rugs and pillows. The shop has achieved the potential that Desrochers imagined. "My dream was to one day have a shop modeled after the Ralph Lauren mansion in New York City...I'm glad to have an outlet where I can express my creative freedom and incorporate my love of travel and shopping."

**WHERE:** 13 Louisa St. E. Thornbury  
519.599.6461, [www.pamperandsootheboutique.com](http://www.pamperandsootheboutique.com) OH

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