



# FROM OUR HOUSE TO YOURS

PHOTOGRAPHY BONNIE FOX



**THE PLACE:** Our House in downtown Barrie is a gift lovers' institution. Sisters Wendy Greene and Sandi McMillan opened the store on Dunlop Street 24 years ago and have worked hard to attract a very loyal clientele seeking quality, unique, current and timeless gifts for every occasion. Christmas is one of their busiest seasons and Wendy and Sandi have once again stocked their store with products to give, get, decorate and entertain with. You'll be amazed at the vast selection, the fun, quirky finds and your ability to check everyone off your gift-giving list.

**THEIR STORY:** "Twenty-five years ago sitting around our living room we decided we needed to do something together," say sisters Wendy and Sandi. "We had always worked as a family in our Dad's welding company and felt we needed to be together again. We decided to open Our House. A space became available on Owen Street and we took it. One year later we purchased our building on Dunlop Street and have been a part of this amazing neighbourhood for 25 years."

**WHAT'S HOT:** Gurgle Pots – those fish-shaped jugs that produce a whimsical sound while pouring – come in three sizes and a rainbow of colours. Jewelry is a big



seller here and 4 Ocean Bracelets are super popular. Handmade in Bali, each bracelet removes one pound of plastic from oceans and coastlines. Clients also love the simple, elegant lines of Pilgrim gold and silver-plated jewelry.

**FAVOURITES:** What's not to love about Sophie Conran white porcelain tableware and serving dishes? Create a sophisticated look for your holiday table this year. Emma Bridgewater is

another favourite. Her colourful pottery is fun, beautiful and practical. Judi Anne eco-friendly cork handbags, made in Barrie from "nature's leather," are trendy, fashionable and a local success story.

**CHRISTMAS:** Our House is a Christmas wonderland full of inspiration and the place to do your shopping. Wendy and Sandi tell us gnomes, Michel Design Works, Vietri Old St. Nick and holiday pillows are some of their picks for the season. They offer free gift wrapping with purchase, free delivery in Barrie and, of course, a warm winter welcome!

**GET THERE:** 55 Dunlop St. E., Barrie 705.725.0829 | ourhousebarrie.com OH



Sandi McMillan and Wendy Greene.

