



AD Architecture
Media Release
Nature Coast Membership Project 2009
December 2009

Part of the Kapiti Landscape

AD Architecture design homes for people who, for many reasons, want to make a move to the coast. "Once they do," says one of AD's directors, multi award-winning architecture designer, Peter Davis, "there's no looking back. Some had bachs here, or came here for holidays and like the idea of making that permanent."

Leaving the city to build your own section of paradise in places like the Nature Coast is on the rise. Cities have always been pressured – there's no change there – but with most of us being more concerned now than ever before about the food we eat, our recycling and transport choices, and the quality of air we breathe, it's no wonder people are on the move to the Coast.

This company is part of the Kapiti landscape now - literally. "We know the area," says Peter. "The terrain, what direction the wind comes from, what's going on with the local council."

AD Architecture is owned by Peter Davis and Jon Ambler. They're passionate about design, saving trees, and sustainable energy solutions. Even when they're on holiday, they're checking out designs (which drives their partners nuts!).

It's all a huge jump from drawing lines and playing with cardboard boxes. As kids, Peter used to build houses out of cardboard boxes and packs of cards, and Jon spent hours drawing straight lines with a ruler. They both ended up doing tech drawing at college and studying drafting.

Peter (and wife Denise), and Jon (with his partner Anke), and their children, live and breathe Kapiti. They want to be involved in the future of their local communities – something else that city folk are leaving traffic jams in droves for. "We're part of things here," says Jon. "And we want to be part of the building of our community, like sports venues, and schools, and families."

Building sustainably is now the trend in the industry. In previous generations it's been open plan living and indoor/outdoor flow. Sustainable building practices might be trendy, but for Jon and Peter it's an integral part of what they do. And because many of the houses they build are in stunning locations like at the beach, near a wetland, or with a backdrop of the Tararuas, it's even more important. It informs their designs. "If you're doing things right, it really works," says Peter. "You'll have north-facing windows and thermal storage walls; you'll know how sunlight enters the house. The house will be warm."

The reverse brain drain has been good for AD Architecture. They have clients returning from the UK and other countries who choose sunny places to come back to like the Nature Coast. Here they can build a four bedroom stunning beachfront home in Te Horo for the same price as their small two bedroom apartment near London.

Jon, Peter, and their team of experts take the time to really find out the best kind of home to build, each and every time. This professional design service considers dreams, spatial and aesthetic ideals, budget, and site particulars, and our planet. "People raise their families in 2-3 bedroom houses then retire to a five bedroom house," says Peter. "There's no sense in that. It should be about creating spaces that are more efficient and suited to the individual's lifestyle." Using state-of-the-art computer software helps; Peter says clients can really see what the end result is going to look like so there's more certainty, and less surprise.

Their homes have been winning awards for years – this year a trifecta of winning houses was recognised in the ADNZ Awards. They are proud members of Architectural Designers of New Zealand and have an eye to the future; two new architectural graduates joined the practice this summer to complement the excellent existing staff. All live locally and enjoy the Nature Coast lifestyle.

And they believe they have an advantage over some art forms. "If you're a painter you can't hold on to your paintings. They're gone forever. We can drive past our houses anytime."

AD Architecture are very much a part of the Kapiti landscape.

AD Architecture

Peter Davis and Jon Ambler

W: www.adarchitecture.co.nz

A: The Pier, 6-8 Seaview Rd, Paraparaumu Beach

T: 04 298 5662

E: info@adarchitecture.co.nz

Check out our Blogspot and Facebook page too

For more information, contact AD Architecture or Chris Barber, Nature Coast, Ph 04 298 6611
www.naturecoast.co.nz, chris@naturecoast.co.nz