

Herald Sun home

plus
How rooms can
scrub up very
well indeed



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Building monuments
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**FIND THE PERFECT BLEND
IN CARTER GRANGE'S HYATT**



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PUTTING THAT
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PHILOSOPHY ON
THE TABLE P23

That was then, this is now

Discover how the raw beauty of reclaimed timber equals character-filled decor

Words STEPHANIE FRANCIS

The furniture in your home should be uplifting and inspiring, as well as practical.

So says Tamara Gorrie, who started The Brown Dog Furniture Company with her husband, furniture maker and designer David Gorrie, two years ago. David's background is in design and journalism but he had been making furniture for friends and family for years. When the pair moved their young family to a property in Victoria's Otway Ranges three years ago, starting The Brown Dog Furniture Company was part of creating a more simple and meaningful life.

"We want our pieces to reach back to an age of silent elegance"

TAMARA GORRIE

As sustainability is important to the Gorries, David uses reclaimed timbers, such as decommissioned French-oak wine vats from the Mildara winery, to make parts of the contemporary range, which comprises dining, side and coffee tables, bench seats and a magazine stand.

"What we do is the absolute antithesis to throwaway culture," Tamara explains. "We want our pieces to reach back to an age of silent elegance and dependability, and to tell a story."

"We believe that (philosophy) is getting picked up by our clients, who are very interested in the sustainable provenance side of our business."



Main Reclaimed timbers feature prominently in the design. Left: The Brindabella magazine stand



David uses reclaimed timber including oak, blackbutt, jarrah, ironbark, red gum, karri and messmate, and combines it with eye-catching curved and cubed coloured steel to support the tables.

"It's a very strong point of our offering and something we believe is very innovative," Tamara says of the steel components.

"We combine beautiful reclaimed timbers,

and sometimes sustainably managed timbers, with steel, and then use vivid, bold colours with the timber to create sophisticated designs that you don't necessarily associate with reclaimed timber."

In naming their business, the Gorries wanted to invoke the qualities of their chocolate labradors, Chuck and Morris, which they say are warmth, loyalty,

dependability and beauty. 🐶



Left: The Firron desk is reclaimed blackbutt. Top left: Bold steel legs add a contemporary edge to the Kyre dining table. Below: The soft curves of the Triplet coffee table

The Brown Dog Furniture Company

Creators

David and Tamara Gorrie (pictured top right).

What

Tables, bench seats and a magazine rack.

Where to buy

The Brown Dog Furniture Company, 548 Queensberry St, North Melbourne.

Expect to pay

From \$1200 for side and coffee tables and from \$2450 for dining tables.

More information

See www.browndogfurniture.com or phone 9600 8131.



Photography: The Brown Dog Furniture Company