

Classic Edwardian landmark restored

Beaufort House now offers luxury accommodation and catering for special events in true Edwardian style...

One of Christchurch's finest examples of Arts & Crafts (Edwardian) architecture has been painstakingly restored to exquisite condition and renamed to reflect its proud heritage.

Beaufort House (Beau meaning beautiful and fort referring to strong) with the fleur de lys symbol prominent on its coat of arms, is located at 2 Latimer Square and was built for Dr Sandstein in 1916 from triple brick and Banks Peninsula volcanic rock. It has buttresses that are 500mm wide and was designed by Clarkson and Ballantyne and built by excellent craftsmen.

A group 2 Heritage Building it was sold into very caring and capable hands when Noel McGuigan and Sharon Rees-Thomas (owners of Tiffany's Restaurant) purchased it a year ago. The couple have spent the past six months refurbishing the building in a comfortable Edwardian style using a mixture of German and Italian wallpapers and a rich blend of Edwardian antiques. With extreme care, attention and sympathy to the authenticity of the era, Noel and Sharon have truly transformed Beaufort House to its former glory.



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Beaufort House's grand re-opening was held last month and invited guests marvelled at the restoration of the house bar, restaurant and luxury accommodation.

Beginning with the house bar, Noel explains that it reflects the age of sail. "The bar counter is solid kauri and liquor is displayed on a one-hundred-year-old mahogany bar which was sourced from an historic hotel in Southland. The atmosphere is enhanced with an old gramophone, in remarkably good working order, which sits in a corner next to an original, ornate fireplace and gas fire."

Restoration of the grand old home was full of surprises. When Noel and Sharon lifted the carpet in the drawing room they discovered a beautiful inset rimu floor framed by Australian jarrah. The floor has now been polished to a mirror like finish and for comfort a large Persian rug enriches the centre of the room. A Sanderson suite completes the picture of an era of elegance and quality.

Moving on from the drawing room, a wide staircase leads to the first floor. To enhance the stairwell Noel purchased some kauri planks at

auction and with the help of Hardie and Thompson, matched the handrails to the original profile on the back stairs. The knurled ends which look like an opening punga were hand carved by Alan Wright.

Upstairs, each bedroom has its own distinctive character. The largest – the Beaufort Suite – (60sqm) includes a sunroom with wonderful views across Latimer Square.

The Langtry suite named after Lilly Langtry is truly feminine with salmon pink wallpaper and a full-length cheval mirror.

There are seven bedrooms on the first floor, six have ensuite bathrooms and the last has a luxurious double ender bath and full size Arts & Crafts vanity with a granite top.

The Edward suite overlooks a very private courtyard and a fern garden.

Beaufort House offers luxury accommodation in an Edwardian style and is unique in Christchurch. But don't be fooled by the olde worlde appearance. Behind the scene are all the modern conveniences such as hard wired high speed internet access, flat screen TVs on free-to-air digital signal, underfloor heating in

the bathrooms and mains pressure gas fired boilers for a first class shower.

Beaufort House is also a perfect venue for corporate seminars, cocktail functions, intimate weddings and private dinners.

There is a fully equipped commercial kitchen and, as experienced restaurateurs, you can be sure that Noel and Sharon will exceed your expectations in terms of food and service.



CHRISTMAS FUNCTIONS

Set Menu \$59.00

(Group bookings welcome)

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