

FRENCH & COUNTRY

SUMMER NEWSLETTER 08-09



www.frenchandcountry.com.au



Bonjour!

Hello again,

Since moving to the Southern Highlands we have truly had the joy of experiencing the four seasons.

Autumn and winter meant lots of open fires, coats, scarves and a lot of indoor entertaining!

Spring has been an inspiration for the senses – the colours, fragrance and the efforts of our tireless garden team have come to fruition. I couldn't dream of a greener lawn or a pinker camellia.

Everyday there is a new explosion of colour in the garden and our newly planted vegie garden is going to provide salad for the rest of the summer.

We are loving country life!!

Suzie

*Suzie Anderson
French & Country,
now at Hopewood Country House, Bowral*

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DECEMBER/JANUARY

4 News from The Potting Shed - new stock now in for our summer catalogue.

5 A new look for The Pavilion. Now brimming with gorgeous gardenware and treasures all available online.

7 News and inspiring decorating ideas from our recent trip to Europe. Also where to stay, shop and dine out.



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A pair of gorgeous kittens - Max and Tiffany; a pair of ducks and their newly hatched ducklings; the vegie garden and an outdoor fireplace in the Sunken Garden.



At Hopewood Country House we have had a few new additions to Hopewood over the past few months. A pair of gorgeous kittens - Max and Tiffany (that's Tiffany posing in the garden, below); a pair of ducks and their newly hatched ducklings; a picturesque and

productive new vegie garden and a new outdoor dining area in the Sunken Garden. This addition means we can happily continue the tradition of sharing a nice bottle of something local with our friends and guests over dinner under the stars.



THE POTTING SHED

The gardens have inspired the renovation and stocking of The Potting Shed which is now open to our Cottage Guests and to customers by appointment. Should you be in Bowral and want to pop in and wander the gardens and The Potting Shed, please call me on 0411 448817. We'd love to see you. It is brimming with gorgeous gardenware both imported and locally supplied, from muted grey bird feeders, Libeco aprons, Tampico bags, secateurs, zinc seedling markers, balls of twine, gardening books, as well as unique pieces that will enhance your courtyards and gardens this summer. All items are available online at www.frenchandcountry.com.au



Clockwise from top: Vintage tools; handcrafted hearts; handcrafted wooden decorative pieces for Christmas; new French inspired stationery range; the Guest Cottage at Hopewood; Hidden Cabin coats and bags; Libeco linen cushions.

THE PAVILION

The Pavilion Showroom is being painted and decorated and stock is being moved around as I theme the rooms as we did in Paddington. See a glimpse of a bedroom below. It is a wonderful, but time consuming process and it is almost ready to be stocked for our summer catalogue shoot. In the meantime, should you be searching for anything in particular, I am happy to send images now most items are out of storage and much easier to photograph! Let me know if you would like me to mail you a copy of our new Summer Catalogue.



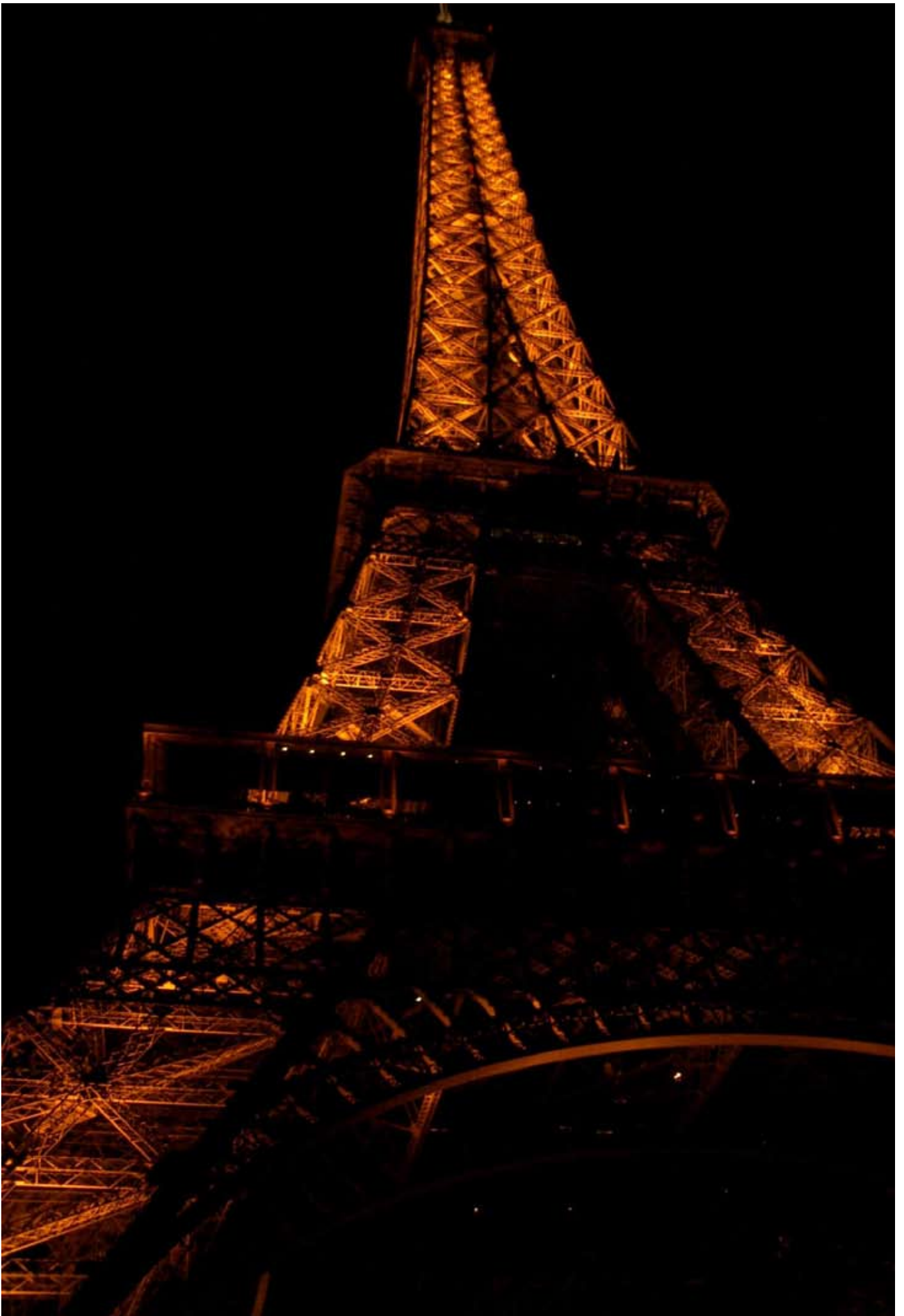
It is brimming with gorgeous gardenware both imported and locally supplied, from muted grey bird feeders, Libeco aprons, Tampico bags, secateurs, zinc seedling markers, balls of twine, gardening books, as well as one off pieces that will enhance your courtyards and gardens this summer.



Consignment Items

A number of my customers have relocated over the past few months and with the extra space now in my showroom I am taking pieces of furniture on consignment. New additions include a custom designed set of French Provincial, rush seated dining chairs, an antique pair of French Louis XV style upholstered fauteuils, a European painted kitchen cabinet of grand proportions and counter, complete with sink and dishwasher (previously from my kitchen in our Bronte house) Price on application.





EUROPE 2008

Europe 2008 - Michael and I travelled to France in September to visit the Maison Objet Decoration and Design trade fair, antique fairs and to scour the flea markets. I particularly love the new bed linen range by Secret Maison (right) ... muted, pre-washed linen sheets, doona covers and coverlets, in inky blues, natural flax as well as chalk colours. Also, soft furnishings by the French brand Coquecigrues, whose stunning curtains with intricate antique style lace detail add the finishing touch to bedroom and living spaces, to divide rooms or to soften doorways and entrances.

Stunning large framed antique botanical pressings are also part of the collection due to be shipped pre Christmas.

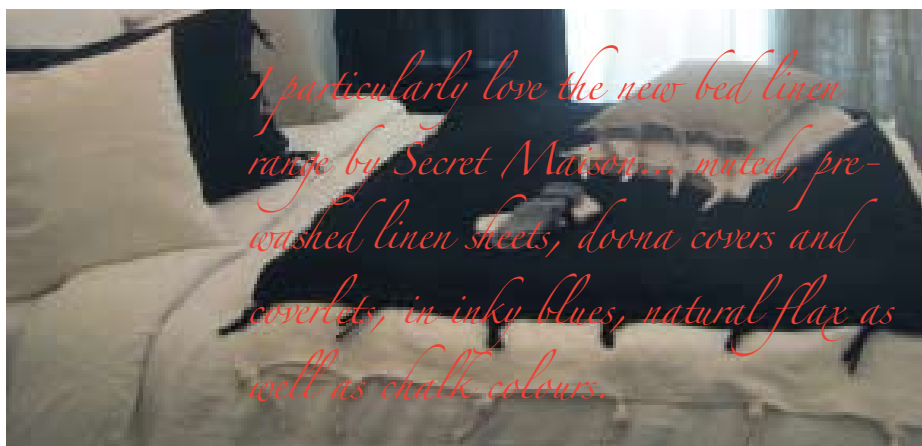
We are looking forward to introducing fashion to the French & Country catalogue for the new year with a new season colour range of tennis shoes from Bensimon, (now in stock) easy to wear linen pieces from Nell Design, American Vintage cotton tee-shirts, tank tops and gorgeous basics due in February, as well as Libeco linen nightwear. For unique clothing for les enfants, we will be importing the handcrafted range of vintage inspired children's clothing from L'esprit e Luna (middle row, right). All available at www.frenchandcountry.com.au

www.libeco.com

www.nelldesign.net

www.am-vintage.com

www.bensimon.com



For those who respect quality, history and tradition, you will be satiated at Cire Trudon. The oldest candlemaking company in France, with manufacture dating back to 1643.



NEW & INSPIRING

As always France brought further discoveries in design, and decoration, hotels and dining.

Here are just a few treasures:

Fashion

Vanessa Bruno

25, rue Saint Sulpice 75006 Paris
www.vanessabruno.fr

Sensual, light, comfortable collections set in an elegant, spacious showroom on the Left Bank.

Berenice

Youthful collection of cashmere, silk, super soft cotton t-shirts and tanks designed to be layered, come in muted colours.

52 Rue des Francs-Bourgeois
Marais (4th arrondissement)
Nearest metro: Rambuteau

Decoration and Design

Cire Trudon

For those who respect quality, history and tradition, you will be satiated at Cire Trudon. The oldest candlemaking company in France, with manufacture dating back to 1643. Named the Royal wax manufacturer in 1719, Cire Trudon supplied Louis XIV, Napoleon and they still hold the keys to the great cathedrals and churches in France where their church candles still burn today. In their stores at 78 rue de seine, Paris 75006 and 12 rue du Temple Paris 75004 you can sample the 12 fragrances created by fashion designer Ramdane Touahmi in 2007, by inhaling the scent captured in the beautifully crafted bell jars

which cover each candle. Each fragrance is designed to evoke memories of a moment in France's history, with names such as Revolution, Empire, and La Marquise.

The quality is reflected in the use of 100% vegetable wax, woven cotton wicks, and the absence of chemicals is proven with no sooty deposits on the glass holders (top right). Michael and I just fell in love with this whole candle range,

Les Mille Feuilles

Gorgeous bric a brac and flower shop in the Marais
2 rue Rambuteau
75003 Paris

Mise en Teinte

15 Bvd Saint Germain 75005 Paris
Metro: Maubert-Mutualite ou Jussieu
Decorative effects, paints, stencils to inspire.

Calligrane

6 rue du Pont Louis Philippe
75004 Paris
Metro: Pont Marie
For anyone who adores paper of all styles. Paper for writing, binding, crafting. Stunning!

Society/Adele Shaw

33 rue Jacob,
75006 Paris
Metro: Saint Germain
A luxurious range of Italian bed, bath and table linen in muted colours.

Cote Bastide

New store in Aix en Provence
Rue Pierre Simon Lapace
Aix en Provence
www.cotebastide.com

I already love visiting the Paris store of Cote Bastide, (4 rue de Poissy, Paris 75005) however this is a wonderful addition to Aix. Set in a vast, stone building with exposed timber beams, polished concrete floors, chalky limed walls, the store is the ideal backdrop to the timeless products Cote Bastide offers. Cool linens, creamy ceramics, heavenly bath and body products. Leave room in the suitcase after a visit here to take home a little piece of Provence.



HOTELS & EATING OUT

Hotels

Left Bank

Hotel Le Clos Medicis

56 rue Monsieur-Le-Prince
75006 Paris
www.closmedicis.com

Hotel de l'Abbaye

10 Rue Cassette,
Paris 75006
www.hotel-abbaye.com

Hotel Le St. Gregoire

43 rue de l'abbaye-Gregoire,
Paris 75006
www.hotelsaintgregoire.com

Hotel Verneuil

8 Rue de Verneuil
Paris 75007
www.hotelverneuil.com

Right Bank

Hotel du Bourg Tibourg

19 Rue du Bourg-Tibourg
75004 Paris
www.hoteldubourgtibourg.com

Hotel Brighton

Basic but central and spacious room! Ask for one with view over the Tuileries Gardens.
218 Rue Rivoli
75001 Paris
www.pari-hotel-brighton.com

Pavillon de la reine

28 Place des Vosages
Save this one for honeymoon/anniversary/won lotto~!
contact@pavillon-de-la-reine.com
www.hotelpavillondelareine.com

Lyon

Hotel Belle Cour

3 rue du Colonel Chambonne
69002 Lyon
www.bellecoursurcour.com
Boutique accommodation, centrally located, amazing history, Napoleon Bonaparte once was a guest here. It has a charming wood panelled dining room dating back to 1786 where you can take a continental breakfast. Mme De Sauzea is a charming host. Very affordable, around 80 euros incl. breakfast.

Avignon

Hotel D'Europe

1A rue Limas
84000 Avignon
www.heurope.com
Stunning hotel, opposite a beautiful square filled with restaurants, courtyard perfect for afternoon tea or pre dinner champagne. Save up for one night here!



Eating Out

Paris

La Musee de la view Romantique

16 rue Chaptal
75009
Open 10-5.40pm
After you have wandered the museum, take tea and pastries in the delightful garden attached.

Au Pere Louis

Latin Quarter, Paris
38 rue Monsieur le Prince
75006 Paris
Restaurant/wine cellar in the heart of the Latin quarter. Buzzy atmosphere, provincial dishes and wines from the South West. Meat and bean casseroles, and duck confit are a speciality. Delicious!

Avignon

Compagnie des Comptoirs

17 Place des Corps Saints, Avignon
Great for breakfast/brunch, lunch, drinks. Outdoor terrace with tables set around a large reflection pond. Stunning interiors, white leather and glass, amazing lighting. Cocktail bar stays open late. Word of caution ...beware of the tomato tart ... another story, but just don't order it whilst wearing white!

Tangier

58 Rue Joseph-Vernet, Avignon
Morrocan Restaurant. Beautiful garden setting, under a tented canopy, intimate lighting. Moderately priced meals.



*After you have wandered
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pastries in the delightful
garden attached.*



Hotel Belle Cour



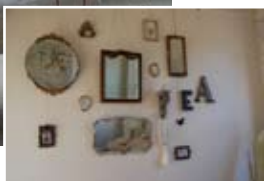
Restaurant Tangier

RECESSION DECORATING

When times are tough, we are forced to use ingenuity in our decorating, and this can really get the creative juices flowing. Even if your budget is feeling the pinch, there are lots of things you can do to bring beauty into your home, and cheer up even the gloomiest forecasts!

Paint – a can of paint can work wonders on walls, furniture and even fabric

Re-upholster – new ranges of fabrics are out seasonally. Libeco have a stunning new range of pre-washed linens in an inspiring colour palate. I have sample cards to view. Unique Fabrics range of tickings and stripes are affordable, washable and create that ageless casual look to sofas, cushions and occasional chairs. Consider slipcovering a chair, stool or pillows out of vintage fabric and sheets.



If you can't afford to purchase large scale items but feel like an update,



and an interesting vase to hold fresh cut hydrangeas and summer gardenias.

get pleasure out of adding **small decorative details** such as new scatter cushions, a quality candle, fresh table linen,



Shop online and save! You'll use less petrol, resist impulse buying, and you can search for unique pieces that will enhance your decor from the comfort of home.

Decorate and fill bookshelves with second-hand books - affordable, colourful and easily available from charity stores, fetes and garage sales.



Have old **wicker furniture** re-vamped by painting and re-stringing. Contact Rueben Nool: www.caneandwoodemporium.com (02)9792 4437 or 0418 866727

Making your own gift tags can be inexpensive if you D.I.Y. We have a range of beautiful stamp sets that can personalise plain card. Hole punched and tied with brown string, they are charming.



BEST FESTIVE WISHES

We would like to wish you and your families a very peaceful and special Christmas and we look forward to sharing exciting news from Hopewood Country House and French & Country, in the New Year.

French and Country's distribution division will be closed over Christmas and New Year, but if you're

looking for a last minute gift, or need birthday or special occasion gifts for the New Year, you can still order online and we will resume deliveries after the Christmas break.

Best festive wishes,
Suzie, Michael and Family xx



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