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Designer on path

"The idea of the different levels is to follow the hill down."

e's only 25 but already he has designed many award-winning houses and his ambition is set to take him far into a successful future.

Chris Clout, nephew of designer Paul Clout, designed this imposing Peregian Beach home when he was only 18 and still an apprentice carpenter.

This large four/five bedroom home has more striking design features than it seems likely an 18-year-old could dream of.

Everything for luxurious and aesthetically pleasing living has been considered – from the way house terraces down to fit in with the fall of the steep block, to small details such as the ceiling shower head over the spa to create a soft flowing waterfall.

Chris designed the house so the garage sits at the back at the top of the steep drive and the front entrance is easily accessed Inside the front doors standing on the Indonesian marble tiled entry hall, the eye is drawn first up to the lofty space above, and then down two levels to the family-entertaining area overlooking the wet-edge pool to the ocean.

"The idea of the different levels is to follow the hill down," Chris said and, indeed, the feeling of the house flowing endlessly down is strong.

The home office leads off

this level, an airy room with cleverly spaced windows and timber bi-folds to overlook the family-entertaining area and out to the ocean views.

All this light, space and charm and we are still on the lower level. Two spacious guest rooms and a media room lead off the large entertaining room.

"The room could be used as a family room or as these owners have it, a billiard room," Chris said. This room, complete with bar-kitchenette







Ann Rickard talks to a young designer and visits one of his projects.







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is all about light and views over treetops, tropical foliage peeking in through louvres and timber framed bi-fold doors.

Up the marble staircase, the large lounge-dining-kitchen and decks sweep around in a majestic curve taking in 180-degree views out over the ocean.

"The idea of curving the house is to ensure everywhere you look you have a view," Chris said. "Every room has a view." With the bi-fold doors open to the curved balcony the feeling is of being on top of the world, of owning the vast expanse of ocean and being privy to the playground of whales and dolphins.

The master bedroom up one more level off the living space is a sanctuary of calm with its own private deck and sliding panel in the ceiling above the bed for a little romantic star gazing.

Everywhere in the home, Chris

Clout has incorporated beautiful design elements: a huge porthole-shaped skylight in the living room, circular patterns in the ceiling, sandstone tiles on the decks to reflect the beach ambience, ventilating louvres, mirrored cabinets in the bathroom, recycled blackbutt timber on the floors, New Guinea rosewood in the doors.

It's all about function and style.











