

## **Note from the Owners**

### **2705 Galley Crescent, Pender Island, BC**

In 2010 we bought our lovely secluded home on Pender Island. It was everything we wished for. We had raised our family in the UK in the county of Somerset and so much about Pender reminded us of “our purple patch”, as we called it, our home in a little Somerset village with cider apple trees around it and no street lights to prevent our star gazing.

The deer were around the gate when we first visited Galley Crescent, as curious about us as we were to see them. Fortunately in all our years on the island the striking metal gates and discreet fencing have done the job. The deer graze outside the fence but are still visible to us and we have spent many a morning sitting watching them peering at us. For us the delight of this home is its semblance to an English country cottage and its garden.

One of the many pleasures in the garden at Galley Crescent is that there are several seating areas in which you can observe the beauty of nature in sunshine or shade. As the sun moves around the house each of the seating areas comes into its own. The patio is a lovely place for afternoon tea or an evening barbecue whilst the front porch is a wonderful place to watch the birds whilst sipping a morning coffee.

There are twenty seven trees and frequently we see and hear eagles soaring amongst them. There are tall Douglas Firs, those majestic trees, hardy and healthy, are accompanied by graceful cedars that have their branches resting on soft velvet moss. The endangered Arbutus seems to love the earth and climate in this part of Pender and we now have five scattered around the property.

The garden has been very thoughtfully landscaped and there are some delightful spring blossoms and flowers and shrubs. The rhododendrons are a joy especially in late April and May also flaming Japanese red maple delights us in the Fall and there is so much fruit – Asian pears, conference pears, plums, strawberries. The fruit trees are part of a generous sized vegetable garden and there is even a herb garden. The generously sized raised beds foster ideas of self sufficiency and we have had an irrigation system installed which is connected via the internet to two or three local weather stations so that we can minimize our water use and monitor when away .

We already had grandchildren when we bought the property and adults and children alike have enjoyed space for croquet and shuttlecock or just to sit with a good book in the little tea house listening to the rain fall. All this and just a few minutes walk from Thieves Bay with its economic moorage and little park and perhaps the opportunity to watch the Orcas swim by.

Then there is the house itself. Three generous sized bedrooms, three full bathrooms, an office, laundry room, open dining area and a peaceful sitting room with French doors. The latter is a favourite room in any season as it is cool in the summer and warm in the winter when the

fireplace and propane gas fire become the focal point. The kitchen door opens on to a large deck, an excellent place for coffee with friends most of the year. In fact we have always felt spoiled for choice when it comes to eating areas. Moreover having two bedrooms at ground/entrance level, along with a bathroom and TV room has given visiting family and guests alike their own space and privacy if needed. When joining us for breakfast we hear of what they have witnessed from their bedroom windows in the early morning. Humming birds like to nest under the deck and the nests are a hive of activity when the chicks are hatching.

The home has a tranquil feel to it, secluded as it is and so peaceful. Even in the stormy weather we hear very little when inside. It is a well built house.

We have had many joyful times in our home and are very sad to leave. However diagnoses of serious illnesses has led to our decision. In these times we consider ourselves fortunate to be receiving good health care in a neighbouring province and to have family nearby . Now is the time for the head to rule the heart. For the last few years we have delayed making the decision but it is time. A much loved home needs the care we are no longer able to give it and in return it will bring joy to another family.

