



HOME TRUTHS

with editor Robyn Willis

Simple pleasures of a sheltered life

No matter where you live, it's lovely to have a home to go to.

Whenever a heavy storm hits at this time of year, I'm always reminded of the years we spent with a very old and brittle tiled roof over our heads.

The sound of rain on the roof – something I had grown up loving – became a source of dread as I wondered how long the old tiles would hold out.

How thankful we were when we finally found the funds to replace them and water was no longer coming in.

The same goes when the sun has already set by 5pm and, even after a warm day, I can feel the chill in the air as I head home.

Although a pair of slippers and a throw rug is enough to keep warm at the moment, the heaters are already in place for when the weather takes a turn.

Fortunately, having a secure roof over their heads is something my children take for granted, that even if we're travelling, there will be somewhere safe to stop for the night.

Because as adults we know that somewhere to call home is not so much a right as a privilege.

Most cities have their fair share of people who find themselves homeless for a variety of reasons.

More often than not, you'll see them sleeping on the footpath or in the parks during the day after spending the night too cold, too uncomfortable or too frightened to get any rest.

Others are less obvious, like families with nowhere else to sleep but the car or young people "couch surfing" from one friend's home to the next.

I don't necessarily know the reasons why they find themselves out in the cold, but I do know I wouldn't swap places with them.

It's worth remembering that most of us have a lot to be grateful for. robyn.willis@news.com.au



STRIKE A LIGHT

You will be all aglow with this striking pendant. Haxby Concrete Pendant Light from Casa Living, \$315, from Zanui, zanui.com.au



WELL ROUNDED

Guests will make themselves at home with a chair like this to sit in. Amalfi Milton chair, \$399.95, from Amalfi Homewares, amalfihomewares.com.au



WISH LIST

THIS WEEK'S MUST-HAVES

Compiled by Erica Watson

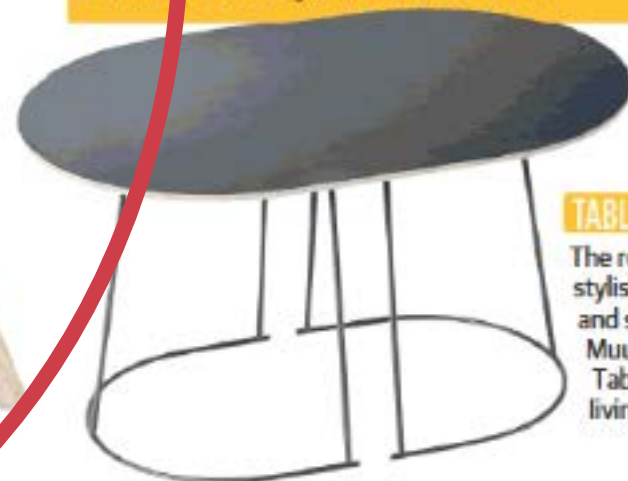


TABLE MANNERS

The round edges on this stylish frame make it as practical and safe as it is good looking. Muuto Airy Small Coffee Table, \$475, from Living Edge, livingedge.com.au