

Why I don't do the retail thing.

Occasionally I am asked why I don't provide clients with the items I recommend in rectifying their feng shui, so I thought it might be useful to look at the question to clarify the issues surrounding it.

Traditionally the feng shui services proffered by a classical feng shui master are advice based only. This means that the consultant providing feng shui recommendations should not then sell the client the items suggested to adjust the feng shui. The main reason for this is the obvious conflict of interest between the service being offered, that of advice only, and the subsequent retailing of material goods which clearly carries a profit all of its own. It is this additional profiting on the part of the consultant that is clearly ethically questionable.

It should perhaps be kept in mind that generally speaking, the primary recommendations made by a genuine feng shui master will have much more to do with the environment in which the building sits, its magnetic orientation and the time/space dynamics at work within the property, than the lesser internal form factors which may or may not be present. The latter is often the primary object of concern in the so called New Age Schools in which a hoard of trinkets and paraphernalia are suggested as solutions. (The use of crystals and colour leap to mind.)

The example of going to a doctor for an ailment, their making a diagnosis and prescribing the requisite medication only to then have them dispense the medicines to the patient all in one transaction, charging mightily for it along with his own medical consultation fees. "What's wrong with that?" do I hear the drug companies ask? No, even the pharmaceutical companies know better than to try that one on. Advice based only, should mean just that!

Of course an argument can be put that for the convenience of the client, the feng shui consultant could provide some of the more difficult to obtain items and then give clients a choice as to whether they wish to purchase them from the consultant or not. That's a legitimate point; just not one I happen to want to participate in, not at this stage anyway. I do however provide a list of suggested retailers who provide the items I recommend and who have further agreed to give my clients a discount for their patronage. Rest assured, there is no kick back to me.

Traditional Event - Chinese Mid-Autumn Festival

Observed on the 15th day of the 8th lunar month of each year, the Mid Autumn festival, this year fell on the 12th September. August, September and October are the traditional autumnal months in the Chinese Farmer's calendar and as such the 15th month of September marks the middle of the middle three months. Essentially a mid harvest festival, the Mid Autumn Festival also celebrates the brightness of the moon at this time; said to be the largest and clearest of the year. It is often called the Moon Festival and moon viewing parties are held during which in Imperial times poetry competitions would also be held, exhorting the beauty of the moon and the lady of the moon said to abide there.

Delicious moon cakes made from exotic fillings from ground almonds, walnuts, various dried fruits and beans all in a rich pastry, are a real feature at this festival. One especially striking ingredient in many versions of these cakes is the yolks of hard boiled eggs, added prior to baking and which give a savoury element in an otherwise sweet cake. The combination can seem strange to many western taste buds, works and it's easy to get addicted to these tasty morsels.

I have a particular fancy for one very famous moon cake made especially for the old Beijing Hotel along Tien An Men Boulevard.

Insights

"When the White man discovered this country, Indians were running it. No taxes, no debt; women did all the work. The white men thought they could improve on a system like this."

NEW POSTINGS FOR WEBSITE:

I have just had a whole lot of new material posted on my website. It's been a bit of a mission but I am delighted to have it almost finished and finally up and on-line. There is a little more to come with this section but the main body of material is now up and running. This new material centres on methods of Chinese fortune telling; from the **Four Pillars of Destiny** or *Chinese Astrology* as it is frequently referred to in English, to **Palmistry**, **Chinese Face Reading** and the **I-Ching**. There will eventually be a little more on **Feng Shui and its Predictive Aspects**, and another on **Man's Desire for Certainty**. There is also a very interesting story about face reading and palmistry from Japan – well at least I think it's interesting.

The new material begins to complete the website as I initially envisioned it and so of course I am happy to

see it all coming to fruition. I will keep you posted as the last of the material is put up but invite you all to take a look. Your feed back would be most welcome.

<http://www.fengshui88.co.nz/>

Quote

"Peace comes from within. Do not seek it without."

The Lord Buddha

A Cautionary Tale:

Doorways can have some very tricky Feng Shui and sometimes there is little that can be done. Just like buildings can be said to be *facing* and *sitting* so too can doors. It is one of the more sophisticated aspects of feng shui, not one that all consultants are properly trained in or know how to distinguish. From time to time however, this facing and sitting of doorways can lead to some very awkward feng shui.

This idea of a door *facing* and *sitting* derives from the direction the door faces from **inside** the particular room one is in. In this case, the room was the master bedroom, an especially important room as it is room in which we are most likely to spend the largest amount of continuous time.

Doors can be said to *face* and *sit* a particular direction by examining the Flying Stars Grid and seeing which way the door faces from inside the room. If for arguments sake, from standing inside the room the door faces northeast we can then say the door to the room *faces* northeast. If it faces northeast, it must logically, *sit* southwest. So by checking to see what the flying or *facing* star in the northeast is and then looking to see what the accompanying *sitting* star in the southwest is, we can arrive at a *facing sitting* combination. In several buildings recently I have found doors *facing* **5**, the worst and *sitting* **2**, the second worst.

It can be especially bad when the doorway to a master bedroom faces **5** and sits **2** as sadly, this is the worst combination and since they are over the door they're about as intangible as it gets. There really is little than can be done.

The effect on the owners can be quite dramatic however, especially with master bedrooms or in some instances office doors. Unfortunately, there is usually little one can do apart from suggest the occupants move to another bedroom, especially if the Mountain star in the room itself is also not good. Having a positive mountain star in either a master bedroom or office, are of primary concern and shows the importance of planning one's feng shui.

QUOTE:

He who never thinks of anything as 'mine' does not feel the lack of anything: he is never worried by a sense of loss.

The Buddha

Will there be a complete disaster?

The developing story of MV Rena

Like everyone else I am keeping a close eye on the developing story of the MV Rena, the container ship currently stuck fast on the Astrolabe Reef out from the Port of Tauranga.

There are some feng shui indications around this event but the one of primary concern to me is that of this being yet another sign of the Five Yellows having been triggered this year for the entire country by the Feb 22nd Canterbury earthquake. For those of you who were at my February feng shui talk, or who may have read my piece in my second newsletter for the year, you will know that just such an event was of concern to me then.

You can find the article on the front page at:

<http://www.fengshui88.co.nz/images/stories/newsletters/email-newsletter-2-2011.pdf>

Although at that time I specified between Whakatane and Banks Peninsula, this is sufficiently close enough to the East of the country to still count, as far as I am concerned.

"It's going to be a huge [salvage] exercise and the prime minister believes we need to brace ourselves for a very significant event," a spokeswoman for Key told the Sunday Star-Times. - This according to the <http://www.stuff.co.nz> website.

With the bad weather that's forecast to hit the region by Monday 10th October, I just hope they all take the situation seriously and get it cleaned up quickly and effectively but will not be surprised if all too sadly it does indeed turn into a major disaster.

By the time this reaches you and is posted on-line, we will know the answer!

Quote

'By nature we are similar;

By nurture we differ greatly.'

Confucius - The Analects XVII 2

Review of My Services:

- ☉ Land and Site Pre-Inspection/Advice
- ☉ Audits on Existing Buildings (Domestic, Commercial and Industrial)
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- ☉ I-Ching Consultations
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Produced and Distributed by:

Feng Shui Consultants New Zealand

09- 6257-888

fsc@fengshui88.co.nz

www.fengshui88.co.nz

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