

Homey feel a welcome trend

IT'S a case of goodbye minimalism and hello good old-fashioned comfort in terms of interior design trends, according to Tara Dennis, presenter and designer on WIN Television's *Renovation Rescue*.

The popular host of the successful home renovation show said nostalgia and comfort are all the rage again, meaning home renovators should be looking to create a warm, homey feel through their renovations. "I recently went overseas and there's a real trend harking back to nostalgia and comfort," Tara said.

"People are going back to good old-fashioned comfort, woollen blankets are back in, lovely textures are back in — basically making homes feel like homes again.

"Minimalism is out, thank God. "I'm not into minimalism in any way, shape or form as it's far too cold for me."

Acting as both presenter and designer on *Renovation Rescue* allows Tara significant input in each and every renovation rescue as she is involved in both planning and the actual renovation work as well.

"The challenge for me is to keep on coming up with ideas.

"Anyone can buy some furniture, put it in a room and make it look nice but I always try to make it more personal and tailor it to what I think they (the home owner) would like."

Tara said being able to play a role in helping others and bringing a smile to their faces is one of the best things about working on the show.

"I love jumping in the car after a job and driving away knowing you've made a real difference — I know it sounds a little clichéd.

"The people we do renovations for are just so giving of themselves and they're so busy out there in the community so

that often the simple things in the home just don't get taken care of."

When asked about what advice she would give any prospective renovators, Tara said thorough planning is the key to ensuring the successful completion of any project.

"Always make sure you can afford the renovation, both in terms of money and time.

"So many people jump in feet first. They're all enthusiastic but they don't really have either the money or the time to complete the job.

"It's all about planning — planning what you want to achieve, planning your finances and planning what you need and where to get it from.

"If you take the time to plan everything out, your renovation will work like a dream and you'll get exactly what you want in the end."



Renovation Rescue designer and presenter Tara Dennis says bringing smiles to the faces of the show's subjects is the most rewarding aspect of her job.