

ANDREW & REBECCA ALEXANDER

It would be fair to say that the land plays a huge role in the lives of Andrew and Rebecca Alexander. As their car swoops down across the Bombay Hills out of Auckland each afternoon, their minds and conversations switch naturally from one part of their busy lives to another.

The Alexanders own Corporate AV Services in Auckland's central Grey Lynn area. Back home in Mangatawhiri they run a three-acre lifestyle block complete with chickens, sheep, an orchard and a huge veggie patch.

Auckland's geography provides a natural pivot point for them to switch gear from one demanding world to the other.

To the Alexanders, each part of their two worlds energises the



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other. Corporate AV Services hires out a range of audio visual equipment. The Alexanders are drawn into their clients' focus on product launches, conferences, exhibitions and award ceremonies. Back at Mangatawhiri they feel the seasonal pull of nature. There, their

his own rums and whiskies while Rebecca, a graphic artist by background, likes to paint and sew.

Two years after their initial shift to Mangatawhiri, the Alexanders have developed their different lifestyles into a fine art. Up and out of bed by 4.45am each morning,

entertaining friends on their lifestyle block.

They also know each other's workflows back to front and can recognise the signs of stress. Rebecca's workload, for example, tends to peak about a month before a big event. The onus then shifts to Andrew who likes to front up in person at major events and who carries the can for any last-minute changes to plan.

Neither appears phased by the never-ending demands of their huge workload at either end of their journey.

Talking about the garden they say: "We're relaxed enough as people that if it doesn't turn out, it doesn't matter. It's not about perfection. It's about balance."

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world is physical and practical.

Further complementing the balance, they are both also heavily involved in the Project Kiwi Trust, an initiative designed to help save North Island brown kiwi on the Coromandel's Kuaotunu Peninsula.

"We're also big hobby people," says Rebecca. Andrew brews

they beat the traffic into central Auckland and usually open up the office at 7 o'clock. All of this means they can usually head off out of town by 3 or 4pm, beating the rest of the southbound traffic. Time together in the car is used for planning the day or evening ahead. Weekends often find them