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# Serene base for great river views

■ Sally-Ann Jones

On a Sunday drive, a lucky family came across a riverside property with stunning views. They bought the house and moved in but several years later and with four children heading towards their teenage years, they realised they needed more space, as well as a home that flowed better.

Knowing Peter Robinson, who designs for Luxus Homes, and with friends who had built with the company, the family decided to bite the bullet and build.

They could not be happier with the result. Their new home enjoys views over the Canning River from almost every room and from each of its three levels.

It also offers a serene base, one which outclasses even the new luxury hotel in which they recently stayed in Bali.

Luxus Homes contract manager Jarrad Cranston said the company embodied the ethos of “built to perfection” with absolute detail in all facets of the building process.

“We commit to build just a handful of homes each year so we are able to achieve an exceptional finish in each, focusing on individual projects and using only Perth’s leading trades and superior quality materials,” he said.

Entry is via the middle level, where the kitchen/meals/lounge area, powder room, study and guest suite are found.

The focus of the home is on the view, best seen from the spacious balcony.

The lower level, which opens to the pool, heated spa and garden, has a boys’ wing with two bedrooms and a bathroom, as well as a gym, games room, theatre, wine cellar and outdoor kitchen.

The top level has two more children’s rooms, each with its own bathroom, and the parents’ retreat at the riverside end of the home.

Connecting all the levels are a lift and a cantilevered staircase.

From the top storey, you can see all the way down to the ground floor; a space which

takes in a void the dimensions of which are accentuated by three-storey bevelled mirrors.

While this is a big home, it is also warm and family friendly.

Big trees and natural bush add shade and movement to the view outdoors while inside, exquisite choices of lighting, stone, marble, textured tiles and wallpapers, all in comforting and sophisticated autumn shades, pull the different rooms together.

The interior design was by Maria Monaco and Associates.

Bridges connect the various zones, giving each of the family members privacy but also inviting them to spend time together.

Along with a canary and two contented dogs, an aquarium full of fish share the house with the humans.

The aquarium takes pride of place between the kitchen and lounge room, making a natural barrier that is so interesting one of the owners said they had stopped watching television because they preferred looking at the fish. The aquarium was installed by Oceanreefs Marine Aquariums.

A special touch is a subtle copper trim in the travertine-clad piers around the staircase, which is the central nervous system of the house.

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