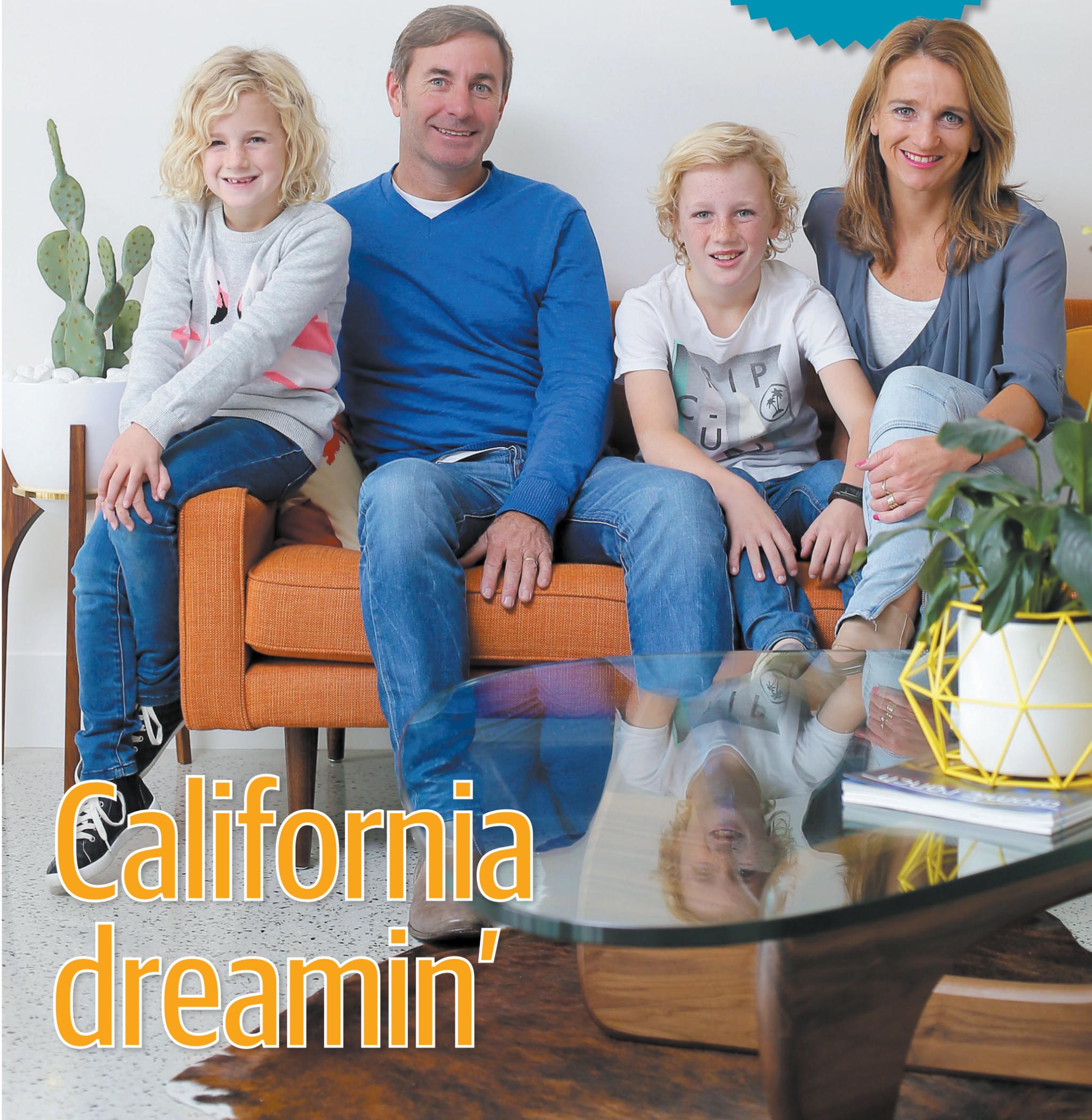


MERCURY
home

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RETRO-STYLE
HOME IS A NOD
TO 1950s PALM
SPRINGS



California
dreamin'

Revival pays homage to 50s futuristic style

Fanatical attention to every detail in this renovation produced a modern family home oozing retro appeal

FOR Jane and Drew Moore, building their dream home meant stepping back in time. Perched in a pretty spot in Sandy Bay, their house could be straight out of 1950s Palm Springs with its modernist architectural appeal.

Although it is a joy to walk through today, the couple — and their young family — have been slogging away on their grand idea for years.

They bought a ready-to-renovate house about four years ago after searching for the right property or block for 18 months, plus another six months of design work and council approval processes to wade through.

And then Jane spent countless late nights researching the interior finishes, light fittings and furniture that would provide their home with the perfect look and at the right price.

Despite the hard work that went into the build, the pair could not be more thrilled with the end result.

And it is not just the owners that have a fondness for this house.

Last month the pair was acknowledged at the highest level when their bathroom won the HIA national award for the best bathroom of the year, which was fantastic news for them and the crew from Drew Moore Constructions that have worked on the home's total renovation and extension.

The home's sense of luxury, functionality and space starts at the heavy front door. Behind is a stairwell made from TRU-floor, a new product never before used in Tas-



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original home were the exterior walls.

"It had to be completely gutted and rebuilt," he said.

"Our bricklayers did a wonderful job of making the new walls of the extension match with the original home's brickwork, which meant laying them back to front and pointing them in a way that has not been in fashion for a long time!"

In what was the original home, Drew and Jane have built an open living space and kitchen, a sunken lounge and then the master suite.

The kitchen is both a throwback to the 50s era and a home of contemporary styling.

The Moores went to great lengths to find the picture-perfect green tiles for their splashbacks, eventually locating the right ones in Melbourne that were custom made.

They paired them with extensive cabinetry in the American walnut timber and a stone benchtop.

While some appliances like the oven are seamlessly integrated, the fridge and freezer have been hidden completely providing a sleek, concealed style.

LED strip lighting provides a warm, unobtrusive glow.

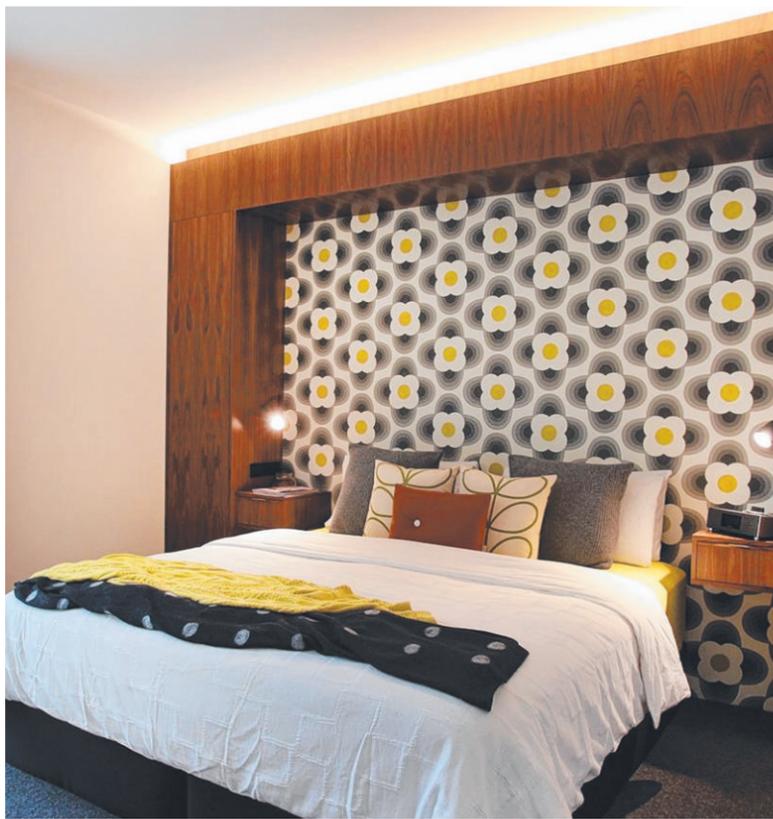
Over the dinner table, the feature light is a highlight. It took Jane, with the help of Casa Monde, quite a while to find the right piece for this space and to match the feature light in the link way between the different sections of the property.

"Bad lighting, that can completely ruin a room," Drew said.

"Jane did an amazing job with all



This sunny nook in the cosy family area provides the perfect place to escape and curl up with a book. Pictures: ROGER LOVELL



The master bedroom features UK designer Orla Kiely's beautiful bold flower-motif wallpaper.



The sunken lounge features an impressive stone feature wall and a U-shaped bespoke couch.



The stylish open-plan living area features a classic cowhide swivel chair, retro-style couch and a kitchen complete with classic custom-made green tiles typical of a 1950s style home.



FAVE FEATURES

- Jane: The combined textures of stone, timber and brick, especially the timber ceilings.
- Dean: The award winning bathroom.
- The extensive timber, which gives the house a special warmth. And it has a beautiful grain.
- The way the kitchen functions perfectly and also the stonework.

Drew and Jane Moore with their children Stella, 6, and Ollie, 9, above, love their retro-style home. Main picture: RICHARD JUPE

of the interiors of our house.”

In the sunken lounge there is another impressive stone feature wall, a gas fireplace, U-shaped bespoke lounge and photos on the walls that hark back to the glory days of Sinatra, the Rat Pack, and young Jagger and Lennon.

Jane has a gift for being able to visualise how a piece would work in their home, before the build was finished.

“Some of the artwork, the pots or furniture we had in storage for years,” she said. “Once the build was complete the interior design came together quickly.”

In the master suite there is more Kiely wallpaper, American walnut cabinetry, a walk-in wardrobe and an ensuite that echoes the style of their award winning main bathroom.

Both bathrooms feature TRU-floor, large 3m x 1m porcelain sheets in the shower, tubular showerheads similar to mid-century light fittings, textured black tiles, and in the main bathroom there is a stunning, free-standing limestone bath.

Jane said the appeal of this style of home was easy to pinpoint.

“We love it because it is timeless,” she said.



“You look at some of the homes of this era of architecture and they can look futuristic all these decades later — they simply don’t date.

“With Drew’s skills as a tradesman and a great team working on our home, we have been able to capture exactly what we were after and had the opportunity to juxtapose those modernist ideas with new, modern day products too.”

Perhaps the biggest challenge throughout the build was that nothing the Moores wanted was normal or standard. They couldn’t just walk into a shop and buy what they needed.

Drew Moore Construction has a reputation for being the right firm for clients with bold, out-of-the-ordinary, house ideas — and Jane and Drew ended up being a prime example of their own typical clients.

“Our team has been amazing, putting in the hard work and ensuring the exact results we were hoping for,” Drew said.



The award-winning bathroom featuring the stunning freestanding limestone bath above and inset, one of the family’s cute coffee table trinkets.



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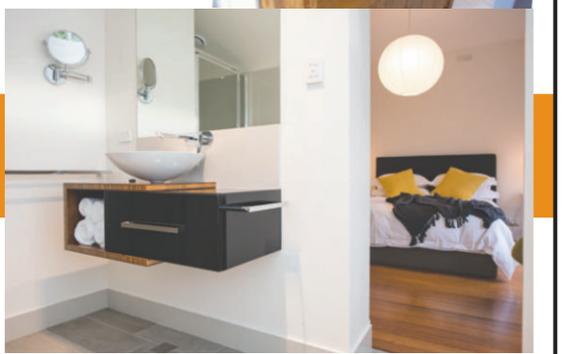
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