



The layout of each of the three houses is different. Pictures: Joel Barbitta

# Dunes block site for triple family affair

John Videnieks

This is a tale of three homes; a two-year project which saw one family gather on the same block in the dunes of Sorrento, just south of Hillary's Boat Harbour. It wasn't always easy. There was a long process to achieve the necessary subdivision of the 1500sqm block before construction began.

On a significant incline, serious measures had to be undertaken. "The existing retaining walls were in sections, some were old

railway sleepers, others worse. It was a massive project to get things right before we started," Devrite director Ron Mangano said.

In the design phase, Dean Bell of Devrite and members of the family, headed by Steve and Dawn Harber, shared ideas. Two single-storey homes, one at street level and the other, the next step up, were built. The third, of two storeys, was built at the top of the block.

The single-storey homes are beautifully finished with open-plan kitchens featuring essastone waterfall island

benches, bulkhead ceilings and tiled floors in a variety of textures and colours. Alfresco decks are part of the exterior attraction with support columns clad in stone.

"The layout of the houses is different because they're on different shaped blocks but they have got the same three-bedroom, study, open-plan design," Devrite co-owner Jay Mangano said.

"The texture-coat render and aluminium framing on the windows and doors is because of the coastal location and reduces maintenance."

As with the other two houses, the two-storey parents' home is spacious and attractively appointed. The 6.2m-high entry void is highlighted by LED lights set in a sequence of five suspended ball-shaped fixtures.

The main suite abuts a pool, offering views across the water, to a wave-tiled water feature and lily pond. The ensuite is preceded by a walk-in robe and dressing room.

A balcony provides sea glimpses and is linked to a living room with a fit-out of sink, stone benchtop and refrigerator. A powder room,

bathroom and two guest bedrooms complete the upper floor.

Ms Harber was keen to praise the efforts of Jay and Ron Mangano. "They were absolutely fantastic. Ron helped out by taking me to select lights and fittings. Even when we needed sand at the kids' house, Ron was there with a wheelbarrow.

"All Ron's tradespeople are really nice. My husband is the first to recommend Devrite when asked about builders."

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