

# Picture Perfect

A Hawke's Bay couple have created their perfect home. After building four times previously, they feel that this time it's just right.

Words **Soraya Nicholas** Photography **Anneliese Hough**





**LEFT** The cathedral ceiling extends to the outside by four metres and brings the exterior in. When the bi-fold doors are open on a nice day there is a natural indoor-outdoor merger. **ABOVE** Jane with grandson Ben in the lounge. He is a regular visitor to the home, and both Gordon and Jane love living close to their family.

## Our Place with Gordon & Jane Smith

### Favourite room?

**Gordon:** The lounge. I love the high ceilings and the amount of light in the room, and it's great having farm views through every window.

**Jane:** The family room. It's so homely, and it's a room that I never gave much thought to in the planning stages, but it's turned out to be a real family space and where we spend the most time.

### Best buy?

After much consideration, we chose Tarrazzo Veneto outdoor pavers in colour Grigio, manufactured by Horizon International Ltd. It certainly wasn't a cheap option, given that we had 120 square metres to be laid, but we are thrilled with the result.

### We love our home because . . .

It's very easy to live in, and the flow from room to room is so comfortable and relaxed. It's also a very 'homely' home and we feel so lucky to live here!

### What do friends like most?

The classic exterior look, because the external design in black and white is visually very striking when you approach the house. Inside, friends and family like the spacious feel that the high ceilings create.



AFTER LIVING IN WELLINGTON FOR some time, Gordon and Jane Smith felt a pull back to their native Hawke's Bay. So when they found the section they had dreamed of, everything seemed to fall into place. "We wanted a rural setting, but without the hassles of a lifestyle block," explains Gordon. While that may have seemed like a tall order, their quarter acre section is exactly what they had envisaged, with views out to Te Mata Peak and the Western Ranges, and a wide farm vista from almost every window in their home. Capitalising on the view and the warm Hawke's Bay sunshine was an important part of the design for the Smiths, and they love the finished product. Although they had ideas of what they wanted, having learnt plenty from their previous builds, it was left up to the designer

Morning sun floods the kitchen and slowly moves around the house. This means Jane and Gordon can either follow the warmth in winter or avoid the hot Hawke's Bay sun in summer. This is also true for their outdoor living areas, which have been cleverly designed for sun at different times of the day.

from the building company they had chosen, **Landmark Homes Hawke's Bay**, to create the ultimate home for the section. "The designer was great," says Jane. "He listened thoroughly to what we wanted, and we loved it as soon as it was presented to us. He really understood our brief, and that was a light, sunny home facing the view with somewhere for us to sit and eat breakfast facing Te Mata Peak!" The follow through from design to completion was equally as stress-free and enjoyable; Gordon and Jane were thrilled with their new house. "Amazingly, we wouldn't change anything at all about it. In our other homes, there has always been something, but this house is perfect for us."

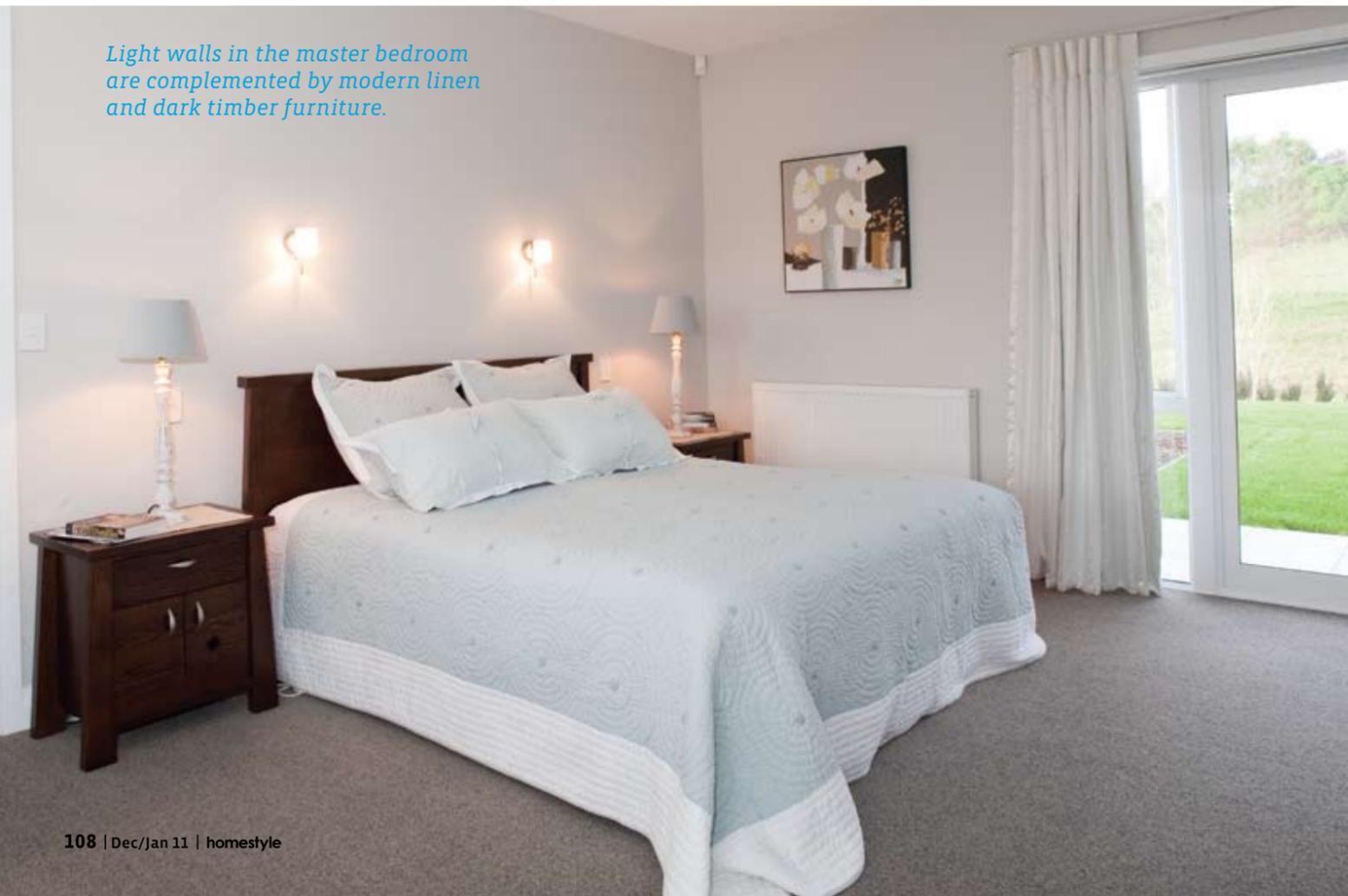
In order to achieve the external look the Smiths sought for their home, Landmark Homes engaged the services of Wynands Masonry, who used the latest **Rockcote** technology. The Integra AAC Masonry Cladding system was selected, comprising BRANZ appraised 50mm Integra concrete panels, over a

20mm cavity and complete flashing suite, to ensure weather tightness. Gordon and Jane chose the Rockcote Premium Mineral texture and Resene X-200 in colour Resene Alabaster.

The interior of the home is also neutral and modern, with Resene Double White Pointer used throughout. This theme was carried into the kitchen, and it is a room in the house that Jane thoroughly enjoys spending time in. "After having four new kitchens in the past, it feels like the design is finally perfect with this one." The kitchen was crafted and installed by **Rawcraft Kitchens**; they were also charged with the design and manufacture of the bathroom vanities, laundry cabinetry and the entertainment unit. The joinery in the kitchen was all finished in a two-pot lacquer, painted in the company's own spray booth, in Resene Double Alabaster. For the bench, Jane and Gordon selected an Everest Quantum Quartz, which complements the sleek lines of the cabinetry. As part of the



Light walls in the master bedroom are complemented by modern linen and dark timber furniture.



**ABOVE** Instead of incorporating a breakfast bar, the centre bench in the kitchen is used for additional storage and as a place to display favourite books and photos. **FACING PAGE CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT** The dining room is open-plan with the main living area and has hosted many family dinners. The bathroom vanities were custom-made to accommodate the basins.

kitchen design, a walk-in pantry was incorporated, which creates ample storage and keeps any mess hidden from view.

In keeping with the neutral colour scheme, the Smiths turned to **Hutchinsons Flooring Xtra** for all of their floor coverings. They selected carpet from the Cavalier Bremworth Picotage range, in colour Cape Star, and this hardwearing 100% wool carpet was installed over an eco premium foam underlay. For the hard flooring component, Gordon and Jane chose a Floor Scape style from the Readyflor Plank range, in colour Ashen. Hutchinsons Flooring Xtra were also charged with supplying the drapes for the home. The Smiths selected fabric from the Textilia and Villa Textiles ranges to create the simple yet elegant look they sought to achieve.

To finish the interior of the home, and to provide the requisite lighting and electrical fittings, Landmark Homes invited **Electricians HB Ltd** to join the project. As the regular electricians of choice for the building company, they set to work immediately, installing standard PDL fittings in the home, in addition to Securimax extracts. They also installed all of the power and lighting systems, ensuring lights and power points were placed correctly throughout the home.

One of the things Gordon and Jane like most about their home is the way the interior has been designed. "It's an incredibly easy house to live in, especially because of the way it flows so easily from room to room." And with such breathtaking views over rural land, there is no where else Gordon and Jane would rather be. ■

## Directory

**BUILDER**  
Landmark Homes Hawke's Bay  
06 845 4000  
www.landmarkhomes.co.nz

**CLADDING**  
Rockcote  
0800 507040  
www.rockcote.co.nz

**FLOORING**  
Hutchinsons Flooring Xtra  
06 878 2144  
www.hutchinsons.net.nz

**GARAGE**  
The Garage Door Shoppe 2000 Ltd  
06 835 0105  
www.windsorddoors.co.nz

**KITCHEN**  
Rawcraft Kitchens  
06 843 9008  
www.rawcraftkitchens.co.nz

**LIGHTING**  
Electricians HB Ltd  
06 878 3188

■ **THE SPECS**

Havelock North  
\$500,000 - \$600,000  
290 Sq m



2



3



2