BUILD

'HAMPTONS LUXE' STYLE

What do you get when you cross an old house on a good-sized corner block with a bulldozer and the team from luxury homebuilder Oswald Homes?

THE answer is anything but a punchline, with the resultant Hamptons-inspired custom build going above and beyond the ordinary to express the intricacies and splendour of bespoke design.

Warm and inviting, this four-bedroom, three-bathroom Dalkeith triumph offers a range of features, including a sumptuous master suite, a teenagers' wing with an activity/music room, a home office, wine cellar and a quaint Hamptons-style kitchen complete with a scullery and adjoining cool room.

Oswald Homes principal designer Brook Leber says the clients were looking for a home that could accommodate their busy lifestyles, as well as play host to a range of functions through thoughtful zoning.

"Room for entertaining inside and out was a priority, along with a pool and landscaped gardens with outdoor 'rooms'," he says.

"The owners are a busy family of four who enjoy hosting get-togethers for family and friends, so the indoor/outdoor areas of their home were especially important, as were the design and fit-out of the kitchen.

"With family celebrations and annual events such as Christmas and Halloween in mind, they also asked for a big entry hallway that could be decorated according to the season."

Rearranging the layout of the block proved to be the decisive factor in constructing this masterpiece, with the new house moved into the far corner of the existing site to allow for a spacious, north-facing front garden. The new pool and outdoor living area were kept secluded from the street by a limestone wall that matches the aesthetic of the home and surrounding gardens, which take their cue from the French Provincial style.

"Rooms on the ground floor enjoy views out to the front gardens with their pretty pergolas and arbours, flagstone paving and aromatic herb garden," Brook says.

Back inside, the kitchen stands out as the hardworking hub of the home, complete with stark white Shaker-style cabinetry and statuario maximus Caesarstone benchtops with decorative edging for that added sense of sophisticated detailing.

The perfect space to accommodate the family's healthy lifestyle, the kitchen boasts plenty of storage for fresh produce, a reverse-osmosis water filtration system linked to a pot-filler above the freestanding oven and a butler's sink with a commercial-style vegie washing tap, not to mention the cool room, which allows for the storage of large supplies of fresh fruit and vegetables.

The owners worked extensively with Oswald Homes interior designer Danielle Ellery to create a style they call 'Hamptons luxe'.

The lavish ensuite bathroom, adjacent to the master bedroom, best encapsulates this aura of sophisticated luxury, with a 3.7m-long walk-through shower, arched window, freestanding two-person claw-foot bath, separate his and her vanities, an antique-style pendant light, a high raking timber-lined ceiling and far-reaching use of natural limestone throughout.

"It's understated opulence; it's glamour without too much glitz," Danielle says. "Not only did the owners want an indulgent space to enjoy, they also wanted something that made a high-impact statement when viewed from the master bedroom."

In keeping with its Hamptons theme, the home includes gorgeous fixtures and fittings including timber-panelled vaulted ceilings, stained American white oak timber floors, a feature fireplace for cosying up on cold winter nights, bespoke bookcases and classic Plantation shutters, all coated in a cool palette of soft blue-greys and fresh whites.

FAST FACTS

✳ A claw-foot bath in the master suite gives the space a feeling of luxuriant relaxation.

✳ The French Provincial-style garden is defined by carefully clipped edges, pathways and manicured bushes.

✳ White Shaker-style cabinetry and Caesarstone benchtops with decorative edgings give the kitchen a kick of class.

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