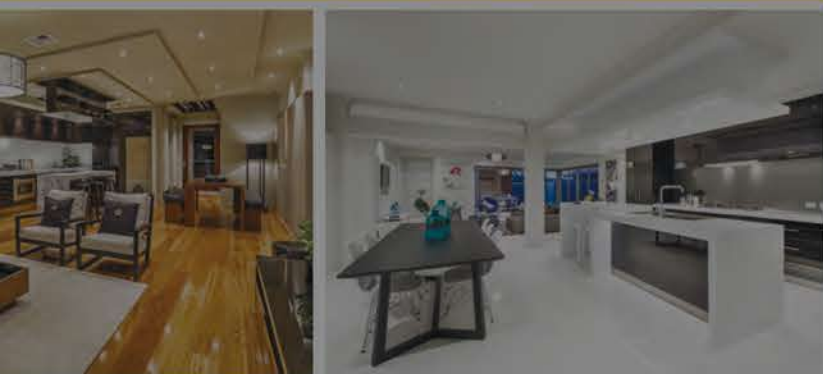


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2013 HIA PERTH HOUSING AWARD WINNERS



Elegant solution for ageing needs

■ Tamara Hunter

The idea of moving into a care facility was anathema to the elderly owners of this Carlisle home. They'd been to visit friends in nursing homes and found the experience thoroughly depressing. They decided institutional care was not for them: instead, they wanted to live out their days in the comfort of their own home.

The only trouble was their long-term family home was now too big, too high-maintenance, and too full of steps likely to cause falls. They decided to demolish their old house and subdivide the block, selling off one side and creating, on the other, a purpose-built home which catered for any future care needs.

Enter Amano Homes, which came up with an elegant but highly practical design which focused on low maintenance, manoeuvrability and style.

Every element of the resulting home — which impressed the judges enough to snare the Liveable Homes category — takes into account the owner's present and future needs.

A washed aggregate driveway and paths, combined with synthetic lawns edged by easy-access raised garden beds, keep weeds and gardening to a minimum.

Flush thresholds, broad door frames and extra-wide corridors allow for the movement of wheelchairs and gurneys if necessary. Low lights placed along the hallway guard against night-time falls.

In the stylish kitchen, mixer taps, a pull-out pantry, easy-clean benchtops and readily accessible storage ensure ease of use.

A large and attractive ensuite off the super-spacious main bedroom has a double shower with seating ledge and allows room for a wheelchair to pull up under the vanity. Two extra bedrooms allow for visiting grandchildren and guests or, if needed, a live-in carer. An intercom and awning windows provide security.



Category Liveable Home of the Year
Company Amano Homes
Phone 9367 1252
Location Carlisle

Amano Homes general manager Paula West said there was an increasing market for livable homes which anticipated and responded to occupants' changing needs — not only for ageing couples but people with disability, people with temporary injuries and families with young children.

The judges praised the home's stunning street appeal, faultless workmanship, attention to detail and warm, contemporary, spacious feel. They said it was elegant, well thought out and allowed the owners to live effortlessly and with pride into their senior years. They noted it would appeal to any market segment — whether mobility-impaired or not.

"This beautiful home provides an excellent example of how the industry can meet the challenges of building for an ageing population while keeping the home relevant for all residents, their families and friends of all ages and abilities over the lifetime of the home," the judges said.

