

# The Thorne Group (BOP) Ltd



## Strong bonds formed during build

Sandra and Patrick Varley spent considerable time in selecting the team to design and build their dream home in Bethlehem.

Their efforts paid off and the couple now inhabit a home which is every bit as seductive and contemporary as those gracing the pages

of glossy house magazines.

The expansive and dignified single level-home was designed to take command of its semi-rural outlook and provide an easy, yet luxurious, lifestyle.

One year on from completion, everyone involved in the project was invited to a social gathering at the Varley's new home. The curry night was a show of appreciation and recognition of the bonds formed over the eight month build, says Sandra.

"You get to know people and really appreciate the work they put into a project like this. We're thrilled with our new home," she says.

The English couple took the opportunity to build something very modern and different from the houses of their home country and commissioned architectural designer, Will Tatton, to draw up their plans.

"We really liked the use of natural light and the openness we'd seen in some of Will's other houses. After looking around we were absolutely clear we wanted him to design our house," Sandra says.

The house incorporates many special features and interesting technical challenges, says construction manager, Gavin Morrow.

"The design required an inverted truss system. We had a lot of trouble getting a pre-nail factory to meet the design specifications and ended up getting the design completed in Auckland," Gavin says.

Taking the time and trouble to get things right on a project, is nothing new to Gavin. Following the apprenticeship years he completed in 1994, Gavin invested time working in the UK with artisan builders, which he says, gave him a whole new appreciation of quality and workmanship.

A substantial amount of structural steel was also used in the Moffat Road house to achieve the desired openness. Huge internal sliders were incorporated to this end and can be closed to create more intimate spaces when required.

Gavin says at the time of the build, the four metre long internal sliders were the biggest to be built in the country.

The sliders can be used to divide the long rectangular kitchen, dining and sitting room, from the entry and huge games room, where a movie screen and full-sized pool table are found.

Carpet has been inlaid into the large polished porcelain tiles in the sitting area, to introduce softness and some separation in the generously-proportioned, living and kitchen area.

Each of the four bedrooms has its own bathroom facilities and all except the guest quarters open directly onto the sunny, private courtyard and pool areas.

Ferneries tucked into the folds of the building add a natural green touch to the external lines.

The pavilion-inspired house is long and low lying across a



large flat section. No compromises were needed in achieving the expansive look and feel of the home.

Colour choices are restrained throughout the interior, with the wood veneer featuring in the Steve Wilkinson-designed kitchen and a gentle blue in the fabulous master ensuite adding some subtle colour and texture.

The building incorporates eco wool insulation and a hydronic-powered under floor heat exchange system.

## Key suppliers

**Michael Steiner**  
43b Carysfort St  
Mt Maunganui  
Ph: 07 572 2217

**Wilkinson Cabinetry and Design**  
515 SH2  
Te Puna  
Ph: 07 552 4039

**Epic Windows and Doors**  
45 Newton St  
Mt Maunganui  
Ph: 07 575 5074

**Guild & Spence**  
48 Hull Rd  
Mt Maunganui  
Ph: 07 575 5328

**Bay Tiles**  
61 9th Ave  
Tauranga  
Ph: 07 578 1973

**Tauranga ITM**  
Ph: 07 541 1232

**Firth Industries**  
68 Hewletts Rd  
Mt Maunganui  
Ph: 07 571 0162

**Eco Insulation**  
PO Box 10574, Te Rapa  
Hamilton  
Ph: 07 847 6023

**Bell Plumbing**  
60 Hewletts Rd  
Mt Maunganui  
Ph: 07 575 4478

**Tasman Interior Doors**  
67 Courtney Rd  
Tauranga  
Ph: 07 578 8600

### THE HOUSE

384m<sup>2</sup>  
4 bedrooms  
4 bathrooms  
Media and games room



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# 2010 Award Winner Thorne Group

# Designer Will Tatton Architecture Ltd