

NEW HOMES & LAND

● Shane and Amanda Wilson
pictured outside their home
with Procorp new homes
sales consultant Kim Hunt.
Picture: TARA ASHWORTH

CHOICE LIFESTYLE

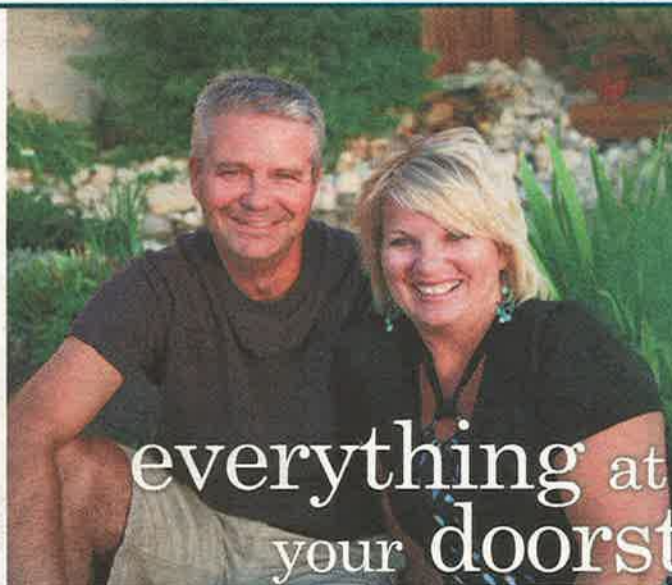


There's lots to love
about living in
Thurgoona for a
family who made
the big move from
Sydney.

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Family right at home on Border



● Amanda and Shane Wilson moved from Sydney to the Border with their two children, seeking a lifestyle change, and built a new home in Thurgoona. Picture: TARA ASHWORTH

BY JANET HOWE

THE search for a better lifestyle has ended happily in Thurgoona for the Wilson family.

Amanda and Shane Wilson and their children Caitlin, 11, and Kai, 7, had always lived in Sydney, but more than two years ago visited the Border and decided to make a change.

"We were surprised by how much was here, the facilities and the schools," Mrs Wilson says.

"Down here it's a lot more affordable to build than Sydney; we'd never have had the opportunity."

Their Sydney home sold in a day, meaning the family found themselves ready to shift more quickly than expected.

Initially they rented a house in the Mitchell Park Estate, with Thurgoona proving a convenient location for several reasons.

The children attend Thurgoona Public School, Mr Wilson works in the maintenance department of Charles Sturt University and Mrs Wilson is an executive assistant with Procorp.

Mrs Wilson's employment made the choice of builder an easy one, while a block measuring 840sq m on Smiggins Drive in a developing estate, The Elms, fitted their requirements.

"We did look around other areas, but nothing too serious," Mr Wilson says.

"All we knew was Thurgoona," his wife explains.

"We thought it was such a big move, we'd pick somewhere and get settled."

Wanting four bedrooms, two bathrooms and a turnkey package, the Wilsons chose the Redwood design, but extended the children's bedrooms and the alfresco area.

Mr Wilson does not hesitate when asked about his priorities.

"My shed," he says, before adding, "It was the land and being able to choose the kind of house we wanted and the design."

Front gates in addition to the double garage allows access to the shed.

Offering about 24 squares under roof, the home has an open-plan kitchen, meals and living section, a formal lounge room, main bathroom, a separate toilet and a laundry with a triple linen cupboard. The main bedroom includes a walk-in wardrobe and an en suite with two basins while the wide front door lets in plenty of natural light.

Construction began in October 2010 and this week the Wilsons celebrated one year since their home's completion.

The building works progressed smoothly and Procorp new homes sales consultant Kim Hunt says this is not unusual.

"The build processes normally go quite well, we always strive to fix and rectify any problems," she says.

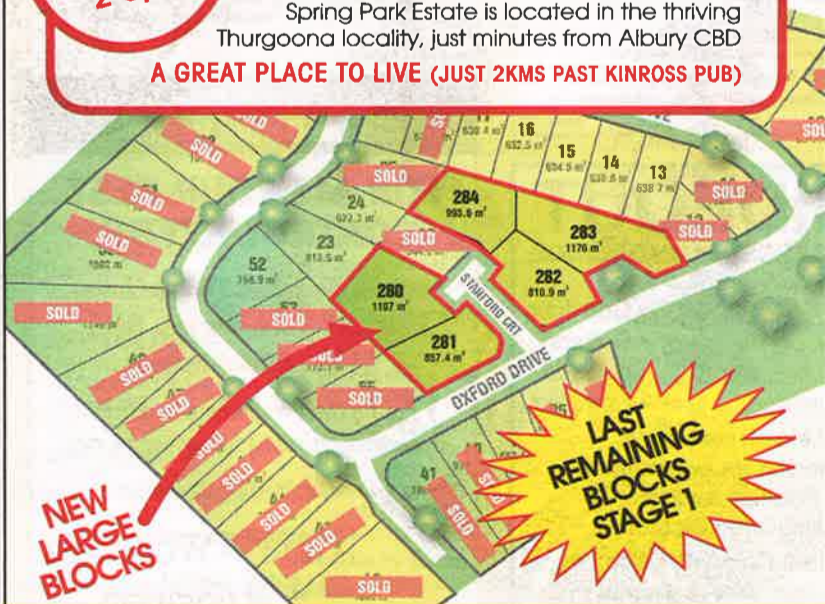
Having arrived on the Border knowing few people, Mr and Mrs Wilson now feel at home, helped by the networks of work, school and local sport. "I think the kids adapted quicker than we did; the hardest thing was leaving family and friends," Mr Wilson says.

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