



YOU LIGHT UP MY LIFESTYLE

Blending a love of the old with the benefits of the new makes this Customkit creation feel even more like home.

Walk into Ralph and Cathy Taylor's newly-built house in the north Waikato and the first thing that strikes you is an amazing collection of pendant lighting and lamps. Ralph is an electrician by trade and was guided in his selection of lighting options by his love of collectibles, and his aversion to downlights.

Their new home is the Taylor's second building experience with Customkit. They built a live-in barn in 2010 while they planned for their permanent home. It's now 'home' to another special part of the traditional theme - Ralph's classic Mini collection - and is also his workshop.

That helped seal the original deal and also provided the perfect home for his cars.

As with many Customkit clients, the ability to shape the end-product to suit their unique needs was a real bonus and a point of difference to other housing companies. Both Cathy and Ralph had their list of 'must haves' to suit their day-to-day schedules.

"We had a great deal of input," says Cathy. "We started with one of their basic plans (the Sterling) but then made modifications to deliver exactly what we wanted. They listened to us and also gave suggestions to add value to what we were considering."

Rather than the cathedral-like ceilings in the Sterling, they opted for a more conventional flat ceiling with no portals, LVL or feature beams. This enabled a full-

OPPOSITE PAGE: Country living built to capture the sun and blend with the environment. Triclad brings out the best in the building features.

THIS PAGE, TOP-BOTTOM: An innovative use of plywood creates a design feature; an array of pendant hanging lights highlight the home; Customkit's Michael Anselmi (pictured here with Atareta) reaches out to help the endangered New Zealand falcon, find out more at www.wingspan.co.nz; a glowing respect for the traditional.

rafted roof upstairs with extensive dormers. There's a master bedroom and ensuite, and another room with access to the ensuite.

The downstairs living area has a nook for relaxing in, and there's a sewing room, office, and two more bedrooms.

The dining and living area open up onto a verandah on the northern and eastern sides of the house. The verandah roof projection is designed to give protection from the summer sun, and rain, but still allows the winter sun to light up the house.

The Taylors went for a new plywood product called Triclad for the exterior. It offers a number of benefits over other board and batten products: it comes in longer sheets, and is pre-primed and pre-painted with the first coat of paint. Battens can also be painted before being nailed up.

Living in the country meant it made sense to Ralph and Cathy to go with a style that looked natural in the environment.

"To build some sort of ultra-modern home wouldn't suit the rustic look," says Ralph. "This is a real area of specialisation for Customkit; comfortable, warm, well-built and classical."

Products

Cladding: Triclad plywood

Paints: Exterior, Resene Bronco; Interior, Resene Karen Walker Paints, Beryl, half Beryl, half Robin Egg, Wan White and Cooled Green.

Roof: Colorsteel Endura Ironsand supplied by Franklin Long Roofing.

Rainwater Systems: Colorsteel and downpipes, powder-coated aluminium by Freeflow downpipes.

Garage Door: Taurean Sectional Door

To see more Customkit buildings and to find the one that's right for you go to www.customkit.co.nz



TO WATCH
OUR VIDEO
GO TO
NZLIFESTYLEBLOCK.CO.NZ
CUSTOMKIT.CO.NZ

