

Stunning in stone

Levin | Manawatū-Whanganui

This rock-solid home quietly blends substance and style in one handsome package. Builders Craig Diffey, Malcolm Davie, and their Fairfield Palms team have created a subdivision of houses, including this one in Levin, mirroring the character of homes in Queenstown. Stonemason Glenn Bosworth lent his artistry to the exterior, using Gibbston Valley schist. Add a structural steel framework and you have a 325m² masterpiece, built for generations to come.



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The homeowners worked together with Craig and Malcolm to create something special, using an unusual accent: the home features a copper entrance door on a pivot, a copper garage door, and copper gutters. Cedar trim hugs windows and skylights, and cathedral ceilings soar to 4.8 metres. “It looks great from every angle,” says Craig.

The homeowner, a joiner by trade, made and installed the kitchen and bedroom fittings and designed the railway sleeper entrance. After living in an old homestead for decades, he and his wife sought a character-filled home that was low maintenance. They also requested extra features like a four-car garage, a glass brick

wall in the master bathroom, and a solar powered skylight that closes automatically when it rains. “The house matches what we envisioned 100 percent. Craig and Malcolm gave us everything we wanted and more.”

At a time when Covid-related supply issues and material shortages postponed plenty of other projects, the homeowner says his build unfolded better than imagined. “We got away unscathed. Especially in this environment, we were fortunate Craig and Malcolm’s organisational skills ensured our project proceeded smoothly and on schedule.” [®]

NZCB Member / Craig Diffey
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