



Before: Single Storey home with 3 Bedrooms, Formal Lounge, Dining, Kitchen, Living area, Bathroom and Laundry

After: Two Storey Dwelling
Ground Floor now consisting of 3 Bedrooms, Living area, Family room, Kitchen, Dining, Bathroom, Laundry/WC and Outdoor Entertaining area
First Floor 2 Bedrooms (study), Rumpus room, Walk-in Storage and Bathroom.

Heritage Revival

It started as an idea for a new kitchen and ended up at the Master Builders Association's prestigious Excellence in Housing Awards! There are no compromises in this story.

The Victorian home is over 100 years old with a Heritage Overlay. An extension completed by previous owners left the rear of the home closed in with separate rooms for kitchen, living and dining. The home has a large backyard which the homeowners wanted to preserve for the children, so the decision was made to incorporate a first floor into the design. The desired high ceilings in the proposed first floor did pose some issues with planning approval. Extra time was committed to overcome these issues.

Hille's Home Extensions was engaged to undertake the extension. "HHE is local and visible in the area, reputable, reasonably priced and the designer was on same level as us," Belinda says.

Belinda found a magazine photograph of her dream kitchen... "I wanted the kitchen to be the main focal point. The style is French Provincial / American." The



bench tops extend into the purpose-built bay window and the breakfast bar provides multi purpose functions, "We entertain a lot and when we have parties everyone stands around the breakfast bar". Kitchen, dining and living areas are now combined in a magnificent open space with neutral tones and warm timber floorboards soaked in natural light from the generous windows, French doors and Hi-Lites. It's incredible what natural light can do in a home. It can turn a dark and closed-in house into something bright and cheerful. "We're not cramped anymore in the living areas and I love the bigger kitchen with more natural light coming in."

The laundry, bathroom and WC have been repositioned on the ground floor to accommodate the new layout.

Move outside through the French doors and you find yourself on a superb verandah with cathedral ceiling. This entertainment and relaxation area with an open view of the backyard is a family favourite.

Upstairs has seen the addition of two extra bedrooms, a rumpus room, bathroom and a storage room. No compromises on materials, fittings and fixtures here. The period style has been meticulously maintained throughout - and the children now have a dedicated play area.

With the homeowner's permission, their home was entered in the Master Builders Association's 2008 Excellence in Housing Awards. Hille's Home Extensions received a Special Commendation for this project. Andrew and Belinda attended the formal awards night, "It was very exciting winning the special commendation - and it was a fun night. We were very proud of our home."

"I would thoroughly recommend HHE to anyone. Everyone was fabulous!"

