

## New baby, new home for this young family

The Baude family is looking forward to moving into their new Riverside Estate home, which will be open for inspection today, writes **Janet Howie**.

**AT** 10 weeks old, Jacob Baude may not quite understand it all, but there's no denying his parents' excitement as they prepare to move into their first home near Wodonga.

The Thorpe Avenue house of Shaun and Amanda Baude in Riverside Estate will be open for inspection today ahead of the family becoming some of the development's first residents.

Much has happened to Mr and Mrs Baude and their daughter Viola, 2, since *Domain* met them on their then-vacant block in March, most notably Jacob's birth on June 1.

Dennis Family Homes' construction of their house began in April and had reached lock-up stage by the big day.

Mr Baude says the builder's schedule and processes suited their changed circumstances, as they had already made many of the necessary decisions.

"All that was nice and early," he says. "I guess we could have just sat back and watched it all happen and not been involved at all, and it still would have come up really nice."

"But I can't sit back and do nothing," he adds with a laugh.

An IT technician, Mr Baude took an active interest in the project and ran network cabling through the house.

Riverside Estate offers immediate access to the national broadband

network, an advantage the Baudes learned soon after choosing their lot.

Mr Baude says he is pleased to be among the first Wodonga residents to join the network.

"I guess it's still a pretty exclusive club at the moment," he says.

Some sleepless nights are inevitable, but Mrs Baude says combining a new baby and a new home has worked so far. The couple used a Dennis Family Home display house in Geelong, which they viewed while visiting family, as a template for their own property.

With just over 19 squares of living space, the home has four bedrooms, two bathrooms and two family areas.

A front lounge room sits off the wide entry while the main bedroom, which features an en suite and a walk-in wardrobe, lies at the rear.

The other bedrooms have built-in wardrobes and can be found off a hallway that also includes the main bathroom and separate toilet, the laundry and storage cupboards.

A sizeable backyard can be reached via the open-plan kitchen, meals and living area while other features are an alfresco section and a double garage.

Dennis Family Homes area manager Justin Worthington says the project went smoothly, largely avoiding weather delays.



**The Baude family, Shaun, Amanda, Viola, 2, and Jacob, 10 weeks, meet with Dennis Family Homes area manager Justin Worthington outside their Thorpe Avenue home, which will be open for inspection today. Pictures: TARA ASHWORTH**

Orientating the home on the block, which has a narrow frontage but then widens out, has been a major focus.

"Something we have to work within is always the block, positioning the home and knowing what the set back is going to be and ensuring that we have garage access," Mr Worthington says.

"So we do a lot of preliminary investigation to make sure that there's not going to be any hiccups later on down the track."

The home on Thorpe Avenue, Riverside Estate, Killara, will be open for inspection today between 10am and 1pm.

Mr and Mrs Baude are looking forward to moving in soon after the open house.

"Hopefully Saturday, I think," Mr Baude says.

"About five past one," Mr Worthington predicts.

**It's been a busy few months for Shaun and Amanda Baude, pictured with their children Viola, 2, and Jacob, 10 weeks, culminating in the completion of their first home in Riverside Estate.**

