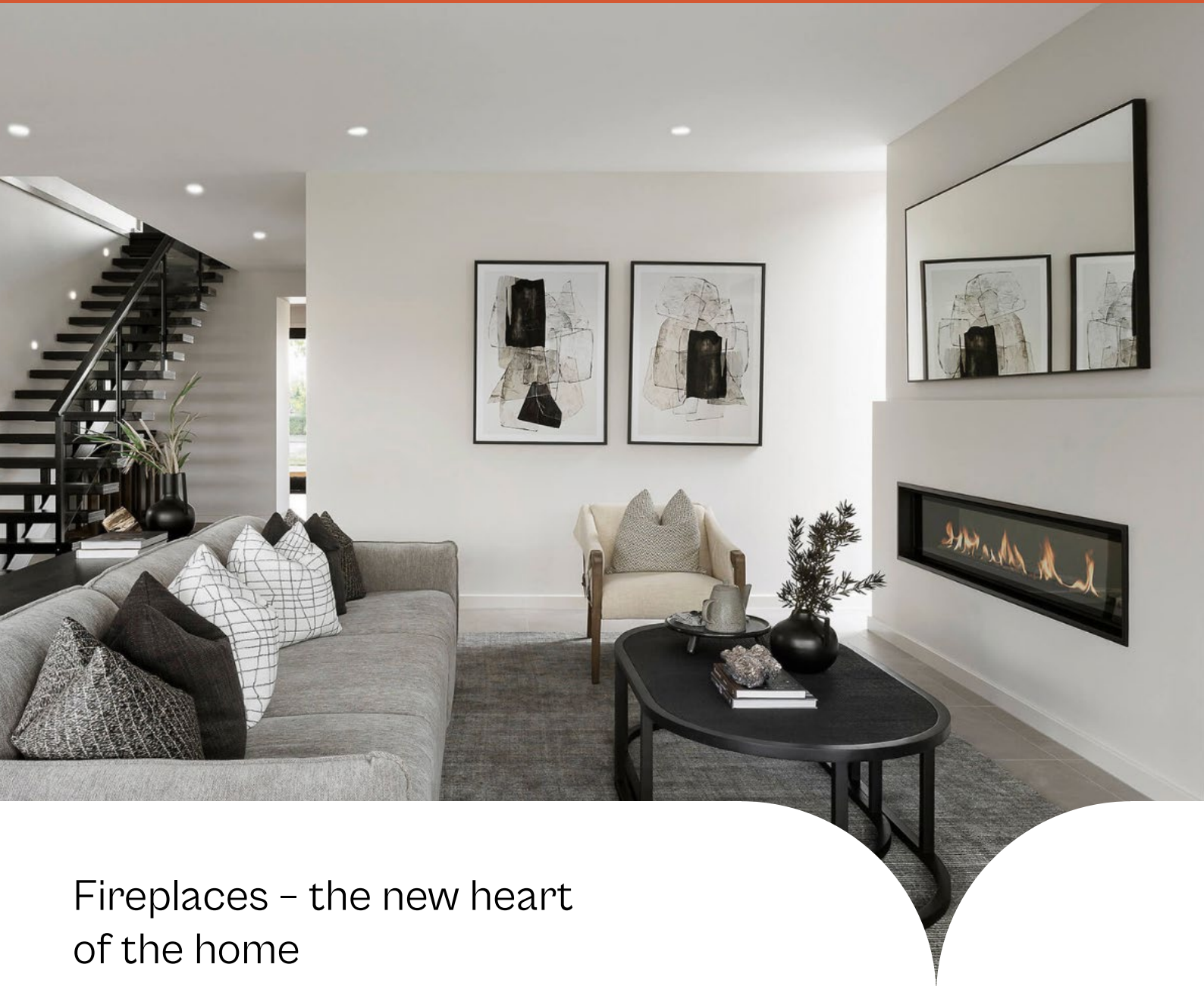


BINGARA GORGE



Fireplaces – the new heart of the home

As the last cool mornings of winter linger over Wilton there is nowhere better to feel it than from the warmth of your own living room. For homeowners building in Bingara Gorge, that feeling is inspiring a design trend reshaping how new homes are planned - the fireplace, reimagined as the heart of the home.

We spoke with Nadine Latunin, Head of Interior Design at McDonald Jones Homes, about why fireplaces have become a sought-after feature and how Bingara Gorge homeowners can design one to suit their lifestyle.

"Fireplaces have evolved beyond being purely functional heating solutions and are now considered a key design feature within the home. They create a warm, inviting atmosphere that encourages families to mingle, adding character, ambience and a sense of luxury," Nadine explains.

Her advice is to think about the fireplace early, not as an afterthought. Key considerations include the fireplace type, location, room layout and heating needs, along with how it fits with furniture, TV placement and the flow of the room.



BINGARA GORGE

A focal point for open-plan living

Bingara Gorge's family-friendly floor plans suit open-plan living and a fireplace can anchor the space, according to Nadine. "Positioning it centrally, adding an open surrounding or extending stone to the ceiling helps it define zones within larger living areas," she says.

Contemporary linear designs remain most popular, particularly gas and electric models with clean lines and minimalist detailing. Floor-to-ceiling stone, integrated joinery, warm timber accents and earthy palettes are also on trend often combined for a layered, architectural look using materials like travertine, limestone and large-format porcelain.

Choosing the right fireplace

Gas fireplaces offer strong heat output and instant control. Electric fireplaces are popular for their easy installation and low maintenance. Wood fireplaces bring a traditional warmth many homeowners love, particularly in semi-rural settings like Bingara Gorge.



"The key is ensuring the fireplace contributes equally to the home's visual appeal and practical comfort. One tip worth knowing is fire regulations often mean the TV shouldn't sit directly above the fireplace. Sustainability is also front of mind, with modern gas and electric options offering better energy performance and reduced heat loss," adds Nadine.

Building your gathering place

Bingara Gorge's beautiful surroundings lend themselves to fireplaces that feel warm and connected to the landscape. "We often recommend natural stone surrounds, timber detailing and larger-format fireplaces that become gathering points for family and friends. Some homeowners have even added a second, outdoor fireplace after moving in," Nadine says.

For home designs, Nadine recommends the Retreat, Miami and San Marino which offer generous open-plan living and strong indoor-outdoor connections, ideal for a feature fireplace. Through the MyChoice Design Studio homeowners can personalise materials, finishes and styling to bring their own vision to life.

For those ready to bring a feature fireplace and a whole new lifestyle to Bingara Gorge, McDonald Jones Homes offers home and land packages from \$1,324,400* including a dual occupancy design with an attached granny flat.

Visit your nearest McDonald Jones Homes display and view the current promotions:
mcdonaldjoneshomes.com.au/offers

For more information or to speak with the sales team contact 1800 647 155 or visit the Bingara Gorge Sales Office, 31 Pembroke Parade, Wilton NSW. Open seven days 10am – 5pm. *T&Cs apply.

