

Homes of the Year



LEFT: Slate floor tiles act like thermal banks and radiate warmth back into the rooms at night.

RIGHT: A solar pergola allows in the winter warmth and light but excludes the summer heat.

BELOW: The facade alludes to old Subiaco with its corrugated roofing and balcony with cross-braced balustrading.



Solar design wins acclaim

By FRANK PLATELL

JUDGES gave the Design for Climate award to a Jolimont home with an innovative and effective solution for an impossible site.

The entry from Tecto Solar Homes was for a narrow block running east-west with a 6.5m-high structure flanking the north side.

Basic requirements called for the house to be set back 13m from this side structure to allow the winter sun to permeate through the ground floor spaces. But the block itself in Halesworth Road was only 13m wide.

The owner was keen on the site after having lived across the road from the Goodridge playing fields for some years. Before

clinching the block purchase, architect Gary Baverstock, a solar expert, was consulted to see if he could come up with a concept to exploit the sun's winter warmth while excluding it in summer.