

Hello Sunshine

.... *feeling good*

Passive Solar People can be quite pro-active. They will promote the benefits of soaking up the sun with amounts of energy equal to that which Old Sol himself emits.

they enthuse over warming up in winter and cooling down in summer with the missionary zeal of an evangelist doubling as super salesperson for that great powerhouse in the sky we call the sun.

Passive Solar People (let's call them PSPs) fall into two categories: those who live in houses which are fascinating super-efficient structures of carefully chosen components and ideas, and those who design the houses - the architects who skillfully put the pieces together.

Close cousins of the PSPs are the ASPs (Active Solar People). ASPs go a little further, employing technical aids to gather even more of that free, abundant energy that shines down onto their dwellings.

Collectively all these people espouse the benefits of designing a home which maximises the harnessing of solar energy. All the stories they tell spell out the clear, irrefutable evidence of very significant savings in the cost of heating or cooling; of comfort zones surrounding you on either the hottest or coldest days; and, importantly, of experiencing well-being from knowing you are helping make the world a better place by saving on fossil fuels and providing a cleaner environment. The best story tellers are those who have "lived" the experience. In this and the next edition of *Homes & Living* we look



Facing page inset: Thick limestone is perfect high thermal mass material.

