

Bathed in glory

Another boy from Bassendean has put a shining local product on to the world stage.

ROLF Harris is not the only boy from Bassendean who can claim worldwide success. Jonathon Worner is the inventor of stainless-steel sheeted mosaic tiles, which can be found in the homes of celebrities such as Steven Spielberg and Celine Dion, and even feature as part of the kitchen set on the TV sitcom *Will and Grace*.

Manufactured by Alloy, Jonathon's family company in Bassendean, the tiles have now been picked up by Jamie Durie's landscaping company, Patio, and were the sparkling jewel of this year's Sydney in Bloom garden show as part of Patio's unique outdoor bathroom.

"The outdoor pool-for-two was designed to carefully

match the curves of the body and was created with Alloy stainless-steel tiles in mind," Jamie said.

"We've worked with them before and love their utilitarian, hi-tech, high-quality finish. Plus they're a world-class product designed and made in Australia."

Harriette Rowe, who designed the outdoor bath for Patio, said the idea of a heated spa or big pool did not appeal to everyone.

"We felt it would be nice instead to have a bath outdoors that you simply run, enjoy and empty afterwards," she said.

Harriette chose the Alloy tiles to create the effect of a precious metal inside cutaway limestone.

"The tiles look fantastic outdoors and really catch the sun," she said.

"We chose the brushed satin finish so there's minimal glare and the steel warms up quickly to the water temperature."

For the garden show, the bath was moulded in ply to mimic lying on a day-bed with the knees resting over the curve. In a conventional garden that form would be moulded in fibreglass.

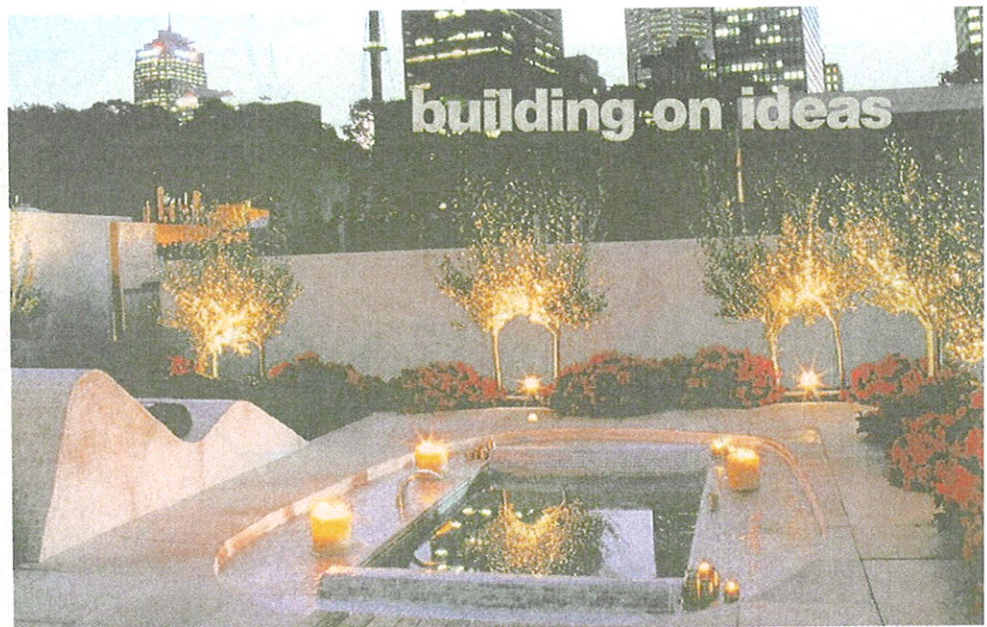
The tiles are then attached with high-quality tile adhesive and grouted with a sand-free, non-grit grout to avoid surface scratching.

The Alloy mosaic tile range encompasses a full range of metals – stainless steel, copper and brass – and are made from solid 2mm material.

They come in varying finishes, including mirror and brushed, range in price from \$480 to \$750/sq m, and are available locally from Attica Tiles in Subiaco.

The tiles are long lasting and require little care, like any metal. Over time the copper will exhibit oxidised hues with weathering.

GAIL ROBINSON



Jamie Durie's outdoor bath, lined with Alloy's gleaming stainless-steel mosaic tiles, was the talk of the town at the Sydney In Bloom garden show. The tiles were invented by Jonathon Worner, far left.