

# In the news

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SES worker Ben Gardiner surveys the destruction in the Sutton's home after the tornado.



Jim and Tania Sutton are happy to choose to rebuild with Summit Homes.

## Roof back over their heads

KIRSTEN HAYDU

**A** BUNBURY couple are back on their feet two years after having their lives torn apart by a storm that destroyed their home in June 2009.

That winter, only months after Jim and Tania Sutton had finished renovations to their home, a tornado ripped through their neighbourhood, tearing the roof off their residence and leaving the couple homeless.

Now the Sutton's lives have returned to normal and they have a new Summit Homes-built residence to show for it.

After considering selling the block and buying an established home, the Suttons viewed a Summit Homes display home in Dalyellup and decided they would build with the company.

"We felt like running away and didn't want to deal with it," Mrs Sutton said of deciding whether to buy or rebuild.

The Suttons, who had lived in their Moss Street home for more than a decade, were convinced by friends and neighbours to stay.

"We talked to some people who said we would be silly not to stay in such a reputable area and the neighbours heard we might be going and they didn't want us to go," Mrs Sutton said.

Summit Homes made the decision even easier by offering a personalised service.

"We didn't feel pressured by Summit to build, it was just really easy with them," she said.

"We weren't pushed into something we still weren't certain we wanted to do."

The house they chose from the Summit Homes New Generation range was a modified Price Buster 236.

"Building gave us the opportunity to have the things we missed out on in our other house," she said.

"Summit was always there for us, they were very helpful and quick to resolve any problems and they understood what we were going through."

The HIA-nominated rendered brick and Colorbond home took about 11 months to build and included extra roof strapping, galvanised lentils and reinforcing rods to ensure the home could weather any storm.

"It was daunting when the home was finished," Mr Sutton said.

"We couldn't believe it was really ours."

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