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ABLE SEAMAN MICHAEL BARNETT

When you live in the great metropolis that is Sydney choosing a home is less about amenity and more about the time it takes to get to and from work. The Barnett family would agree with this whole-heartedly. Able Seaman Michael Barnett, wife Brooke and children Cooper and Chase have lived in their Rozelle, NSW home for 12 months and couldn’t be happier with its location.

Rozelle is just across the Sydney Harbour Bridge from the CBD where Michael works, which is prime real estate in the Harbour city – although the Barnett’s didn’t realise this when they were trying to decide on a home prior to their posting.

‘I can walk to work, or ride, or get a bus,’ Michael said. ‘We locked the home in through Homefind without knowing the location. I told a friend about finding a place in a suburb called Rozelle and they said to take it before it was gone. When I spoke to DHA they had

already had two phone calls about the place, so I said we’d take it!’

When they arrived in Sydney they were firstly a little worried about their decision, and questioned if they had done the right thing by choosing a home so close to all the action.

‘To be honest the first time that we drove down the street we came along these little tiny streets with cars parked on either side and I just thought, wow we are in the CBD now,’ Michael said. ‘It was crazy, how was the removalist truck going to get down there? How are we going to live here?’

It took the young family a little while to adjust, but soon they were relishing the inner city living.

‘We moved here and sold both cars and the motorcycle!’ Michael said. ‘We just don’t need them anymore, that’s what I love about living in the city.’