



Croakers Hatch

Mega Watts house is high-tech temple of heat pump technology

Leading South Coast plumber Kevin Watts is putting the finishing touches to Manor View, his high-tech 10,000 square foot dream house near Southampton – with a mixture of high and low temperature heat pumps plus air conditioning units from Daikin UK to ensure it stays warm in winter and cool in summer.

Built into a sloping 3.5-acre property, the south-facing contemporary house is extensively glazed. Two floors of living space are visible at the front; the rear elevation includes a lower ground floor with swimming pool, gym, games room, bar and cinema room.

Over the past 25 years Kevin Watts has built his business into one of the largest plumbing concerns in the south, with a staff of 150. And from working with major housebuilders, he knows a lot about building – as well as plumbing and heating. No surprise, then, that it boasts the latest technology in all respects.

He says: “I’ve always wanted to build the house of my dreams, and this one fits the bill. It’s been two years in the making and it’s designed for how we live as a family.”

Three 14kW Daikin Altherma Low Temperature heat pumps fitted in a modular arrangement serve underfloor heating via a 200 litre buffer vessel to all 3 levels of the house. The underfloor heating also extends to the garage housing a collection of modern classic cars.

Two 11kW Daikin Altherma High Temperature heat pumps each housing a 260 litre unvented hot water cylinder provide domestic hot water and serve a Heatstar environmental control unit for the indoor pool area. In addition to controlling condensation, the unit maintains a comfortable environment around the pool and keeps the pool water heated within one degree of the surrounding air temperature.

Because of the potential for solar gain through the south facing windows, the house has 12 Daikin Emura air conditioning units in three capacities, serving top floor bedrooms, ground floor living areas and the entertainment areas on the lower ground floor. The units are served by four condensing units of various capacities outdoors.

All the Daikin systems at Manor View are controlled – alongside lights, window blinds and other features – through an HDL tablet-based home management system.

Year of installation

> 2018

Project requirements

- LT Split
- LT Mono
- HT Split
- Hybrid
- Combustion
- Smart Controls
- Solar Thermal
- UFH
- Air conditioning

Installed systems

- > Low Temperature Split 14 KW
- > High Temperature Split
- > Domestic hotwater cylinder
- > Emura
- > Split condensing unit

Kevin Watts says:

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“I’m using them at Manor View because I want the house to be as sustainable as possible and a heat pump efficiently converts energy from the air into usable ‘free’ heat. Our experience of living in the property for the first 9 months confirms this as our fuel bills have been surprisingly low.

There’s also an 6kW photovoltaic array facing due south on the roof, so that when the sun is shining I get even cheaper heating and hot water.

“The final bonus is that it’s provided a great training opportunity for my staff – and a showcase for their skills.”



Kit list

Code	Description	No of units
ERLQ014CW1	Daikin Altherma LT Outdoor Unit	3
EHBH16CB9W	Daikin Altherma LT Indoor Unit	3
ERSQ011AY1	Daikin Altherma HT Outdoor Unit	2
EKHB RD011ADY1	Daikin Altherma HT Indoor Unit	2
EKHTSU260AC	Daikin 260 litre unvented DHW cylinder	2
FTXG-LW	Daikin Emura wall mounted fan coil unit	12
3MXS52E	Daikin split condensing unit	4

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