

Barossa attracts a new generation

BRYAN LITTLELY

THE call of the Barossa has never been stronger, with employment and lifestyle opportunities driving large scale housing developments on the valley floor.

In Nuriootpa, there have been more than 170 new housing allotments approved in major land divisions in the past two years.

Small land divisions – cutting housing blocks in half – have taken to more than 200 the number of new allotments created in the growing township. And a further 350 new allotments have been approved for Nuriootpa and are in the process of being created.

Estates also have been growing in number and size in the surrounding townships of Tanunda, Greenock and Stockwell, with populations on the rise further afield in the district in Freeling and Kapunda.

The Wilson family are part

of the population growth spurt in Nuriootpa – moving there under the Skilled Regional Migration Program a year ago from Glasgow, Scotland, for physiotherapist Craig to take a new job.

“We’d done quite a bit of research back in the UK,” Mr Wilson, 37, said.

“We went to the Australia Expo in London and they impressed us with what they would do for us. We’d looked at other states but there was not as much help for us as there was in South Australia ... and the cost of housing was also an attraction.”

The Wilson family has bought a property in the new Barossa Estate on the outskirts of Nuriootpa and Mr Wilson said coming to a small community had been a bit of a culture shock.

“I don’t think we’re unique though,” he said.

“This is a lifetime choice – the kids are at school and they’re very happy, and that makes us happy.”



LIFESTYLE CHOICE: Craig Wilson plays with Calum and Emma among the vines. Picture: MICHAEL MARSCHALL