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Please pass around your office.

Let us know your staff members name's & we will send the next edition directly to them



PRO ACT. NEWS

February 2017

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This newsletter aims to find the good news and to push to the background any doom and gloom. Our year has opened optimistically, and we hope that yours and ours will continue to sparkle.

Recognise, act on, but don't get down by, then dispel the following causes of worry – Bourke St terror, CFA volunteers vs State Government issue; CBD homeless and opportunistic footpath dwellers; youth crime wave (including comparatively lesser building breaches which are in the news every second day), new anti establishment/anti regulatory stance by President Trump ("Repeal all burdens some Regulations") and all builder Trump admirers. Then there was the 1 in 100 year downpour in Melbourne, and the Falls Festival crowd crush. Please read on...

PROACT. GOOD NEWS

ProAct. Has received the Award of Best Mitcham Road Building Surveyor, 2016, as voted by ProAct. Staff. New staff (voters pictured).



Nikki-BuildingSurveying

Mark-BuildingSurveying

Melanie-Admin

Amanda- Admin

GUEST HEADLINE WRITER:

MARTY MAHER of Aireys Inlet

*Headline A New Year's Theory. By M Maher
Surf Coast News*

*I believe that 95% of the people in this world
are good people who just want to lead a
happy life and are doing their best to make it
happen, regardless of their circumstances.
(Regrettably) the other 5% get all the
publicity.*

SHODDY WORK – "Inferior work of any sort"

A Dictionary of Building John S. Scott Penguin Reference books 1964.

"Lives at Risk", "Residents forced out of buildings"
"Ceiling fails, stalactites the pointy end of faulty builds
crisis". These are just headlines of the last four weeks.

Colleagues like Dr Wesley Black, Stephen Kip, and the
Builders Collective of Australia President Phil Dwyer
have all been interviewed. Victoria is facing a crisis of
faulty, dangerous and leaking buildings according to
the Sunday Age of December 18, 2016.

It is fortuitous that Victoria has our readers – Building
Surveyors, Building Inspectors and Building
Consultants to help right the wrongs.

Laurie & Mort Knees Up

Imagine the scene. Epworth
Hospital, Richmond. Opposite
rooms. Laurie in one, Mort in
the other. Building consultants
across the passage! We are
glad you are back and running
around on site.



Building Consultants

Luke Stanistreet – Barrister, was
well received with his presentation
on "Experts & Advocates" at 2016
November Seminar of Australian
Institute of Building Consultants.
The AIBC is proud to announce in
receiving notification by the
Department of Finance, Services &
Innovation NSW that the AISC has
been named in The Strata Schemes
Management Act 2015 as a
recognised body which can establish
a strata inspector panel and appoint a
member as a Qualified Building
Inspector as defined under the act.

The March speaker will give an
insight into the world of the Building
Surveyors and his or her record
keeping which can assist all Building
Consultants.

Hear the Facts! (not the Post Truths,
Alternative Truths, or leapfrogging
gliding the lily pond truths). Yes, the
guest speaker is this writer, Drew
Wadsworth.



*Gaye's
Farewell
after 22
years with
ProAct*

*(more pictures
through- out the
newsletter)*



THE FASTEST PLANNERS PENS IN THE EAST!

Forget the fastest guns being in the west, "Know your Council" website says that Maroondah Council was quickest (at 29 days average) but neighbouring Manningham CC was on average more than 6 times slower. (Herald-Sun 23.11.2016). State Planning Minister Richard Wynne encouraged the winners.

This year, more so than late 2015 and 2016, expect to see these vehicles visit your building site. Almost on a random basis, either the VBA or the EPA are highly likely to visit. Neither the RBS, or the MBS will know, or maybe find out.

So remind your on site trades to welcome the official visitors.



Cowboys in Melbourne

The cowboys who unlawfully demolished the Corkman Irish Pub in Carlton in October face a 5 year maximum jail term or \$466,380 company fine. The individual fine will be \$93,276, also 5 years jail. Expected to be adopted by Parliament before Christmas.

No stable or hay for the cowboys horse in jail.

WOBO BECOMES ACTIVE AGAIN.... Founder Omkar Nath Channan

World Organisation of Building Officials

We are focussing in special consultative status category with economic and social council of the United Nations Industrial Development Organisation.

Effective 16th January, 2017, new officers were elected to serve the organization. They are: Paul Myers became the President, Raymond Y.M. Chan, Vice President and Majed Dabdoub, Secretary/Treasurer.

All communications should be addressed to Majed Dabdoub, Dabdoub & Associates LLC., 7357 East Kemper Road, Suite A, Cincinnati, Ohio 45249, United States (Tel: +(513) 208-2056, E-mail: majed@dabdoub.net).

It will be our intent to re-establish relations with all the United Nation agencies, as well as open dialogue with several other world financial organizations. With your help, we will promote WOBO in every country of the world.

On behalf of the entire membership, I wish to express our appreciation for the contributions made by National Fire Protection Association, Quincy, Massachusetts, USA and Raymond Chan Surveyors Limited, Hong Kong for operating WOBO's Secretariat. Special thanks are also due to Chartered Association of Building Engineers, England.

Also, special recognition to former President Imad Eldurubi, former Vice President Tim Ward and former Secretary/Treasurer Robert Solomon.

Grateful thanks to former President Lt. General George D. Miller, Vice President Martin Reiss and Secretary/Treasurer Raymond Y.M. Chan.

We will reach out soon to the membership with news regarding our progress. We look forward to serving the membership, and promoting building safety throughout the world.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Paul E. Myers'.

Paul Myers, President

SIZE SEEMS TO MATTER

Whilst it hasn't hit the Building Regulations yet, or the NCC, let me relate the unfolding research by the press.

Herald Sun 17/12/2106 p5 "Dog Boxes bit dust". Being enforced from March is the Planning Ministers "Better Apartment Design Standards". Main bedrooms to be 3.4m x 3m. Other bedrooms 3m x 3m ceiling heights 2.7m. storage 5 cubic metres to 12 cubic metres.

Herald Sun 12/1/2017 p18 "Balcony the big deal" from March minimum outdoor space of 8 square metres and 1.8m or 2m minimum dimension. Cramped apartments are harder to sell.

Herald Sun 13/1/2017 "New Deal for Dog Boxes" Welcomed by Archicentre Australia. Rules also include basic standards for natural light, ventilation and noise impact to obtain a Planning Permit.

The Age 19/1/2017 P2 "Buyers on Alert: Size is important"

Purchasers of "off the plan" apartments, approved previously (2012) but being finished now may struggle to finance their commitment. The Age says, the previous 11.2 square metres is smaller than the smallest Jayco caravan.

So the wheel has turned full circle. I wonder will we return to the old toilet width to be wide enough to turn the pages of a broad sheet newspaper?

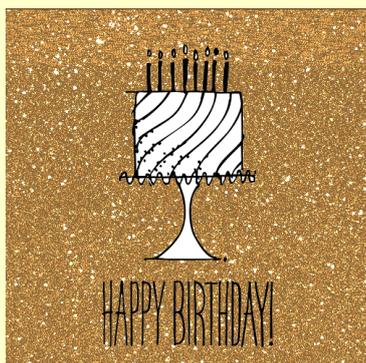
SALUTE IAN EILENBERG

It all started 45 years ago when Ian used to get Building Permits from me at the Melbourne City Council.

Then 25 years ago, he kindly signed my application to become a Building Consultant.

I wish him well, as he advises of a medical diagnosis that he has decided to only taking on selected project.

As I write he is having a Birthday.



GAYE'S FAREWELL



DELICATE DIPLOMACIES

(with help from that master “Kissinger like” Diplomat Allan Mills, Building Consultant).

I wish to convey seasonal greetings to everyone and without offending any human under Section 18c of the Racial Discrimination Act.

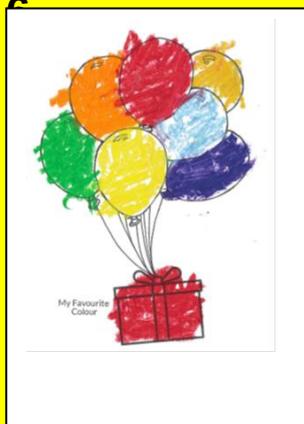
Please accept, without obligation, implied or implicit, my best wishes for an environmentally conscious, socially responsible, low stress, non-addictive, gender neutral celebration of the summer solstice holiday, practiced with the most enjoyable traditions of religious persuasion or secular practices of your choice with respect for the religious / secular persuasions and / or traditions of others, or their choice not to practice religious or secular traditions at all. I also wish you a fiscally successful, personally fulfilling and medically uncomplicated, recognition of the onset of the generally accepted calendar of choice of other cultures whose contributions to society have helped make our country great (not to imply that our country is necessarily greater than any other country) and without regard to the race, creed, colour, age, physical ability, religious faith or sexual preference of the wisher.

NOTE: this greeting is subject to clarification or withdrawal. It is freely transferable with no alteration to the original greeting. It implies no promise by the wisher to actually implement any of the wishes for her / him or others and is void where prohibited by law, and is revocable at the sole discretion of the wisher.

Name withheld (Privacy Act)

ProAct's World Vision Sponsor Child Christmas Message for

2016



Don't forget us ask to be put on our Froggy Friday Funnies email list.

And we guarantee a laugh every week



Gaye's Farewell Funny
Photo's

HELP LINE

We look forward to hearing from you.

Drew, Ainslie, Rory, Nikki, Mark, Melanie, Amanda and Di

Subscribe to ProAct News or Froggy Friday dwadsworth@proactconsult. To keep in touch with our view of the world. If you no longer wish this, please reply "unsubscribe".

REBUILDING AFTER INEVITABLE CATASTROPHE

Recall Ash Wednesday, Black Saturday, Wye River, Northern Victoria/Murray River Floods, Victorian Tornadoes. Similarly Canberra, Hobart, SA Peninsular Fires. Presume the affected community will take at least 10 years to heal, get back on its feet.

An innovative but low key test case to rebuild communities starting in the first days after the bushfire or other events is quietly being created in Anglesea. The basis is the Community Based Emergency Management approach (CBEM).

Victoria's facilitator is Steve Cameron and Anglesea resident, and he is promoting that communities recover quicker when the community has a large slab of the ownership of the plans and actions leading forward. (This overturns the Black Saturday model of government and associated bodies parachuting into town with a desk and a blackboard and a pile of applications forms).

Already launched is the Anglesea **Community Network** with three addresses

- a) The Anglesea Community House,
- b) anglesea.org.au website, and
- c) constant updating by members of the community at both addresses, eg to absentee landowners of holiday homes etc.

Other communities should sit up and take note.

Are we ready for this New Reality?

We already know about Trump led "Alternative Truths" which might not be truths at all. We already believe there are imported inferior building products which carry compliance stickers because they look pretty (but not compliant).

We have Uber Taxis, which are not taxis.

We have home cooked meals from Menulog and Deliveroo taking over from supermarkets for food supply at "eating" times of the day. Airbnb tourist accommodation which are not hotels. Fledgling restaurants, maybe in a home which don't have tables and chairs or expensive restaurant fit outs, but do have a home delivery motorbike.

The answer to the above is consult our young readers as they have embraced a reliance on digital technology.

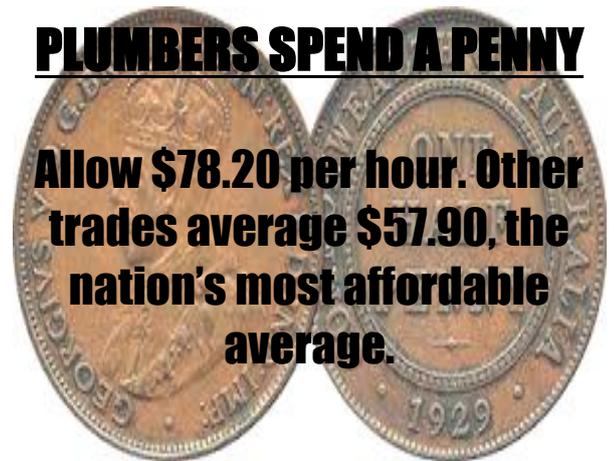
What is next? Menulogs parent company, like Dominos in Australia with its drones is trialling robot deliveries in congested London.

So Building Consultants and Building Surveyors - buy your drone or robot to climb walls or fly over your building inspections.

At the ASBC - we saw that Marius Schreuders has his Drone Air Wing.

PLUMBERS SPEND A PENNY

Allow \$78.20 per hour. Other trades average \$57.90, the nation's most affordable average.



SPEAKING OF DRONES - A VERY POPULAR CHRISTMAS GIFT

Along the Great Ocean Road, due to drone popularity, the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) warned readers of the surf coast times to respect people's privacy, and operate 30m from a person or groups of people. See: Casa.gov.au/aircraft/landing - page / flying - drones - australia.

