



Austral Bricks helps 'Build for a Cure'

Brickworks and its employees have long been a supporter of the vital work of the Children's Cancer Institute, researching the causes, prevention, better treatments, and ultimately a cure for childhood cancer.

As part of International Childhood Cancer Awareness month in September, the Children's Cancer Institute has held the first ever 'Build for a Cure' project which started on 8 September.

Build for a Cure is a major fundraising initiative which has seen a home in Sydney's west built and fully furnished within 21 days. Austral Bricks joined forces with McDonald Jones Homes to build the opulent 4 bedroom 'Havana One' home. The home sits on 500m² of land in Glenmore Park, donated by Wearn Brothers Group and will be auctioned by The Block's celebrity auctioneer, Damien Cooley on Sunday 26th October.

Supported by The Block's Scott Cam and former winners Brad and Lara, Build for a Cure has featured across mainstream media including onsite interviews on A Current Affair, Channel 9 Mornings program, live weather crosses on the Channel 9 Weekend Today program as well as radio coverage on 2GB.

Tradies from across Sydney converged on the site to ensure the home was constructed to a high standard and in record time.

The fundraising project uses the imaginative slogan "We don't need a miracle, just the funds to make it happen."

CCIA's executive director, Professor Michelle Haber AM, said she is "thrilled that Children's Cancer Institute is the beneficiary of Build for a Cure, a wonderfully innovative project" and "blown away by the generosity of our three key partners who are making this happen: McDonald Jones Homes, the Wearn Brothers Group and Austral Bricks."

Read more at buildforacure.org.au, where you can also make a personal donation to support the vital work of the Children's Cancer Institute Australia.

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Sydney's newest landmarks taking shape

Two major projects that will redefine Sydney are well underway, with one approaching its highly anticipated conclusion.

The new Business School at University of Technology Sydney, has attracted considerable media and public attention. Its main elevation is clad in brickwork and has been compared to a "crumpled paper bag."

The building is designed by Canadian-American "starchitect" Frank Gehry whose previous designs have long attracted controversy and ultimately adulation.

The brickwork demanded a method of construction never before contemplated, let alone realised. Most brick walls are vertical and straight. Curving a brick wall is relatively easy but having a wall that also slopes outwards at 26 degrees from the vertical was a massive challenge.

Bowral Bricks rose to the challenge and produced five special shaped bricks that fit into an ingenious system developed by engineers AECOM (with input from Brickworks technical, sales and production staff) that ties them into a backing wall ... all without falling over.

The facade construction concluded recently and the building is expected to be ready for its first students in early 2015.

Not far away, the Barangaroo project is converting a 22 hectare derelict waterfront site into a \$6 billion blend of residential, commercial and recreational precincts.

Austral Masonry's Magnumstone system is being used to construct 1.8 kilometres of retaining walls in Barangaroo Headland Park. The six hectare site fronting Sydney Cove will be open for public and community use, with unique tidal rock pools, lookouts, and walking and cycling tracks.

The giant blocks – the basic units weigh a massive 621 kilograms – are lifted into position using the boom of an excavator. Constructing a Magnumstone retaining wall couldn't be easier, according to Daniel De Chellis, site foreman for the constructor, Regal Innovations. "There's nothing hard about it. It's very straightforward."

Austral Precast is also delivering precast concrete panels into the project for the



Above: The controversial brick facade of the Business School is an engineering tour de force.

Right: The bricklaying at UTS was painstakingly slow but has produced a spectacular result.

Below: Despite their massive size, Magnumstone blocks are easily and quickly lifted into position at Barangaroo Headland Park.

construction of the first two residential apartments on the site.

The Barangaroo Headland Park project is expected to be complete next year but construction in the commercial and residential precincts will continue until 2023.



WA Design Studio extends network

Brickworks Building Products has opened its fourth Design Studio, this time in Perth at 67 King Street, in a fine heritage building in the capital's fashionable west end.

Also in the street are Louis Vuitton, Chanel and Tiffany. The Design Studio is a showroom and selection centre for the Brickworks brands but with its uncluttered arrangement of low-key displays, it has more of a gallery ambiance.

The focus is on the informal gathering spaces that allow customers and studio consultants to discuss projects and requirements. The space will also host events and presentations that

will attract building industry professionals.

The Design Studio is an exciting development for Brickworks as it provides the company's building product brands with a premium street profile in a high end location.

The new Perth Design Studio joins those in Sydney, Melbourne and Adelaide, and the network will soon be completed with studios in Brisbane and Hobart.



La Paloma Euro style and sophistication

After the successful introduction of terracotta roof tiles from Spanish manufacturer La Escandella Ceramica, Brickworks has taken the next step and introduced a range of bricks from Spain, the La Paloma series, marketed under its Austral Bricks brand.

The new range continues and extends the revolutionary changes in brick design that began with metallic finishes such as the Elements series and the high gloss surfaces of the popular Burlesque and Dynasty ranges.

There are four colours in the La Paloma series: Miro, a clean white; Gaudi, a charcoal black; Picasso, a fiery and flamboyant red; and Dali, a soft, neutral dove grey.

The La Paloma revolution also extends to its size range. As well as the conventional Australian Standard brick size, the four colours will be available in two panoramic formats: a slimline 230 x 110 x 50mm high and a wide-format 290 x 110 x 76mm.

La Paloma bricks will be available through Austral Bricks' nationwide Design Centre network and selected resellers.



Above: The colours of La Paloma bricks are extremely clean and even.

Brickworks brands dominate architecture awards

Austral Bricks, Bowral Bricks and Austral Masonry scooped the pool at the 2014 Think Brick Awards. The winning entrants were announced at a gala event in Melbourne in August.

The Awards are conducted by Think Brick Australia in conjunction with the Roofing Tile Association of Australia and the Concrete Masonry Association. The cash prize pool totals \$50,000 plus a trip for two to the 2016 Venice Biennale flying business class for the Grand Prix winner.

Projects using Brickworks brands won the Grand Prix as well as three of the five categories.

The Grand Prix and the Horbury Hunt Commercial Award went to architects Bates Smart for the UNSW Kensington Colleges, a celebration of the diversity of brickwork and considered by the judges to be "a compelling suite of buildings that exploit the inherent qualities and innovative potential of brick to great effect."

The Horbury Hunt Residential Award went to the Aperture House by Brisbane architects Cox Rayner Architects in association with Twofold Studio, described by the judges as "a series of artful and finely crafted brick elements (that) create spaces, edges and openings that are inherently adaptable and atmospheric."

The newly-created Kevin Borland Masonry Award went to the Clayfield House, another Brisbane entry by architects Richards and Spence. This project made

extraordinary use of polished masonry throughout its minimalist interior.

Bristile Roofing's new Port Macquarie office was a finalist in the Roof Tile Excellence Awards, also newly created. It was commended for its creative use of roof tiles as a wall cladding.

Brickworks Building Products congratulates the winners and thanks all 281 entrants who made this year's Think Brick Awards such a success.



Above: UNSW's Kensington Colleges, a complex of five buildings accommodating 922 students, was the Grand Prix winner at the 2014 Think Brick Awards.

Right: Bristile Roofing's innovative new Port Macquarie office was a finalist in the roof tile section of the Think Brick Awards.

Wormy Chestnut

From furniture to flooring and fit-outs

Auswest Timbers new Victorian hardwood, Wormy Chestnut, is showing its versatility in a wide variety of applications.

Once considered a low value timber because of its unique character marks – no two sections of Wormy Chestnut are alike – these same features are now attracting attention from industry and consumers alike.

It recently had a starring role on The Block, Nine Network's popular renovation program. Contestants Chris and Jenna chose Wormy Chestnut for the treads of the U-shaped staircase in the apartment they were renovating.

The staircase was fabricated by Jamin Wheeler of Jamin Wheeler Staircases. Melbourne furniture manufacturer Total Bedroom is using Wormy Chestnut to make upmarket architectural quality furniture such as dining tables, buffets, entertainment units and bedroom furniture.

Owner Stace Karikas builds his furniture in a number of timber species, both imported and local, but his face lights up when he talks about Wormy Chestnut.

"It's the character of it, the grain feature, the natural worm holes and where the fires have gone through, all that smoke from the forest fires, and the bugs boring through it leaving their mark. It just looks alive!" Stace says enthusiastically.

Wormy Chestnut is gaining in popularity for commercial and retail fit-outs, such as the Schnitz fast food outlets located in numerous shopping centre food courts. Smaller fit-outs include Two Brothers, a Melbourne cafe, also make excellent use of Wormy Chestnut's distinctive character.



Above: This fine buffet highlights the qualities that have made Wormy Chestnut popular.

Left: The individual character of Wormy Chestnut is prominent in this cafe fit-out, Two Brothers in Mitcham VIC.

Slate-like roof tile sets a new benchmark

Bristile Roofing has introduced an exciting new addition to their La Escandella Ceramica range of premium quality, Spanish made terracotta roof tiles.

Planum Blackstone roof tiles combine a contemporary flat profile with a traditional slate-like texture and the timeless elegance of a deep charcoal grey colour.

They are flat and light with superior frost resistance, while still achieving a strength rating almost equal to that of stone. In addition, their unique weatherproofing design allows Planum Blackstone tiles to be laid on roofs with a pitch as low as 15 degrees.

Like all La Escandella Ceramica terracotta roof tiles, Planum Blackstone comes with Bristile Roofing's exclusive Colour for Life



Above: The slate-like texture of Planum Blackstone terracotta roof tiles is combined with a contemporary flat profile.

Warranty, which guarantees that the tile colour will not alter during its long life.

Planum Blackstone roof tiles are as at home in traditional designs as they are in

contemporary applications where the light slate-like texture subtly complements their simple geometry.

Heavyweight Champions

Pavement construction in Austral Masonry's Techpave 100 concrete pavers recently concluded at the extension to Patricks Container Terminal at Sydney's Port Botany.

The project required laying over 60,000 square metres of the heavy duty pavers by Perth-based specialists ACP Hardstand Solutions. The company used advanced mechanical laying equipment to speed construction and lower costs.

Although it may seem logical to use mass concrete or asphalt, concrete pavers offer considerable advantages in heavy duty applications such as this where containers will be stacked three high and accessed by 65 tonne automated straddle carriers.

Austral Masonry cast the pavers in a special mould that arranged them in the final laying pattern. The mechanical laying machine simply picked up a layer of the pavers from a pallet and deposited it into the pattern.

This was the first time ACP has used Austral Masonry's Techpave 100 heavy-duty concrete pavers with the resulting project an outstanding success. As well as ports, heavy-duty concrete pavers are also finding a ready market in airports, car parks, intermodal terminals, mining sites, and more.



Above: On site with ACP Hardstand's Ian Carswell (left) and Austral Masonry's Mark Webb.

The House of Bamboo

You may not have heard of salutogenic design. It's the concept that the quality of the built environment has an influence on our health.

At first glance, precast concrete seem to be an unlikely material for a healing environment but the mellow, tactile exterior of the Nepean Mental Health Centre in Penrith NSW says otherwise.

Substantial wall areas of the new treatment centre are decorated with an attractive bamboo pattern that is engraved into the precast concrete wall surface using a formliner, a process Austral Precast calls PermaForm, part of its PermaTech suite of precast concrete decorative finishes.

A patterned rubber liner is placed in the casting mould base. For this project it carried the bamboo pattern. A wide range of off-the-shelf formliners are available, as well as custom liners that are often created for logos.

The Nepean panels were finished on site using Austral Precast's PermaTint process. The top colour is a specially-formulated weathered green, underlaid by a gold-bronze base that in some light conditions becomes more prominent.

"The design sought to create a building that fits with the colour palette of the surrounding environment," explains Domenic Alvaro, principal of architects Woods Bagot. "The copper green colour and natural patina of the precast concrete panels has depth and tactility, providing a unique 'on weathering' finish that will continue to evolve over time."



Above: The Nepean Mental Health Centre walls are finished in an engraved bamboo pattern and coloured using Austral Precast's PermaTint system.

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