

## WESTPAC BARANGAROO OFFICE AWARDED HIGHEST SCORING GREEN STAR RATING IN AUSTRALIA

Westpac Group's fitout in Tower Two of Barangaroo's International Towers Sydney has achieved a 6 Star Green Star Interiors rating from the Green Building Council of Australia (GBCA). The project received the highest number of Green Star points achieved by any office fitout in Australia. Notable design features of the fitout include an extensive metering system that monitors major energy and water usage, using materials with lower environmental impact such as 95% reused, recycled, certified or best practice timber and PVC among other features.

The GBCA's Chief Executive Officer, Romilly Madew applauds Westpac for demonstrating leadership and setting an example for other institutions on a global scale. "The rating reflects Westpac's ongoing commitment to reducing its environmental impact. This commitment is increasingly expected by investors and consumers alike – the latter increasingly looking for evidence that companies are walking the talk," Ms Madew said.

Westpac's John Harries, Group General Manager, Operations, Property and Commercial Services said, "We are proud that we've been able to support the Barangaroo precinct's goal of becoming Australia's first carbon neutral community. In addition to receiving the highest score, we are also in a 6 Star Green Star Building, with the first 6 Star Green Star bank branch – St. George."



Westpac Offices, Barangaroo NSW

Following an assessment across nine categories, the fitout was awarded maximum points for reduced water consumption, reduced dependency on private transport, minimising harm and enhancing the quality of local ecologies and encouraging sustainability practices throughout the fitout's design, construction and operation. "As well as reducing our environmental footprint, our emphasis has been on designing a workplace that provides flexibility and choice to help build an adaptable, health-conscious workforce," Mr Harries said.

This latest rating builds on Westpac Group's growing list of world leading credentials in

this area. Recognised as the world's most sustainable bank for the 10th time in the 2017 Dow Jones Sustainability Index, a number of the Group's properties have been awarded the 6 Star Green Star rating. This includes Bank of Melbourne's flagship branch at 525 Collins Street, the St. George branch at Barangaroo, and the Westpac branch at 150 Collins Street Melbourne.

Green Star is an internationally recognised sustainability rating system for the design, construction and operation of buildings, fitouts and communities. 6 Star is the highest rating achievable and represents a world leading sustainable fitout.

## GROUNDBREAKING COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT WELCOMES FIRST RESIDENTS

Greenland Australia celebrated successful settlement of its latest residential project, Leichhardt Green, welcoming its first residents to the newly completed 287 apartment development, one of the first significant urban refill projects of its kind in Leichhardt.

The celebration took place at Leichhardt Green and was attended by new residents, politicians, the Managing Director of Greenland Australia, Mr Sherwood Lou and Managing Director of Richard Crookes Constructions, Mr Jaimie Crookes, among others.

With 100% of the 200 apartments in Stage One already settled, residents have started moving in and already enjoying the convenience of being so close to the heart of Leichhardt. The remaining apartments in Stage Two of Leichhardt Green will commence settlement in the coming weeks.

New resident to Leichhardt Green and participant in the celebration event, Alex Zeng today said "my fiancé and I are thrilled to have purchased our first property at Leichhardt Green. When we were first taken to Leichhardt Green, we really appreciated the urban feel of the design. We really liked the choice of colours and the usage of the brick exterior as part of the design."

"It got better as we entered the apartment to inspect. We noted that great care was taken in designing and aligning both the exterior and interior of the apartments. For the interior, there were several key factors that were important to us and Leichhardt Green offered all of them," Mr Zeng added.

"We wanted large windows and balcony doors to allow plenty of light, wooden floors for the living areas and spacious open areas. Since moving in, it has been a very comfortable experience and my fiancé has made the apartment look amazing with her decorations and great taste."

"We are really looking forward to a long future here. It only takes me a few minutes walk to get to the train station and I am in town ready to work in around 20 minutes."

Designed by award winning architects, Bates Smart, Leichhardt Green offers residents village style living with lush landscaped



Greenland Australia's team at the opening



Leichhardt Green, NSW

gardens covering more than half the development, a lap pool, as well as a carefully curated mix of retail on the ground floor.

Located near the centre of Leichhardt, it's close proximity to an already established and well connected community was a key factor for many purchasers, particularly those wanting to be walking distance to a train station.

Greenland Australia Managing Director, Sherwood Luo, today said "Greenland is proud to welcome its first residents to their new home at Leichhardt Green. This project is a prime example of our company's commitment to delivering well designed apartments in locations that already offer the services, amenity and sense of community that residents desire."

"It is very rewarding to see the site of a former factory in such a key location, so effectively transformed into a new urban precinct that connects with the local neighbourhood so seamlessly," Mr Luo added.

Settlement of Leichhardt Green is a milestone worthy of celebration for Greenland Australia, as it marks the successful completion of its third Sydney project, following the Primus Hotel in the CBD in 2015 and Lucent in North Sydney in 2016. Greenland Australia is also looking forward to settling its next project, Omnia at Potts Point, later this year.



Paul Fletcher  
Minister for Urban  
Infrastructure and Cities

### RECORD LEVELS OF INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT

Across Australia, there are cranes on the skyline of our cities – a powerful reminder of the construction boom that is being driven by the Turnbull Government's record levels of infrastructure investment. The Turnbull Government is spending on infrastructure around the country at record levels. We have committed to spend \$50 billion by 2020 – and we are well on track to meet that commitment.

In the 2017 budget we made a further commitment to invest \$75 billion over the next ten years. This record spending is designed to get vital airport, road and rail infrastructure projects underway around the country – and it is having the desired effect. Construction work is under way on more than 100 projects funded by the Turnbull Government, and a further 130 projects are currently in pre-construction planning. Commonwealth budget figures show an average infrastructure spend exceeding \$8bn a year from fiscal 2014 to fiscal 2021. By contrast, over the six years of the previous Labor government, average spending on infrastructure was just over \$6bn a year.

From NorthConnex in Sydney to the M80 Ring Road in Melbourne to the Perth METRONET, the Turnbull Government is supporting tens of thousands of jobs in the construction industry and beyond. According to the Australian Bureau of Statistics' engineering construction survey, the value of "work yet to be done" for projects already commenced on transport infrastructure for the public sector is at a record high. It currently stands at a level 60% higher than the peak under Labor in fiscal 2011.

According to the Commonwealth Bank, the lift in public infrastructure spending in fiscal 2018 will generate an extra 36,000 jobs in Australia. The Turnbull Government's infrastructure investment is creating unprecedented opportunities for the construction industry. We are backing you, and we are backing jobs.

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Richard Guerra  
Managing Director (SA)  
Donald Cant Watts Corke

**DELIVERING A HEALTHY FUTURE**

South Australia's health industry has been an exciting space over the past few years; with the government investing heavily in health sector infrastructure, future-proofing our state and the health services provided.

Health services around the country are regularly having to contend with the increased expectations of patients and the wider community when it comes to their level of health care. In response to the changing demands there has been a boost in redeveloping hospitals in our state, with developments that have focused on using existing infrastructure more effectively to meet the changing needs of the community.

The Lyell McEwin Hospital, Modbury Hospital and Queen Elizabeth Hospital have seen upgrades to their existing infrastructure, enabling a wider range of services and programmes; the ever increasing demand on modern health services will also see further developments at these hospitals in the future.

Through our experience on the new Royal Adelaide Hospital as Independent Certifier, combined with the wider team's health sector (as well as other industries') experience, our group of highly skilled professionals pride ourselves in the specialist knowledge we bring to projects. We understand the changing needs of the health sector and are constantly updating our techniques and technologies to maintain our trusted advisor reputation – whether it be in Quantity Surveying, Project Management, Advisory or Facilities Management.

With the amount of funds the South Australian Government is injecting into the health sector, Donald Cant Watts Corke remains committed to delivering health facilities that are of the highest quality and achieve maximum value for money.

**MIRVAC TOPS OUT WATERLOO DEVELOPMENT – THE FINERY**



On 18 December 2017 Mirvac celebrated the topping out of the sixth and final building at its inner-Sydney residential development, The Finery.

The milestone recognised the achievements of the many workers who were involved in transforming the former HPM Legrand factory at Waterloo into an inner-city oasis, comprising 223 apartments and terrace homes, a heavily landscaped central courtyard and an array of boutique retail outlets.

Mirvac's CEO and Managing Director, Susan Lloyd-Hurwitz, who marked the topping out alongside NSW Treasurer and Minister for Industrial Relations, Dominic Perrottet, said the ceremony highlighted the contribution of residential construction to the wider economy.

"First and foremost, we are building homes in a place where people want to live, close to the city and important infrastructure such as schools, universities, parks and shopping centres," said Ms Lloyd-Hurwitz. "And we are

also creating jobs; not just onsite, but all the way down the supply chain, a benefit that has played a major role in making the New South Wales economy the strongest in the country."

The Finery, which consists of a range of open plan, one, two and three bedroom apartments, as well as two bedroom terrace homes, sits within the Green Square Urban Renewal Area. It has been designed to create a human scaled village-like environment making it easier for residents to connect with each other and the broader community.

Residents will have access to a rooftop entertainment area with a sundeck, outdoor kitchen, lounge chairs and plunge pool while at the heart of the building, the landscaped courtyard will be a wild oasis in the city, designed to counter the urban heat island effect of hard surface roads and buildings.

Completion of The Finery is expected mid-2018, with limited apartments available for sale.

**2018 NAWIC INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY SCHOLARSHIP**

Dr Phillippa Carnemolla, an industrial designer, researcher and design educator, has been awarded the 2018 National Association of Women in Construction (NAWIC) International Women's Day Scholarship. The scholarship, valued at \$20,000 and presented at a breakfast in Sydney on 27 March, provides funding for a research paper that will benefit and empower women in the Australian construction industry.

The NAWIC scholarship, now in its 10th year, is generously funded by design furniture,

lighting and accessory company, CULT. Dr Carnemolla, a postdoctoral research fellow at the University of Technology Sydney, will analyse high school girls' perceptions of careers in the construction industry and trade.

"NAWIC is committed to building a diverse and dynamic construction workforce in which women can fully participate. Phillipa's research will help us to advance this mission," says NAWIC's National Chair, Helen Badger.

For the full article visit: [www.nawic.com.au](http://www.nawic.com.au)



Chris Knierim  
National President  
Building Design Association

**REXEL'S MANAGEMENT DELIVERS RAVENHALL PROJECT ON TIME**

Rexel has delivered an innovative and cost effective solution in the supply of lighting and electrical products for the Ravenhall Correctional Centre in Victoria. For this prison installation the lighting fixtures, exits and emergency fittings had extensive and diverse features, so consultation with lighting manufacturers and careful consideration regarding their performance were paramount to the end result.

The extra challenge For the Ravenhall project was to ensure that all product deliverables were available onsite over many critical delivery dates. The Rexel team applied its extensive experience and worked closely with suppliers using a high level of project planning to assist in countering any unforeseen delays, which ensured that the project was completed on time.

**DESIGNBUILD 2018: IT'S ALL IN THE DETAIL**

The only dedicated trade show to bring together Australia's built environment community, DesignBUILD, is returning for its 32<sup>nd</sup> year for three days of unrivalled networking and inspiration. Hosted from Wednesday 2 to Friday 4 May, with a central theme of 'it's all in the detail', DesignBUILD 2018 features a trade exhibition that will showcase leading service providers such as PowerHouse prefabricated homes, Wattyl Paint and Swiss Krono Group.

Alongside the trade exhibition are two paid speaker and education programmes, curated to cover the themes of industry compliance, sustainability and innovation. This includes panel discussions on topics such as build to rent, property resale and commercial buildings of the future. The DesignBUILD speaker programme provides access to leading industry professionals who will discuss new products, policy and applications needed to keep ahead of the game.

Keynote speakers Michael McCormack (Milieu Property Group), Robert Simeoni (Robert Simeoni Architects) and Simon Knott (BKK Architects) will be joining the town planners and design panel to discuss how the growth of Melbourne as an international city depends on a successful working relationship between developers, architects and town planners.

Alongside the speaker programme, DesignBUILD's 'Incubator' is a creative pavilion at the trade show that champions innovative thinkers and gives them a proven, commercial platform to launch their inventions.

The five most innovative entries are judged by an industry advisory panel against a set of criteria covering: innovation, creative, sustainability and proposed impact on industry.

In another project, DesignBUILD's RAW allows university students from architecture and design disciplines to experience the full tender and construction process as they compete to have their designs built as key feature areas on the show floor.

Conference director Pia Argiratos says this year's event will be empowering and relevant, and will include three panels led by respected architecture and design journalist Stephen Crafti.

The discussions will be focused on: whether property speculation is compromising design outcomes; innovations in multi-level development; and how architects and town planners can collaborate rather than clash, for mutual benefit.

"DesignBUILD is about bringing together people who are talking about the big topics that the industry is starting to deal with. It's bringing together industry leaders to be able to lead discussions on this," says Argiratos.

"I'm really pleased we are able to bring in a number of important topics that people need to know about. DesignBUILD is an opportunity for people to come together and not only learn about the latest products and innovation, but also to pause and reflect where the industry could do better."



**GREEN BUILDING: THE WAVE OF TODAY**

Many people refer to green building as the wave of the future. In our minds, however, environmentally conscious building design must and urgently be a thing of the present. One look at today's newspapers and news sites will show you stories about the perils of pollution, global warming, and climate change. Our global environment is clearly embroiled in a crisis situation, and it is the responsibility of each individual to play their own due role in saving the earth.

Green building involves sustainable and environmentally sound design build practices. From the planning phase to the construction of the finished project, green builders keep an eye toward preserving the environment, establishing the efficient and constructive use of water and energy, safeguarding the health of homeowners and business employees, and alleviating the accumulation of un-recyclable products and pollution.

Among the primary objectives of the Building Designers Association of Australia (BDA Australia) is to promote and encourage ethical conduct and sound business practice in the Building Design profession. As the National President, I always have regarded green building as the epitome of ethical conduct and sound business practice. For more than 25 years, I have striven to study, perfect, and improve upon the world's best practices in sustainable design.

My passion for environmentally sustainable building design even lead to the establishment of Code Green; an international award winning company focused on creating truly sustainable structures.

It is the goal and objective of both Code Green and the Building Designers Association of Australia; to ensure that every construction dotting the national and global landscape will play its own special role in saving and preserving that landscape.



Neil Savery  
General Manager  
Australian Building  
Codes Board

**PERFORMANCE BASED NATIONAL CONSTRUCTION CODE**

Australia's building and plumbing regulations, contained within the National Construction Code (NCC), are performance based, meaning they mandate the outcome that must be attained, but do not prescribe the means by which this is achieved. They are also the minimum deemed necessary so that they are proportional in dealing with the identified subject, as well as having a verifiable evidence base to support their establishment.

This approach allows for flexibility in the market place, is risk based, delivers net societal benefits, provides for unique project circumstances and promotes innovation, which often becomes mainstream within the industry over time.

With both the scope and pace of technological disruption being experienced in the building sector, including advances in construction methodologies and increasingly complex building design, performance based building and plumbing regulation is more important than ever.

As part of its focus on ensuring that practitioners operating in this rapidly changing environment have improved awareness of access to and understanding of the NCC; the ABCB is investing heavily in increasing the use of performance through the quantification of the Performance Requirements, mindset change of practitioners through collaboration with key sector participants and capacity building through the development of a range of educational materials and other tools.

This work is being accompanied by improving the usability of the NCC, both as an online document, but also through its readability and inter-operability with referenced standards.

The aim of this initiative, many features of which are available to practitioners on the ABCB website at [www.abcb.gov.au](http://www.abcb.gov.au), is to help increase productivity and improve building outcomes.

**MONTLAUR STEERS 10-YEAR MASTERPLAN AT MARCELLIN COLLEGE**

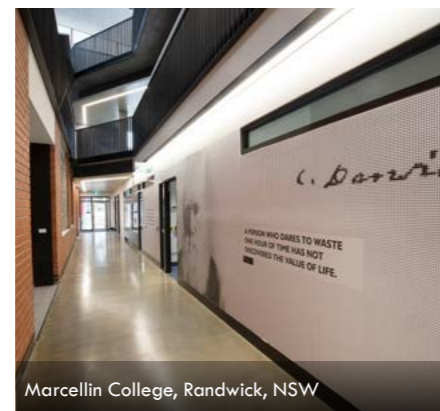
Montlaur Project Services was appointed in 2014 to manage a masterplan and feasibility study for Marcellin College.

The leading Catholic Marist boys' school was founded in 1950 and has more than 1,400 students at its Bulleen campus.

The masterplan's 10-year strategy is designed to unlock the school's potential by developing clearly defined precincts and creating next generation learning and social spaces.

The critical first stage of the master plan, which commenced in 2016, involves the refurbishment and extension of The Hermitage, Marcellin College's foundation building in the heart of its campus.

Designed by COX Architecture and built by Kane Constructions, the \$20 million project is on track for completion as planned for the



Marcellin College, Randwick, NSW

beginning of the 2018 academic year. The first separable portion, a three-level extension, has recently been completed and includes a new central atrium, an adjoining teaching wing with a diverse range of learning environments, staff zones, social spaces and a dedicated Wurundjeri indigenous garden.

Montlaur Senior Project Manager, Emelie Watkinson says the masterplan identified a preferred development strategy to enable Marcellin College to deliver its facilities in the most strategic, cost effective and efficient manner.

"The process aligned the school's vision, goals and objectives with the built form, providing the school community with a comprehensive document that will guide development through to 2025 and beyond," Watkinson says.

The project involves a great deal of complexity and a wide range of consultants and partners.

"The Hermitage project has been a great example of a project team working together to overcome the challenges associated with both a new build and refurbishment project to ensure the best outcome for Marcellin College," Watkinson says.

"It has been fantastic to see the staff and students operating from the new spaces within the first stage and hear of the positive impacts on the school's working environment after only a few weeks."

**ARCHITECTURE AND DESIGN FIRM DWP REALIGNS FOR INTERNATIONAL STAGE**

After almost five years of collaboration together and 12 months since the merger between **dwp** (design worldwide partnerships) and Australian practice **dwp|suters**, the company is set to realign their leadership to further develop the organisation's position on the international stage.

**dwp** will be saying goodbye to Leone Lorrimer who leaves the company as CEO. Leone was instrumental in developing the relationship between **dwp** and **Suters** which lead to the merger, and drove through the implementation of that union for the first year. Now, in keeping with the company's business

strategy to develop into an international design powerhouse by 2020, **dwp** has made two changes in the leadership. Firstly they are delighted to welcome Jo-Anne Harrison to the Board of Directors as Independent Director and they are also excited to welcome back Brenton Mauriello as Group CEO.

The company will harness all the benefits of these changes, along with the integration of its professional team and the introduction of a consolidated support platform, to build the organisation's brand presence and influence on the international scene with a clear and unified vision for the business.



Gregory Anderson  
CEO  
Development Victoria

**THE FUTURE OF COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT**

Businesses are moving away from product development mindsets to a solution delivery paradigm. This change in approach has accelerated the pace of innovation throughout the world and Australia simply cannot be left behind. Over the past decade, we have seen a marvellous growth in the number of modern residential and commercial buildings. This speaks volumes about the amazing potential of real estate industry and the talent of its workforce but the question to ask ourselves is that can we do more? Can this industry move faster towards providing complete living solutions?

Mybos believe it is possible, with the adoption of smart technologies, which can take you a step further to complete your living solutions.

MYBOS Community Management System not only simplifies the handover and settlement process, but also provides customised interfaces tailored to your branding at each user login. Branded community screens ensure that your community and visitors remember and appreciate your amazing design and execution. With MYBOS, your brand lives on with your building, forever!

**PROTECT TIMBER FLOORING WITH MAPEI**

Day in day out, construction sites all around the world count on MAPEI. The primary objective is to supply users with innovative, safe solutions to improve all aspects of site work, including the most complex and difficult ones.

MAPEI recently released their ULTRACOAT RANGE – water-based products to PROTECT TIMBER FLOORING. This new product range complements the current Timber Flooring Installation Product Range that includes moisture vapour barriers, primers, levelling and repair compounds and specialty adhesives for the installation of timber flooring. MAPEI also supply adhesives to install projects where Acoustic Matting is required to reduce the noise of footsteps in buildings.

The ULTRACOAT RANGE contains no traces of NMP, a solvent which over the years has been proven to be a risk for human

health because it continues to emit harmful substances even after applying the product in which it is contained.

The ULTRACOAT RANGE offers:

- Base Coats
- Lacquers
- Binders
- Oils and Waxes
- Cleaners
- Polishes
- Maintenance Products and Tools

The products from the ULTRACOAT RANGE have been specifically formulated so that highly protective systems for timber flooring may be easily and quickly applied, to protect even those floors which are subject to a high level of pedestrian traffic.

The full product range can be viewed on their website at [www.mapei.com.au](http://www.mapei.com.au)

**RECLADDING: THE ISSUE AND THE RESOLUTION**

Recladding is a major issue currently facing the construction industry following the occurrence of several building fires around the world caused by the use of non-compliant building materials. It is estimated that thousands of square metres of non-compliant cladding may need to be replaced on commercial buildings throughout Australia and authorities across the country are carrying out audits to identify buildings at risk.

As a leading provider of safe façade cladding products, Fairview, are at the forefront of providing advice, expertise and solutions to building owners, architects, engineers, builders and other industry professionals who are navigating their way through this issue.

In addition, Fairview's Vitracore G2, has been chosen to replace non-compliant cladding on the Centenary Hospital for Women and Children (CHWC) with work on this project starting last week. The deemed non-combustible product will also be used to reclad façade material on projects including: Queanbeyan Hospital (3,900m<sup>2</sup>), Armidale Hospital (950m<sup>2</sup>) and Lindsay Street Apartments in Neutral Bay.



Centenary Hospital for Women and Children, ACT

**LEADING THE WAY ON CITY SHAPING PROJECTS**

It has been 12 months since Development Victoria was established, which is a good time to reflect on what we have contributed to the fabric of Melbourne and Victoria. Development Victoria was established to plan and deliver urban revitalisation for the benefit of Victorians. We are a leading urban renewal, property development and civic projects delivery agency that supports State Government policy objectives.

This is because urban renewal is at the heart of some of the challenges facing Victoria: population growth, housing affordability, environmental sustainability and economic development. To respond to these challenges, Development Victoria seeks out opportunities to increase housing diversity in places close to jobs, transport and services; leads projects to create cultural, recreational and civic facilities that enrich communities; and revitalises urban precincts to stimulate economic activity.

In our first 12 months, we have delivered on our objectives. Civic project highlights include the delivery of the Palais Theatre redevelopment in St Kilda; the commencement of Stage 3 of the Melbourne Park redevelopment; ongoing refurbishment of Melbourne's iconic Flinders Street Station; and started the next stage of redevelopment of the State Library Victoria.

We continue to achieve outcomes in other areas, such as Melbourne's Docklands, which is one of our key precincts. In the past 12 months, there have been more than 2,800 residential apartments completed by our delivery partners, and almost 207,000m<sup>2</sup> of commercial space commenced or completed. Docklands now has more than 13,000 residents and around 58,000 people employed in the precinct. We will continue to work closely with government, the community and industry stakeholders to achieve our vision of making Victoria a great place to live.



Stuart Munro  
Change Director  
Montlaur

**IT'S CRUCIAL THAT WE INTEGRATE CHANGE AND PROJECT MANAGEMENT**

A new office design most often results in changes to the way people work. For this reason, it's vital to integrate change management services with project management as early as possible.

Change management can help an organisation understand the opportunities that come with moving to a new physical environment and new possibilities for working. Montlaur has been able to facilitate this in recent projects for Investa – who are relocating their Sydney office and moving to an activity-based working model – and the new headquarters for the Victorian branch of the Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation.

Implementing a thorough workplace strategy well before design begins is critical. A new office provides an opportunity to assess how a workplace does its job. Is the current set up giving staff what they need? What can be improved? Is there the right combination of collaborative work zones and quiet, focused areas? Does the team have the technology it needs to deliver exceptional results? A combination of workshops, surveys and focus groups can be useful for gathering this information.

Montlaur believes that creating innovative workplaces requires an integrated approach; a project manager to deliver the physical environment and a change manager who can deliver the strategy and help people adapt. The change manager helps to ensure stakeholders provide the right input at the right time, aligning the organisation with the project timeline and securing that all important buy-in.

Working together, a project manager and a change management expert can look at a project more holistically to create a roadmap to success, and this is something our industry is now coming to better appreciate.

**NATION BUILDING IN THE SPOTLIGHT AT NATIONAL AWARDS**

From convention centres to master planned communities, from heritage overhauls to new hospitals, the nation's best buildings and brightest talent are once again in the spotlight.

This year, 137 finalists in 20 categories have been named ahead of the 2018 Property Council of Australia/Rider Levett Bucknall Innovation and Excellence Awards in May.

The awards program, now in its 36th year in partnership with RLB, showcases nation building projects, innovative solutions and extraordinary leadership in Australia's property industry. According to the Property Council's Chief Executive, Ken Morrison, the awards celebrate the best of the property industry, and underscore the industry's contribution to nation building.

"Together, the property industry creates more jobs than mining and manufacturing combined, and is Australia's biggest employer," Mr Morrison says. "Each of these finalists showcases how we are shaping our cities for the future, and why we are leading the world in terms of sustainability, innovation and people-centric design."

Among the finalists this year are Sydney's Barangaroo South – which aims to be the world's first carbon neutral precinct – and International Convention Centre, which boasts the largest ballroom in Australia.



Three Capes Track, TAS



Barangaroo South Sydney, NSW

The \$60 million Bendigo Hospital in regional Victoria combines innovative thinking, value-for-money solutions and industry best engineering and construction in one exceptional public building.

Darwin's outdoor entertainment precinct at Casuarina Square, the \$670 million overhaul of Pacific Fair on the Gold Coast and Chadstone's \$583 million expansion in Melbourne are all squaring off for the Yardi Award for Best Shopping Centre Development. Perth's oldest station building, The Goods Shed, is a finalist for its painstaking 18-month heritage restoration, while the conversion of Hobart's 1899 heritage building at 40 Molle Street development demonstrates the potential of adaptive reuse.

Tonsley in South Australia is a finalist for its transformation from a former automotive manufacturing plant into arguably Australia's most exciting innovation district. And Horizon in the ACT showcases how the private sector is delivering affordable and liveable housing.

"We are excited to have finalists from each state and territory this year, which certainly reconfirms the strength of our industry across all jurisdictions," Mr Morrison adds.

All development national finalists are in the running for the industry's most coveted prize – the Rider Levett Bucknall Australian Development of the Year award. Developments are also vying for the State Development of the Year award in their state.

Ten rising stars have also been shortlisted for the du Chateau Chun Award for Future Leader of the Year. Innovation is recognised in two subcategories: the Kone Award for Best Development Innovation and the Equiem Award for Best Project Innovation.

Diversity is also recognised in two categories: the Moulis Legal Award for Diversity for larger companies, and the PwC Award for Diversity for companies with less than 250 employees.



New Bendigo Hospital, VIC



The Quarter at Casuarina Square, Darwin

National award winners will be announced at the 2018 Property Council of Australia / Rider Levett Bucknall Innovation and Excellence Awards Gala Dinner, to be held at the ICC

**SKILLING WORKERS FOR THE FUTURE**

The building and construction industry is forecast to create 80,000 new jobs over the next five years. But with fewer people taking up traditional apprenticeships, where will the future tradespeople come from?

Employers from every sector of the building industry are already reporting problems finding qualified tradespeople. This not a new problem, Australia has faced some level of skills shortage in the building and construction industry over the course of fifty years and successive governments have failed to fix the problem.

Our growth regularly outstrips the vocational and education sector's ability to train and deliver enough skilled workers across the various trade and specialities and we have rarely supplied a surplus of tradespeople.

The decrease in apprentice numbers since 2012 – up to 45% in some areas – has been seen before and has previously been addressed through various policy responses including employer incentives and direct injections of funding to students and both public and private training providers.

The real problem for the sector today is that government funding has been continuously

**50 ISSUES SHOWCASING AUSTRALIA'S BEST**

This issue of our quarterly publication and popular trade journal the Australian National Construction Major Project Review (ANCR) marks the 50th issue since the inarguable *30 The Bond* issue (Lendlease's national headquarters) was released in 2004.

The publication is proud of the relationship they have established with major developers,



ICC Sydney Convention Centre, NSW



Yarrabilba, Lendlease

Sydney Convention Centre on Friday 11 May 2018. Tickets are now on sale.

[www.propertycouncilawards.com.au](http://www.propertycouncilawards.com.au)

increasing in the university and secondary school sectors over the past two decades, leaving less in the kitty for the VET sector.

Policy changes also mean school leavers are older (average age 18 across the country as opposed to 14-16 twenty years ago) and with more options and career pathways open to them than ever before, few are choosing the supposedly 'less prestigious' path of a trade or career in the building industry.

While industry leaders and employers are calling for an overhaul of the VET sector, much of the focus is on the process rather than the content. Now might also be the time to consider the skills being taught if we are to attract school leavers or lure workers from other sectors to the industry.

Are the skills being taught today relevant and adaptable to new technologies and modern construction methods?

We risk being left behind and remaining the poor choice or last option if we don't address these questions. While we need quantity, we shouldn't sacrifice quality if we are to remain leaders in workplace health and safety and construction innovation.

builders, consultants, and the industry's suppliers, investors and subcontractors, with many having been part of the publication since the first issue. "We sincerely thank all of you for allowing us to share in your triumphs," said ANCR Managing Director, Keith Hanson. "We have some pretty exciting things happening this year to share with you all, which will make our next 50 issues a very exciting time."



Darren Cooper  
National President  
Urban Development  
Institute of Australia

**WANTING THE BEST FOR AUSTRALIA'S FUTURE HOUSING**

As Australians, we are proud of our way of life. We should be – all of our major cities are considered among the world's most liveable. With such great cities, it is no surprise people want to live in them and as a result, demand is very high.

The problem arises when governments do not unlock supply to meet that demand. Due to undersupply, we have many of the world's most unaffordable cities. In the category of cities with a population above 1 million, all Australian markets are within the world's top 20 most unaffordable.

Many people say the solution is to cut immigration. I believe this is a cop-out. Immigration is an inseparable part of the Australian ethos. Even our national anthem says, "we've boundless plains to share".

The slow release of land for development continues to be a problem nationwide – further driving up costs. The Federal Government needs to continue its push to fund infrastructure delivery in return for state and local governments to agree to unlock land.

Excessive taxation must also be addressed. In some markets, over 25% of the price homebuyers pay is pure tax. Buyers end up paying interest on the tax via their mortgage, taking thousands of hard earned dollars out of the family budget each year.

Governments need to show leadership and tackle these problems head on, otherwise the liveability of our cities will tumble as Australians become unable to pay for a home.