

2017

BUILDING AUSTRALIA  
CONFERENCE & AWARDS

23-25 NOVEMBER



MASTER BUILDERS  
AUSTRALIA



Master Builders  
2017 National Conference  
'Building Australia' focused on leadership,  
innovation and visionaries. It was designed to  
assist members in making informed decision on  
future trends, business growth and innovation  
whilst developing and maintain strong leadership  
attributes within their business ethos.

# the MC's view

## Michael Pope provided this summary of the conference from centre stage

Recently I had the pleasure of Emceeing the Master Builders Australia National Conference in beautiful Hobart. It was a great success from all angles; biggest number of exhibitors, largest attendance of delegates and an awesome line up of speakers, culminating in a terrific Awards night with some 560 people in attendance.

Opening with a welcome dinner where we sampled great Tassie food and wine, the Tasmanian Premier launched the conference the next morning. Such is the esteem that the government holds this important Association in. Olympic champion Anna Meares set the scene for a conference focus on overcoming challenges — and innovation. This was followed by the new CEO Denita Wawn (doing a great job as the Master Builder's first woman in this role) revealing the

Woman in Building initiative — encouraging woman in to the sector which was received with much support.

The great demographer and futurist Bernard Salt outlined where Australia — and by default — the industry is headed — recognising the rise of China and India and the possible impact that will have on the building industry. Some great clues for business success going forward.

With innovation at the forefront, Mike Pivac showed us his automatic-brick-laying-robot that expects to go global in mid-2018. Watch this company take off! And Matt Haymes from Haymes Paint finished the session outlining his company's history stressing their point of difference as 'Family First'.

Some site visits in the afternoon put us in the moon for a wonderful moonlight dinner at MONA

The next morning gave us more insights in to the economic landscape from CBUS CEO David Atkin — followed by Nigel Collin; an author who has gathered together the secrets to success from many leaders around the country — some good clear hints there. Robert Pradolin from WoodSolutions then highlighted the economic benefits for business.

And our final speaker was paramedic Peter Davidson who was involved in the rescue of sailors from the 1998 Sydney-Hobart yacht race. A moving presentation full of drama and insight into how to survive a high-risk environment.

It was great spending the time in the company of passionate business people, eager to continue their success and learn from others. There was a feeling of optimism and fun in the group — and I hope that energy propels them in to another successful year in 2018. If you attended, I think you'll agree it was an investment that gave back in spades — and if you didn't — I really encourage you to attend next time. You won't regret it. Congratulations to the Master Builders for putting on such an event — and thank you for having me a part of it.

**Michael Pope**



# a taste of Tasmania...



**MASTER BUILDERS AUSTRALIA**

Delegates got their first 'Taste of Tasmania' at the Toyota Welcome Social dinner. A wide selection of Tasmanian foods and beverages were available at the kiosks and stalls manned by chefs and experts, including an extremely busy oyster shucker.

Not only did delegates get a real taste of Tasmania, they also had the opportunity to get their bearings and soak in the atmosphere of the Princes Wharf 1 venue. The exhibition was up and running, with a record number of stands showcasing products and services.

Thanks go to Toyota for hosting a wonderful opening night which allowed for new friendships and business relationships to be forged in a relaxed atmosphere surrounded by familiar symbols of the building and construction industry.



## TOYOTA

Platinum Sponsors of Master Builders Australia National Conference & Awards

As an exclusive member of the Master Builders Association, we'd like to remind you that you may be eligible for full Gold Fleet discounts on all Toyota vehicles (excluding limited edition models), not just commercial vehicles.



"This is a truly worthwhile event promoting my personal growth and knowledge in the Building and Construction Industry. We had a group of six in attendance for the entire event, all gained from the experience."

From post conference survey.

# Friday night at MONA...



The conference dinner hosted by Cbus was the perfect way to cap of a busy day at the conference. It began with a cruise up the Derwent on the MONA ferry. Delegates were dazzled (some bewildered) by the art, architecture and antiquities on display at the Museum of Old and New Art. Not even rain could dampen the delegates' spirits as they enjoyed spectacular Tasmanian cuisine, good company and a cultural experience unique to Tasmania.

The 'Women in Construction' breakfast was a popular event, filling to capacity early. Those who missed out should take heart as this is only the beginning. Master Builders plans to continue to support and encourage women starting out in building and construction through its National Mentoring Program and there will be plenty of opportunities ahead.





# National Awards...

the biggest night on Master Builders' calendar

The National Excellence in Building and Construction Awards which recognise the best of the best in the building and construction industry in 2017 provided a glittering finale for the National Conference.

Princes Wharf 1 was unrecognisable, with rainforest and chandeliers filling the room which had earlier hosted the conference sessions. Master Builders night of nights attracted a record crowd.

MC for the evening was Sandra Sully, one of the most recognisable and respected faces on Australian television.

Tap Pack entertained the audience with their magical song and dance routine.

The 2017 Apprentice of the Year is Mitchell Earl from Newcastle. This Award is sponsored by Australian Apprenticeships. Nathan O'Neill from South Australia took out the prize for WoodSolutions Young Builder of the Year.

The world class, ground-breaking International Convention Centre in Sydney earned the title of 2017 National Commercial Master Builder for Lendlease. Lendlease delivered Australia's largest exhibition venue, a 9,000 seat theatre, and extensive convention facilities including: Australia's largest ballroom, a rooftop event deck, 826 car spaces, a new boulevard and reinvigorated public space.

National Residential Master Builder of the Year is Spadaccini Homes from Western Australia for a unique home packed with innovative features.

National Specialist Contractor of the Year, Commercial Aquatics Australia from Western Australia were responsible for the design and construction of nine different water bodies for Crown Towers in Perth.

The National President's Award went to Watpac Construction for the Anna Meares Velodrome in Queensland. Anna herself proved to be a very popular speaker on the initial morning of the conference. During the presentation of this Award, Anna spoke via video of her pride in having such a spectacular facility named after her.

Other Awards included:

- Toyota National Display Home – \$350,000 to \$500,000, McDonald Jones Homes Pty Ltd, Tallavera 45, Queensland
- Toyota National Display Home – \$500,000 to \$1.5 million, Monarch Building Solutions, Schlich Haus, ACT
- Cbus National Medium Density – 2 to 5 Dwellings, Micrah Projects, NSW
- Cbus National Medium Density – over 5 Dwellings, Bayside Construct, Mint Apartments, Victoria
- Cbus National High Rise Apartment Building, P B S Building (Qld) Pty Ltd, The Melbourne Residences, Queensland
- Office of the Federal Safety Commissioner National Excellence in Workplace Health and Safety Award, Halikos Construction Pty Ltd, New Henbury School, Northern Territory
- Toyota National Civil/Infrastructure Award – under \$25 million, AJR Construct Pty Ltd, North West Regional Hospital Helipad, Tasmania
- Toyota National Civil/Infrastructure Award – over \$25 million, CPB Contractors Pty Ltd, Wynyard Walk, NSW.

Master Builders Australia would like to thank its sponsors for their continuing support for the annual Awards ceremony.





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The four optional tours provided a break from the conference sessions and rounded out the delegate's Tasmanian experience.