Got a new project to sink your teeth into? Bowens can help.
A letter to Richard

Dear Richard,

This letter to you is long overdue. It is 125 years this year since you opened a small timber yard in North Melbourne. Legend has it that on the first day you operated you only sold one piece of timber – total sales: Sixpence!

I believe your wife, Mary Ann, was decidedly anxious about your new enterprise and while her worst fears were confirmed, you proclaimed confidently, “it will be better tomorrow”. Well, I’m not sure what your “tomorrow” expectations were but I can confirm to you that your sixpenny sale has turned into annual sales today of 450 million dollars (no pounds anymore).

While your other grandson (David Anthony) and I are the third generation involved with the business, today your great grandson John Richard is the man in charge and the one responsible for our current success. His brother (Andrew David) is now involved too, along with a really great team of men and women who oversee the daily operations that cover some 23 profit centres and administrative locations.

The history of your company is fairly well documented and young John and I speak about it quite often, particularly when introducing new staff into the business.

I think everyone admires the initiative you showed by leaving home (near Ballarat) and heading to Melbourne to find work – you were only 17 or 18 at the time. The gold rush was pretty well over, but your courage and determination to foster a long-term career has resulted today in 1250 people (plus their families) having the benefit of your great initiative.

Before starting Bowen & Pomeroy I know you worked as a labourer around Melbourne and then specifically on the new cable tram system being built in and around the city. Your ‘hands on’ approach to any job was consistent with your approach to building the company you founded. Your reputation was of a man who ‘inspired others to great efforts’ and one who enjoyed working alongside the men you employed, thus building a strong team of dedicated employees.

Certainly (today) your great grandson has a hands-on approach and is well respected by both staff and any builder customers he has had the chance to mix with – your legacy, let’s say, continues on!

Over the years since your time we have continued to be at the mercy of this fragile building industry – boom and busts have been part of our 125 years. From 1893 you personally experienced the unparalleled spectacle of no less than seven bank failures, all of good repute and generally of high standing, toppling to almost ruin. One after another, like tenements and empty.

But Richard, you’d also remember that from 1905 the Australian economy began to expand again at a steady rate. Melbourne’s population grew, fuelled by the Government’s active immigration policy. There was an increased demand for timber of all sorts and timber merchants observed with relief “the brisk character” of the building trade.

Well, I can tell you the last 10 years or so, 2010-18, have been excellent for the building industry after a couple of ‘tough’ periods – immigration again playing a huge role in the demand for our products. So, in different terms, these economic cycles still happen and are influenced by the same factors of migration, interest rates, employment levels and … Government policy.

The Company today concentrates on the construction industry in its many forms – builders are our prime customers with no forgetting change from your day whereby the combination of ‘On Time – In Full’ service, quality of product, loyalty and compitative pricing are still the rule.

Space doesn’t allow me to detail the many building projects of note around Melbourne and Victoria that we have participated in since your time. I need to tell you that the projects that you were involved in between 1913-17 (i.e. the Essendon Methodist church, the Footscray Town Hall, the Williamstown Town Hall, the Melbourne Junior Technical College (later the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology), the Red Lion Hotel in Carlton, the ‘Mental Hospital’ in Royal Park and the Trades Hall Council in Carlton all remain, or were recognised institutions. One bit of sad news for you though is the recent closure of the Ford factory in Geelong. That amazing Mershon Bandsaw you commissioned (in 1924) to re-saw large quantities of douglas fir (Oregon) from the U.S. and Canada enabled Bowen & Pomeroy Pty Ltd to supply over 500M³ to the builder of the Ford factory, the Concrete Construction Company. The factory was completed in 1926 and Ford began production of T Model Fords in August of that year.

While vacant, the factory still stands and 500M³ of magnificent douglas fir timber sits under the expansive roof – I estimate that the timber came from 600 year old forest! Add another 95 years and you have something still special connected to the Geelong Ford factory!

While the Ford factory job is part of your history, your great Grandson John Richard was successful in acquiring a company called Timbertruss some five years ago. The Timbertruss (Geelong) operation has now moved onto our own 50 acres site in Corio on which two buildings have been built to house equipment involved in the production of timber roof trusses, wall frames and associated pre-fab timber products. It is a world class facility – I know you would be proud of that fact and that your company continues to have a strong association with Geelong and surrounds.

Grandson Richard, I know you would be more than pleased (as your son John Richard – my dad – would be) that the company you started in 1894 has successfully reached 125 years – and remaining 100% in the control of the Bowen family. We’ve been blessed with four generations who have managed to respect each other, showing an unselfish attitude to the continued future of Bowen & Pomeroy Pty Ltd as a family business.

As we celebrate this important year, you will be very much in our thoughts. Your life journey from the gold fields of Ballarat in the early 1880’s has been a blessing for the Bowen family and it’s ‘family’ of some 1300 men and women who operate the company today not forgetting the tens of thousands of past employees and their families who also benefited from your brave journey to the ‘big city’ more than 125 years ago.

I will write to you again in 2044 and report on Bowen & Pomeroy’s 150 year progress!

Love to you Grandpa,
Yours truly,
Jack

Jack Bowen
Chairman of the Board of Directors

GIVEAWAY WINNERS!

Congratulations also to our 10 runners up, who were all winners of a $50 Bowens voucher. Aaron Rowland, John O’Brien, Colin McCallum, Paul Frost, Gavin Bann, Hamza Bashir, Dietrich Bouchette, Linda Randall, Don Tang, Darren Reichert.

Join the Bowens Community

Looking for inspiration? Check out #BOWENSAU

Congratulations to our Cash for Chirrissy Giveaway Winners!

Visit done to Sam Tuck (SJT Builders) who picked-up our grand prize of $1,000!

- BOWENSAU

JOIN THE BOWENS COMMUNITY

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Bowens, your cladding experts

At Bowens, we know that quality external cladding goes beyond looking ‘stylish’. That’s why we only stock superior brands that are easy to install, rot-termite-resistant and durable against Australia’s harsh climate.

Our range of innovative cladding products, systems and finishes are high-performing, meaning they are suitable for both residential and commercial applications in any trend. From Contemporary/Modern, to Minimalist/Industrial, to Coastal/Hamptons or Shabby-Chic, with Bowens cladding range the only limitation is your imagination.

For exterior cladding that’s high performing in both function and form, why would you go anywhere else?

*Build it better with Bowens.*

---

Proudly supported by:

- **PermaTimber**
- **MasterWall**
- **Weathertex**
- **Hardwood**
- **ASH**
- **James Hardie**
- **InStyle**
- **Modinex Group**

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Have questions about combustibility? Bowens only stock products which comply with Victoria’s current building codes and regulations, meaning all our cladding contains less than 30% polyethylene. For more information speak with a Bowens representative.

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5 key considerations when choosing the best exterior cladding for your project:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Budget</th>
<th>Fibre cement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Climate</td>
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<td>Building characteristics</td>
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<td>Polystyrene (EPS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maintenance</td>
<td>Aluminium</td>
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5 most popular cladding materials in Victoria:

- **Budget**
- **Fibre cement**
- **Climate**
- **Timber**
- **Building characteristics**
- **Wood / plastic composites**
- **Environmental impact**
- **Polystyrene (EPS)**
- **Maintenance**
- **Aluminium**

Top 5 overall benefits of choosing a cladding system:

- **High durability** – protects the building from harsh conditions with little maintenance required
- **Reduced weight loadings** – cost saving during construction
- **Design flexibility**
- **Improved thermal performance** – highly efficient
- **Easy installation** – cost and time saving
Product in focus

NEW UNCOATED RANGE NOW AVAILABLE!

MASTERWALL MASTER X-SERIES

Over the years, Australian owned company Masterwall® has become synonymous with superior, insulated, external polystyrene cladding wall systems, pioneering the complete-system approach that is now established as industry best practice.

The Masterwall® System X-SERIES is not just weather-tight and energy efficient, but offers design flexibility and economy. And that’s just the start...

With the highest level of National Certification, superior thermal performance, and Dense M grade flame retardant panels, the MasterWall® System X-Series cladding system utilises an uncoated 'nude' panel to give architects, designers and renderers full control of the installation and finishing whilst taking advantage of the superior Masterwall® System.

No other cladding system performs like the Masterwall® System X-Series

- Architectural integrity & design freedom
- Dense (M) Grade EPS with included flame retardant
- Easy and convenient to install
- Energy efficient
- Bushfire attack Level - BAL29 certified
- Full System Approach protecting frame & flash
- Application accreditation & training
- Manufactured in Melbourne with local support
- Quality check warranty control App, validating the system warranty
- Cavity & batten certification
- All leading render brands certified
- Complies with Innovation range Umbra & Skyline

For more information about MasterWall's X-Series cladding system, or other innovative insulative building technologies, speak with your Bowens store or Account Manager today!

MasterWall X-Series Cladding System is Certified and the uncoated 'nude' panel gives you full control of the installation and finishing.
The incredible $7-million face lift of the iconic Portsea Hotel by Baxter Projects is an example of the calibre of complex, large scale projects Bowens is often proudly involved in.

This was no easy feat. With a six-month deadline and minimal disruption to the 142-year-old pub’s business, it was essential for Bowens to deliver products and services on-time and in full.

The Bowens Account Manager at Hastings, Michael King, looked after the project and was on-site two to three times per week to ensure everything flowed smoothly.

Michael says “With large projects like this, Bowens can provide the required volume, quality and special buy-ins in a time-frame that gets everything here on time and gets the job done.”

David Miller, Director at Directitude Management, further backed this by explaining why they put their faith into Bowens; “Bowens have been really proactive in providing the materials as and when required.”

There were up to forty-five trades working on site at any one time. Project Manager Scott Gregory states; “There was a lot of times when we needed materials straightaway. For example, we might suddenly need to waterproof or require extra screws. I just called Michael from Bowens and said, “I need it on site” and he would get it to us on time.”

Bowens supplied over ten kilometers of 86mm x 32mm Blackbutt decking which is a fair indication of the size of this whopping project. Blackbutt was chosen as it is a very stable material and can withstand the harsh salt water environment as well as the high foot traffic. “Not only is it practical but it looks great too,” says Scott.

The architect specified that the decking was to be laid at forty-five degrees which increased the amount of work involved. As David explains; “We’re very particular on detail and that’s one of the things Baxter Projects is renowned for. We make sure that every single joint is exactly the same and the gaps between the boards are absolutely spot on. If you stand back and look down the deck, you can see it’s on point, straight, and dead on squares.”

Other materials supplied by Bowens included plywood flooring, pine framing and ceiling linings, James Hardie HardieGroove™ internal wall lining and custom doors with portholes.

Michael also organized several special buy-ins for the project, including custom sized Spotted Gum bearers and 3-meter high posts that were used on a large new pergola. “With the amount of timber decking and the Spotted Gum bearers, we’ve almost dried up the supply in Victoria!” says David.

Another special buy-in was the 3,500 lineal meters of sandblasted timber lining boards. These where used on the ceiling of the new enclosed veranda that extends from the main dining area. The sandblasted effect causes the grain to be easily visible and looks fantastic.

“With large projects like this, Bowens can provide the required volume, quality and special buy-ins in a time-frame that gets everything here on time and gets the job done.”

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For more information on Bowens commercial solutions, or any of the products mentioned, get in touch with your Account Manager or visit one of our fifteen Bowens stores Victoria wide.
Summer is here and we are all hoping to enjoy a few days relaxing by the pool. However with the ownership of a swimming pool comes a responsibility to ensure those who use the pool, particularly young children, are safe at all times. HIA recommends being extra vigilant with kids around pools and also recommends that homeowners undertake an inspections of pool barriers and placement of furniture up against the barrier.

The Victorian Building Authority (VBA) highlights on their web site that swimming pool and spa owners have a legal obligation to ensure that they maintain the effective operation of swimming pool and spa safety barriers. Gates and doors must remain closed except when entering the pool or spa.

The Victorian Government recently passed legislation to make the registration of swimming pools and spas mandatory and introduce a new compliance regime to improve swimming pool and spa safety. This will come into effect on 1 December 2019.

In the interim, the Victorian Government has asked the VBA to develop three self-assessment checklists to help swimming pool and spa owners check the safety of the barriers. These are:

- Checklist 1 - for pools and spas installed before 8 April 1991
- Checklist 2 - for pools and spas installed between 8 April 1991 and 30 April 2010 and
- Checklist 3 - for pools and spas installed from 1 May 2010.

More information on the checklists and the requirements of the register can be found on the VBA website, www.vba.vic.gov.au

WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR MAINTAINING THE SITE SAFETY BARRIER DURING THE CONSTRUCTION OF A SWIMMING POOL?

Maintaining the site safety barrier during construction depends on who (if anyone) is living at the property, and who is responsible for the building site. This becomes more relevant where the swimming pool is being constructed concurrently with other building work.

In most situations the builder engaged to construct the pool or spa and its barrier is generally responsible for maintaining the safety barrier while they are on-site, or if the property is vacant. If the property owner is living on-site, they are responsible for maintaining the safety barrier when the builder is not on-site.

However, where other building work is being undertaken (new house) concurrently with the installation of the swimming pool, the responsibility for the maintaining the site safety fence would fall on the home builder as the builder will now be the person in charge of the building work being undertaken on the site. With the holiday season coming up it is very important to ensure that the site barriers to the pool area as well as to the overall construction site are well secured.

CONSTRUCTION OF A SWIMMING POOL?

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Swimming Pool Safety

In addition a voluntary swimming pool register for owners to register their details prior to the introduction of the mandatory registration.

More information on the checklists and the requirements of the register can be found on the VBA website, www.vba.vic.gov.au

YOUNG WORKERS

As the year commences there are many young and inexperienced construction workers starting in the industry.

With the construction boom, the industry’s employment has grown by 18% in the last five years - more than double the rate of national employment growth at 8%. Young workers make up about 15% of the workforce and bring energy, new ideas and different opinions. They’re keen to learn ‘tricks of the trade’ from experienced workers but are also injured more frequently and more severely than other workers.

It’s well known that construction is a high risk industry; however young and inexperienced workers may not fully understand the hazards and risks involved. Simple things can be done to assist them. While employers have an obligation to provide a safe workplace and information, instruction and training, everyone should assist with safety by:

1. Considering your young workers’ age and experience as a risk factor when identifying hazards and risks in your workplace.
2. Making sure workers have a construction induction card and complete the relevant site induction.
3. Providing information, instruction and training so workers are able to perform their work safely.
4. Making sure workers are properly supervised.
5. Ensuring safety controls are in place, e.g. physical edge protection (guardrail/scaffolding).
6. Encouraging workers to speak up. Listen and act on their health and safety concerns.
7. Promoting a culture of safety and leading by example.

BUILDING INNOVATION TAKES A LEAP INTO ECO-FRIENDLY MATERIALS

AUSSIE FAMILIES BUILD ECO-VILLAGE USING CANNIBAS STAVIA PLANT

For many Aussie environmental-idealists, our communities would be built using superlative natural materials that are ‘borrowed’ from the environment and returned after use. These materials would be cheap, with little to no processing, borrow most of their energy from solar and perform thermally and acoustically well.

Up until recently, houses built with mud brick, rammed earth and straw bale were the closest to this aspiration.

Then, a group of families from Western Australia gave this concept a slight nudge. They had a simple vision to give one of the oldest and most sustainable materials a comeback by combining their resources to build a beautifully designed co-housing community…using hemp.

**Hempcrete or Hemplime** is a bio-composite material of hemp hurds (shives) and lime (possibly including natural hydraulic lime, sand, pozzolans). Mixing hemp’s woody core with lime and water produces a natural, light concrete that retains thermal mass and is highly insulating. No pests, no mould, good acoustics, low humidity, no pesticides. It grows from seed to harvest in about four months.

Hempcrete has been cultivated and used in Japan for centuries and France since the early 1990’s, and its use is growing in popularity annually. While hemp houses are popping up all over the south west of Western Australia, it is reported only 50 homes in the U.S. contain hemp, in such states as North Carolina, Virginia, Texas and Hawaii.

While the WA co-community project is not yet complete, village resident Mr. Llwellyn states “the material is very insulating, resistant to fire, and even sequestered carbon dioxide for the life of the building”.

SCIENTISTS RACE TO INVENT NEW BUILDING MATERIALS WHICH REVOLUTIONISE INDUSTRY

Would you live in a house made out of fungal-bricks?

One of the newest and most exciting inventions is the Mycelium Brick, an organic material formed from 100% organic waste and the mycelium of fungi (the thin root-like fibres from fungi which run underneath the ground). When dried, mycelium can be used as a super strong, water, mould and fire-resistant building material that can be grown into specific forms.

The best news? Making these fungal bricks is a low-energy and zero-carbon process.

Mycelium has already been used in a variety of forms on a smaller scale, such as packaging, with companies such as IKEA and Dell using it as an alternative to polystyrene which takes decades to naturally break down.

Certifiedenergy.com.au notes that by using mycelium, there is a huge reduction on the reliance on fossil fuels, the embodied energy required for fabrication and a massive reduction in the building waste which is left at the end of the product’s life as mycelium is 100 percent biodegradable.

And according to Mycologist Phillip Ross, “dried mycelium has a remarkable consistency that makes it stronger, pound for pound, than concrete.”

Although in the construction industry the use of mycelium is still emerging, there is huge potential for its growth.

Philip Ross moulds fast-growing fungi into mushroom building bricks that are stronger than concrete.
Police have recently identified a significant rise in the number of incidents involving tools being stolen from utilities, vans and trailers belonging to tradesmen. These tools are being stolen from vehicles parked in both residential streets and at work sites.

Having tools stolen can be both costly and an interruption to business so it's important to store tools securely when they are not in use.

Key Crime Prevention Tips:
- Remove all valuables when you leave your vehicle
- Lock all doors and external toolboxes, close all windows before leaving your vehicle
- Alarm your tool box and vehicle

Mark Valuable Property:
- Use an engraver or ultra-violet mark to identify your property. Marked property is harder to sell and easier to return if located
- Mark with “V” followed by your drivers license number, i.e. V123456
- Photograph valuables and record details on a property inventory form

In the event of burglary:
- Report any suspicious activity in your neighbourhood to police
- If you have been burgled, do not touch anything. Call police on triple zero (000)
- If somebody breaks in while you’re at home:
  - Get out or find a safe place, such as a secure room and call police on triple zero (000)
  - The safety of yourself and others is more important than trying to prevent the burglary

If you require immediate police attendance, call police on triple zero (000). If you have information regarding a crime, call Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000. For further crime prevention information, visit the Victoria Police website at: www.police.vic.gov.au. Visit the Stoppers on 1800 333 000. for further crime prevention information.

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Tools and Equipment Prevention Checklist:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lock up</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>When leaving your tools in your vehicle overnight, park it in a garage where possible. Do not park in dark, unlit or isolated areas.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If you have a driveway, use it. Don’t park your vehicle out on the street where it is easily accessed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lock your vehicle when it is unattended, even at work sites.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wherever possible keep tools out of sight so that thieves are not tempted.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secure any tools left inside the vehicle with visible locks.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Use hardened steel padlocks, shackle protectors and chains. Large visible locks on toolboxes can be a deterrent.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If you drive a ute, consider investing in a sturdy, lockable ute toolbox and bolt it to the vehicle’s tray.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alarm your toolbox and vehicle.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Other Actions:
- Keep an inventory of all your tools. Photograph and/or record model and serial numbers.
- Engrave or mark your tools for easy identification - the latter V followed by your Victorian licence number is recommended.
- Report any suspicious behaviours to police. If you see people loitering on site or around vehicles and believe they are stealing or up to no good, ring 000.
- Record descriptions e.g. height, build, sex, clothing, distinctive features, tattoo etc.
- Vehicles details e.g. registration number, colour, make, model etc.
- Report immediately to police. Ring 000.

Bill has all the answers. Got a question that’s been bugging you? Ask our industry expert for advice.

Q: I’m building in Werribee and deciding between a few timber cladding options. What key things should I keep in mind when making a final decision?

A: Hi, Jim

When it comes to selecting external cladding, one has an abundance of options; cement sheets, plywood, hardboard, composite and of course solid timber products which all come in a variety of colours and textures. While variety is often a good thing, it can also create confusion and poor misguided decision making, especially when there is conflicting advice.

While each material offers its own unique features and benefits, for the most part choosing a solid timber cladding will always deliver strength, durability and natural appeal. It is a classic material that is suitable for use on traditional or contemporary styled homes.

Beyond aesthetics, timber cladings have many advantages from acoustic and thermal properties, to high strength to weight ratio. Timber cladding is also very flexible design-wise, relatively lightweight and environmentally friendly.

As with all timber products, care must be taken to follow installation procedures properly. The Bowens Cladding Installation Guidelines available from the Bowens website - covers many important points including finishing with a paint or oil coating to provide higher performance and long-lasting protection.

There’s no doubt that timber cladding is considered as one of the most aesthetically pleasing construction materials today, while also being versatile, highly durable and weather tight.

What’s your question?
Email us at feedback@bowens.com.au

This month’s expert advice supplied by our Timber Specialist
Frank Di Stefano
It's always a challenge to get the right look for any large-scale residential project. But for the first major development in a prime waterfront location, the design stakes are particularly high. In partnership with Bowens and James Hardie™, boutique construction company Figurehead are working on a marquee project that’s bringing extra character and class to its prized Mornington Peninsula address.

Having worked on many high-profile projects, the team at Figurehead know what it takes to design and build a landmark development like The Moorings in Safety Beach, Victoria. As a premium residential complex in a prime harbour side location, making cost-effective material choices for the industrial-style building was a challenge. Masonry, timber and concrete are all featured in the design, but a suitable lightweight product was vital to keep a project of this scale on schedule and within budget.

"The traditional materials you’d use for an industrial look demand extensive structural engineering," says Jason Blake, Bowens’ Account Manager who consulted with Figurehead on the project "The time and labour involved in using exposed concrete and brick throughout a tri-level, 43 dwelling building would be significant to say the least."

Working closely with James Hardie™, Jason and the Figurehead team developed a fully featured sample wall to show the developer and architects how Exotec Raw™ would complement the overall design palette. "It made sense in terms of speed and convenience to install, as the product is prefinished," says Jason. "Being lightweight it was bound to be more cost-effective too. But putting that sample wall in front of the stakeholders was essential to getting their buy-in for the durability and look of the product too."

"The traditional materials you’d use for an industrial look demand extensive structural engineering," says Jason Blake, Bowens’ Account Manager who consulted with Figurehead on the project "The time and labour involved in using exposed concrete and brick throughout a tri-level, 43 dwelling building would be significant to say the least."

A PIONEERING PROJECT

Jason and the Bowens team are delighted to have had a chance to showcase Exotec Raw™ on a flagship project of this size. "We’ve recommended the product before as it offers a very practical way to get that industrial look for all types of modern residential buildings,” says Jason. “It may be the first time we’ve been called on to supply Exotec Raw™ in this volume, but with the calibre of The Moorings project and the attention it’s getting, I doubt it will be the last.”

TRUST IN THE PRODUCT AND SUPPLIER

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A PIONEERING PROJECT

Jason and the Bowens team are delighted to have had a chance to showcase Exotec Raw™ on a flagship project of this size. "We’ve recommended the product before as it offers a very practical way to get that industrial look for all types of modern residential buildings,” says Jason. “It may be the first time we’ve been called on to supply Exotec Raw™ in this volume, but with the calibre of The Moorings project and the attention it’s getting, I doubt it will be the last.”

TRUST IN THE PRODUCT AND SUPPLIER

Working closely with James Hardie™, Jason and the Figurehead team developed a fully featured sample wall to show the developer and architects how Exotec Raw™ would complement the overall design palette. "It made sense in terms of speed and convenience to install, as the product is prefinished," says Jason. "Being lightweight it was bound to be more cost-effective too. But putting that sample wall in front of the stakeholders was essential to getting their buy-in for the durability and look of the product too."

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Store Spotlight

THIS MONTH WE TALK TO THE GREAT TEAM AT BOWENS BRUNSWICK

Located in the laid-back, alternative inner North at 400 Victoria Street, the Brunswick store is already well established with a strong following of customers.

Store Manager, Steve Hollow, has been with Bowens for 15 years and has been the Brunswick store Manager since its opening in April 2018. He is supported by Sales manager Ben Dovaston and Operations Manager Kier Boyd.

Steve has worked his way through the company holding a variety of positions including; Yard, Internal Sales, Account Manager, Sales Manager and now Store Manager.

He loves the Mighty Hawks (we always knew he was a softy) as well as camping with his family and relaxing by a river or lake.

“We have a great range that suits both the commercial and major builders as well as the smaller builders and our DIY customers”.

Since its opening, the Brunswick store has been bustling with existing customers who have projects in the inner north, as well as local builders who are new to Bowens.

“Since the beginning, we have created an environment so that customers can come in and get great service and be on their way in an efficient time-frame” says Steve.

The Brunswick store has over 200 ranges of timber in stock and in bulk, including an extensive range of LVL, pine framing, structural and non-structural plywood, James Hardie products and accessories, mouldings and doors, just to name a few.

There is also a solid range of complimentary hardware available.

“There is nothing else like what we are offering in this area. We have almost everything and anything to suit your requirements. If we don’t have it, we have a network that can get it to you on-site when you need it.” says Steve.

The Bowens Delivery service is a huge draw-card to the Brunswick store, supported by two crane trucks and two flatbed trucks.

Like many Bowens stores, Brunswick also offers Call in Express, a service that lets you call ahead to place an urgent order. Within a few hours you are able to drive into the dedicated pick up lanes, where your order will be ready for collection.

Want to keep dry and protected from the weather when loading? In the inner North, Bowens Brunswick is the only trade timber yard that is fully undercover. How good is that?

When you visit the store, you can’t help but notice the massive cladding display that is known as “The Great Wall of Brunswick”. This striking cladding showcase includes James Hardie, Weatherite and Permatimber, as well as natural timber. Builders, designers and architects can bring clients in to view and discuss various options with our knowledgeable staff.

“You can touch, feel and see the cladding, and determine what is going to best suit the wall for your project” says Steve.

By the way, the store hosts a free BBQ every Friday from 6:30am - 9:00am.

The Brunswick team pride themselves on their espresso making skills, so make sure you pick up a freshly brewed takeaway coffee when you’re in-store.

“Come on in and see what we are all about! See what we have on offer and what suits your business. Let’s work together to keep your customers happy”.

Free espressos and BBQ’s, undercover loading and a token Hawks fan… why would you go anywhere else?

BRUNSWICK STORE TRADING HOURS:

Monday to Friday: 6:30am - 5pm
Saturdays: 8am - 3pm

View the video on YouTube at bowens.com.au
The Right Wrap
Behind brick veneer and lightweight clad

Don’t compromise, insist on Enviroseal™ Wall Wrap.

- Minimises Risk of Condensation Related Rectification Work – Enviroseal is vapour permeable and allows moisture to escape the wall and help reduce risk of condensation.
- A Tough Weather Barrier – Protects the building frame from decay by reducing the entry of wind driven rain and dust.
- Improves Air Tightness and Energy Efficiency – Wrapping reduces draughts and minimises energy consumption.

Enviroseal™ ProctorWrap™ is suitable for use behind both brick veneer and lightweight clad walls. Enviroseal™ ProctorWrap™ is classified as a water barrier and is a vapour permeable wall wrap in accordance with AS/NZS 4200.1.

VAPOUR PERMEABILITY (Class 4)
In accordance with AS/NZS 4200:2017

WATER BARRIER
In accordance with AS/NZS 4200:2017

Bowens
bowens.com.au

Bradford
denviroseal

Uncover the facts.
ExternalCladding.com.au

Bentleigh East 9579 1188
Brunswick 9085 1711
Croydon 9723 0394
Epping 9408 6566
Hallam 9796 3088
Hastings 5979 1267
Laverton 9353 7700
Mt Evelyn 9736 2588
North Melbourne 9328 1041
Pakenham 5918 3111
Phillip Island 5952 5633
Port Melbourne 8538 3350
Rowville 9763 7522
Shepparton 5822 2364
Taylors Lakes 9390 8899