

HUTCHIES' TRUTH

A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER FOR HUTCHINSON BUILDERS

MARCH 1995

Modern treatment for heritage work



Work is proceeding on the Brisbane Boys College at Toowong... a unique design so as not to alter the overall heritage appeal of the school.

WORK is proceeding on renovations and extension to two important heritage buildings in Brisbane - Brisbane Boys College, Toowong and Brisbane Arcade, the city.

Heritage work is demanding, to ensure existing buildings are not damaged and new work fits in with the trade skills of a by-gone era.

Work valued at \$2.5 million at the Brisbane Boys College, involves construction of a new library and resource centre over four levels - two above and

two below the ground.

Excavation which has been going on since December has been very exacting, with a 10 metre vertical cut right beside the heritage listed main building of the College.

Eighty permanent rock anchors were installed and 400 square metres of concrete sprayed to underpin the main building.

Construction is about to begin and should be completed at the end of October. The architects are Thomson Adsett.

In keeping with the design brief - a unique design so as not to alter the overall heritage appeal of the school - the new facilities will be "hidden" under a landscaped quadrangle.

Site foreman is Gordon Reynolds and supervisor is Robert Weymouth.

Meanwhile, in the city, work is nearing completing on the \$4 million refurbishment to the Brisbane Arcade, between Adelaide and Queen Streets.

This work includes a fully refurbished basement with high quality finishes and a complete services upgrade.

Work on the services was extremely complicated, with a new plant room over the existing roof structure and a 1.6 metre deep services trench beneath the basement floor.

Project team is: site foreman, Paul De Jong, administrator, Norm Norman, and supervisor, Robert Weymouth.

Architects are Powell, Dods and Thorpe. Engineer is McWilliam and Partners and Quantity Surveyor John Mitchell and Associates.

Hutchies invest in Hansen Yuncken

HUTCHINSON Builders have purchased a 10 per cent share in Hansen and Yuncken Pty Ltd, a family company established in Melbourne early in 1902.

It now has branches or divisions in Melbourne, Shepparton, Sydney, Adelaide, Darwin and Hobart and a turnover of \$200 million.

Jack Hutchinson has been appointed to the Board of Directors. This means a new range of expertise is available to Hutchinson Builders and we are more able to control change and take on larger contracts.

Hutchinson Builders is still 100 per cent owned by the Hutchinson Family.

From the Managing Director's desk

OUR industry has always been one of confronting new problems, obstacles and challenges.

Every project is different and there is no simple formula one can use to predict or overcome all the challenges both on site and in the office.

However, there is one attribute that all those who consistently overcome the challenges have in common: Persistence.

Calvin Coolidge was the US president in the late 1920s before the 1929 Wall

Street Crash and was known for making decisions and sticking to them.

He was not famous for being a great president (only for being the first one to hire a speech writer) but he held office during very difficult and changing times.

He will probably be best remembered for the following words which, hopefully, came from his own pen.

PERSISTENCE

Nothing in the world can take the place of

persistence.

Talent will not; nothing is more common than unsuccessful men with talent.

Genius will not; unrewarded genius is almost a proverb.

Education will not; the world is full of educated derelicts.

Persistence and determination alone are omnipotent.

The slogan 'press on' has solved and always will solve the problems of the human race.

Calvin Coolidge



**Scott Hutchinson,
managing director.**

Claude remembers his future set in concrete

FORMER Hutchies' employee, Claude Mitchell, 87, recently made a nostalgic visit to our headquarters and recalled his adventures in the building game when he was a 14-year old apprentice.

Claude remembers his father taking him to see Jack Hutchinson Snr, in the family home in Manly Road, where Jack agreed to take him on as apprentice in carpentry and joinery.



Claude remembers Jack Snr who "tore strips" off him for complaining about work.

Claude went to work in the Montague Road yard, where he spent his first months de-nailing old timber for form work.

Working alongside another young apprentice, Jim Percival, it struck Claude that his mate was getting all the good work, joinery and finishing.

Claude remembers vividly that he made the mistake of complaining! Jack Hutchinson, Snr, had just driven into the yard and was in his white, knee-length driving coat.

Jack "tore strips" off Claude and told him that *he* would decide what was good for his apprentices, and, that he had decided concrete was for Claude.

Well, Claude wasn't too pleased, but, in retrospect, now feels the old man was right.

Claude went to on work on some of Brisbane's major buildings including Ballow Chambers on Wickham Terrace, the Bellevue Hotel, S.A. Best in Gipps Street, Fortitude Valley, Flood Gates at Lytton and Birchleys Store on Boundary and Vulture Street, West End.

His early grounding at Hutchies worked out well for Claude, who went to South Africa in 1937 and formed his own building company, which enjoyed great success.



**Jimmy Percival and Claude Mitchell,
Sydney 1934.**

Ten years ago Claude retired to Australia and bought a house in Redcliffe, next door to his old mate, Jim Percival.

They remained best of friends until Jim passed away to years ago.

We wish to thank Claude for taking the time to talk to us about the early days, much of which gets forgotten in today's hustle and bustle to meet deadlines.

Thanks also to Claude's relation, Bob Sayers, who drove Claude from Redcliffe to Brisbane for our chat.

The Family Way

HUTCHINSON Builders have a reputation of being a family company - with three generations of Hutchinsons involved.

But a quick look around indicates the "family" involvement extends to quite a few families.

A list of people who have more than one member of their family working here includes:

- * Charlie Wilson, his son, Terry, and his son, Terry Jnr.

- * Paul De Jong, Michael De Jong, Ray De Jong and Narelle De Jong. Sadly, Wally, Paul's dad, passed away late last year.

- * Len White and son, Grant.

- * Matthew Hutton and brother, Ian.

- * Wayne Cullen and brother, Gary.

- * Grant Campbell and his wife, Mandy.

- * David Graham and wife, Sue.

Hutchies are very pleased to see family members joining our company, as we are proud to be a family company and try to encourage and preserve family values.



One of Hutchies' family teams, from left, Charlie Wilson, Terry Wilson and Terry Wilson, Jr.

Our new building is almost here!

THE much needed office extensions are fast coming to an end and all will be pleased to move in and stretch out.

We will have 800 square metres of office space over two storeys when the building is complete.

The architect has done a great job turning our old tin shed into a first class office building.

Len White is driving the project and assures us that we will soon have a fan to move the air in the new gen's toilet.

Len claims the work would have been finished earlier, except for his foremen being poached for other projects.

OBITUARY

WALTER Raymond de Jong (2nd May 1937-26th August 1994).

WALLY de Jong was born in Bolsward, Holland and came out to Australia as an infant in 1939.

Wally's family settled in Sandgate and later moved to Brookfield. Wally started working at Hutchies in 1990 and along with the other members of the de Jong family quickly became a valued company member both at work and socially.

Wally was a tireless workers and great companion to those with whom he worked. Our sympathy to the De Jong family.



ABOVE: Among the travellers were, from left, Mary-Jeanne Hutchinson with son Jack Jr, Patrice Butterworth and Karen White.



RIGHT: Hutchies made no secret about taking over a steam train for their social outing.

Social outing lets off steam

THE Social Club organised a steam train trip from Brisbane to Brisbane, via Shorncliffe and Bethania, with 80 passengers on board.

Food, drink and scenery was plentiful, which seemed to take its toll on Peter Booker, who suffered a severe bout of motion sickness. He received very little sympathy from fellow travellers.



with
Barry Butterworth

Townsville R.S.L.

WORK is progressing on time on the new \$2.5 million Townsville R.S.L. Building.

The building is a two-storey block and concrete structure that features a huge void area in its centre.

This void, combined with roof lights over, will give the building an open tropical feel when complete.

The project is due for completion in May.

Our local office in Townsville is directly in control of the job with Dave Christofferson on site full time with our site foreman, Michael De Jong.

Supervisor is Robert Weymouth.

Architect: Project Leaders

Engineer: Progress Consultants Pty Ltd.

Keperra Sanctuary

A NEW stage of retirement units at Keperra Sanctuary Retirement Villages started in December.

This new stage comprises 15 units (stage 7C) and follows on from the previously completed stage 7B.

Valued at \$1.3 million, the new stage is due for completion in May. We are also just about to start work on the construction of a 42-bed hostel, valued at \$3.2 million, within the site.

Project team is: Site foreman Peter Barry, sub-foreman Steven Lowe, administrator Norm Norman, and supervisor Robert Weymouth.

Architect: The Buchan Group.

Engineer: Acer Wargon Chapman Qld.

Burpengary Plaza

CONSTRUCTION is continuing on the

new Heritage Shopping Centre at Burpengary.

The major tenant in the centre will be Woolworths who are due to begin fitting out the premises at the end of March.

In the fastest growing area in Queensland, the shopping centre is sure to be popular.

A number of the speciality shops have already been let with the leasing continuing.

The centre is due to be opened at the end of May.

Architect: The Buchan Group

Engineer: Weathered, Howe Pty Ltd.

Morayfield Shopping Centre

JUST prior to Christmas construction commenced on the new shopping centre on Morayfield Road, Morayfield.

This, like many other centres is a structural steel framed, tilt up concrete building, with the walls just starting to be stood.

From this stage, construction will be rapid until completion which is expected in June.

Architects, Daniels Crone, have designed and are supervising the project.

Architect: Crone & Assoc.

Engineer: Mateffy Peri Nagy (Qld) Pty Ltd.

Bridgewater Quays

WALKER Corporation is presently completing a major development on the east side of the Story Bridge at Kangaroo Point.



Brisbane Arcade Refurbishment, Adelaide & Queen Street, Brisbane

Hutchinsons are involved in stage 2 of 5 with a design and construct project of 45 units.

The units are of a high class with a lot of interest being shown from overseas investors.

Graham Neale is involved in the design development with Allan Matthews running the show from site.

Completion is anticipated for mid August.

Architect: Darryl Parker Architects.

Engineer: Whybird Farr Engineers.



Bridgewater Quays Units, Kangaroo Point, Brisbane, Queensland



Marlin Cove Unit Development, Trinity Beach, Cairns, North Queensland

Marlin Cove, Cairns

CONSTRUCTION is well advanced on this project of 48 units for Walker Corporation at a value of \$5.1 million.

This project is being managed by David Graham and is due for completion late May.

Architect: Darryl Parker.

Engineer: Weathered Howe.

Broncos Leagues Club

CONSTRUCTION of extensions and renovations to Broncos Leagues Club was completed ahead of time.

Poker machines were moved into their final position on the night of February 13 with the public moving in on the following day.

The project took just over 12 months to complete.

Our team included Mike Tickner, Murray Creevey, Louis Levinson, Eric Miles and Rex Bird with Robert Ollagher going off site in January.

Architect: Haysom Spender Architects.

Engineer: Robert Bird & Partners.

Quantity Surveyors: Gray, Robertson & Cottrell

Planning Consultant: R.C.P.

Noosa Bowls Club

A 40-week project valued at \$2.4 million is allowing for the demolition of existing and construction of a new bowls club in Noosa Drive, Noosa Heads.

Construction started recently with the relocation of bowls club administration into temporary office facilities and temporary storage for equipment

to allow demolition of greenkeepers' sheds.

First stage involves demolition of approximately 50 per cent of existing club and finish construction of new building.

On total completion of the new building, the second half of the existing building is to be demolished to allow construction of a new bowling green.

Architect: Nicholas Mandikos & Assoc.

Engineer: John Horan & Assoc.

Kenmore Medical Centre

VALUED at \$1 million, this project is due for completion late March. Foreman is Terry Wilson.

Designer: Robert Hepburn Designs.

Engineer: N.P. Krogh Structural Engineers.

Gold Coast Hospital

WORK is now completed. This project valued at \$1.2 million was carried out for QBuild.

The accident and emergency area remained operational while renovations were carried out. Foreman, Peter Haidley.

Architect: Conrad & Gargett Pty Ltd.

Canungra Community Centre

WORK is now completed. Foreman, Dave Bennett.

Speeds' Residence

WORK completed. Foreman, Syd Britton.

Shell Durack

WORK now completed. Foreman, Damien Murphy, had to keep the service station operational during refurbishment.

R.S.L. Dalby

WORK has started on the \$2.7 million project with construction time 34 weeks.

Office Development, Rockhampton

WORK will start on a \$500,000 project for Lennon Properties in June with a construction period of 16 weeks.

Some thoughts...

The best way to cheer yourself up is to cheer everybody else up.

Mark Twain.

○ ○ ○

Leadership appears to be the art of getting others to want to do something you are convinced should be done.

Vance Packard.

○ ○ ○

In every instance, we found that the best run companies stay as close to their customers as humanly possible.

Thomas J. Peters.

○ ○ ○

Calamity is the perfect glass wherein we truly see and know ourselves.

William Davenant.

○ ○ ○

Our own physical body possesses a wisdom which we who inhabit the body lack. We give it orders which make no sense.

Henry Miller.

Golf - a big hit

TWO major golf days were held recently, one at St Lucia and the other at Hope Island.

Gordon Reynolds organised the four-man Ambrose Tournament at St Lucia which was won by John Bowers and Jason McDonald, of Australian Temporary Fencing, along with Jack Hutchinson and Jason Williams.

Robert Weymouth organised the day at Hope Island for clients and consultants on the Brisbane Arcade project.

A group of 16 attacked the beautiful Hope Island course, after enjoying a tasty luncheon prepared by the Hope Island staff.

A well-known Hutchies employee was left in charge of adjudicating handicaps, as there were a few likely golfers among the crew.

The day was won by John Chivers (D. Middleton and Associates) and John O'Hagan (O'Hagan's Bobcat Hire) ... despite a desperate effort by Bruce McCracken (J. Mitchell and Associates, Quantity Surveyors) to fiddle the figures.

A good day was had by all and thanks to all participants who made the day a big hit!

Santa claws off Harley

THE Kids' Christmas Party, in December, started out with a car rally from Seventeen Mile Rocks to Thunderbird Park at Mount Tamborine.

Forty adults and 30 kids, as well as Santa Claus, made the trip.

Santa Claus was to arrive on the pillion of Jack's Harley, but he suffered a bad case of yellow spine stating a preference for the traditional mode of transport - reindeers and sleigh.

Santa arrived safely at Thunderbird Park with gifts for 30 children. Here, with Monica Weymouth, he makes her day with a present.



Give us a hand!



WE need a caption for this photo of Matthew Hutton on site at a unit block in Foxton Street, Indooroopilly.

It could be his Monday morning ritual to ward off evil weather or it could

be something to do with the headless python the ground.

You know the rules...keep it clean, send them in and we will publish the best one.

ENGAGEMENT

JASON Williams, who has been with us for almost five years, is engaged to Katherine Duffy, who works part time for the company. They make a handsome couple and we wish them every happiness.

BIRTH

NEIL (Howdy) McLeod's wife, Debbie, gave birth to a son, Michael James, on September 19. The baby was nine weeks premature and weighed just 2lb 12oz at birth. Mother is very well and baby has gained weight and is now a fit, bouncing boy.

Congratulations to Kinco

CONGRATULATIONS go to Jack Kinnaman, of Kinco, who has received recognition for his "contributions and achievements" within the American construction industry.

Each year at a Construction Appreciation Night, veterans are selected by the Associated Builders and Contractors to be acknowledged for their efforts within the industry.

It is extremely satisfying that our associated company, in Arkansas, is recognised as a winner.

Awards ceremony names new winners

THE new offices are being put to good use although they are not yet finished.



Recently, they saw their first staff Christmas Party, where a number of special awards were made.

Constructor of the Year title went to Bernie Read.

His trophy was a custom made knife valued at \$600 and presented by our sister company, Kinco Inc from Little Rock, Arkansas, USA.

The winner of the reciprocal award in Arkansas was Richard Stewart, who won the RM Williams personalised kangaroo hide boots.

The award for Exceptional Effort on a Project went to Alan Mathews, the



Gordon Reynolds whips his new rod into a frenzy.

supervisor, and Jason Williams, the administrator, for their efforts on the Paradise Centre at Surfers Paradise.

The award for 10 Years of Service in the company went to our supervisor, Len White.

Len first worked for the company



Bernie Read notes with pride his name on the Constructor of the Year Roll of Honour.

more than 20 years ago as a bricklaying sub-contractor.

He joined the company in 1984 and has been a very valuable member of our building team and one of the driving forces behind the success of our Social Club.

The Five Year awards, personalised carbon fibre rods, made by the Australian Tackle Company at Carole Park, and famous six-inch Queensland Alvey reels, went to Terry Wilson, Peter Booker, Gordon Reynolds and Paul Hart.

Unfortunately, there was a slight mix-up with Bill Hodgson. Bill had five years up, but as he had a short stint with J. Scott Builders, it did not show on the computer.

Sorry Bill, a rod is on order.

What did we blame before computers?



Len White holds the audience spell-bound as he explains the joy of leather.

Top marks for Pioneer Regatta

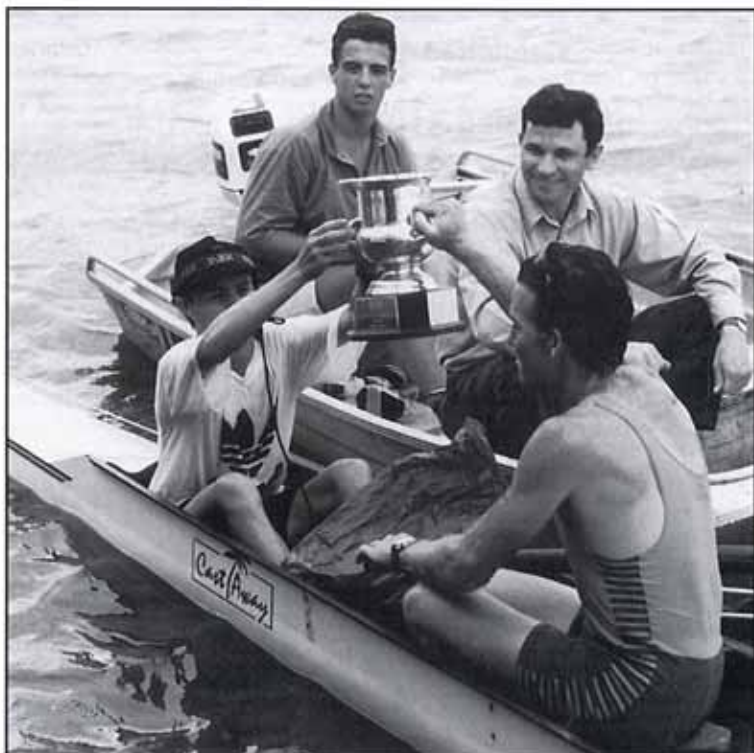
HUTCHINSON Builders again played a major part in organising the very successful Toowong Rowing Club's Pioneer Head of the Brisbane Regatta early in February.

A special thank you goes to Janis Brischke, who did an enormous amount of the organising work and gave her time far beyond the call of duty.

A special thank you also goes to Pioneer Concrete and many of Hutchies' suppliers and sub-contractors who gave their financial support to the Regatta.

A great time was had by all at the Oxley Wharf restaurant...wining, dining and watching the athletes work!

Jeremy Smith, of Pioneer Concrete, presents the trophy to the winner of the Pioneer Head of the Brisbane Regatta organised by Hutchies.



HUTCHINSON

BUILDERS

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