

Principal Partner

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**MASTER BUILDERS
ASSOCIATION**

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THE MASTER BUILDER

Goldfields Esperance Region

Summer 08 Newsletter

From the Branch Manager

2008 has been a successful year for the Goldfields Esperance region and 2009 promises to be even better.

The demand for new houses in the area has been astonishing and the building industry has been reaping the rewards. Builders in both Esperance and Kalgoorlie have been working hard from dawn to dusk with no time to rest or take holidays. While the rest of Australia look to the negative with the current financial crisis, building in Kalgoorlie-Boulder has slowed marginally and Esperance is

holding strong.

As always, the Goldfields Esperance region is like know other region and will always stand out from the rest with its adaptability and resourcefulness. After spending 9 of the last 18 days in Perth at various conferences, I am proud to say I'm from the country where we dare to be different.

As we wind down for 2008 and ready ourselves for 2009 remember although times are tough there is always a silver lining.

The Next Step

A Next Step Builders Seminar was held in Kalgoorlie on the 15th Sept at the Hannan's Club.

15 people attended the Seminar, presented by Gavan Forster from Master Builders. Gavan outlined the various pathways available to achieve Builders Registration. The content of the seminar reinforced the high level of skill and experience required to achieve Registration.

January 2009 will see changes to the process, sample questions will be available, but the exam questions will be harder. You will only be entitled to two attempts (previously three) at the exam and there will be a cost associated.

For more information on Builders Registration call Gavan Forster on 9476 9800.

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Advertise here for only \$110 inc gst
(50% discount for MBA Members)

Call Colleen on 9021 5494

SOLD

Team Building

On the 21st September five Master Builder members in conjunction with the State Emergency Service experienced a joint outing. The activity was nail biting, hair raising and life changing for several of the members.

The five members, Michael Young (Westralia Homes), Wayne Howle (Edgepoint Constructions), Ferdinand Baccay, David Fitzgerald and Joshua Jones (Goldfields Steel Framing) all took the plunge, abseiling down a cliff face just south of Kalgoorlie-Boulder.



Josh, Michael, Wayne, Dave, Ferdinand and Colleen gear up ready to abseil.



Michael and Colleen pause to check foot placement



Wayne Howle descends from great heights.

After some initial training on a small hill, where they practiced a tying off method for safety, they proceeded to descend under their own steam down a 20 metre cliff face. Each member was escorted down with an experienced abseiling person in attendance and there was a break-person at the bottom of the cliff ready in case of any risk.

The activity required members to take a great leap of faith, by trusting in the personal around them and build their own self-assurance. With each jump the members became more confident and were then required to take on the position of break-person for the next person abseiling down.

The trust in their companions was clearly demonstrated at one stage when a large rock fell from above and the break-person, Michael Young, was quick to act by pulling on the rope. This saved Wayne Howle from possibly falling to the ground when the rock impacted against him. Due to some excellent training, Wayne received only some minor abrasions, racing to the top to have another go. Throughout the whole afternoon, experienced abseiling personal were on hand keeping a very close eye on the activities.

While abseiling we had a magical view of the Goldfields and were able to watch a dust storm rolling in. The storm brought the activity to a sudden end, hammering us with dust and rain during the pack-up process at 4pm.

This was the second successfully run team-building event this year in Kalgoorlie-Boulder, with all members indicating an interest in participating in future events.

Master Builders Goldfields Esperance region would like to thank the Kalgoorlie-Boulder State Emergency Service for their assistance.

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Skill Hire Sundowner

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SKILL HIRE sponsored a sundowner held on Friday 17 October in Kalgoorlie. 20 people attended, to listen to three key speakers – Allan Tracey from Skill Hire, Dennis Basset from City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder and Rod Botica from Water Corporation.

Allan from Skill Hire discussed the finer issues of apprenticeships and the ability to move apprentices to various work places to ensure a variety of skills are achieved. The company currently employs trainees and apprentices in carpentry and joinery, bricklaying, electrical, tiling, painting, plumbing, mechanical, metal trades, meat processing, and administration fields.

Call Allan on 0428 641 114 or check out their website at <http://www.skillhire.com.au/> for more information.

5 STAR PLUS - Dennis Basset talked about the new building specifications requirements, which must be presented with all building approvals. Dennis also discussed the implementation of the Five Star Energy Efficient Rating requirements.

The State Government has introduced 5 Star Plus – that builds on the energy efficiencies of 5 Star and adds the benefits of water reduction measures for homes right across the State.

5 Star Plus is based around two new building codes, the Water Use in Houses Code and the Energy Use in Houses Code.

The two Codes are written to supplement the Building Code of Australia (BCA) and adopt BCA definitions and format for consistency. "The codes will be referenced under the Building Regulations 1989 to apply to all new residential Class 1 and 10 buildings from 1 September 2007".

For more information check out the Department for Housing and Works website at <http://www.5starplus.wa.gov.au/builders/>

WATER EFFICIENCY in Kalgoorlie-Boulder can save consumers thousands of dollars in the long term, were just a few of the benefits Rod Botica talked about during his session.

Plumbers and builders play an important role in encouraging Australians to use water more efficiently. They are also bound by law to ensure that they are selling WELS (Water Efficiency Labelling and Standards Scheme) rated products.

Some products are still eligible for rebates under the revised 2008-09 Waterwise Rebate Program.

Applications for all types of Water Corporation building approvals or quotes can now be lodged over the internet through BuilderNet®.

For advice on water efficiency, call Rod Botica on phone 9080 1017 or go to the website at <http://www.watercorporation.com.au/index.cfm>

Congratulations to Nathan Passmoore and Angus Buchanan who won the door prizes supplied by Skill Hire.



Mathew Quinlan (Matlan Constructions), Simon Pekovich (Goldfields Homes) and Angus Buchanan (Golden Hind Homes) listen intently to Dennis Basset.

The new codes apply to Class 1 and Class 10 buildings only.

The Energy Use In Houses Code - confirms the existing 5 Star provisions for house design and construction and adds requirements for energy efficient water heating.

The Water Use In Houses Code - aims to reduce the consumption of water in residential homes by requiring water efficient fittings, minimising the wastage of water and facilitating the appropriate use of alternative sources of water such as grey water and rain water.



Allan Tracey from Skill Hire talks to Rod Botica from Water Corporation over a drink.

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Happy Birthday

Brent Dowling and his two girls

Birthday - 29 January
Trade - Carpenter/Builder
16 years experience
Interests - Renovating,
Helped re-build a town in Queensland after a cyclone destroyed it in 2006.

New MBA Members

Precision Form Constructions

Kelly Glasgow

ND Balios Constructions

Nik Ballios

Dowling Renovations and Constructions

Brent Dowling

We're welcome aboard

Quote of the month:

"Every action has an opposite and equal reaction."

Calendar of events

January 2009

AGM - Sponsored by Landcorp - Kalg 27th

February 2009

Team Building - Kalg
Contracts Course -
Esp 20th

March 2009

Committee Meeting -
Esp 16th

April 2009

Next Step Builders Seminar -
Kalg 15th
Golf Day Classic
- Kalg 24th

May 2009

Try-a-Trade Expo
- Kalg 14th
Committee Meeting
- Kalg 15th
BEA Entries close
- All 22nd

June 2009

BEA Judging Kalgoorlie
- 22-24
BEA Judging Esperance
- 25-26
Committee Meeting
- Esp 26th
Next Step Builders Seminar -
Esp 29th

August 2009

Building Excellence Awards
Dinner - Esp 8th

September 2009

Committee Meeting
- Kalg 18th

October 2009

Golf Day Classic
- Esp 24th

We need your help.

WA School Holidays for 2009

Autumn - 10 April to 27 April 2009

Winter - 4 July to 19 July 2009

Spring - 26 September to 11 October 2009

Summer - 17 December to 1 February 2010

Public Holidays in Western Australia for 2009

New Year's Day - Thursday 1 January

Australia Day - Monday 26 January

Labour Day - Monday 2 March

Good Friday - Friday 10 April

Easter Monday - Monday 13 April

ANZAC Day - Saturday 25 April

ANZAC Day Public Holiday - Monday 27 April

Foundation Day - Monday 1 June

Queen's Birthday - Monday 28 September

Christmas Day - Friday 25 December

Boxing Day - Saturday 26 December

Boxing Day Public Holiday - Monday 28 December

Do you have a story or something of interest to share?

Email a word document

and photo to:

kalgoorlie@mbawa.com and