



# The Inside Story - Issue 19



## Jayden Wood awarded ASOFIA Queensland Apprentice of the Year

It was another proud moment for PQI recently when Jayden Wood was announced as Queensland Off-Site Construction Apprentice of the Year, an outstanding achievement in recognition of his hard work.

Jayden is now in the running for National Apprentice of the year and we wish him every success with that. Jayden is now a qualified tradesman and this achievement is all the more significant considering it



was achieved in his last year, a time in an apprenticeship where arguably one can face the strongest competition.

Jayden received the coveted Phil Boron Memorial Shield from Emilia Brown, daughter of long time sponsor of the award, Tom Brown of Thomas Brown shopfitters. Jayden also received a very handy financial award and a grant to further his training in the trade.

## From the Managing Director's Desk



*Brad Dunne*

Welcome to the latest addition of our Newsletter.

The year has flown past with many milestones for the company, I would like to start off by congratulating David Kelly, one of our highly skilled and dedicated craftsmen whom this year celebrates 10 years with PQI.

I would also like to welcome to our team some wonderful new faces, Chloé Marando, Giulia Bruno, Josh Shield, Alan Markey, Len Andersson, Gary Martin, Brett Querruel and Sam Gapes. All very skilled and play a vital role in the company's operations. Of Course, a special mention to Jayden Wood whom was awarded the ASOFIA Queensland apprentice of the year for 2017.



I must also wholeheartedly thank our colleagues Russell Baker and Shaun Spencer whom have moved on after long and valuable careers with PQI. Both are missed and we wish them the very best in their futures.

I have spent much of the year building on our successful West Australian operations. In early October we took possession of our new offices and warehouse at 8 Murphy Street, O'Connor which now places us in a great position to best serve our clients as the phenomenal redevelopment in the West advances.





# Gucci Iconic on Collins Street, Melbourne



**We are absolutely delighted with the manner in which PQ has delivered on this outstanding project.**

-Joseph Vu, Store Planning & Facilities Director at Gucci Group

Projects Queensland (PQ) has delivered the fitout for a fabulous Gucci store of 600m<sup>2</sup> at 161 Collins Street, Melbourne. The design and concept conceived by Gucci's Creative Director Alessandro Michele features the company's complete collection of men's and women's ready-to-wear fashion, jewellery, accessories, shoes and handbags.

Projects Director Craig Stewart said the store location in a prominent corner position of the heritage listed T&G building presented PQ's team with major structural challenges to open up the new space.



"The structural alteration component required significant steel framing support – we were faced with an undefined completion program for these alterations. We worked closely with Gucci's consulting engineers to complete these complex construction elements and meet Gucci's opening plans. We had previously fitted out a Gucci men and women's store in the same building and the new tenants for

this space had a tight occupancy program so we had double deadlines to move Gucci out and into their luxurious new premises. The store features unique Gucci designed floor tiling, exotic rugs, softly coloured wall surfaces, mixed with traditional, modern, industrial design elements that highlight the product range complemented with strategic lighting designs.



# Paspaley Perth a prestige pearl paradise

Earlier this year Brad Dunne received the news that Paspaley had awarded PQ the contract for a new store at Perth's Crown Casino. Following the successful build at Crown, Paspaley moved quickly with the appointment of PQ for a new store, at Chadstone Shopping Centre in Melbourne.

"Paspaley's fitout designs are of a global standard and employ beautiful materials that are not only a challenge, but also a pleasure for our team to work with", said Brad Dunne. General Manager Global Retail for Paspaley, Richard Broug, said both boutiques formally opened in October bringing us to eight standalone retail outlets nationally.

"These are exciting times for Paspaley as we continue to expand our retail operations in Australia. With boutiques now in Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Perth, Broome, Darwin, as well as our E-Boutique, we are better able to serve a growing customer base as Paspaley Pearls are becoming more sought after, not just in Australia, but the world over", said Richard Broug.



## Céline, Sydney

Following the successful fitout of French maison Céline at Chadstone Shopping Centre, PQ was appointed by the label's supervising architect Frank Marioli to fitout the second Australian store in Sydney. PQ's Senior Project Manager Josh Turner was responsible for fitout of both Céline entries into Australia. The 186m2 store design has clean lines and pared-back simplicity, hallmarks of the brand's creative director, Phoebe Philo.

Josh said quality raw materials were specified, such as onyx, fired terracotta, carved lime wood and industrial chipboard complemented with foliage, and black metal hanging rails.



## Bvlgari, Sydney

Projects Queensland (PQ) has completed a temporary store for Bvlgari at the MLC Centre, Castlereagh Street. The project occupied a vacant tenancy of 200m2 and the contract ran from 18th September to handover on 27th October.

Project Manager, Wayne Middleton said the 40 day contract ran smoothly. New carpet was installed, new window display units built and existing fixtures were revitalised. "We are also completing a new Bvlgari fitout at Chadstone", said Wayne.





# Kokoda Challenges again

PQ Project Manager Wayne Middleton is always up for a challenge although not the sort he faces working on complex fitouts. Over the past three years Wayne has successfully participated in the Kokoda Challenge (KC) Event Series, a gruelling, nearly 100km track event through the Gold Coast hinterland.

This charity event run by the Kokoda Youth Foundation was founded by Vietnam veteran Doug Henderson OAM, and inspired by the WW11 story of the battle of the Kokoda Track. Each year thousands of 'runners' participate in the KC.



Wayne said funds raised contribute to the Kokoda Challenge Youth Program that involves physical and mental training leading to potential travel to PNG to walk the Kokoda Track or visit the coastal villages and memorials, and culminating in 6 months of community service. "This is an amazing community event and our team W2B Trail Hackers were grateful for Projects Queensland's support", said Wayne.



# Staff Profiles



**Chloé Marando**  
Age: 33  
Role: Estimating Assistant

**Family/Kids:** 7 years married to David & 3 bambini! – Luana 7, Alexis 6, Sol 4

**Interests/Hobbies:** Travel - 29 countries, some multiple visits. Renovating, cooking and anything food related, music, wellness, fitness, Muay Thai boxing and skateboarding.

**Career Highlights:** New blood at PQ! A change of career direction since hanging up my wings, after having spent 13 years at 40,000ft crewing long & short haul services as a Flight Attendant with Virgin. Some high times included meeting Richard Branson and operating First Class while making small talk with celebrities. I have been fortunate enough to have landed at PQ with an awesome team.

**Favourite Food:** Mexican street food, Spanish tapas, Indian and vegetarian

**Favourite Holiday Destination:** NYC, Italy (fell in love in Venice!) and Japan

**Heroes:** Dad for patience, values and respect. Mum for strength, resilience, risk taking and positivity.

**Villains:** People who see the glass as half empty.

**Biggest Fear:** Snakes as was bitten when little.



**Gary Martin**  
Age: 58  
Role: Shopfitter/Cabinetmaker

**Family/Kids:** Wife, 2 sons and a daughter

**Interests/Hobbies:** Rugby League, surfing, fishing and fitness

**Career Highlights:** Being part of a team in both sport & work and watching the success of both men & women achieve their goals.

**Favourite Food:** Still love a good bacon & eggs, coffee & juice

**Favourite Holiday Destination:** Uluwatu in Bali

**Heroes:** My family

**Villains:** Sports critics

**Biggest Fear:** Getting too old to do the simple things

# Congratulations Megan Puls

Acclaimed ceramist Megan Puls is widely exhibited and highly awarded for her unique works. PQ was delighted to see a prize the company had sponsored won by Megan at the 2017 Gold Coast Potters Association Annual (GCPA) Members Exhibition recently which was organised by Exhibition Convenor and fellow acclaimed ceramic artist Bill Powell.



A big thank-you also to Megan, Bill and fellow GCPA members Pauline Bladin, Larissa Warren and Jennie Lisha for their generous donation of items for prizes for QIDA's (Queensland Interior Decorators Association) Christmas event of which PQ are also associate members. As a brand based on creativity, vision and very much community Projects Queensland are delighted to support both of these Queensland associations.



[www.goldcoastpotters.com](http://www.goldcoastpotters.com)    [www.meganpuls.com](http://www.meganpuls.com)

# Tis the season...



Thank-you for your support in 2017. The team at Projects Queensland Interiors wishes you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Our office will be closed from Wednesday 20th December 2017 & will re-open on Monday 15th January 2018.

PQ staff have all been contributing to our charity hamper which will this year be donated to Mission Australia who assist the homeless, mentally ill, disabled and disadvantaged. We are accepting donations of any household items (food, toys etc) until 5pm on Wednesday 20th December.

**MISSION AUSTRALIA** | together we stand  
[www.missionaustralia.com.au](http://www.missionaustralia.com.au)

# Oz Tag win



Congratulations to Projects Queensland Draftsman Darren Howe's Oz Tag team who won the seniors mixed, division D grand final for the Miami Raptors. 8 minutes of extra time resulted in a 7-6 win.

**PROJECTS QUEENSLAND INTERIORS**

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