Issue 2, 2008

Bonacci newsletter

horizons

Welcome

Welcome to the second Bonacci newsletter for 2008. We trust you enjoy this update and look forward to your feedback.

For updates on our projects, please visit: **www.bonaccigroup.com**

In this edition of Horizons, we pay tribute to our founding Director, Nat Bonacci, an engineering legend. We also highlight some of our key projects and acknowledge recent staff promotions.

Indeed, the last few months have been bittersweet, with some exciting project wins tempered by the loss of Nat.

Vale, **Nat Bonacci (1947-2008)**

A founding Director of the Company, Nat Bonacci passed away on 21 June 2008, at the age of 61, following long term illness. He was born in Italy, on 26 January 1947 and arrived in Australia when he was four years old. From those beginnings, he carved himself a place in Victorian construction history, through his engineering know how.

Educated at Wangaratta Tech, RMIT and Melbourne University, he, along with Kevin Winward, established Bonacci Winward (now Bonacci Group) in 1981. Nat and his founding partner perceived that clients welcomed focused expertise and personal commitment from senior experienced members of their consulting team. The Company introduced a new level of engineering commitment and professionalism to the marketplace and, under Nat's leadership, Bonacci Group has undertaken a diverse range of structural and civil engineering projects, branched out into civil and, more recently, water sustainability, which continues to provide the Group with exciting opportunites.

It is fair to say that Nat's influence on the Company was significant. As well as being successful in business, Nat had a character all his own, and he invariably made a lasting impression on those who came to know him. He was loud, boisterous, passionate and especially enthusiastic. Such was his nature that, even when he tried one's patience, with his ever present enthusiasm to get things done, you couldn't help but marvel at his work ethic and the pace he consistently maintained in all he did. And in his quest to get so much done in so little time, he may have appeared abrupt to some. But for those who knew him, it was his enthusiasm to do whatever it took to get the job done. Put simply, the man never stopped. He was always 'go, go, go'! And in the blink of an eye, he had the capacity to move on to the next thing on his 'plate' with the same level of enthusiasm.

There was nothing contrived about Nat, and it was just his nature to want to ensure that the client received the best possible result. A trait he helped foster and instill in the new generation of the Company's management.

Nat was a generous, caring man, with a heart of gold. A true friend and an honourable gentleman. He had an absolute inner strength and an unwavering common sense that was fascinating. While we were all thinking up the solution, he had already drafted up the answer. He was always at his best when there was a problem to solve or a crisis to resolve. Whenever there was a crisis, Nat was always the "go to man". He ignored politics, personalities, due process and just went straight to the problem and orchestrated a fix — not thinking about the sensitivities and what people thought of him. He just solved the problem. To watch him work, to watch him laugh, to watch him teach an up-start engineer a thing or two... enjoyable!

That quality, and strength of character, saw him 'engineer' some of our most well known city landmarks which include:

- Grand Hyatt
- Park Hyatt
- No. 1 Spring Street, Melbourne
- ANZ Bank World Headquarters, Collins Street
- Crown Promenade Hotel, Southbank
- BHP Billiton Tower, Melbourne (QV)
- No. 1 Martin Place Redevelopment, Sydney (GPO)
- Council House 2 (CH2)
- Newman College Spire
- 420 St Kilda Road
- Mt Hotham Road Diversion
- Customs House, 414 La Trobe Street
- St Patrick's Cathedral (Renovation)
- Wardle Tower, Queen Vic Project
- ASIC Offices, Traralgon
- Australian Wheat Board offices, 380 La Trobe Street
- Australian Taxation Office, Parramatta
- Lobana Tower, Sydney (Rialto)

Nat was honoured with many awards during his career, but his greatest passion was his family.

Some months before he died he was very proud to accept the Sir William Hudson award for Engineering. This is the foremost prize awarded by Engineers Australia for Engineering Excellence and cemented Bonacci Group as a pre-eminent engineering group.

Whilst no longer with us, Bonacci's will forever be 'his' Company. He is sadly missed by all.

Vale Nat, an inspiration to us all!

Bonacci Group support Homeless Housing Development

The Directors of Bonacci Group have offered structural and civil engineering services to Grocon, to support a $45 million inner-city homeless shelter, to be located at 660 Elizabeth Street, Melbourne. The site, located near the Royal Melbourne Hospital, will provide residents with services including health, training and employment. The home is based on a New York model known as “common ground”, and will house and care for up to 120 homeless people.

The project consists of a 10 level apartment building, along with ground and basement levels. It is to be constructed between existing properties to the north and south and will have street frontages to both Elizabeth Street and Berkeley Street.

Bonacci Group has agreed to provide engineering services for conceptual design, sketch design and design development ‘pro bono’, and ‘cost recovery’ for contract documentation and construction stage services.

Directors and staff appreciate the benefits this project will bring to many needy persons and families, and is committed to supporting Grocon through the delivery process.

Construction is due to begin in late 2008, with completion expected in 2010.

For more information about this project, please contact:

Brendan Stapleton (Director)
T 03 9418 4000

Hedley Bull Centre at Australian National University: official opening

On 6 August 2008, Prime Minister Kevin Rudd officially opened the $17.5 million Hedley Bull Centre. This unique building, located at the Australian National University (ANU), Canberra, is the new home for the university’s Centre for World Politics. The building is a 4 storey hexagonal shaped structure, and includes a 60 seat lecture theatre and a 100 seat auditorium.

Bonacci Group provided both structural and civil engineering services, working closely with Lyons Architects and Construction Control (builder) to engineer a rational and ready buildable design for this iconic addition to the ANU.

For more information about this project, please contact:

Stephen Payne (Director)
T 03 9418 4000

Bonacci Civil news

Edgewater, Maribyrnong

Bonacci Group has recently been engaged by Beyo Group to design and document 16 allotments with 120 apartment units on Lot G, at the corner of Edgewater Boulevard and Skyline Drive. The development will have its own private roads. The site is very steep and will provide a range of challenges for the engineers with slope stabilisation and site retention. Bonacci Group, in addition to undertaking all civil aspects of the project, will also provide structural concept design for individual town houses.

Construction is nearing completion for Stages 1 and 2.

Retirement Villages

Bonacci Group is involved with two major retirement village developments, namely Nagambie, consisting of 180 units and a community centre, and the other in Broadford, comprising 150 units and a community centre. The challenge of the Nagambie retirement village development is to provide self-sustainable solutions for stormwater and wastewater discharges. Bonacci Group and Bonacci Water will apply integrated water cycle management principles as part of its civil engineering deliverables for the Client. Construction of the display centre is expected to be completed in November 2008.

For more information about these projects, please contact either:

Geoff Foster (Director)
T 03 9418 4000

Douglas Nguyen (Associate Director)
T 03 9418 4000

Project updates

150 Clarendon Street, East Melbourne, Mercy Redevelopment project

The 150 Clarendon Street Mercy Redevelopment Project is well underway, converting a late 1960's hospital to what is considered the world's most exclusive apartment building. Around the corner in Gipps Street, a new Aged Care Facility is almost complete and the adjacent 140 Gipps Street building will be developed as medium-sized apartments.

At 150 Clarendon Street, the north and south cores now extend up to Level 11. Onsite the contractor, Salta, is preparing to form the Level 12 slab and the façade is currently being installed on all elevations.

At the Aged Care facility in Gipps Street, the roof framing to plant room on Level 3 is now under construction.

At the 140 Gipps Street building, construction is imminent.

For more information about this project, please contact:

Lou Piovesan (Director)
T 03 9418 4000

Faculty of Health Science and The Menzies Research Institute Co-Location project, University of Tasmania

The University of Tasmania (UTas) project is currently under construction, with completion due in Spring 2009. The suspended slab on ground is 70% complete, with the first run of architectural feature precast panels being installed. The 2 precast service cores have already been completed.

Construction of the building footings has encountered very variable and difficult ground conditions. Alternative footing systems have been utilised along the way, to address the issue appropriately. The building will consist of 5 levels, including a post-tensioned concrete roof/plant room. Typical floor area is approximately 1,800 square metres.

Levels 1 and 2 will provide teaching spaces. Levels 3 and 4 will provide staff office spaces, meeting rooms and common utility areas. Level 5 will provide a specialist research laboratory.

The building floors have typically been designed as suspended post-tensioned floors, using metal tray formwork. The band beams are also post-tensioned. Level 1, however, has been designed as a suspended reinforced concrete slab on ground.

For more information about this project, please contact:

Stephen Payne (Director)
T 03 9418 4000

Burnley Street and Victoria Street precinct, Richmond

Bonacci Group is currently working on several projects for Salta Properties, at/near the corner of Burnley Street and Victoria Street, Richmond.

Walmer Street

Construction on the $52 million Walmer Street development has commenced. Located on the corner of Victoria and Walmer Streets in Richmond (opposite Victoria Gardens Shopping Centre), the building is expected to contain some of the most sought after office spaces in Melbourne. This six-level office building of 13,250 square metres offers views along the Yarra River. The space is designed to achieve a 4.5 star ABGR rating.

British Aero Space Office

Located behind the Victoria Gardens Shopping Centre in Richmond, this office building is currently being constructed. The building consists of three basements of carparking, in difficult ground conditions, below a ground level foyer and office. The tower component comprises four levels of high quality office space below a concrete roof supporting the servicing plant. The structure has been topped out at the time of writing.

Yarra Gardens

Bonacci Group will provide structural and civil engineering services to Salta Properties for the new Yarra Gardens development in Richmond. To be located on the corner of Burnley Street and Victoria Street (including the site of the old Melbourne Fire Brigade building), Yarra Gardens will be a mixed use development, including high density residential, commercial and retail. The exciting new development will be located between the Yarra River and the Victoria Gardens precinct.

For more information about this project, please contact:

Lou Piovesan (Director)
T 03 9418 4000

Some recent new projects

RMIT

Bonacci Group will provide structural and civil engineering services for the new RMIT Business School building. The 40,000 square metre building, to be built on the corner of A'Beckett and Swanton streets, will be between 12 and 14 storeys. The building will be designed to a minimum 5 star green rating. It is scheduled for a completion date towards the end of 2011.

For more information about this project, please contact:

Stephen Payne (Director)
T 03 9418 4000

The Olivia Newton John Cancer Centre

The Olivia Newton John Cancer Centre (ONJCC) is currently in feasibility phase. The proposed project is to develop a world class cancer treatment and research facility. The development is expected to comprise a six-level building with potentially two-basements below the existing Heidelberg House ground level, at the Austin Hospital in Heidelberg.

The new building will be linked back to the Austin Tower/Lance Townsend/ Harold Stokes buildings and Zeltner Hall, the latter being part of the new ONJCC complex.

At a cost of approximately $85 million, Stage 1 will comprise the following:

- Two radiotherapy bunkers
- Ambulatory oncology
- Health and wellness centre
- Foyer and reception areas
- Shell area for Ludwig Institute for Cancer Research

The building will also be future-proofed to take additional levels to accommodate inpatient wards for acute oncology beds, the clinical trials program, a 28 palliative care beds ward (Stage 2) and two additional, fully fitted, radiotherapy bunkers and associated planning space.

For more information about this project, please contact:

Stephen Payne (Director)
T 03 9418 4000

WaterMarque

Bonacci Group will shortly commence work on the WaterMarque project in Geelong. This $100 million landmark project comprises two joined residential towers of 16 and 12 levels, facing Mercer and Kerley Streets, and overlooking Corio Bay. The development will accommodate 90 private residences, 80 serviced apartments and a restaurant and bar on ground level. The project will also provide for a pool, gymnasium, spa and sauna and space for 300 cars.

For more information about this project, please contact:

Lou Piovesan (Director)
T 03 9418 4000

35-47 Coventry Street, Southbank

Bonacci Group will provide structural and civil engineering services for the 35-47 Coventry Street residential building in Southbank. The $80 million project consists of three levels of carparking below ground, ground and mezzanine floor retail/carparking, 20 levels of apartments, in concrete frame.

For more information about this project, please contact:

Lou Piovesan (Director)
T 03 9418 4000

Bonacci Sydney news

Adelaide Street, Brisbane

Meriton Apartments' first development in Brisbane is a 77 level apartment building located on the river adjacent to the Boundary Street Bridge. The tower extends 245 metres above ground and with a planned width of only 19 metres makes this building one of the most slender, for its height, in the entire southern hemisphere. This will require a liquid tuned mass damper on the roof, to reduce the accelerations of the building under wind loads, to within acceptable levels. The basement extends 10 levels below Adelaide Street, making it one of the deepest basements ever constructed in the Brisbane CBD and will take over nine months to excavate.

Kirra Surf Apartments

This project is a joint development between Macquarie Bank and Parkview Constructions, and comprises a luxury residential apartment building located on the beach front at Kirra Beach. It consists of a fourteen level apartment building over a large retail level, with a single level basement below ground. Load bearing precast was used for the vertical structure of this building, to both speed up construction and also provide the high quality external finish required by the project architects.

Cotton Beach Apartments

Multiplex Living's Cotton Beach development consists of 129 apartments and café tenancy. Located in the beachfront community of Casuarina Beach, on the far north coast of NSW, it is a prestige low-rise, multi-residential development, which forms part of the award winning master planned community of Casuarina Beach. The project features a central lagoon pool area and many of the apartments are fitted with individual plunge pools with infinity edges. The development rises three levels above ground and has a single level basement. The project utilised full load bearing precast, which facilitated a significant reduction in construction time and also created the curved balconies that give this development its distinctive shape.

For more information about these Sydney projects, please contact:

Tim Hoare (Director)
T 02 8247 8400

Bonacci Water — news

Bonacci Water recently delivered a comprehensive study for the City of Greater Geelong. The report — Stormwater Management Strategy for Armstrong Creek — aims to assist Council to set objectives for stormwater management, which includes an integrated approach to stormwater management that meets objectives for hydraulic capacity and waterway management.

The study provides an understanding of the extent of flooding and mitigation options in the Armstrong Creek Urban Growth area. It also aims to minimise the disturbance of waterways created by altered flow regimes and to protect natural drainage and aquatic ecosystems. This will assist to minimise the impact of urban development on the water quality in receiving waters, the down stream environment and the RAMSAR wetlands.

The study aims to enhance the value and public amenity of the existing stream corridors, biodiversity and environment of Armstrong Creek as a key asset of the Armstrong Creek Urban Growth area. It includes the principles of Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD), sustainable urban growth and a full range of urban design, water conservation and local stormwater infrastructure options likely to be proposed by developers.

To read this report, please visit our website **www.bonacciwater.com** and click on the link.

For more information about this project, please contact:

Peter Coombes (Director)
T 03 9418 4000

Just add water...

Bonacci Water director, Dr. Peter Coombes, has featured extensively in the media in recent weeks. Melbourne's future water security was the topic of lengthy discussions during the month of August, with several newspaper articles published on the subject.

The Age, in Melbourne, has run a series of special investigative reports titled 'Watershed', which have examined options for dealing with Melbourne's water supply problems. Research carried out by Dr. Peter Coombes has been quoted extensively in these reports. Peter was also invited by The Age to prepare a comment piece on the role of rainwater tanks, as part of the solution to our current water problems.

In the article published in The Age on 27 August 2008, Peter discussed opportunities for Melbourne's households to partner with authorities in managing our water future. He stated that 'rainwater tanks benefit society in many ways. For a start, they reduce dependence on water supply from centralised sources (such as dams and inland rivers) and assist with the management of stormwater run-off.' It is important to note that rainwater tanks alone won't solve the water crisis, but as part of a water-wise strategy, rainwater tanks help to reduce our reliance on tap water.

Peter also stated 'our water future involves a far greater range of challenges, all of which require greater understanding of detail. We need to move away from the natural human response to generalise a problem that is perceived to be too complex. We need to embrace this complexity in order to fully understand the opportunity and find better solutions. There is a role for everyone — the state, citizens and the water monopolies. Similarly there is a need for a wide range of water solutions — from rainwater tanks to dams.'

To view these articles, and various reports relating to water management, please visit: **www.bonacciwater.com** and follow the links.

Reports available include:

Stormwater Management Strategy for Armstrong Creek

This study aims to assist Council to set policy objectives for stormwater management and to provide an understanding of the extent of flooding and mitigation options in the Armstrong Creek Urban Growth area.

Systems Analysis — Responsible Water Use at Armstrong Creek

This report investigates the full range of local water sources and demand management strategies that can improve the security of regional water supplies. These strategies deliver increased flexibility to regional water planning.

Trivia

Here's a mind boggling bit of trivia for you...
It takes approximately 138,000 litres of water to manufacture a new car.
Now that's a lot water!!!

Bonacci Group growth...

DOUGLAS NGUYEN **Associate Director**
Melbourne (Civil)

Douglas has 21 years engineering experience in civil and infrastructure works, both in Australia and overseas. His promotion to Associate Director will see him take on the role of manager for our Melbourne Civil department and he will be responsible for the day to day running of civil projects and staff.

Douglas is currently working on several projects, including the Wyong Sewerage Trunk Mains project in N.S.W. Bonacci Group has been commissioned to investigate, develop concept design and detail design 14km's of trunk sewer lines and two pump stations for two major townships in Warnervale and Wyong Employment Zone.

OWEN RICHARDS **Associate**
Geelong (Bonacci Water)

Owen is an accomplished civil/environmental engineer with over 10 years experience. He has been with the company for 3½ years and in this time has become a valuable and highly skilled employee. The Directors of Bonacci Water thought they would permanently borrow Owen's talents and have welcomed him aboard the Bonacci Water team. Owen is currently working on several projects, including Armstrong Creek Urban Growth Area and the Fyansford Quarry and Cement Works redevelopment. Owen is based in our Geelong office.

ANNA MONTELEONE **Executive Assistant**
Melbourne (Administration)

Anna has been with the company for 13 years and in that time has contributed greatly to the growth and success of the company. She has proven herself to be a valuable and highly regarded employee. In her new role, Anna will continue to provide key administration support to the Directors and Senior Staff, and will manage the day to day running of the office. Congratulations Anna on a job well done and for the well-deserved recognition.

We thank all the above key personnel for their hard work and congratulate them on their achievements.

New redesigned website

We are pleased to present the newly redesigned Bonacci website, which provides easy access to our recent achievements, services, and details current and completed projects.

Please visit our website regularly for updates on our latest news, career opportunities and projects.

For more information, please contact us. We welcome all comments and feedback on the site, to ensure it is responsive to the needs of its visitors.

www.bonaccigroup.com

Lou Piovesan
21 years of service

In this edition of Horizons, we highlight the career of Lou Piovesan (Director), who recently reached 21 years of service with Bonacci Group.

Lou commenced with the company as a Design Engineer, in March 1987, steadily worked his way up through the ranks and was appointed Director in 2004.

Over many years of practical experience, Lou has obtained an extensive understanding of structural engineering and construction techniques, which he incorporates into designs, to produce readily buildable and economical structures that respect the intent of the designed architecture and skill of the contractor, whilst meeting the needs of the client.

Lou has established good working relationships with many leading architects and has successfully assisted in the delivery of a broad range of developments across Melbourne's CBD and surrounding inner suburbs.

Some of Lou's major engineering works include:

- Geelong Leisurelink Redevelopment
- Launceston Regional Aquatic Centre
- RACV Headquarters
- Southern Cross Melbourne Redevelopment
- City Square Project
- Royal Melbourne Hospital
- RAAF College Relocation Project
- Melbourne Aquarium
- Mercy Hospital Redevelopment
- Mercedes-Benz of Melbourne
- Croydon Aquatic Centre
- Ascot Vale Sports & Fitness Centre
- Sunshine Swim & Leisure Centre
- Wingecarribee Leisure Centre

Congratulations Lou on reaching the 21 year milestone!!!!