

# T HUTCHIES' TRUTH

A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER FOR HUTCHINSON BUILDERS

SEPTEMBER 1997

## Hutchies 85th Anniversary

◆ SPECIAL EDITION ◆



## Government/private enterprise teamwork drives the economy



**Premier, Rob Borbidge, and Chairman, Jack Hutchinson, demonstrate the teamwork needed by Government and private enterprise to drive the economy.**

PREMIER Rob Borbidge climbed into the pillion seat of Jack Hutchinson's Harley Davidson to demonstrate his point about Governments and private enterprise working together to drive the economy.

Mr Borbidge, guest of honour at Hutchinson Builders' recent 85th anniversary celebrations in Brisbane, said the economy was energised by partnerships between Government and private enterprise.

"Jack Hutchinson is an expert and Hutchies is a fine example of a business that works well. It's been working well in the building industry for 85 years - a magnificent achievement," Mr Borbidge said.

"Hutchinsons has had a significant influence on shaping Queensland's identity and their anniversary is a testament to the company's commitment, expertise and integrity.

"Known and respected within the industry for four generations, Hutchinson Builders now has a turnover of \$85 million and employs more than 120 staff, with projects as diverse in purpose as they are in location."

Mr Borbidge predicted the new Integrated Planning Act would mean more certainty, more confidence and more investment for the development industry.

"That's a fine future scenario for Hutchinsons. It should help set them up for another 85 years in the building industry," the Premier added.

Mr Borbidge said Hutchies could be proud of their performance and the recognition they received from their peers, as winners of numerous building awards.

He said the company's reputation had been further enhanced by Jack Hutchinson's election as President of the Queensland Master Builders Association - a position held by his grandfather in the 1930's and 40's.

Mr Borbidge said it was fitting that such an important milestone in Hutchinson's history should be celebrated at Tattersall's.

Hutchinsons built Tattersall's original club dining room in 1939, completed the \$3 million renovation of the Tattersall's Arcade and the Club's \$14 million Stage Two redevelopment.

## ON THE LEVEL

Managing Director, Scott Hutchinson, took the opportunity of Hutchies' 85th Anniversary to answer some FAQ's (frequently asked questions) about the Company:

**Q. Why do Hutchies still have their own tradespeople?**

A. Partly tradition, but mainly because we want to maintain building skills not just be paper shufflers like many large building corporations have become.

**Q. Does Hutchies intend to move into development?**

A. No. We do joint ventures with clients but we simply don't want to be competing with our clients for sites and tenants.

**Q. Is Hutchies merging or being taken over by others?**

A. No. We are the last largish 100 per cent Queensland general building company left and it will always be a Queensland family company. It is worth noting that we have sold our shares in Hansen Yuncken. The Kinco constructions emblem at the base of our letterhead is not a financial relationship. It's based purely on country and western music and single malt whiskey. In other words, Kinnaman is a mate of Jacks. But we do share building ideas as well and we have gained a lot of expertise through the association.

**Q. Hutchies seem to be negotiating a lot, are they leaving the tender market?**

A. Never! Value adding is all very well but clients still insist on a low price and the only way to keep under the market is to stay in touch with it.

Scott concluded by saying that people have often advised him not to do business with friends.

"But as long as I can remember, that's all Jack and I have ever tried to do!" Scott said.

## Still going after 85 years

THANKYOU to our clients and team members who helped celebrate our anniversary.

It was a great pleasure for me to see so many of you there and so many smiling faces. I had a fun time and felt you enjoyed it too.

To our clients and consultants, thank you for your support and friendship in the past.

Please feel free to tell us how we can improve to be of better service to you.

To our company or team members, I want you to know how proud I am of you all.

### FROM THE CHAIRMAN

You were great ambassadors for Hutchies and I have had glowing reports from those who spoke with you.

Let's continue to work together so that we can serve our clients better and, in doing so, we will make it better for each and every one of us.

**Jack Hutchinson**



### Four Jacks have made a good hand in this game

STAFF paid tribute to the Hutchinson family during the 85th anniversary celebrations.

A hand-made card, featuring four generations of Jacks in the Hutchinson family, and carrying the name of each employee, was presented by Barry Butterworth on behalf of the staff.

The card read: "Congratulations on your 85th anniversary. We are pleased to be taking part in this wonderful celebration with you and look forward to many more successful and happy years together. Congratulations once again. From the Staff. July 23, 1997."

The beautiful memento was the result of many hours hard work by Barry's artistic daughter, Renee Butterworth.

## In appreciation...

The 85th anniversary celebration brought many letters of thanks, all of which are appreciated.

The following thoughts from some of our guests reflect the general feeling towards the evening, the company and our people:

*"I thought I'd take the time to send you a note of thanks for the invitation to your 85th year of business celebration. It was a lovely night and I enjoyed myself immensely.*

*The display, that you, Roger and others set up was a great way to show your involvement through the years in building projects in this state.*

*I enjoyed your speech and learnt more about you and your family business and the attitudes and ethics that shaped your company. It was great to hear you say that people can join and stay for a very long time with your company. It is something lacking in business these days, Loyalty.*

*Your father and your attitude of making things happen in tough times instead of complaining, will see your company prosper in the years to come, because it has been taught to your children, too.*

*Your staff were a delight to talk with and with girls like Nicole, just to name one, it made for a great night. Rebman with his wild hair is a character with a good attitude to your company.*

*Thanks again to be included in your celebrations."*

**Merv Bone**



"I must say how delighted I was to receive the invitation to your company's 85th birthday.

It was like a "who's who" in the building industry, and I was particularly impressed with your address and the philosophy which is so obviously evident behind the company. I am sure Scott continues to carry on the tradition."

**Ian D. Turner**



*"Just a short note to thank you for the enjoyable evening to celebrate the compa-*

*ny's 85th year in business.*

*I did have a wander through the main dining room to check out the motor bikes and found that after all there was some relevance for them being there on the night. The number and high standing of the guests on the night I think reflects the esteem in which Hutchinsons is held (except for the surfing ruffraff hangers on, of course)."*

**Drew Douglas**



"Wednesday's 'event' at Tattersall's Club was a great credit to you and your team and I just wanted to convey my thanks for your kind invitation and hospitality, as well as my congratulations on the 'first 85' and manner in which you both expounded your business and personal philosophy and Hutchies' relationship with its community.

Whilst I have always been keen on things mechanical and thus your collection of motorcycles was of great interest, I was even more interested to see photographs of your contribution, over time, to the built environment of Queensland."

**Alan J. Love**



*"Congratulations on 85 years. It is great to see the company continuing to grow and expand as we approach the year 2000.*

*We enjoy working with you all and look forward to a close relationship for many years to come."*

**Ross Nielson & RNP Staff**



"Just a short note to thank you for a well organised function. You managed to get more architects together than any of our annual conventions.

As you clearly indicated, the motorbikes have absolutely nothing to do with the building industry, but it was a great idea and offered a different twist to the conversation which I greatly enjoyed.

Once again thank you and congratulations on this major achievement and all the best for the future."

**Christian Skou**

### QUOTES

Every great improvement has come after repeated failure. Virtually nothing comes out right the first time. Failures, repeated failures, are posts on the road to achievement.



The world has a lot of starters but very few finishers.

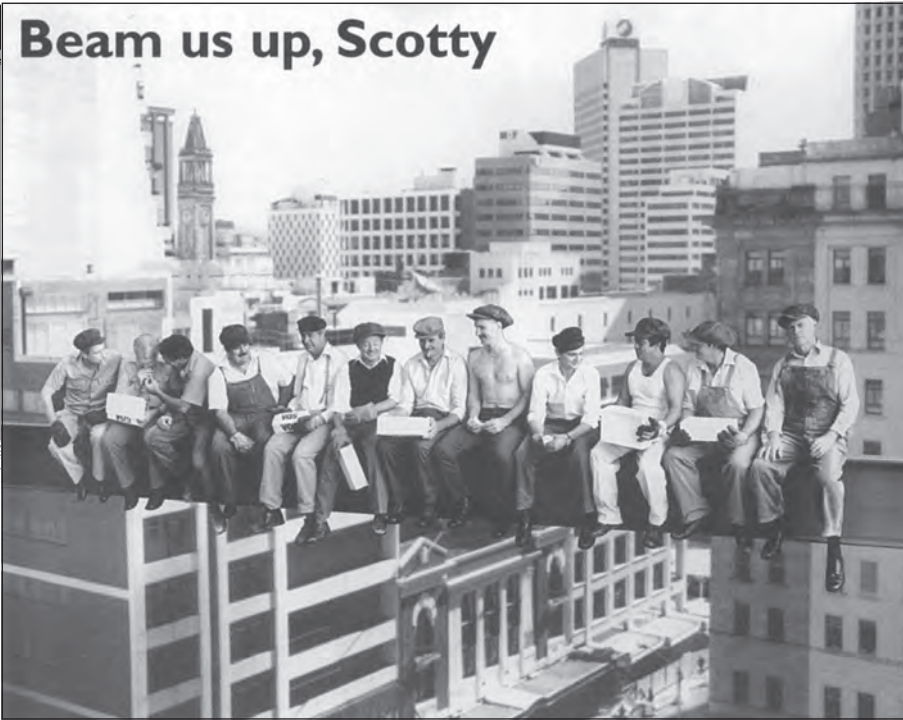


One trouble with the world is that so many people who stand up vigorously for their rights fall down miserably on their duties.



Making the beginning is one-third the work.

## Beam us up, Scotty



THE photograph on the envelope of our 85th anniversary invitation may have appeared vaguely familiar...similar to that famous poster of the Rockefeller Centre, New York, 1932.

But, on closer examination, it's Tattersall's, Brisbane, 1997. And the blokes on the beam are senior staff from Hutchies, with collective experience of 215 years amongst them.

They are, from left, Scott Hutchinson, Steve Norton, Louis Levinson, Barry Butterworth, Ron Niven, Keith Boucaut, Len White, Robert Weymouth, Mike Tickner, Ray Balladone, Bernie Reid and Jack Hutchinson.

## Bikes and leather make a respectable entry into Tatt's

MOTORCYCLES and leather made an historic and respectable combination in Brisbane Tattersall's Club to help veteran builder and biker, Chairman Jack Hutchinson, celebrate the 85th anniversary of Hutchinson Builders.

More than \$1/4 million worth of motorcycles were lifted into Tatt's by crane at dawn for the evening celebration to be attended by 500 guests, including Premier, Mr Rob Borbidge.

Mick Doohan was unable to attend, but sent along a set of his racing leathers.

Nine bikes represented the nine decades Hutchinsons have been working in Queensland, starting in 1912.

Jack Hutchinson said motorcycles - like buildings - reflected the era in which they were built, and the display captured the spirit of the 20th century for the guests.

The evening featured an extensive photographic exhibition of buildings constructed by four generations of Hutchinsons.

The bikes were on loan, except for two, a 1974 Augusta 750 Sport and a 1997 Harley-Davidson Electra-Glide, which are Jack's pride and joy.



**At dawn on July 23 the motorbikes were lifted by crane to the first floor level of Tattersall's Club. The bikes were loaded into a padded steel box and secured with soft ropes to prevent damage. The lift was organised by Peter Lindores and Paul McDougall, from Lindores Cranes, and coordinated by building experts and motorcycle enthusiasts.**



## Hutchies pledge to remain hands-on and personal

ON the 85th anniversary of Hutchinson Builders, Chairman, Jack Hutchinson, pledged the company would remain hands-on and personal in the future.

Jack said that, despite a staff of more than 100, Hutchies would continue to keep in touch with projects and clients.

Jack said the company would continue to change to meet the challenges, but he didn't want the company to get so large that it lost its personal touch.

"Scott is doing far more of the every day running of the business now, and I have left him with one piece of advice - there is no better accolade than when people trust you," Jack told the audience.

Jack thanked Hutchies' staff who worked hard to keep ahead of the opposition.

"Traditionally, we have done better in hard times, recessions, not booms, and we work hard to let people enjoy themselves and use their talents to innovate," he said.

"Each person working for us can play a large part in marketing our company - not just getting buildings built.

"The labourer who is helpful or courteous to a client or architect can do more for us than the managers, because it is the unexpected that carries more genuine weight.

"I believe the vast majority of people prefer a long attachment to the company. I believe they want a company they can be proud of, serve it with loyalty and make it the best.

"At Hutchies we try to create this atmosphere and attract good people and get them to stay.

"Many company members have more than 20 years' service and we encourage the children of company members to work with us."

Jack paid tribute to the building industry.

"What a great industry it is - we get to know all types of people, from the multi-millionaires to the battlers," Jack said.

"We deal with a lot of money, but the very low margins make it interesting, to say the least. It is never boring.

"We start with a vacant block of land and build something that is very often unique. We see it evolve to completion and beyond.

"I thank the building industry and all those who make it what it is.

"I thank clients, consultants and friends for their support over many, many years - and believe me, we still need the support and appreciate it from each and every one of you," Jack said.



Office staff were included on a site visit to Tatt's Club to see where all their hard work went.

## JOBS UPDATE

with  
Barry Butterworth

### Narangba Oil Storage Shed

THE construction of a new oil storage shed at the True Blue recycling depot is a small project for Trans Pacific Pty Ltd involving the use of some tilt-up panels with structural steel frames. The contract is being administered by McWilliam Consulting Engineers. Hutchies' team includes Peter McIntyre, site foreman; Neil Bladen, project manager; and Richard Graham, administrator.

### BBC Hardwarehouse - Oxley

WORK will commence soon on existing premises at Oxley which will undergo a \$4.7 million conversion to a new Hardwarehouse. The project will be tackled in stages to enable the store to continue trading while works, which are due for completion April/May next year, are underway. Hutchies' team include Ray Balladone and Rod Leach. The architect is Roger James from Sydney.

### Brisbane Boys College

ROBERT Weymouth and Mal Ashford won the Australian Institute of Building National Award for the \$2.5 million Brisbane Boys' College Resource Centre. Robert and Mal are shown proudly astride the project.

### Apartments - Lissner Street, Toowong

THIS \$2.4 million project of 28 prestige apartments for the Winston Group was successfully tendered by Keith Boucaut. It marks the first project between Hutchies and the Winston Group. Architect is Hulme and Webster. Hutchies' team is Mike Tickner, site foreman; and Mario Medrano, administrator.

### RACQ - Eight Mile Plains

TENDER for this \$2.1 million project was won in a very competitive tender market. It comprises the new telephone assistance centre for the RACQ and is critical to the RACQ operations - handling all incoming calls statewide. Architect is Goodsir Barker Wilde. Hutchies' team includes Peter Haidley, site foreman; Neil Bladen, project manager; Richard Graham, administrator.

### Waltzing Matilda Centre

This is the site office when work started on the Waltzing Matilda Centre in Winton.

The project will develop into a major tourist attraction to celebrate Australian poet, Banjo Patterson, and the town where he penned the famous Australian poem, Waltzing Matilda.

### The Manors - Swann Road, St Lucia

ALL 12 units in this \$1.5 million project for Leyshon Pty Ltd have been pre-sold. Architect is Jason Woodhouse from Cottee Parker; and the client's contact is Barry Smith of Barry Smith Project Management. Hutchies' team is Mike Tickner, project manager; and Mario Medrano, administrator.

### 32 - 36 Lissner Street, Toowong

DUE to start shortly, this \$2.4 million 28 two and three-bedroom unit development for Whitt Pty Ltd was designed by architect,

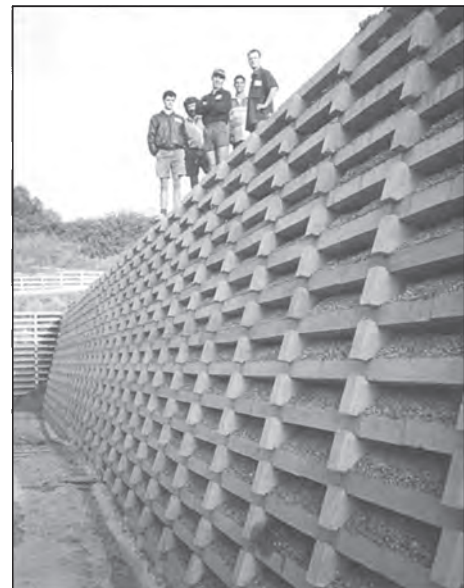
Grahame Fuller. Hutchies' team will include Mike Tickner, project manager; Mario Medrano, administrator; with the site foreman yet to be advised.

### Enoggera Barracks

After the ceremonial turning of the first sod at the new Australian Army Bank facilities at Enoggera Barracks (above) it didn't take long for the Army's big guns to move in and with help from Scott Hutchinson, get the project underway.

The facilities will include practice rooms, a recording studio and an outdoor performance area.

### Richlands Industrial Development



Hutchies' crew admire a job well done with the completion of the Richlands Industrial Development. The client was Richard Ladbroke and the architect, Howard Hall, from Meredith Hall.

The Hutchies' crew was Richard Field, Roderick Field, Jamie Silvester, Searle Balladone and Kevin Brown.

## The Empire strikes back

All the hard work proved worthwhile when Toowoomba's \$13.5 million refurbished Empire Theatre had its official opening on June 28.

Hutchies' team members mingled with other guests to share in the public acclaim for the world-class venue.

The capacity audience of 1500 paid tribute to the performers, the organisers and the building itself.

The Empire, which is the largest provincial theatre in Australia, was officially re-opened by the Governor, Mrs Leneen Forde, who said it would generate a great deal of happiness and enjoyment for the Toowoomba community.

Scott Hutchinson announced the establishment of a permanent company office in Toowoomba, following their completion of



*At the opening night Hutchies' crew mingled with other guests. (From left) leading hand, Terry Wilson; architect, Chris Everding; project co-ordinator Toowoomba City Council, Kevin Flanagan; and clerk of works, Steve Germaine.*

the refurbishment of the historic theatre for the Toowoomba City Council.

The new office is opposite the Empire Theatre in Neil Street.

Scott said the current economic climate in Toowoomba made the company optimistic about the future construction market in the region and Hutchinsons had decided to have a permanent presence in the city.

"The Empire Theatre is a great showcase for Hutchinson's ability and know-how. The Empire Theatre is not only a great landmark but also a monument to the company and our workers," he said.

"We believe we can capitalise on our performance at the theatre to obtain more work in Toowoomba and the Darling Downs region," Scott added.



*On a less spectacular, but equally important note, Hutchies have officially unfurled their banner with a permanent office in Toowoomba - opposite the Empire Theatre.*

## Jim Soorley watches urban renewal

LORD Mayor Jim Soorley recently donned a Hutchies' hardhat to take a first hand look at urban renewal in Brisbane's Teneriffe/Newstead area.

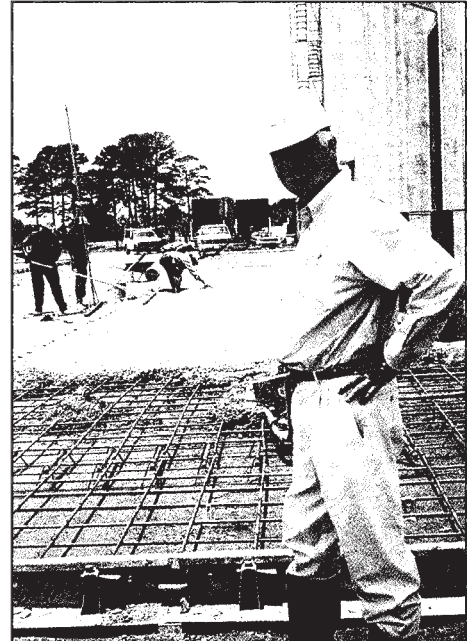
Cr Soorley is shown on site at Teneriffe Hill Apartments and The Rocks retail development with project partners, Doug Merritt, of Peter Kurts Group (left) and Dr Jim Yates, of Yates Nominees.

The development is the first major project to start under the Newstead and Teneriffe Waterfront Local Area Plan.



Developers see the \$16 million complex as a major cosmopolitan commercial focus for the precinct which is expected to house a community of about 10,000 people within the next decade.

## Aussie know-how injected into overseas projects



*Jack on a construction site in Little Rock.*

JUNE and Jack Hutchinson have just returned from an action-packed overseas trip, the highlight of which was the opening of the new Orion Bus Factory in Toronto, which was built by Hutchies.

Firstly they went to Little Rock where they attended Kinco's Sub-Contractors' Appreciation Evening.

Jack presented William Fletcher with his Constructor of the Year Certificate and visited many of Kinco building sites.

Jack also "sat in" on the compiling of a large tender and addressed Kinco's Superintendents, Administration and Estimators on Australian methods of building.

Next they visited Toronto where they met up with Barry Butterworth and Neil Bladen for the opening of the new Orion Bus Factory.

Neil, with his wife, Dena, have been in Canada for the last 12 months managing the \$10 million project for Orion, which opened on time and on budget.



*The Orion Bus Factory built by Hutchies in Toronto, Canada.*



*(L-R) Ken Tyres, Barry Sheahan and Richard Ohlrich.*



*Matt Hutton.*



*(L-R) Trevor Atchison, Rebman Robinson, Geoff Clements and Rathlin Trohear.*



*Left: Grant White (left) and Mick Moran.*



*Rathlin Trohear (left) and Matthew L'Estrange.*



*(L-R) Ken Green, Richard Field, Darryl Gersekowski, Mark Hutton, Kevin Lee, Matthew Hutton and Stewart Hemsley.*



*(L-R) Ray Balladone, Gail Balladone and Searle Balladone.*



*Hutchies team members.*



*(L-R) Chris Simpson, Brant Baudino, Searle Balladone, Dennis Finn and Ian Hutton.*



*Syd Britton (left) and Ron Niven.*



*Graham Thomson (left) and Peter Newell.*



*Dan Gallagher (left) and Wally Taylor.*



*Left: (L-R) Richard Graham, John Baldwin, Barry Sheahan and Mario Medrano.*

## HUTCHINSON BUILDERS 85TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Hutchies' 85th Anniversary celebrations at Tattersall's Club was a night to remember.

More than 500 guests turned out to help celebrate this major milestone, attended by Guest of Honour, Premier Rob Borbidge.

Some of those who helped us celebrate are shown here.



*Standing room only in Tatt's as Guest of Honour, Premier Rob Borbidge, congratulated Hutchies for their effort to help develop Queensland over the past 85 years and wished us all the best for the future.*



*(L-R) Matt Hutton, Darryl Gersekowski, Ray Balladone and Rob Jones.*



*Master of Ceremony for the evening, Managing Director, Scott Hutchinson, wearing the remnants of his surfing holiday.*



*(L-R) Grant White, June Hutchinson and Randall Younger.*



*(L-R) Syd Britton, Ken Tyres and Michael Chappel.*

*Right: Geoff Lacoste*



*(L-R) Len White, Claude Mitchell and Jack Hutchinson.*



*(L-R) Glen Pettis, Greg Rodios and Paul Wrobel.*



*(L-R) Paul David, Ron Niven, Norm Norman and Mal Ashford.*



HUTCHIES Rowing Crew turned out again for the Corporate Head of the River held Sunday September 13.

The crew consisted of Rosie Field, Cannon Dunstan, Richard Ohlrich, John Francis, Richard Graham, Rob Weymouth, Richard Field, Wayne Cullen and Rathlin Trohear. After a lack lustre heat where they came second, Hutchies' crew won their recharge and

also the semi-final, coming from behind in both races. In the final, after a close tussle with Pradella, Hutchies' crew came second in line honours but won the handicap. The Hutchies' crew is shown with their trophy.

They are from left, Cannon Dunstan, Richard Ohlrich, Richard Field, Jon Francis, Rathlin Trohear, Richard Graham and Wayne Cullen.

## **HUTCHINSON** **BUILDERS**

Established 1912

**31 STAPLE STREET**  
**SEVENTEEN MILE ROCKS, QLD 4073**  
**Telephone: (07) 376 4044**  
**Facsimile: (07) 376 2454**