

## *From the chapter*



### **From the NSW Chapter President - 2 December 2013**

#### **Public sector procurement**

As part of a wide-ranging discussion recently with the new Minister for Finance & Services, Andrew Constance, I raised the difficulties encountered by practices because of onerous and conflicting requirements by government agencies. The Minister asked me to prepare a summary of the difficulties we encounter with the aim of reducing red tape and creating a fairer and more consistent public procurement system. That work is now being finalised for presentation to the Minister in the next fortnight.

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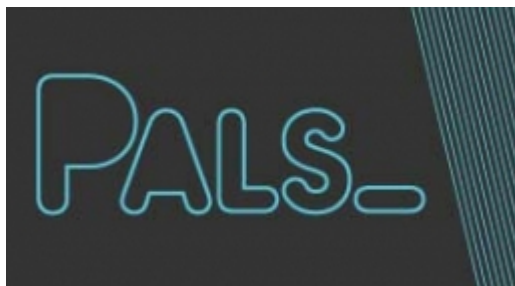
## *News*



### **Venice Biennale 2014 - news and opportunities**

Read on for the latest news and opportunities for the foremost event on the international calendar, including a call out for **volunteers**, details about the **Austral Brick Club** and the chance to **win a Venice experience** like no other, and info about **Smeg's VIP tour of Italy**.

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#### **PALS - 20% off!**

The Institute is offering all members a **20% discount** for PALS if you renew your membership and register before 16 December.

Member price \$770 **reduced to \$616**

A+ Member price \$500 **reduced to \$400**

To take up this offer please [email us](#) once you have [renewed](#) your 2014 Membership with your name, member number and contact phone number.

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#### **BCA 2014 Information Seminars**

The Australian Building Codes Board (ABCB) is finalising updates to the 2014 National Construction Code (NCC), and as building practitioners you need to know what changes are coming into effect. Presenters from the ABCB will inform you of these changes at a series of Information Seminars, commencing in February 2014, in all capital cities.

[Click here](#) for further information and to register.

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### *Upcoming events*



#### **Making 2014 - 20% discount! 8-10 May, Perth**

Secure a 20% early bird discount if you book now! The earlier you book the more you will also save on flights and accommodation. We're regularly tweeting about any specials we come across using #making2014.

#### **Bringing the kids?**

We are planning to hold some design workshops for kids to entertain them while you're at the conference. If you would like your kids to attend

(or you just want to know more) email us at [making@architecture.com.au](mailto:making@architecture.com.au).

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## Competitions & Opportunities



### 2014 Dulux Colour Awards - Entries now open

The 2014 Dulux Colour Awards are now open, welcoming architects, designers, specifiers and students to showcase their creative use of colour in both residential and commercial design.

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### National Energy Efficient Building project

A joint consultant team of pitt&sherry and Swinburne University has been engaged to help roll out the National Energy Efficient Building project - a response to growing concern that the actual energy efficiency of buildings in Australia may not always match the energy performance requirements in the National Construction Code. If you'd like to get involved, read on.

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## Membership



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## Sponsor news



### *New Colorbond® Steel proven in Australian conditions*

BlueScope has conducted the most rigorous testing program in COLORBOND® steel's history to verify new enhancements in COLORBOND® steel paint colour durability compared with the previous-generation product, and to support the introduction of six new colours into the range.

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### *Archi:Talk 2 Billie Faircloth And Robert Morris-Nunn*

Architects Billie Faircloth, Research Director, KieranTimberlake and Professor Robert Morris-Nunn, circa architecture, discuss the role of materials and timber in their work and more. Presented by [WoodSolutions](#), and filmed at the 2013 National Architecture Conference [this 6 minute video](#) will inspire and inform.



### *Join a timber tour of NZ!*

**16-21 Mar**

Register your interest now in a week-long tour of the best timber architecture in New Zealand, visiting Auckland, Wellington, Nelson and Christchurch and touring the latest innovative timber commercial buildings - including World Building of the Year, the Auckland Art Gallery - and ground-breaking massive timber fabrication plants. See firsthand the buildings, products and techniques that have captured global interest in timber design.

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