

### Pac meeting

With approximately 30 years in the building industry and the majority of time spent in the Upper Hunter, the agricultural sector has provided me with a diverse foundation for the building industry. Initially commencing with work in the dairy industry up until deregulation I have worked in varying construction ranging from restoration of historical projects to commercial work such as retail, vet clinics, doctors surgery, movie theatre as well as house construction and renovations. I have had ongoing work at Coolmore stud over the past 15 years to 2014. During this time I have been engaged in a variety of construction projects from stables, workshops to Accommodation as well as homes and ongoing repairs and maintenance. A number of these projects have been architecturally designed enabling local tradesman to further develop their skills and expertise without the need to travel from the local area. This has provided an employment opportunity for numerous employees and contractors including carpenters, roofers, plumbers, tilers, electricians, concretors, interior designers, painters, carpet layers, air conditioning technicians, and many others. Within each of the trades apprentices have been trained and educated, with some moving onto establish their own business or sub-contracting to other builders. Some of these builders have gone on to build award winning homes and firmly establish themselves as leading builders. The associated suppliers such as hardware, Brick, concrete, Tiling & electrical suppliers have all benefited from construction in the horse industry.

The agriculture industry including our local horse studs have proved a valuable resource to the building industry. As they continue to grow and operate so does our local building and associated employees. They provide us the opportunity to continue to educate and train the youth of the Hunter for a sustainable future. Additionally the horse studs attract people from outside the area to invest and develop their own farming enterprises further providing opportunity to many local trades. An uncertain agricultural future impacts the building industry where people are forced to leave the Upper Hunter in search of work. This has been proven over the last 2 years where no improvement have been Carry out ,This has a broad ranging effect across the area. The Horse Industry Has been here for a long time and hopefully for a lot longer.