

# News Letter



October 2007

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## Chairman's Column

Since my last column, you will be aware that the Board has moved into its new office tenancy on the mezzanine level of the RAIAs newly refurbished 'Elisher Building' at 33 Broadway, Nedlands. The building is worth a visit if you are passing by or need an excuse to attend a function.

Currently the Board is negotiating to have amendments made to the new Act, or where possible to establish policies that will allow us to administer issues, clarify matters or have greater flexibility to deal with:

- categories of re-registration;
- categories of non-practising architects;
- professional indemnity insurance requirements (subject to registration category);
- continuing professional development requirements (subject to registration category);
- reciprocity of registration requirements between states and territories;
- adopting a Model Code of Conduct as a guide; and
- increasing registration fees as a result of increased costs of administering the new Act.

As previously advised, registration fees will need to increase, possibly rising to something in excess of \$250 for practising architects, along with the likelihood of a nominal fee of \$50 for those in the non-practising and retired categories where previously fees have been waived.

The Board would also like to align the subscription year with the financial year i.e. change the subscription period from January – December to July – June. If this occurs, fees would be applied for an 18 month period to facilitate the transition to a financial year.

### **'Trading As' Names**

It has come to the Board's attention that quite a few architectural practises are operating under a name other than what appears on the Register. These are referred to as 'trading names' and they need to be approved by the Board and recorded on the register otherwise they are in breach of the Act. This is part of the consumer protection role of the Act so that the public can know who they are dealing with.

The Act only allows architects to use either the name of a "natural person" or a "licensed corporation", and it is an offence to trade using a name other than as appears on the Register. Therefore, and for whatever reason, any companies that have been formed as a part of an

architectural practice need to be registered as "licensed corporations" and have their trading name approved. Similarly, an architect or groups of architects practising together and using a name to promote their group under say their multiple surnames or as "associates", "partners" or even just as "architects", need to have the trading name approved.

For example, Joe Blow is a registered "natural person". He can trade as 'Joe Blow Architect'. However, 'Joe Blow Architects', 'Blow Architects' or 'Joe Blow & Associates' infers that it may not be just Joe Blow who is practising and the trading name needs to be recorded. Similarly, 'Joe Blow and Associates Pty Ltd' would need to be registered as a "licensed corporation" and Joe Blow recorded as the "responsible person". To further illustrate, 'Blow, Flow & Slow Architects' might comprise three registered "natural persons" working together but it is a trading name that needs to be approved, as would 'ArchiBlow' should Joe be crazy enough to think a trendy name better reflected what he practises!

I encourage anyone who falls into this category to contact the Board and apply to have their trading name approved. For the time being, when examples of unapproved trading names are identified by the Board, the persons will be written to and

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requested to apply to have the name recorded as the subtleties of complying with the new Act may not have been appreciated. Notices will also be included in the next round of annual subscriptions to draw this matter to the attention of architects. Some of these trading names have existed prior to when the new Act was introduced and the 'names' may have established recognition within the community and the architectural fraternity. Nevertheless the Board is required under the Act to have these trading names, and the persons involved with them, properly recorded so that consumers can easily identify who is involved.

Bruce Callow  
Chair  
Architects Board of WA

### **Registrar's Column**

#### **Registration Renewal for 2008**

The Board is in the process of upgrading our database. The new database will allow us to better manage registration categories, professional indemnity insurance requirements, continuing professional development requirements, complaints and examinations.

The new database may necessitate some changes to the registration renewal process, so you may notice a different look to the application forms you will receive early in the new year.

### **Changes to Register**

Since the July 2007 Newsletter, the following changes have been made to the Register.

#### **New Registrations**

SM Bosanquet (2157)  
RL Macindoe (2159)  
TA Owen (2161)

#### **Re-Registrations**

RV Keesing (808)  
EA Kordic (2027)  
DM Lorimer (1818)  
CJ Matson (1206)  
AW Quin (2050)  
MH Richardson (1476)

#### **Placed on Non-Practising List**

WL Cheng (1076)  
MG Cooper (1436)  
TJ Schulz (1861)

#### **Resignations**

JB Sobon (665)

#### **Struck off for Non Payment**

DJH Hodge (552)  
GP Farrant (1308)  
GI Georgiu (744)  
BL Langford (847)  
HO Lewi (1654)  
D Pecorari (1138)

Nicole Kerr  
Registrar