

MAWSE CODE

MARCH 2007

From the Managing Director's Desk



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Message from Alan Wilkins	1
Christmas Cheer	1
Our Own DVD	2
Around the Traps	3
ACE TerraFirmer	4
My Chinese Adventure	5
Meet Peter Steward	6
Ready, Set, Tip!	6
Congratulations	6

Building Partnerships

As reported later in this edition of Mawse Code, we have undertaken the upgrading of our corporate DVD. Building Partnerships for everyone's future was the theme that we adopted for the DVD with our focus being on those organisations that we connect with in business and in our local communities. It is my belief that as we continue to have an abundance mentality in all aspects of business that we will remain to have greater success in our future.

This year we will continue to develop the leadership skills of our managers so that we can all be more effective in our positions whether it be in the workplace, community

group or at home. We all have the capacity to be a leader but most of us never explore our potential of how to become a more effective leader. However, in all our activities to become better leaders we should always practice the attitude of serving others. I was reminded recently of Albert Einstein who was quoted to have said: "The highest destiny of the individual is to serve rather than rule."

To remain as a successful and unified team we all must continue to uphold our values that promote open, respectful dialogue with clear communication lines that we practice on a daily basis.

Alan Wilkins
Managing Director

PUDDINGS BRING CHRISTMAS CHEER

Mawsons are involved heavily in supporting people in our local communities whether it be in Mildura, Wangaratta, Castlemaine, Rochester, Cohuna, or anywhere else in the Mawsons regions.

It was apparent that in the lead up to Christmas 2006, farmers and other local community members were being dramatically affected by the harsh conditions of the drought. There was certainly an air of despondency within the regional communities.

Our Executive Team decided to respond by donating 400 of the famous Mawsons Christmas Puddings that are also distributed to our staff and customers. Jason Hensley, our IT manager was appointed to head up the distribution of the puddings to the various community organisations including local churches, hospitals, the Salvation Army, and other community support groups.

The puddings were a real hit with those who received them. Many people were touched by receiving a beautiful Christmas pudding and some of the comments are listed below. It is something that Mawsons are definitely planning on again for Christmas 2007.

"The plum puddings are being distributed with our Drought Relief Christmas Hampers to the Farmers that are in need in our area... The generosity you have shown also highlights the ongoing compassionate and caring attitude within our community, of which I think we can all be proud."

Helena Logan
Volunteer Food Coordinator
Cobram District Hospital



Geoff Leslie from Barham Baptist Church hands over a Pudding.

"Your thoughtfulness is much appreciated - a welcome lift to the spirits, which one needs in times like this. We all look forward to a much more prosperous 2007."

Heather & Barry Green
Barham

"Pathways would like to thank you for your recent support for The Salvation Army 2006 Christmas Cheer Program. With your donation, over 250 local families were assisted this Christmas."

The Salvation Army - Pathways
Community Support Service Team

"We would like to thank you for your generous gift of the Christmas Plum Pudding. It was a very kind gesture and much appreciated. Best wishes to you all for a happy, healthy 2007."

Bill, Anne, & Paul Stammers
Katunga

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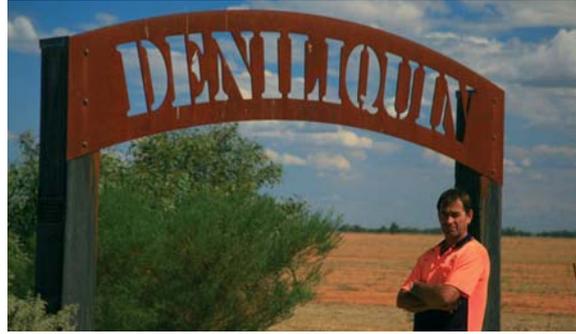
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OUR OWN DVD



Ian Wilkinson



Merv Taylor

The last Mawsons corporate video was produced about ten years ago and was released on VHS format. How times have changed! That production was a great hit, particularly with the Mawsons staff and their families, but after ten years the video was outdated. For this latest edition of the Mawsons DVD, all staff will receive a personal copy!

The theme of this DVD is all about 'building partnerships'. The idea was borne out of Mawsons desire to continue building partnerships with its staff, customers, suppliers, and those in local communities. The DVD was also produced to attract new customers, as well as assisting in tendering for new projects throughout the company.

The DVD took a whole week to film, which is a lot considering it will only go for approximately six minutes. Because Mawsons covers such a large amount of territory over northern Victoria and southern New South Wales, it was a big job to accurately portray the company.

The filming began on Monday the 5th of February at the BASF headquarters in Oakleigh. Peter Russell was there to share his thoughts on the relationship with

Mawsons. Next was Blue Circle in Somerton where the crew chatted with Brendan Holden and also filmed the Mawsons cement tanker fleet filling up with cement. From Somerton it was up the Calder to meet at the FRH Calder Freeway site for the Taradale bypass job, where Mawsons mobile crushing plant was in action. After a shot just outside of Castlemaine with Dale Evans, it was off to Bendigo for the night.



Trevor Gilbert

The theme of building partnerships was evident throughout the filming of the DVD. In every town that the crew filmed in, one of the main focuses was to have the local manager in front of the entrance to the particular town, depicting that Mawsons are genuinely connected to our local communities.

Tuesday morning was spent filming at the Bendigo concrete

plant with Geoff McLean before travelling to Lake Cooper for the afternoon. There was a live blast, and the crew spoke to the Maxam employees. Conditions at Lake Cooper

were extremely windy which made life interesting for the camera and sound crew, who had to be careful of dust getting into their equipment. A variety of scenes were filmed, and all this was achieved on what was a then record day for the quarry!

Wednesday morning began bright and early in Shepparton, filming on the site of the Winslow Project on the Moroopna and Shepparton causeway. The crew visited the concrete plant in Shepparton for some more scenes with Rick Dunham, and then headed back to Lake Cooper for an interview with the affable Maurice 'Moose' Kerrins before travelling back to Cohuna.

Thursday was a long day that began with Ross Crichton in front of a 'Welcome to Cohuna' sign on the Koondrook road. Filming was based around the Cohuna district, including the Head Offices, for most of the day. Colin Pryor spoke about TerraFirmer, an exciting new innovation developed by Mawsons, with Treetops (the location of the 2006 family day) in the background. Geoff Hall was part of a scene at the Cohuna Tennis Club, where some of the children that he coaches were involved in showing how Mawsons are linked with the local communities in which they are a part of.

Friday started in Kerang at the CFA offices with Ramon Steel. He dressed up in full firefighting attire and was joined by fellow firefighter and Kerang concrete plant manager Stewart Mason. The crew then packed up and went to Pyramid Hill to film some scenes for the TerraFirmer segment of the DVD before travelling back down to



Richard, Paul, and Gerrard



Paul & Richard review a scene

continued page 5

AROUND THE TRAPS



Mehran, Somayeh (middle), and family

News from Cohuna Head Office

Our IT Assistant Mehran Majdi and his wife Somayeh traveled to Kuala Lumpur (KL), Malaysia in early February for three days.

Mehran commenced with Mawsons back in September 2006 as an assistant to Jason Hensley in the IT department. He travelled daily from Swan Hill until January 2007 when he and Somayeh shifted to Cohuna. Mehran and Somayeh are both tertiary qualified, having completed business degrees at the University of Tehran in Iran where they grew up.

In order for them to keep their working visas current and as part of their application for Australian permanent residency, they were required to fly out of Australia and back again. The centre of KL is thirty minutes from the airport, so they were able to spend some valuable time with family members who had flown to KL from Iran especially to see them!

During their stay, they visited the iconic KL landmark, the Petronas Twin Towers, the formidable KL Tower, indulged in some shopping, and ate at some nice restaurants. They were unable to get a direct flight to Melbourne from KL, so they had to travel back via Perth which added more hours to what was an already arduous journey.



Twin Towers, Kuala Lumpur

News from Rochester



Underground at Fosterville

What's happening at Fosterville?

We are contracted to supply 35mpa shotcrete to Perseverance Exploration Gold Mine at Fosterville (20kms east of Bendigo). It's a 24 hours a day, 7 days a week operation which is something Mawsons haven't been involved in before. The shifts last twelve hours, either night or day, with seven days on shift, and seven days off. We started to set the mobile plant up at the beginning of December 2006 and batched the first load on the 10th of December.

MG mining are contracted to drill, blast, cart out the rock, spray the shotcrete & drill & install steel rods with large washers to support the roof. The shotcrete is sprayed on the walls & roof from 50mm to 100mm thick. The tunnel starts at the bottom of the open cut mine, about 100 metres down, where you must stop and hang your tag on the board so that they know who is underground, then notify where you are heading too before enter the tunnel.

After travelling about 400 metres you come to a crossroad, with the Falcon decline to the left, the central decline straight ahead, and Phoenix decline to the right. When the shotcrete is ordered we are told which decline the shotcrete is required at. Once the shotcrete is found it only takes 30 to 60 minutes to spray the load. The concrete is batched to total water, not slump which took a bit of getting used to.

Sand and aggregate moisture is taken to work out the water in the sand and aggregate. The load is batched to total water of 195 litres per cubic metre which gives you about 40mm slump. The materials used are 7mm Lake Cooper aggregate, Axedale coarse sand, 5mm minis manufactured sand, steel fibres, posso 370 pc water reducer.

Delvecrete is also included, which stops the shotcrete going hard for up to 72 hours.

Once the load is batched and loaded rebuild 1000 is added bring the slump up to 180mm to 200mm. When spraying shotcrete an accelerator is added at the point of discharge too cut out the delvecrete and rebuild 1000 so that when the shotcrete hits the wall it is back to 40mm slump. After twenty minutes it is already 1mpa and after four hours it is hard enough for the drilling rig too drill and pin the roof.

We are doing over 500 cubic metres a month with one truck and one man per shift which is a fantastic achievement.

Ian Morrison

News from Deniliquin



On the Prowl at Deniliquin

After a fantastic break over Christmas, we have made a steady start to the months of January and February in the New Year. Climate has been hot and the fishing has only sometimes been hot. We have some interesting projects coming up through the year with 'talk' of Retirement Villages being built and maybe a new Ambulance Station and also some work on the Colligen Creek Weir and Fish Ladder. Hopefully all these projects will turn into reality and not just 'talk'.

For one of our customers, we have started the year with a load each morning out to a property about 50km north of Deniliquin. They have approx 140 water trough pads to be laid out around this property with 3 pads per truck load and by delivering only one or sometimes two loads a day this task has been good steady work, however the work is starting to slow down as we near the end of the project. With the country out there being so unforgiving and so barren, you just never know what you might come across in this property of never ending fence lines. Happy New Year to everybody and keep working hard, just like us here in Deniliquin.

Merv Taylor

AROUND THE TRAPS CONTINUED

News from Yabba



I was fortunate enough to recently play in the annual Institute of Quarrying golf day, held at Spring Valley golf club in Clayton North. Orica Quarry services invited me to play in their team, which consisted of Peter Evans from Orica, Steven Martyn from RM Drilling, Andrew McManus from FRH, and me.

The weather was ideal for playing golf, the fairways were like putting greens. After a short briefing, over 130 people made their way around the picturesque 18 hole course. Shot gun start and we were away, the event was a 4 ball, best ball. After the first hole it wasn't not hard to work out just who were the golfers and who were the 'so called' golfers (myself). Being a team sport event it was great to see everyone pull their weight when required.

We finished the day with a score of three under the card and then take off our handicap (me) of twelve gave us a score of 55 net. I knew we had played a reasonable round but I thought we were probably just out of the hunt for a prize. During the dinner presentation the prizes were announced and to my surprise our names were called out as second place winners, which meant we took home the Orica trophy! How ironic? I would like to thank the Institute of Quarrying, Orica and all the sponsors for the day & Mawsons for allowing me to participate in this magnificent event.

Ian (Charlie) Walsh

News from Cobram (1)

Cobram Precast Pty Ltd have leased a 4500m² area at the Cobram Concrete Plant and will commence trading from there when several concrete slabs are poured which is expected within the next few weeks. We could all see the potential for both businesses to compliment each other and with the assistance of Lee Bombardieri and Ivan Pigatto the plan has come together. Discussions commenced in mid 2006 and contracts were completed recently.

Yabba Quarry supplied approximately 3000 tonnes of 20mm scalplings wetmix for the project and Peter Wright from Amaroo Sand Supplies was contracted to complete the hardstanding. We welcome the Cobram Precast Team and trust that we have a long and successful partnership together.

News from Cobram (2)

Recently Keith McDonald came to the Cobram Plant to look at ways that we could alleviate the issue of taking dirt from our yard and onto the road. It was becoming an issue. Through Keith's involvement with TerraFirmer of course he recommended Polycom. The result so far has been very positive and has gone a long way to drastically reducing the issue.

Peter Beriman

TerraFirmer at ACE 2007

TerraFirmer held a strong presence at the Australian Construction Equipment (ACE) 2007 Expo from Thursday February 22nd to Saturday 24th. The team consisting of Col Pryor, John Christian, and Keith McDonald were on hand to represent the exciting new innovation that Mawsons are proud to distribute.

The biennial expo, held at Sandown Racecourse, featured over 160 stands, more than 250 companies, and 1000 different brands being represented. Many interstate and international visitors attended the expo.

Peter Duffy and Mark Holding from Bio Central Laboratories, whom Mawsons partner with to distribute TerraFirmer, were also on hand to assist with the enquiries.

The stand was in a prominent position which ensured a high volume of traffic passed through the site. A steady stream of expo visitors stopped by to watch a television presentation on TerraFirmer, view some finished samples of the product, as well as talk to the guys at the stand. It was certainly successful!

With such a large amount of enquiries at ACE, Colin and the TerraFirmer team believe that work is going to be extremely busy for the next twelve months and beyond.



A selection of photos from the ACE 2007 Expo

OUR OWN DVD continued from page 2

Bendigo. The crew then met with a satisfied customer who had a polished concrete floor installed by Mawsons in her home. That was the end of the filming!

The crew were extremely professional throughout the whole filming process, ensuring that the DVD will be high quality. Paul Clydesdale was the director/producer, with Richard Hosking the cameraman, and Gerrard Wilson the sound recorder. All three have had long and varied careers in the industry. Mawsons met Paul previously through the yellowpages and the more recent Living Murray advertisements that Managing Director Alan Wilkins participated in. Paul has been involved in the industry for many years, with experience on The Sullivan's television show, as well as working for various commercial television stations.

Cameraman Richard Hosking has a long history of working in television, and more recently has worked on a number of different commercials for television.

Sound recorder Gerrard Wilson has worked for many years in the sound industry. He has worked on shows such as Coxy's Big Break, 60 Minutes, Landline, and the Today Show. Gerrard has also worked on the Amazing Race and currently freelances for ITV television working on the Asian and South American Formula One Grand's Prix.

The DVD took a number of weeks to proof and edit before its' grand release, hopefully timed to coincide with this edition of Mawse Code. The crew have worked hard to bring us the final product, one that all associated with Mawsons can be extremely proud of.

MY CHINESE ADVENTURE

Originally from China, Beau Xu works in the accounting department in the Head Office under Brendan Dickson, whom he deputised for admirably while Brendan was on holidays recently. He gained an accounting degree at La Trobe University in Bendigo, and has been working for Mawsons for around eighteen months. He is currently studying to sit his CPA exams. Beau is a lively character with a keen sense of humour.

My tour of China tour has now finished. Reflecting on the trip now, it was an interesting five weeks.

My first destination was Hong Kong. Hong Kong is a large city of some seven million inhabitants. It has great ocean views, countless sky-scrapers and sublime shopping centres. The best thing about being in Hong Kong is the mystery, fired by the convergence of a Chinese city with both Asian and Western elements. The food is simply irresistible. With restaurants being open 24/7, I was in my element.

My next stop was Beijing. From the moment I stepped onto the streets of Beijing, I realised there was a change from one type of ocean view to another. This time it is a 'Human Ocean'. With wave after wave of people pushing towards me, my pulse was racing, my heart was pumping, and my eyes were wide-open and alert. This woke me up better than any strong cup of coffee could! When people think of Beijing, The Great Wall of China and the Forbidden City come to mind. But there is more to Beijing than those two landmarks. The city itself is fascinating

with over 4,000 years of history and Chinese culture.

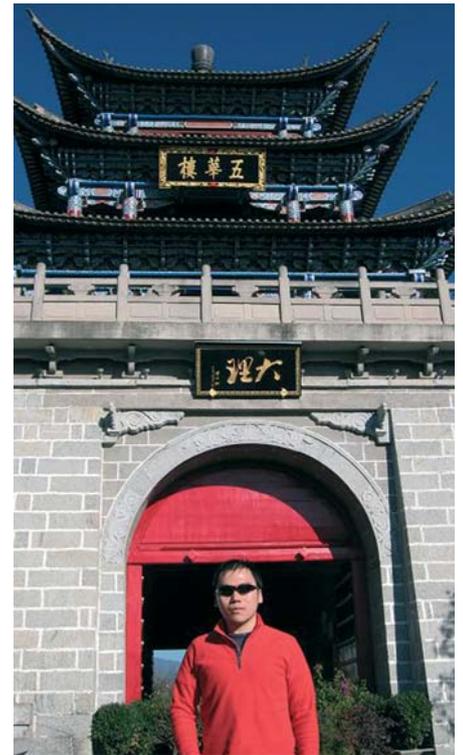
After a few days on the road, I reached the city where I was born, Ji Nan, population three million. It's a hushed and peaceful city with hundreds of lakes and plenty of willow trees. People live longer and seem happier than other places because the drinking water is from lakes which have an underground source rich in minerals.

It was great to catch up with family and friends, it was great just to be home. A highlight was an excellent family meal with my parents at one of the lakes, providing me with memories I would not trade for all the tea in China.

After touring around numerous towns and cities, the last stop of my journey was to Yun Nan. 'Yun Nan' in Chinese means south of the sky. It is home to the Snow Mountains, which are so high they give the impression they grow into the sky. I climbed half way up, standing on a cliff looking down at the clouds floating around my legs. With a couple of eagles patrolling the sky it really was a contemplative oasis.



The trip is over, but the memories will last with me for many years.



A selection of photo's from Beau's holiday

MEET PETER STEWART



Known to his mates and colleagues as "Stewie", Peter Stewart is the General Manager of Concrete Operations for the Mildura Area. He has been with Mawsons since the company acquired the Forbes Wilson Group operation in 2004. Peter oversees much of the development in the thriving Sunraysia region. The Dockside Marina Project in Mildura is a huge project that Mawsons have supplied concrete to, among other important works thriving in the area

that Mawsons have been involved in.

Born in land of the long white cloud (New Zealand), Peter arrived in Australia in 1978. He is a real family man. Peter and his wife Mary have two sons, Steven 14 and Thomas 12. Steven and Thomas are both talented BMX riders, something that Peter has encouraged them in since they were young. Peter is President of the Mildura BMX club and is also a registered coach. He gains immense satisfaction from seeing the boys do well with their racing.

Peter also loves his Jetboat racing; he will talk to you for hours about it.

Peter's ideal holiday destinations are the Blenheim and Marlborough regions of New Zealand. Marlborough just so happens to be New Zealand's largest grape growing and winemaking region, with over 70 wineries in the area. If he could invite five people to a dinner party, he would ask Muhammad Ali, Derryn Hinch, Glen Archer from his beloved Kangaroos, John Howard, and Halle Berry over for a meal. Maybe he would entertain them with some of Marlborough's finest grape juice.

Peter mentioned the current Marina Project is a highly exciting project to be involved in and said that the GTS Transport Yard, which involved eight acres of concrete being poured between June and December 2006, was one job in particular that made him particularly proud.

Peter said that the most enjoyable thing about working for Mawsons was the family culture that is fostered and encouraged throughout the company.

When asked what it means to work for Mawsons, Peter replied "Support, Stability, Learning, and Education."



Ready, Set, Tip!

The 2007 Mawsons AFL tipping competition is set to be keenly fought out as always. The season kicks off on Friday the 30th of March at the MCG between Melbourne and St Kilda and all eyes will be on the players as the twenty-two round season begins.

But in the Mawsons competition, all eyes will be on the regular Monday morning results, to see who can take out the prestigious title of Mawsons Tipping Champion. Geoff Hall and Rowan Dobie fought out a dramatic tie after the 2006 season, both finishing on 120 tips. Footy tipping is a great conversation starter between staff on Fridays, and also depending on how your team fared, a great conversation killer on Mondays! The cost for season 2007 is an inexpensive \$25 and includes prizes for first, second, and third at the end of the season. Prizes are also awarded to weekly and quarterly winners as well as those people who pick the team that finishes fourth at the end of the regular season.

Weekly tips need to be in by 4pm on Fridays otherwise you will end up zero tips for the week.

Happy Tipping!

Congratulations

Congratulations to **Adam Nicholson** from our Cohuna workshop and his partner Marissa Hare who are the proud parents of twin boys! Saxon (5lb 12ozs) and Blake (6lb 5ozs) arrived on the 27th of December 2006. All are well. Best wishes from everyone at Mawsons!

Congratulations are also due to **Jarrold Hall** from the Cohuna Engineering Workshop, who recently announced his engagement to Renae Trewin. All the best to Jarrold and Renae as they begin to plan their wedding!

Yabba Quarries Lab Technician **Leigh Walden** and his wife Sharnie are the proud parents of a new baby girl, Heidi Elsie (8lb 3ozs), born Saturday 19th of March. Mother and baby are well, congratulations to Leigh and Sharnie!

Quotes to Brighten Up Your Day

"How can anyone govern a nation that has 246 different kinds of cheese?"

General Charles De Gaulle

"My wife and I tried two or three times in the last 40 years to have breakfast together, but it was so disagreeable we had to stop."

Winston Churchill

"When you are courting a nice girl an hour seems like a second. When you sit on a red-hot cinder a second seems like an hour. That's relativity."

Albert Einstein