

media release



MASTERS OF OUR INDUSTRY

Master Builders Association of Victoria
ABN: 38 004 255 654

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Investment in central Gippsland building industry lags as domestic work shows signs of hope

Local builders will hear about the latest market trends when Master Builders brings its next trade night to Traralgon on Wednesday 17 April.

“Building investment across central Gippsland was down from \$582 million in 2010/11 to \$498 million last financial year,” Master Builders Executive Director Brian Welch said.

“This was mainly due to a decline in spending on retail and public building works which dropped \$9.5 million and \$33.8 million respectively over the same time period.

“There were also 387 fewer housing permits issued for homes in the central Gippsland region last year as compared to the year before. More is being invested in extensions and alterations, with an increase of \$1.7 million last year. We are optimistic about a number of upcoming projects in the region too.

“From this data it’s clear that despite some good news, local builders continue to face a tough economy and ever changing regulations. This is why our trade nights provide such valuable insight into what is happening in the region and how to brace for the challenges ahead.

“And the best part about it is that it’s free for both members and non-members of the Master Builders.

“Master Builders holds regular trade nights across Melbourne and regional Victoria to spread information and enable those working in the industry to network.”

Builders who come to the Traralgon trade night will:

- Hear industry updates – and discuss issues in your area.
- Receive Builder Registration advice.
- Get technical and OHS updates.
- Have a say in an open panel discussion.
- Have a chance to win door prizes.

Builders will also hear from local builders Trevor Bowler (Gippsland Section Chairman and Director of TS Constructions) and Brett Neilson (Director of BFN Developments).

“Local residents rely on our industry to build their homes and workplaces and to deliver new or improved community assets like schools, hospitals and roads,” said Mr Welch.

“We want our industry to thrive and the trade night provides a great opportunity for builders and subcontractors to hear the latest news that will help them provide the quality products people across the south and south east want.”

As a trade night guest, tradespeople will also have the opportunity to ask questions.

What: Master Builders Trade Night (Traralgon).

When: Wednesday, 17 April from 5.30-9.30 pm.

Where: Premiere Function Centre, 29 Grey Street, Traralgon.

Cost: Free. **To book:** Call (03) 9411 4555 or visit www.mbav.com.au to book [online](#).

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FAST FACTS

- New housing permits across **Traralgon** are **down** from 2565 in the 12 months to January 2012 to 2178 in the 12 months to January 2013.
- The value of domestic extensions/alterations is **up** from \$32.7m to \$34.4m over the same period.
- Commercial works are **down** from \$36m to \$33m.
- Retail works are **down** from \$23.5m to \$14m.
- Public building works are also **down** from \$58.7m to \$24.9m.
- In total, spending on building in the Traralgon region is **down** from \$582m in 2010/11 to \$498m in 2011/12.