PAAL® Update

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MICHAEL CHRISTIE CELEBRATES 30 YEARS AT PAAL

When Michael Christie took a job at Paal Homes, he never imagined that 30 years later, he'd still be there. Probably because Paal was unlike any other building company he'd come across.

"What I like about Paal is that it's a family business, and they really do care about their customers", he says. "We're with customers from start to finish; that's why we have such a good relationship with them".

THE RIGHT JOB

Michael's impressive track record also comes down to the fact that he really enjoys what he does. "I love the design aspect and helping people turn their vision into a reality", he says. "And I like people and enjoy working with them".

This is evident from the incredible feedback that Paal customers provide time and time again after meeting and working with Michael.

One customer, Catherine Lincoln said, "Michael really listened and helped shape our ideas into something even better than we imagined".

And when Richard and Wendy Baber met Michel, they were equally impressed. "We thought if everyone is like Michael, this is going to be a good show".



EMPATHY FOR HOMEBUILDERS

Michael knows what it's like to build a home, so is able to reassure customers and offer support throughout the entire building process. "I've owner-built five times in the last 35 years," he says. "The fact I've experienced it myself, I have that empathy for customers".

This was case with Alison and David Lilly: "Michael was so thorough in explaining everything, it gave us the confidence to go ahead".

FORWARD THINKING

Michael has always been impressed by Paal's openness to growing technology and new ideas. "When I first went to Paal, they only made rectangle-shaped houses". he says. "Now with Paal's state of the art software, we can create a customised architectural design, tailored to individual requirements; there's so much flexibility with the Paal system, it's amazing".

THE MOVE TO CANBERRA

Three years ago, Michael considered retiring and moving to Canberra to be near family, however, Paal suggested he open a Canberra-based office instead. This was the perfect solution, and business in the surrounding areas has gone from strength to strength. "It's been lovely living and working down here", says Michael. "And even though I am based in Canberra, with Paal's technology, I have the ability to sell homes all around Australia". "I am only a phone call or email away"!

Now thirty years later, Michael continues to successfully help people realise their building dreams. And the way Paal does business still plays a vital role. "They look after their customers and back up what they say they'll do," says Michael. "That's what has kept me at Paal".

THE RIGHT MAN FOR THE JOB

We're thrilled to introduce Byron Allport, our new Sales Consultant at Paal's Sydney office. Originally a carpenter/joiner, Byron comes with over 30 years of industry experience and has been involved with every part of domestic and commercial building, including supervising, project managing and running his own business.

Wanting to move away from the physical side of building, Byron turned his focus to sales and couldn't be happier. "Everything fell into place here at Paal", he says. "I'm still doing what I love which is building people's dreams but now I'm helping them design it for themselves".

And it's this process of helping customers create their own homes that Byron really enjoys, answering any questions and pointing them in the right direction. "I've got the experience and knowledge to assist with different ideas and ways of designing a Paal home", he says.

Byron has found the work environment at Paal to be extremely family orientated. "Everyone is very approachable and willing to assist, enabling me to help clients in designing and building their ideal home, now and into the future".

And Byron has hit the ground running with his first Paal house having been delivered in November. "I'm looking forward to the day when I can visit people and see the end result", he says. "I love the job to be honest, and I can see myself doing it for a very long time".



ACHIEVING THE PERFECT BALANCE

Greg and Lisa Wyatt Spratt purchased 350 acres in Belbora, NSW with the aim of creating a country retreat to escape city life. "We only wanted one level and Lisa wanted a verandah right around like an old farmhouse", says Greg. "So, we thought it might be easier to look at a kit home".

A CLEAR VISION

Paal's name came up straight away, and after a conversation with Michael Christie, the couple realised they could have the flexibility they wanted. "We've built a few homes before, so had a specific idea of what we were after", says Greg. "Paal was very accommodating".

Once Greg and Lisa saw the inclusions and display homes at Paal's Emu Plains showroom, their minds were made up. "We never really looked anywhere else", says Greg.



Greg and Lisa were able to adapt the Paal design to suit their vision, and they were thrilled with the result.

ACCOMMODATING THE VIEW

The couple worked with Michael to modify the Berrima design, adding a bunkroom, as well as carport and alfresco out the back. Plus, they altered the layout to make the most of the magnificent scenery. "Every room along from the carport has a view", says Greg. "We elongated the design to encompass that".

Greg and Lisa engaged Ray Collier to carry out the work, a builder recommended by Michael who'd built Paal homes before. "I could have done it", says Greg,"but I'm still working in Sydney, and it would have taken me forever".

AN AMAZING OUTCOME

The couple was thrilled with the result, especially as they could adapt the plan to suit their vision and include so many of their own ideas such as burnished concrete floors throughout. "We're very happy, it's worked out really well", says Greg.

The couple was also happy with Paal's process and would recommend them in an instant. "I already have", says Greg. "Dealing with Paal was a pleasure, Michael was so helpful, agreeable, and enthusiastic about what we were doing".



Stylish interiors feature unique elements such as burnished concrete floors, as well as a magnificent view from every room.



Wanting to create a traditional style country retreat with a classic wraparound verandah, the Wyatt-Spratts looked no further than Paal.

70-YEAR-OLD BUILDS UNIQUE HOLIDAY RENTAL

Approaching retirement, Brian and Sylvia Scattergood planned to leave their Campbeltown home of 35 years and build a short-term holiday rental in Mudgee. "We've come up here often over the last 12 years and saw it as a good source of income", says Brian.

BRINGING THE DREAM TO LIFE

The couple purchased a three-acre block near Mudgee's centre and turned to Paal to help realise their dream. 'I'd already built a steel-framed home 35 years ago, so I thought I'd do that". says Brian. "I googled, and Paal's name came up first".

The couple sat down with Michael Christie who accommodated their existing plans by modifying the Berrima to create an expansive pavilion-style home with six bedrooms and seven bathrooms. And despite approaching his 70th birthday, Brian went owner-builder. "I'm a hands-on person", he says. "If you can read and understand common sense then you can build a Paal house".



For Brian and Sylvia, the final result of their holiday rental exceeded all expectations.

AN UNUSUAL CONCEPT

The couple spoke with a property manager from Bliss Stays, who was after a guesthouse with rooms available for lease either as a whole or individually. “So, with ours, each room has its own kitchenette, ensuite, television, air conditioning unit and a sliding door opening to a verandah with a key lock box”.

MISSION ACCOMPLISHED

The build took 2.5 years with Brian carrying out all the work, apart from things like gyprocking, electrical and painting. It was a challenge, however building with Paal made it financially viable, and Brian was happy with the after-sale service: “Michael was very accommodating and always took a phone call, Liz Pratt was exceptional, and Narelle Jarman who helped with the colours was excellent”.

Brian was also impressed by Craig Dayball who created the kitchen: “I got a quote from a local kitchen company, but Paal was so much cheaper”.

Now ***Mudgee House*** is complete, the bookings are flooding in, and Brian is thrilled. “I always knew when I started this was going to be a big house”, he says. “I knew it was going to be good, but the finish-off has exceeded my expectations”.



The Scattergoods adapted the Berrima design to create a spacious light-filled pavilion-style home.



***Mudgee House** features six self-contained bedrooms and seven bathrooms, offering for the perfect holiday rental property.*

A SEAMLESS EXPERIENCE WITH PAAL

After 42 years on their Maraylya property, Catherine and Stephen Lincoln decided it was time to build their dream retirement home —something tailored to their lifestyle, but without the stress they remembered from previous builds.
Having built four homes before, they knew how overwhelming it could be. “This time, we wanted it to be easier”, says Catherine.

FLEXIBLE DESIGNING

Their daughter suggested Paal Homes, and from the first meeting with housing consultant Michael Christie, they knew they were in good hands. “Michael really listened and helped shape our ideas into something even better than we imagined”, says Stephen”.

The couple selected the Robertson design, but what made the process exceptional was Paal's flexibility during the planning stage. "You start with a base plan and then make it your own", explains Catherine. They customised the layout to include open-plan living, perfect for entertaining, with an adjoining alfresco, a sunny master bedroom retreat, a walk-in linen press, and a butler's pantry. They even added a custom TV cabinet for a seamless, functional look.

HANDS-ON APPROACH

They managed the build while living in a caravan onsite and called on trusted trades, including their nephew Nathan, owner of Cedar Ridge Construction P/L, who handled the framework and roofing. "Stephen helped too—but not on the roof"! laughs Catherine. With Stephen's vast real estate experience and strong network of trades, they were able to keep everything moving smoothly and efficiently.



Catherine and Stephen Lincoln have built many houses before but found the Paal process to be the best by far.

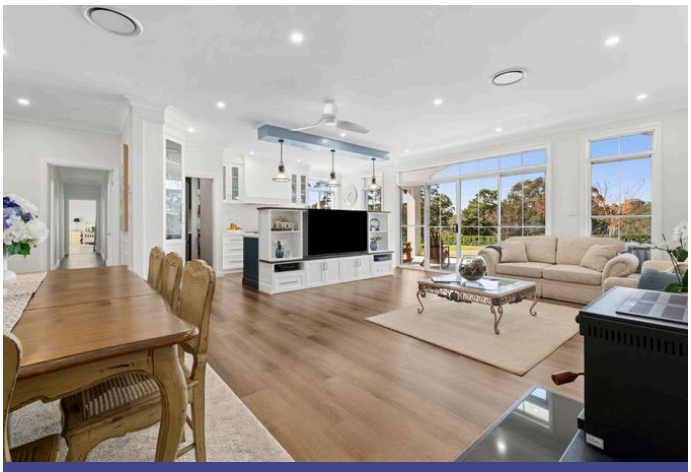
A major advantage was Paal's efficient, stage-by-stage delivery of materials. "Everything arrived on time, exactly when we needed it", says Stephen. "During Covid, that was a lifesaver—most people were struggling to get materials at all".

Catherine, with her background in decorating, selected all the interior finishes—from flooring and paint to bathroom fittings, some sourced through Paal and others from outside suppliers. She also worked closely with Paal's joinery manager, Craig Dayball, to create her dream kitchen. "I showed Craig what I wanted, and he brought it to life".

THE ONLY WAY TO BUILD

The 12-month build ran smoothly and resulted in a home that exceeded their expectations. While they've since decided to sell to be closer to family, both agree it was their most satisfying build yet.

"We got exactly what we wanted", says Stephen. "It was flexible, stress-free, and honestly—fun. If we ever build again, it will only be with Paal. We wouldn't build with anyone else".



Catherine and Stephen added a custom designed TV cabinet for a seamless and functional finish.



The Lincoln modified the Robertson design and created a unique home that is absolutely stunning, both indoors and out.

PAAL'S OPEN DAY IS BACK IN 2026

Once again, we will be opening the doors of Paal's Sydney factory and show room to give homebuilders, both new and experienced, a behind-the-scenes glimpse of our business and building process. You can watch a Paal frame being assembled, tour the factory, visit our three display homes or chat to one of our team members who will answer any questions you might have. The perfect start to your homebuilding journey. The event will take place on March 7th with registrations opening in the new year.



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