

The NMA is
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 **Bendigo Bank**

NEWSLETTER

SPRING. 2021



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Hello members and welcome to another edition of our newsletter.

Here in Victoria, we've gone through an extraordinary year of multiple lockdowns, NMA Zoom committee meetings, and plenty of time to make mud bricks in your backyard, right?

Not even Covid can stop the progress of the NMA. We are very lucky to have such a skilled, dedicated, and passionate committee to prevent us getting stuck in the mud.

Welcome to our new committee members Kaye Meynell, Lauren Taylor, Lachlan Allan, and Mark Peters. Your contributions this year have been greatly appreciated.

A big thanks to Robin Bliem, Kaye Meynell, Barry Pearce, and Michael Young for their continuing work on content for an Australian Mudbrick Standard by researching testing facilities, contacting government entities, and collecting existing international standards for mudbrick/earth building construction.

The NMA has undergone a natural mud mask spa treatment this year, giving it the face lift it deserves! Thanks go to Lauren Taylor of *Branding by Design* for redesigning the NMA logo. Thanks also to Michael Young,

Lauren Taylor and Kaye Meynell, who have put together the 2021 NMA Business Plan for the Nillumbik Shire.

On top of the re-brand, we have also updated our website! Due to launch in the coming months.

Once again, we are indebted to the Bendigo Bank for the very important financial support we receive.

Thank you to the local members of council that joined us at our committee meetings this year; it means a lot to break bread, and understand your views on our sustainable vision for mudbrick preservation.

As always, thanks to all the support from our members. It's always exciting hearing about renovations or building plans across Australia. We hope we're doing our part and keeping you informed and passionate about getting your hands dirty.

This will be my last year as President. It's been an absolute pleasure to serve the NMA from the presidential seat since the 2018 AGM. However, my already limited time this next year will be full of new experiences, love, and adventure for my partner and I, as we're expecting our first child (don't tell the dog) in September.

Hope to see you at the AGM!

RYAN PETERS



**Nillumbik Mudbrick
Association Inc.**

The Nillumbik Mudbrick Association Inc. (NMA) represents over 300 members and is a volunteer-based not-for-profit group. The NMA was formed to protect mudbrick building and to strengthen Nillumbik's standing as the most important region for mudbrick construction. Mudbrick is fundamental to Nillumbik Shire.

Due to covid restrictions the 2020 AGM was held over, however the committee are still progressing our major projects. Sadly, the very successful Eltham High School Mudbrick Tours have been held over indefinitely.

We hope all our members are doing well over this unusual period.



The Nillumbik Mudbrick Association Inc. acknowledges and pays respect to the past, present and future Traditional Custodians and Elders of this nation and the continuation of cultural, spiritual, and educational practices of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

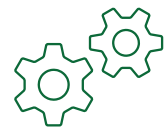
NOTICE OF NMA INC. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

🕒 7pm, Wednesday 20th of October

📍 Eltham Library or Zoom in accordance with COVID restrictions

✉️ RSVP Jane Hinwood 0478 490 491

New membership form [available here](#)



A 'MUDBRICK STANDARD' IS ON THE WAY

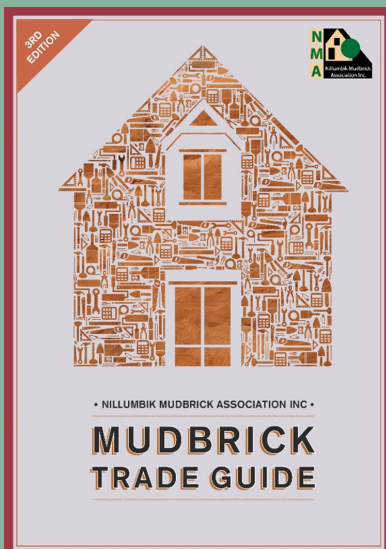
The NMA are heading down the track in developing a 'Mudbrick Standard'.

It is a document that takes our recently released 'Mudbrick Construction Guidelines' to the next level, and will be used to further validate mudbrick in the ever-increasing regulatory environment we work in today.

Kaye Meynell will be compiling the document, working closely with committee members, Robyn Bliem (engineer), together with Mike Young (registered builder) and Barry Pearce (architect and artist).



NMA PUBLICATIONS



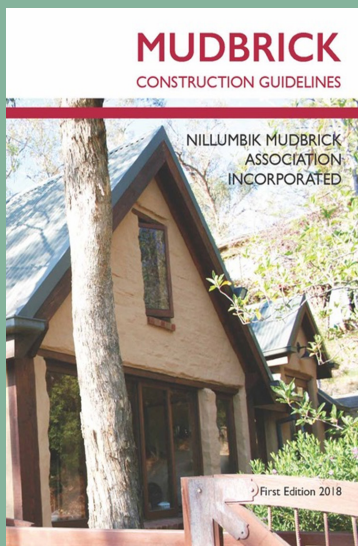
NMA Mudbrick Trade Guide
[available here](#)



COMMUNITY BANK ELTHAM (BENDIGO BANK) SUPPORT FOR NMA

The NMA is proud to announce that the Community Bank Eltham (Bendigo Bank) is sponsoring us once more.

The partnership with Bendigo goes back 12 years now, and whenever we have really needed support with our projects, they have been there. The recent commitment is for five thousand dollars. This funding is going to be instrumental in the development of a 'Mudbrick Standard'.



Mudbrick Construction Guidelines
\$40 - Available for purchase from
Jane Hinwood 0478 490 491



Pictured is NMA's treasurer, Andrew Evans, with Barry Henwood, Executive Director of Community Bank Eltham.



NILLUMBIK COUNCIL SUPPORTS NMA



The following questions were presented to all seven elected councillors, five of whom ticked all the points, indicating strong support for the work of the NMA. The committee looks forward to working with these councillors over the next 3 years.

- Assist the NMA in funding the development of a 'Mudbrick Standard' (a technical document that is well overdue in producing and is required to further legitimise mudbrick in the current regulatory framework).
- Forming a strong association between Nillumbik Shire Council and the NMA, to become (jointly) the 'Mudbrick Authority'. This gives great kudos to both entities.
- Assist in lobbying the State Government to reinstate mudbrick back into the Building Code of Australia (the mudbrick chapter was removed in 2007 with a view to updating, however this work was never undertaken).
- Assist the NMA to better promote and market mudbrick in the Shire.
- Reinstate a quality platform for mudbrick to be exhibited locally — possibly with other environmentally conscious building and lifestyle products.

Nillumbik Mudbrick Association Inc.

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Email: nillumbikmudbrickassociation@gmail.com

Facebook: Nillumbik Mudbrick Association



WHY MUDBRICK?

Why Mudbrick?

- Architecture and the aesthetic
- Bushfire protection
- Healthy living
- Economic development
- Tourism
- Community
- History

Energy Considerations

- Life-cycle of a house
- Embodied energy
- Thermal mass & comfortable living
- Lifestyle and consuming energy
- Solar and mudbrick
- R Value

Advice

Taking all the above points into account, mudbrick is a vastly superior product to other forms of construction currently popular in Australia. All that is required is considered design and the correct advice when embarking on a housing project. The NMA can help direct you in this regard.

