

media release



MASTERS OF OUR INDUSTRY

Master Builders Association of Victoria
ABN: 38 004 255 654

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Building across outer-east Melbourne on the slide

Investment in building work across Knox, Maroondah, Whitehorse, Manningham and the Yarra Ranges is declining, making free events like the upcoming Master Builders Trade Night in Rowville more important to local builders than ever.

Those who attend the trade night will receive important industry updates and will have the opportunity to ask questions and access products and services from the best in the industry.

Unfortunately the most recent statistics do not paint a positive picture of the building and construction industry in the area.

“Over the past year to February, building investment across the outer-east dropped from \$1.78 billion to \$1.71 billion,” Master Builders Executive Director Brian Welch said.

“Investment in retail works was down from \$168 million to \$153.1 million and there were also 408 fewer housing permits issued.

“Less is also being spent on extensions and renovations, down from \$183.4 million to \$161.2 million.

“However, the biggest blow came in the commercial works sector which was down from \$129.3 million to \$89 million.

“From this data it’s clear that 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 Rowville 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.

Guests will also hear from builder Claude Salvatore, Managing Director of Constructpro.

“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 east want.”

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

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What: Master Builders Trade Night (Rowville).

When: Wednesday, 24 April from 5.30-9.30 pm.

Where: Kingston Links, Corporate Avenue, Rowville.

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

FAST FACTS

- New housing permits across Knox, Maroondah, Manningham, Whitehorse and the Yarra Ranges were **down** from 3620 in the 12 months to February 2012 to 3212 in the 12 months to February 2013.
- The value of approved domestic extensions and alterations was **down** from \$183.4m to \$161.2m over the same period.
- The value of commercial permits approved was **down** from \$129.3m to \$89m.
- Retail works permits approved were **down** from \$168m to \$153.1m.
- In total, the value of work approved in the region was **down** from \$1.78bn to \$1.71bn.