

MARCH NEWSLETTER 2024



Friday 8th of March is International Women's Day, a day to celebrate women's achievements, a time to reflect on the progress that has been made since the day was first held in Sydney, Australia, in 1928, but still acknowledge we have a way to go to bridge the gender gap.

THE WOMEN OF VERSACE TIMBERS

We, at Versace Timbers, have seen change in timber wholesaling and merchandising over the past 25 years, in what has been a traditionally male dominated industry. In the early days at Wavell Heights, we had Kerry Leddy working part-time assisting with the admin / accounts work, then a few years later Jenni was brought on to assist Kerry, working school hours while her kids were going through primary school. Jenni then progressed into internal sales when we moved to Virginia and then a further step up to Sales Rep and Events Coordinator a couple of years later. Jenni is currently part of the Queensland based branch of Women in Forestry and Timber Network. This role has seen her jet off around the country tackling such topics as "Attracting and retaining women in the timber industry", a role which she is very passionate about and one which Versace Timbers wholeheartedly supports.

Kathy worked part-time processing the weekly payroll back in the early days of Virginia before her 2 girls came along. She has been Jenni's right-hand woman for many years now at our annual charity golf day supporting Prostate Cancer of Australia and over the last four years has assisted Jenni with the preparation work leading up to the event. Most recently she has been helping with preparation of and assisting with the company BBQs.

Mel took a similar path, beginning part-time in admin / accounts at our Virginia branch, started a family, gave birth to 3 boys, continuing to work part-time for Versace in between kids and then moved to fulltime late last year, progressing to be our Frame / Truss scheduler at our Brendale facility.

Everybody who calls our office will know the friendly voice of Debra. She was employed by Versace just over 10 years ago, initially starting in internal sales, but we soon realized her friendly nature was best suited for being the welcoming voice of Versace, as well as assisting with day-to-day admin duties. Last year she began helping with the accounts payable processing.

Belinda also began in the accounts / admin area of the business, but sitting still isn't her thing, so her position has morphed into HR / Recruitment and most recently into Systems Manager. She has also played a huge role in the co-ordination of the rebuild at Virginia.



Lani came to us as a qualified hairdresser, looking for a career change. She started and completed an admin traineeship, on the way being nominated as National TABMA (Timber And Building Materials Association) trainee of the year in 2017. She did unfortunately miss out on National honours. She then decided she wanted to move into sales, completed a timber merchandising traineeship and went onto win Queensland TABMA trainee of the year in 2018. Lani loves her AFL, being a diehard supporter of the Essendon Bombers (someone has to support them). She decided to play herself, in the local women's suburban comp for the Pine Rivers Swans. Two knee surgeries later she finally decided to retire and has had 2 beautiful children since. She just recently returned from maternity leave for the second time and is keen to further enhance her skill set, already attending a plan reading and estimating course earlier last week. Oh, and she was the original Social Media Guru!!!

Kara has been with us for the last 3 years as Debra's offsider, helping with the incoming phone calls and assisting with admin duties. She works school hours as she has 5 kids of varying ages, to chase after each and every day. She is also a football lover, of the rugby league type, also working at Suncorp Stadium during the NRL season and has recently began a degree in nursing.

Sacha began with Versace nearly two years ago joining our internal sales team working part-time as she had a young family. Later that first year she had her third child and went on maternity leave for a few months. She has since returned on a part-time basis. She took over the Social Media Guru role while Lani was on maternity leave and looks like it might be a fight to take it off her.

Chloe started with us as a labourer in our wall frame section at Brendale in 2022, learning frame assembly, sawing and plate trenching. She has since moved into the office, assisting Bill and Mel with the admin work related to frames, trusses and posi-joist manufacturing and scheduling.

In July last year we employed Nia as a frame / truss detailer, based in New Zealand. We were very excited as she had been using the MiTek Sapphire program in her previous employment, which we are aiming to migrate to later this year. The excitement was quickly subdued, as we soon realized her experience was in the USA version of the program, not the Australian one. However, after some intense remote training with Chris Waugh and a trip to Australia for some face-to-face education, she progressed well and is now working for us remotely.

With the ever-changing IR laws we decided we needed to employ an in-house HR Coordinator. Jess took on this role late last year coming with previous industry experience and has slotted in very well.

And last, but not least is our newest female recruit, Myf. She is working for us 4 days a week, as she has young tribe of kids to look after. She joined our front counter sales team late last year and has been a great addition to Versace. She previously worked at a big Green Box, but we haven't held that against her.

Thank you to all our wonderfully talented women of Versace Timbers who play a very important role with the success of Versace Timbers and to all the wives, partners and daughters with the support they provide to all the males at our company!

Keep an eye out on social media to check out their acting talents!!

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EASTER TRADING HOURS



It seems we have just got over the festive season and now it is nearly Easter. Usually, we wouldn't be notifying everybody until the beginning of April, however the Easter weekend begins at the end of March in 2024.

GOOD FRIDAY 29th MARCH – CLOSED
EASTER SATURDAY 30th MARCH – CLOSED
EASTER MONDAY 2nd APRIL - CLOSED

NEWS FROM THE SALES TEAM

In partnership with James Hardie we will be giving away a Digger King 1.3 ton trailer package. The competition began on the 1st January 2024 and will run until the 30th April 2024. For further details on how to enter the competition please see the promotional material at the end of this newsletter. The Digger is now on display at Virginia, so come on down and check it out!

To be part of the draw all you need to do is buy a minimum of \$500 from the range of selected James Hardie products (list at end of newsletter) during the promotional period and then register your purchase at <http://www.winwithhardie.com.au/versacetimbers> This registration only needs to be completed on the first purchase. Once this registration is complete any subsequent purchases will be automatically entered into the draw.

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WIN

with Hardie™



Entries close 30th April 2024

Conditions apply, see <http://www.winwithhardie.com.au/versacetimbers>.
QLD residents 18+. Retain receipt/s. Ends: 5PM AEST 30/4/24.

ENTER NOW TO WIN!

BRENDALE TRUSS & FRAME NEWS

The approximate lead time for quotes are as follows.

Quotes - Frames & Trusses – approx. 15 Working days (standard residential quotes)

Quotes - Frames & Trusses – approx. 5 Working days (carport quotes)

Quotes - Frames & Trusses – approx.. 20 Working days (multi-residential & commercial quotes)

Please call your Sales Representative for current lead times for all size frame, truss and posi-joists projects and we will see what we can do.

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NEWS FROM THE ACCOUNTS TEAM

If you are experiencing cash flow difficulties, please call us as soon as possible as we may be able to assist. If we can't get in contact with you and find out where you are at with outstanding payments, then we may be left with no choice but to place your account on stop credit and / or begin alternative debt collection action if payment terms are breached. We are also required to report our customers to a number of authorities once an account is 90 days overdue, which may be detrimental to one's credit rating.



WIN

with Hardie™

HOW TO WIN

-  Scan the QR code or visit winwithhardie.com.au/versacetimbers  to register your details and accept the terms and conditions.
- Purchase Hardie™ Products from a participating store during the promotional period.
- For every \$500 you spend on Linea™ Weatherboard, Axon™ Cladding, Stria™ Cladding or Matrix™ Cladding including accessories receive one entry to the promotion.
- Receive 2 bonus entries for every \$500 you spend on Hardie™ Fine Texture Cladding, Hardie™ Oblique™ Cladding or Hardie™ Brushed Concrete Cladding including accessories.

Promotion dates: 1st January – 30th April 2024

Conditions apply, see <http://www.winwithhardie.com.au/versacetimbers>. Open to QLD res 18+ who (a) hold a current trade account at VERSACE TIMBER, Virginia QLD 4014 during the promotional period; & (b) register to participate. Must not have monies owing as at 30/4/24. Entries close at 5pm on 30/4/24. Retain receipt/s.

**Deliver modern design your client will love
with Hardie™ Exterior Cladding Solutions**

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