

# Outlet

The Official Reece Customer Update

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We welcome your **feedback** so please send any comments by e-mail to [outlet@reece.com.au](mailto:outlet@reece.com.au) or by fax to **(03) 9274 0131**.

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# THE REECE DELIVERY APP HAS ARRIVED

With the all-new Reece Delivery app, you can now track all your deliveries Australia wide.

As a tradie, there is nothing more important than knowing where your materials are and when they will land on site. So to make everything easier to track, we've created the all-new Reece Delivery app for iPhone.

Simply login in with your My Account details.

The new app is really easy to use and it's free. To get started, just search for "Reece Delivery" in the App Store and install it. Then log in with your My Account details and you're ready to go.

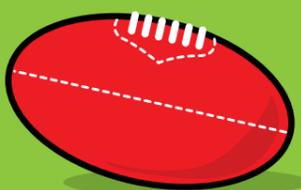
Always know where your deliveries are.

The app tracks your deliveries at every stage, so you'll always know where they are. Whether it's being scheduled, on the road, or it has already arrived at site. It even features a map that shows you the actual location of your order. Plus, it sends you notifications telling you when the delivery is not far away.

Check all your order details.

Through the app, you can check all your delivery details including the delivery address, the delivering branch, the delivery contents and the scheduled arrival time. In addition, you can check your delivery history including the proof of delivery (POD).

The Reece Delivery App is sure to make you more efficient on every job. Download it for free today.



REECE FOOTY TIPPING IS BACK!

Show your true colours this AFL season and take part in the Reece Footy Tipping Competition. Drop into your local Reece store on Friday 18 March to register your team, enjoy a free snag and be in the running to win **\$22,000 worth of prizes**.

Join Reece in celebrating this year's footy season and tip like a champion!

For more information, visit: [reece.com.au/tipping](http://reece.com.au/tipping)

# A big day for plumbing



With World Plumbing Day on Friday 11 March, we thought it was a great opportunity to find out a bit more about the big issues driving the plumbing industry right now.

We sat down with Shayne La Combre – CEO of the Plumbing Industry Climate Action Centre (PICAC) and the Deputy Chair of the World Plumbing Council to discuss what the future holds.

### What's the idea behind World Plumbing Day?

World Plumbing Day is a concept put together by the World Plumbing Council to recognise the vital contribution plumbers make to our everyday lives.

Essentially, there are two parts to World Plumbing Day. In Australia, where we have advanced systems and safe drinking water, we like to raise awareness of the contribution plumbers make by providing us with sanitary waste, piping gas, drinking water. We enjoy these things because plumbers do their job really well.

In terms of the global outlook, we also like to remind people that the services we take for granted, are not what others in the world have.

There are millions of deaths each year caused by lack of water sanitation and clean drinking water – especially of children under the age of five. This day is about shining light on these issues around the world.

### How can the plumbers get involved?

On Friday 11 March there'll be plenty of events happening around the country for plumbers to get involved in. Here at PICAC we see this as a great opportunity to highlight the importance of plumbing to politicians, training organisations and consumers. We get key speakers in, put on a lunch and bring industry people together to celebrate plumbers.

### What do you see as the big trends driving the plumbing industry in the next few years?

We're definitely seeing more integration of sustainability principles into buildings such as airtight buildings and better thermal performance. This is a great example of how plumbing and HVAC-R need to work together.

We're also seeing the growth of interconnected systems such as rainwater tanks with home plumbing. These systems are vitally important to the sustainable future of Australia, however plumbers need to be properly trained in these systems to ensure the water is safe for drinking.

In politics, governments are talking a lot about possible deregulation of the plumbing industry. This is concerning as people who aren't aware of the inherent risks involved in plumbing, don't understand the consequences of having untrained plumbers.

Another big trend is how plumbing products are changing to suit our ageing population. People want to stay at home for longer and bathroom products are integrating new functionality (e.g. slip hazards, step hazards) into their design.

### Are there any new technologies emerging that look set to change the way plumbers work?

Plumbing is always evolving and those in the industry need to be flexible and find ways to

stay current. Computer technology gives us access to powerful information so plumbers can assist their consumers even more. No need to truck around a whole lot of manuals and brochures, you can carry around resources on your smart phone and stay up-to-date.

### How are energy and environmental concerns shaping the plumbing industry today?

In a country as dry and populated as ours, it's important that we implement best practice when it comes to conserving water. While we have adopted processes that work during drought conditions, we must continue to look at ways to save water year round.

**Reece Plumbing stores around the country will be holding a variety of activities on World Plumbing Day. Visit your local branch or plumbing association for more information.**

## Ancient Roman plumbing not so sanitary

The Romans may have been one of the first civilizations to have indoor plumbing, but it seems claims to their effectiveness have been greatly exaggerated. Rather than help prevent disease, members of the Roman Empire saw a gradual increase in contagious parasites.

Even though the germ theory of disease wasn't discovered yet, the ancient Romans of approximately 2,000 years ago still seemed to have some indication that pathogens were spread through poor hygiene. However, a recent stool analysis conducted by researchers at Cambridge found that despite their efforts tapeworm, ringworm, whipworm, and dysentery-causing bacteria persisted in the bodies of ancient Romans.



Indoor plumbing clearly gives us a sanitation advantage today, so where did they go wrong? It may have been their inconsistent sanitation methods. For instance, while public baths were intended to keep Romans squeaky clean, the water wasn't changed frequently, effectively creating a soup of fleas and worms for the next person to bathe in. Human excrement, which found its way to farms to be used as fertiliser provided another opportunity for common diseases to find their way back to the city. All these factors may have led to a sort of cancelling-out effect of Roman sanitation systems, making Romans no more or less healthy than other European groups without indoor plumbing or regular bathing, like the Vikings.

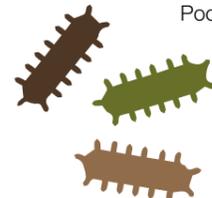
Roman toilets, sewers and water systems weren't necessarily constructed with our same modern sanitary goals in mind. Archaeological evidence suggests that their finely constructed sewer systems were more about draining water that pooled on the city's uneven streets rather than human waste removal. Public toilets were scattered throughout the city of Pompeii, but despite the city's sewer infrastructure, virtually none of these toilets had sewer connections.

Romans' sense of cleanliness and privacy around bathroom matters was quite different from ours today. Most Roman public toilets were dark, dank and dirty, and often situated in small spaces. There was almost a complete lack of privacy in such facilities. The Roman version of toilet paper in many cases was a communal sponge on a stick. Even worse, these public toilets were notorious for terrifying people when flames exploded from their seat openings – caused by gas explosions of hydrogen sulphide and methane.



Around AD 100, direct connections of homes to sewers began, and the Romans completed most of the sewer system infrastructure. Sewers were laid throughout the city, serving public and some private toilets, and also served as dumping grounds for homes not directly

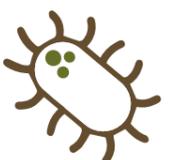
connected to a sewer. Mostly wealthy people's homes were connected to the sewers, through outlets that ran under an extension of the latrine.



Poorer residents used pots they emptied into the sewer, or used public facilities.

Sanitation in ancient Rome was a complex system similar in many

ways to modern sanitation systems. Gaining a better understanding of Roman life on their streets, in their public spaces, and in their private dwellings shows us that they were in the early stages of developing systems that we've adopted, with upgrades, for our own problems with sanitation and clean water today.



Sources : [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sanitation\\_in\\_ancient\\_Rome](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sanitation_in_ancient_Rome), <http://motherboard.vice.com/read/pooping-indoors-didnt-prevent-illness-in-ancient-rome>, <http://theconversation.com/talking-heads-what-toilets-and-sewers-tell-us-about-ancient-roman-sanitation-50045>

# Wolfen. Made to perform.

We're always excited to bring our customers new and innovative products. That's why we're happy to announce the arrival of the Wolfen Commercial Solutions range at Reece.



The Wolfen range is designed around the needs of users operating in specific environments, including Hospitals & Health Care, Education, Hospitality, Public Spaces and Sports & Leisure venues.

The Wolfen range includes:

- Sensor tapware with modular components for easy maintenance and solenoid cartridges featuring a stainless steel strainer
- Electronic tapware with sensor and foot pedal options and light indicators for power supply status
- Foot and knee operated tapware with adjustable preset 15 second timed flow

- Food preparation tapware with a clean line food grade hose and stainless steel spray nozzle
- Timed bubblers with UV treated rubber guards

Manufactured using high-grade materials and finishes, Wolfen is backed by a full five year warranty.

To find out more about Wolfen Commercial Solutions visit [reece.com.au/wolfen](http://reece.com.au/wolfen) or request a brochure at your local Reece branch.



## Yarra Ranges Council awards its Sportsfield & Turf Team with Innovation Award for smart irrigation

**Congratulations to Yarra Ranges Council's Sportsfield Team who won an award for outstanding achievements in Process Management Improvement and Innovation for implementing the Weathermatic Smartlink irrigation system.**

The award was presented by Management for Innovation along with a \$50,000 investment to be used to further implement Weathermatic Smartlink throughout the Yarra ranges in Melbourne.

Smartlink is an intelligent, affordable, web-based irrigation control system that gives you the power to dramatically reduce water usage and maximise landscape beauty from virtually anywhere.

Yarra Ranges Council Turf and Irrigation Officer Tony Spargo said he enquired at Reece Irrigation Lilydale about web-based controllers some two years ago, which led to trialling a Weathermatic Smartlink controller.

"At the time we were irrigating 38 ovals and looking for an upgrade. We currently have 10 controllers fitted, irrigating 12 ovals. We have five real time flow sensors fitted sending alerts, which has been great. For example, a high flow alert was raised at a site some distance away that an operator unknowingly hit the sprinkler head with a mower and the controller turned off the zone. The ongoing upgrades are amazing and the accurate irrigation with data can assure plant health and justification with water usage."

Yarra Ranges Council Sportsfield & Turf Team Leader Nick Murphy said Smartlink is easy to use and easy to navigate through multiple sites. "It's a great tool for justifying responsible water usage to management, especially in this age of



sustainability. We have also gained funding to put the rest of council systems onto Weathermatic Smartlink.

"We are extremely happy and the ongoing support by Reece Irrigation staff made the transition easy. The only negative is that it doesn't cut the grass!"

To find out more about Smart Irrigation visit [www.reece.com.au/smartirrigation](http://www.reece.com.au/smartirrigation)



reece  
**REECE  
GRANT**

A community  
water initiative

## A life changing trip to the Philippines

**Home seems like a different place for Reece Grant recipient Timothy Brideson after an eye-opening 14-day mission in the Philippines.**

Joined by a strong team of fellow Australian tradies and his teenage daughter Mel, Tim put the Reece Grant money towards rebuilding a community ravaged by the deadly Typhoon Haiyan in 2013.

Tacloban is best known as the home town of Imelda Marcos, the infamous widow of a former president. But the association does it little good, as the community suffers a lack of government funding and support.

"I was blown away with how little had been done to repair the town in the three years since the disaster," said Tim.

"The town is a mess and people live in tiny temporary houses made from rubbish materials with dirt floors. They sleep on beds made from potato sacks."

But even in the middle of unimaginable poverty, Tim said he's never seen a group of happier individuals.

"The community has been through so much tragedy, heartbreak and their living conditions are beyond what we Australians could imagine, yet everyone has smiles on their faces and were very welcoming of us."

Tim and the team including project leader, John Tucker, worked with local carpenters to rebuild the town's community centre, where people took refuge when the typhoon hit and the reason why those inside survived.

"There is a tree still standing out the front which I was told had people hanging from it to stop themselves from being dragged away," said Tim.

"We estimate we poured and carried 28,000 buckets of concrete during the project. Everyone had injuries and burns from the concrete, some people worse than others."

The work required to rebuild the centre had the team working long days in the heat, sometimes until the early hours of the morning.

"One day we started work at 6am and poured and carried concrete until 5am the next day. The lime in the concrete was rapidly chewing through our clothing so we all ended up wearing the Reece t-shirts we brought with us to give to the community!"

When the project is complete the centre will include a school, a doctors and dentist clinic and residential apartments. The Reece Grant provided funds for the building materials.

"The new building will be the biggest centre for miles and will play a critical role in restoring the hope and strength of the Tacloban community."

Despite the long days, burns and exhaustion, Tim is already planning his return trip to help rebuild another part of the town.

"John Tucker and I are currently in talks with a local project manager to work out where they need help and when we can go back."

While there are plenty of willing individuals to help, it really comes down to the support we receive from corporates. That's why it was awesome to have Reece on board for this mission - we honestly couldn't have made the impact we did without them."

Keep up-to-date with Tim's project from this trip on [reece.com.au/grant/timothy-brideson](http://reece.com.au/grant/timothy-brideson)



Here's Tim (second from right) with his dedicated team of hard workers.

# The Crack

## Going for a million

A former public toilet in Spitalfields, London has been put on the market for one million pounds.

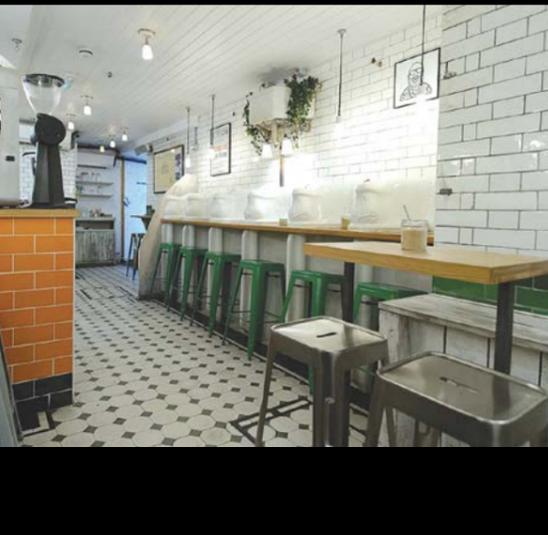
The privatisation of public toilets is nothing new and generally follows prolonged neglect, inevitable dismantling and the sale and renovation into a new space – often fashionable bars or hangouts such as cocktail bar Ladies & Gents in Kentish Town, London.

The upside is that well-meaning businesses move in and preserve the original features rather than letting the toilets become dark and dangerous and a risk to the public. Some residents believe it's better for them to be turned into bars and nightclubs rather than become so seedy that most of the public avoid them completely.

The privatisation of public toilet facilities in the UK coincides with a decrease in the number of free clean and working public toilets available for use. Something locals complain about having to factor in when planning outings!

Between 2010 and 2013, one in seven public toilets was closed because of cuts to local authority budgets; and despite a campaign by the British Toilet Association, many of the remaining facilities are of a depressing standard.

Source: <http://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2016/jan/21/great-british-toilet-lavatories-public-convenience>



## Cold air conundrum

The need for eco-friendly HVAC-R solutions has never been more pressing than now, with the demand for air conditioning and refrigeration growing so fast it's threatening to smash pledges and targets for global warming.

"Cold is the Cinderella of the energy debate," says Toby Peters, visiting professor of power and the cold economy at the University of Birmingham. "Most people tend to think about energy in terms of heat and lighting and transport. But more and more, it's going to be about cold."

Global power consumption for air conditioning is already forecast to surge 33-fold by 2100, driven by the warming planet, developing world incomes rise and advancing urbanisation.

The United States, for example, uses as much electricity to keep buildings cool as the whole of Africa uses on everything. In Mumbai, India, air conditioning accounts for about 40 per cent of power use, while more than half of Saudi Arabia's peak summer power consumption, (generated by burning one billion barrels of oil a year), also goes on air conditioning.

Research by the Netherlands Environmental Assessment Agency also predicts that by about 2060, the amount of energy used worldwide in cooling will overtake that used in heating.

According to Richard Williams of Herriot-Watt University: "In the West, we've traditionally been more concerned with efficiently capturing and reusing heat. The source for cold has mostly been conventional electricity, or diesel. We've just been very slow to realise how important cold has become to our lifestyles."

Replicating the technologies of yester-year to run our air conditioning and refrigeration is tipped to head us towards environmental disaster. We must "completely rethink cold", says Peters. "Is sucking electricity off the grid really the best way to provide it?"

Source: [www.theguardian.com/environment/2015/oct/26/cold-economy-cop21-global-warming-carbon-emissions](http://www.theguardian.com/environment/2015/oct/26/cold-economy-cop21-global-warming-carbon-emissions)



## Expanding the network

### New Branch

Reece Irrigation Rockingham  
133 Dixon Road, Rockingham  
WA 6168

Ph (08) 9553 1120

Fax (08) 9553 1129

Email [rockingham.irrigation.wa@reece.com.au](mailto:rockingham.irrigation.wa@reece.com.au)

### Relocations

Reece Plumbing Rockingham  
133 Dixon Road, Rockingham  
WA 6168

Ph (08) 9553 1100

Fax (08) 9553 1109

Email [rockingham.plumbing.wa@reece.com.au](mailto:rockingham.plumbing.wa@reece.com.au)

Reece Civil Cambridge  
(Formerly Civil Derwent Park)

1 Runway Place, Cambridge  
TAS 7170

Ph (03) 6236 8900

Fax (03) 6236 8909

Email [cambridge.civil.tas@reece.com.au](mailto:cambridge.civil.tas@reece.com.au)

## Main Price Changes

For the full list of price changes or if you have any queries, please see your Reece Branch Manager or visit [www.reece.com.au/outlet](http://www.reece.com.au/outlet) for further updates.

Supplier	Products	% Increase	Date Effective
Bathe	Baths, bases and spas	Various %	1 March 2016
Bluescope Lysaght	Fasteners only	8.5%	1 March 2016
Bostik	Silicones & sealants	Various %	1 March 2016
Britex Metal Prod Co	Commercial washroom equipment	Various %	1 March 2016
Caroma Dorf	Bathroom, kitchen & laundry products	2-7%	1 March 2016
Civil & General Distributors	Large pipe & fittings & drainage products	Various %	1 March 2016
Fletcher Insulation	Pipe insulation products	6%	1 March 2016
Fox Environmental Systems	Grease traps	Various %	1 March 2016
Leap Australasia	Hepworth pipe & fittings & earthenware	Various %	1 March 2016
Mark Anderson Sales	Commercial washroom products	Various %	1 March 2016
Puretec	Water filters	Various %	1 March 2016
Repelec (Aust)	Amprobe, fluke test & measure only	Various %	1 March 2016
Rinnai Australia	Heating products	Up to 5%	1 March 2016
Sutton Tools	Drill bits	Various %	1 March 2016
Techrite Controls Australia	Hot water & heating spare parts	Various %	1 March 2016
Universal Shower Base	Shower bases	Various %	1 March 2016
Wholesale Products – Showerco	Shower bases, screens & enclosures	10%	1 March 2016
3M Australia	Water filters	Various %	1 April 2016
Adelaide Brighton Cement	Cement	Various %	1 April 2016
Battmans Insulation	Roofing insulation	Various %	1 April 2016
Cockburn Cement	Cement	Various %	1 April 2016
Formed Australia	Vanity units & shower bases	Various %	1 April 2016
Rinnai Australia	Heating products	2-12%	1 April 2016
Seeley International	Heating, cooling & ventilation	Various %	1 April 2016
Wasteland Wholesale Plumbing	Waste & drainage products	Up to 5%	1 April 2016
ZIP Heaters	Boiling & chilling units	Various %	1 April 2016