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HISTORIC THIESS REUNION PLANNED

Thiess – since the 1930s its been sung about, written about and its many engineering feats like the Snowy Mountain Scheme are firmly etched in Australia’s rich history.

Sydney’s iconic harbour tunnel, Melbourne’s EastLink project and Brisbane’s massive Airport Link are just a few more recent examples of the nation’s critical infrastructure to bear the Thiess brand. Finding strength through diversity, for the past two decades Thiess has also been at the forefront of modernising many of Australia’s biggest and best known tertiary hospitals. It has also built prisons and has not only constructed more than 80 of the biggest dams in Australia but has also become a market leader through its services division in the operations and maintenance of water utilities including the biggest of them all, the recently announced 3.6 billion dollar desalination plant in Victoria.

The founding Thiess brothers were also the first to mine and export coal to Japan, signalling a move into contract coal mining that now spans Australia, Indonesia and India. There were also the first to import and sell Toyota Landcruisers in Australia and the rest they say is history.

Fact is, over the past 75 years Thiess and the tens of thousands of people who’ve worked for the company over time have been contributing to the shape of our nation. But where are they now?

This weekend as part of 75th Anniversary celebrations, Thiess will continue a nationwide newspaper advertising campaign with a view to staging a reunion for its past employees.

The reunion will be on Sunday 25 October 2009 at Queensland’s Wivenhoe Dam, which was built by Thiess and is situated in that part of Queensland from where Sir Leslie Thiess and his four brothers set about making a name for themselves.

Earlier this year Thiess 75th Anniversary Project Manager Jane Shea established the Thiess Networkers program which has been designed to locate past Thiess employees. Along with many names Jane also found a treasure trove of memorabilia.

“We found that quite a few past employees live now in regional Australia and they have great stories to tell about how some of the nation’s biggest infrastructure projects came about. We’re also publishing a book to capture these stories” Jane said.

“Some amazing finds included a ballad written about the founding five Thiess Brothers by Stan Coster who at one stage was teamed up with Slim Dusty. The last remaining Thiess brother, Bert, is still alive at 96 and he has the most amazing collection of tractors and heavy machinery. ”

Further information: Jane Shea, Thiess 75th Anniversary Project Manager on 0428 987 716.

Links to:[Thiess Ballad](#) ; [Thiess Networkers](#); [Thiess Reunion](#); [Thiess Historic Stories](#)

While Thiess has completed more than 2000 projects, attached is a list of 80 of the most significant.

Ends

For further information about Thiess please visit www.thiess.com.au



Thiess Significant Projects 1934 - 2009

Queensland

1934	Thiess Bros is formally registered	Toowoomba
1934	Kilkivan road works	Kilkivan
1939	Cloudland Ballroom	Brisbane
1940	Heifer Creek Road Cutting	Gatton
1944	Blair Athol Coal Mine	Clermont
1954	Gold Coast canals	Gold Coast
1956	Mt Isa - dams, water mains and roads	Mt Isa
1962	Kianga and Moura Coal Mines	Moura
1976	Wivenhoe Dam	Wivenhoe
1983	Hayman Island Resort	Whitsundays
1987	World Expo 88 sails	Brisbane
1995	Burton Coal Mine	Glenden
1995	Newlands Coal Mine	Suttor Creek
1996	Collinsville Coal Mine	Collinsville
2006	Trackstar Alliance	South East Qld
2006	Bundamba Advanced Water Treatment Plant	Ipswich
2008	Airport Link	Brisbane

New South Wales

1940	Young Australia tank for New Occidental Gold Mine	Cobar
1944	Muswellbrook Coal Mine	Muswellbrook
1954	Gara River Dam	Guyra
1958	Tooma Dam and Tooma-Tumut tunnel	Snowy Mountains
1967	Talbingo Dam and Tumut 3 Power Station	Snowy Mountains
1987	Woollongong Waste Collection	Woollongong
1988	Sydney Harbour Tunnel	Sydney
1991	Port Kembla Steelworks Wastewater Recycling Facility	Port Kembla
1991	Junee Correctional Centre	Junee
1994	Prince of Wales Hospital	Sydney
1995	Mt Own Coal Mine	Singleton
1996	Sydney Olympics Site remediation	Sydney
1996	Homebush Bay Exhibition Hall	Sydney
1997	Sydney Olympics infrastructure development	Sydney
1998	Ansett Terminal Redevelopment, Sydney Airport	Sydney
2002	Epping to Chatswood Rail Line	Sydney
2008	Royal North Shore Hospital Upgrade	Sydney



Victoria

1949	Longwarry-Yarragon Rail Line	Longwarry - Yarragon
1954	Bostock Reservoir	Ballan
1973	Dartmouth Dam	Dartmouth
1977	Sugarloaf Reservoir	Christmas Hills
1979	Loy Yang Power Station chimneys	Loy Yang
1987	Barwon Prison	Lara
1990	Western Ring Road	Melbourne
1993	Melbourne Water maintenance services	Melbourne
2004	EastLink	Melbourne
2004	Regional Fast Rail	Melbourne
2009	Victorian Desalination project	Melbourne
2003	Australian Synchrotron Building	Melbourne

South Australia

1996	Maralinga Rehabilitation project	Maralinga
1996	Olympic Dam Expansion project	Olympic Dam
2007	South Road Upgrade	Adelaide

Northern Territory

1967	Mt Hart Cattle Station	The Kimberleys
1984	Rum Jungle Uranium Mine remediation project	Rum Jungle
1984	RAAF Base Tindal	Katherine
1992	Cullen Bay Marina	Darwin
2003	Darwin LNG Tank	Darwin

Western Australia

1962	Kwinana to Kalgoorlie Rail Line	Kwinana - Kalgoorlie
1989	Granny Smith Gold Mine	Laverton
1991	Dawesville Channel	Dawesville
2003	HISmelt Iron Smelter	Kwinana
2009	Barrow Island - Gorgon Project	Barrow Island

South East Asia

1972	Sembawang dry dock	Singapore
1988	Kalimantan Mine	Indonesia
1992	Balikpapan Training Centre	Indonesia
1996	Central Java telecommunications	Indonesia
1997	Balamabano Dam	Indonesia
2000	Satui and Senakin Mines	Indonesia