

Era
Polymers

THE Herald

ERA POLYMERS NEWS BULLETIN



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EDITION

#25

LESSONS FROM LIFE ▼
11 - FRIENDS

FEATURING: 2-4 GREEN ST ▼
ONWARDS & UPWARDS

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My favourite application on my iPad is called "Flipboard".

On my Flipboard, I have things like, The Economist, Forbes, Fortune Magazine, Science, my Photography stuff, even a few "boards" on WATCHES, Mysterious Universe, and a strange one called , simply "QUOTES "

I flip through "Quotes" every night. Some, are cute, some are banal, some are weird, some too stupid. Quotes like those you see plastered all over modern offices, that attempt to teach you how to STRIVE, how to ENDURE, how to ACHIEVE, how to be a BETTER PERSON. You know, that sort of stuff.

One caught my eye, last week, when I was in Russia, and it got me thinking....

How does this sound?

"As I get older, and become more selective, of who I consider a friend. I find that I would rather have 4 quarters, than 100 pennies "
(Cont'd pg 2)

Progress Report on 2-4 Green Street, Banksmeadow



On Friday 15th August we passed our second building inspection for 2-4 Green Street, with flying colours thanks to Shannon Williams.

So now we just need to fit it out and then we can move in.
(Cont'd pg 3)

(Cont'd from page 1)
Looking past the cuteness, and the simplicity I thought, "Yes, that's me", BUT,

"As I get older, and become more selective, of who I consider a friend, I find that I would rather have 4 quarters, than 100 pennies"

that's been me, all my life.

I've found out the hard way, that some "friends" are "good weather friends"... They disappear on you, when the going gets tough.... when you need them the most!

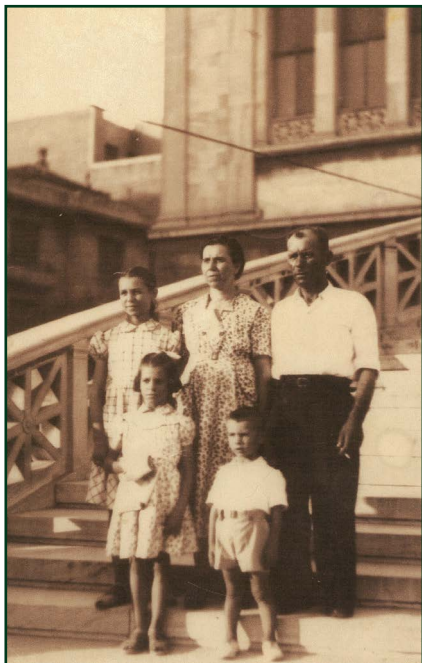
Some people collect friends like other people collect APPS on their iPhone. Baris, Alex's friend in TURKEY, has dozens, on his iPhone.. When I ask Baris "WHY, he has so many"... "Because they are free", he answered.

I guess friends can be the same... they are FREE... so some people accumulate them like LOTS of Apps... LARRY and I, are more selective... and anyway, how to interact with so many!

Let me therefore tell you about TWO close friends.

I met Boris Patkin, when we were about 6-7 years .. i.e. in 1st class, primary school. So, that makes our friendship nearly 58 years old... Not bad, eh!

We've gone through good times, bad times, personal tragedies (in Boris' case), the whole nine yards ... AND, as all Greek grooms seem to say on their wedding night speech; "My parents have always been there for me".



Which in our case, translates to "We've always been there for each other".... We have, haven't we Boris?

The second, is a group of friends, and THAT friendship has endured for SIXTY years... Let me tell you THAT story.

Sometime in early 1954 we were supposed to get on one of those famous migrant ships Patris, Ellinis or Fairsky and come to Australia. The trouble was, that 4 year old George, got "Illara" .. don't ask me what it is. I had it 60 years ago, and from all the family discussions, over the decades it was serious. It was serious enough to turn a skinny 4 year old, even skinnier...have a look at the photo!

So, we missed THAT boat, and caught the next one. On that boat we met another family called VIVELIS. They were from Pano Vathi, we were from Mitilini, BOTH villages in Samos.



Two Samian families, making a perilous journey to the Promised Land... So there was Maria, (the eldest daughter), then Kiki, (Angeliki), then Sophia, and Andrew.

Andrew was six, and I was 4. On our side, my eldest sister called Eleftheria (which means, FREEDOM. Somehow, when Eleftheria got her first job at 13 years old, at Lustre Hosiery, the supervisor couldn't pronounce her name so she re-christened her as ELLA... Ella, has been Ella, ever since... Mum, Dad, the whole family still call her Ella!

So the Vivelis' ,and the Papamanuels came to Australia, on the Fairsky, we all ended up in Skyeville, on the outskirts of Sydney. We eventually bought houses next to each other in Neild Avenue, Paddington.

They eventually bought a 5 acre farm in Horseley Road, Eastern Creek, (at a time, when the outer Western Suburbs of Sydney, was the END of the world)

The best time of my life, was going during Christmas Holidays, to that farm... Andrew was like a brother, and his sisters were MY sisters. It was a magical place... Just like a "Bridge to Terabithia". It was a place to dream, to explore, to play, to do chores..to

do all the beautiful and wonderful things that children do when growing up.

We all grew up. We all got married. We all had children. In some case, in fact in many cases, we had / have, GRAND CHILDREN.

There have been tragedies along the way... Maria (nee Vivelis), lost her husband George, at far too early time, in their married life. Then Maria, too passed away, tragically, a few years ago . BUT, she and George were blessed with THREE children (with the same quietness, calmness and demeanour of their parents). And those three children have 7 children, between them.

Sophia lost her son at the prime of his life. And their daughter, has given her parents 4 beautiful grandchildren.

Angeliki, has 3 children, and 6 grandchildren.

Andrew, has 4 children, and is waiting patiently for their first grandchild.

Ella, has 2 children, and 5 grandchildren.

Maria, has 2 children, and 7 grandchildren.

And yours truly, has two children, and 6 grandchildren.

So, in 1954, two families, 11 people landed in September, in Melbourne Australia.

Our parents have long passed away.

BUT, they taught us, they taught us well.

We all maintain the standards that they set.

Both sets of parents, left their homeland, to come to a country, which they thought, would give their children a better life.

Indeed it has.

And next month, it is the SIXTIETH anniversary of the Vivelis' & Papamanuel's arrival in Australia.

Those 11 people, who made that journey, have multiplied (excluding spouses) to 59 people.

Not bad... The Bible says... "Go forth, and multiply "

Indeed we have.

In September, somehow, somewhere... We are all going to TRY and get together, to rejoice and remember.

If we pull it off, we should have a good group shot, to include in the next Newsletter.

George Papamanuel, 2014

The 5th Smart Chemistry & Exhibition

17th – 18th June 2014

Dave Weir (BSc.), **Era Polymers** Technical Service Manager, presented a paper on “Lower Free TDI Elastomers & the sustainable future products based on Bio Succinic Acid” at the 5th ICS Seminar “Smart Chemistry” in the Netherlands.

Every 3 years ICS run a Smart Chemistry Seminar & Exhibition in the Netherlands to keep suppliers and customers up to date on

the latest developments. This seminar is a great opportunity for networking with suppliers, colleagues and keynote speakers.

To ensure everyone was kept up to date with the World Cup as well as the latest developments in the Chemistry World the football matches were shown on large screens during lunch and dinner.



SNEAK PEEK AT 2-4 GREEN ST.

(cont'd from pg 1)

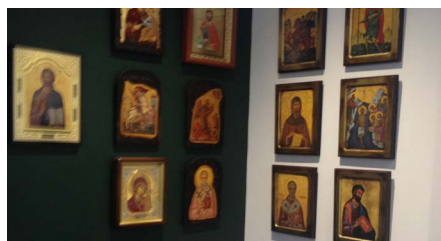
Once we've moved in we can start work on 25 Green Street and turn it into a TOTAL, Research & Development centre.

After more than 20 years in our head office, it was getting cosy to say the least. September 2014 will be the month we finally spread out and begin moving across the road into a new building.

Our current head office is to be converted into our R&D Centre. With both sites now, we are ready for the next 20 years.

Stay tuned for more photos in the next newsletter, once we've finally moved in.

Alex Papamanuel, September 2014



New Spray Elastomer System: **Eraspray ESM955**



Inter-coat adhesion is an important factor when applying spray elastomer systems to produce a cured coating of a given thickness over a number of individual spray passes. Each individual layer within the coating must adhere well to each other to provide a robust cured system. Lack of adhesion between individual layers can cause de-lamination and coating failure.

A well formulated system will be designed to give a spray applicator a long period of time between individual spray passes and still achieve good inter-coat adhesion. This maximum re-coat time window is especially important on large projects where

large surface areas have to be coated to provide as much comfort zone to the applicator as possible.

Eraspray ESM955 is a new hybrid polyurea product designed to achieve **95 Shore A** hardness but with an extended working time between spray passes whilst still providing excellent intercoat adhesion. Former systems have provided a maximum re-coat time of typically 30 minutes whilst **Eraspray ESM955** is now achieving 2-4 hours.

Good chemistry aimed at making the life of the spray contractor community easier whilst greatly reducing the risk of coating failure.

MEET THE ERA TEAM



Thomas Prenveille

Intern - 2014

Thomas Prenveille, a French student, joined **Era Polymers** in May 2014 for a 4-month internship.

Originally from Brittany, Thomas chose to study in Strasbourg, the capital of the Alsace region in eastern France. He is studying Polymers chemistry and processing at the European School of Chemistry, Polymers and Materials Science (ECPM) working towards his Master's Degree in chemistry engineering. He intends to do a PhD once graduated.

Thomas contacted Emilie Degoue, Era's Chief Chemist for Elastomers via LinkedIn. He was looking for a 4-month



internship overseas to practise his English while gaining practical experience in an R&D department in the Polymers industry. So Era was a good fit. He had discovered polymers for health during his internship with Acrylian last year and wanted to learn more about polyurethanes this year.

With his theoretical and practical background in polymer reactions, rheology, formulation and material resistance, Thomas is working brilliantly in both Membranes and Elastomers labs.



Deborah Li - Accounts Payable

Happy Brithday Deborah I can't believe you have been with Era for **15 years**, doesn't time fly when you are having fun!

Deborah works mainly in Accounts Payable she does her job quietly, confidently, and with a minimum of fuss, we'd be lost without her. Apart from Accounts Payable, Deborah attends our major Chinese Exhibition to represent Era Polymers at PU China which is a biennial event. Deborah and her family hail from Shanghai, so Deborah is fluent in Chinese which is great when we are exhibiting in China or working with our Chinese Agent as Deborah is able to assist many of us with the language barrier. Deborah and her husband John also assist Era Polymers with some translation work ensuring that our Company Profile and Elastomer Brochure are available in Chinese.

Deborah is a valuable member of the Era Team. Thank you for all your hardwork and loyal service over the past 15 years Deborah.

Here's to the next 15 years!



ERA POLYMERS ANNUAL SALES MEETING 2014

The **Era Polymers** sales team is spread across Australia, New Zealand and Singapore. Within Australia the team is based in Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane and Adelaide. So, once every year, coinciding with the end of financial year in Australia, we get the team together in Sydney for a couple of days.

The time is for reflection on the previous year, and to discuss what we as a team can do to make customers even happier the next year (more than just dropping prices ☺). After a daily diet of coffee and mints, we took a break to see which of us looked the best wearing a bib. The ribs were messy, but oh so delicious.

Alex Papamanuel, August 2014



EXCELLENCE IN
POLYURETHANE
CHEMISTRY

25-27 Green Street
Banksmeadow NSW 2019
AUSTRALIA

www.erapol.com.au

GRADUATION

Congratulations to Peter Woodfield who graduated on 12th June from the University of New South Wales with a Bachelor of Engineering, majoring in Industrial Chemistry.

Peter is a valuable member of the Era Polymers Industrial Chemist team, working in our Elastomer Laboratory as well as documentation for our products.



ERA DRUMS USED TO DEMONSTRATE DRUM LIFTING EQUIPMENT AT REX WHEELS & CASTORS

Our General Manager John Eve recently visited Era New Zealand while he was there Craig Bishop (Era's Technical Sales Representative for NZ) and John visited Rex Industrial Equipment to purchase some drum mixing equipment.

They were pleasantly surprised to find our Era drums being used to display some of their drum lifting equipment. Era Polymers supply Rex Industrial Equipment with hot cast elastomers for the manufacture of their wheels and castors.

Like Era Polymers, Rex Industrial Equipment are an owned and operated family business, focusing on their customers and the people in their business.

Their in-house design and manufacturing capability use top-quality raw materials and their quality-control system allows them to guarantee their entire range for 12-months against faulty materials and workmanship.

It's great to have a customer who is also a supplier.

Business is people doing business with people.

www.rexproducts.co.nz



“Constant effort and frequent mistakes are the stepping stones to genius.” ~Elbert Hubbard

The Reclining Golden Buddha

This statue is permanently displayed at the Chempaka Buddhist Lodge, a temple located in Petaling Jaya, Selangor, Malaysia. The Chempaka Buddhist Lodge was established in 1985 and has since grown into one of the major Buddhist organizations in Selangor and throughout Malaysia.

The reclining Golden Buddha model is made from EPS (Expanded Polystyrene Foam) and then sprayed with a rapid curing, solvent less, aromatic urethane coating.

The coating, also known as a “hardcoat” provides high impact damage resistance, protection and enhanced aesthetic appeal for a variety of substrates including EPS (Expanded Polystyrene Foam) and PUF (Polyurethane Foams).

Features of hardcoats include:

- ▶ Fast Cure
- ▶ High gloss finish
- ▶ Durability to extend life of sub strate
- ▶ Impact resistant protection

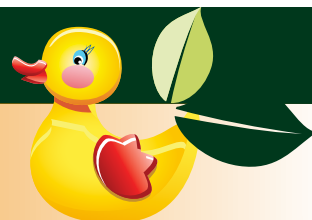
- ▶ Protection against chemical attack
- ▶ Excellent waterproofing characteristics
- ▶ Resistant to freeze/thaw expansion contractions and thermal shock cycles

Once the Golden Buddha was sprayed it was then painted and decorated ready for installation at the Buddhist Lodge.



ERA BABY NEWS - CONGRATULATIONS!

SPRING IS HERE!



Joelene Yorke (Era NZ) & Joe Waugh

BABY BOY: JAE JAE KAE0

Time: 9.52 AM
Weight: 9 POUNDS (4.09KG)
DATE: TUESDAY, 8TH JULY 2014



Rob & Rebecca McLean (Era S.A.)

BABY BOY: ZAC ALLEN MCLEAN

Time: 8.20 PM
Weight: 2.76 KG
DATE: SUNDAY, 10TH AUG 2014



Dave & Sarah Weir

BABY GIRL: ELLA JADE WEIR

Time: 10.36 AM
Weight: 3.38 KG
DATE: MONDAY, 11TH AUG 2014



Shirley Loh & Roland

BABY BOY: OWEN DENG

Time: 5.30 PM
Weight: 3.34 KG
DATE: WEDNESDAY 27TH AUG 2014

Diaper backward spells **repaid**.
Think about it. ~ Marshall McLuhan



Babies are such a nice way to start
people. ~ Don Herold

WORLD CUP FEVER IN COLUMBIA

John Diaz and Tony Hatzikiriakos, on a recent trip to South America to visit some of our Agents, found themselves in the middle of world cup fever in Columbia. They were there for the Colombia vs Greece game in Bogota. The Colombian's were very happy with the result of this game! Tony not so happy!

World Cup Results for Columbia:

v Greece	-	3 - 0
v Côte d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast)	-	2 - 1
v Japan	-	4 - 1
v Uruguay	-	2 - 0
v Brasil	-	2 - 1

Columbia made it through to quarter finals where they lost out to host nation Brasil.



FIFA WORLD CUP
Brasil



WHAT'S NEW?



LABORATORY NEWS

THE QUV ACCELERATED WEATHERING TESTER

Did you know that 3D specimens of all shapes and sizes can be tested in a QUV Accelerated Weathering Tester?

At **Era Polymers** chemists have been testing samples in our QUV machine for many years.

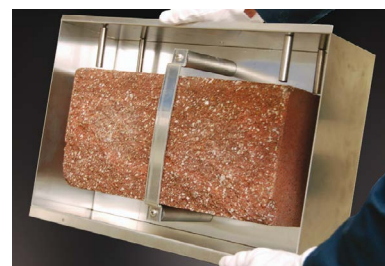
The QUV (Accelerated Weathering Tester) is the world's most widely used weathering tester. It has been used for nearly half a century to test flat coatings, plastics and painted Q-PANEL specimens all of which are easily accommodated in the QUV tester using standard flat panel specimen holders.

Now the QUV system has a range of specimen holders suitable for a variety of 3D shaped samples, but if there is nothing suitable for the shape you want

to test the Q-Lab offer custom specimen holders for unique needs. All of the Q-Lab's panel holders are designed to meet the requirements of the ASTM G154 and other international standards.

So we will continue testing samples to see how they weather; and, more importantly, now they can be all shapes and sizes!

If you need any samples tested please call **Era Polymers** on +61 (0) 2 9666 3788 or email: jose@erapol.com.au for further information.



MACHINERY NEWS



SAVING TIME ON INSULATION: THE GAMA G-50 H

GIPS Pipe, a division of Gunspray in Adelaide, manufacture Pre Insulated Pipe Systems. To make their manufacturing more efficient they wanted to reduce the time taken to inject the insulation foam. They approached **Era Polymers** for a solution. **Era Polymers** have worked with Gunspray for many years supplying foams and equipment.

Working with Hugh Fraser, **Era Polymer's** Machine Specialist, they came up with the ideal solution. A Gama G-50 H dispensing unit; this machine has the highest output of any machine in its class dispensing foam at a rate of up to 26kg/min.

The Gama G-50 H features a Data Logger, an electronic system for data acquisition, during the working sessions parameters such as temperatures, pressures, working

time, alarms, ratios and product consumption are recorded and stored on a USB. This enables the user to analyse the success of a job simply by downloading the data which can be visualized, analysed, printed and represented graphically using the Gama Logger software on any personal computer.

The Gama G-50 H has increased productivity of GIPS Pipes manufacturing process, saving them time on insulation with the added bonus of the Data Logger which has proved to be a very useful tool for quality assurance purposes.

For more information on the Gama G-50 H, please contact **Era Polymer's** Machine Specialist – Hugh Fraser on hugh@erapol.com.au or call (+612) 9666 3788 to discuss your needs.

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