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Bob Greaves Receives Top Builders' Award

One of Perth's most respected and unassuming commercial builders is the recipient of this year's Robert Law Award.

Bob Greaves, the founder and Managing Director of GKW Construction and Development from 1971-1995, was presented with this prestigious award at Master Builders CEO Industry Dinner at Crown on 28 August 2014.

The Robert Law Award, named in honour of Master Builders' first President in 1898, recognizes exceptional service to the WA building and construction industry over a number of years. It can be awarded to individuals or organizations.

"The Robert Law Award is judged by Master Builders' Board and Bob Greaves AM is a man worthy of the highest recognition by his peers," Master Builders Director, Michael McLean said.

Mr. Greaves was born in Rockhampton, educated in New Zealand and entered the building industry in WA as an apprentice carpenter in 1949. He then worked as a foreman and chief estimator before managing Watson Construction and Development from 1960-70, Plunkett Construction from 1966-71 and a Jaxon-Watson Joint Venture from 1969-83.

During this time, Mr. Greaves completed major group housing projects in Canberra, commercial / industrial projects in Sydney and Melbourne as well as power turbine infrastructure in the Goldfields, a high security prison in Albany and the establishment of mining townships and infrastructure in most major north-west towns.

According to Master Builders Director, Michael McLean, Bob Greaves is a legend and one of the greatest contributors to the well being of the building industry in WA he has met.

"As a Past President of both Master Builders Australia and WA, Bob put in enormous hours for the betterment of his industry," Mr. McLean said.

"During his time on our national and state Boards, industrial relations was chaotic and causing major disruptions to builders and their projects. This necessitated Mr. Greaves travelling to the eastern states on a regular basis to try and sort out the problems. In 1981-82 alone, Bob flew to Canberra, Sydney and Melbourne 66 times!" Mr. McLean remarked.

"He was a deserving recipient of Life Membership of both Master Builders Australia and WA and the Queens Birthday Honours."

"One of GKW's last projects was the Performing Arts Theatre at Penhros College which highlighted its capabilities as a top WA builder," Mr. McLean said.

The Robert Law Award has been presented annually by the Master Builders Association since 1998, the Association's centenary year. Previous winners have been:

- 1998 HomesWest
- 1999 Graham Kierath
- 2000 Geraldton Building Company
- 2001 Len Buckeridge
- 2002 John Roberts

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- 2003 Plunkett Homes
- 2004 Graham Glick
- 2005 Ron Scott
- 2006 Gervase Purich
- 2007 Robert Torrance
- 2008 Garry Brown-Neaves and Dale Alcock
- 2009 Peter Hunt
- 2010 Peter Bruechle
- 2011 John Lewis Doust
- 2012 Julian Walter
- 2013 George Allingame

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