

P.D. JOINERY

STORY BY: NICHOLAS RAMEKA

P.D. JOINERY WAS ESTABLISHED BY

Tony Peake 14 years ago. At a time when it was almost impossible to get a reproduction of heritage type joinery, it seemed the only way to get such a job done was to either compromise or do it yourself.

"Because nobody could produce what the customer wanted, they were given the closest possible default," said Tony. "I wanted to produce exactly what the customer wanted."

The rest is history. Today, as a specialist in architectural and heritage type joinery, P.D. Joinery can produce anything to order. They also adhere to a strict policy of anti-cloning; in other words, every job is a once off. This was no better demonstrated than when they completed a refurbishment for the Melbourne GPO.

The vision for the Melbourne GPO project was simple; replicate the aesthetic heritage style. The mission, however, was somewhat more complicated: refurbishing doorframes, doorjambs, handrails, window frames, not to mention the replacement and manufacture of fire damaged items.

"All of the timber work... was specially manufactured in our factory," said Tony. Using existing works in the Melbourne GPO as samples, "even those that were charcoal still gave an idea of the shapes and style required." The timbers were carefully selected to match.

*Baltic Pine matched the existing hopper style windows on the third level, and was also used for architraves, skirting and floor works.

*Victorian Ash, a durable, fine quality timber, was used for doorframes, doorjambs, skirting, and window frames, and for the high use shop fronts.

*Kalantis was used for internal doors because of its close appearance to the GPO's existing Australian Cedar.

The refurbished GPO is just one of the fine examples of Tony Peake's approach to joinery.

"So many styles of joinery are staple, crash and bang operations," said Tony. "We take on apprentices one or two at a time, and we steer them towards being good tradespeople. Our joiners could leave our shop and work in joinery anywhere in the world, because our line of joinery is skills based, hands on and instinctive."

P.D. Joinery has the dedication and expertise to offer value and quality to their customers. Although they do some standard joinery, they prefer "interesting projects for variety and experience," and will opt for specialty and detail work whenever possible.

"Our clients know that they are going to get exactly what they require... good quality at a competitive price..."

For more information on what P.D. Joinery can offer you, contact Tony Peake of P.D. Joinery on (03) 9818 0323.



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