

Meet Bardie Sommerville

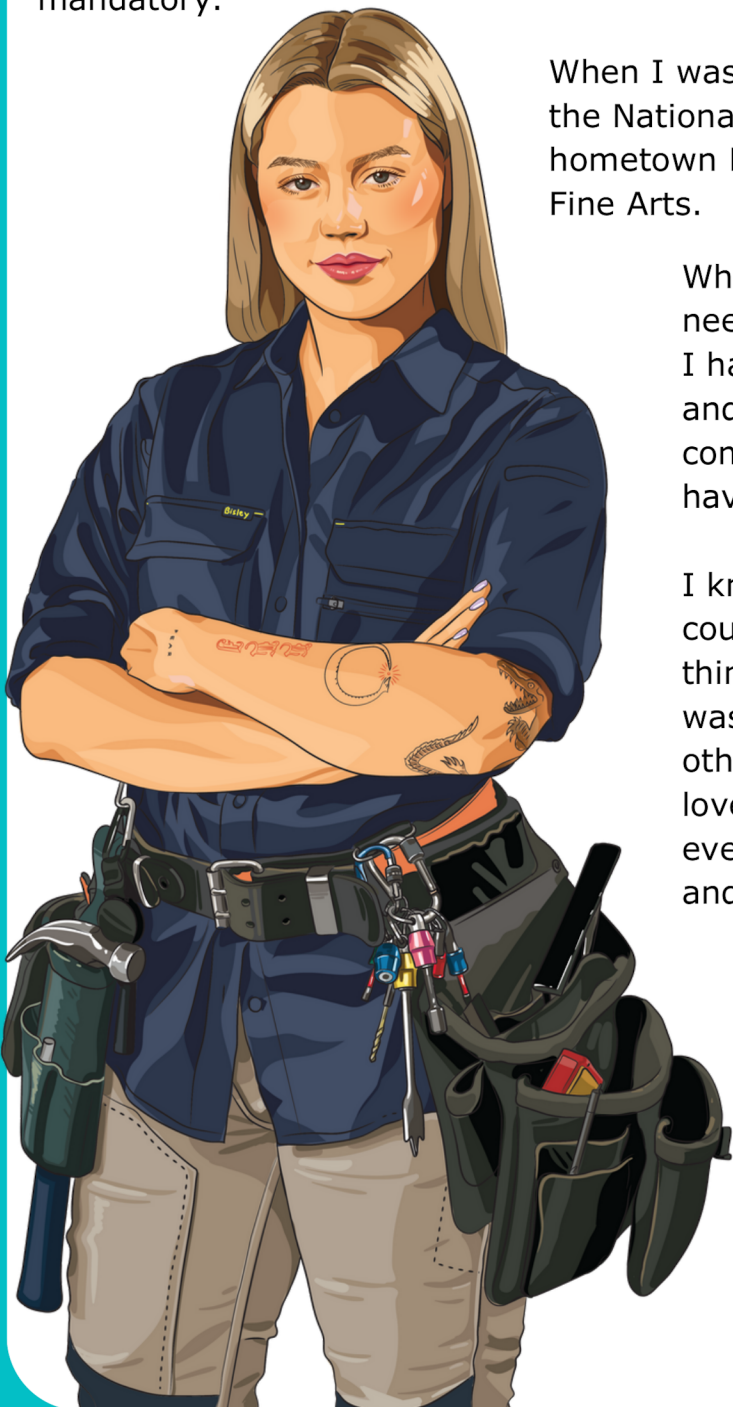
What do you do?

I'm a qualified carpenter and site manager.

How did you get into that job?

I did an apprenticeship with TAFE NSW to get my Cert III in carpentry & joinery.

At school I loved Earth and Environmental Science and Maths. I have come to appreciate Maths more and more throughout my career. I'm glad I did it in years 11&12 as it's not mandatory.



When I was 18 and finished my HSC I was accepted into the National Art School in Sydney. So, I moved from my hometown Lismore down to Sydney to study a Bachelor of Fine Arts.

While I was studying (as all uni students do) I needed money so I got a job working in bars... I hated it. My dad who lived in Sydney called me and offered me a job as a labourer for the company he worked for. I thought I may as well have a crack.

I knew nothing about trades. All I had was a country work ethic. I hated it at the start. I don't think I quite understood the industry or men (I was raised by a single mum and just with one other sister). As I came to learn more I began to love it and wanted to know and understand everything I could. I fired off my first nail gun and that was it. I was hooked!

I had the choice to enter my final year of uni or start my apprenticeship. I started my apprenticeship and have never looked back.

What do you love about your job?

- Using my hands to bring a vision to life
- Problem-solving
- Creating incredible projects
- Working with great people

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**Without trades,
the world
stops moving.**



How does your job help people/the community/the world?

At a basic level my job supplies people with structures. An an advanced level my job allows me to work with families and individuals to bring their dreams, visions and needs into reality. Without trades, the world stops moving.

What are two things you're not good at?

1. Catching a ball
2. Keeping my tool belt organised

What are two things you are good at?

1. Problem solving any issue
2. Creating an enjoyable atmosphere on and off site
3. Tearing up a dance floor (this is a bonus one)

What makes you happy (outside of work)?

Reconnecting with myself and my community, and spending time doing outdoor activities like yoga, swimming at the beach, running and bushwalks.



Where do you want your career to take you?

There are many avenues a trade can take you down and my career has already brought me so far. I want to continue to learn, create beautiful projects and work with incredible materials. But most of all I want my career to continue to help me work with purpose and intent for those in the industry now and in the generation to come. Creating a healthier, safer and better industry as a whole is what I'm passionate about.