

AWIA Special Edition Newsletter December 2013

With our last Wire Link newsletter coming out as we came to the conference and the next one not due out until next year, we decided to issue a special edition of our general newsletter to cover the AWIA Conference 2013, the AWIA 50th Anniversary Ball, The AWIA Training Trust Award and give you an update on coming events for 2013.



President's Report December 2013

This is my first report since becoming President. Another calendar year is coming to a close and for most of us I think it has been a year that we would be happy to see past, with all the politics and the economy. The AWIA's conference at the Hunter was a great success and feedback showed it was enjoyed by all and many got lots out of the speakers, the sports events and social networking.

The association will only be successful if its members look for the networking and attend the organized presentations and functions.

One of the questions that is always asked is what in it for me? My answer to that is what do you want to get out of the association? The answer being if you participate, you will reap heaps of benefits and meet many long term friends from your relevant industries.

The 50th gala ball was a huge night at Curzon Hall and those who attended were entertained by the fabulous Muddy Feet band. This made the night with great dancing. Some great reunions of different people from the industry happened.

As will be reported below by Malcolm, The training trust award was presented by Paul Hrones to Kylie Azzopardi and we started a new award for the most eloquently dress lady on the night. This will now be called the Faye Priestly Award for future functions for all the ladies.

The conference for 2014 is being worked out at the moment and I would hope that you all make it a priority to attend next year as it always is a great time for all and will only work with your support.

I would like to take this opportunity to thanks the committee, Malcolm Michael, Brian Mullarvey and Jennette Werner for all the work that goes on behind the scenes and wish you all a safe, healthy and wonderful Christmas and New Year.

John Guest
AWIA President

AWIA Conference August 2013

This year it was the turn of Sydney to hold the conference with the last time in Sydney being back in 2006. We chose the Hunter Valley renowned for its wines, scenery and fine dining plus reasonable proximity to the Newcastle airport. Held at the Crowne Plaza in the heart of the Hunter Valley, the conference for our 50th year was a great success.

Thursday night's drinks and meals were at an Italian restaurant based in a vineyard about 10 minutes away and we travelled there by bus. Really different décor and the proprietor also sang for his supper (or ours) and was very engaging and hospitable. The evening and meals were enjoyed by everyone.

Early Friday and Saturday mornings saw the keen (and not so keen) delegates and partners enjoying training on the 'grounds'.

The key note speaker this year was Jason Furness from Manufacturship. Jason's company specialises in assisting companies reach their potential and for the conference, focused on establishing, maintaining and growing profitability – a key item for all our members. This was an extended presentation, as requested by a number of last year's delegates, to give a more hands on and practical presentation. Having worked at Smorgon Wire (ARC) Jason also has experience in a number of manufacturing companies and was a key performer in turning Westinghouse's manufacturing plant at Bathurst into a profitable organisation. From this experience Jason was able to relate to our businesses and provided a hands on presentation including practical case studies.



Kaan Uysen and George Farrar from Telstra gave a very good presentation on how innovation is driving business outcomes and how Cloud is being used more and more to assist business and how it will can be used by our members now and for the future.

Thanks to Kaan and George for the 'giveaways' during their presentation.

Malcolm Poslinski from EDX gave a very important summary on Personal Property Securities Act 2009 (PPSA) for the retention of your property once delivered to your customer. There has been some real success in this area and it was a very important and well received topic. If you are not yet familiar with PPSA, we would suggested you search it on Google. This could save you a lot of money.

Downee, one of our Gold Sponsors took the opportunity to introduce some of their products to our members. We had Marco Beltrame and Grant Murdoch speaking to us and thank them for their input and contribution.

Helen Winkleman from FCB (formerly Fisher Cartwright Berriman) have us an update on work place relationships from both sides of politics. She also focused on bullying within the work place and its consequences with adverse action. Helen was able to give a number of practical examples.

Glenn Otter gave the fencing group an overview of the new software developed by Otter Fencing to enable fencing contractors to provide fast and accurate quotations, saving a lot of time and helping to eliminate mistakes. Great to see a local company investing in such software and prepared to offer it to other local companies.



Photos of presenters mentioned above and below are as follows:-

Jason Furness from Manufacturship, Kaan Uysen from Telstra giving out a prize, Malcolm Poslinski from EDX, Marco Beltrame and Grant Murdoch from Downee, Helen Winklemann from FCB, Glenn Otter from Otter Fencing,, Mark Stephens from Arrium and Dawn Wade from Counselling & Psychotherapy Services

Supporting Jason as our other main speaker we had Mark Stephens from Arrium. Mark has become a constant presenter at our conferences over recent years, such is the importance of his input. Covering the world and Australian economies, Mark is able to provide us with a wealth of information on the current and future economies enabling our members to better plan for the future.

Marks presentation alone is worth the 'entry fee'.

Dawn Wade from Counselling & Psychotherapy Services gave us a different overview on maintaining ones wellbeing at work and at home in this time poor environment we all live in. This is as important for your employees as well as yourself. It is easy to overlook what effect stress and not being on your game can have on your employee's performance, your performance and consequently your companies performance.

Friday evening gala ball was another success. As was the casual meal and prize giving after the sports action on Saturday afternoon. It was enjoyed by everyone and in particular by the Kiwi contingent with the All Blacks winning that night (we will not say who they beat).



The AGM on Saturday went smoothly with Susan Just, our outgoing President, summarising the AWIA achievements and events of the last year. Susan also thanked the current committee and Malcolm Michael, Brian Mullarvey and Jennette Werner for their input over the past 12 months.

We all want to take this opportunity to thank Susan for her great input over the last 2 years.



A new committee was voted in and we wish them well for the coming 12 months.

Again we wish to thank all of the delegates who attended the conference and helped make it the success it was.

AWIA 50th Anniversary Ball

Thank you to everyone who attended the AWIA 50th Anniversary ball on the 15th of November and helped make it such a great evening. Over 95 past and present members enjoyed the ambiance of Curzon Hall, an old and beautiful reception house in Sydney.

Supported with a great band we all had an excellent evening of speeches (not too many), the opportunity to catch up with old and newer friends, our presentation for the AWIA Training Trust Award, a new award for the most elegantly dressed woman and of course enjoy some great dancing and networking.

50 years ago a group of spring makers and suppliers got together in Albury to start this association. As time went by, wire forming companies joined and then companies with wire fencing products followed by reinforcing and most recently, temporary fencing companies. Due to the changing mix and as it expanded, the association went through a number of name changes before settling on the Australasian Wire Industry Association in 2003, a name to best encompass our companies in the steel wire industries in Australia and New Zealand.

Thanks to our gold sponsors Onesteel and Downee plus our silver sponsor Sanwa and our bronze sponsor Bekaert for attending. We also welcomed a group from the Australian Steel Institute showing their support for a fellow association in the steel industry.

After I welcomed everyone to the ball, our President John Guest (see below) gave a speech on some of the history of the association and why the association was and is so important to himself, his company and our members.

We had quite a number of past members very keen to renew their friendships and talk about the good old days (and they were). I will have been in the association for 20 years this coming February but that is a short time compared to some of our guests.



This was a great opportunity on behalf of the Association for to thank so many people for what they had achieved over the years to assist our industry. I had the pleasure of were able to welcoming 7 past and present Presidents plus 3 life members (see photos below) on the night.



AWIA Presidents – from left to right
Malcolm Michael, John Guest, Ted Dermody, Craig Gibbons, Susan Just, Paul Hrones, Michael Priestley



Life Members – from left to right
Ted Dermody, Paul Hrones, Chook Priestley



This year has seen the reintroduction of the AWIA Training Trust award and we choose this important occasion to present it to this year's winner. Paul Hrones who was the initiator of the trust fund was there to present the award to Kylie Azzopardi from Jubilee Springs. There is more on this later in the newsletter.

Sadly earlier this year we lost one of our greatest supporters in Faye Priestley from Better Springs. Faye and her husband Richard (Chook), attended many of our conferences over the years. Faye was well known for her immaculate appearance and in honour of her memory we introduced this year the Faye Priestly award for the most elegantly dressed lady. This was won by Susan Morris and kindly presented by Roe Dermody who had known Faye for many, many years).



As the night got longer we started our journey home in bad weather after a great evening and celebration.

Unfortunately it is again sad to report Paul Hrones had a driving accident within minutes of leaving the function and his wife Judy was badly injured, requiring a number of operations. Paul was also injured but was able to walk away from his car which is a total write off. To bring everyone up to date Judy is recovering in hospital where myself, Frances and Brian Mullarvey visited her last week on behalf of the AWIA. Fortunately Paul is now OK. We wish Paul and Judy well for what is likely to be a lengthy recovery for Judy.

Thanks also for the help by Graham Brown from Castle International who was first on the scene and assisted Judy until an ambulance arrived.

AWIA Training Trust Award.

As mentioned in the 50th Anniversary report, the Trust has great pleasure in presenting the first award for some years. The Training Trust was set up to assist a person or company that had achieved a special design, product or for a person who has achieved success in our industry.

The fund has established by Fraser Hrones, National Springs, Atlas Steel and Wire, Jubilee Springs, Greer Industries and Protective Fencing each company contributing \$5,000 towards their industries future. It has now built up a very good core investment and the interest gained from this investment and the success of the spring training course last year has enabled us to restart the presentations and we will be continuing this on a yearly basis for the coming future.



The award this year totalled \$2,500 to be put towards furthering the education of the recipient. We can only encourage all members to see if they wish to apply for the award. This year's winner, Kyle Azzopardi is being presented with the award by Paul Hrones. Kyle attended the spring training course last year performing well and has also attained her Diploma in Management. She also received a top report from her employer. It is great to see such a young person win

this award, no mean feat in this male dominated industry. So congratulations again Kyle – well done!

Kyle has already booked her air fare to visit Spring World 2014, held in Chicago every 2 years. She will visit the exhibition, other manufacturing factories in the US and also attend the education classes run during Spring World.

Upcoming Events

The following are the major events in 2014 for our industries. First is Fencetech in March for the fencing members followed in April by Wire 2014 for our wire, spring and reinforcing members.

Events 2014

National

AWIA National Committee Meeting

February 20th, Melbourne, location T.B.A.

AWIA National Committee Meeting

May 22nd, Sydney, location T.B.A

AWIA National Conference 2014

Time and place to be confirmed

INTERNATIONAL



AFA Fencetech'14, 4th - 8th March, 2014

Las Vegas, Nevada, USA

The 52nd FENCETECH brings together the industry's leading manufacturers, distributors, contractors and specifiers to showcase the latest products and services in the industry.

www.fencetech.us/



Wire 2014, 7th - 11th April 2014

Dusseldorf, Germany

The No 1 trade fair for the wire and tube industries! Meet the international world of experts, the specialists, the innovators and the global market leaders in the industry.

Get extensive information on the current status and future orientated trends concerning wire and tube.

<http://www.wire.de/en>

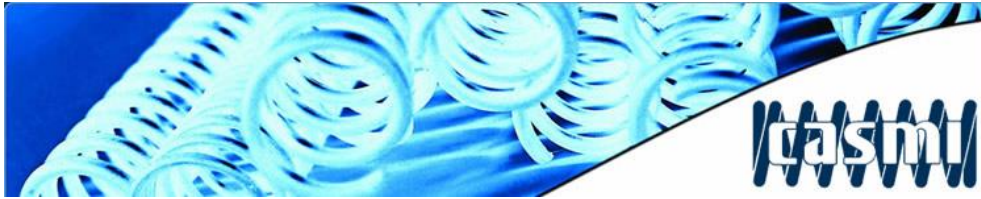


Wire China, 24th - 27th September, 2014

Shanghai, China

Currently the largest wire show in the area for 2014 where there will be a comprehensive range of equipment and material on display.

<http://www.wirechina.net/en>

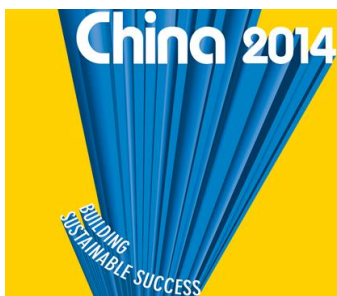


Springworld 2014, 8th - 10th October, 2014

Chicago, USA

The premium spring making exhibition in the USA, Springworld brings together a vast range of equipment and material for the manufacturing and distribution of springs and related products.

<http://www.casmi-springworld.org>



Bauma China, 25th - 28th November, 2014

Shanghai, China

7th International trade fair for the construction material and machinery.

Returning to Thailand for the A must when it comes to its significance, bauma- material10th edition of wire Southeast ASIA is the wire and cable industries' most machinery industry in China.

<http://www.bauma-china.com>

I would also like to take this opportunity to wish you, your employees and families a very Merry Christmas, a great New Year and an even better 2014.

Merry Christmas

Malcolm Michael

AWIA