



**AUSTRALIAN FOUNDRY INSTITUTE  
(VICTORIAN DIVISION) INC**

[www.australianfoundryinstitute.com.au](http://www.australianfoundryinstitute.com.au)

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**ANNUAL REPORT**

19<sup>th</sup> October 2022 to 15<sup>th</sup> November 2023

**Annual General Meeting**

15<sup>th</sup> November 2023

<b>President:</b>	<b>Wolfgang Maier</b>
<b>Vice President:</b>	<b>Amber Maxwell</b>
<b>Secretary:</b>	<b>Alan Cooke</b>
<b>Treasurer:</b>	<b>Murray Brown</b>

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## 1. PAST OFFICE BEARERS

	<b>President</b>	<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Vice President</b>
1998-99	Doug Maxwell	Robert Torcia	Brendan Davies	
1999-00	Doug Maxwell	Robert Torcia	Brendan Davies	
2000-01	Doug Maxwell	Robert Torcia	Brendan Davies	
2001-02	Doug Maxwell	Robert Torcia	Steve Scott	
2002-03	Doug Maxwell	Robert Torcia	Steve Scott	
2003-04	Dean Mortlock	Robert Torcia	Steve Scott	
2004-05	Dean Mortlock	Mark Walker	Steve Scott	Murray Brown
2005-06	Murray Brown	Mark Walker	Steve Scott	Simon Morgan
2006-07	Ron Geurts	Mark Walker	Steve Scott	Simon Morgan
2007-08	Ron Geurts	Mark Walker	Steve Scott	Simon Morgan
2008-09	Jo McKeown	Mark Walker	Steve Scott	Simon Morgan
2009-10	Jo McKeown	Caitlin Granowski	Steve Scott	Garry Yeates
2010-11	Garry Yeates	Caitlin Granowski	Steve Scott	Mark Walker
2011-12	Garry Yeates	Caitlin Granowski	Steve Scott	Mark Walker
2012-13	Garry Yeates	Caitlin Granowski	Steve Scott	Mark Walker
2013-14	Garry Yeates	Caitlin Granowski	Steve Scott	Murray Brown
2014-15	David Sykes	Amber Maxwell	Murray Brown	Paul Bowden
2015-16	David Sykes	Amber Maxwell	Murray Brown	Alan Cooke
2016-17	David Sykes	Amber Maxwell	Murray Brown	Alan Cooke
2017-18	David Sykes	Amber Maxwell	Murray Brown	Alan Cooke
2018-19	Amber Maxwell	Alan Cooke	Murray Brown	
2019-20	Amber Maxwell	Alan Cooke	Murray Brown	
2020-21	Amber Maxwell	Alan Cooke	Murray Brown	
2021-22	Amber Maxwell	Alan Cooke	Murray Brown	Wolfgang Maier
2022 - 2023	Wolfgang Maier	Alan Cooke	Murray Brown	Amber Maxwell

## 2. AFI (VIC) LEGENDS

<b>Year</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Name</b>		<b>Year</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Name</b>
2004	Bill Johnson			2016	Jim West	Garth Keech
2005	Brian Backwell			2017	Kevin Beasley	Roger Lamb
2006	Jack McCahey	Neil McGaw		2018	Murray Brown	
2007	Keith Crofts	Ken Jessel		2019	Terry Beckwith	
2008	Dennis Keenan	Ron Mulholland		2020	Jim Artso	Kuno Brautigam
2009	Doug Maxwell			2021	Craig Ditchfield	
2010	Ray Goodwin			2022	Alan Cooke	
2011	Dean Mortlock	Don Carter				
2012	William Pratt					
2013	Brian Latimore					
2014	N/A					
2015	Peter Klein	John Zach				



### **3. SECRETARY'S REPORT**

**Alan Cooke**

#### **The 2022 AGM**

The 2022 AGM was held on 19th of October in conjunction with the 2022 Legends night celebration. At the meeting, and as per the minutes 4 Executive Office bearers and 7 ordinary and Committee members were elected to the AFI-Vic Committee of Management. In total we had 11 members in attendance.

#### **The 2022/23 AFI(Vic)- Committee**

It was with great regret that we accepted the resignation of Amber Maxwell as long standing President. Her change in employment not only took her away from our industry but also limited her availability for engagement with AFI activity. It was with great pleasure that we accepted the nomination of Wolfgang Maier as the new President of AFI(Vic). With his many years of AFI activity, knowledge of the industry and the people in it, he was well placed to be an excellent leader for AFI(Vic). We also welcomed a new committee member in Craig Evans and returning committee member, Rob Dalla Via, giving us a very strong committee – important for a year that AFI(Vic) are hosting the 57<sup>th</sup> National Conference.

The Committee has met 11 times since the last AGM, this being necessitated by the considerable planning required to host the national conference. In addition, the Executive has had weekly contact over the year, to ensure that the various activities of AFI (Vic) have been able to progress smoothly. The following comments were in the 2022 Annual Report and apply equally as much for this year - As with every year, there is always late changes to programmed activity to respond to, ongoing activity to retain and expand metal casting training, the quarterly newsletter, development and use of Foundry In a Box, efforts to connect with political decision makers and now 2023 Conference planning. These and more ensured that the committee had much to do – this in the context of all our businesses being extremely busy.

#### **The 2023 Program**

The 2023 Program began with a panel discussion on how to attract and retain personnel in the metal casting industry. This was followed by a much needed Conference Planning meeting given the tight timeline to deliver a successful conference. The following months had 2 presentation (ManuFutures and Al/Zn Dross disposal) and 4 site visits (Backwell IXL, Hosico, DHDS, and AWBell). This focus on site visits reduced the workload for the committee, but also delivered the opportunities to take in a wide range of manufacturing niches. This opportunity was well supported by both AFI and ADCA members. The 57<sup>th</sup> National Conference was hugely successful, with high levels of registration and most importantly high levels of engagement in all aspects of the conference. This can be best summarised by the fact that every single presentation had a minimum of 90 people attending.

#### **2023 Membership**

This year our individual membership stands at 55 financial. These members represent 30 companies. AFI (Vic) have inducted a total of 26 Legends to our Hall of Fame with another nomination to be inducted on Wednesday 15/11/2023.

#### **2024 Program**

Planning for the 2024 Program will begin in earnest at our 6<sup>th</sup> of December meeting. It is likely that we will again offer a combination of presentations (either live or online) with site visits. For several years we have worked closely with ADCA, having many joint activities. This relationship is again expected to be reflected in the 2024 Program.



4. **President's Report –  
Wolfgang Maier**

And another year comes to an end, but what a year it was. We organised a highly successful conference at short notice, with a brilliant selection of papers – thanks to Gary Savage for arranging it all and keeping all the speakers in line. The venue was very good, but with the high enrolment proved to be a little on the small side, I have never seen so many people coming in to listen to the lectures, for many of them it was standing room only and we had 90 seats in the room.

We also farewelled some people this year, in particular one of our legends, Jim West.

Through the year, we had a full range of monthly meetings that were well attended, in particular the meeting at Deep Hole Drilling and AW Bell – however the visit to the Brewery after the factory tour at Bell might have contributed to the numbers. Thanks to all the company's that allowed us to tour, it is always appreciated and if you know of anywhere we could visit, please see one of the committee members.

It looks like COVID is now mainly behind us, and supply chain and shipping issues are clearing up. Prices for most Raw Materials are also on the way down and are predicted to come down more in the future. Order books continue to be full, which looks good for the year ahead, but with interest rates continue to raise to combat inflation, there might be some harder times ahead.

Our apprentices are now with AIE and government funding has been transferred. We are all hopeful that with this change, training will be easier and better delivered.

Alan Cooke (Secretary) - Another year of extra hard work, always volunteering to attend various Industry and Training meetings, our lead in Foundry in a Box demonstrations, compiling Melting Moments and so much more. Thank you.

Murray Brown (Treasurer) - Again for this year, Murray ensured we remained on track, looked after the finances for the AFI and the conference. Thank you.

Amber Maxwell ( Vice President) - What can I say, Amber worked tirelessly all year, putting out an amazing amount of work to keep us on track for the conference, putting together Melting Moments and generally helping out everywhere. She also keeps throwing up new ideas to ensure we old guys don't get too stale. Thank you.

Finally, a special mention to Gary Savage who organised all the speakers for the conference, kept them in line and made sure they did not go overtime. Well done Gary.

With the closure or suspension of the AFI SA and WA branches, it shows how strong the AFI Vic branch continues to be. This is because of all members - not just the Committee, but all of you. Please continue to support the AFI so it will be around to support and represent your businesses into the future.

Planning for the 2024 meeting calendar will be next month and all are welcome to contribute, I would like to see as many of you there as possible.

5. PROGRAM 2023



**Australian Foundry Institute (Vic Branch) 2023 Program**

Month	Date	Location	Topic	Presenter		AFI / ADCA Contact
Feb	Wed 15th	The Village Green Hotel	Training Panel – GOTafe / AIE / Headstart / AIG / Employer / Sunshine Tech			Amber M / Alan C
Mar	Wed 29th	Errols, Nth Melb	Conference Planning meeting			Alan C
Apr	Wed 26th		No Activity		<i>School Hols 7/4 to 23/4</i>	
May	Wed 17 <sup>th</sup>	Deakin Uni, Geelong	Backwell IXL site visit plus Mark Curnow ManuFutures presentation		<i>AMCIL Mfg Week 9/5 – 12/5 Trade Fit Expo 10/5 – 11/5</i>	Sean B
June	Wed 21st	The Village Green Hotel	Al / Zn Dross Presentation	ADCA Panel	School Hols 24/6 to 9/7	Graham W
Jul	Wed 19th	Braeside	Hosico site visit			Craig A
Aug	Wed 17th	Thomastown	Deep Hole Drilling Services- Site visit		Careers and Employment Expo 17th–19th	Alan C / Amber M
Sep	Wed 13th	Dandenong South	AW Bell, Titanium Casting Facility – site visit		School Hols 23/9 to 8/10	Alan C / Amber M
Oct	Thur 26 <sup>th</sup> – Sat 28th	Marriott Hotel	AFI National Conference		<i>Bifilms for Beginners Beckwith Site Visit</i>	AFI Victoria
Nov	Wed 15 <sup>th</sup>	The Village Green Hotel	Legends Night and AGM			Murray B
Nov	Fri 24th	Sovereign Hill Ballarat	Annual Technologists Picnic			Gary Bunn - MA
Dec	Wed 6 <sup>th</sup>	Errols, North Melb	Planning meeting			Alan C

## 6. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

Omitted. Not for public view.

## 7. APPRENTICE TRAINING

### Derwent Industries Apprentices:

Ryan Herbert  
Moulding Apprentice



Matthew Aherne  
Moulding Apprentice



Bryce Martin  
Moulding Apprentice



Tamika Penrose  
Patternmaking Apprentice



### Beckwith Apprentice

Erasmus Kyriacou  
Moulding Apprentice



### Billmans Apprentice:

Justin McKeone  
Moulding Apprentice



### Hasco Foundry Apprentice

James Stewart  
Moulding Apprentice



### Cast Bonding Australia Apprentice

Michael Booth  
Moulding Apprentice



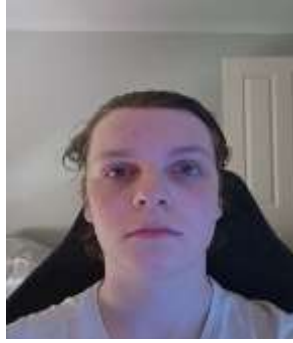


**IXL Apprentices**

Pierre Meyer  
Moulding Apprentice



Lachlan Rollo  
Moulding Apprentice



Jacob Robinson Marbas  
Moulding Apprentice



**Castings Tasmania Apprentices:**

Will Elliot  
Patternmaking Apprentice



Toby Lucas  
Patternmaking Apprentice





- Bala Hebbar

and Dennis Keenan as Historian.

The Chair expressed thanks to the Committee Members for 2021/22. One committee member resigned through the year – Quinn Petrie. Special thanks to all retiring Committee Members.

The following nominations were received for the 2022/2023 Executive

- President Wolfgang Maier - LMW
- Vice-President Amber Maxwell - Mackay
- Secretary Alan Cooke - retired foundryman
- Treasurer Murray Brown — Beckwith Iron and Steel.

The following nominations were received for Ordinary Members

- David Sykes
- Gary Savage — CSIRO
- John Zach – retired foundryman
- Sam Tyagi - AIE
- Bala Hebbar
- Matthew Pinczes – Arrow Bronze
- Sean Boswell – Backwell IXL
- Craig Evans – Derwent
- Rob Dalla Via – Beckwith Group

The chair opened the floor to nominations.

With no further nominations, motion moved to accept the nominations as listed

Moved: M. Brown                      Seconded: W. Maier                      Motion accepted: Passed Unanimously

The Chair opened the floor for any questions or comments.

No other business being forthcoming the AGM meeting closed at 5:25pm

Signed

President

Secretary

Date: 19 October 2022