



**Casting Industry –
the career choice for
makers, creators and
innovators**

Melting Moments – December 2020

Presidents Report



Well here we are finally at the end of what we hope to be a year NEVER to be repeated. These last few months have just flown by with the last of our two Sofa Seminar Series presentation by the distinguished Professor John Campbell. Don't forget if you missed these you can catch up with them on the AFI Website - Victorian page. We held our AGM again via Teams meeting where we said goodbye to some of our long-term Committee Members in an official capacity. Kevin Beasley, Rob Dalla Vi, Adam Hassell and associate Paul Bowden. Thank you very much to each of you for your commitment, dedication and contributions over many years and even decades. We are very pleased to confirm that each of them has advised, although not wanting to hold an official role in 2021, they will help out in whatever capacity we need going forward. Of course, this means we had a few new positions to fill and I am delighted to welcome back an "old" face - not literally of course, and a couple of new ones. On the last page of the Newsletter, you will be able to meet your 2021 "Rogues Gallery" Committee.

Just this week the new committee had our first meeting - to plan the Plant Tour and Presentation program for 2021. Please see our first cut attached to this document. We are excited about what 2021 will bring and cannot wait to see you all again - in person - at our upcoming events.

To each of you, your family and friends we wish you a wonderful Christmas and New Year. Enjoy your break spend time with your loved ones and re-charge ready for a cracking and successful 2021.

AFI National

With the pandemic wreaking havoc on National Conference plans, the October National Council meeting proceeded online. Two major initiatives were unanimously agreed to - 1) update the AFI Website and 2) Produce a video promoting our industry. Both of these are progressing to schedule with each to be

launched at the March National Council meeting. The video will be an educational and promotional tool for the industry but will also help getting our voice heard in the political arena.

The 2020 Industry Report was tabled – by now you should have had access to the report (contact your State Secretary if you haven't !!). This important document is the most accurate summary of the metal casting industry in Australia. The council has agreed to continue with an annual update.

AFI(NSW) has made great progress towards acquiring State Government funding for foundry trade training. Nothing finalised yet, but high expectations that 2021 will see a great boost in new apprentice numbers. New apprentices are also about to begin in WA – well done Veem!! Discussions between the AFI and our 2 RTO's (SkillsTech and GOTafe) have been initiated with an aim of optimising the training needs of our industry in a manner that is sustainable and beneficial for all parties. The AFI have also been active in discussions with the Victorian Governments Skills First program, which may lead to beneficial outcomes for our industry.

Enjoy whatever festive season break that you do have, re-energise and prepare for a big 2021.

Vale – Brian Poynton (b. 1939)

A few weeks ago, Brian Poynton – artisanal woodworker, engineering patternmaker, artist and poet died. Bryan was one of Australia's finest wood craftsman and was probably best known for his role in producing Australia's wedding gift to Prince Charles and Lady Diana. The gift was a set of 20 silver platters that were presented in a French-polished box made from Otway's blackwood.

Bryan began his working life as a Patternmaker apprentice at International Harvester, Geelong in the mid-1950's but also worked at McDonald & Dadds in Geelong.

Bryan's work was of the absolute highest quality – all of today's Patternmaker apprentices should research his work and strive to achieve his level of fine skills.

GOTafe Foundry Apprentice Training Update

The review of course content by AFI(Vic) (thanks Scott and Murray !!) for Casting and Moulding has progressed well and is expected to be completed by year end. GOTafe tells us that having industry involvement in this way is very unusual. It certainly means that we have an opportunity to have course content that is relative to our needs.

We're still waiting for the Federal body to release the new qualification for Patternmaking (MEM31719). AFI(Vic) have been fortunate to secure 2 highly experienced Patternmakers to review the new course material when it does become available. Meanwhile training continues for our patternmaker apprentices with the current qualification package.

The 2021 AFI(Vic) Program will kick-off with a presentation on Foundry training. This will cover not only apprentice training status but also the Die Casting training package, Investment Casting training package and a demonstration of the Foundry

In a Box. The venue is yet to be confirmed but lock in Wednesday 17th of February.

Are you interested in an apprenticeship?? Applications are now open to study a Certificate III in Engineering – Moulding and Casting and Patternmaking at GOTAFE. For a full list of

available courses, visit gotafe.vic.edu.au or phone 1300 GOTAFE (468 233).

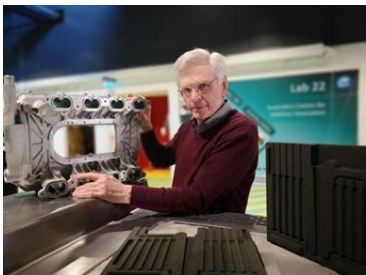
In Brief

Save the Date: AFI national Conference in Brisbane, Qld on 28-30th October, 2021

Pat on the Back 1:

AFI / ADCA stalwart Gary Savage – CSIRO has been granted a Churchill Fellowship!! This is a truly high honour with only the worthiest applicants succeeding in receiving the award.

We are very much looking forward to learning from Gary's travels as result of this award by the National Conference in QLD in 2021.



Pat on the Back 2:

David Sykes – current committee member and past AFI(Vic) President - was recently awarded **The Brian Backwell Award – Contribution to Regional Manufacturing Industry** at the Geelong Manufacturing Council AGM. David has been recognised for his service to manufacturing in his roles as -

- GMC Director 2001 – 2020, Chair 2009 – 2013
- General Manager of Backwell IXL 1998 – 2014
- Generous with his time and sharing experiences
- An advocate for the GMC, Engineering Network Geelong and regional industries.

Mick Nolan Update:

In recent weeks, Mick has finally been able to return home after a marathon 17 weeks in hospital.

As you can imagine he is very happy to be in more pleasant surroundings and Margaret and Mick are looking forward to a more relaxing period.

Please feel free to give Mick a call and chew the fat. His number is 0476678662.

WFO Update:

Please check the AFI Vic Website to access most recent reports and WFO Strategic Plan.

Code of Compliance:

The WorkSafe Victoria update of the Code of Compliance had been put on the back burner due to the pandemic. In better news the release of the 1st draft is imminent. This will be everyone's opportunity to review and give feedback on the content.



Australian Foundry Institute (Vic Branch) 2021 Program

1st Draft

Month	Date	Location	Topic	Presenter	AFI / ADCA Contact
Feb	Wed 17th	Village Green	Industry Training		Graham W / Alan C
Mar	Fri 5th	Brisbane	National Council meeting		
Mar	Wed 17th	Dandenong	Site visit – Oceania Glass		Graham W
Apr	Wed 21 st	Village Green	Legends Night		
May	Wed 19 th	Notting Hill	Site visit – AMAERO Metal Additive Mfg		Gary S
June	Wed 16 th	TBA	Environmental Sustainability		David S / Alan C
Jul	Wed 21 st	Geelong	Deakin Uni and/or IXL site visit		David S
Aug	Wed 18 th	Village Green	Workplace Code of Compliance		Alan C
Sep	Fri 3rd	Sovereign Hill, Ballarat	Annual Technologists Picnic		Gary Bunn - MA
Sep	Wed 15 th	Hawthorn	Industry 4.0 Swinburne Tech		Quinn P
Oct	28 th – 30 th	Brisbane	National Conference		AFI (Qld)
Nov	Wed 17 th	Village Green	Legends Night and AGM x 2		Alan C
Dec	Wed 8 th		Planning meeting		

Meet your 2021 Committee



Amber Maxwell



Alan Cooke



Murray Brown



Darren Colwell



David Sykes



Wolfgang Maier



Quinn Petrie



Gary Savage



Bala Hebbar



Ross James

John Zach

AFI National Conference 2021

The Australian Foundry Institute Queensland Division invites you and your organisation to join us at the **Australian Foundry Institute 56th Annual National Conference** to be held at **Rydges South Bank Brisbane** from **28—30 October 2021**.

This conference theme, ♪*“Don’t Stop Thinking About Tomorrow”*♪ signals our intention to provide attendees with new ideas, research and networking opportunities that will help the Australian Foundry Industry take the next steps into a bright tomorrow, that whilst ♪*“Yesterdays gone, Yesterdays gone”*♪, the future ♪ *“It’ll be, Better than Before”*♪.

♪*“Why not think about times to come?”*♪

The conference will bring together delegates such as CEOs, foundry managers and supervisors, technicians and engineers, operating personnel including: moulders, patternmakers, furnace operators and casting technicians, market development managers and industry suppliers.

This annual event will feature local and international speakers who are experts in their respective fields bringing delegates the latest developments and technologies in foundry equipment, processes, technology, safety, markets and management. Identify the future challenges and opportunities of the foundry industry, trends for business, investment and technology, innovation, research, product development, policy and legislative changes that affect our industry.

Some great social functions are also on offer for you to connect with your peers, presenters and sponsors.

We look forward to seeing you in Brisbane.

AFI 2021 National Conference Committee

For more information about the conference, please visit: www.aficonference.org.

Key dates

Registration opens: 28 April 2021

Program available: 5 July 2021

Early bird registration deadline: 3 September 2021

Accommodation booking deadline: 23 September 2021

AFI 2021 conference: 28—30 October 2021

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us.