

# MEDIA RELEASE

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AUSTRALIAN FOREST CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION



April 21, 2016

## AFCA Adds to Hall of Fame

On April 13, 2016 the Australian Forest Contractors Association (AFCA) officially acknowledged its most distinguished members at its Hall of Fame dinner in Traralgon, Victoria, which was held as part of AUSTimber.

Around 190 industry representatives attended the dinner many bringing family with them underlying the fact that many contractors are family businesses with quite a large number of second and third generation contractors.

AUSTimber is a major forest equipment event held every four years. This year it was held for the first time in Gippsland, Victoria. It was a week of events aimed at showcasing technological developments in the timber industry as well as showing off the industry to the general public.

AFCA Chairman Ian Reid together with Stacey Gardiner AFCA General Manager announced the new inductees into the Hall of Fame, as well as other awards.

Hall of Fame members are chosen by their peers and nominated for induction.

Inductees into the AFCA Hall of Fame must have worked in the industry for at least 25 years and made a significant contribution to its growth and development.

The most noteworthy are recognised as industry icons that have made outstanding contributions above and beyond a lifetime of service to the industry.

Up until this evening 11 people had been recognised as icons among the 169 Hall of Fame members. Now 22 new names have been added to the honour roll, plus three industry icons.

The three new industry icons inducted on the night were Tony Bennett (posthumously), Fred Jelleff and Garry Leeson.

Other awards given on the night were:

Hall of Fame inductees:

- Mark Blackberry, QLD
- Anthony Brown, TAS
- Graham & Val Fennell, SA
- Fred Jelleff, VIC
- Jeff Loton, WA
- Michael & Sue Mangan, NSW
- Andrew Mahnken, VIC
- Clive Mitchell, NSW
- Robert Muskett, TAS
- Peter McConachy, VIC
- Colin McCulloch, TAS
- Robin McKinnell, VIC
- Andrew Poston (posthumously), QLD
- Bob Slater & Ian Slater, NSW
- Colin & Jill Wecombe, NSW
- Norm & Wendy Wilton, NSW
- Steve Witherow, SA

Recognition of Service to Industry award recipients:

- Arthur Coleman
- Brenton Yon
- David Quill
- Gary Squires
- Ray Walker
- Geoff Tyers
- David Drane.

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