



SPEAKER PROFILES

HON. DARREN WEST MLC

Darren is a member of WA Labor and was elected as Member for the Agricultural Region in 2013. His electorate office is based in Geraldton.

Darren was appointed as the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Regional Development; Agriculture and Food and Minister assisting the Minister for State Development, Jobs and Trade in 2017. He is also a member of the Public Administration Committee in the WA Parliament.

Darren has a strong regional background.



JIMMY WILSON CEO, CBH Group

Jimmy Wilson commenced as the CBH Group's Chief Executive Officer on 1 October 2017. Jimmy has significant international experience in Australia, South Africa, the USA, South America and Indonesia, and has worked in multiple commodities including iron ore, coal, nickel, chrome, aluminium and gold.

Jimmy was President of BHP Billiton Iron Ore and Member of the Group Management Committee at BHP Billiton from 2012 to 2016. Prior to heading BHP's Iron Ore division, Mr Wilson led BHP's Energy Coal, Stainless Steel and Nickel West divisions in Australia after managing BHP's Chrome and Aluminium operations in South Africa.

CHARLIE THORN GRDC, Senior Regional Manager, Western Region

Mr Thorn has over 38 years' experience in research, research management, commercialisation, sustainable development and technology transfer. He has also held several board positions in CRC's, statutory authorities and a number of unincorporated joint ventures.

He has held several executive positions in government in both the fisheries and agriculture sectors and more recently in the University sector including the Director Research at Curtin University of Technology for the last 11 years.





TIM MARTIN

Director, Australian Grain Exports

Tim has been in the Agricultural Industry trading commodities for over 20 years. Starting as a grain buyer for Riverina Australia at the Rockdale Feedlot (now Swift) in Leeton, NSW.

Tim then took up a position with Grainco (now Graincorp) as a wheat trader, he then moved to Jossco in 2000 to take up their Head Cereals Trader position. Jossco was subsequently bought by ABB Grain and then Viteria where Tim was the Global Cereals Manager. Tim moved to Singapore to head up the Global cereals book in 2009 controlling the trade, management and flow of 10 million tonnes of product across the world. With Glencore purchasing Viteria in December 2012, Tim lead a team of traders to Oil company Vitol and started their Agricultural division in 2013.

Tim moved back to Australia in July 2016 as a shareholder and Director of Australian Grain Exports.

ANGUS GIDLEY-BAIRD

Animal Proteins Senior Analyst

RaboResearch Food & Agribusiness

Angus is a senior analyst, responsible for research and analysis on the local and global animal proteins sectors, with the RaboResearch Food & Agribusiness team.

Rabobank's RaboResearch Food & Agribusiness team is charged with analyzing developments in food and agricultural markets and industries, and advising the bank and its clients on strategic implications for their businesses. Comprised of a network of some 80 analysts spread across every major production and consumption region of the world, RaboResearch is a central component of the bank's capacity for informed credit decision making, product development, advisory services, and strategic client partnership



KATRINA SASSE

2017 Nuffield Scholar



Katrina Sasse is a 2017 Nuffield Australia Scholar from south-Western Australia, working alongside her parents Richard and Bernadette, on their 8210 hectare family farm "Leichhardt Fields" growing wheat, canola and lupins. Katrina is one of three daughters who grew up on a farm and started a career in Agriculture.

She graduated from University of Western Australia in 2009 with a Bachelor of Science - Agricultural Economics (Honours) and a Bachelor of Commerce (Marketing & Management) and spent one year of study abroad at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign College of Agriculture, Consumer and Environmental Sciences. Katrina held an Analyst role in Corporate Agribusiness at National Australia Bank to develop financial and business skills before returning home to the family farm in 2013.

Katrina is the president of her local grower group Morawa Farm Improvement Group and was a 2017 finalist in the Western Australia Young Achiever Awards plus a semi-finalist in the Western Australia Regional Achievement and Community Awards for her passion and enthusiasm for her Nuffield topic "Strategies for daughters to continue family farming".

BEN WHITE

Kondinin Group, General Manager - Research

Ben White is an agricultural engineer, Kondinin Group's Research Manager and editor of Farming Ahead magazine. Coming from a farming background and having worked for the group for 18-years, Ben has extensive experience in delivery of research and has expertise in the areas of farming technology, grain storage, precision farming, engine technology, harvesting, seeding and spraying equipment.

Ben also delivers grain storage extension work for the GRDC, with extension information for farmers and the grains industry on retaining grain quality in storage.



JOSH GIUMELLI

Kondinin Group - Engineering Manager

Josh Giumelli is a mechanical engineer who has worked for the Kondinin Group since 1999. Josh has written many of the Group's workshop publications, including Welding and Metalwork, The Workshop series, and Fencing Fundamentals. He has a sound knowledge of farm machinery repair, welding, machining and fabrication, and has set up an enviable mechanical workshop on his farm in Dardanup, Western Australia.

This has helped Josh design much of the test equipment used for comparative tests of farm machinery published in the research report feature in Farming Ahead magazine.

MICHAEL WHITEHEAD

Head of Agribusiness Insights at ANZ

In his current role, Michael focuses on mapping industry based trends and analysing the impact of these sectoral changes and dynamics on stakeholders across the agribusiness sector.

Previously, Michael was the Product Specialist for Macquarie Agricultural Funds Management in New York, as well as Executive Director of Rabobank's Food & Agribusiness and Advisory team in North America, providing industry research and corporate strategy. Michael has also worked with the United Nations and the International Red Cross in Switzerland, as well as in regional economic development in Australia and China.

Michael has been featured widely in the global media outlets, including CNBC, the Financial Times and the Wall Street Journal. He has a background in agricultural production and consulting, particularly in Australia and China. Michael has a BA from La Trobe University, and MBA from the Melbourne Business School and the Rotterdam School of Management, and has also completed the Harvard Business School Advanced Agribusiness Course.



CHRISTINA MATTHEWS

Chief Executive Officer, WACA

Christina is one of only three women in the world to hold the position of CEO of a first class cricket association. She is a well respected voice within the Australian cricket community with strong leadership qualities and 27 years experience in various management roles within cricket including 7 years as General Manager of Cricket NSW (New South Wales) and roles in coaching and development.

She has proven to be a strong and courageous leader, particularly in a mainly male dominated industry, since taking on the role of CEO at the WACA in 2012 and has redefined the way the WACA approaches its business.