2017 Conference & Field Day

5 - 7 June • The Sebel, Kirktton Park • AGTurf • Hunter Valley, NSW

John Keleher
Australian Lawn Concepts
Managing director of Australian Lawn Concepts (ALC), John Keleher, bought his first turf farm in 2004 at Ipswich. Since then, John - an agronomist by trade before his step into the turf industry - has developed his farm into one of Australia's leading turf suppliers and user of precision agriculture and innovation. ALC now produces more than 150 hectares of warm season grasses and has embraced innovations in irrigation, fertigation, harvesting and on-farm management. In 2016, ALC installed the first variable rate irrigation system in the Australian turf industry. ALC continues to drive investment in its own and the wider turf industry to improve the best practice of turf growing and promotion, recently announcing it was the chosen supplier of Platinum Zoysia and Nullarbor Couch turf on a 105-hectare master planned community, The Heights, in Pimpama on the Gold Coast.

Nick Dorney
AusGAP
Nick was born and raised in the Upper Hunter Valley on his parents’ beef and broad acre farming property and he worked as a jackaroo in the Northern Territory. He went onto complete a bachelor’s degree in Agriculture at the University of New England in 2004. Nick worked underground for 12 years between tunnelling in Sydney and coal mining in Queensland and New South Wales. He was a compliance officer for the last seven years underground overseeing production and safety in part of the mine. Nick joined AusGAP in early 2016 and has since been running the program and processing the first applicants to bring them up to compliance standards.

Andrew Bate
Founding Director, MD & CEO
The vision to develop robotic farming technology came from innovative grain and cattle farmer Andrew Bate. Andrew has spent a lifetime in agriculture; he has trained as an agronomist, and farms near Emerald, Central Queensland. Andrew is passionate about ensuring the future generations of farmers have a vibrant, economic, and sustainable future in the cropping industry. He graduated from the University of Queensland with an Assoc. Dip App Science – Agronomy and is a mentor on the Westpac Business of Tomorrow program.

Dr. Mick Battam
AgEnviro Solutions
Mick is principal author of the Sydney Water Love Your Garden program, the Watersmart Garden Centre course, the Footprint Calculator app for sports field managers and the Sydney Water Best Practice Guidelines for Holistic Open Space Turf Management. He is a licensed urban irrigation contractor, a certified irrigation designer and a certified irrigation agronomist. In 2014, he was presented with an award by AORA for ‘Outstanding Contribution to Organics Market Development by an Individual’. Mick has 20 year’s experience in the fields of soils, irrigation and landscape assessment, and a Doctorate in Agricultural Science (Soil Science) in soil water movement and TAFE certificates in Urban Irrigation and Building Contracting Management.

James Greenshields
Director and Co-Founder of the Resilient Leaders Foundation
James Greenshields, Director and CoFounder of the Resilient Leaders Foundation, is a husband and father of two girls, who has been to the depths of human existence, chosen to change his life, and now assists others to do the same. James gained extensive leadership, organisational and training experience in his 17 years as an Army Officer. Amongst other positions, he led a Combat Team of over 100 personnel in Iraq during 2006 – 07. Later he completed Australian Command and Staff College in 2008 where he graduated at the top of his trade stream. James has had personal experience with both trauma and depression. Upon leaving the military James gained qualifications as an Emotional Intelligence facilitator, trainer and coach with the ANZI accredited organisation, Beyond Success, Neural Linguist Programming Practitioner, Institute Of Success Dynamics and Certificate IV Workplace Training and Assessment, Dept of Defence.

Conference program includes site visit and demonstrations at AGTurf.

To find out more, contact Rachel on T: (02) 4588 5735 or E: admin@turfaustralia.com.au

Turf Australia membership is only $550 per annum, includes State Association membership and provides many benefits.


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