



MGA AND MILLENNIUM ON FARM TRAINING DAY

Several of the Millennium claims and underwriting team together with Teesha and Joel from MGA Booleroo participated in their first “On Farm Training Day”.

The day started with a visit to Schwark Farming, experts in hay baling. Then on to Zwar Farms to see the controlled traffic farming practices and view the large scale machinery in action. Next, they visited Flinders Machinery, where they had a tour to see some of the machinery for sale, gaining a first-hand understanding of a farm machinery workshop in action.

In the afternoon the MGA Port Pirie team joined the group for a Millennium training session followed by dinner at the North Star Hotel in Melrose.

The day was a big success, and everyone gained a greater understanding and appreciation of some of the complexities of these busy operations.

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BERNARD TUAIMAU TAKES OUT THE NICK FARR-JONES SPIRIT OF RUGBY AWARD

The 2023 Australian Rugby Awards were held recently. Bernard Tuaimau from the Sydney office is a member of the Junior Rugby Union and received the Nick Farr-Jones Spirit of Rugby Award. This Community Award celebrates outstanding contributions to the great game of Rugby and celebrates the game at all stages, especially at the grassroots level.

Congratulations Bernard for this outstanding achievement!



MILESTONES CONGRATULATIONS!

<p>20 YEARS</p> <p>Tony Ray</p>	<p>20 YEARS</p> <p>Marie Hughes</p>	<p>25 YEARS</p> <p>Dennis Morgan</p>	<p>35 YEARS</p> <p>Melinda Morena</p>	<p>40 YEARS</p> <p>Kym Bache</p>	<p>45 YEARS</p> <p>Brian McInerney</p>
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How Safe ARE LITHIUM-ION BATTERIES?

Power provided by lithium-ion batteries is now a common part of our everyday lives. From our mobile phones and laptops to electric vehicles (EVs), rechargeable lithium-ion batteries have become increasingly popular.

Why are lithium-ion battery fires hard to extinguish?

The reason lithium-ion battery fires are so difficult to put out is due to thermal runaway. While water will cool the battery down, it won't extinguish the fire until the energy stored in it has been used up – meaning fires may need to be left to burn out. Even when it appears to have been extinguished, a lithium-ion battery fire can reignite hours or even days later.

"Lithium-battery fires can be incredibly difficult to put out as they burn at such high temperatures," says Silvio Necco, Head of Motor Assessing and Supply Chain at QBE.

"This creates a serious risk in the home, and also in places like car parks, where cars are parked side by side."

Why do lithium-ion battery fires occur?

Lithium-ion battery fires can occur for a number of reasons, including overheating, using the wrong charger, damage (like from being dropped), being involved in an accident, or being exposed to high external temperatures.

This can result in the battery management system, which ensures the battery is working correctly, to fail.

How to reduce the risk of lithium-ion battery fires

Here are a few things you can do to reduce the risk of lithium-ion battery fires:

- Only use lithium-ion batteries specifically intended for use in Australia from reputable suppliers –

batteries must have the Regulatory Compliance Mark to show they meet Australian Standards

- Monitor lithium-ion batteries for damage
- Keep lithium-ion batteries away from heat or moisture
- Don't modify or repurpose products containing lithium-ion batteries
- Always follow the correct charging procedures
- Avoiding purchasing lithium-ion batteries second-hand or online from vendors that are unknown and/or possibly unregulated

SOURCE: QBE QNect News April 2024



RETIREMENTS AT MGA

At our recent brokers conference in Sydney, we celebrated the retirement of Garth Hannaford and David Hill. After 33 years with MGA in Booleroo Centre, David passed his role to Joel Durnford and Teesha Whellum. Garth, with 20 years at MGA, transitioned his portfolio to the Naracoorte team. We wish David, Garth and their families all the best in retirement!

JOHN GEORGE ANNOUNCED BUSINESS CHAMPION AT THE 2024 ASEAN SUMMIT



On 5th March 2024 the Prime Minister The Hon. Anthony Albanese announced John George as Business Champion

for the Australia Southeast Asia relationship. This Government initiative is in response to Australia's Southeast Asia Economic Strategy 2040. This will see John and other Business Champions focus on greater collaboration between Australia and Southeast Asia over the next year, in relation to agriculture, food, renewable energy, infrastructure and education.



BACK TO BASE SEPTEMBER 2024

In September we held our Back to Base training program in Adelaide, welcoming new delegates from Sydney, Darwin, Canberra, Booleroo Centre, Cummins, Loxton and Gawler.

This two-day program is an opportunity for new personnel to get familiar with key people, systems and general operations. Beyond the informative sessions, it's also a chance to build connections and network in a relaxed, supportive environment.

We're thrilled to see the energy and enthusiasm of the new team members as they embark on this journey with MGA.

MGA SPONSORS YOUTH OPPORTUNITIES HOLE IN ONE AT GOLF DAY

Micheal and Paula Rapisarda recently arranged the insurance and MGA sponsorship of the "Hole In One" for the Youth Opportunities Charity Golf Day. A big "thank you" to Micheal Rapisarda for representing MGA at this event.



BEYOND FOR TRACTION

WRAPS UP BEYOND CYCLING CHALLENGE RAISING OVER \$1M



Kelly Commins completed the fundraising challenge.

Kelly described it as “the toughest week he’s ever experienced” highlighting one of the 220km days as particularly challenging, due to the steep climb added to the route.

He was honoured on day 4 with the “Connection Award” which acknowledges individuals for demonstrating behaviours that align with Traction’s values.

BIANCA NIELJALKE

COMPLETES IN THE MALLEE GAMES

The Mallee Games held by the not-for-profit charity Active Farmers welcomed 205 participants to the Pinnaroo & District Dirt Bike Track on Saturday 16th March 2024. MGA Insurance Group were a major sponsor for this event which consisted of a 1.6km track with 15 obstacles. The participants ranged from ages 4 to 66.

The Games were made possible by generous donations from all sponsors. Funds are directed towards running group fitness programs in rural communities lacking access to such facilities. The goal is to enhance physical and, more importantly, mental health in these communities.

Bianca Niejalke from the Loxton office was among the committee members who organised this successful event.



TIM HARDY

CANBERRA OFFICE –
INSURANCE BUSINESS
YOUNG BROKER FINALIST

Congratulations to Tim Hardy who was a finalist in the Insurance Business Young Broker Awards 2024. Several brokers from MGA attended the Awards Night held in Sydney.

L to R: Ben Hanson , Geoff Faber, Andrew Faber, Tim Hardy , John George, Gemma Gould, Paul George, Valerie Henning, Bernard Tuaimau and Mark Dixon.

