

Secrets of Our Success

Stephen Macdonald + Kevin Wall



Stephen Macdonald is the CEO of Albins Performance Transmissions, a privately owned Australian company based in Ballarat, regional Victoria.

Starting his working life as an apprentice Automotive Machinist gave a good grounding of precision and problem solving. These skills

and a love of fast cars lead him to professional motorsport where he worked for over 10 years for Gibson Motorsport and Holden Racing Team experiencing great success with 7 Australian drivers championships and 4 Bathurst 1000 victories.

In 2004 Stephen joined Albins as part of the production team. With the founder of the company wishing to retire, he purchased a major share of the company and took on the role of CEO.

Stephen's desire to innovate and grow have resulted in winning the tender for a five year exclusive supply agreement for the Gearbox's for the Australian V8 Supercars, expansion into the defence supply chain where they are a tier one supplier to Thales on the Hawkei program, expansion into European GT racing in addition to the steady growth into Albins traditional market of extreme Off Road Racing.



Kevin Wall is responsible for leading one of the most high profile businesses in Thales Australia and New Zealand. Designing and manufacturing lifesaving protected vehicles as well as small arms weapons and munitions for the Australian Defence Force (ADF) and overseas customers. The

business delivers a full range of electro-optical systems, and logistics services and support for the ADF Australia wide.

In addition Kevin is the global business line deputy for Vehicles and Tactical Systems, which enables close cooperation with key European based Thales owned entities - TDA, FZ and the Junghans Defence joint venture.

With more than 30 years' experience in defence and industry and greater than 10 years in senior leadership roles Kevin is

the executive accountable for the companies activities in the 'Land' market perimeter in Australia and New Zealand.

He joined Thales in 2001, and was appointed to the companies executive team in November 2010. He brings a wealth of experience to his position following senior management roles in explosive ordnance, logistics and business management. Kevin served in the military for nearly 20 years with service in both the British and Australian Army.

He holds a number of technical, logistics and business qualifications and is a graduate of the Defence and Industry Study Course, a member of the Institute of Explosives Engineers and a chartered member of the Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport.

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Registrations Close: 24 May 2017

Ticket Prices

Commerce Ballarat Members: \$220

Non-Members: \$260

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2017

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Gus Balbontin

ADAPT

Born and bred in the Argentinean Patagonia, Gus dreamt of travelling the world from the age of eight when he first told his family that rather than studying, he was just going to travel.

With this belief, a small backpack and dreams of great adventures, he crisscrossed South America racking up 40,000 kilometres. He then moved to Australia and, got a designer role at none other than Lonely Planet. As far as Gus was concerned, he had landed the job of his life.

Fast forward to 2014; after eight roles within Lonely Planet, having completed an MBA and spent hundreds of hours on planes, Gus had progressed to leading Lonely Planet with a team as passionate about the businesses place in traveller's lives as he was.

Gus has worked closely with some of the biggest companies in the world developing cutting edge technology and products including Google X, Nokia, Apple, Amazon and more.

He will blow you away with energy and insights into the transformation, struggles and successes of one of the media industry.

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Steph Prem

The Importance of Wellness in Business

Steph Prem is a winter Olympian, motivational speaker, small business owner and one of Australia's leading experts on women's health and fitness.

Steph will openly and honestly share the hurdles she faced transitioning from professional sport to starting her own business. Steph founded health and wellness business Premium Performance 5 years ago following a dramatic and traumatic exit from professional sports. Under the Premium Performance banner, Steph founded popular health and lifestyle digital publication premium-performance.com as well as Melbourne's premier luxury health and fitness destination 'Studio PP'.

Steph is currently the resident fitness expert for Priceline Pharmacy, expert Pilates panelist and contributor for Women's Fitness magazine, wellness ambassador and face of Peninsula Hot Springs and a Women's Health Week ambassador for Jean Hails. Steph's knowledge and experience also secured her a role as an expert commentator and panelist for Channel 10's coverage of the 2014 Sochi Winter Olympic Games.

Prior to founding PP, Steph was a five-time Australian Champion and the only female to represent Australia in the snowboardcross event at the 2010 Winter Olympic Games.

Session Sponsor:



Mark McCrindle

Leading Teams in Changing Times

Mark McCrindle is a social researcher with an international following. He is recognised as a leader in tracking emerging issues and researching social trends. As an award winning social researcher and an engaging public speaker, Mark has appeared across many television networks and other media. He is a best-selling author, an influential thought leader, TEDx speaker and Principal of McCrindle Research. His advisory, communications and research company, McCrindle, count among its clients more than 100 of Australia's largest companies and leading international brands.

This session delivers the latest findings on how to effectively motivate and lead teams in these 21st Century times. It provides an overview of the best HR practices for today: from attraction and engagement strategies to management practices that connect with an intergenerational workforce. In a world of flat structures and consultative practices, coaching and mentoring has replaced commanding and controlling.

Mark McCrindle, BSc (Psychology), MA, is the author of three books on emerging trends and social change. The ABC of XYZ: Understanding the Global Generations, Word Up: A Lexicon and Guide to Communication in the 21st Century and The Power of Good.

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