



National Board

Family Business Australia is a company limited by guarantee and is governed by a Board of Directors, comprising representatives from family business and higher education

Chairman: Mark Kagan | [Scarpa Imports](#)



Mark brings with him a wealth of knowledge of the family business sector having been joint Managing Director of Kagan Logistics for a majority of his professional career. Mark began his early career as a solicitor before joining the family logistics business in 1985. He was involved for 24 years alongside his first cousin, helping to develop it from a single facility in Melbourne to a National logistics company with over 100,000sq meters of storage space. The business was sold in 2008 when Mark and his cousin consolidated five logistics companies and on sold to private equity. He now runs a successful family business, Scarpa Imports, with his wife of whom has owned and operated the business for 32 years. Mark has been a current committee member of The Royal Melbourne Hospital Foundation for over 5 years, has been a member of FBA for nearly 20 years and is a long term member of the FBA VIC forum group program.



NSW: Danielle Robertson | [DR Care Solutions](#)

Danielle is the founder and CEO of Danielle Robertson Consulting Pty Limited trading as DR Care Solutions. DR Care Solutions operates across Australia, assisting people to find the quality care they need – whether they are seeking care for themselves or as a responsible guardian. Danielle has been an FBA member since 2001. Her reason for nominating to the position of Chairman is that she believes she can assist the Association to grow significantly as well as lead by example and help build a new culture.

WA: Jeff Ash | [Filter Supplies](#)

Jeff is a second generation filter specialist who manages Filter Supplies (WA). Founded by his parents Hugh and Rosemary in 1967 it has become the largest business of its type in Australia.

Working full time in the business since 1993, Jeff started as a storeman and has worked in various roles within the company. He now specialises in contract creation, quotation and administration for air, oil, fuel and hydraulic filters into the Mining, Oil & Gas sectors and associated industries.

Jeff has overseen a sustained period of growth and market repositioning of the business – targeting tier 1 and 2 Mining clientele, retaining existing, and winning new business against multinational.

VIC: Sara Pantaleo | [La Porchetta](#)

Sara Pantaleo drove the growth of La Porchetta from only 12 outlets when she joined the company in 1996, into the largest, licensed, a-la-carte restaurant franchise in Australasia today, with over 70 in the group. She achieved this by building corporate systems and processes that enabled the company to expand without compromising its core family values and culture. With the right elements firmly in place, Sara went on to introduce key structural and service innovations that positioned La Porchetta for continued strong growth.

Sara is passionate about franchising as a business model. She is a member of the national Board of Directors of the Franchise Council of Australia (FCA). This is the peak body for the franchising sector and represents franchisees, franchisors and service providers. Of 12 Board positions, five, including Sara's are appointed by direct election from the membership.

Sara was national Franchise Woman of the Year 2010 and she a Victorian finalist in the 2012 Telstra Business Woman of the Year award.



SA: Brett Miller | [Miller Dental Group](#)



Brett is the Group General Manager of the Miller Dental Group (MDG), a first generation healthcare group established in 2008 which has since grown to become the largest private dental group in Australia.

The MDG currently provides more than 1% of South Australia's dental needs through its network of more than a dozen traditional dental clinics, operates the largest dental outreach operation in Southern Australia (alone treating more than 10,000 patients per annum), and is an national leader in the provision of oral healthcare services.

Brett's qualifications include a Bachelor & Honours Degree in Science (Univ. Adelaide), MBA (Univ. Adelaide), Diploma of Project Management and Six Sigma Green Belt amongst others.

Aside from his day job he is also the SA/NT President of AAPM, a proud father (& husband), and was recognised as the Australian Practice Manager of the Year (2017).

Allan Colless | [Colless Young](#)



Allan Colless is Managing Director of Colless Young, an Australian family business with an international logistics focus.

Colless Young has assisted it's many family business clients with their international freight forwarding, logistics and customs brokerage needs for decades, with the company celebrating its 40th Anniversary in 2020. Some of these family businesses are still with us after first working with Allan's father, Derek, in the early 1970's, even before he started the business.

A Second Generation member of the company, Allan had his start at Colless Young while still a teenager, working school holidays and then throughout his bachelor degree. After several years working in the business full-time, he recommenced his studies to gain his Masters; a period that included overseas study in Mainland China and Taiwan on scholarship.

Since taking the helm, Allan has guided expansion of the company interstate and, more recently, overseas with the establishment of a joint venture office in Bali. Already proficient in conversational Mandarin, Allan is now also learning the Indonesian language.

Colless Young was built on integrity and family values and Allan brings these qualities to the FBA, as well as a desire to help build and develop others, especially other family businesses.

Independent: Ken Matthews | [Matthews Steer](#)



Ken is the founding Partner and Managing Director of Matthews Steer Accountants & Advisors. Ken is passionate about business transformational change and supporting businesses and entrepreneurs to maximise their financial and strategic direction. Ken chairs numerous Business Advisory Committees for family businesses advising clients on corporate governance, risk management, strategic planning, financial management, succession planning and M&A.

Ken holds fellowship with the Institute of Chartered Accountants & the Australian Institute of Company Directors. His previous board and committee experience include Navy Health, Mercy Palliative Care Hospice, Work Solutions Group Ltd (Telstra & Australian Government small business of the year), Entrepreneurs Organisation and WREDO (Western Region Economic Development Organisation).

Ken has been an advocate & Specialist Accredited Advisor of FBA since 2012. Ken is honoured to join the FBA Board and chair the Audit, Finance & Risk Committee.

Independent: Dr Jill Thomas | [University of Adelaide Business School](#)



After a career in Human Resources Management and Training & Development in both the private sector and higher education, Jill developed a keen interest in family owned businesses. Her PhD studies were in the area of leadership and family business and she also explored issues relevant to human resources, boards and governance of small-to-medium sized family businesses. Jill Co-founded the Family Business Education and Research Group (FBERG) at the University of Adelaide, developed an elective on Family Business for post-graduate management programs, and published papers about family business issues. Since retiring from her substantive role in the University of Adelaide Business School, Jill has been a Visiting Research Fellow there. She is also a Fellow of the Family Firm Institute (FFI) and a member of FBA-SA advisory committee.

Greg Griffith | CEO, Family Business Australia



Greg brings a breadth of business expertise, understanding of family businesses, and experience with federated organisations like Family Business Australia and New Zealand (FBANZ). Over the past 4 years as CEO of FBANZ, Greg's drive is to enable the organisation to be the leading association that focuses on maximising positive economic, social and environmental impact for family businesses and in doing so, enable leaning, innovation and co-creating, empowering family businesses to shape the future for people, communities, the environment for future generations. Previously as CEO of Dairy Farmers Milk Co-operative, which he held for 8 years, Greg successfully developed and implemented the strategic vision of the business, whilst managing a broad range of key stakeholders. Prior to this, Greg held positions of Deputy Chairman of the Australian National Drag Racing Association, CEO of Destination Melbourne Limited, and senior roles with Victorian Farmers Federation. A Melbournian, Greg was also General Manager of Melbourne Football Club in the early 2000's.