



MDRT AUSTRALIA

MEDIA RELEASE

MDRT Australia Celebrates

Friday August 6, 2010. The Annual Meeting of the Million Dollar Round Table (MDRT), The Premier Association of Financial Professionals® has recently been held in Vancouver Canada where over 6,000 delegates from around the world attended.

Upon his return from the Annual Meeting MDRT Australia Chairperson, Mr. Stuart Farrell spoke proudly of the Australian contingent that comprised 63 members, 3 special industry guests, a representative of the financial services press and 2 speakers. Australian members Ross Vanderwolf and Tony Carlyon were key figures in arranging the focus sessions – which received great reviews from the delegates.

Stuart Farrell also congratulated the 15 new MDRT members for investing in their future and welcomed them aboard saying, “As the next generation of financial advisers qualify and are welcomed into MDRT, their careers and long term prospects will be greatly enhanced by the resources, support and collective knowledge and experience of MDRT.”

Mr. Farrell, who will relinquish the position of MDRT Australia Chairman, announced that John Campbell will take on the role as MDRT Australia Chairperson from the 1st September.

John Campbell has been an adviser for 32 years and was a finalist for the AFA Adviser of the year last year. He has been an MDRT member for 8 years, and previously presided as State Chair for South Australia for 5 years. He runs a strong business working mainly in retirement planning.

Out-going Chair Stuart Farrell stated it has been an unbelievable honour to work with the Australian leadership team, and he thanked his current and past State Chairs for their hard work and support over the last two years.

He made special mention of the previous Australian Chairs and thanked them for their assistance and guidance. He also thanked the AFA and their leadership team for our on-going strong partnership and their support.

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MDRT would also like to announce the appointment of Bev Carlyon to position of Regional Chair for USA, Canada and Oceania. This is a senior role and demonstrates just how well regarded Australian Advisers are by their worldwide peers.

MDRT also celebrates the following member milestones.

Bruce Flick (NSW) celebrated an outstanding personal and career milestone with his 40th anniversary of MDRT Australia membership. He was joined by the following MDRT Australia members celebrating milestone anniversary achievements –

35 years

John Goldsbrough NSW
Graham Poole NSW
Tony Bongiorno VIC
Joe Bongiorno VIC
Jack Headland NSW
Bob Nixon VIC
Max Spencer ACT

30 years

Roger Boyle NSW
Sam Siragusa VIC

25 years

Peter Hartnell VIC
Jeff Slabe VIC

20 years

Tony Carlyon NSW
Russell Harrison VIC

15 years

Fred Gordan NSW
George Varnavsky NSW

Stuart Farrell expressed his personal concerns as to the current and ongoing attack on the financial adviser industry where the vast majority of professional advisers continue to work with and add value to their clients.

Stuart Farrell said that he agreed with the AFA position promoting customer choice, rather than Government mandate restricting adviser remuneration options. He suggested the power should be placed in the clients' hands.

Stuart Farrell concluded, "Continuity of client service and advice is financial services greatest challenge as many of the industry's Baby Boomer advisers' transition into retirement. Many of these industry ambassadors acknowledge the important contribution MDRT has provided to their personal success and longevity."

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