



PRESS RELEASE 17 June 2019

Time to Celebrate Industry Heroes

After the outstanding success of the inaugural Green Triangle Timber Industry Awards last year, the committee are pleased to announce the call for nominations is now open again for the 2019 awards campaign. Over the next 8 weeks they encourage the forest industry to put forward those within the sector who show outstanding qualities, are significant mentors and are committed to the role they play.

Industry sponsors from last year have returned which is a sound indication that the industry is keen to roll the event out for a second year and applaud its skilled workforce and business champions.

More than 500 people were on hand last year to celebrate as Reid Logging picked up the top award, along with the prize for harvesting excellence, with employee Adam Sealey taking out the individual forest operations crown.

This multi-generational logging company was toasted as the supreme winner of the inaugural Green Triangle Timber Industry Awards at The Barn in Mount Gambier.

Another outstanding commendation was Leonie Stapleton from Timberlink who was honoured with a lifetime contribution award, recognising her long-term commitment and involvement in an industry that has historically been male dominated.

Leonie was seen as quite unique, in terms of her contribution and legacy. She played a consistent and important role in the development of the regions export woodchip trade, the radical disruptor of the 1980's and 1990's. The export woodchip trade is the market that accelerated the regions thinning programs, creating the forest structure that generates today's reliable and uniform supply of larger high-quality saw log. It was the enabler for much of the timber manufacturing activity we see in Mount Gambier today.

This year the committee also announce a new award, the Services to the Timber Industry award which recognises excellence in businesses that offer services to the timber industry. This includes but is not limited to, training organisations, IT services, equipment suppliers, agencies and suppliers.

The nominees and winners will be celebrated at a formal dinner held at The Barn, Mount Gambier, Friday 1 November with a guest list expected to easily meet capacity of five hundred, with comedian and radio and tv entertainer Merrick Watts as the master of ceremonies.

“We were very proud of the efforts of our industry last year to get this event up and going and to have support from our sponsors who serve our forestry industry across the Green Triangle Region so enthusiastic to be part of the campaign. We know there will be an even greater energy and support for nominations this year now that this sector has seen how the event can provide a platform for celebration,” applauds Adrian Flowers, Chair of GTTIA Committee.

The nomination process starts with an online form with an efficient step by step process to complete across a number of categories. By majority the categories themselves have remained the same with a few name changes to clarify some sectors of the industry that could have been missed out last year. Nominations will close on August 16 and then judging will begin.

The industry continues to under pin some 8,500 regional jobs and provide a valuable foundation for businesses and investors.

the end.

Key Dates

17 June **Nominations Open**

16 August **Nominations Close**

September **Judging Process**

1 November **GREEN TRIANGLE TIMBER INDUSTRY AWARDS**

For more information visit the website www.gttia.com or contact Prue Younger, Event Manager 0064 (21) 2765484 or info@gttia.com



<https://www.facebook.com/GTTIA2018/>

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