The Annual Black Tie Dinner

2014

A Night to Remember...
Held at The University Club of Western Australia on Saturday 23 August, the Graduate Management Association’s (GMA) 2014 Annual Black Tie Dinner was attended by business leaders, UWA Business School executives, GMA members and, of course, Business School postgraduate students and alumni. It was an event-packed night, with great entertainment, sought-after prizes and a keynote address from Woodside CEO Peter Coleman.

Supported by gold sponsor Kiewit and exclusive media sponsor Business News, entertainment was provided by UWA’s Quartet With A Twist and Caramelles Dance Crew, with the prizes donated by Auto Classic, Tayha Designs, Business News, Australian Institute of Management WA, Manny Tamayo Photography and Lesley Barrett-Artist.

With the final touches put in place, the night started with a VIP reception at 6:30 p.m. on the upper balcony. Meanwhile, guests were welcomed in the main foyer by the GMA councillors and Caramelles Dance Crew.

GMA President and MC for the night, Thomas Murrell, officially opened the night, which included an appetizing three-course dinner service. The Charles Harper Award was presented, followed by Peter Coleman’s keynote address to a captivated audience. Both entertaining and informative, Peter shared some of his personal insights relating to leadership and strategy. Peter then had the pleasure of presenting two GMA honorary lifetime memberships to former GMA presidents Charlie Gunningham and Brain Leedman.

Prizes were drawn during the night, with the winners from one particular table being enthusiastically loud! Guests mingled throughout the night and agreed that the Dinner was a greatly enjoyable success. We hope to see you all at next year’s dinner! See page 12.
VIP Reception

VIP pre-dinner drinks were held on the upper balcony at The University Club. Peter Coleman (Woodside CEO), sponsors and invited guests were welcomed by the GMA and were able to socialise in a relaxed atmosphere.

First row above, left to right: Peter Coleman (Woodside CEO), Faye Coleman, Paige Barnaba, Mark Barnaba (Chairman of the UWA Business School Board), Susie Cotton, Jack Cotton (Managing Director, Kiewit Australia, sponsor), Divya Bhardwaj (GMA Student Councillor), Mark Palermo (GMA Vice President), Lucy Carter and Thomas Murrell (GMA President).

Second row below, left to right: Mark Barnaba (Chairman of the UWA Business School Board), Paige Barnaba, Nida Mirab, Hossein Sedaghat (GMA Student Councillor), Carol Dolan, Phil Dolan (Dean, UWA Business School), Bev Patridge, Peter Coleman (Woodside CEO).

Third row above, left to right: Charlie Gunningham (COO, Business News, sponsor), Allison Cairns (Subscription Manager, Business News, sponsor), Thomas Murrell (GMA President), Divya Bhardwaj (GMA Student Councillor), Rahul Aggarwal, Erika Techera (Dean, UWA Law School), Keith Rappa (General Manager, UWA Business School), Pru Smith and Susie Cotton.

Fourth row below, left to right: Daniel Strahan (Special Vehicles Manager, Auto Classic, sponsor), Conrad Pires (GMA Student Councillor), Keith McDaid (Corporate Programme Manager, Auto Classic, sponsor), Marie Claire Bennetts (Development Officer, UWA Business School), Taryn Compagnoni (Owner, Tayha Designs, sponsor), Natalia de Burgh (Designer, Tayha Designs, sponsor), Mark Palermo (GMA Vice President), Lucy Carter, Teck Lim and Su Ann Lim.
On the night...

The Charles Harper Award

Hossein Sedaghat (left), GMA student councillor, was presented with the Charles Harper Award by Margaret Harper (far left).

The award is presented to a current MBA student that has made the greatest overall contribution to the programme. Amongst his many contributions, Hossein has worked to promote the GMA, increasing its membership in the past year. Previous Charles Harper Award winners who were also present on the night (top right photo, left to right) were Jenny Gamble, Sean Webb, Graham Harmsworth, Teck Lim and Jo Pownall.

Peter Coleman

Leadership and Strategy

Peter Coleman, Woodside CEO, shared his personal insights on leadership and strategy to a captivated dinner audience. Charlie Gunningham, COO from sponsor Business News, then thanked Peter.

Honorary Lifetime GMA Membership

The GMA was proud to honour two of its past presidents, Charlie Gunningham and Brian Leedman, with lifetime memberships. These were presented to them by Peter Coleman.

Bottom right photo, left to right: Thomas Murrell, Brian Leedman, Peter Coleman and Charlie Gunningham.
Media Coverage

The dinner received coverage across a range of media sources.


The GMA’s twitter feed, [@UWAGMA](https://twitter.com/UWAGMA), received posts (right) under the hashtag #gmadinner.

The West Australian newspaper covered the dinner with the article (left) appearing in their Wednesday 27 August 2014 edition.

The dinner also received coverage of the on the GMA’s [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com) and [LinkedIn](https://www.linkedin.com) pages.
The GMA Annual Black Tie Dinner wouldn’t be what it was without the generous support of our sponsors, and for this we graciously say thank you!

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Daniel Strahan from sponsor Auto Classic drew the two winners of the “Drive a BMW for a Week”, valued at $750 each: Peta Rule (above centre) and Claire Stokes (above right).

Jack Cotton from Gold Sponsor Kiewit gave away the ‘Chipolata’ sculpture from sponsor Artist Lesley Barrett, valued at $200, to Melissa Shilcock (right), and the training voucher, valued at $500, from sponsor AIM WA to Travis Thomas (far right).
Taryn Compagnoni, owner of sponsor Tayha Designs, gave away their custom jewellery design package, valued at $1,200, to Chris Taylor (above right).

Taryn also gave away sponsor Manny Tamayo Photography’s canvas print, valued at $400, to Mia d’Adhemar (left) and sponsor Business News’ subscription to Jessica Karasinski (right).
Acknowledgements

Thank you to the GMA Dinner sub-committee who spent the last five months working on this event: Ishay Katz (event organiser), Divya Bhardwaj (marketing coordinator), Conrad Pires (sponsorship coordinator) and Kiri Adams (GMA administrator). A special thanks goes out to Kiri for all the hard work and effort she put in to help make the night a success.

Thank you to the GMA council members who helped on the night: Thomas Murrell (president), Mark Palermo (vice-president), Hossein Sedaghat (membership coordinator), Graham Harmsworth (membership & Twilight coordinator) and our two Business School GMA representatives, Keith Rappa and Marie Claire Bennetts.

Thank you to the rest of the GMA council that supported this event: Martin FitzSimons, Jason Peters and William Ooi.

Finally, a big thank you goes out to our biggest supporter, the UWA Business School. Besides the large turnout from the Business School on the night, they also help fund and promote the GMA, a volunteer association, throughout the year. Without this support, the GMA would not be able to achieve what it has been able to do. Thank you to Mark Barnaba, Phil Dolan, Michele Roberts and the rest of the team at the Business School.

CONGRATULATIONS

GMA president and MC, Thomas Murrell (above left), congratulates GMA council student representative and event organiser, Ishay Katz (above right), on a very successful and entertaining night.
Join the GMA

www.business.uwa.edu.au/alumni/gma/join

Why join the GMA?

There are many benefits—just have a look at our website. But you can also ask Nelson Mauricio (pictured top right with his wife Delfina). Nelson attended the GMA’s August 2014 Twilight drinks and won two tickets to the dinner, valued at $320! Or new MBA student Christa Riegler (bottom right) who also won two tickets valued at $320 at O-Day in August.

Photography

Photography on the night was provided by Manny Tomayo. Photographs are accessible at:

GMA 2014 Annual Black Tie Dinner Photos Release 1, and

GMA 2014 Annual Black Tie Dinner Photos Release 2

For further information on these, please contact Manny via his website www.mannytamayo.com.
What’s Next?

Save the Date

Next year’s GMA Annual Black Tie Dinner will be held on

Saturday 22 August 2015

Details will follow as they become available

We hope to see you there!

2014 GMA Annual General Meeting

Date: Friday 10 October 2014

Time: 5:30 p.m.

Venue: Tony Howarth Lecture Theatre
       UWA Business School
       Hackett Drive, Crawley, 6009

Registrations: Commences at 5:15 p.m.

For more information, visit

The Annual General Meeting will be followed at 6:30 p.m. by Twilight drinks, which is free for GMA members who attend the AGM
Thank you everyone