



**Chairman Murray d'Almeida**

Murray began his career with a firm of Chartered Accountants in Perth. He founded Retail Food Group Australia and was instrumental in the growth of that company's brands Donut King and BB's Coffee to in excess of 300 stores in Australia and in 7 other countries.

He has also been involved in the restaurant, wholesaling, farming and liquor industries.

Murray is currently Chairman of the following: Bartercard Australia Pty Ltd, the Federal Government's Area Consultative Committee for the Gold Coast and Regions, the Institute of Business Leaders Ltd and Gold Coast Rugby Ltd. He is a Director of ASX listed Hyperion Asset Management Ltd.

Murray is a member of the Gold Coast's Regional Economic Development Advisory Board. He is also a member of a Griffith University Business School Advisory Board.



**Professor Neal Ryan**

Professor Neal Ryan, an experienced research leader in the field of management and public policy, is the Pro Vice Chancellor (Research) at Southern Cross University.

Professor Ryan has worked in the university sector for 20 years in three different institutions. Since 1992 he has held a range of senior management roles at Queensland University of Technology (QUT). Previously he has held positions at Griffith and Murdoch universities.

He has a PhD (Public Policy), Master of Philosophy (Science and Technology Policy – venture capital), Master of Science (Science, Technology and Society) and Bachelor of Science in Physical Mathematics, all from Griffith University.

He has published two books and over 70 refereed book chapters and journal articles and has been a chief investigator on successful national competitive grants worth over \$8.5 million in the past 10 years, including being chief investigator in a national centre of excellence in the creative industries.

Professor Ryan also has a strong focus on industry policy, economic growth and applied research, having wide-ranging connections with the private sector, government and community organisations.





**James Sparke**

James Sparke began working for an International Logistics and Customs Brokerage in Melbourne in April 1982.

During his 12 years at GT Customs Services he completed his Customs Broker License and began working as a facilitator in clearing Importers, and Exporters, products through Customs and Quarantine. Along with consulting on International Trade and Tariff and GATT issues through the 90's with a number of multi-national organisations.

In 1996, James started his own business in International Freight Forwarding, Customs Brokerage, Supply Chain management services, where he grew his business to 55 staff in 2006, with an annual turnover of \$55 Million.

James had a sea change and decided to move to Kirra in 2006. He sold his business to a large private equity group and now resides in Kirra with his wife and 2 children.



**Kristin Zeise**

Kristin Zeise is a co-founder of Pacific Environment Limited (PEL), an environmental science and technology company trading on the Australian Securities Exchange (ASX). The company's mission is to help organisations in both the private and public sectors manage ongoing environmental concerns.

In 1995, Kristin and Robin Ormerod co-founded Pacific Air & Environment, a specialist air quality consulting firm based in Brisbane. Kristin's training as a chemical engineer, her ability to generate and manage environmental projects and her innate talent working with and managing people allowed her and Robin to build PAE into the highly respected company that it is today.

Kristin's technical knowledge of emission source characterisation and understanding of industrial processing methods underpins her work in assessing the environmental impact of industrial operations.

Kristin has lived at Tugun for 5 years and works out of PEL's corporate office in Robina.