



James Dimitriou, George Manos and Cameron Killen.

Future Leaders of the industry

THE LATEST FUTURE LEADER PRESENTATION WAS MADE TO CAMERON KILLEN, A SECOND YEAR AUTOBODY REPAIR APPRENTICE FROM KILLEN'S SMASH REPAIRS IN ARMIDALE, NSW, WHO REPRESENTS THE THIRD GENERATION TO WORK IN THE FAMILY BUSINESS.

The presentation was at the 2019 Lifetime Achievement Awards ceremony, as Cameron's father Michael is a Lifetime Achievement Award inductee. In the room were representatives of IAG, former head teacher at Glendale TAFE, Brian Johnson, and fellow Future Leader of the Industry, Jack Parkinson of Fix Automotive Network.

Following a brief introduction of the program, we invited George Manos, Technical Specialist at IAG, to introduce and interview Cameron Killen.

Manos: I understand that you were born in the NSW regional city of Armidale. Would you like to tell the audience a bit about the city?

Killen: It's a small city of 24,000 people and is a great community in which to grow up and now work.

Manos: I see that you started to do some casual work in the family business during your final year of school.

Killen: I was really pleased to be able to work with Dad and be around the business and do whatever was required.

Manos: Were there people that helped you decide on joining the family business?

Killen: I sought advice from both of my older brothers, Toby and Patrick, whose opinions I greatly respect.

Manos: How do you feel about following in the footsteps of your father and your grandfather?

Killen: My grandfather passed away while he was quite young, but his influence lives through Dad. I am so proud to continue the legacy as we view the company not as a business but our "brand".

Manos: And you are also studying at the University of New England?

Killen: By completing a Leadership and Management Diploma, I feel it will really help me contribute to the family business.

Manos: And when you're not working?

Killen: The main project today is an old Landcruiser that takes up most of my time.

Manos: Do you have a view on how best to promote this industry to potential new entrants?

Killen: I am proud to be part of this great industry. We need to focus on the technology and higher levels of expertise required – this is what appeals to my generation.

Manos: So, this is your journey so far. What are your ambitions for the future?

Killen: At this stage it is about being the best I can be and ensure I best position myself to play a bigger role in the business – but I still have a long way to go.

Manos congratulated Killen on his achievements thus far and stated how impressed he was by his attitude and

commitment to our great industry.

James Dimitriou IAG Executive Manager Commercial and Speciality Claims was invited to present the award to Cameron, saying it was a great pleasure to recognise what he has contributed to the family business as a third-generation technician.

"Through its brands, IAG is proud to sponsor this award by providing two I-CAR training courses. We are also proud to be the first Australian insurer to attain I-CAR Gold Insurer status and we congratulate the Killen family on recently achieving I-CAR Gold Repairer Status," said Dimitriou.

In accepting his award, Cameron said: "I am extremely grateful to all the people who supported me, especially the team at Glendale TAFE and, of course, my dad and the team at Killen's Smash Repairs. I feel very humbled to accept this award in such an esteemed company."

Editor: *IAG's ongoing support and sponsorship of these awards is greatly appreciated. With the collision repair industry in his blood, Cameron is indeed a worthy Future Leader of the Industry.*



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