

CHAIR PROFILE – GARY FLOWERS

“Promote curiosity; always be asking “What if?” and “Why not?”...”



With over 25 years in strategy and leadership experience across three iconic organisations, Gary Flowers is sought out by boards to build brands, restructure and turn around businesses.

With a double degree and Harvard educated, Gary started his career as a lawyer and was soon after promoted to the National Managing Partner of Sparke Helmore. In his tenure, growing the firm by over 600% from a NSW-based firm to having a national profile and claiming a top 10 ranking in Australia.

Following an international search for a new Managing Director, Gary joined the Australian Rugby Union (ARU) in 2004, leading significant structural reform and capturing record sponsorships in just three years. And in the later stages, accepting a dual role as CEO for SANZAR in 2006.

With a talent for diversification, Gary joined the Mirvac Group in 2008 as Chief Operating Officer. Instrumental in turning around the Mirvac Group and securing its survival during the GFC, Mirvac achieved a Top 3 status and improved its share price in the most volatile of markets.

With listed ASX 50 experience, Gary is widely recognised for evolving cultures and engaging staff, stakeholders and the public. Having worked across three distinctive industry sectors, Gary has established brands on a global stage across ANZ, Asia, Europe, Middle East and the USA.

Gary is currently the Chairman of the NSW Institute of Sport, SkiFii Ltd. and Mainbrace Constructions, and Non-Executive Director of DataDot Ltd. and Sparke Helmore Lawyers.

Why 2020 Exchange

Gary Flowers has an exemplary record as one of Australia’s most diverse, transformative leaders across blue-chip industries from Professional Services, Real Estate and Construction through to Sports and Media.

Gary holds the vision and humility to transform large scale organisations in the best and worst of times... with exceptional people skills, it is this extraordinary world class talent that aligns Gary Flowers with 2020 Exchange.

Positions held

- Feb 2014 - Nov 2014 - Interim Chief Executive Officer, DataDot Ltd.
- April 2013 - Oct 2013 - Acting Head of Finance, Mirvac Group
- July 2009 - April 2013 - Chief Operating Officer, Mirvac Group
- Aug 2008 - June 2009 - General Manager, Group Operations, Mirvac Group
- Jan 2008 - Aug 2008 - Chief Operating Officer, Funds Division, Mirvac Group
- Aug 2008 - Oct 2013 - Executive Leadership Team, Mirvac Group
- May 2004 - May 2007 - Managing Director & CEO, Australian Rugby Union (ARU)
- Jan 2006 - May 2007 - CEO, SANZAR (South African, New Zealand & Australia JV)
- Apr 2005 - May 2007 - Council Member, International Rugby Board (IRB)
- 1994 - 2004 - National Managing Partner & CEO, Sparke Helmore Lawyers



- 1983 - 1994 - Partner, Sparke Helmore Lawyers

Board Positions

- 2015 - Current - Chairman, NSW Institute of Sport
- 2015 - Current - Chair of two Platinum CEO Consortia, 2020 Exchange Pty Ltd
- 2015 - Current - Chairman, EMM Consulting Pty Ltd
- 2015 - Current - Investment Committee Member, PropertyLink Industrial Property Fund
- 2015 - Current - Chairman, Northern Star Investments Pty Ltd
- 2015 - Current - Chairman Advisory Board, Slingshot Pty Ltd
- 2014 - Current - Chairman, SkyFii Ltd.
- 2007 - Current - Non-Executive Director, DataDot Technology Ltd, Chairman, Audit & Risk Committee and Member, Remuneration & Nomination Committee
- 2008 - Current - Chairman, Mainbrace Constructions Pty Ltd
- 2013 - Current - Non-Executive Director, Sparke Helmore Lawyers
- 2010 - Oct 2013 - Non-Executive Director, Melbourne Stadiums Pty Ltd (*Etihad Stadium*) and Member, Remuneration Committee
- 2009 - May 2012 - Chairman, Mirvac Hotels Pty Ltd
- 2008 - Oct 2013 - Chairman, Mirvac Funds Management Investment Committee
- 2008 - Oct 2013 - Chairman, Mirvac Capital Investments Pty Ltd
- 2008 - 2010 - Non-Executive Director, Connector Motorways Pty Ltd (*Lane Cove Tunnel*)
- 2009 - 2011 - Non-Executive Director, New Forests Pty Ltd
- 2004 - 2007 - Managing Director & CEO, Australian Rugby Union
- 2004 - 2007 - Director, SANZAR Pty Ltd
- 2004 - 2007 - Council Member, International Rugby Board
- 2004 - 2007 - High Performance Committee, International Rugby Board
- 2004 - 2007 - Board of Management, Commonwealth Games Association
- Previously - Non-Executive Director, Emirates Park Pty Ltd

Qualifications

- University of NSW Bachelor of Commerce - B. Comm with a major in Industrial Relations
- University of NSW Bachelor of Laws - LLB
- Australian Commercial Disputes Centre - Accredited Mediator
- Australian Institute of Company Directors (FAICD) - Fellow, Order of Merit
- University of Western Sydney - Visiting Fellow

Professional Development

- 2015 - Current - RogenSi, The Extraordinary Leader - facilitation and leadership skills
- 2005 - Australian Institute of Company Directors - Commercial Negotiation
- 2003 - Harvard Business School / Yale School of Management - Senior Executive Forum - Strategy Leadership & Culture and Australian Institute of Management Program
- 2001 - Australian Institute of Company Directors - Board Development Program for Executives
- 2000 - Australian Graduate School of Management - Building Effective Executive Teams
- 1999 - Australian Institute of Company Directors - Board, Director and CEO Assessment
- 1998 - Australian Graduate School of Management - Professional Service Firms - Effective strategies for Improved Performance



- 1998 - Harvard Business School - Competition and Strategy
- 1997 - Harvard Business School - Leadership in Professional Service Firms

Memberships, honours & awards

- 2014 - present - Chairman, North Harbour Rays (National Rugby Championship)
- 2013 - present - 'Sydney Sixers' Advisory Board (Big Bash League)
- 2003 - Award Services to Spastic Centre
- 2003 - 2004 - Sparke Helmore Pro Bono Taskforce
- 2002 - present - Patron, Manly Warringah District Cricket Club
- 2001 - 2005 - Director Northern Medical Research Foundation
- 2000 - 2003 - Strategic Adviser Patrick Rafter Cherish the Children Foundation
- 1996 - Life Member Manly Warringah District Cricket Club
- 1991 - 2000 - President Manly Warringah District Cricket Club