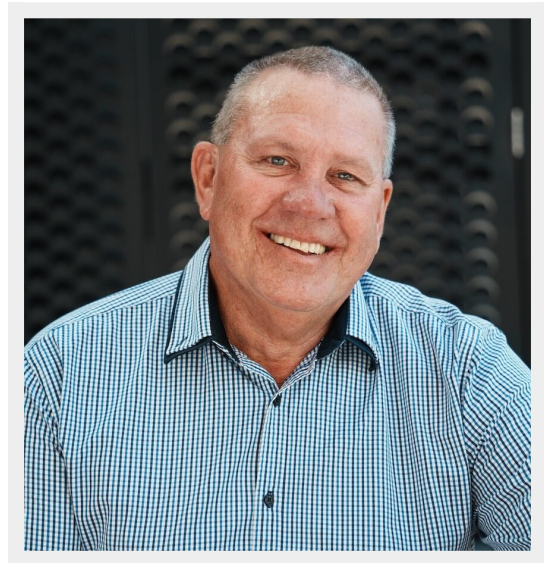


Darren Flanagan

Workplace Safety, Risk Management, Mental Health, Leadership and Teamwork



Empowering teams through transformative lessons built upon the foundation of the Beaconsfield mining disaster.

Summoned to the Beaconsfield gold mine collapse, Darren Flanagan operated over 70 explosives in a continuous 30-hour stretch deep underground, helping rescue two men trapped nearly 1 km below the surface.

An accomplished miner and explosives expert, Darren was requested at the site of a collapsed Tasmanian gold mine. Flying immediately to the site, he prepared to help save the lives of two men who were trapped nearly 1 km beneath the surface. Little did he know, this ordeal would affect him on a deeper level than he could have anticipated.

Darren gained national recognition through his critical role in the Beaconsfield mine disaster. He was instrumental, heading far underground and operating more than 70 individual explosives over a period of 30 straight hours. Two weeks after the collapse, the rescue mission was successful and the exhausted miners walked free.

Darren was awarded an Australian Bravery Medal (BM) for acts of bravery in hazardous circumstances.

The Beaconsfield mine disaster left its mark. Not just on Darren, but on all who were part of that intense rescue mission. This experience led him to a new path – one where he speaks openly about mental health, a topic often pushed aside. Darren has learned firsthand the aftermath of trauma, and is determined to ignite a wider conversation, urging those who've suffered to lean on others for support. In a world that glorifies a “tough guy” exterior, Darren emphasises the power of genuine connections between men.

As he navigated the pain and aftermath, Darren found purpose in sharing his story. It's not just

about the mine disaster; it's about resilience and hope in the face of adversity. This realisation sparked his journey as a speaker, addressing mental health, workplace dynamics and other vital topics. Every presentation is tailored to the audience, but the essence remains the same - sharing personal experiences that truly matter.

As a result of Darren's incredible experience plus both his Mental Health & Risk Management advocacy that he proudly fulfilled the role of Chair & Ambassador for the NSW Government SafeWork initiative "Family and Injured Worker Support Group" from 2020-2022.

Darren Flanagan talks about:

Risk Management

Drawing from his role in the mine disaster, he underscores the necessity of "reducing risk as part of your DNA."

Teamwork

From his direct engagement in the mining disaster, Darren crafts a narrative showcasing the unyielding strength that emerges when individuals unite to conquer extraordinary challenges.

Mental Health

Drawing from his own experience, particularly the mining disaster that altered the course of his life, Darren passionately discusses the real issues surrounding mental well-being.

Workplace Safety

Darren's talks don't just emphasise the significance of risk management; he backs it up with vivid anecdotes that underscore the importance of best practices in this field.

Perseverance

By sharing the raw, emotional journey of the mine disaster, he conveys the unyielding human spirit under immense pressure, emphasising the importance of determination in tough times.

Leadership

Centred on leadership, he uses the mining disaster experience to inspire unrelenting spirit and guide effective team communication.

Testimonials

“ Inspiring, and emotionally gripping - what a dedicated team can achieve.

- National Oil and Safety Conference

“ Darren’s message was such a great reminder for the team that no one is safe from mental illness, and you don’t need to have experienced a significant event to suffer your own battles. We would certainly have no hesitation in recommending Darren for any business wanting to make a big impact on its people.

- John Holland Group

“ Met our expectations and exceeded them. Darren was very generous in sharing his personal experiences, which our staff found very moving and made a lasting impact. Exactly what our field-based staff needed to encourage them to seek support with mental health issues.

- Tweed Shire Council

“ Darren’s presentation has been the best we have ever ran. I have never received such an overwhelming response from so many people at this site. Importantly the safety messages that Darren is able to convey in his presentation really hit the mark for what we were wanting to achieve.

- Thales

“ An insider’s version of events of one of the most publicised mining accidents in Australia’s history. Darren Flanagan’s speech about his involvement with the rescue of the Beaconsfield miners is gripping from start to finish. His raw emotion takes the audience to the scene of the accident, the efforts of the team involved in the rescue and the toll that it took on the mining community. His speech is a real eye opener and a great motivational tool for anyone involved with the industry.

- Rio Tinto

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