

Celebrating 40 years

AUSTRALIAN Gift & Homewares ASSOCIATION

40th CELEBRATING 40 YEARS AS THE PEAK INDUSTRY BODY
ANNIVERSARY
 est. 1977



1987

The Australian Gift & Homewares Association (AGHA) was formed on 1 July 1987 with the amalgamation of these two Association bodies. Formal incorporation as a new entity under that name took place in September of that year (both bodies having been previously incorporated separately).

1993

In August 1993 the Association changed legal entity to that of a Company Limited by Guarantee.

1996

In 1996 the Giftrap newsletter was created as a source for updating Members on business policies and practices. Three years later in 1999, the first issue of the Giftrap magazine was published.

1999

A new Membership tier for Retailers was launched.

2005

In January 2005, the Association sold its Artarmon premises and purchased new office and warehouse accommodation at Homebush, near the Sydney Showground where one of its annual trade fairs is held. The Association's present premises are at Unit 58, 11-21 Underwood Road, Homebush.

home&giving

2007

In 2007 the *Home & Giving Fair* brand was born and registered as a trademark of the Association. Taking place 3 times a year (Sydney in February and July, Melbourne in August), *Home & Giving Fairs* attracted thousands of Australia's leading Wholesalers and Retailers.

2011

On September 1, 2011 the Association launched the new brand identity for Australian Gift & Homewares Association (AGHA) with aim to deliver not only a new look, but more importantly, a new attitude aimed at improving and expanding the current Member service offering.



2015

In September 2015, AGHA acquired the Importers Warehouse Sellout (IWS), Australia's largest gift and homewares clearance sale. This event acquisition provided AGHA Retailer and Wholesaler Members with a new platform to sell their excess stock direct to the public, just before Christmas. IWS took place for the first time under AGHA's new ownership in December 2015 at Rosehill Gardens, Sydney.



2016 (Continued)

The Launch Pad
 The Sydney Gift Fair saw the debut of The Launch Pad – a platform designed to accelerate the ideas of emerging entrepreneurs.

Third Party Logistics

In October 2016, AGHA provided third party operational services to a specially curated consumer event at Sydney Showground, Sydney Olympic Park.

1977

In 1977 a small group of approximately five companies joined together in NSW to discuss common concerns in operating their businesses. The following year, a group of Victorian companies joined together for the same purposes. These two separate groups, the Importers, Wholesalers and Manufacturers Association (NSW) and the Victorian Giftware Association, grew slowly through word of mouth and began to develop trading policies, a system of credit control and some discounted prices for Members.

1988

In May 1988 the Association moved to its own offices at Crows Nest, having previously used premises provided by the Administrator of the time. In July 1990, the office was moved to a bigger premises in Clarke Street, Crows Nest and in 1993 a search commenced for a building to purchase as a permanent home.

1995

In August 1995 the Association moved into the premises at Cleg Street, Artarmon which was purchased as a permanent home to provide boardroom facilities and space for offices, storage and general meetings as well as to provide Members with individual trade displays and sales meetings.

1998

The Australian Gift & Homewares Trade Fair opened at Sydney Showground, launching the first ever exhibition to be held at the iconic Sydney Olympic Park. Located in the heart of Sydney, Sydney Olympic Park provided an exciting new suburb with a wide range of facilities built for the 2000 Olympic Games.

2001

As of July 2001 the Australian Gift & Homewares Association changed its trading name to Gift & Homewares Australia (GHA).



2006

In 2006 the GHA logo was revised with a change of colour and the removal of the words 'Gift & Homewares Australia'.



2010

In July 2010 the eCommerce website 'SupplierHaven' was developed by GHA. The online trading site grew, allowing suppliers the ability to build their own websites and to securely trade online with retailers 24/7.



2014

In partnership with the Fair Trade Association of Australia & New Zealand, the AGHA launched the Fair Trade Zone at the Melbourne 2014 *Home & Giving Fair*.
 In August 2014, AGHA acquired *Fashion Exposed* from Informa Exhibitions and launched it in February 2015 at *Home & Giving Fair* at Sydney Olympic Park.



2016

New Brand

In February 2016, the AGHA Gift Fairs brand was launched. Previously known as *Home & Giving Fair*, the new AGHA Gift Fairs brand delivered a fresh identity to the well-loved exhibitions.

Associate Membership Addition

All AGHA Gift Fairs attendees were invited to become an AGHA Associate Member in February, launching a new and exciting tier to the Membership base.

