



Class of '26

Candidate Bios



Andreanna Murphy
Business Development Manager
VIC/TAS
UAA Group

With over 15 years of experience in the insurance industry, Andreanna brings extensive expertise across underwriting, broking, and business development. Beginning a career in underwriting, she developed a strong technical foundation before spending four years specialising in construction insurance as a broker. In her current role as a Business Development Manager, Andreanna focuses on plant and machinery and contract works insurance, providing tailored solutions that help clients effectively manage risk and protect their operations.



Amelia Stone
Operations Manager NSW & ACT
UAA Group

I began my insurance career in 2014 after covering a maternity role and quickly found my passion for the industry. With a hospitality background, genuine service has always guided my approach. I've progressed from Trainee to Senior Underwriter, to Office Manager before moving into Operations in 2019. I am an active ANZIIF member and specialty underwriter where I enjoy helping brokers navigate complex risks—especially crane operators as a favourite. A Sheffield native now in Australia, I'm an avid reader, foodie, and proud advocate for bringing humanity back to insurance.



Andrew Ewin
Senior Underwriter
HMIA

Andrew Ewin is a heavy motor underwriter with extensive experience in portfolio management, business development and underwriting complex risks. He has personally overseen portfolios over \$25M and serves as a go-to resource for technical questions, assisting his team to make informed decisions. Andrew is known for a practical approach, clear communication and focus on outcomes which balance results with risk controls. He currently holds a Diploma of General Insurance and is committed to growing his leadership skills while contributing to a collaborative, technical underwriting environment.



Anna Zeeng
**National Customer Service Team
Leader**
CHU Underwriting Agencies

Anna is a dedicated and strategic leader with eight years of experience at CHU, predominantly in the claims space. As National Customer Service Team Leader, she oversees key aspects of customer engagement and team operations. Her approach is towards connectivity and long-term sustainability, while advocating for driving initiatives that support CHU's environmental and sustainability goals. Anna's leadership blends a measured decision-making with an ability to seize opportunities, as she looks towards a transition from operational to functional leadership.



Benjamin Corby
State Manager - WA/SA/NT
Strata Community Insurance

Ben entered the insurance industry at the tender age of 19, for the NRMA in NSW. Gaining experience in claims and investigations, it wasn't until he moved to South Australia in 2004 that his career truly accelerated. Working for WFI the value of relationships with customers was etched into his acumen. Working at Vero under Brian McFadyen and Everard Walker, he learnt the importance of disciplined underwriting. This came together with BDM stints at Allianz and QBE. He's been in his managerial role across SA/WA and NT for nearly 9 years now. Always shy of classroom style learning, he's decided to step out of his comfort zone and level up his leadership skills and capability.



Brody Ledder
Specialist Underwriter
Australasia Underwriting

With nearly a decade of industry experience under his belt, he is currently working as a specialist end-to-end underwriter at AUPL in a technical risk role, focusing on highly exposed and hard-to-place occupations. Building on a strong general property background, he is now stepping into a broader position with deeper involvement across the wider business—contributing to leadership, portfolio direction, and capacity management, an area he has a growing interest in. Outside of work, he embraces the classic Victorian lifestyle, spending time in local cafés, exploring new spots on weekends, and walking his 5-year-old puppy around the nearby footy ovals



Charlie Raward
Property Underwriter
Market Lane Insurance Group

Charlie Raward is a determined Property Underwriter, committed to delivering comprehensive solutions and building meaningful relationships with brokers, clients, colleagues, and peers. I value an approach centered on conversation and collaboration, recognising that the insurance industry has been built on these principles, and continue to guide its success. As I advance in my career, I aspire to develop into a leader who supports others, builds trust and reliability, and fosters an environment where people can succeed together. I am passionate about nurturing the next generation and remain focused on contributing positively to the wider insurance industry through continuous learning and a strong commitment to professional growth.



Daniel Joiner
General Manager - WA
MECON Insurance

Daniel has built his career within the underwriting agency sector, previously serving as National Operations Manager at MECON before recently stepping into a new role as WA General Manager for UAA Group. In this position, he now manages operations across both the MECON and UAA portfolios in the region. He is passionate about the evolution of underwriting agencies, having seen them shift from being viewed as a “dirty word” among brokers to becoming the preferred avenue for many product lines. Daniel is excited to join the UAC Leadership Academy Class of '26 — a genuine, first-of-its-kind opportunity for agency underwriters to connect, collaborate, and shape the industry's future.



Daniel Miller

**Associate Vice President -
Client Partner**
Xceedance

Dan brings 10+ years in insurance, helping scale IAL (Berkshire Hathaway) from startup to established player. His career spans underwriting, business analysis and claims, culminating in leadership as Claims Service Manager and Head of Claims, where he oversaw operations and third-party providers. He now serves as Australia & New Zealand Client Partner at Xceedance, building partnerships and delivering client outcomes. A participant in the UAC Leadership Academy, Dan is deepening his understanding of the evolving insurance market while sharpening his leadership. Colleagues know him for pragmatic problem-solving, clear communication and focus on service, operational discipline and continuous improvement.



Graham Whitty

General Manager
QUS

Graham Whitty began his insurance career in 2009 and joined QUS in 2013, quickly progressing through underwriting, leadership, and strategic management roles to become General Manager in 2023. With a strong background in strata and property insurance, Graham has been instrumental in driving QUS's growth, broker relationships, and underwriting performance nationally. His leadership reflects a balance of commercial discipline and genuine care for people and culture. Passionate about innovation and professional development, Graham represents the next generation of leaders shaping the underwriting agency landscape in Australia.



Jack Calderan

Business Development Underwriter
Argyle Insurance

Jack Calderan is an early career underwriter who has been in the insurance industry since 2022. He transitioned from banking to the sector for an opportunity in Chubb's inaugural graduate program. While there he was pushed to go out of his comfort zone and developed a passion for the industry's focus on risk analysis, communication and strategic thinking. Now he works at Argyle Insurance as a Business Development Underwriter for NSW, ACT and WA. Through this leadership program he hopes to grow further as a trusted and skilled representative of the insurance industry.



James Read

Special Counsel
Wotton Kearney

James Read is a Special Counsel at Wotton Kearney with extensive experience advising on complex insurance and professional/financial services matters. He brings a strong background in coverage analysis for primary and excess insurers, with expertise in warranty & indemnity, management and professional liability, and financial institutions claims. James has acted in high-stakes regulatory investigations and inquiries, providing strategic guidance to navigate Commissions, ASIC, AFCA, and ACCC processes. His deep understanding of risk, compliance, and dispute resolution positions him to contribute a unique perspective to underwriting leadership, bridging legal insight with commercial decision-making to support sustainable growth and governance in the agency sector.



Jessica Blachura
**National Sales, Distribution &
Portfolio Manager**
360 Underwriting Solutions

I am the National Sales, Distribution and Portfolio Manager at 360 Farm and Regional, with experience ranging from technical portfolio management and underwriting to distribution across regional Australia. I have led high-performing teams, driven growth from \$20 million to \$148 million in four years and helped shape strategies that strengthened our regional footprint. With a Bachelor of Agricultural Business Management and an MBA, graduating with distinction, I blend hands-on farm experience with commercial savvy. Equally in muddy boots or city streets, I love building relationships, solving problems, and chasing new adventures with authenticity, curiosity, and drive.



Joanna Hayes
**Property Underwriter/Property Team
Manager**
The Barn Agency

Like many people in insurance, I fell into the industry 15 years ago—and I've never looked back. Over the years I've gained experience across a wide range of insurance lines, but Property Underwriting is where I truly feel at home. I currently manage the team at The Barn Underwriting Agency, part of Market Lane Insurance, and after 18 months in this role I'm more energised than ever. Being selected for the UAC Leadership Academy is an incredible opportunity, and I'm genuinely excited to grow, learn, and be part of this inspiring journey as I continue to build my leadership career.



Kat Viciulis

Business Development Manager

Strata Community Insurance

Kat Viciulis is a Business Development Manager at Strata Community Insurance, with over 15 years of experience spanning broking, underwriting, and business development within the insurance industry. She is recognised for driving strategic growth and strengthening partnerships through collaboration, clarity, and execution. Kat brings a people-centred leadership approach, uniting stakeholders around shared goals and creating solutions that deliver both commercial outcomes and community value. Passionate about innovation, education, and continuous improvement, she is committed to shaping a more resilient and sustainable future for the insurance sector.



Matthew Herbig

Underwriting Operations Team

Leader

NTI

Matt has over 15 years of insurance industry experience spanning underwriting, business development, team leadership and broking. Over half of Matt's time in the industry has been with NTI, where he currently holds an Underwriting Operations Team Leader role. This role allows him to guide and mentor a team of underwriters, while developing and implementing operational strategies to assist in NTI's success. Matt holds a Diploma of General Insurance and a Diploma of Insurance Broking, both through ANZIIF, as well as a Diploma of Business obtained through NTI's Management Development Program.



Michael Atkinson
Group Chief Financial Officer
Market Lane Insurance Group

Michael Atkinson is the Group CFO at Market Lane, an insurance underwriting and distribution business, where he focuses on financial stability, compliance, and driving growth. He's also a Partner at Peer Wealth, an accounting and private wealth firm, that helps family groups, often those with private businesses, protect and grow their wealth. With a Bachelor of Business from UTS, Michael is a Chartered Accountant, registered Tax Agent, and a Justice of the Peace. Passionate about finance and wealth management, he enjoys working closely with clients and teams to deliver solutions that make a difference.



Michelle Macris
Head of Underwriting
Harland Green

Michelle brings over two decades of insurance experience spanning underwriting agencies, broker distribution, operational governance, and strategic program delivery. She has spent much of her career at Allianz, developing deep expertise in managing complex portfolios, elevating team capability, and operational integrity within a large organisation, before moving into the Head of Underwriting role at Harland Green. Known for her collaborative approach, commercial acumen, and values-driven leadership, Michelle is passionate about contributing to a strong, sustainable industry and is excited to do so through Harland Green and its important role in shaping the future of the industry.



Nathan Scott
Senior Underwriter
HMIA

Nate Scott is a Senior Underwriter at HMIA Pty Ltd with 19 years experience in the insurance industry. Over the past 15 years, he has specialised within the Heavy Motor Sector, developing deep technical expertise and a strong track record in risk assessment, portfolio management, and client service. Nate is known for his analytical approach, commitment to accuracy, and ability to build trusting relationships with brokers and stakeholders



Ned Taylor
Underwriter
G.O.A.T Insurance

Ned Taylor is a Property Underwriter at Market Lane Insurance Group, where he has worked for nearly four years. He supported Sam Reid in launching the GOAT/Kokomo property binder and has since helped consolidate it into a profitable and sustainable portfolio. Ned holds a Management degree from UTS and has completed an ANZIIF qualification alongside numerous professional development seminars. His core expertise includes property underwriting, portfolio management, and building strong broker and stakeholder relationships. Outside of work, Ned enjoys playing golf and swimming at the beach.



Sam McRae
Associate Director
HowdenRe

Sam McRae is an Associate Director at Howden Re, based in Sydney. Having relocated from New Zealand seven months ago, Sam brings a wealth of experience across Pricing, Analytics, Underwriting, and Partnership Management. He believes that leadership is not just about guiding teams - it is about shifting perspectives to impact lives, shape careers and unlock potential. Sam values the human connections behind every decision and is passionate about fostering trust and collaboration to achieve meaningful outcomes. His diverse background enables him to combine technical expertise with a people-first approach, creating solutions that strengthen partnerships and deliver long-term success.



Samuel Wolozny
Director & Senior Specialty
Liability Underwriter
Coast Insurance

I have been in the industry since I was 17 years old. In the initial 4 years of my career, I was a pleasure craft underwriter under a binder. I was fortunate to be offered an opportunity to work in London with a London Broker operating in the Lloyds Market. In my first year I worked as a specialist yacht broker. Subsequently I realigned into the international liability placing business in territories such as Canada, Middle East, Latin America, and Australia. I worked in General Liability/Casualty for the remainder of my 5 year time in London. Returned to Australia in 2022 to Coast Insurance as an underwriter & was recently appointed as a Director, Senior Specialty Liability Underwriter and shareholder at Coast where I am involved with both the management of the business, and day-to-day underwriting across various binders and open market placements.



Sara Rusdiah
Underwriting Team Leader
Flex Insurance

Sara Rusdiah is Underwriting Team Leader at Flex Insurance, based in Melbourne. After completing her BA(Honours) degree in Psychology, she began her career in strata insurance as customer service consultant before advancing into underwriting in nine months. Now with over six years of industry experience, she oversees a team of 13. Sara was awarded the ANZIF Making A Difference Award in 2022, highlighting her commitment to excellence in underwriting and customer experience. She has also been selected to participate in an internal annual innovation forum on two separate occasions, contributing to key projects that have since been implemented by the business.



Sarah Driscoll
Head of Claims
Insurance Investment Solutions

I have spent the past 10 years working and learning within the insurance industry, developing a well-rounded perspective through roles in underwriting, loss adjusting, and claims management. My experience includes specialising in Strata claims across residential, commercial, industrial, and community association portfolios. Having worked with both large insurers, international loss adjusting firms and now at a growing MGA, I've gained a broad appreciation of different operational environments and approaches. I look forward to embracing this new challenge and continuing to expand my knowledge.



Selina Fowler
Underwriting Team Leader
CFC Underwriting

I am a senior casualty underwriter starting my underwriting career in the UK in 1999 with AXA Insurance where I wrote product lines including property, Casualty and Marine. I remained with AXA for 14 years at which point I emigrated to Australia where I took my first role in the underwriting agency space specialising in liability for the last 14 years. Having worked in 3 underwriting agencies, I have a breadth of experience with binder arrangements and open market placements and enjoy sharing this experience with the more junior underwriters in the team



Sophie Fowler
Senior Development Underwriter
Rural Affinity

Having graduated from University of Sydney with a degree in Food & Agribusiness, Sophie Fowler began her insurance career as a Farm Underwriter at Rural Affinity, building a strong technical foundation and passion for supporting rural communities. Over the past seven years, Sophie has continued to expand her underwriting capability with a key focus on business development. Now a Senior Development Underwriter at Rural Affinity, Sophie is recognised for her relationship-driven approach, commercial insight and practical problem-solving. Sophie is excited to join the UAC Leadership Academy to further develop the leadership skills that will support her continued growth and career progression.



Taylor Cull

Group Operations Manager

Market Lane Insurance Group

I began my insurance journey in 2019, immersing myself in Market Lanes Business from the ground up. Driven by curiosity, I am always eager to explore every detail of insurance and focus on bridging underwriting with back-end processes, ensuring seamless, efficient systems that make insurance easier to navigate. I am excited to embark on the next step in my career and believe this course will provide the tools, knowledge and confidence



Tim Jeffrey

Senior Consultant

Finity Consulting

Tim is a Senior Consultant from Finity Consulting with 14 years' experience in the general insurance industry. As a key member of Finity's commercial lines practice area, Tim regularly works with insurers and underwriting agencies to improve their pricing, monitor their performance and use insights from the overall market to assist with their portfolio. He has a particular focus on combining underwriting expertise with analytical methods to uplift pricing capabilities. Beyond this, he has works on outstanding claims valuations and capital modelling for a number of private and public insurers



Yasoda Stephenson
Financial Lines & State Manager
(QLD/NT)
CFC Underwriting

With over 20 years in the insurance industry, Yasoda has built extensive experience across underwriting, broking, and business development. She has worked with leading organisations including Allianz, DUAL, ProRisk, and ProCover, developing deep expertise in Financial Lines. Since joining Solution Underwriting (now CFC) in 2018, Yasoda has progressed to Financial Lines State Manager and successfully established the Brisbane office, driving growth and strengthening broker relationships across QLD/NT. Passionate about mentoring and knowledge sharing, she contributes through speaking engagements, webinars, and training initiatives. Yasoda holds a Diploma in General Insurance (ANZIIF) and actively pursues ongoing professional development.