

SMEDG Life Member Medal to Steve Collins

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Delivered on

29 September 2016

At the

Inaugural SMEDG Dinner, Sydney

For meritorious service to the mineral exploration community of NSW **SMEDG** would like to award the SMEDG Life Member Medal to **Steve Collins**.

Steve works internationally but is renowned for his commitment to geoscience in Australia and NSW in particular both as a professional consultant and as a member of our geoscientific communities.

Graduating from Macquarie University in 1974, Steve joined City Services, followed by AMOCO Minerals and Cyprus Minerals where he worked with Dave Timms for many years. Since 1985, Steve has been a geophysical consultant to many companies that have operated in NSW and in recent years, particularly the junior and mid-tier companies, often playing a vital role in their float on the stock exchange and later success. He has been involved with numerous company resource assessments His assessment is honest and forthright and his work of the highest quality with realistic predictions.

Steve is also a consummate mathematician and geologist. He, together with Bob White, wrote much of the early imaging software for geophysics and geochemistry and he was instrumental in pioneering 3D Induced Polarisation in geophysics. As a professional he provides a detailed knowledge and understanding of how geophysics can benefit exploration projects; and can effectively communicate this to others involved, such as geologists, managers and financial managers. He applies this same high standard to his data collection and quality control.

Steve has asserted this professional approach to communication, evidenced by publications at many conferences in Australia, particularly at Mines and Wines, in which he has been involved since its inception, and with the ASEG (Australian Society of Exploration Geophysicists). Steve is recognised by his peers and in 2010 was the recipient of the ASEG's Lindsay Ingall Memorial Award for the promotion of geophysics in the wider community, including his involvement with SMEDG and as Convener of numerous symposia. He continues to publish technical papers and case histories often with the team he has been working with. Most of these are educative and provide a better understanding of the exploration process and team work involved. We thank him for these insights.

Steve has been the mainstay of SMEDG for over 20 years providing wise counsel. As a leader he has maintained the purpose and direction of SMEDG and its monthly meetings. His knowledge, network and experience makes him one of the first companies call and so he has continually sourced speakers for SMEDG meetings and for this we are grateful. His ability to distil and solve issues has managed to keep SMEDG focused and alive. He has attempted to maintain SMEDG as a financial not-for-profit concern and it continues as such. Steve is a regular at SMEDG talks, often helping out if there is a lull or a no

show. Steve's presentations are never dull but practical and accessible for which ever audience he is addressing.

In 1999, Steve set up the SMEDG web site and, with Kim Stanton-Cook, has helped to disseminate information to the wider exploration community. Steve continues his involvement in organising conferences and symposia such as the Mines and Wines conferences and those of the ASEG and SMEDG. He is a necessary component of most organising committees in NSW and a willing participant. Mind you at some personal cost as he is usually co-opted for the next one.

On a more personal level he with Bob White have tried to foster communications and good times by hosting Melbourne Cup Days on Bob's veranda for the past 25 years where even geologists are welcome!

Steve is a very deserving recipient of this inaugural SMEDG Life Member Medal and we thank him sincerely his time and efforts and continuing involvement.