

MDAA NEWSLETTER

Issue 46
December 2006



MINERAL DRILLING ASSOCIATION of AUSTRALIA INC

Current Directors are –

Peter Wright – President
James Colby, Wayne Clohessy, Tim James, Kenneth Macleay, Paul Mander
Greg Stagbouer, Brenton Wallace, Graeme Wallis

Contacts President – Tel 9311 5600, peterw@ausdrillnw.com.au
Executive Officer – Tel 9427 0868, mdaa@casm.com.au

INFORMATION BOX

Contractor Members	24
Supplier Members	22
Company Members	12
Individuals	9
Other Members	6
Honorary Life Members	2
Total	75

FROM THE PRESIDENT

The first board meeting under the guidance of our recently appointed association management team (CASM) was held in the premises of Grimwood Davies Drilling on Friday 1ST December, 2006.

It was evident by the directorship attendance on the day that last minute Christmas planning issues were a deciding factor towards attendance as only five (5) directors being James Colby, Paul Mander, Greg Stagbouer, Graeme Wallis and Peter Wright were in attendance. Also in attendance was the new Executive Officer Ron Adams representing the MDAA under the auspices of CASM.

Whilst the same agenda was adhered to it must be said there is little to mention on closure or status of issues, however it would be fair to note there was one obvious absentee and it would be remiss of me not to make mention of him.

You would all be aware by now of the decision taken by David Stevens to step down from the board.

Similarly most of you would be aware of the catalyst behind the decision, and whilst I respect his reasoning I am sure it was not taken lightly.

Having said this, David has indicated in passing on numerous occasions that his departure in due course is imminent on the basis that he will (quote) have to leave the way for the “younger” ones coming through as he is getting too cranky these days (unquote).

Whilst these comments might have been said in jest, we have to understand and respect the fact he has been the voice of our industry for a long time and maybe he has a good excuse? We should also not forget the void David will leave behind, as it is widely recognised that David was the main driver of the MDAA.

As we all know David only does things one way, and that is to put everything into it including his heart and soul.

Whilst it will be fair to say we can carry on regardless, his services will be sorely missed.

To this end and on behalf of the MDAA board and its members I ask that you join with me in thanking David for his invaluable input and support over the years, and wish him a very long and healthy retirement.

Having said this, and whilst I have your attention, there is one particular void that we will find difficult to fill and that is the ongoing compilation of this newsletter.

Like many of you, I do not have the time to dedicate towards putting it together as David has in the past, and whilst CASM have given an undertaking to maintain its compilation and circulation, it cannot happen without **YOUR** support. With this in mind, I plead with you as members and associates of the industry to feed us with any topical items that you think are worthy and are industry related. All items should be directed to Ron Adams on the contact details listed at header of this newsletter.

FROM INDUSTRY

EXTRACT FROM SANDVIK MINING AND CONSTRUCTION PRESS RELEASE

Further to previous announcements regarding the acquisitions of SDS, UDR and Hagby-Asahi, Sandvik Mining and Construction is now in a position to announce the formation of these businesses into the Regional Mineral Exploration Segment, which is effective from 1st January 2007.

Ed Santamaria has been appointed the Customer Segment Manager, Mineral Exploration, Region Australia. The management structure for the new Segment will be similar to that of existing Segments.

In this structure the Segment will be responsible for all Sales, Service, Product

Line Management, Capital Equipment (e.g. UDR and Hagby-Asahi Rigs) and Tools & Consumables. Factories will report directly to the relevant Global organisation.

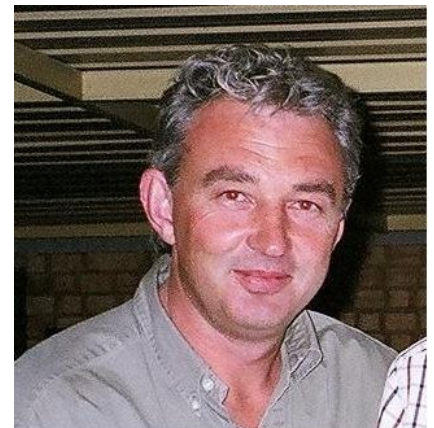
Further announcements regarding key appointments for the Segment will be made by Ed as the complete Segment structure is finalised.

John Wells, current General Manager UDR Division will take on the role of Customer Segment Manager, Mineral Exploration Region, based in Chile Latin America and will report to Gary Hughes, President, Region Latin America, effective 1st January 2007.

The current support areas of HR, IT and Regional Aftermarket will then fall into line with the rest of Sandvik Mining and Construction's Regional Structure.

In light of this announcement it is worthy to note the departure of John Wells from Perth later this month to take up his new role in Chile Latin America.

As the President of the MDAA, I'm sure I would be speaking for all of the industry when I wish both John and his lovely wife Gabriella all the very best in John's new role and venture, and hope that one day we will see both of them back on Aussie soil with the aim for John to again take a key role in the ongoing development of equipment used in the mineral drilling industry today.



John Wells

**JOINT MDA / ADIA
CHRISTMAS DINNER DANCE**



The 2nd joint MDA / ADIA Christmas Dinner and Dance was held on Saturday 2nd December 2006 at the Burswood Resort complex.

With a total of 343 people registering and an estimated 330 in attendance on the night it would be fair to say the night was again a resounding success.

Thanks to the extremely generous support of our sponsoring companies on the night we were able to raffle off some wonderful prizes.

Prizes on the night were;

- 106cm Plasma TV with surround sound home theatre system and DVD donated as part of the overall donation "pool" was won by Dallas Urbas (please see overleaf with inset of Dallas with her new toy)
- Travel voucher to the value of \$2,500.00 donated as part of the overall donation pool was won by Charlotte Hammer.
- Accommodation voucher for two people for two nights at the Bunker Bay Holiday Resort donated as part of the overall donation pool was won by Sue Davies.
- Accommodation voucher for 1 x night at the Parmelia Hilton kindly donated by Drillcorp Western Deephole was won by Jenny Banner.
- Bunnings Gift Voucher kindly donated by Champion Compressors was won by (unknown)
- Christmas Hamper kindly donated by Surplus Equipment Brokers was won by Sharon Ridge.

The MDA and ADIA would like to again acknowledge and thank all the following sponsors, because without their support the night would not have been the success it was.

Asahi Australia, ACE Drilling Supplies, Ausdrill Group of Companies, AGF Charter, Airdrill, Anderson Drilling, Australasian Mining Services, Australasian Mud Company, Ballmark, Boart Longyear Contracting, Bradley Manufacturing, Colby Drilling, Camteq Instruments, Champion Compressors, D&B Supplies, Drillcorp Western Deephole, Complete Drilling, Franklin Electric, Grimwood Davies Drilling, J&S Drilling, Kalgoorlie Case & Drill, KWL Drill rigs, Layne Drilling, McKay Drilling, Mosslake Drilling, Major Drilling, Northwest Drilling, Offroad Trucks Australia, Prime Assessing, Reflex Instruments, Sandvik Mining & Construction, Surtron Technologies, Surplus Equipment Brokers, Total Eden, United Oil, Wallis Drilling, Western Irrigation.

Below are some pictures taken on the night with photographic services kindly provided by Travis Macleay.



John Slattery, Justin Martin and Keith Littlely enjoying an exchange of verbal diarrhoea.



Malcolm McDowall and partner Susan Wright.



Joe Duyvestyn showing Trevor Dillon and Joanne Miller a safe way to open a bottle of beer.



Greetings to Santa from Terry Mannion and Bev Chitty



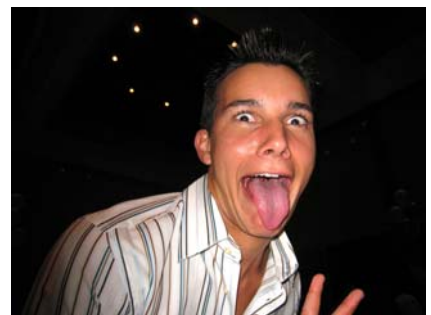
Andrew Ogden (ADIA President) and Simon Fitzgerald (ADIA Executive Officer) enjoying the good cheer on the night.



Larry Gill trying to convince Mark McKay to throw his Mercedes trucks away and buy Tatra trucks.



"The oresome foursome" Larry Gill, Jenny McKay, Shayne Macleay, Ken Macleay.



Ben Wallace trying to keep up with his old man (and doing a good job of it too).....watch him Brenton





John McLellan, Sheryl McLellan and Merrilee Gregg in deep conversation.



Greg Stagbouer and Brenton Wallace strutting their stuff.



Buddha up to his old tricks.....watch him Ken.



Larry Gill as sober and handsome as ever



Lee Hastie and Damian Lailey partaking in a few cold ones.



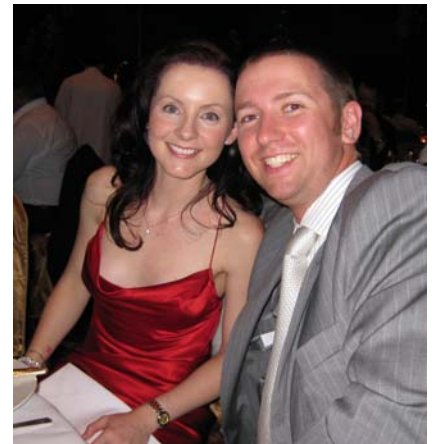
Jenny McKay and "my memory mum" Shayne Macleay, with Mark and Joe looking on.



Gary Weston partaking in a Swahili language lessons with Des Forde



Peter Wright observing the nocturnal social habits of Mike McKay.



Self portrait of the photographer Travis Macleay with his lovely partner Joanne Miller.



Gary Birkett (Bucket) dressed up to the nines in his flash jacket.

AND THE WINNER ON THE NIGHT IS;



Dallas Urbas proudly showing off her new toy which she won on the night which comprises of a 106cm Plasma TV, surround sound home theatre system and DVD player.....congratulations Dallas.



The board of the MDAA wishes you and all your respective families a very Merry Christmas, and hope you all have a happy, safe and prosperous 2007

