



Henk van Paridon
Honorary Membership of the ASEG
Brisbane September 2021

CITATION:

The Award of Honorary Membership of the ASEG has been conferred in 2021 to Henk van Paridon, in recognition of his passionate and distinguished contributions over 40 years to the profession of geophysics, and in particular to the ASEG through his long-standing support and active involvement with both State and Federal Executives, publications, and conferences.

Henk graduated from University of Adelaide with a BSc and the Queensland University of Technology with a Diploma of Computer Science. Henk's professional work has incorporated the planning and interpretation of land seismic surveys throughout Australia and overseas.

He has worked in many geological environments across the petroleum, coal, and mineral industries, initially as a company geophysicist for Delhi and Crusader, and for more than 20 years as a consultant Geophysicist, working for coal, petroleum, geothermal and minerals clients. He has worked on petroleum exploration projects across the Bonaparte, Bowen/Surat, Carnarvon, Cooper/Eromanga, Gippsland, Otway, Petrel and Vulcan basins in Australia, and on overseas projects in USA, Argentina, and New Zealand.

In addition, Henk has planned and interpreted geophysics programs over mineral deposits in Serbia, Northwest Queensland, and Canada. Henk is highly regarded for his expertise in utilising seismic surveys for coal in the Bowen Basin and has worked with both coal and CSG majors.

Henk's involvement with the ASEG goes back to 1981. He was SA Branch Treasurer in Adelaide before moving to Brisbane. From 1985, he served continuously on the Queensland Branch committee, including two years as Branch President, up until 1996, when the Federal Executive moved from Melbourne to Brisbane. Henk was the chief instigator and organiser of the new Federal committee, so it was no surprise that he was unanimously elected as ASEG Federal President in 1996.

Whilst still serving on the Federal Executive, Henk took on the onerous role of Editor of *Preview* from Mike Shalley in mid-1997 and continued in this role until late-1999.

Henk has also been very involved in other ASEG activities throughout his career. In 1992 he was co-chair of the ASEG Gold Coast Conference. He has also served on the Continuing Education Sub-Committee. Henk was awarded an ASEG Service Certificate in 1998 for his distinguished contributions to the ASEG to that time.

In 2010 Henk took up an active role once more as Queensland Branch Treasurer, a position that he held for 10 years. During this time, he was instrumental in keeping the society in Queensland active during difficult times in the industry, and he played a large part in mentoring and handing over the reins to a new generation of geophysicists. He continues to support the local branch, and he is the go-to guru for information on how the committee operates. He has actively encouraged members of his staff to participate on the local committee and contribute to branch activities.

Henk has been mentoring graduates and staff for over 10 years, seeing six early graduates being trained up and introduced to the industry. His passion for geophysics has contributed to the education of hundreds of students through his workshop courses which he has been creating and running since 2010. These have been attended by over 250 students and have included workshops on introductory Seismic, Projections and Datums, SEG Y and Data Loading.

Apart from his long association with the ASEG, Henk has been a member of AIG, FESQ, PESA, and SEG. He has hosted an annual Trivia night for ASEG/PESA since 2013, bringing both societies closer together. He has presented numerous technical talks at local branch meetings of ASEG, PESA and AIG.

To acknowledge these outstanding contributions to the profession and the ASEG over many years, the ASEG is pleased to confer the award of Honorary Membership to Henk van Paridon.