

Awards for geoscientists in the 2017 Queen's Birthday Honours list

The ASEG would like to congratulate the following worthy recipients of prestigious awards in the 2017 Queen's Birthday Honours list.

Dr Phil McFadden: For distinguished service to earth sciences as a geophysicist, through leadership of Australia's peak geoscience body, through collaboration and innovation in

research, and to professional societies. Officer (AO) in the General Division of the Order of Australia.

Professor Andrew Gleadow: For distinguished service to the earth sciences, and to education, as an academic and researcher in the field of thermochronology and landscape evolution, and to professional geological

and scientific societies. Officer (AO) in the General Division of the Order of Australia.

Dr Brian Richards: For distinguished service to geotechnical engineering and soil science, particularly through research and development of measuring and understanding soil suction and its effect on soil strength. Officer (AO) in the General Division of the Order of Australia.

Fulbright Senior Scholarship for Professor Anya Reading



Anya Reading at the Australian-American Fulbright Commission Gala evening for 2016, Melbourne, prior to her sabbatical semester in Colorado.

Anya Reading, Professor of Geophysics at the University of Tasmania, has spent February-June 2017 carrying out research into the 3D structure of the Antarctic lithosphere at the Centre for Imaging the Earth's Interior, Department of Physics, University of Colorado, Boulder, USA. Anya's research focus while in Boulder was the comparison of Bayesian algorithms for Earth imaging using seismic tomography. The extended visit was made possible through a Fulbright Senior Scholarship awarded in the 2016 round by the Australian-American Fulbright Commission.

During her time in the US, Anya gave seminars at 12 academic institutes in Colorado, and also in locations as far east as Penn State University and as far west as University of California, Berkeley. In

the spirit of the Fulbright program, she laid foundations for future collaborations between US and Australian researchers in seismology, Earth imaging and machine learning. While the visit had a research focus, Anya also took the opportunity to discuss Earth Sciences teaching and STEM education in general at both public and private universities.

Alongside the formal research and education visits, Anya took time for mentoring discussions with early career researchers and graduate students, gave radio interviews and outreach talks, and found time to develop new skills in downhill skiing.

Vale: Dr Phillip Playford AM (1932–2017)



Dr Playford after the unveiling of the HWB Talbot memorial in Nannup Cemetery, November 2007.

The ASEG is saddened by the death of Dr Phillip Playford AM at the age of 85 after a long battle with cancer.

Dr Playford was born and grew up in Western Australia. He holds a BSc (Hons) in geology, an Honorary DSc from the University of Western Australia, and a PhD from Stanford University. He attended Stanford as a Fulbright Scholar.

Phil had a career with both government and the oil exploration industry. He was a former Director of the Geological Survey of WA and is well known through his many publications and lectures on the geology and history of the State. He is particularly renowned for his work on the Devonian reef complexes of the Canning Basin and geology of the Shark Bay area, and as a primary discoverer of the Zuytdorp wreck, the first Dutch wreck to be found and identified in Western Australia. His book 'Carpet of Silver; The wreck of the

Zuytdorp' received a Premier's prize for literature, and another, 'Voyage of discovery to Terra Australis by Willem de Vlamingh in 1696–97', was short listed for a Premier's award.

Phil was an Honorary Associate of the Geological Survey and the WA Museum, a Fellow of the Geological Society of Australia, and a Fellow of the Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering. Among the honours he has received are the Lewis G Weeks Gold Medal of The Australian Petroleum Production and Exploration Association, a Special Commendation Award of the American Association of Petroleum Geologists, the Gibb Maitland Medal of the Geological Society of Australia, and the Medal of the Royal Society of WA. In 1998 he was made a Member of the Order of Australia for his contributions to knowledge of the geology and history of Australia.