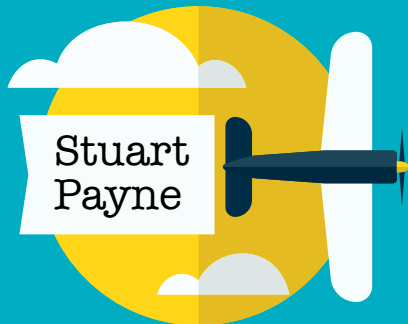


# Quiet Achiever Honoured



During November 2013, Stuart Payne (76) was honoured in the Great Hall of Parliament House in Canberra; named as the Australian Professional Engineer of the Year. Stuart humbly describes the experience as a great and unexpected honour.

This award recognises great achievement and leadership within the engineering profession. The judging criteria include engineering competence, communication and leadership skills, notable outcomes in engineering work, creativity/innovation and service to community or industry.

Those who remember Stuart from his days at Bunbury Cathedral Grammar School will be delighted by his success for Stuart was always the quintessential quiet achiever; diligent, thoughtful and caring. Particularly keen on “ham” radio as it was called, he fondly

recalls Radio Club with Mr Keith Peterson and his old Pye ex-taxi two way valve radios, and amateur radio station VK6ZOT.

“I thank Mr Peterson for giving me a solid grounding in Chemistry and Physics, which came in very handy studying Engineering. Also, Mrs Mardon and Mr McNess, who were both great humanities teachers. In fact my top two scores in the TEE were History and English Literature which is very unusual for an engineer.”

Stuart’s attitude was first class and his results were particularly pleasing. He seemed to know from an early age that engineering was his future and he worked with quiet determination to get where he wanted to go. After graduating he studied electrical engineering at the University of WA and later completed a Master of Engineering Science degree majoring in instrumentation and control.

Today, Stuart is the Manager of Engineering for Australia and New Zealand at Worley Parsons and a member of its global engineering management team. Stuart has

a passion for technology and innovation and believes the best career advice he ever received was to look beyond your own area of expertise. “Understanding the work of others helps your own contribution.”

In his spare time, Stuart loves to fly. He has been a pilot for 30 years and is an organiser of (and keen participant in) the Outback Air Race, a major fundraiser for the Royal Flying Doctor Service (RFDS). The 2006, 2009 and 2012 events that Stuart was involved in raised more than \$650,000 for the RFDS and led Worley Parsons to work with the RFDS to assist them with the development of a new aeromedical stretcher and loading system.

Stuart and his wife Alison have been married for 30 years and have two sons, Jeremy and Andrew. He is a keen member of the WA Rowing Club and won his first state championship in a double scull at age 52! One has to wonder what this quiet achiever might do in the next 30 years!

**Mrs Margaret Paterson :: Archivist**

