



Where has the fun gone? – a selection true stories from a previous era....

Ian Longley, 2nd Dec 2022
SEAPEX Xmas meeting, Singapore

**LONGSHOT
OIL & GAS**



Acknowledgement of Country

I begin today by acknowledging the Traditional Custodians of the meeting for which we gather today, being a meeting of SEAPEX geologists, old and slightly less old,

and I pay my respects to their Elders past and present going back to Darwin, Hutton, Lyle and Wegener and extending through to Murphy, Collins, Picard, Atkinson, Doyle, Baillie and Cross.

I extend that respect to AAPG, SPE and other techie mobs here today who, together with us, over the last 50 years have materially increased the quality of life of billions of people on the planet through the supply of safe, secure and cheap energy.

Past SEAPEX Presidents

Title	Period
FRANK P. SONNENBERG	OCT-NOV 1973
ALLEN G. HATLEY JR	NOV 73 - 1975
RICHARD W. MURPHY	1975 - 1977
W. DON NEVILLE	1977 - 1978
LESLIE R. BEDDOES JR	1978 - 1979
PETER NORTON	1979 - 1980
PETER W. ANDERTON	1980 - 1981
A. LLOYD FLOOD	1981 - 1984
J. W. BRUINSMA	1984 - 1985
ANGUS M. BOXALL	1985 - 1986
WILLIAM C. ADE	1986 - 1987
STEVEN J. DERKSEN	1987 - 1988
CHRIS S. KENYON	1988 - 1989
LESLIE R. BEDDOES JR	1982 - 1983
BRIAN HOPKINS	1989 - 1991
JOHN BISHOP	1991 - 1997
IAN D. COLLINS	1997 - 1999
PHILIPPE PICARD	1999 - 2001
BILL SENIOR	2001 - 2002
CHRIS ATKINSON	2002 - 2003
RICHARD LORENTZ	2003 - 2006
IAN D. COLLINS	2006 - 2009
STEPHEN DOYLE	2009 - 2012
PETER BAILLIE	2012 - 2016
IAN CROSS	2016 -



Historical “Funny*” Presentations

- 2005 SEAPEX - A Bluffers Guide to Exploration in SE Asia
- 2009 SEAPEX in Houston - Why I hate the Gulf of Mexico
- 2011 PESA - HR- WTF?!
- 2011 SEAPEX - SE Asian Exploration Strategies – why, where and how?
- 2012 PESA - The secrets to a successful career in modern oil companies
- 2015 SEAPEX- Counter-cyclic strategic thinking and symbiotic serendipity – will they work in Australasia? Or are we all doomed to work for myopic engineers in the onshore USA? A personal view of the future..
- **2015 SEAPEX - Wankernomics – A journey of enlightenment.**
- 2016 IPA - A Draft Apology to Indonesia from Australia
- 2017 IOC’s (Shell and Total) What I have learnt (about failure success and global exploration)
- 2019 PESA - A Draft Charter for Petroleum Exploration Geologists
- 2021 PESA Xmas - The biggest Hypercritical Bastards of 2021....a personal list.

*I think these were funny – others may not.



Its been 7 years since my last effort ffs!

Disclosure & Health Warning



- My presentations are all the same – like Mexican food – it does not matter what you order its just arranged differently on the plate..
 - So people who have seen my old presentations know whats coming..
 - For people who have not... some warnings up front
 - I'm sure I will upset some of you so I apologise now! Cultural insensitivity is contentural eg the image on the left from the US..
 - I swear (I use the F-word frequently)
 - I will also uses the C word a few times in this presentation..
 - I never use the N-word so relax. I do have limits!
 - I know the C-word is a very emotional word for many people today – so I totally understand.
 - But Carbon is a serious topic and it needs to be discussed so I have no choice!

This presentation is by me alone and it does NOT represent any views or opinions of any of the companies I work for nor does it reflect any views companies that I might visit or know or who I may have worked for in the past..



Outline

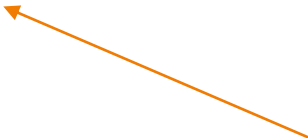
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I did this one last year but PESA would not use the title in their adverts instead it was “E&P Highlights of 2021” which I then had to present! I did it in one slide then I did a second presentation... ffs!



E&P Highlights of 2021

- Some exploration wells were drilled in Australia in 2021 – numbers are so “last century” since they shame some minorities so they don’t matter but they probably all failed but everyone definitely got a gold medal each for effort and turning up to work and it was done with everyone being inclusive, safe and nice to each other.
 - No animals were injured during any of these activities and it was all ISO2021 compliant.
- There was some seismic shot in a few random places and it was terrible in quality and it was amazingly expensive but it was managed wonderfully by a large government bureaucracy working hand-in-hand with private enterprise which ensured perfect compliance with all regulations plus it was safe and operated in an environmentally and culturally sensitive and appropriate manner.
 - We did not blow up any caves or sacred sites unlike other industries.
 - We collectively paid lots of tax into federal and state governments.
- Everyone talked about the energy transition and lots of people lost their jobs.
 - Management consultants had a good year...geologists and geophysicists not so much.



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So I did think about recycling parts that one..



I was going to do “Carbon Muppetry”



- Muppetry being a complement.. I find them funny and entertaining
- This was one of the 4 hypocrites from my 2022 effort
 - The others were
 - Norwegians
 - Anti-vaxxers
 - The Royal Family esp Wanker Andrew



“Followers of Brian”

- Sadly (probably for you) I’m a Monty Python fan..
- In 1979 they released a “fillum” called the life of Brian set in biblical times
- At one point in the film the locals believe that Brian is the Messiah
- Brian is a reluctant messiah and his followers are a rudderless cult of people repeating slogans without hesitation, insight or thought...
- For me when I watch Carbon Muppetry on TV and read about them in the press I can’t help but compare them and their actions to the “Followers of Brian”



A young man, Brian, who was born one stable down and on the same night as Jesus, becomes intrigued by a young rebel, Judith. To try and impress her, Brian joins the independence movement against the Romans, the People's Front of Judea. However, in an attempt to hide from the Romans, he relays some of the teachings he heard from Jesus, which ends up spurring a crowd to believe he is the Messiah. While trying to get rid of his followers and reunite with Judith, he embarks on several misadventures.



“Followers of Brian”

- Here are some recent local examples..
- Firstly – I’m not picking on any one particular group here – I’m talking about a collection of different groups with anti-oil and gas propaganda out there at the moment and yes they absolutely all have the right to protest and say anything they want.
- Secondly I am truly impressed with the enthusiasm and energy of some of the people doing this stuff..
 - This is significantly more productive and useful than surfing, watching TV/Netflix and smoking weed.. which is what some of us did at their age..(allegedly)



Sarah Nix attached to a concrete barrel outside Woodside Petroleum's headquarters.

“Followers of Brian”

- I just think that much of this effort is misguided.. and likely based on a misunderstanding of many key issues of the debate..
- There are however some key fundamental questions about these events that should be dealt with first..



Sarah Nix attached to a concrete barrel outside Woodside Petroleum's headquarters.

“Followers of Brian”

- I’m impressed to see that someone at Woodside put the witches hat down next to the protestor so that no-one would trip over her..
 - Safety is taken seriously by all E&P companies – as it should be!



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“Followers of Brian”

- Clearly the Followers of Brian are also safety conscious! They have a conscious witches hat too but it was not deployed?!
- Why not? Why take it and not use it?



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“Followers of Brian”

- Clearly the Followers of Brian are also safety conscious! They have a conscious witches hat too but it was not deployed?!
- Why not? Why take it and not use it?
- Was it for deployment when they played ping pong on the caravan roof?
 - Looks like a terrible table!



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“Followers of Brian”

- Is this Blackadder? WTF is Rowan Atkinson doing on The Burrup under a car?



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“Followers of Brian”

- Is this Blackadder?
- Does that mean that this is Baldrick’s leg in the caravan?



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“Followers of Brian”

- Is this Blackadder?
- Does that mean that this is Baldrick’s leg in the caravan?
- Did they have “a cunning plan”?



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“Followers of Brian”

- Is this Blackadder?
- Does that mean that this is Baldrick’s leg in the caravan?
- Did they have “a cunning plan”?
- Was it “as cunning as a fox who's just been appointed Professor of Cunning at Oxford University?”



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“Followers of Brian”

- 2. Is this Blackadder?
- Does that mean that Baldrick is in the caravan?
- Did they have “a cunning plan”?
- Why has Blackadder brought a banana and his stash?
 - What was he thinking?!



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“Followers of Brian”

- Is this Blackadder?
- Does that mean that Baldrick is in the caravan?
- Did they have “a cunning plan”?
- Whys has Blackadder brought a banana and his stash?
- Is this a cat watering bowl or a fan? If it’s the former where is the cat??



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“Followers of Brian”

- The press did not ask or address any of these key questions?!
 - Not in the coverage I saw anyway!



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“Followers of Brian”

- The press did not ask or address any of these key questions?!
 - Not in the coverage I saw anyway!
- Nor did they ask how they got there??
- Did Sarah walk or ride a bike with the concrete drum on her arm?
 - If so we should get her off to the AIS and bag some medals in the next Olympics?



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“Followers of Brian”

- The press did not ask or address any of these key questions?!
 - Not in the coverage I saw anyway!
- Nor did they ask how they got there??
- Did Blackadder and Baldrick push their car and caravan up onto the Burrup?
- If so it’s the AIS for them as well! They are super humans!



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“Followers of Brian”

- The press did not ask or address any of these key questions?!
 - Not in the coverage I saw anyway!
- Nor did they ask how they got there??
- Or ..as seems more likely.. they used a petrol driven engine for convenience and efficiency... like we all do...
- What's the word for this again???



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“Followers of Brian”

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Hypocrisy!!



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But this was all so 2021...

- And I'm frankly sick of Carbon Muppetry and the Followers of Brian... they and the "Young People Today" seem to forgotten how to have fun?
- When I talk to young geos today they are definitely smarter and better educated that I was at their age but fuck they are dull...
 - They are so bloody PC!
- And when I mention this (as I am want to do) they ask me what the industry was really like "when I were a lad"... hence I thought this was a much more fun presentation than Carbon shit



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Welcome to the oil industry...

- Well #1
- Lake Indoon-1 onshore perth basin
- A mudlogging unit with a mechanical recording equipment – it had a key that you had to wind up the equipment with every day
- The kelly height indicator on the circular plot was controlled by a water system with a hose connected directly to the kelly
- Which Ian had to go attach..
- Into the plastic chair lifted up the derrick I went with the kit..



Wellsite in the desert..

- End of a long shift
- A new pommie company man had come out and was being a dick to the drill crew.. It was not going to end well..
- Walking back from the rig to the camp with the drill crew and the new idiot along the 200m road which had 2 tyre ruts
- It was pissing down with rain – large puddles everywhere..
- Midway it was pitch black..



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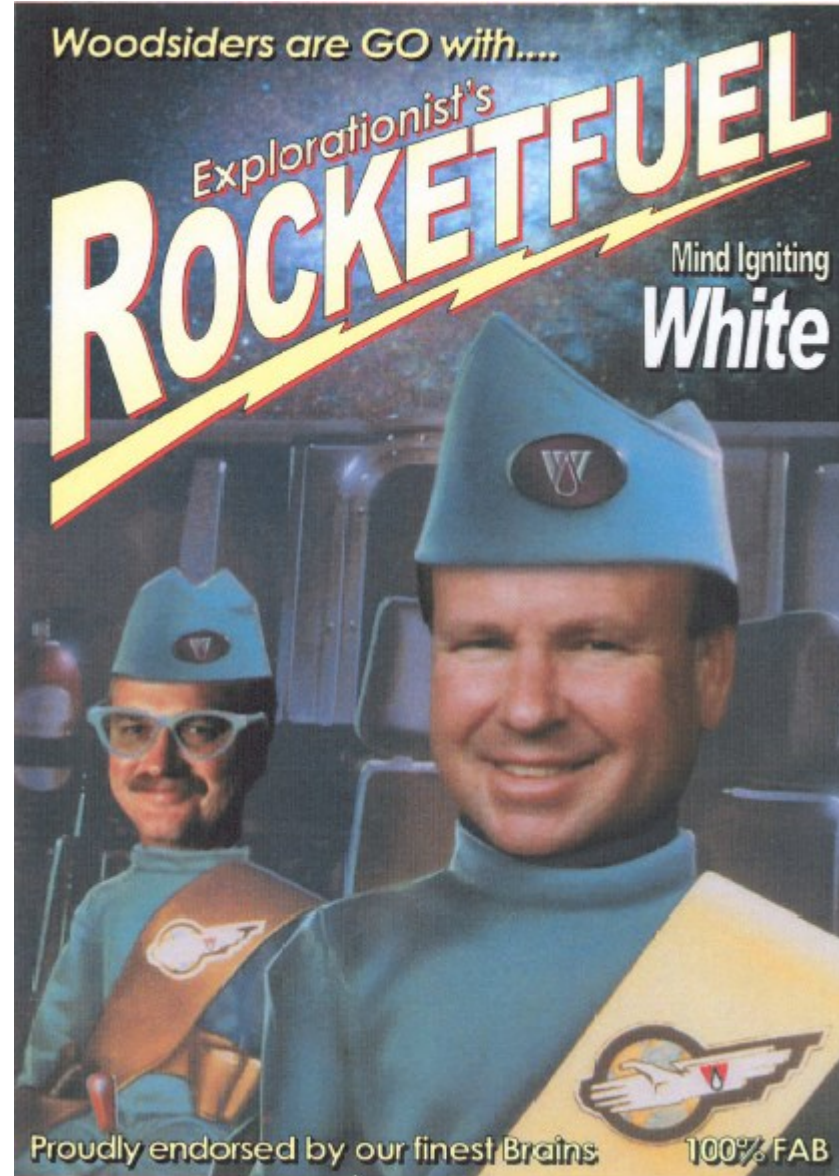


The culture

- Was fun - its hard to describe but as an example we always had a good xmas party
 - With lots of alcohol
- We would then have awards.. I was made MC



We often handed out free wine with specially made labels some years..



The Woodside building on the terrace in Perth was called "Voulte Towers" during these years

Highlight ... Agu's Knob on wine labels

Caption competitions



An example of the photo sent around 2 weeks before the xmas party – with a prize for the winner to be presented at the xmas party



Caption competitions – the winner



“And when mine’s fully erect its this long”

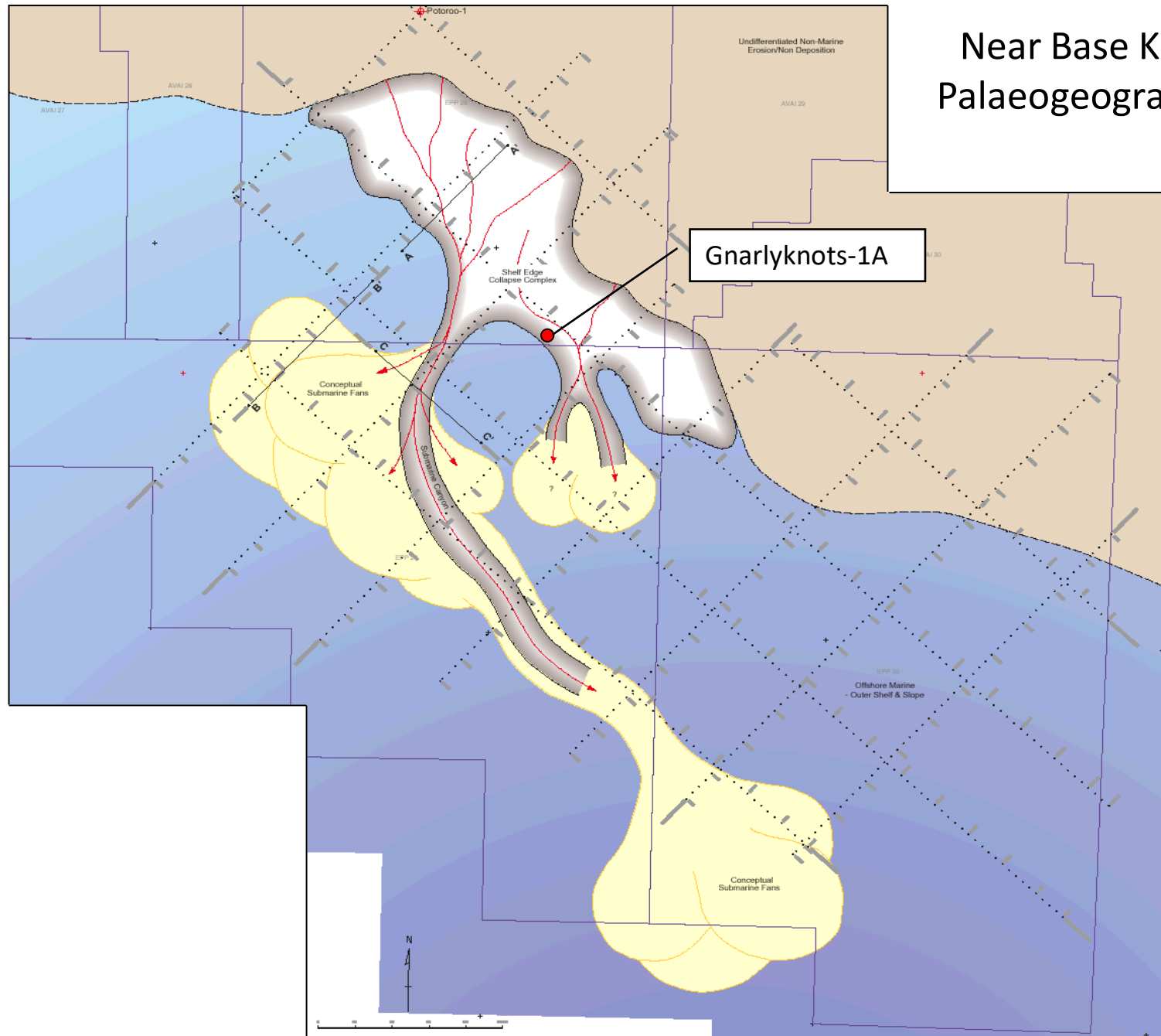


We also had a polygon competition every year

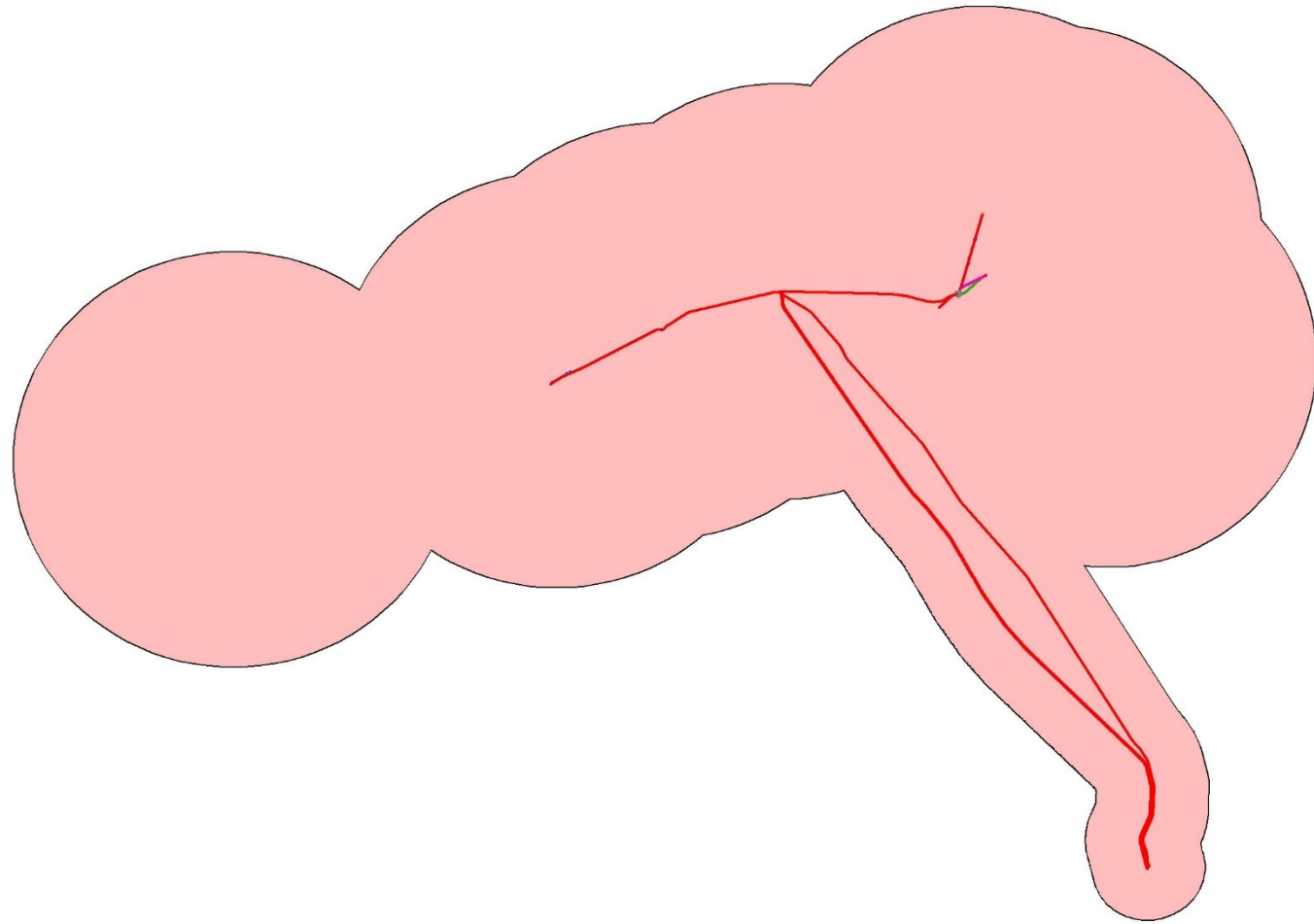
- These had to be polygons used in TCM's or OCM's not ones just made up..



Near Base K58 Palaeogeography



A runner up



The winner...Paul Massara & Bruce Chapman ... NWSV Environmental impact study

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Woodcreek Office on the I-10 w

- Car park had a radar speed camera that recorded just your number plate if you went faster than 10km/hour then you got a nasty email.. No photos! Just the number plate..



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April Fools

- Pluto well was 100% Woodside equity on a structure hidden under the shelf break relinquished by Chevron
- An expensive “big bet” lots on the line...
- Logs showed a big gas column overnight and then the pressure data came into the office on the morning of 1st April..



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Gerry working back late on a Friday at woodies

- Moves his car underneath the building late Friday pm and gets pinged speeding in the carpark receiving a nasty email from security
- He sends a very funny note back (wish I had kept it) but made the mistake of copying the email to a few people including me...



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I don't know how this started

- but I got into the habit of applying formally for vacant CEO positions at the companies where I worked..
 - I thought it was funny..
 - Here are some old examples...



From: Longley, Ian SIEP-EPT-SDW
Sent: Saturday, 1 November 2003 12:57 AM
To: 'info@russellreynolds.com'
Subject: Woodside CEO Vacancy
Importance: High

Dear Russell Reynolds

The press has recently reported that you are having difficulty finding a new CEO for Woodside Petroleum and although I have resisted the temptation to enter the fray to date after 6 months in Houston I have changed my mind and the time is now right. I would bring almost 20 years of international oil experience to the job and even though I am an geologist/explorer with no production, finance or taxation experience I have known many people who have performed these roles and it really doesn't look too difficult and it's the explorers who actually generate all the value anyway - all the rest is basically plumbing. The good news is that I know the Woodside people are good and as I am actually already a Woodside employee on secondment with Shell in Houston I would not have to serve out any notice period, I am known to the Woodside management team and I have absolutely no fear of any potential Shell takeover given what I have seen of their organisation to date. I also would not consider Perth to be a backwater in comparison with Houston and would begrudgingly accept the modest executive remuneration package being offered even though it is about a third of what I would earn here in an equivalent position.

I have met Charles Goode a couple of times and frankly I think he's as sharp as a pin and I would be happy to be that bright in my prime but I know he would keep me honest. Rory Argyle is also known to me since I sat next to him at an APPEA dinner at the MCG (1997 I think) when Maxy Walker gave a rib-tickling after dinner speech and I share his suspicion of doing business in Indonesia (even though the oil business there is not a dodgy as gold). I also used to work for Keith Spence as a vacation student with Shell and even though he would be somewhat surprised with my appointment I would still keep him on the management team because he's very good (at exploration and production) and is a good bloke even though he is a Tasmanian.

I can be contacted at Shell Woodcreek and would be available for an interview with the Board in Perth at any time of your choosing especially if the World Cup is still on.

Ian Longley
Geologist
Shell Houston - EPT-S
Ph 281 544 2062 (wk)
ian.longley@shell.com

Nov 2003 John
Ackhurst resigns and
Woodside looks for a
new CEO that ended
up being Don Voulte
– ex Mobil American



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I can be contacted at Shell Woodcreek and would be available for an interview with the Board in Perth at any time of your choosing especially if the World Cup is still on.

I did not get an interview but a few months later Phil Woods CEO of Shell “left” and there was another vacancy

Dear Shell CMD

Following the disappointment of my failed application for the CEO position at Woodside it now appears that there may be similar executive positions now available at Shell. I would like to be considered for these positions please since I was unfairly excluded from consideration for the Woodside position because I was not American and I'm sure from what I have seen to date that Shell does not pander to the wishes of the analysts and will not apply such a simplistic selection criteria to these vacant positions as long as the appointees are Dutch or at least European. I bring 20 years of global exploration experience to the table and even though I do not have the prerequisite absolute faith in my divine abilities I'm sure there is a Shell course I can go on to fill this gaping inadequacy.

I realise that this position is usually held for long term Shell inmates but I would bring a fresh external viewpoint to the job. Notably I would do the following since I hold these truths to be self-evident;

- Move all exploration management to the US since lets face it Rijswijk is a sad rundown industrial suburb on the outskirts of nowhere whereas Houston might be similarly ugly but at least it's the world oil capital and the sun does appear fairly frequently in summer. This move would also have the effect of replacing the unsuccessful Euroliberal lefty wishywashy managements style which dominates in Rijswijk with a significantly leaner more practical and accountable American version which I'm sure would be successful as long as we don't import too many old habits and people. This change would require a large Dutch redundancy round which, although this might be legally difficult, with the merging of the two company structure into a single entity based in London this should be both desirable and achievable.
- Merge EPB/G&P and E&P so that the focus is on making money for Shell in an integrated manner rather than the current practice of working in individual silos. This would also have the effect of reducing the number of fiefdoms and senior management positions needed helping to reduce costs and stop the endless diversion of resources into middle management shell internal business. Bonuses would only be payable on bottom line results and would be spread over a 3-4 year period so that people who inflate and or distort results for short term gain are still responsible when the shit hits the fan.
- Disband the service team concept to reduce management costs. Only true technical specialists would sit in the center and all other technical people would sit in the regions. No hierarchy of mismanagement would be allowed to develop above the technical specialists.
- Import external people into senior positions so that the E&P management is not dominated by inward looking process-obsessed Shell managers who broadly speaking only have experience within obscure mature Shell dominated Opcos.

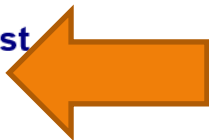
As you can see I am from the Attila-the-Hun management school that believes Shell has lost it's leadership and backbone and that a benign dictatorship is the only way to run an oil company. I might not be the person to provide this strength but I am prepared to give is a whirl and after a few laps of the trough throw myself on my sword and take an obscenely large cash and option payout. In short, I don't think the benchmark has been set that high and I'm sure I can do better than Phil et al. if I can institute the changes I have outlined above.

There might be a small issue about me being a Woodsider but if we could book the Gorgon reserves on an LOI then I'm sure we can use some spin to work around this issue. Maybe the people who advised Phil on his need to attend the reserve write-down press briefing could be used if they are still alive?

Anyway. I am here in Houston waiting for your call. I have attached my Woodside application which contains my c.v. and the ungracious response I received from the executive search organisation. Note at a pinch I would probably do the E&P position if you don't think my liver could not handle the Chairman position.

In anticipation

Ian Longley
Far East Regional Geologist
Shell Houston - EPT-SEX
Ph 281 544 2062 (wk)
ian.longley@shell.com



I also has an image of Dilbert as me in the in-house shell ID HR system for 2 years

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Anyway..

- Enough of my examples – are there any stories people would like to share??
- Rules are obvious



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Summary

- Things change... what was acceptable and normal in the past clearly is unacceptable now..
 - Now as an old white heterosexual male I am part of a persecuted minority!
- If I ever did go back into a company (which I won't) I suspect my tenure (and that of most of the people I know) could be measured in days..
 - Or more likely hours?
- Anyway I think it was fun and I think the world has genuinely lost something with the Orwellian PC stupidity that is in place today
- And my final advice to the Followers of Brian??
 - For f sake leave the cat at home next time!



Thank You

and merry seasonally appropriate greetings

- Complaints to ian.longley62@gmail.com please.

