

## AusIMM Awards 2012-13: New Zealand Branch Recipients

### Geoff Loudon FAusIMM President's Award



*Geoff Sharrock, AusIMM President, presents Geoff Loudon with the President's Award*

This award recognises Geoff Loudon's eminent leadership and success in exploration and development of minerals deposits in Australasia, Asia and South America. Geoff has devoted his life to the minerals industry and has exceeded every exploration geologist's dream by discovering at least two gold mines and a copper mine. He remains active in exploration and mining in New Zealand, Papua New Guinea and South America. He is particularly noted in recent times as one of the founders and chairman of Nautilus Minerals, the first company to plan a deep-water seafloor mining operation for copper and gold black smokers. Geoff is a dedicated member of The AusIMM, having first joined in 1964.

Geoff was born and raised in Sydney and is based in Christchurch New Zealand after a lengthy period working from London, UK. He first served a cadetship with the NSW Geological Survey which sponsored his geological degree at the University of Sydney. He subsequently took a post graduate diploma in Mineral Technology (mining-metallurgy-mineral economics) at the University of NSW and later an MSc at James Cook University. He then spent 10 years with Placer Dome in Canada, Australia and PNG, following a mentor's advice to become involved in mine development so "when you start exploring, you know what to look for". This was followed by a stint with stockbroker Hattersley & Maxwell / Kleinwort Benson so that "when you find it you know how to finance it".

Geoff is probably best known for his association with the discovery and development of the Lihir gold mine in PNG. Today he is heavily involved in the running of three New Zealand companies forming the L&M Group which includes a gold mine, a mineral and coal explorer and an oil and gas explorer. In addition to these commitments, he is focused on Nautilus Minerals and various mineral exploration projects in South America. In 2012, Geoff was awarded the prestigious G J Stokes Award by the Diggers and Dealers convention for his successful work in minerals exploration and development.

**Ellen Hiscock MAusIMM**  
**New Professional Award**



*Geoff Sharrock, AusIMM President, presents Ellen Hiscock with the New Professional Award*

Ellen Hiscock (nee McCracken) was awarded a BSc in Zoology and Ecology in 2002 and an MSc (with distinction) in Environmental Science in 2005 from the University of Otago, New Zealand.

Ellen has worked as an environmental adviser since her graduation with various environmental and mining groups, including Pike River Coal Limited and L & M Mining. This has involved complex environmental monitoring programmes, including field stations with continuous water quality monitoring, field sampling and liaison with local authorities.

This award recognises Ellen's involvement with The AusIMM, which she has served very effectively as secretary of the AusIMM New Zealand branch and the New Zealand conference organising committee for the past three years. Both these roles require a commitment of time and energy, which Ellen has willingly given. Ellen exemplifies the qualities The AusIMM encourages in New Professionals.