

# No tedium expected in explorer's talk

**COLOURFUL CARPENTARIA**  
EXPLORATION Ltd boss Nick Sheard certainly knows how to pull in a crowd.

During last year's Mining 2008 Resources Convention in Brisbane, for instance, the former MIM and Inco exploration stalwart spoke to a packed room when he reviewed his new company's maiden year of operations in what was easily the three day forum's most amusing presentation.

After accusing CRU Strategies' Allan Trench of being a "bastard" for talking down the nickel price the day before, Sheard then said it was "a bugger" that the junior had come across some good lead and intercepts at Laing's Lode in New South Wales as Trench had also been bearish about these metals during an earlier presentation.

However, he had no intention of letting things get "a bit tedious by just belting through projects".

Rather, Sheard gave his audience a choice as to which way it would like to see his talk go.

"Do you want a real exploration talk

where we give you tales of cunning and daring, how we spent our first year, successes and tribulations etcetera?" he asked.

"Or do you want the same old, same old bullshit – why we are so good, (why) we are the best company, our projects are the best, yawn, and you can see that on our website anyhow?"

Of course the crowd chose the former, so Sheard's first tale of daring involved Carpentaria's Glen Isla hydrothermal gold project in NSW near Alkane Resources Ltd's evolving Tomingly yellow metal play.

Initial RC and diamond drilling, he explained, "was looking really good and we got some absolutely beautiful core, and we were all salivating and drinking down the pub and saying how great it was going to be".

However, the holes turned out to be duds, with the exception of the final one, which returned an intercept of 3m at 1.17 grams/tonne, meaning the mineralisation was open to the north.

"This is the beauty about exploring in NSW," Sheard noted as he put up

a picturesque slide featuring a geologist, "you get nice areas to sit in and do work in.

"The trouble is he does get the internet down there, and you know what happens with the internet!"

No doubt Sheard will again attract a robust audience at this year's Mining 2009 Resources Forum, which is being held at the Hilton Hotel Brisbane on October 28-30.

And for those who do attend, they will most likely be entertained by more stories of endeavour as he looks at Carpentaria's latest bulk commodity pitches (the Hawsons iron ore project just south of Broken Hill in NSW and the Hughenden coal play in Queensland's Galilee Basin) and revisits Glen Isla, where recent drilling revealed 6m at 1.19 g/t gold from 4m.

*For a preview of this year's Mining 2009 convention, see the feature starting on page 24.*

By Mark Fraser



Nick Sheard

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