

Geological Society of Australia – WA Division 2009 Annual General Meeting



*The Irish Club, 61 Townshend Rd, Subiaco
6.00pm, Wednesday 1 April 2009*

AGENDA

- Apologies: Katy Evans, Roger Hocking, Margaret Brocx
- Minutes of the 2008 AGM
- Chairman's Annual Report 2008-2009
- Treasurer's Annual Report 2008-2009
- WAG Report 2008-2009
- Subcommittee Annual Reports 2008-2009
 - Awards
 - Education and Vocation
 - Geological Heritage
 - Stratigraphic Nomenclature
- Election of new office bearers for April 2009 to April 2011
- New Members:
 - Eric Tohver
 - Bradley Brown
 - Dianne Tompkins
 - Daniel Sully (student)
 - James Thomson (student)
 - Daniel Townend (student)
 - Aaron Benincasa (student)
- Other Business:
 - Annual Dinner on May 8th
 - Upcoming talks: Dr Brent McInnes – 'Space 2020: To the Moon and Beyond'; Dr Graham Begg 'The Lithosphere, Geodynamics and Metallogeny'; Dr Rob Hough – 'Revealing the hidden gold distribution in regolith and hypogene samples'
- Seminar:

Genesis Modelling for the Hamersley BIF-Hosted Iron Ores

R C Morris, 2009

CSIRO Honorary Research Fellow

richard.morris@csiro.au

Abstract

CSIRO-AMIRA research (1976-1994) on BIF-hosted ores classified two major ore types, the dominant, “supergene” martite-goethite (M-G) ores (ca Mesozoic), and the premium martite-microplaty hematite (M-mpl H) ores (~2000 Ma) and their sub-types. Both ore types have their counterparts around the world, but the supergene M-G ores are not common outside the Hamersleys.

The CSIRO research suggested the younger ores were electrochemically-formed, deep-seated (below normal atmospheric access) supergene-driven deposits. BIF magnetite was oxidised largely to hematite (and kenomagnetite) as martite pseudomorphs, and the matrix minerals were pseudomorphed in part by goethite, superbly preserving the BIF microtextures, and were in part leached by groundwater, resulting in stratigraphic thinning. **These ores are not lateritic.**

Burial metamorphism of similar “supergene” ore deposits in the Proterozoic converted the matrix goethite in part to microplaty hematite. Residual goethite was later leached from these ores following exposure, leaving the typical premium mainly goethite-free martite-microplaty hematite ores of Tom Price and Whaleback, whereas residual goethite is common in the less eroded Paraburdoo ores.

This model was generally accepted for nearly two decades from 1980. However, new hypogene modelling from the University of WA (1999) and Rio Tinto Mining (2001), based on data from unweathered metasomatic residuals in two areas of the Tom Price deposits has become popular since 1999, forming a basis for a wide variety of international models. There are major problems in the chemistry, redox mechanisms, and heat/fluid sources for of all these hydrothermal models.

More recent hydrothermal modelling for the North Deposit at Tom Price (2004) followed a suggestion that a non-redox reaction in which magnetite was leached of its ferrous content by acid solutions, forming hematite, would not require a meteoric oxidation stage. The model argued that (acid) hydrothermal brines from the underlying dolomite leached ferrous iron from the magnetite, simultaneously removing the silica matrix and precipitating microplaty hematite from the released ferrous iron. This modelling introduced further difficulties in that the precipitation of microplaty hematite from ferrous iron requires a redox reaction.

In no published case has textural data from “metasomatic” zones associated with the deposits been matched to the textural features of the typical martite-microplaty hematite ore bodies themselves. Objective evidence shows the Tom Price metasomatism is a post-ore phenomenon and that no evidence of such metasomatism has been found in deposits such as Whaleback and Paraburdoo.

Note. A PDF text version of this talk is available from the author.

R.C.Morris has a BSc in geology (WA 1959) and a PhD in iron ore (WA 1985). He joined CSIRO in 1976 as a petrologist to work on an AMIRA program (1976-1994) on iron ore, retired in 1996, and has been a CSIRO Honorary Research Fellow since then. He was awarded the Gibb Maitland Medal in 1989 and the Stillwell Award in 2008 for his research.

Chairman's Report 2008-2009

Chris Yeats

Geological Society of Australia – Western Australia Division

As generally happens every two years, the 2009 Annual General Meeting will mark a changing of the guard in the Committee of the Division, with the majority of those currently filling Executive roles not seeking re-election. I would like to take this opportunity to thank my Vice-Chair, Marcus Willson, Secretary, Catherine Spaggiari, Treasurer, Website Manager and *West Australian Geologist* (WAG) Business Manager, Peter Haines, and WAG Editor, Janet Muhling, for their tireless work on behalf of the Division over the past two years. It has been both a pleasure and a privilege to work with these dedicated people, and indeed all of the Committee (see Table 1). Their effort on behalf of the members of the Division has made the role of Divisional Chair much less onerous than it may otherwise have been. Although most of the current members will remain active for the coming year, increasing work and other commitments mean that Marcus will resign from the Committee at the AGM, after 4 years service. His input will be sorely missed. In addition, the role of Convenor of the Education and Vocation Subcommittee has remained vacant for 12 months. Although, as you'll see below, I do not believe that the Division has failed to engage in this area over the past year, I would hope that the position can be filled for 2009-2010. Despite adding a handful of new members for the coming year, we remain a very streamlined group and, as I did last year, I would urge anyone entertaining the possibility of joining the Committee to just take the plunge and do it.

The Division's bimonthly newsletter, the *West Australian Geologist* (WAG) remains the principal means of communication with our membership, although this is supplemented by regular emails to those members who have provided email addresses. The WAG is clearly the highest quality GSA Divisional newsletter by a significant margin, providing what we believe is a good balance between information on upcoming meetings, articles and advertising. In addition to the black and white hard copy that is mailed to members, a full colour digital version of WAG is provided in PDF format for download from our Divisional website (<http://www.wa.gsa.org.au>), with most editions available electronically a few days before members receive their hard copies. As a result of a small downturn in the number of advertisers, coupled with an unanticipated slight increase in printing and postage costs, the WAG returned a small net loss of \$935 in 2008, following on from surpluses for the preceding two years. Despite this small loss, overall the Division recorded a net surplus of \$2,430 in 2008, testament both to the oversight of our Treasurer Peter and the accounting skills of Jocelyn Thomson, who once again has handled our accounts this year.

The Committee has worked hard to maintain a varied program of monthly meetings (Table 2) with talks by a mix of speakers from academia, government, and industry covering a diverse range of topics including geochronology, geothermal energy, petroleum exploration, plate tectonics and of course economic geology. Details of the talks, including abstracts, are available on our Divisional Website, which has an archive of talk abstracts stretching back to August 2004. In addition to our regular monthly meetings, the Division sponsored refreshments at a seminar given by the SEG Distinguished Lecturer for 2008, Cornel de Ronde entitled '*The Kermadec arc, New Zealand; a 10 year odyssey of discovery along the world's most hydrothermally active intraoceanic arc*' on October 17th and also supported a book launch and introduction to Geoheritage on December 10th.

After careful consideration, late last year the Committee made a decision to move the monthly meeting venue for 2009 from UWA to the Irish Club of WA, in Subiaco. With the resignation of our final UWA-based Committee member during 2008, we were finding it increasingly difficult to coordinate access to UWA after normal working hours. It was also felt that, given the large number of members who work in nearby West Perth, Subiaco was a more convenient location for most. At the same time a decision was made to hold Committee meetings at the same venue immediately prior to monthly meetings, with the hope of encouraging more members to participate. Although our

scheduled February meeting was cancelled due to an inability to secure an appropriate speaker a very healthy turn out at the March meeting gives an early indication that the move meets with the approval of our membership.

The 2008 Annual Dinner and Award Presentation was held on Friday May 23rd at the East Fremantle Yacht Club in South Perth and attended by 56 people, including the winners of the 2008 TEE Prize and GSA Medal. Attendance was down on the previous year, perhaps due to the fact that no Gibb Maitland Medal was awarded. The 2009 Dinner will be held on Friday 8th May at the same venue. For the first time in a number of years, all four Divisional awards will be presented this year (Table 3). James Martindale, Daniel Townend and Callum Standing are the 2009 winners of the Talbot Medal, GSA Medal and the WACE (formerly TEE) Prize respectively. I also am pleased to announce that David Philip Commander will be awarded the 2009 Gibb Maitland Medal for his substantial and sustained contribution to geoscience in Western Australia, particularly in the field of hydrogeology. Philip Commander is the first hydrogeologist to be awarded the Medal. Further details of his achievements are summarised in the Awards Subcommittee report.

The W.R. Browne Medal is awarded by the Federal Executive Committee of the Geological Society of Australia every two years, at the Australian Earth Science Convention (AESC), to “a person distinguished for contributions to the geological sciences in Australia”. As foreshadowed in my previous report, the Medal was presented to Dr Jim Ross at the Convention in Perth in July 2008, in recognition of his distinguished career in geological research, exploration management and, in particular, his unceasing commitment to policy and planning issues for a wide range of organizations in exploration, mining, research, education and the profession. The AESC was jointly hosted by the GSA and AIG and attracted more than 800 registrants and 53 trade exhibitors.

The Division once again supported the annual GSA-AIG Christmas Cruise along the Swan River, held in early December, which was yet again sponsored by Southern Geoscience Consultants and attended by a large number of WA geoscientists.

On the education front, the Western Region Australian Student Mineral Venture took a one year hiatus in 2008, but will return in July 2009 and our Division will again be a sponsor. The WA Division has also continued to provide financial support to Earth Sciences WA (ESWA), a consortium comprising key educational and research organizations and industry representatives whose immediate aim is to encourage WA high schools to take up the new Year 11 and 12 Course of Study in Earth and Environmental Science (EES). The Division also sponsored the registration of six students from UWA and Curtin University to attend the AESC.

It has certainly been a very interesting year (to say the least) for the resources sector in which most of our members work in some capacity. When I sat down to write my previous report to the Division, many pundits were predicting a “Superboom” that would never end. Just twelve months down the track, the same people are asking just how long the current commodity slump can last. Suddenly all that glitters really is gold. Against this background, it is important that professional societies such as ours remain relevant to their members and provide the best value possible in what will be a difficult time for many of us. It is obvious to me that the proposed merger between the GSA and AIG, which is being worked on at the National level, can only improve the service provided to members by both organisations and I look forward to our membership broadly supporting the move, when it is put to the Society’s consideration.

In conclusion, I would once again like to thank my fellow Committee members for their hard work over the past twelve months. All of us have significant family and/or work commitments, but all have proved more than willing to commit their time to the activities detailed above. It’s been a pleasure working with you.

Table 1 – DIVISIONAL COMMITTEES

Position	2007-2008	2008-2009
Chair	Chris Yeats (CSIRO)	Chris Yeats (CSIRO)
Vice Chair	Marcus Willson (Australian Mineral Fields)	Marcus Willson (Australian Mineral Fields)
Secretary	Catherine Spaggiari (GSWA)	Catherine Spaggiari (GSWA)
Treasurer	Peter Haines (GSWA)	Peter Haines (GSWA)
WAG Editor	Janet Muhling (UWA)	Janet Muhling (UWA)
WAG Business Manager	Peter Haines (GSWA)	Peter Haines (GSWA)
Committee	Frank Bierlein (UWA)	Craig Buchan (Task Geoscience)
	Craig Buchan (Task Geoscience)	Craig Hart (UWA)*
	Ian Fitzsimons (Curtin)	Erin Gray (Curtin Student)
	Erin Gray (Curtin Student)	Russ Gregory (UWA Student)
	Craig Hart (UWA)	Katy Evans (Curtin)**
	Derek Marshall (UWA Student)	Chris Kirkland (GSWA)**
		*Left Committee during the year
		**Joined Committee during the year
Sub-Committee Convenors:		
Awards	Charles Butt (CSIRO)	Charles Butt (CSIRO)
Education and Vocation	Ian Fitzsimons (Curtin)	Vacant
Geological Heritage	Margaret Brocx (Consultant)	Margaret Brocx (Consultant)
Stratigraphic Nomenclature	Roger Hocking (GSWA)	Roger Hocking (GSWA)

Table 2 – MONTHLY MEETINGS, MAY 2008 – APRIL 2009

2007		
6 May	Katy Evans	Speciation of sulphur in silicate melts: implications for ore-forming systems.
3 June	Klaus Regenauer-Lieb	The Perth Basin geothermal opportunity.
1 July	Chris Clark	Event timing in the Southern Granulite Terrane, India.
5 August	Peter Eadington	Reflections on fluid Inclusions, petrophysics, structural geology and petroleum systems: addressing some challenges in the search for oil in Australia.
2 September	John Walshe	Is fluid mixing a major factor in the formation of Archaean gold deposits?
7 October	Paul Hoffman	Prisoners of their own knowledge: the glacial theory and the discovery of climate warming, mantle flow and continental drift.
11 November	Tim Ivanic	Diamonds and mantle xenoliths from kimberlites and lamproites.
5 December	Joint AIG-GSA Christmas Cruise	
2008		
4 March	David Evans	The current state of pre-Rodinia supercontinent reconstructions.
1 April	Annual General Meeting	
	Richard Morris	Genesis modeling for the Hamersley BIF-hosted iron ores.

Table 3 – DIVISIONAL AWARDS 2009

Award	2009 Recipient	Basis for the award
Gibb Maitland Medal	David Philip Commander	Substantial contributions to geoscience in Western Australia, with particular consideration given to contributions that relate to the occurrence or discovery of mineral resources
Talbot Prize	James Martindale	Best Honours thesis at The University of Western Australia with a significant fieldwork component
GSA Medal	Daniel Townend	Best undergraduate results in the final year of the BSc (Applied Geology) degree at Curtin University of Technology
WACE Prize	Callum Standing	Best aggregate score in the Earth and Environmental <i>Science</i> WA Certificate of Education

GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA (WA DIVISION) TREASURER'S ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2008

A preliminary Balance Sheet and Profit and Loss Statement for the 2008 calendar year are attached. Our 2008 financial records are currently with the auditor, but unfortunately final audited statements were not received in time for the AGM. I wish to thank Jocelyn Thomson for her accounting skills throughout the year and for providing the attached preliminary statements.

I will highlight the following points from the statements:

- As of 31 December 2008 the WA Division had total equity of \$81,711, this amount being divided between investments with JB Were and our working cheque account.
- Interest paid to our investments and working account totaled \$4,319. Note that with falling interest rates, this figure is likely to be reduced in 2009.
- Membership dues (capitation) received from Head Office amounted to \$7,560.
- The printing and postage cost of the West Australian Geologist (WAG) totaled \$7,785, largely offset by income from advertising totaling \$6,850.
- Accounting fees (\$1,474) include casual hire of an accountant and the annual audit.
- A number of events were subsidized to members including the Annual Dinner, Annual Christmas Cruise jointly held with AIG, and monthly meetings. Such subsidies totaled \$1,498.
- During 2008 the Division made significant donations to Earth Science WA (a consortium set up to promote Earth Science Education in Western Australia), university student associations, donated prizes to the winners of the TEE Prize, GSA Medal, and Talbot Medal, and sponsored 6 students to attend the Australian Earth Science Convention. Such donations totaled \$5,210.
- The net financial result for the WA Division at the end of 2008 was a surplus rounded to \$2,430.

At the end of 2008 the Division's budget remains healthy, but it is always important to remember that making a surplus is not the main function of the Society. We are looking forward to another successful year during 2009 and do not anticipate any major changes in our financial situation.

Peter Haines
Treasurer
Geological Society of Australia – Western Australia Division

Geological Society Australia WA Division

PO Box 6014
East Perth 6892
West Australia

Balance Sheet

As of December 2008

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Assets		
Current Assets		
Cash On Hand		
Commonwealth Bank	\$11,469.53	
Total Cash On Hand	<u>\$11,469.53</u>	
J B Were Call Notes	\$51,390.83	
J B Were Cash Trust	\$13,421.13	
Publications in Stock	\$3,163.00	
Aust Post Biz Account	\$46.00	
Trade Debtors	\$10.00	
Total Current Assets	<u>\$79,500.49</u>	
Total Assets		<u>\$79,500.49</u>
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities		
GST Liabilities		
GST Collected	\$8,777.51	
GST Paid	<u>-\$10,988.51</u>	
Total GST Liabilities	<u>-\$2,211.00</u>	
Total Current Liabilities		<u>-\$2,211.00</u>
Total Liabilities		<u>-\$2,211.00</u>
Net Assets		<u>\$81,711.49</u>
Equity		
Retained Earnings	\$25,996.89	
Current Year Earnings	\$2,429.61	
Historical Balancing	<u>\$53,284.99</u>	
Total Equity		<u>\$81,711.49</u>

Geological Society Australia WA Division

PO Box 6014
East Perth 6892
West Australia

Profit & Loss Statement

1/01/2008 through 31/12/2008

3/03/2009
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Income		
Capitation		\$7,560.00
Subscriptions received		\$20.00
Glover Book		\$145.45
INTEREST		
Interest Com Bank	\$78.71	
J B Were Call Notes Interest	\$3,386.11	
J B Were Cash Trust Interest	\$854.05	
WAG		\$6,850.00
FUNCTIONS		
Annual Dinner	\$3,418.17	
Total Income		<u>\$22,312.49</u>
Cost of Sales		
Gross Profit		<u>\$22,312.49</u>
Expenses		
Accounting Fees		\$1,474.00
Committee Meetings		\$257.05
Reimburse Subs		\$20.00
FUNCTIONS		
Annual Dinner	\$4,134.92	
Xmas Cruise	\$524.55	
DONATIONS/SPONSORSHIP		
Student Prize	\$900.58	
Earth Science WA	\$2,200.00	
Donations Student Bodies	\$300.00	
Student Sponsorship	\$1,809.08	
Miscellaneous		\$272.73
Postage		\$205.23
WAG		\$7,784.74
Total Expenses		<u>\$19,882.88</u>
Operating Profit		<u>\$2,429.61</u>
Other Income		
Other Expenses		
Net Profit / (Loss)		<u>\$2,429.61</u>

WEST AUSTRALIAN GEOLOGIST (WAG) BUSINESS REPORT 2008

The West Australian Geologist (WAG) is the bi-monthly newsletter of the Western Australian Division of the Geological Society of Australia. During 2008 the WAG continued with the format and business model setup in 2006 and 2007. The role of WAG Business Manager continues to be combined with the role of Treasurer. Dr Janet Muhling was Editor throughout the year.

PUBLISHING AND CONTENT

During 2008 the six issues of WAG have run between 12 and 16 pages, and have continued to provide what we hope is a good balance between information on upcoming meetings, articles and advertising. Acquiring good and relevant articles remains one of the more difficult parts of the Editor's job, and I urge all members to keep an eye open for possible contributors/contributions. Our printer, Fineline Print, continues to produce a good quality black and white newsletter, delivered timely in a plastic sleeve. A full colour digital version of the WAG is provided in PDF format for download at our divisional web site (<http://wa.gsa.org.au/>).

ADVERTISING

The printing and postage cost of the WAG is offset with advertising and sponsorship. Companies and organizations that sponsored issues of the WAG during 2008 include Snowden, Maxwell, Australian Mineral Fields, Rocklabs, and the Geological Survey of Western Australia. Other companies and organizations that advertised with us in 2008 included Data Directions, Cross Country Charters, Digirock, DoCEP, IO Global and Aspen Recruitment. I'll take this opportunity to thank all these companies and organizations for their valued support. Many of our former clients have returned to set up deals with WAG in 2009.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

These figures are based on income and expenditure for the year to 31 Dec 2008.

- WAG printing and postage costs 2008: \$7,785
- WAG advertising and sponsorship income 2008: \$6,850
- WAG net loss 2008: -\$935

In summary, WAG has made a small loss in 2008, a result of a slight down turn in the number of advertisers and small increase in overall costs (which vary with each edition and are difficult to project in advance). This result must be seen in the light of the large profit we made in the previous year (\$2,244), and the realization that the main function of the WAG is to serve the members rather than to be a profit making enterprise.

Finally, I'd like to thank again all sponsors and advertisers for their support, our printer, Fineline for efficient service, Janet Muhling for a very professional editing job, and all members who have provided content for the WAG during 2008.

Peter Haines
WAG Business Manager
Geological Society of Australia – Western Australia Division

Awards Sub-Committee Annual Report 2006-2007

The Awards Sub-Committee in 2008-09 comprised Charles Butt (Convenor), Bryan Smith and Nick Archibald.

W.R. Browne Medal

As reported last year, the WA Division successfully nominated Dr Jim Ross for the W.R. Browne Medal for 2008. The W.R. Browne Medal is awarded by the Federal Executive Committee of the Geological Society of Australia every two years, at the Australian Geological Convention, to “a person distinguished for contributions to the geological sciences in Australia”. Fittingly, the Medal was presented to Jim at the Convention in Perth in July 2008, in recognition of his distinguished career in geological research, exploration management and, in particular, his unceasing commitment to policy and planning issues for a wide range of organizations in exploration, mining, research, education and the profession.

Gibb Maitland Medal

Nominations for the 2009 Gibb Maitland Medal closed on 1 December 2008. Three new nominations were received, in addition to others carried over from previous years. The latter had been considered in at least two previous rounds and considered again. Further information was needed for two of the new nominations, so the Awards Sub-Committee was unable to meet until 30 January 2009. The Sub-Committee was pleased at the quality of the new nominations. A unanimous decision to award the medal was reached after a short discussion; no referees reports were needed given the strength of the nomination and the Committee’s professional knowledge of the nominee.

The Sub-Committee is pleased to recommend that the 2009 Gibb Maitland Medal be awarded to Mr. David Philip Commander, Department of Water, Western Australia (nominators Roger Passmore and John Moncrieff).

Philip Commander has made a substantial and sustained contribution to geoscience in Western Australia, particularly in the field of hydrogeology. His career of 38 years with Western Australian Government Departments, including the Geological Survey, Department of Environment and Department of Water, has centred on the groundwater resources of the State. This has encompassed project work, professional papers, contributions to policy, leadership positions within the International Association of Hydrogeologists, training young professionals, courses and workshops, and conference presentations. His major contribution to hydrogeology in Australia has been the inception and encouragement of hydrogeological mapping, for which there was no accepted methodology. He is an acknowledged expert and leader in the hydrology of Western Australia, and has an extensive knowledge of the State’s groundwater resources, saline groundwater evaluation and mine hydrogeology. He has played a major role in providing technical advice to government on the management of the groundwater resources of the Perth area and on the investigation of the SW Yarragadee aquifer. Philip Commander is recommended for the Gibb Maitland medal not only for his technical capabilities but also for the respect in which he is held by his peers for his integrity and dedication to the profession.

The unsuccessful nominations will be eligible for consideration for the 2010 Medal, possibly with some revision.

Charles Butt
Convenor
Awards Sub-Committee
March 2009

Australian Stratigraphy Commission, WA Annual Report 2008

The WA Stratigraphic Names Subcommittee (Roger Hocking, Alan Thorne, Kath Grey) continued through 2008 largely as in previous years, advising on stratigraphic questions as they occasionally arose, suggesting some changes to proposed names where ambiguity was possible, and pointing people at the Stratigraphic Units area and database on the GA website as necessary. Remember there is a lot more there than just a database – guidelines for lithostratigraphy, a back end to the database that provides an instant literature search for a unit, and so on.

Midway through the year at the AESC, Alan Thorne advised that he wished to step down, so the sub-commission currently stands at two. We are not overworked except for brief flurries of activity. Albert Brakel also stood down as national convenor, after a record-breaking number of years. Cathy Brown, who has been associated with the committee off and on for an equally long time, took over the reins.

A few outcomes from the Commission meeting at the AESC in July. Incorrect stratigraphic terminology continues to be submitted to AJES, and it has been suggested that papers with undefined or unreserved new names (you've all heard all of this from me before, ad nauseum) may not be accepted. In particular, the use of "beds" is continuing, for new units rather than historical 'beds'. To the editor, this appears to be a way of avoiding a decision or going to the effort of thinking through and writing an adequate definition. While there is sometimes not enough information to define a unit properly because of geological or structural issues, this is not always the case/excuse. If you do write for AJES, or elsewhere for that matter, please try to avoid "beds". The editor and the Australian Stratigraphy Commission will be much happier. One should always keep the editor happy.

Those maintaining the Canberra database are starting to look at state borders, where a stratigraphic name may abruptly change between states. The Table Hill Volcanics morph into the Kulyong Volcanics, or the Townsend Quartzite into the Pindyin Sandstone. The problem is far worse over east, particularly for South Australia, but there may be minor changes to names you've probably never heard of in Western Australia.

Spelling. The spelling of a stratigraphic name should not change if the spelling, or even the basic name, of the locality after which it is named, is changed (e.g. Kosciusko to Kosciuszko). The spelling will be amended if unavoidable, but not as a matter of course.

Regolith units. These have different underlying concepts to traditional lithostratigraphic units, so any formal stratigraphic framework may be a little or a lot different. The Commission is thinking on it, or who to refer it to.

Roger Hocking
WA Commissioner

**Geological Society of Australia – WA Division
Geological Heritage Subcommittee Convenor
Annual Report for 2008**

Geological Heritage Convenor 2008 activities

During 2008, activities were undertaken on behalf of the Western Australian Division of the Geological Society of Australia (GSA) as outlined by the National Policy published by the GSA:

http://www.gsa.org.au/pdfdocuments/management/POL_heritage_7Mar06.pdf

Within this framework, as Geological Heritage Convenor, I carried out the following:

1. kept up to date with Policies and Legislation, as they relate to geoheritage in Western Australia and Australia, and those promulgated from GSA
2. continued to liaise with the National Convenor and various stakeholders as required in relation to any matters of geoheritage
3. investigated the design of a systematic inventory-based approach to identifying sites of geoheritage significance beyond those identified by Lemmon *et al* (1979) and Carter (1987), including a specific geological region as a pilot study to test the system.
4. represented the Geological Heritage Standing Committee at the 2008 AESC.

2008 Geological Heritage Highlights

Globally, in September 2008, the IUCN incorporated the conservation of geological heritage and geodiversity into its agenda.

Nationally, Environment Australia has recently completed a study identifying places with outstanding karst and pseudokarst values across the continent.

In Western Australia, the DMP initiated action to create a Ministerial Reserve at Jack Hills.

Margaret Brocx
March 2009