

**Geological Society of Australia – Western Australia Division  
2013 Annual General Meeting**



**Location:** *The Irish Club, 61 Townshend Rd, Subiaco*

**Date:** *6.00 pm, Wednesday 3 April 2013*

**Opening: 6.00 pm**

**MINUTES**

**Chair:** Chris Yeats

**• Present:**

Chris Yeats, Nigel Wilson, Caroline Mather, Stephen White, Ian Fordyce, Roger Bateman, Kevin Alexander, Erick Ramanaidov, Cliff Ollier, Charles Butt, Ray Smith, Zheng Xiang Li, Trevor Beardsmore, Javid Sargeant, Margaret Brocx, Bill Allen, Susan Vearncombe, Julian Vearncombe, Des Lascilles, Burnhard Eisenlohr, Xingeh Lin, Milo Baarnham, Douglas Allan

**• Apologies:**

Katy Evans, Angela Halfpenny, Jo Watkins, Stephen Wyche, Paul Askins, Phuong Tram Do, Margaret Brocx, Chris Kirkland, Jane Collins, Roger Hocking

**• Minutes of the 2012 AGM:** Accepted

**• Chairman's Annual Report 2012–2013 – K. Evans**

As per agenda; summary presented by Chris Yeats

**• Treasurer's Annual Report 2012–2013 – S. Wyche**

As per agenda; summary presented by Chris Yeats

**• WAG Business Manager's Report 2012–2013 – C. Kirkland**

As per agenda; summary presented by Chris Yeats

- **WAG Editors' Report 2012–2013 – S. White and R. Bateman**

As per agenda; summary presented by Chris Yeats

- **Subcommittee Annual Reports 2012–2013** — As per agenda

Awards – C. Butt

Geological Heritage – M. Brocx

Education – J. Watkins

Australian Stratigraphy Commission – R. Hocking

- **Confirmation of office bearers for April 2013 to April 2014**

Resignation of Tim Ivanic, Bruce Groenewald, John Doepel from the committee.

Nominations for committee members for 2013–14 presented to meeting. Nominations as per Table 1 of 2013 Chair's report. There were no objections from the floor; all nominees were accepted unanimously.

- **New Members:**

Ramli Moho Osman — full member

Marlene Woligroski — student member

- **Other Business:**

Annual Dinner on 12 April 2013: meeting advised that Friday 5 April 2013 is last date to register for the dinner

Upcoming talks: 1 May 2013: Peter Haines (GSWA) will speak on the Petermann Orogeny

**Formal business closing: 6.15 pm**

- **Seminar: SNOWBALL EARTH, Mike McWilliams of CSIRO**

## SNOWBALL EARTH

**Mike McWilliams**  
**CSIRO**

*mike.mcwilliams@csiro.au*

### ABSTRACT

The late Cryogenian and Ediacaran eras record an enigmatic interval in the Earth's history when glaciation occurred in near-equatorial glaciations close to sea level. These extreme cold climate events were succeeded by deposition of warm-water carbonates and ultimately by the widespread appearance of multicellular animal life.

After decades of investigation, the triggers for glaciation and deglaciation and the existence of a causal link between these extreme events and the creation of conducive to the explosion of complex animal life remain quite controversial. In this talk I summarise new data and recent hypotheses that suggest how post-Marinoan deglaciation might be related to important changes in the late Precambrian hydrosphere, atmosphere and biosphere.

### Biography

Dr Mike McWilliams is Chief of CSIRO Earth Science and Resource Engineering. He leads the Division's staff of at the Australian Resources Research Centre in Perth, the Queensland Centre for Advanced Technologies in Brisbane, and at North Ryde in Sydney and Clayton in Victoria.

Dr McWilliams is an experimental physicist with a well-developed interest in geology and chemistry as applied to earth science. His professional career prior to joining CSIRO was devoted to research and teaching in geophysics and geochemistry, with an emphasis on isotope geochemistry, geomagnetism, potential field methods, rock physics and tectonics. One of his specialities is instrument design and development, from SQUID magnetometers to noble gas mass spectrometers.

Prior to joining CSIRO, Dr McWilliams was Professor of Applied Physics at Curtin University and Director of the John de Laeter Centre of Mass Spectrometry from 2006 to 2008. In 1972 he applied to the University of Toronto with the goal of studying electromagnetic methods, but became attracted to the new and exciting topic of plate tectonics and its potential application to Precambrian terranes. Following MSc research in Canada, he moved to the Australian National University in 1974 to pursue PhD research on Neoproterozoic paleomagnetism, tectonics and paleoclimate in Australia and Africa. In 1977 he joined Stanford University, where he started as a Postdoctoral Research Affiliate and retired as Emeritus Professor.

## Chairman's Report 2012-2013

**Katy Evans**

### *Geological Society of Australia — Western Australian Division*

After my second and final year as GSA-WA Chair, I'd like to thank the members and committee for their input and time over the year, and reflect on some notable highlights. Our new secretary this year, Angela Halfpenny, is particularly thanked, firstly for taking on the task and further, and even more so, for doing such an excellent job of it. Thanks, and farewell, are due to Tim Ivanic, John Doepel and Bruce Groenewald, who have all contributed to the committee over the years. Marcus Willson also left after his year as secretary and he is thanked for his hard work in that post. We have welcomed Trevor Beardsmore and Jane Collins this year, and look forward to their increasing involvement in the future. Tram Do and Caroline Mather, our student representatives from Curtin and the University of Western Australia respectively, are thanked for their time in what is a very busy year for both of them. We are testing a new way to interact with our student committees – members of different years will attend the meetings from time to time as proxies for the formal committee members. This strategy will allow better continuity between years, and reduces the load on individual students. Jocelyn Thomson is also thanked; Jocelyn has done the accounts for the WA-GSA for many years and has provided a sterling service. However, with the shift to more central accounting for the GSA motivated by the governance changes, these tasks, which include dealing with GST, are now dealt with at the federal level.

Chris Yeats is also stepping down from the Vice Chair post to become a non-executive committee member. Chris has spent nine years on the committee in executive posts and he has made the Chair's job so much easier for me by provision of his support, advice and unparalleled corporate memory. Chris is still heavily involved with the GSA at the national level, as a member of both the Governance and Finance and Risk Committees, and is staying on the committee for the WA division as a non-executive member. I am sure he will continue to provide valuable input to the WA division from these positions. Huge thanks are due to Chris from all members of the WA Division!

As ever, we are keen to welcome those interested in joining the committee. Serving as a Committee member or office bearer of the Society is not a particularly onerous or time-consuming task, and can be very rewarding. It provides an opportunity to participate in the running of the Division and a voice in the overall direction of the Society. If you're reading this prior to the AGM and wondering if you can and should contribute, please do! My contact details are on the Divisional website and in each issue of WAG and I would be very happy to talk over the roles and responsibilities of the Committee with any interested party.

High points for the Society this year have been provided by our sponsorship of Curtin fieldtrips to Greenbushes and a field trip to various locations around Perth. The field trip was particularly valuable because it allowed first year students into the field in a relatively small group and with the expert help of accompanying society members. Students were also sponsored to attend the IGC conference in Brisbane. The Earth Sciences WA (ESWA) field guide to the Perth region that we co-sponsored with the federal GSA last year has sold out of the first edition, which is great news. A second edition is, or soon will be, published and available from the GSA online bookshop and outlets that include the Geological Survey of

Western Australia and Boffins bookshop in Hay Street. The Division continued to sponsor school-level interest in the Earth Sciences, with sponsorship of ESWA (Earth Science Western Australia), of the Careers in Geoscience night, and of the recent public lecture by Iain Stewart from the UK. Iain spoke on “How to Grow a Planet –how plants changed Earth history” in an event co-sponsored by most of the Perth geoscience groups. Another highlight was provided by the visit of Scott Halley to Kalgoorlie, where he spoke to around 50 members of the GSA and the AusIMM at Hannan’s Club.

Since 2009, we have held our meetings (and Committee meetings) at the Irish Club in Subiaco. The Irish club provides a venue that is accessible to most of our membership and one allows pre- and post-meeting socialisation. The Irish Club now provides meals on Wednesday nights after the meetings and members are encouraged to stay on at the club for steak and chips – or a vegetarian option if required – at very reasonable prices.

WAG has continued as an online publication. This method of delivery allows us to funnel our advertising revenues straight back into the society for purposes such as student sponsorship, rather than printing and postage. The 500<sup>th</sup> edition of WAG will be the April/May edition this year, and the replication of the very first WAG, which will be included, is a reminder of how far this publication has come since its inception.

This year has been busy for the federal GSA as well, with the combined AESC/IGC in Brisbane, major changes to Governance and the production of a new Climate Change statement. WA members are thanked for their input into both issues. Feedback is now closed for both issues, with the bulk of comments being at least broadly supportive. 54 responses were received to the request for Climate Change Position Statement feedback; Brad Pillans is now working to incorporate suggestions from members into a final document. A final Governance procedures document is also in preparation, and the final version will be available in due course.

The Committee has worked hard to maintain a varied program of monthly meetings over the past 12 months (Table 2), with talks by a mix of speakers from academia, government, and industry covering diverse topics that ranged from solar system formation to geotechnical logging, and with strong contributions as usual, on the ever popular topic of our mineral and energy resources. Congratulations to all those who participated. Details of the talks, including abstracts, are available on our Divisional Website, which has an archive of talk abstracts stretching back to August 2004. I would like to thank all this year’s speakers for their efforts and time, and for the enthusiasm that all brought to their topics.

The 2012 Annual Dinner and Awards Presentation was held on Friday April 10th at the 150 East Riverside Bar Restaurant in Ascot. The dinner was attended by about 60 people, including the winners of most of the Divisional Awards. The 2013 Dinner will be held at the Cottesloe Surf Lifesaving Club, another wonderful location, on Friday 12th April. Once again the Division is presenting all four awards this year (Table 3). The WACE prize, for the Best aggregate score in the Earth and Environmental Science WA Certificate of Education presented a slight difficulty because the top marked student was not eligible for the prize – we will therefore be inviting both Wesley Robert Wardell-Johnson of Willetton Senior High School and Aniket Desai of Kent St Senior High School to the Annual Dinner this year. Lewis Mounsher is the winner of the GSA medal for the Curtin student with highest marks in the final year exam. After consideration of four excellent theses from UWA, Steven Kane was judged winner of the Talbot Prize, for his thesis entitled “*Sedimentological and*

*Geochemical Characterisation of Early Permian Shales, Irwin Terrace, Northern Perth Basin*". I also am pleased to announce that Professor Cam McCuaig of the Centre for Exploration Targeting, will be awarded the 2013 Gibb Maitland Medal for his outstanding contribution to mineral exploration through his application of innovative concepts and his work developing the industry-academia interface. Cam has made significant contributions to studies of the petrogenesis of ultramafic systems, nickel sulphide research and the genesis of gold deposits. More broadly, he has been a leader in studies of mineral systems and the processes of decision-making in exploration targeting. Further details of Cam's achievements are summarized in the Awards Sub-committee report. I look forward to a large turnout to help Cam and the other awardees celebrate on April 12th.

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

On the financial front, the Division recorded a profit of \$1,842.39 for 2012, which makes a pleasant change. Our most significant expenses were donations to support student societies, attendance at conferences, prizes, and talk sponsorship, which came to a total of \$3,900. The annual dinner broke approximately even this year, thanks to \$1000 sponsorship by Integra. The Division is therefore spending the bulk of its funds supporting members and promoting geoscience education in the community, which should please us all. WAG advertising has been the star performer this year, with more than doubled rise in advertising income, from \$2200 in 2011 to \$4,950 this year. These healthy figures are far preferable to the significant losses prior to the shift to online delivery in 2009, and allow us to support students, members and events to greater extents than would be possible otherwise. Chris Kirkland, the WAG advertising manager, is thanked for his efforts in this direction.

It is a privilege to serve as Western Australian Divisional Chair of the GSA and an experience I would recommend to all members. In closing, I once again urge all members to take the opportunity provided by the Society and take a role in its future, by joining the Divisional Committee — whatever your age, gender, or specific area of expertise, we need someone just like you.

***Katy Evans***

***Chairman***

***Geological Society of Australia – Western Australia Division***

Table 1. DIVISIONAL COMMITTEES

| Position                      | 2012–13                       | 2013–2014                     |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Chair                         | Katy Evans (Curtin)           | Trevor Beardsmore (GSWA)      |
| Vice Chair                    | Chris Yeats (CSIRO)           |                               |
| Secretary                     | Marcus Willson (Consultant)   | Angela Halfpenny (CSIRO)      |
| Treasurer                     | Stephen Wyche (GSWA)          | Stephen Wyche (GSWA)          |
| WAG Editor(s)                 | Stephen White (GSWA)          | Stephen White (GSWA)          |
| WAG Business<br>Manager       | Chris Kirkland (GSWA)         | Chris Kirkland (GSWA)         |
| Committee                     | Paul Askins (Consultant)      | Paul Askins (Consultant)      |
|                               | Roger Bateman (Consultant)    | Roger Bateman (Consultant)    |
|                               | John Doepel (Consultant)      | Jane Collins (Consultant)     |
|                               | Tim Ivanic (GSWA)             | Caroline Mather (UWA Student) |
|                               | Caroline Mather (UWA Student) | Douglas Allen (Consultant)    |
|                               | Bruce Groenewald (Consultant) | Tram Do (Curtin student)      |
|                               | Douglas Allen (Consultant)    | Katy Evans (Curtin)           |
|                               | Tram Do (Curtin student)      | Chris Yeats (CSIRO)           |
| Awards                        | Charles Butt (CSIRO)          | Charles Butt (CSIRO)          |
| Education and<br>Vocation     | Joanne Watkins (ESWA)         | Joanne Watkins (ESWA)         |
| Geological Heritage           | Margaret Brocx (Consultant)   | Margaret Brocx (Consultant)   |
| Stratigraphic<br>Nomenclature | Roger Hocking (GSWA)          | Roger Hocking (GSWA)          |

Table 2. MONTHLY MEETINGS, MAY 2012 – APRIL 2013

**2012**

|                |   |   |
|----------------|---|---|
| 4 May          | Scott Halley<br><b>(Gibb Maitland<br/>Presentation)</b> | A 3D mineralogical and geochemical model of the Salt Creek Gold deposit                             |
| 1 June         | Jean-Pierre Burg  | How and why did the Alpine Rhodope collapse during the ore-rich Oligocene times?                    |
| 4 July         | Peter Lane  | The choice at Margaret River was simple — water or coal?  |
| 1 August       | Alastair White  | The nature and origin of gold mineralization at Damangmine: A new style of gold deposit in Ghana    |
| 5<br>September | Phil Bland  | Testing models of solar system formation and evolution by analysis of meteorites                    |
| 3 October      | John Bunting  | Hard rock, soft rock and the swinging monkey – a miscellany from the Perth Field Guide, and more... |
| 7<br>November  | Domenik Wolff-Boenisch                                  | Mineral sequestration of carbon dioxide in basalt: a pre-injection overview of the CarbFix project  |
| 7 December     | <b>Joint AIG-GSA Christmas Cruise</b>                   |   |

**2013**

|            |                               |   |
|------------|-------------------------------|---|
| 6 February | Mike Harris                   | Geotechnical Logging, Analysis and its Uses – Information for Geologists  |
| 6 March    | Milo Barham                   | Conodonts, fishy bits and Ireland: paleoclimatic time capsules resolve the Carboniferous glaciation (and help inform our climate future?) |
| 3 April    | <b>Annual General Meeting</b> |   |
|            | Mike<br>McWilliams            | Snowball Earth  |

Table 3. DIVISIONAL AWARDS 2012

| <b>Award</b>              | <b>2012<br/>Recipient</b>               | <b>Basis for the award</b>   |
|---------------------------|---|--|
| Gibb<br>Maitland<br>Medal | Cam<br>McCuaig                          | Substantial contributions to geoscience in Western Australia,<br>with particular consideration given to contributions that<br>relate to the occurrence or discovery of mineral resources |
| Talbot<br>Prize           | Steven Kane                             | Best Honours thesis at The University of Western Australia<br>with a significant fieldwork component   |
| GSA Medal                 | Lewis<br>Mounsher                       | Best undergraduate results in the final year of the BSc<br>(Applied Geology) degree at Curtin University of<br>Technology  |
| WACE<br>Prize             | Wesley<br>Robert<br>Wardell-<br>Johnson | Best aggregate score in the Earth and Environmental Science<br>WA Certificate of Education   |

## Treasurers Report

Stephen Wyche

### ***GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA (WA DIVISION) TREASURER'S ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2012-2013***

The GSA (WA Division) maintained a healthy financial position in 2012. The new financial reporting arrangements have been fully implemented and appear to be working well.

At the end of 2012, JB Were suggested that we close one of our Goldman Sachs accounts because Goldman Sachs were no longer going to offer the service. This matter was dealt with in early 2013. When I looked at Portfolio Valuation from JB Were that we were sent last year, I noticed that their statement included an amount of about \$66,000 in two Town and Country WA Bank accounts. I had never heard of these accounts and so queried the statement. I was told by JB Were that the accounts do not exist and it was some sort of computer error which they will rectify before sending me the 2012 valuation.

Financial highlights for 2012 include:

- As of 31 December 2011, the WA Division had total equity of \$80,726.63, this amount being divided between investments with JB Were and our working cheque account.
- Interest paid to our investments accounts totaled \$2,390.
- Membership dues (capitation) received from Head Office amounted to \$5,190.
- Advertising income from the West Australian Geologist (WAG) totaled \$4,950.
- The Annual Dinner and Awards Night broke roughly even (including costs of prizes and medals). However, this was due to a \$1000 donation from Integra Mining Ltd.
- The Division paid \$522.50 towards the subsidy of the joint GSA/AIG river cruise function.
- During 2011 the Division made significant donations to university student associations to support student field trips (\$500); provided a bursary of \$1000 for a student to attend the IGC (\$1000) and \$250 for a Ugandan student to also attend the IGC; supported Margaret Brocx (Heritage Committee) to attend a Landscape meeting in Albany (\$350); some financial support for a guest speaker on the Murchison hydro drilling program for the International Association of Hydrogeologists (\$200); and student prizes (\$600). The total amount provided for sponsorship of events, assistance of various kinds to students and for prizes was \$3900.
- The Division also paid the airfare for Gibb Maitland Award winner to fly to Kalgoorlie to present an address at a joint meeting with the AusIMM. The meeting was well attended and the talk well received.
- We also finalized our commitments to Jocelyn Thomson for the services she has provided which are no longer required as a result of the new accounting arrangements.
- The net financial result for the WA Division at the end of 2010 was a profit of \$1,842.39 which represents the difference between 2011 total equity (\$78,884.24) and 2012 total equity (\$80,726.63).

At the end of 2012, the Division's overall budget remains in good shape, with no outstanding financial issues of concern. The only other matter to be dealt with is the updating of the signatories of the various bank and investment accounts. I have obtained details of how to do this from for the JB Were accounts and will do it for both these accounts and our Commonwealth bank cheque account during 2013.

*Stephen Wyche*

*Treasurer*

*Geological Society of Australia – Western Australia Division*

## **WAG Business Manager Report**

**Chris Kirkland**

### ***WEST AUSTRALIAN GEOLOGIST (WAG) BUSINESS REPORT 2012-2013***

The West Australian Geologist (WAG) is the bi-monthly newsletter of the Western Australian Division of the Geological Society of Australia.

#### **PUBLISHING AND CONTENT**

During 2012 the six issues of WAG have been published, and have continued to provide an excellent 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. During 2012 WAG has continued to be distributed as an online-only magazine to defray printing costs, reduce the work load on editors and to make communication more rapid. Current and previous editions of WAG back to June 2005 are available from <http://www.wa.gsa.org.au/WAG.html>

#### **ADVERTISING**

Companies and organizations that sponsored issues of the WAG during 2012 include the Geological Survey of Western Australia, Digirock and HMR drilling who advertised with us throughout the year. CSIRO also took out several one off adverts.

#### **FINANCIAL SUMMARY**

The figures below are based on invoices issued for the year to 31 Dec 2012.

- WAG income from advertising and sponsorship 2012: \$4,950

Although advertising is up this year WAG has still had difficulty in attracting clients for advertising in 2012. The WAG offers a great opportunity to advertise products and services to geologists and related disciplines within Western Australia. I would encourage the members of the society to consider advertising in WAG or promoting it to other potential clients for adverts.

Finally, I'd like to thank again all of our 2012 sponsors and advertisers for their support and the editors for a very professional editing job, and all members who have provided content for the WAG during 2012.

***Chris Kirkland***

***WAG Business Manager***

***Geological Society of Australia – Western Australia Division***

## **WAG Editor's Report**

**Stephen White and Roger Bateman**

### *West Australian Geologist (WAG) Editors' Report for Year 2012–13*

The West Australian Geologist (WAG) has continued in a steady and regular fashion, publishing issue numbers 494–499 over the past 12 months. The editorial tasks have been shared between Roger Bateman and Stephen White, with the latter mainly responsible for layout and production of the PDF. Assistance from Doug Allan with uploading the newsletter to the GSA-WA website has been much appreciated.

We acknowledge the on-going support from, and extend our thanks to, advertising sponsors Digirock, HMR Drilling, and the Geological Survey of Western Australia.

The editors are very appreciative of semi-regular and occasional articles contributed by subcommittee convenors, and especially reports from Curtin and The University of Western Australia student groups. These reports include field trips near Perth, and a mine site visit in the Kalgoorlie region.

WAG has now reached a milestone in its long and illustrious publication history — the April/May 2013 issue is its 500th. Since about the late 1990s, the appearance of your division newsletter has undergone a makeover, becoming a more colourful and somewhat longer publication than previously. We think the present look has worn well, and we don't see any need to modify radically. In future, WAG may be published solely as an online eNewsletter, but the downloadable PDF style seems to be working well for the time being.

Overall, prospects for WAG look good for the next 500 issues — most particularly if there are varied and quality contributions from the membership. Indeed, at the current rate of six releases per year, WAG is likely to easily outlive its current editors...

*Stephen White and Roger Bateman*

*WAG Co-editors*

*Geological Society of Australia – Western Australia Division*

## SubCommittee Reports

### Awards Subcommittee

#### Charles Butt

#### *GIBB MAITLAND MEDAL, 2013*

The Awards Sub-Committee (Charles Butt, Nick Archibald and Bryan Smith) has the role of selecting the Gibb Maitland medallist. Four nominations were considered, including one updated nomination from last year. The quality of this year's nominees was very high, appropriate for maintaining the prestige of the Award, making our decision this year much more difficult. The Sub-Committee is pleased to recommend that the 2013 Gibb Maitland Medal be awarded to **Professor T. Campbell McCuaig**, Director, Centre for Exploration Targeting, School of Earth and Environment, University of Western Australia (nominated by Jon Hronsky).

The suggested citation is as follows:

\*\*\*\*\*

Professor Thompson Campbell McCuaig is awarded the 2013 Gibb Maitland Medal for his outstanding contributions to geoscience in Western Australia and to his commitment to industry-focussed research. He has over 20 years of academic and industry experience in Archaean and Proterozoic geology, principally in Western Australia, and has made significant contributions to studies of the petrogenesis of ultramafic systems, nickel sulphide research and the genesis of gold deposits. More broadly, he has been a leader in studies of mineral systems and the processes of decision-making in exploration targeting. Prior to becoming the inaugural Director of the Centre for Exploration Targeting, University of Western Australia in 2005, Professor McCuaig had a highly successful nine-year career with SRK Consulting, applying high-quality geoscience to industry problems from regional to mine scales. At the CET, he has pioneered a new paradigm for the interface between industry and the academic and research communities. The Centre currently has over 70 corporate members and some 40 FTE staff, with direct industry involvement at many levels of its operations. It is noted for the high quality of its science, with outputs that are highly valued by the exploration community, and has attracted visiting fellows of international status, with significant benefits to Western Australian research and exploration.. This success owes much to Professor McCuaig's vision, his research leadership and his strategic, management and mentoring skills. Professor Campbell McCuaig is a deserving recipient of the 2013 Gibb Maitland Medal.

*Charles Butt*

*Awards Sub-Committee Chair*

*Geological Society of Australia – Western Australia Division*

## Heritage Subcommittee

Margaret Brocx

### ***GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA – WA DIVISION – GEOHERITAGE REPORT 2012-2013***

This year's focus continued along the following lines: 1. seeking opportunities to raise the level of awareness of the positive contribution of that geologists and Earth scientists have made to environmental management, 2. activities associated with enquiries relating to sites that at present have no formal conservation status, 3. participating, facilitating, and helping coordinate in the Geoheritage, Geodiversity and Geoconservation sessions at the IGC held in Brisbane in August, and 4. contributing information to the commissioned essay entitled 'Conserving Australia's Geoheritage', as a component of the development of a National Heritage Strategy for the Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities, by Graeme Worboys.

Following on from a partnership developed between the GSA and the Australian National Landscape Programme Managers, the Australian National Landscape (ANL) Programme has yet to present itself as an opportunity for the GSA (WA) to become involved. However there is an opportunity for participation in the National Rock Garden where additional input and sponsorship is being sought.

The National Rock Garden (NRG) is the single largest project undertaken by the Geological Society of Australia during its 50 year history and more suggestions for rocks are being sought from all interested parties. What rock(s) would you like to see in the NRG to represent the State or region, your industry, or your scientific interests? Please ensure that your suggestions provide appropriate information addressing the selection criteria and include formal registered name and photographs. If you can guide the NRG coordinators to the best place to collect your suggested specimens, or if you can connect them with someone who can or someone to help fund the operation, please get in touch with Margaret Brocx [geoheritage@iinet.net.au](mailto:geoheritage@iinet.net.au) or through [rockgarden@gsa.org.au](mailto:rockgarden@gsa.org.au)

On a final note, in the essay entitled 'Conserving Australia's Geoheritage', as a component of the development of a National Heritage Strategy, Graeme Warboys concluded that "*Australia's geoheritage is part of our national heritage and part of what makes our country special. It needs to be officially recognised, listed, adequately protected and effectively managed, and it needs to be celebrated as an integral part of the richness of being Australian*". (For the full essay see <http://www.environment.gov.au/heritage/strategy/pubs/essay-conserving-worboys.pdf>)

***Margaret Brocx***

***Geoheritage Convener***

***Geological Society of Australia – Western Australia Division***

## **Education Subcommittee**

**Joanne Watkins**

### ***Education Subcommittee Report 2012-2013***

2012 was a very busy year in the education space.

The annual Careers In Geoscience night was held at the City West Reception Centre, in August, providing a large number of Year 10-12 students (4-6pm) and university students (6-8pm) access to companies and education providers. With a few attendees as young as 10 joining the high school group, the enthusiasm of students was once again apparent, with some travelling from as far as Bunbury. The 2012 event was led by PESA with the GSA once again promoting it to schools.

The 2013 event will be led by a joint committee comprising representative/s from each professional association and will take on a more interactive format, in response to participant feedback from the 2011 and 2012 events.

The joint Curtin-UWA student field trip to Rottnest was not run in 2012 but the committee was pleased to support several field trips run by student groups in various locations.

*A Field Guide to Perth and Surrounds* originally printed due to the co-sponsorship, of the WA Branch and Federal GSA, was reprinted in 2012. The field guide is still available through the GSA online bookshop, Publications Counter at Mineral House Perth, the Science Teacher's Association of WA, the Earth Science Museum at UWA and Boffins Bookshop in Hay Street. It has been purchased by teachers, tourists, conference organisers as attendee gifts and the GSWA to assist with the further education of support staff. The next field guide, to the south-west, is planned for publication during mid-late 2013.

***Joanne Watkins***

***Education Subcommittee Chair***

***Geological Society of Australia – Western Australia Division***

## **Australian Stratigraphy Commission Subcommittee**

**Roger Hocking**

### *Australian Stratigraphy Commission Subcommittee Report 2012-2013*

2012 proceeded much as previous years, with occasional queries via email. Kath Grey retired at the start of 2013, leaving Roger Hocking as the only member of the WA sub-commission. Peter Haines has kindly agreed to take Kath's place.

The usual requests stand:

- please check the Australian Stratigraphic Names database on the Geoscience Australia site before finalizing your choice of stratigraphic name,
- please reserve the name and state what it is for roughly, after you've confirmed a name is available,
- please advise Cathy Brown or Ollie Raymond at GA when you have a publication appear with new or revised lithostratigraphic terminology (it makes their life indexing much easier), and
- please provide adequate details of type area/section, derivation of name, contact relationships, age, etc when you publish a name if you don't fill out a definition card in hardcopy or online.

***Roger Hocking***

***Australian Stratigraphy Commission Subcommittee Chair  
Geological Society of Australia – Western Australia Division***