



The Queensland Geologist

Bi-monthly Newsletter of the Queensland Division of the Geological Society of Australia Inc.

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Nominations for AGM – be on the committee!

50 ways to tell if you're a geologist

Want to receive this via E-mail?

IMPORTANT DATES:

Wednesday March 20th Awards Night

Wednesday April 17th Annual General Meeting

Where: The Irish Club, 175 Elizabeth Street, Brisbane

Time: 5:15pm for 6pm

Cost: \$ 6 members, \$8 non-members, \$4 students



Venus Mills sketch by Eric Heidecker

WORDS

From the Chair



It is with great pleasure that in this issue of TGQ we are able to officially announce the winners of our inaugural GSAQ awards and invite everyone to an awards night on Wednesday March 20th to celebrate. It is almost two years since the committee first began discussing the idea of having our own divisional awards and finally they have come to fruition. Congratulations to our first winners. You'll have to keep reading to find out who they are!

Our newsletter is a bit late so I can only give an afterview of our February Darwin Day experiment. We had a meeting at the Theodore Club where everyone was invited to bring their favourite rock to talk about. It was an informal gathering but a good time was had by all – thanks to Paul Blake, the driving force behind what we hope to make an annual celebration.

Of course it is that time of year again – nomination time. Next month, April, we will have our Annual General meeting. Enclosed (or attached to this e-mail) is a copy of the nomination form for this year. It can also be downloaded from the web. I have now served two terms as Chair and am stepping down from the position. I am also relinquishing the duties of newsletter editor so we desperately need some volunteers to step in a fill the breach! Many of our committee members have been forced to take on extended terms to ensure that we have a divisional committee so, if you value the division, please put your name forward to help us out on the committee.

Now is an appropriate time for me to once again thank the hard working members who have sacrificed their time to help keep the division running smoothly and to support the many new initiatives we have trialled this year. First, a big thank you to Ian Withnall, our Honorary Secretary, without whom, nothing would get done. Friedrich von Gneilinski has done an outstanding job juggling our accounts and

membership records – a mammoth task! Paul Blake has kept our webpages up-to-date and continues to add interesting content. The rest of our committee have all contributed in numerous ways to the upkeep of the Division, Laurie Hutton tackles the big job of coordinating our GSAQ and student medal winners, Matthew Ng took on the challenge of organising Earth Science Week activities, David O'Connell is trialling some ideas through our Education subcommittee and Kyle Waye continues to provide us with useful input from Rockhampton! Kaia Little, Chris Towsey, Gregg Webb, John Jell and Ian Miles have all contributed to our success volunteering numerous hours of their time – thank you. I would like to send a special thank you to Warwick Willmott who continues, in an unofficial capacity, to single-handedly look after all our publications.

Anyway, it has been a pleasure to work with the current committee and I will be sad to step down as chair of such a wonderful group. Tune in next issue for full details of the GSAQ award winners and our first awards evening.

Sue Key (chair GSAQ)

Welcome New Members

The Queensland Division is pleased to announce the following new members:

Kenneth G. Wood	Retired member
Michelle Hough	Student member
David Harris	Student member

Transfers:

David O'Connell	Ordinary to Retired
Chris Armit	Student to Ordinary
Peter O'Rourke	Ordinary to Retired

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GSAQ Awards Night

Wednesday 20th March

Where: The Irish Club, 175 Elizabeth Street

Time: 5:15pm for 6pm

Cost: \$ 6 members, \$8 non-members, \$4 students

Will you feed me? Yes – light finger food

What about drinks? A cash bar is available.

Why: It's Prize night!

It is with great pleasure that we can finally announce that our 2002 Dorothy Hill and N.C. Stevens medal winners are:

Inaugural Dorothy Hill medal for
Queensland Geology

– **Assoc. Prof. John Jell**

Inaugural N.C. Stevens medal for
community contribution

– **Warwick Willmott**

Congratulations John and Warwick!

The evening will feature a presentation by Dr Alex Cook, Queensland Museum, talking about "Eliot" the sauropod fossil. We are lucky enough to have Dr Neville Stevens attending the evening and along with our inaugural awards we

will also be presenting our student prizes so please come along.

Annual General Meeting + Forum on the future of geology in Queensland

Wednesday 17th April

Where: The Irish Club, 175 Elizabeth Street

Time: 5:15pm for 6pm

Cost: \$ 6 members, \$8 non-members, \$4 students

Will you feed me? Yes – light finger food

What about drinks? A cash bar is available.

Why: Help your committee!

Included with this newsletter you should have received a nomination form for this year's GSAQ committee. Please nominate yourself or someone else for a position or pass this along to a member that you think will contribute to our Division.

Instead of an address by the retiring Chair (you all heard that one last year), this year's meeting will feature a forum on the future of Earth Sciences in Queensland. Featuring a range of invited guests from education, government and industry and open to comments from the floor. We will circulate information about the forum participants closer to the event.

50 Reasons Why You Might Be A Geologist

1. The baggage handlers at the airport know you by name and refuse to help with your luggage.
2. The local university's geology dept. requests permission to hold field trips in your yard.
3. The rockpile in your garage is taller than you .
4. The USGS identifies your collection as a major contributing factor to isostasy in your state.
5. There's a copy of Dana's Manual next to your toilet.
6. There's amethyst in your aquarium.
7. They won't give you time off from work to attend the Gem & Mineral Show and you go anyway.
8. You associate the name "Franklin" with New Jersey instead of "Ben".
9. You associate the word "hard" with a value on the Mohs scale instead of "work".
10. You associate the word "saw" with diamonds instead of "wood".
11. You begin fussing because the light strips you installed on your bookshelves aren't full spectrum.
12. You begin wondering what a complete set of the Mineralogical Record is worth and when you find out, you actually consider paying it.
13. You can point out where Tsumeb is on a world globe.
14. You can pronounce the word "molybdenite" correctly on the first try.
15. You consider a "recent event" to be anything that has happened in the last hundred thousand years.
16. You decide not to get married because you'd rather keep the rock.
17. You don't think of "cleavage" the same way everyone else does.
18. You find yourself compelled to examine individual rocks in driveway gravel.

19. You get excited when you discover a hardware store that stocks 16 pound sledge hammers and 5 foot long pry bars.
 20. You have a strong opinion as to whether pieces of concrete are properly called "rocks".
 21. You have ever been on a field trip that included scheduled stops at a gravel pit and/or a liquor store.
 22. You have ever found yourself trying to explain to airport security that a rock hammer isn't really a weapon.
 23. You have ever had to respond "yes" to the question, "What have you got in here, rocks?"
 24. You have ever hung a picture using a Brunton as a level.
 25. You have ever taken a 22-passenger van over "roads" that were really intended only for cattle.
 26. You know hundreds of words for different sorts of dirt and hundreds of words for things it does when left alone for a few million years.
 27. You know the location of every rock shop within a 100-mile radius of your home.
 28. You never throw away anything.
 29. You own more pieces of quartz than underwear.
 30. You receive a letter from the city council informing you a landfill permit is required to put any more rocks on your property.
 31. You shouted "Obsidian!" to a full theatre while watching "The Shawshank Redemption".
 32. You think Franklin, New Jersey might be a cool place to go on a vacation.
 33. You think the primary function of road cuts is tourist attractions.
 34. You were the only member of the group who spent their time looking at cathedral walls through a pocket magnifier during your trip to Europe.
 35. You will walk across eight lanes of freeway traffic to see if the outcrop on the other side of the highway is the same type of rock as the side you're parked on.
 36. Your children are named Rocky, Jewel, and Beryl.
 37. Your collection of beer cans and/or bottles rivals the size of your rock collection.
 38. Your employer has asked you not to bring any more rocks to the office until they have time to reinforce the floor.
 39. Your idea of a "quiet, romantic evening at home" involves blue mineral tack & thumbnail boxes.
 40. Your internet home page has pictures of your rocks.
 41. Your photos include people only for scale and you have more pictures of your rock hammer and lens cap than of your family.
 42. Your rock garden is located inside your house.
 43. Your spelling checker has a vocabulary that includes the words "polymorph" and "pseudomorph".
 44. You're planning on using a pick and shovel while you're on vacation.
 45. You're retired and still thinking of adding another room to your house.
 46. You've ever purchased an individual, unfaceted rock, regardless of the price.
 47. You've ever spent more than ten dollars for a book about rocks.
 48. You've fabricated a backpack for your dog.
 49. You've installed more than one mineralogical database program on your computer.
- And the #1 sign you might be a geologist:**
50. You have ever uttered the phrase "have you tried licking it?" with no sexual connotation involved.

Failed E-mails

The following members have been on the list of those receiving their newsletter by E-mail. However, if you are on this list and received this month's newsletter in hard copy it means your e-mail bounced last time a notice was sent out. In most cases, it is because the host no longer recognises your name (you may have left the company or institution or simply changed your ISP) or the "host is unrecognised" (your ISP no longer exists or has changed its name). In some cases, the user(s) account is temporarily over quota. In this case, it would be a good idea to clear out your mailbox - it's probably stopping you getting other e-mail.

PLAYFORD, Geoffrey	ENGLAND, Dick	Ipswich Grammar School
CAMPBELL, Lorraine	MOORE, Geoffrey	MILNES, Tony
O'BRIEN, Fergus	RIDGWAY, Matthew	

If you currently receive your newsletter by snail mail, but would now like to have it e-mailed, please let Ian Withnall know. You will generally receive it sooner, you will be able to see it in living colour and you will be saving the Qld Division money.

QUEENSLAND COMMITTEE 2000-2001

<i>Position</i>	<i>Phone</i>	<i>Fax</i>	<i>E-mail</i>
Chairman			
Dr Susan Keay	3365 3057	3365 1277	sue@earth.uq.edu.au
Vice-Chairman			
	vacant		
Secretary			
Mr Ian Withnall	3222 2400	3235 4074	ian.withnall@nrm.qld.gov.au
Treasurer			
Mr Friedrich von Gnielinski	3237 1497	3235 4074	friedrich.vongnielinski@nrm.qld.gov.au
Membership Secretary			
Mr Friedrich von Gnielinski	3237 1497	3235 4074	friedrich.vongnielinski@nrm.qld.gov.au
Note: Friedrich is also responsible for GSA Qld Division Video library.			
Newsletter Editor			
	vacant		
Committee Members			
A/Prof. John Jell	33651188	33651277	j.jell@earth.uq.edu.au
Mr Matthew Ng			s350788@student.uq.edu.au
Dr Gregg Webb	3864 2804		ge.webb@qut.edu.au
Mr Chris Towsey			ctowsey@hotmail.com
Ms Kaia Little			s350369@student.uq.edu.au
Central Queensland Regional Representative			
Mr Kyle Waye			Kyle.J.Waye@mainroads.qld.gov.au
North Queensland Regional Representative			
	vacant		
Webmaster			
Mr Paul Blake and Mr Ian Miles			paul.blake@nrm.qld.gov.au
Education subcommittee			
Dr David O'Connell			d.oconnell@qut.edu.au
Awards Convenor			
Mr Laurie Hutton	32371412		laurie.hutton@nrm.qld.gov.au
GSA Publications			
Mr Warwick Willmott	32371592	32370470	warwick.willmott@nrm.qld.gov.au

We would like to encourage our Queensland members to submit articles they think are of interest to the Qld division on any subject relevant to Earth Sciences. You can send your contributions to our Newsletter Editor. General correspondence should be addressed to our secretary: Mr Ian Withnall, GPO Box 1820, Brisbane Qld 4001.

For subscription and address changes please contact the GSA's main office:

Misha Frankel, Business Manager, GSA, 706 Thakral House, 301 George St, Sydney, NSW 2000
Ph. (02) 92902194 Fax. (02) 92902198 Email: misha@gsa.org.au

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Size	width x height	1 issue	12 months
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