



Lisa Worrall

Thank you to all the *Preview* readers who gave me feedback on the last edition. The feedback was overwhelmingly positive although a number of readers did express concern about not receiving an email alert when the August issue of *Preview* became available online (26 August). It would seem that there was a slip between the CSIRO Publishing cup and ASEG Members' lips. If you didn't receive an email alert then the short term fix is to submit/re-submit a request to receive an alert from CSIRO at <http://www.publish.csiro.au/?nid=25&aid=685>. In the longer term the ASEG Publications Committee, emboldened by the Federal Executive, will look at improving and, in particular,

speeding up online access to *Preview* content.

This issue of *Preview* is bulging at the seams. There is something for everybody from tales of geophysical adventures, a look over Richard Lane's shoulder at a WA workshop on inversion, a how-to guide (on using AEM for potash exploration), the latest from the surveys (including a progress report on deep seismic reflection transects), and yes, as promised, an analysis of the proposed Exploration Development Incentive scheme. The Federal Government obviously hopes that this scheme will give junior exploration companies a much needed injection of funds – and all power to their arm!

Whilst Minister McFarlane is obviously aware that juniors play an important role in making mineral discoveries and ensuring the mining industry has a future in Australia, he is less obviously aware that government sponsored research and development is also important. Roger Henderson gives us an insight into the effectiveness of government sponsored R&D by tracing the history of the development of SIROTEM; a remarkable piece of engineering developed by what

was a remarkable team at CSIRO. The development of the TEMPEST AEM system is also a remarkable story, which I hope will be told in a future edition. Sadly, the CSIRO team of geophysicists has largely been disbanded, but we are given a hint of what the future of government sponsored R&D could be in Australia by perusing the presentations given at the UNCOVER Summit and Workshop in Adelaide earlier this year. These presentations are published in their entirety in an online supplement to *Preview* and I would encourage you to take a look.

The next issue of *Preview* also promises to be a bumper edition with Don Emerson providing a marvellous holiday read: 'The Lodestone, from Plato to Kircher'. Speaking of holidays, and of holiday drinking, the SA Branch of the ASEG has taken one for the team, sampled numerous SA wines and selected two for the 2014 ASEG Wine Offer (www.aseg.org.au click on 'Wine Offer'). The selected wines are very good value for money but remember, first-come first-served!

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