

Tell me what you really think!

This is my first *Preview* piece as president of the ASEG and I write it while flying back to Perth after a few days in the PNG highlands. A country that has earned number one billing in the collection of customs stamps in my passport and accounts for its fair share of the scars I wear.

I have to confess to not having read a lot of past President's Pieces so for those of you that don't skip this and just jump to the feature articles I apologise in advance if I'm re-telling old tales. I'm sure though that if I do, you'll tell me.

Other than the normal routine business of the Federal Executive (FedEx) we have a couple of big items to grapple with this year, our website and our publications.

As many of you have already noted our existing website is sub-optimal. Staz did a great job in getting it up in short order and maintaining it but it has reached its use by date and we cannot expect volunteers to do the work needed to add the functionality you are asking for. Carina Kemp has replaced globetrotting Staz as our new webmaster and is overseeing the design of a totally new site, which we hope will be online by July. There will no doubt be things you would like to add to this site once it becomes live and I'd encourage your thoughts on how we might improve it. I'm not guaranteeing to implement them all but if you don't ask you don't get. You can send your thoughts to me at my home email, which I use to try and separate ASEG business from consulting business, kfrankcombe@iinet.net.au, or direct to Carina's webmaster email, asegwebmaster@gmail.com. In the interests of Carina's sanity and to save her telling me what she really thinks, you might wait until the new site is live before sending ideas, as we have locked in the specifications for the first pass in order to get something up and running. If we try and adapt as each suggestion comes in then the next President or the one after will be writing the same story in their *Preview* column.

The other major issue facing the FedEx this year is our publications contract, which is up for renewal. The Publications committee, headed by Phil Schmidt, is in the final stages of deciding on a publisher for *Exploration Geophysics*, *Preview* and the *Membership Directory*. At the same time they are juggling with options for increasing our online presence through the SEG web portal and possibly also through Geoscience World. These discussions have the potential to impact on download revenues for our publisher, so are being followed with interest by the final tenderers for the publications contract. The FedEx have also been muttering for some time about the move to digital access only as an option to reduce our publications budget – our single biggest cost. There is no suggestion that we would stop printing paper copies, just that we offer a digital only option for those interested, with the carrot of lower registration fees.

The digital only option then opens up a new set of questions as to whether we should give new members access to old material or make them serve some form of probation and only be allowed to access recent articles for a period. Personally I'm not enthusiastic about that idea and I have not detected much support for it on the FedEx. Another question that arises is how does someone whose membership lapses access material from when they were a member? Added to these is the question of offline access to digital material. This is one of my hobby horses as I spend time working from client's remote field camps where internet access is not always high speed or reliable, despite modern satellite communications. One way to address the latter two issues is for the society to release an annual compilation of our publications on CD with cumulative DVDs produced every 10 years. Again, I personally like that approach – what do you think?

I'd also be interested in understanding how you read *Preview* and *Exploration Geophysics*; direct from the published paper copy, on your screen or e-reader or

by the tree hugger's nightmare, downloading the digital version and printing it off? I'm a member of six geoscience societies and for those that I have elected to receive the paper copies of the journal, I read the paper copy but otherwise I tend to print off digital copies. However, I only print off the technical papers, not the equivalent of the more easy reading type of material that is published here in *Preview*. I tend to read the newsy, less technical publications, like this, when I travel while the more solid technical articles either get read while trying to solve a particular problem or also on the plane, but only early in the trip while I can still hold a thought for more than a couple of pages. For those societies that only publish online versions of their newsletters, I tend to scan them quickly with the scroll wheel on the mouse and possibly save a copy in case there is something I later find I need but don't read them in any depth. What do you do and what could the ASEG do that would make you wish you had written and told me what you really think before we decided to do it?

That is probably enough for you to stew over for one edition. I look forward to your emails telling me what you really think. I'll try and find time to respond to those not rejected by the Bayesian junk filter in my mail client!



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New Preview Editor – John A. Theodoridis



John A. Theodoridis

In 1997, John Theodoridis completed an Honours Degree in Science at Monash University specialising in applied and computational mathematics. His Honours project entitled 'Planetary Magnetism – The Thermal Evolution of Ganymede'

explored the hypothesis that the magnetic field of the Galilean satellite, discovered by the Galileo spacecraft in 1996, is an ancient thermo-remnant Jovian-induced field as opposed to one that is generated by magneto-hydrodynamic mechanisms. Then, in 2005, he refined his interests in planetary science and completed a PhD in geophysics entitled 'Borehole Electromagnetic Prospecting for Weak Conductors' – research that investigated survey designs that permitted the detection of mineralisation by electromagnetic methods that are otherwise invisible to traditional inductive techniques. Finally, in 2009, he completed a Graduate Diploma of

Education (Applied Learning) in secondary teaching.

John's stewardship toward the ASEG commenced in October 2010 when he assumed his current role of Victorian Branch Secretary, and more recently in February 2012 when he accepted a seat on the ASEG 2013 Conference Organising Committee. He brings to his new role as Editor of *Preview* a dedication to its readers and a desire to promote the science of geophysics by fostering communication, discussions and the entertainment of novel techniques and ideas, along with their possible application within the wider community.

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Treasurers Annual Report for 2012 AGM

Audited financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2011 for the Australian Society of Exploration Geophysicists were presented to the ASEG's AGM on 3 April 2012.

The financial statements refer to the consolidated funds held by the society as a whole, including the State branches. An audited version of the profit and loss statement and end of year balance sheet will be placed on the Society's website.

The Society's funds are used to promote, throughout Australia, the science and profession of geophysics. In 2011 this was achieved by:

- funding the publications: *Exploration Geophysics*, *Preview* and the *Membership Directory*;
- supporting the functions of State Branches;
- funding the national administration of the Society;
- funding continuing education programs;
- provision of loans and grants for conventions;

- provision of subsidies for student members; and
- support for the ASEG Research Foundation.

The Income Statement for the year shows a net deficit of \$100 813. The end of year balance shows a Total Equity of \$1 009 913 as of 31 December 2011, compared with \$1 110 727 to the end of 2010. The result is much better than the budgeted deficit of \$144 100, largely due to the additional income from branch events.

The Society's revenue source continues to be derived from:

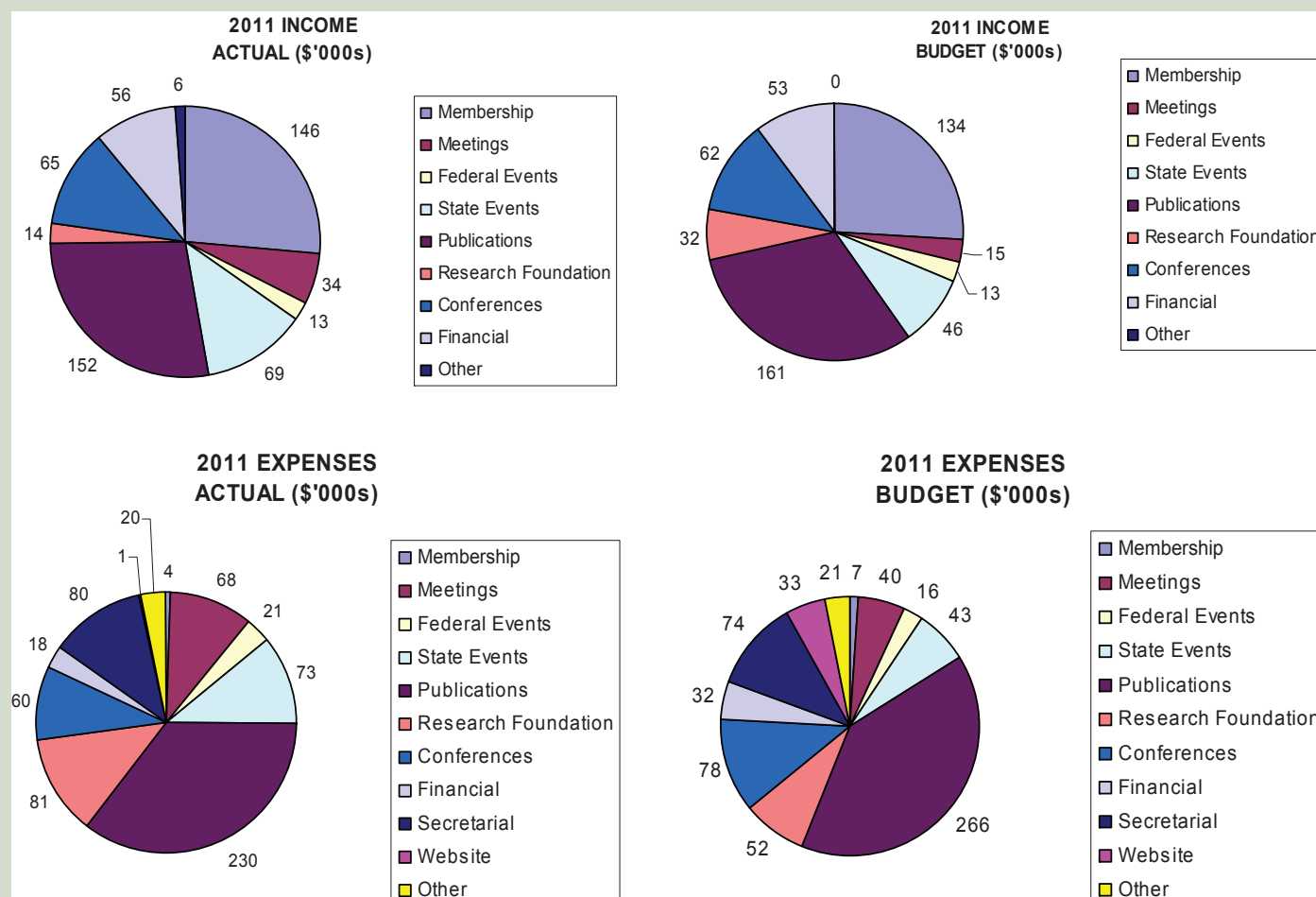
- publications advertising – \$152 000 (94% of budget);
- membership subscriptions – \$146 000 (109% of budget);
- events and sponsorship – \$116 000 (157% of budget);
- conferences – \$65 000 (105% of budget);
- interest from accumulated investments – \$56 000 (105% of budget); and

- donations to the Research Foundation – \$14 000 (43% of budget).

Overall the actual income for the year was 108% of the budget figure. The increase in membership is very pleasing. The additional income from branch meetings and events is also pleasing, although the WA golf day was not identified on the original ASEG budget but is reflected in the actual income and expenditure figures. Income from donations was lower than budgeted for both corporate contributions and fundraising. Although no ASEG Conference was held in the 2011 year, funds continued to come in from the 2010 ASEG conference and the WA Geothermal Energy Conference. Approximately 50% of cash on hand is held in a term deposit to take advantage of higher interest rates.

The major expenses for the Society include:

- publications – \$230 000 (86% of budget);
- events – \$162 000 (164% of budget);



- Research Foundation support – \$81 000 (156% of budget);
- secretariat fees – \$79 000 (107% of budget);
- conferences – \$60 000 (77% of budget); and
- financial – \$18 000 (57% of budget).

The overall expenditure was 99% of the budgeted figure. State branch meeting and event costs were higher than budgeted, which reflects an increasing level of support for branches and members. Similarly, contributions to the Research Foundation were also beefed up, which also provides an offset for the tax payable for interest received. This is reflected in the lower financial costs compared with the budget. The publication costs were significantly less than expected, which is pleasing, partially due to the publication on aeromagnetic interpretation by David Isles and Leigh

Rankin not being ready in the year and hence calling on the up front financial support from the Society. Conference expenses were also down compared with budget largely due to lack of use of a \$20 000 contingency for seed funding for the 2012 EM Induction workshop. There was also a contingency of \$33 000 in the 2011 budget for web costs. However, these funds were largely not called on, the web functions being undertaken by our webmaster on a voluntary basis.

A major change to the timing and amount of payments to the Research Foundation has been implemented to provide more clarity and certainty to the management of the Foundation and support for geophysical research.

The Society is in a very sound financial position going into 2012. The equity held will cover the uncertainty of income from

future conferences to provide a revenue stream to the society. I would like to acknowledge the help and support provided by CASM staff and in particular the bookkeeping of Jerry Lee Jones and Joy Huang in the management of the financial affairs of the Society.



*C. David Cockshell
Honorary Treasurer*



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New members

The ASEG extends a warm welcome to 58 new members to the Society (see table). These memberships were approved at the Federal Executive meetings held in March and April 2012.

Name	Organisation	State/Country	Member grade
Nicholas John Agnew	Macquarie University	NSW	Student
Adam Henry Edward Bailey	The University of Adelaide	SA	Student
Sasha Banaszczyk	Barrick Gold	WA	Associate
Batbileg Batjargal	Thomson Aviation Pty Ltd	TAS	Associate
Jacqueline Anne Beerworth	The University of Adelaide	SA	Student
Andrew Bisset	Core Geophysics	WA	Active
Joao Henrique Boniatti	Votorantim Metals	Brazil	Associate
Hugo Bonython Burgin	The University of Adelaide	SA	Student
Sito Johan Busman	Shell	WA	Active
Alexander Nicholas Castiglione	Rio Tinto	WA	Associate
Jesse Clark	The University of Adelaide	SA	Student
Dennis John Conway	The University of Adelaide	SA	Student
Norman Cooper	Mustagh Resources Ltd	Canada	Active
Warwick Anthony Crowe	International Geoscience	WA	Active
Millicent Crowe	The University of Adelaide	SA	Student
Aldo De Rooster	Curtin University	WA	Student
David James Eddy	The University of Adelaide	SA	Student
Muhammad Fadhli	Halliburton Australia	WA	Associate
Rafael Fernandez	BHP Billiton	WA	Active
Sam Alex Fraser	The University of Adelaide	SA	Student
Luke George	The University of Adelaide	SA	Student
Kevin Gilbertson	The University of Adelaide	SA	Student
Sally Gregerson	The University of Adelaide	SA	Student
Bradley Grosser	The University of Adelaide	SA	Student
Edward David Heitmann	The University of Adelaide	SA	Student
Liam John Hennessy	Zonge Engineering	SA	Active
Paige Courtney Honor	The University of Adelaide	SA	Student
Brendan David Howe	Barrick Gold	USA	Active
Finn Hutchings	The University of Adelaide	SA	Student
Edwina Sophie Ingham	The University of Adelaide	SA	Student
Martin James	GroundProbe Geophysics	WA	Active
Samuel Kobelt	The University of Adelaide	SA	Student
Cassandra Lazo Olivares	The University of Adelaide	SA	Student
Meng Heng Loke	Geotomo Software	Malaysia	Active
Sharon Jenny Lowe	Fugro Airborne Surveys	WA	Active
Jake Elias MacFarlane	The University of Adelaide	SA	Student
Norberto Matos	The University of Adelaide	SA	Student
Benjamin Kyle McCarthy	Curtin University	WA	Student
Maximilian Milz	Metgasco Ltd	NSW	Active
David Moore	Fugro Airborne Surveys	WA	Active
Daniel Mubake	The University of Adelaide	SA	Student
Philippa Elizabeth Murray	The University of Adelaide	SA	Student
Mitchell Ryan Neumann	The University of Adelaide	SA	Student
Robert Harley Nunn	RHN Consultants Pty Ltd	WA	Active
Jaspher Deo Almerol Olanio	The University of Adelaide	SA	Student

Table 1. *Continued*

Name	Organisation	State/Country	Member grade
Thomas Paten	GroundProbe Geophysics	WA	Active
Sharna Jane Riley	Curtin University	WA	Student
Aixa Maria Rivera-Rios	The University of Adelaide	SA	Student
Kate Elizabeth Robertson	The University of Adelaide	SA	Student
Josh Sage	The University of Adelaide	SA	Student
Sebastian Schnaidt	The University of Adelaide	SA	Student
Jeremy Ryan Schulz	The University of Adelaide	SA	Student
Paul Erhard Soeffky	The University of Adelaide	SA	Student
John Barry Taylor	Solid Energy New Zealand Limited	NZ	Active
Francis Peter Thomson	GPX Surveys	WA	Active
Matthew James Scott Vasey	The University of Adelaide	SA	Student
Ben Williams	Curtin University	WA	Student
Tresor Zaira	The University of Adelaide	SA	Student

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George Vernon Keller: 16 December 1927–17 April 2012



George Vernon Keller

George Keller was born in New Kensington PA, USA on 16 December 1927 and passed away on 17 April 2012 in Evergreen CO. Dr Keller received his Bachelor of Science (1949) and Master of Science (1952) degrees in Geophysics and his Doctorate (1954) in Geophysics and Mathematics from Pennsylvania State University. During his career he was employed by the US Geological Survey (USGS) (1952–1963) and by the Colorado School of Mines (1964–1993).

While with the USGS, Dr Keller's assignments included management of studies of geophysical aspects of nuclear weapons testing, the impact of earth properties on communications, surveys of the Arctic Ocean during the International Geophysical Year, and participation in the early USGS planning team for Deep Sea Drilling (AMSOC).

At the Colorado School of Mines, Dr Keller's principal areas of interest were in the development and applications of electrical geophysical methods to exploration for mineral and energy resources. He served as Head, Department of Geophysics, from 1974 to 1983. He retired from teaching 1 May 1993.

He received a distinguished service award from the US Department of

Interior in 1959, was awarded the first Halliburton Award for outstanding professional achievement in 1979, served as a senior Fulbright scholar at Moscow University in 1979, was invited on a distinguished lecture tour by the Japan Association for Advancement of Education during the summer of 1986, and served as a Senior NATO Scholar at the University of Pisa in 1991. He has served as a consultant to many companies and government agencies involved in the earth sciences. Most important among the government assignments were: as a member of President Johnson's Blue Ribbon Committee on Mine Safety; as a member of President Carter's Energy Research Advisory Board, subcommittee on Geothermal Energy; and as chairman of the Committee Advisory to the Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory on the Hot Dry Rock Project. In 1996, he was named a Centennial Fellow of the College of Earth and Mineral Sciences at Pennsylvania State University.

Dr Keller formed 'Group Seven, Inc.' in 1970 to provide electrical geophysical services to the energy industries. During the 1970s, Group Seven grew to a company with approximately 60 employees and carried out geophysical surveys for a large number of energy companies and government agencies, including Exxon, Chevron, Union Oil, Phillips Oil, Gulf Oil, the Governments of Indonesia and Nicaragua through the US Agency for International Development, the Government of Kenya through the UN Development Program, the US Geological Survey, the US Department of Reclamation, the US Navy and the US Department of Energy. Group Seven was integrated into United Syscoe Mines (Canada) in 1981.

Dr Keller has published extensively, including more than 200 technical papers

in his own name, more than 2000 pages of translations of technical articles, which originally appeared in the Russian literature, and eight books and texts on the electrical methods of geophysical prospecting. He served as translation editor of the journal *Soviet Mining Science*, published by Plenum Press from its inception in 1965 until 1994. During that period he was responsible for supervisory editing of some 15 000 pages of technical articles originally published in Russian.

Most important among Professor Keller's publications are seven books dealing with electrical geophysical methods. One of these books became a classic reference and is regularly cited to this day. The book, first published in 1966, was co-authored with his colleague and friend from the USGS, Frank Frischknecht, and was titled *Electrical Methods in Geophysical Prospecting*. Its popularity is emphasised by the fact that a second edition was published in 1982.

In 1994, Dr Keller began research on the detection and identification of hand guns. This research led to the award of US Patent 5552705 on 3 September 1996.

George Keller married his childhood sweetheart Amber in 1945; she passed away in 1995. He married Liudvika in 1997. George is survived by his wife Liudvika, son George Stephen and wife Chong, grandson Justin, and daughter Susan Diane.

In Dr Keller's honour, a Scholarship has been established entitled: *Graduate Scholarship in Transient Electromagnetics in Honour of G. V. Keller*. Pledges, which will be matched dollar for dollar to a maximum of US \$5000, should be sent to Kurt Strack via kurt@KMSTechnologies.com.

Edited by Roger Henderson from text supplied by Charles Stoyer.

Australian Capital Territory

In a relatively quiet period since the last *Preview*, the only ACT Branch event has been Peter Hatherly's SEG Pacific South Honorary Lecture held on 2 May. Peter presented a thoroughly informative overview of coal exploration – arguably the forgotten child of exploration geophysics. Geophysics plays an important role in coal exploration, but its significance seems less prominent than in geophysical exploration activity for other commodities.

Amidst the dichotomy of a desire to reduce CO₂ emissions versus unstoppable demand for coal in an increasingly populous world, Peter talked of the factors driving geophysics in coal exploration and highlighted the differences with better-known geophysical approaches in the petroleum sector. The role for geophysics was made clear, whether it be in identifying dykes and faults, characterising interburden or helping constrain the volume of greenhouse gases likely to be exhumed during mining. Going forward, Peter pointed out that developments in

geophysical techniques will be required in order to resolve small-scale faults, perfect the art of measuring seismic through multiple coal seams or basalt, detecting old workings and in guiding in-seam drilling.

Although other events will no doubt eventuate, our next planned event is a visit from ASEG-sponsored lecturer Lucy MacGregor of Rock Solid Images in the UK. Lucy is scheduled to stop in Canberra on 3 August, her last stop before attending the International Geological Congress in Brisbane as a keynote speaker in the symposium 'Putting the geo into geophysics – adding clout through better datasets and joint interpretation'.

The ACT Branch tends to hold meetings on an ad hoc basis as presenters are identified. Any visitors to Canberra interested in giving a presentation during 2012 are encouraged to contact us! For updates, keep an eye out on the webpage or link yourself to the ASEG on LinkedIn.

Ron Hackney

New South Wales

In April, Bob Musgrave, from the Geological Survey of NSW gave a talk on remanence and how it is here to stay. Bob discussed how remanence must be quantitatively understood for reliable inversion of targets. Bob also outlined current research into elongate, reversely polarised anomalies around the Benambran orogenic belt in the Stawell Zone, Thomson Orogen, and Lachlan Orogen, pointing out similarities with anomalies associated with orogenic gold in Victoria. Much discussion followed.

The NSW committee would like to acknowledge the following NSW members who received awards at the conference in Brisbane in February.

- Mike Smith – Honorary Membership of the ASEG
- Phil Schmidt – ASEG Service Medal
- Doug Morrison – ASEG Service Certificate
- Mark Lackie – ASEG Service Certificate

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NSW Branch awards first student scholarships

The NSW branch has granted the first two scholarships to two tertiary students, Joel Potter from University of Sydney and Ritsch Camille from Macquarie University, to assist with the financial cost of their studies. These awards were presented at the Branch Meeting on 18 April 2012.

The current value of the grant is \$1500. The Branch would like the funds to be used to provide facilities or materials that would assist the student's studies but would otherwise be difficult for the student to afford.

To be eligible, the students must satisfy the following criteria:

- Be an undergraduate in second, third or fourth year enrolled in exploration geophysics courses.
- To be judged by the ASEG NSW committee and their supervisor as showing potential to make a worthy career in geophysics.

Successful applicants are expected to make a presentation on their studies to a

branch meeting, and to join the ASEG as Student Members, but need not be members at the time of application.

An invitation to attend NSW Branch meetings is extended to interstate and international visitors who happen to be in town at that time. Meetings are held on the third Wednesday of each month from 5:30 pm at the Rugby Club in the Sydney CBD. Meeting notices, addresses and relevant contact details can be found at the NSW Branch website.

Mark Lackie



NSW Branch President, Mark Lackie, presenting a cheque to Joel Potter of Sydney University.




NSW Branch Treasurer, Roger Henderson, presenting a cheque to Ritsch Camille of Macquarie University.

South Australia/Northern Territory

We welcomed Henk van Paridon from GeoSolve Pty Ltd on 20 March. His presentation 'Coal's dollar dazzler – getting the most out of your seismic dollar' was warmly received. It was particularly nice to welcome some students studying Mining Exploration at TAFE.


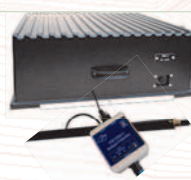


Our next event was the student barbecue held at the University of Adelaide on 29 March. Fifty-one people attended, and most of the students signed up to become ASEG members.



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On 3 April we welcomed the Federal Executive to Adelaide who held their AGM as part of an evening technical event. Dennis Cooke provided the technical talk: 'Seismic AVO: fluid and lithology attributes de-mystified'. Approximately 30 people attended.

Finally, on 26 April, we welcomed Peter Hatherly from Coalbed Geoscience Pty Ltd in Sydney who was presenting his Honorary Lecturer tour. Peter's talk, 'A role for geophysical methods in meeting the resource requirements of the 21st century', was very well received and generated a lot of discussion.

We hold technical meetings monthly, usually on a Tuesday or Thursday at the Coopers Alehouse in Adelaide beginning at 5:30 pm. New members and interested persons are always welcome. For further details, or if you are interested in presenting a talk to the local group, please contact Philip Heath (philip.heath@sa.gov.au). If you are a SA/NT member and are not receiving emails regarding events, please update your contact details through aseg@casm.com.au.

Philip Heath

Victoria

It has been a couple of busy months in the ASEG Victorian Branch. On 27 March Charles Funk from OZ Minerals presented 'Using geophysics to explore for IOCG deposits: a case study of the recent exploration at Prominent Hill'. Charles showed the attending ASEG Victorian Branch members the results from a wide variety of newly collected data including gravity, airborne gravity gradient, magnetics, induced polarisation,

seismic and electromagnetics and discussed their applicability and relevance for IOCG exploration.

On 24 April it was time for SEG Honorary Lecturer Peter Hatherly from Coalbed Geoscience to present 'A role for geophysical methods in meeting the resource requirements of the 21st century'. Peter provided an excellent introduction to the varied applications of geophysical methods in coal mining, which resulted in many questions and comments from the audience.

Finally on 10 May Noll Moriarty from Archimedes Financial Planning presented 'Commodity price forecasting using probabilistic projection of United States dollar'. Noll argued convincingly about the inverse correlation between commodity prices and the US dollar, and certainly challenged conventional approaches to forecasting commodity prices. We will be watching the commodity prices with interest!

All events were held at the Kelvin Club, Melbourne Place. We look forward to seeing many ASEG Victorian Branch members at the coming meetings.

Ashjorn Norlund Christensen

Western Australia

The WA branch has hosted two international speakers since our last news update. Glenn Wilson of TechnoImaging in Utah visited Perth following ASEG 2012 and presented on large-scale AEM and potential field inversions, which was well attended. On 27 April, Peter Hatherly gave his SEG honorary lecture on 'A role for geophysical methods in

meeting the resource requirements of the 21st century'.

Upcoming events over the next few months include a joint technical night on 13 June with the WA branch of IAH Australia on an integrated geophysical-groundwater case study from Queensland. We will then be welcoming Lucy Macgregor, the European SEG Honorary Lecturer, on 29 July. She will be presenting her lecture on 'Integrating well log, seismic, and CSEM data for reservoir characterisation'. All these talks will be held at our usual venue at the City West Function Centre, Plaistowe Mews, West Perth from 5:30 pm.

The WA committee is also pleased to announce that we will be rolling out our ASEG WA Award program in the next month. There will be two AU\$2000 awards on offer to eligible students studying a geophysics-related topic at a WA university. Applications will close at the end of August and the awards will be presented to the successful applicants at our Honours Students technical night in November. Information and application forms should be available on the ASEG website shortly or from our Branch Secretary (asegwa@casm.com.au).

Lastly, we will be holding a practical one-day workshop on airborne electromagnetics in November. This event is targeted at both geologists and geophysicists and will be a seminar series focussed on practical near-surface and minerals applications of AEM. It will include practical theory, case studies and a review of recent and future developments. Watch this space for further details in the coming months.

Anne Tomlinson (née Morrell)

Magnetic Field Sensors for Exploration



Mag-03/Mag 639 3-axis Magnetic Field Sensors

- Noise levels down to 6pTrms/√Hz at 1Hz
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- For use in TDEM or MT
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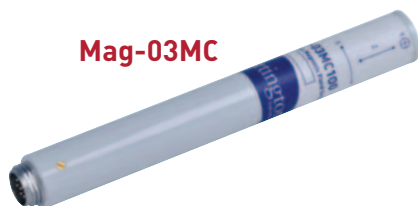
- Measuring range from 10^{-5} to 10^{-1} cgs
- High spatial resolution to 25mm
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- Used in stratigraphic correlation

MS3 Magnetic Susceptibility System

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Launch of *Exploration Geophysics* as joint journal of the ASEG, KSEG and SEGJ

At the 22nd ASEG Conference in Brisbane on 28 February 2012, President Dennis Cooke welcomed President Dr Toshihiro Uchida from the SEG of Japan, and President Professor Ki-Young Kim from the Korean SEG for the official launch of *Exploration Geophysics* (EG) as a joint journal of the three societies. ASEG past-president Michael Asten was asked to speak on the occasion of the launch.

Michael Asten marked the occasion noting the welcome news from CSIRO Publishing that EG has climbed rankings to have an Impact Factor of 0.6 (up from 0.05 four years ago) and likely to reach 1.0 in the next year.

He spoke of the background to the joint issue, and the future challenge ahead.

The three societies have collaborated in producing one joint issue per year since 2004, and from 2008 EG went online as a fully searchable and downloadable journal. In June 2009 I asked Publications Director Phil Schmidt, International VP Koya Suto and Managing Editor Mark Lackie to consider the feasibility of expanding the inter-society collaboration into a joint venture producing a joint international journal.

Koya Suto explored the concept at the SEGJ conference in Japan in October 2009 and after two more

years of negotiations our President Dennis Cooke was able to arrange a signing ceremony to bring the joint venture into being at the SEG Meeting in October 2011.

We now have three streams of journal language and editorial oversight. Dr Yoon-Hoo Song of Korea and Dr Toshiyuki Yokota of Japan are regional editors and will receive papers and arrange peer-review in their respective countries. Managing Editor Mark Lackie will receive English-language versions of papers, ensure standards of

language and peer review are appropriate, and oversee the publication of the new EG.

It is possible that the stream of papers submitted to EG will in time increase threefold under the new arrangements.

‘That is the kind of challenge we would love to have’, Asten commented. ‘We wish the Australian and international editorial team well, and promise them every support from the executives of the ASEG, SEGJ and KSEG’.



From L to R: Koya Suto, Professor Ki-Young Kim of the KSEG, Mark Lackie, Dr Toshihiro Uchida of the SEGJ, Michael Asten, Dennis Cooke, Phil Schmidt.