Editor’s desk

This issue of Preview has something for everyone, so crack open that bottle of red and settle down in your favourite armchair!

We feature the trial of a new and experimental extractive technology for unconventional resources in the Cooper Basin. Ray Johnson and his collaborators, Real Energy Corporation Ltd, are going out on a bit of a limb with this one, and I hope that they will keep Preview readers posted as the trial progresses. We also feature an article by Roger Henderson that asks the question; was Edgar H Booth the father of Australian exploration seismology? Roger tells me that this article is the last in his series on the origins of Australian geophysics so, enjoy whilst you can!

Our commentators have been particularly busy. David Denham (Canberra observed) introduces us to the astonishingly detailed data on the floor of the Indian Ocean that was acquired during the search for MH370. This data is now publicly available through Geoscience Australia. David also bemoans the continuing decline of government investment in R&D but, it is difficult to fault state and federal governments in terms of their ongoing investment in geophysical surveys (Geophysics in the surveys). The management and storage of increasing volumes of survey data is a perennial topic of discussion at the ASEG Technical Standards Committee meetings. Tim Keeping is the Chair of the ASEG Technical Standards Committee and, as guest editor of Data trends, he asked Sam Roberts of Pitney Bowes to report on MRR – a new, soon to be freely accessible, raster storage format that could solve some of the raster data storage and management issues that have been identified.

But wait, there is more, Michael Asten (Education matters) treats us to a mini-feature on the ARC Basin GENESIS Hub at Sydney University. If you are not familiar with the work of this hub I can guarantee that you will be intrigued, and unable to resist the temptation to go online and cruise through the group’s graphical representations of the evolution of the Australian continent. Mike Hatch (Environmental geophysics), who was disappointed by some of his own recent inversion results, takes another look at low induction number approximation. Terry Harvey (Minerals geophysics) re-evaluates his relationship with sulphides. Mick Micenko (Seismic window) considers the importance of rock physics in seismic interpretation and, finally, Dave Annetts (Webwaves) warns us to be mindful of how we use, and misuse, passwords.

Cheers!
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