



April 2013

THE GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA
Victoria Division

Annual General Meeting

Thursday 2nd May at 6:15 p.m.

An Early Pleistocene hyperdiverse fossil sclerophyll flora: implications for the distribution of plant species diversity.

Kale Sniderman

School of Earth Sciences, University of Melbourne

Fritz Loewe Theatre, School of Earth Sciences, University of Melbourne

Talks will be preceded by drinks from 5:30pm in the 4th floor tearoom, cost \$2

The distribution of vascular plant species across the globe is highly uneven. Species diversity is generally extremely high in tropical regions, and declines towards the poles. Identification of the ultimate drivers of this latitudinal diversity gradient has been surprisingly difficult, despite more than one century of intense interest and debate. Explanations have generally either emphasized characteristics of contemporary climates and environments; or emphasized the role of history, by pointing to the varying antiquity of existing biomes (e.g. rainforests, with Paleogene or older origins, vs. grasslands, with primarily Neogene origins) and to regional differences in Cenozoic-scale palaeoclimatic stability. Tests of these hypotheses ultimately require evidence from the fossil record. However, few fossil records provide an opportunity to examine the history of species diversity.

In this presentation, I will discuss fossil evidence demonstrating that during the Early Pleistocene southeastern Australia supported hyper-diverse sclerophyll vegetation, much more species-rich than any comparable eastern Australian vegetation today. This implies that a previously undetected, major regional extinction event impacted Australian vegetation some time during the Pleistocene, probably associated with the onset of high amplitude glacial-interglacial cycles, at c. 1 Ma. I will argue that this record is most easily explained if extraordinary plant species diversity is primarily a function of long term climate stability, and discuss the implications for understanding the history of plant diversity.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING



GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA Incorporated ABN 93 652 757 443
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Victoria Division

GPO Box 2355 Melbourne, Victoria 3001

Web: www.vic.gsa.org.au/

Division Chairman: David Cantrill Phone (03) 9252 2301

david.cantrill@rbg.vic.gov.au

2013 Annual General Meeting of the Victoria Division of the Geological Society of Australia

Notice of Meeting

The 2013 Annual General Meeting of the Victoria Division of the Geological Society of Australia will be held at 6:15 p.m. on Thursday 2nd May 2013 in the Fritz Loewe Theatre at the University of Melbourne (to be followed by the regular monthly address).

David Cantrill will present his Chairman's Report for 2012 – 2013 and the meeting will elect a new Geological Society Victoria Division Committee for 2013 – 2014.

Agenda

1. Minutes from 2011–2012 of the GSA Victoria Division AGM on Thursday 26th April 2012.
2. GSA Victoria Division Chairman's Report for 2012–2013
3. GSA Victoria Division Financial Report for 2012–2013
4. Bicentennial Gold 88 Endowment Report for 2012–2013
5. Heritage Subcommittee Report for 2012–2013
6. Awards Committee Report for 2012–2013
7. Election of Committee Members for 2013–2014
8. Other business.

A. Seymon
 Secretary of the Division, 20th April 2013

Minutes of the 2012 GSA Victoria Division Annual General Meeting

Opening: time and place

- a. The meeting opened at 6.30 pm on Thursday 26th April 2012 in the University of Melbourne Fritz Lowe Theatre
- b. Apologies: Ingrid Campbell, Susan White

1. Minutes of the previous meeting on Thursday 28th April 2011

- a. Minutes were taken as read. Moved: Matthew Bliss; seconded: David Moore.

2. Chairman's report for 2011-2012

- a. David Cantrill presented his *Chairman's Report for 2011 – 2012*. His address included summaries of the Bicentennial Gold; Heritage and Awards reports.

3. Treasurer's report for 2011-2012

- a. Barbara Wagstaff reported that the GSAV accounts were no longer audited by the GSAV accountant. This is now a Federal Division responsibility.
- b. Barbara noted that with regard to book stocks, sales of Geology of Victoria are winding down. It was suggested that it may be time to think about a new edition.
- c. Barbara noted that the Division had spent less on scholarships to students.
- d. The report was moved by David Moore and seconded by Matthew Bliss.
- e. David Moore reported on the GSAV share portfolio. He demonstrated the performance of the investment portfolio pre imputation credits over the period Aug 2007 – Apr 2012. The portfolio was noted to be outperforming the ASX200. This was moved by David Cantril, and seconded by Barbara Wagstaff.

4.-6. Various committee reports

- a. Reports were addressed by the Chairman (see item 2. a.)

7. Election of the Victoria Division Committee for 2012 – 2013

- a. The following members of the Victoria Division were elected or appointed to form the Division's Committee for 2012 – 2013:

Division Officers

Chairman	David Cantrill
Secretary	Adele Seymon
Treasurer	Barbara Wagstaff

Division Committee Members

David Cantrill	Division Chairman
Vacant	Division Vice chairman
Adele Seymon	Division Secretary
Barbara Wagstaff	Division Treasurer
Ingrid Campbell	Division Awards Subcommittee Chairman
David Moore	Division Investments Administrator
Vacant	Division Newsletter Editor
Matthew Bliss	Melbourne University, ESPG (Earth Sciences Postgraduate Group) Representative, Newsletter Assistant
Amir Mahmud	Monash Student Representative
Lindsay Thomas	Division Webmaster
Noel Schleiger	Division Education Subcommittee Chairman
Sue White	GSA Heritage Committee Chairman

Affiliates

Gerhard Krummei Bicentennial Gold 88 Working Group Chairman

Closure

- a. The meeting closed at 6.30 pm.

CHAIR REPORT

I would firstly like to thank all the members of the committee for another year of excellent contributions to the division. The division would not function without these members contributing time and effort to ensure that we have a range of activities on offer. Over the past year we have seen the annual monthly meetings continue with a range of talks, a well-attended Selwyn Symposium and a walk through the 3D visualization suite of Geoscience Victoria. The division has also given considerable support to student members through the travel grants and continued with the various divisional awards (report appended). I am sure that all members appreciate this commitment.

The divisional finances are in excellent order and the investments are performing well and generating income that we use to subsidise things like the Selwyn Symposium. I would like to comment on several aspects of the division. While I recognise that we often struggle to get the newsletter out on time or advertise talks well ahead of the event, attendances are very patchy often with only a handful of people attending. This is of some concern and I wonder if the program that we put together is actually serving what the members want. The committee would welcome views from the members on alternatives. Indeed I would encourage members to participate more and on that front we would always welcome a few more hands on the committee.

Professor David Cantrill

GSAV Chair

NOMINATION FORM

2013-2014 GSAV Committee Nomination Form

I nominate: _____ For the position of: _____

Nominator: _____ Seconded by: _____

All nominations will be presented and voted upon at the GSAV AGM on 2nd May, 2012, commencing at 6:15 pm.

Please detach and mail this completed form specifying your 2013-2014 GSAV Committee nomination no later than 30th April to:

The Geological Society of Australia Inc. (Victoria Division)
GPO Box 2355, Melbourne VIC 3001

Alternatively, bring your completed form along to the meeting.

FINANCIAL REPORT

GSA Victoria Division BALANCE SHEET 2012
Balance sheet as at the 31 December 2012

CURRENT ASSETS	2012	2011
Cash and equivalents		
Cash at bank NAB	\$3,653.07	\$13,879.83
Cash at bank Bank of Queensland a/c#998752674	\$23,328.41	\$4,040.18
Cash receivable		
Publications	\$2,536.50	\$2,365.50
Capitation fees	\$3,660.00	\$2,100.00
Other debtors-franking credits receivable	\$4,882.29	\$7,180.99
Stock on hand 31st December		
Selwyn Symposium 1996	\$22.00	\$-
Selwyn symposium 1999	\$30.00	\$5.00
Selwyn symposium 2007	\$720.00	\$1,578.00
Extended abstracts: Selwyn symposium 2008	\$323.00	\$339.27
Extended abstracts: Selwyn symposium 2009	\$690.00	\$849.00
Extended abstracts: Selwyn symposium 2012	\$450.00	\$-
Geology of Victoria	\$29,910.90	\$32,966.40
Total stock	<u>\$32,145.90</u>	<u>\$35,737.67</u>
	<u>\$70,206.17</u>	<u>\$65,304.17</u>
Interest Bearing Securites		
Australian Foundation Investment Company		
Unsec.Red.Conv Notes	\$11,170.00	\$10,490.00
ANZ Banking Group Limited		
Convertible Preference Shares (CPS3)	\$10,190.00	\$10,330.00
Macquarie CPS Trust	\$11,678.25	\$11,799.00
National Australia Bank Income Security	\$15,225.00	\$16,394.70
Westpac Banking Corporation-Unsecured		
Deferred Settlement Notes	\$20,170.00	\$-
Westpac Stapled Preferred Security11	\$19,987.50	\$20,494.50
Woolworths Notes II	\$2,231.46	\$2,200.80
Shares in listed companies		
Australian Foundation Investment Company Ltd	\$41,958.00	\$33,549.75
AIX Australian Infrastructure Fund stapled securities	\$42,690.97	\$34,213.11
BHP Billiton Ltd	\$37,433.90	\$34,729.78

	2012	2011
<i>Commonwealth Bank of Australia</i>	\$41,536.24	\$32,878.96
<i>CSL Limited</i>	\$8,624.00	\$5,120.00
<i>National Australia Bank Ltd</i>	\$37,500.00	\$35,040.00
<i>Wesfarmers limited</i>	\$12,160.50	\$9,735.00
<i>Woolworths Limited</i>	\$21,704.20	\$18,574.00
Property		
<i>Shopping Centres Australasia Property Group</i>	\$222.00	\$-
Total Assets-Net Assets	\$404,466.19	\$340,853.77
<i>Gain/Loss in value of investments/assets</i>	\$63,612.42	\$(19,859.96)
MEMBERS FUND	<u>\$404,466.19</u>	<u>\$340,853.77</u>

Profit and Loss Statement for the year ended 31 December 2012

	2012	2011
Income		
<i>Capitation fees</i>	\$4,465.50	\$3,464.17
<i>Franking Credits</i>	\$12,416.36	\$4,267.86
<i>GST reimbursement</i>	\$937.26	\$-
<i>Income from Selwyn Symposium 2012</i>	\$4,080.00	\$-
Profit/(loss) on disposal of investments		
<i>AIX Australian Infrastructure Fund stapled securities</i>	\$2,640.00	\$-
<i>Australian and New Zealand Banking Group</i>	\$-	-\$1,193.14
<i>BHP Billiton Ltd</i>	\$-	\$2,351.28
Bank Interest		
<i>Bank of Queensland a/c#998752674</i>	\$367.51	\$689.32
Equity income		
<i>Australian Foundation Investment Company Ltd</i>	\$1,748.25	\$1,748.25
<i>AIX Australian Infrastructure Fund stapled securities</i>	\$1,861.33	\$1,772.70
<i>Australian and New Zealand Banking Group</i>	\$-	\$403.20
<i>BHP Billiton Ltd</i>	\$1,071.10	\$1,173.85
<i>Commonwealth Bank of Australia</i>	\$2,231.12	\$2,137.60
<i>CSL Limited</i>	\$132.80	\$128.00
<i>National Australia Bank Ltd</i>	\$2,700.00	\$2,580.00

<i>Wesfarmers limited</i>	\$544.50	\$280.50
<i>Westpac Bank</i>	\$-	\$836.00
<i>Woolworths limited</i>	\$932.40	\$902.80
Interest Bearing Securites		
<i>Australian Foundation Investment Company</i>		
<i>Unsec.Red.Conv Notes</i>	\$438.36	\$-
<i>ANZ Banking Group Limited</i>		
<i>Convertible Preference Shares (CPS3)</i>	\$501.58	\$-
<i>Macquarie CPS Trust</i>	\$1,922.61	\$632.71
<i>National Australia Bank Income Security</i>	\$1,127.76	\$1,620.76
<i>Westpac Banking Corporation-Unsecured</i>		
<i>Deferred Settlement Notes</i>	\$321.12	\$-
<i>Westpac Stapled Preferred Security11</i>	\$1,343.87	\$892.46
<i>Woolworths Notes II</i>	\$153.92	\$21.08
Property		
<i>Shopping Centres Australasia Property Group</i>	\$105.04	\$-
Gross profit/loss from trading	\$46,819.64	\$31,890.39
Expenditure		
<i>Audit and review of financial reports</i>	\$-	\$1,140.00
<i>Bank charges</i>	\$231.60	\$162.40
<i>Conference expenses</i>	\$9,067.51	\$-
<i>Educational outreach</i>	\$490.00	\$860.00
<i>Investment commission</i>	\$110.00	\$1,104.12
<i>Major purchases-medals</i>	\$-	\$4,338.00
<i>Meeting supplies etc.</i>	\$399.88	\$-
<i>Meetings-other costs</i>	\$40.30	\$154.44
<i>Newsletter printing</i>	\$981.80	\$1,152.00
<i>Newsletter posting</i>	\$340.95	\$370.95
<i>Other postage, printing and stationary</i>	\$443.29	\$287.75
<i>Prizes to students and grants</i>	\$7,600.00	\$2,900.00
<i>Storage facility</i>	\$461.00	\$1,828.90
<i>Transfer to investment account</i>	\$12,000.00	\$4,148.00
Total expenditure	\$32,166.33	\$14,298.56
Operating profit/loss	\$14,653.31	\$22,057.33

BICENTENNIAL GOLD 88 ENDOWMENT REPORT

This Endowment supports students through their tertiary institution in the area of geoscience for the benefit of economic geology in Australia. Applications for grants for activities during 2013 were invited via advertisements in the AusIMM Bulletin, the AusIMM website and The Australian Geologist and were assessed during the year.

Surprisingly, numbers were down on last year, with the applications received from NSW and Victoria divided equally between research projects and education/training.

The sum of \$10,000 was again made available for distribution for the year 2013. As usual, the total value of applications exceeded the funds available.

Our congratulations go to the recipients involved with the following projects at the tertiary institutions below:

- Monash University
To assist a Ph.D. student with U-Pb isotope dating techniques using zircon and apatite for accurate age determination of uranium mineralization at three U-REE deposits in the Mt Isa region.

- The University of Melbourne:
 - (a) Partial assistance with costs to present an annual lecture and field course on the Geology of Gold.

 - (b) Support for Ph.D. research into the tectono-stratigraphic setting of the Irish Pb-Zn deposits and presentation of results at an international conference.

- University of New England
Assistance with costs of a technical field study trip, including mine visits, to New Zealand for senior geology students.

Thanks are due to Ms Ingrid Campbell and to Prof. Chris Wilson for their willing and valuable contribution to the assessment process.

The Working Group also gratefully acknowledges the efficient secretarial support and promotion efforts provided by Ms Xan Weber and her team at the AusIMM, as well as the continuing support given to this Endowment by the Director and its Trustees.

GERHARD K. KRUMMEI
Chairman – Working Group
BG88 Endowment

08.03.2013

HERITAGE SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT

The Geological Heritage subcommittee continued to work towards better understanding of geological heritage in the state in the past year. The year has again seen a continuation of the work we have been doing for some years. We have not had many meetings but email contact has been adequate. We have a steady membership and several associates who we call on for specific information. Bernie Joyce, a long-standing member of the subcommittee, resigned during the year. We thank Bernie for all his work on geological heritage over the years. His input has been enormous and his legacy will continue.

The data-base of sites has been maintained. New sites continued to be added from previously published geological significance site reports and some recent consultancy reports. This data-base has had a number of requests for information.

The committee continues to be heavily involved with the Bacchus Marsh Council Trench management committee. Through this committee it was again involved in a school presentation for Earth Science week. Members of the committee presented at the IGC in Brisbane in August 2012. There was a dedicated session on geological heritage and geological heritage sites in Victoria were highlighted.

It has also given advice to consultants and people wishing to object to particular development projects. We are always very careful regarding objections as the GSA is not opposed to development per se. However some advice on the significance of particular sites continues to be useful. This has included contact with VicRoads planners this year. A very limited number of enquiries from municipal heritage planners and the Parks Victoria enquiry is still in progress. A consultant for a VEAC (Victorian Environment Assessment Council) contract on the Marine reserves and sanctuaries project.

I wish to thank the members of the subcommittee for their work throughout the year.

Susan White

Heritage Convenor

AWARDS COMMITTEE REPORT

I wish to thank the members of the Awards Committee for their support during the year.

The following awards were given:

2012 Selwyn Medal

The **2012 Selwyn Medal** was awarded to **Dr Charles Lawrence**, University of Melbourne for his outstanding contribution to the long neglected mapping, stratigraphy and the economic potential of the Victorian part of the Murray Basin.

Over a distinguished geological career spanning 50 years, Charles' professional career spans long involvement in Victorian groundwater education, groundwater resource evaluation

and management especially in arid areas, groundwater contamination and control of salinity problems in the Murray Basin. He has worked for international bodies such as the United Nations, State and National governments and also for academia.

The development and formalisation of a stratigraphic framework for the Mallee and surrounding regions of north-western Victoria that Charles Lawrence established broke new ground and still remains the basis for the understanding and interpretation of later geology and hydrogeology studies of the region.

In conjunction with his long-standing interdisciplinary involvement in arid region geology and hydrogeology, his work has significantly contributed to a new understanding, appreciation and interpretation of recent complex dynamics between surface and groundwater dynamics in Victoria. This is also reflected in his recent collaborative work in South America on behalf of the Australian government.

Charles' career has been varied as a groundwater investigator, researcher, supervisor, manager and educator. His hydrogeological research has been very broad- ranging and includes surface and sub-surface stratigraphy, groundwater evaluation, salinity of the Murray Basin, hydrochemistry, groundwater contamination, hydrology of arid areas, and assessment and management of groundwater problems.

Charles has undertaken significant research on the environmental and climatic evolution of the southern Australian basins. Together with others, his work has significantly improved our knowledge of the groundwater systems in Victoria – a very important and vital resource in Victoria – and his research on the hydrodynamic and environmental evolution of arid and semi-arid regions of Victoria during the Tertiary and Quaternary has formed an important geological analogue for future climate change in Victoria.

Charles has made, and continues to make, a significant and valuable contribution to our understanding of the hydrogeological and geological processes and the Neogene setting of southern Australia –and he continues his career of outstanding teaching and research on Australian hydrogeology.

The 2012 Canavan Prize was awarded to **Megan Kay** (University of Ballarat) who achieved the highest marks for a second year student in an Earth Science related course in Victoria.

There were no nominations submitted for the Thomas Award .

Congratulations to all the 2012 GSA awards recipients.



Ingrid Campbell
Chair, Awards Committee



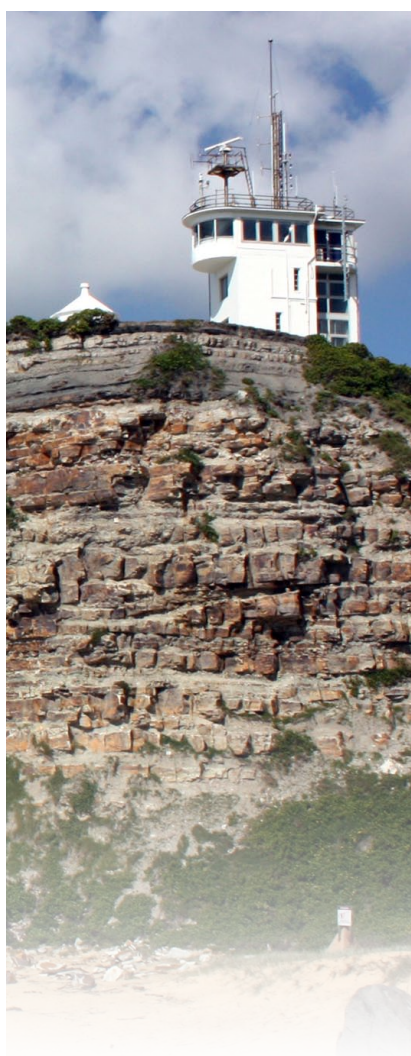
AESC

australian earth sciences
convention

**Sustainable
Australia:**
7-10 July 2014



NEWCASTLE, NSW, AUSTRALIA



AESC 2014 will be held in Newcastle, a vibrant port city that is characterised by its working harbour, beautiful surf beaches and proximity to many of Australia’s most prestigious wineries.

It is the gateway to the Hunter Valley – heart of the Sydney Basin coalfields, centre of power generation for New South Wales, and home of the NSW Institute for Frontier Geoscience, a joint initiative of the University of Newcastle and the NSW Department of Trade and Investment. Combined with the city’s focus on energy efficiency via the Federal Government’s Smart Grid, Smart City initiative and the CSIRO Energy Centre, Newcastle is an ideal site for our convention – **Sustainable Australia.**

The convention will be based around the themes of energy, basin geology, geodynamics, resources and the environment. Dedicated symposia include the 39th Symposium on the Advances in the Study of the Sydney Basin and Comparisons & Contrasts in Circum-Pacific Orogens.

AESC 2014 offers all geoscientists a unique opportunity for professional development and a chance to hear firsthand the latest developments in geosciences.

Plan your trip to Newcastle

Call for Abstracts:
October 2013

Abstracts Deadline:
March 2014

The website is coming soon, in the interim please contact:
info@gsa.org.au

Presentation: Oral and poster

Registration: early 2014

Workshops and field trips:

The convention invites proposals for short courses, workshops and field trips.

Exhibition:

The convention will host an exhibition. We welcome companies and businesses to participate so they can promote the emerging opportunities in their organisation, state or territory.

Supporters:

The organising committee invites companies, institutions and technology providers to support this meeting.

Expressions of interest:

info@gsa.org.au

Convention location:

Newcastle City Hall



Coalfield Geology Council
of New South Wales

T + 61 2 9290 2194
F + 61 2 9290 2198

Email: info@gsa.org.au
Convention Website: coming soon

STUDENT FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Geological Society of Australia (Victoria Division) Student Research Scholarships

The GSAV are pleased to offer up to \$10,000 per year in scholarships available to honours and postgraduate students for assistance with travel costs associated with conferences and field work.



The scholarship is valued at up to \$500 for travel within Australia and \$700 for travel outside of Australia. The number of and value of the scholarships awarded each year is made at the discretion of the GSA(Vic) committee.

Funding will not be granted retrospectively and applicants are asked to submit forms no later than 6 weeks prior to their trip to give the committee time to consider the application.

Students that receive this scholarship are required to submit a report for publication in the newsletter, "The Victorian Geologist", following their trip. A presentation may also be requested by the committee, which will consist of a short, 10-15 minute presentation prior to the monthly seminar.

Applications forms can be scanned and emailed to: secretary@vic.gsa.org.au

or mailed to:

Geology Research Scholarships Victoria
Geological Society of Australia (Victoria Division)
GPO Box 2355
Melbourne VIC 3001

More information including eligibility criteria can be found on the form and by contacting Barbara Wagstaff (wagstaff@unimelb.edu.au)

Something interesting to share? Want to see your name in print?

Don't be bashful, contribute to the GSA(V) monthly newsletter!

If there are any events, happenings, news, or views that would be of interest to the membership, please send your details and information to Matt Bliss at mbliss@student.unimelb.edu.au

We'd be glad to hear from you

FORTHCOMING SEMINARS AND EVENTS

to be presented at
GSA (Victoria Division) meetings

Note: unless otherwise indicated, all 2013 talks will be held in the Fritz Loewe Theatre, Earth Sciences Building, University of Melbourne.

May 30th

Dr. Alan Goode (AMIRA International)
Data Metallogenica - supporting and training the next generation of economic geologists

June 27th

A.W. Howitt Lecture (Joint meeting with the RSV)
Dr. Erich Fitzgerald (Museum Victoria)
Victoria: Last Frontier in Quest for Whale Origins

Please welcome our newest members

Janenie Mohgan



Visit the GSAV on www.vic.gsa.org.au or the GSA on www.gsa.org.au
• Renewing your GSA membership is easy - it can now be done online. •

CONSIDER CONTRIBUTING TO TAG!

It is member contributions which make TAG a member magazine – please keep the contributions coming and assist with informing all of the membership (not just your Division) about your activities.

Please send your news to: tag@gsa.org.au



GSA (VICTORIA DIVISION) COMMITTEE

Please address all correspondence to the GSA Victoria Division
GPO Box 2355, Melbourne, VIC, 3001
Internet address: www.vic.gsa.org.au

OFFICE BEARERS

Chair: David Cantrill 9252 2301 (BH)
Vice-chair: position vacant
Secretary: Adele Seymon 0403 269 462
Treasurer: Barbara Wagstaff 8344 6537 (BH)

COMMITTEE

David Moore 0409 977 120
Susan White 9328 4154
Helen Green 8344 7672 (BH)
Matthew Bliss 8344 9980 (BH)
Syed Amir Mahmud 9902 4206 (BH)

SUBCOMMITTEE

Awards: Ingrid Campbell 9486 7160
Bicentennial Gold: Gerhard Krummei 9820 2595
Education: position vacant
Heritage: Susan White 9328 4154
Newsletter: Matthew Bliss 8344 9980
Webmaster: Ken McLean 9905 1120

CONTACTS

OTHER CONTACTS

Geology of Victoria: Bill Birch 9270 5049 (BH)

Newsletter deadline:

First Friday of the month except Dec & Jan
mbliss@student.unimelb.edu.au

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