



The Great Australian Byte

The Newsletter of the Australian Geoscience Information Association (Inc)
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Bounce into Easter at the AGIA Easter Breakfast

7:30 am
Tuesday 7 April 2009

Bell's Cafe
Barrack Street Jetty, Perth
foreshore



Please RSVP to Lyn Trouchet (Ltrouche@barrick.com)
so we have an idea of numbers

Order and pay individually at the counter on arrival

**Make the most of this eggcellent networking opportunity to
meet new people in the geoscience information community**

DID YOU KNOW?

In the computer world, Easter eggs are messages, videos, graphics, sound effects, or an unusual change in program behavior that sometimes occur in a software program in response to some undocumented set of commands, mouse clicks, keystrokes or other stimuli intended as a joke or to display program credits.



CONTENTS

Australia's National Geosciences, Minerals and Petroleum Reference Database (AESIS) is available online via Informat	3
Upcoming AGIA and AGIA-sponsored events	4
Information Online 2009 and AGIA	5
From the newsletter editor	5
Web sites & mailing lists of interest	6
Vale	6
List of Geoscience Associations	7
Snip'its	7
National committee 2008–09	8

AGIA is a member of the Australian Geoscience Council





AUSTRALIA'S NATIONAL GEOSCIENCES, MINERALS AND PETROLEUM REFERENCE DATABASE (AESIS) IS AVAILABLE ONLINE VIA INFORMIT

Australia's National Geosciences, Minerals and Petroleum Reference Database (AESIS) is an invaluable resource for researchers and practitioners working in the fields of Geology, Metals, Energy Resources, Mining and Mineral Resources, Oil, Precious Stones, Resource Exploration and Science. RMIT Publishing's Informit online service provides powerful search functionality to allow you to seek out the most relevant material for your work from the nearly 200,000 records which ASEIS encompasses (dating from the 1960s to 2001).

AESIS was developed by the Australian Mineral Foundation (AMF) in cooperation with Geoscience Australia, CSIRO, State Departments of Mines and Geological Surveys, the National Library of Australia, the Australian Geoscience Information Association, and many other companies. Data has been sourced from over 600 journal titles, monographs in series, books, conference papers, technical reports, maps, theses, and unpublished and open-file reports. Coverage began in 1976 and ceased in 2001, at which point AESIS was the world's largest reference database covering both published and unpublished Australian geoscience, minerals and petroleum literature.

In 2003 AESIS was acquired by the South Australian Branch of the Australian Geoscience Information Association which now holds copyright to the database.

COVERAGE

AESIS covered Australian-generated published and unpublished documented materials over the full range of the geosciences, minerals and petroleum and related areas. From 1979 AESIS also covered material published on continental Australia by non-Australian sources. AESIS commenced in 1976, but coverage goes back to 1975 and much earlier, especially for open-file reports and theses. Retrospective coverage for published material was also undertaken through special projects for the GSA, ASEG, AusIMM, Geoscience Australia and the various Australian Royal Societies. With approximately 200,000 references AESIS continues to be a valuable source to over 30 years contribution to geoscience literature by Australian authors.

SOURCE DOCUMENTS

Material reviewed for inclusion in AESIS was taken from many sources including over 600 journal titles, monographs in series, books, conference papers and proceedings, technical reports, maps, theses, and unpublished and open-file reports predominantly from the State Geological Surveys and Department of Mines and Geoscience Australia.

[Read more about AESIS](#)

[Request a free trial for your organisation](#)

From the [Informit website](#) courtesy of Julie Roberts: julie.roberts@santos.com



UPCOMING AGIA AND AGIA-SPONSORED EVENTS

AGIA BREAKFAST SERIES CALENDAR

Event	Date	Time	Venue	Speaker	Topic
Easter	7 April 2009	7.30am	Bell's Cafe	None	Networking

CAPITALISING ON UNSTRUCTURED DATA

Aligning business strategy with information assets

27-28 May 2009, Holiday Inn, Perth

This is a one-day conference followed by two post-conference workshops on Thursday, 28th May 2009.

Workshop A: Business classification schemes: managing unstructured data on a business level. Facilitated by: James Price, Managing Director; and Brian Nielsen, Senior Consultant, Experience Matters

Workshop B: Creating a pragmatic approach to managing unstructured data. Facilitated by: Cairo Walker, Information Management Consultant

AGIA is a sponsor of this event, and AGIA members are eligible for a sizeable discount if you register before 24 April 2009.

The plethora of unstructured data and how to standardise it into a manageable context is one of the primary challenges for information managers today. The influx of electronic data held in unstructured formats will continue to increase exponentially as technology develops and companies rely on these tools to carry out business functions.

Controlling unstructured data and accessing information will remain of paramount importance for businesses in improving workforce processes, increasing productivity and managing intellectual capital. Aligning knowledge contained in an organisation's unstructured data, and transforming this data into productive information and knowledge will provide your business with a financial edge. Gain expert knowledge to identify approaches for managing unstructured data and formulating a long-term business strategy.

- Identifying your business needs: linking unstructured data to strategy
- Creating a pragmatic approach to functional classification of unstructured data
- Transforming unstructured data into manageable data
- Assessing the impacts of new technology and architecture

See the [conference brochure](#) for more details.

INFORMATION ONLINE 2009 AND AGIA

The Information Online conference for 2009 has come and gone and the papers are available from the conference website: <http://www.information-online.com.au/>

Choosing sessions was not easy as there seemed to be something for everyone. I took in quite a bit on e-repositories (and there is no one-approach here, which surprised me), lending rights, copyright ... One paper that might lead somewhere was given by Gerry Ryder of CSIRO: *Repositioning for repositories: making the move to science data management*. Not before time my spies tell me, and interestingly, the principles suggested reminded me very much of my data management days at Cultus Petroleum and related companies, and this was before computing took a hold.

Even though the program was very busy, some AGIA members and colleagues still found time to meet at Nick's Bar and Grill at the King Street Wharf on Darling Harbour for a very tasty meal and lots of chat. It was lovely to catch up with our former AGIA NSW stalwarts Janet Jeffreys who has now retired, Wendy Lippiatt, now working at TAFE but wishing she was in geoscience info and Geoff Brookes (current member) and two colleagues from Geoscience Australia (GA).



L-R: Kerry Smith (Curtin Uni), Leanne Morton (Coffey), Chris Nelson (GA), Janet Jeffreys (retired), Wendy Lippiatt (TAFE), Geoff Brookes (Bilfinger Berger), Felicity Siro (GA) and AGIA President Sue Grennan (BHP Billiton)

Kerry Smith

FROM THE NEWSLETTER EDITOR

I could really do with some articles for the newsletter and items for the website, so if you have any suggestions, or something to share with fellow AGIA members, please contact me or another member of the committee. **Jenny Mikucki**



UPCOMING CONFERENCES AND SYMPOSIA

[APPEA 2009](#)

CONFERENCE & EXHIBITION, DARWIN, 31 MAY–3 JUNE 2009

[SGEM 2009](#)

INTERNATIONAL MULTIDISCIPLINARY SCIENTIFIC GEO-CONFERENCE & EXPO "MODERN MANAGEMENT OF MINE PRODUCING, GEOLOGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION", MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND WATER, REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA, JUNE 2009

[SGA 2009](#)

SMART SCIENCE FOR EXPLORATION AND MINING, TOWNSVILLE, 17-20 AUGUST 2009.

[34TH IGC](#)

34TH INTERNATIONAL GEOLOGICAL CONGRESS, BRISBANE, 2-10 AUGUST 2012

WEB SITES & MAILING LISTS OF INTEREST

WAIN MAILING LIST

WAIN@lists.curtin.edu.au
<https://lists.curtin.edu.au/mailman/listinfo/wain>

GEONET

Geonet mailing list: Geonet@purdue.edu
<https://lists.purdue.edu/mailman/listinfo/geonet>

VALE

Harriet Wallace passed away on Wednesday, January 14th, at the age of 94, in Savoy, ILLINOIS, USA.

Harriet was one of the founding members of Geoscience Information Society in the USA. She received her bachelor's degree in geology from Northwestern in 1936, a master's degree in teaching from Columbia University Teachers College, and a master's degree in library and information science from the University of Illinois in 1962. She was the Geology Librarian at University of Illinois in the 1960's and 1970's, and was instrumental in building a noteworthy collection. Harriet retired as full professor in 1979.

She was a generous, intelligent, and spirited lady, and will be greatly missed.

From the Geonet mailing list by Lura Joseph, Geology Librarian, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign



LIST OF GEOSCIENCE ASSOCIATIONS

Committee member Camille Peters has compiled a list of geoscience associations, which is now available on the AGIA website:

<http://www.agia.org.au/resources/GEOSCIENCE-ASS.htm>

SNIP'ITS

AGI PUBLISHES GEOREF THESAURUS, 11TH EDITION

The American Geological Institute (AGI) has just released the latest edition of the GeoRef Thesaurus (ISBN 978-0-922152-82-7).

This essential guide to GeoRef database terminology includes over 30,000 controlled vocabulary terms and has been updated with 1,780 new terms. The GeoRef Thesaurus includes terms for rocks, soils, sediments, geologic structures, time periods and features, etc. New and revised terms for the 11th edition include geographic locations, Integrated Ocean Drilling Program drilling sites, and taxonomic changes for selected fossil groups.

This 832 page book, is available now from AGI. To learn more about this new publication or to order, visit

<http://www.agiweb.org/pubs/pubdetail.html?item=140337>.

For more information on GeoRef visit <http://www.agiweb.org/georef/>.

NTIS LAUNCH OF THE NATIONAL TECHNICAL REPORTS LIBRARY (NTRL), SPRING 2009

The National Technical Information Service (NTIS) is the US Federal Government's central source for the sale of scientific, technical, engineering, and related business information produced by or for the US government and complementary material from international sources.

To further enhance accessibility to the NTIS collection, NTIS will be launching the National Technical Reports Library (NTRL) during early Spring (northern hemisphere) 2009.

The NTRL will provide access to bibliographic records of more than 2,000,000 technical reports, and downloadable full text of 500,000 of these reports in Portable Document Format (PDF).

The NTRL operates on a subscription-based system interface that allows users to do queries on the large NTIS bibliographic database. The intent is to broadly expand and improve access to millions of bibliographic records (pre-1960 to present) and 500,000 full-text documents in PDF that are directly linked to the bibliographic database.

If you are interested in learning more about the NTRL, contact them at NTRLhelpdesk@ntis.gov.



AUSTRALIAN GEOSCIENCE INFORMATION ASSOCIATION INC.

NATIONAL COMMITTEE 2008–09

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