

# The Tasmanian Geologist

September 2022



**NEXT MEETING:**

**Wednesday 21st  
September  
6:00 PM**

**EARTH FUTURES FILM  
FESTIVAL NIGHT**

Geology Lecture Theatre  
University of Tasmania

Join us for drinks and nibbles  
before the screening from 5:30 PM

*Meetings in 2022: put them in your diary*

*October 11th: GSA Neo Earth Science week  
panel: Connection to Country (see GSA Website)*

*October 29th: Andrew Tyson and Clint Scott  
Paradise Gorge - Rock Removal in Columnar  
Dolerite*

*November: Martin Jutzeler Investigator Voyage  
to the Kermadec Arc*

*November 15-16<sup>th</sup> Virtual GESSS 12-2PM*

*November 22-24<sup>th</sup> STGSG King Island Field  
Conference*

*December 1st Tasmanian Geoscience Forum,  
Lakeside Lodge, Tullah*

## NEXT MEETING:

### Earth Futures Film Festival

An evening of Earth Science themed films:

The Earth Futures Film Festival is an international video and film event that highlights the importance of Earth Sciences in achieving a sustainable future. The festival highlights the critical role of geoscience in helping to understand the interconnection of the physical and biological systems on our planet and the impact of humanity.

“The festival is a global collaboration to showcase how geoscience is addressing current sustainability challenges through media, with a key focus on education, diversity and inclusion.

The festival aims to educate and inspire others, create diverse role models, motivate positive global change and attract a diverse range of people towards both study and careers in the field of geoscience.”

From the Earth Futures website

<https://www.earthfuturesfestival.com/>

Popcorn will be available!



Bring your family and friends



Meandering Wadis, SE Jordan Credit: USGS

There are many entries in the festival – too many for us to show them all at our meeting so we need your help.

Please go to the film festival website and look at the titles and descriptions. Then vote for what you would like to see on our film night via this link. Feel free to vote for more than one entry.

[Vote for our film viewing here](#)

Before the 15<sup>th</sup> of September you can also vote in the film festival for your favorite video for the people’s choice award on the film festival website.

## PREVIOUS MEETINGS

**SUNDAY 14<sup>th</sup> of August Launceston QMAG Inveresk in a joint meeting with the Royal Society of Tasmania Northern Branch**

**Peter McGoldrick presented a talk titled ‘Tasmania’s oldest fossil’**

There was some debate on who was Tasmania’s oldest fossil, but Peter demonstrated that it was indeed *Horodyskia williamsii* discovered in the Rocky Cape Group in north western Tasmania around 2010 by Martin Laan and identified by Clive Calver and Kath Grey.

The presentation outlined the original discovery of *Horodyskia* in mountains of Montana and some controversies surrounding its origins. The presence of these early fossils in both the Belt-Purcell Basin of the USA and in Tasmania were a clue to the early paleogeographic proximity of these regions. Later work on zircons geochronology by Jacob Mulder, Jacqui Halpin and co-workers confirmed that NW Tasmania was close to parts of North America in the mid-Proterozoic.



and includes many public events and exhibitions across multiple venues. This year Jacqui Halpin created an Antarctic Rock Exhibition which was enthusiastically run by IMAS/CODES PhD students Jeremy Asimus and Sibebe do Nascimento. Here is Jeremy's take on the display and activities:

The exhibit included a range of sedimentary, igneous and metamorphic hand specimens and thin sections collected from onshore Antarctic and dredged rocks from the Kerguelen Plateau in the Southern Ocean. It was many attendees first time looking at thin section using a petrographic microscope, and most were surprised at how different and artful the microstructural world of rocks can be.

The exhibit also contained a sapphire and zircon panning activity, which was a hit with children once they learned they could take home any gems they uncovered.

A plate tectonic reconstruction video was provided by Sheree Armistead showing the plate motions from 0 to 1000 Ma relative to Tasmania. Earth Sciences kindly loaned their microscopes for the activities. Thanks to all for a fantastic (and messy) exhibit!

Jeremy Asimus



*Kids enjoy panning for sapphires and zircons at the Antarctic Festival (Photo provided by J. Asimus)*

### **FREE Training in communications**

Take advantage of the offer to GSA members-only to Geologize's critically acclaimed course Practical Geocommunication for 2022 for free! Geologize is a global leader in providing training to geoscientists who wish to communicate more effectively with their audience.

Geologize teaches geoscientists to bring the public to a greater understanding and appreciation of our planet through effective and powerful communication.

When you complete **Practical Geocommunication**, you will receive an accredited CPD-valid certificate.

*"Passion. Education. Sustainability. We believe that if people understand how the planet works, they will appreciate and care about it more. Geologize seeks to create and facilitate the creation of tangible and emotional connections between the general public and the world in which they live." Haydon Mort, Geologize.*

Contact the GSA: [info@gsa.org.au](mailto:info@gsa.org.au) to get your code to this GSA-funded initiative (see flyer at the end of the Newsletter)

### **STUDENTS**

Hello students. Undergraduates will be working hard in the final part of the semester for 2022. We hope you are progressing well in your studies and have enough time up your sleeve to come and join in on the Film Festival Evening next week.



Congratulations ACACIA CLARK who has been awarded the one Endowment Fund prize for a PhD students from across Australia worth **\$5000**.

## Student Membership Benefits

Olivia Wilson won the Honours Endowment Scholarship for Tasmania in her honours year in 2020. Despite the lockdowns of that year, she eventually managed to get into the field to spend her money. Olivia is now employed by Entura in Hobart. She was an undergraduate member of the GSA and here is her testament to how it can be helpful for your future.

‘Being a student member of the Geological Society of Australia enriched my experience of studying geology. Especially important to me were the opportunities to make connections and learn about the research of other society members. As a student, it is also invaluable to have an environment in which you can interact with geoscientists from all career stages – hearing their experiences allows you to develop your own career aspirations. GSA membership also demonstrates that you have a level of passion and commitment to your field beyond the compulsory courses in your degree, helping your resume stand out as you transition to professional life.’



*Olivia Wilson (supplied by O. Wilson)*

You can become a member here <https://www.gsa.org.au/>

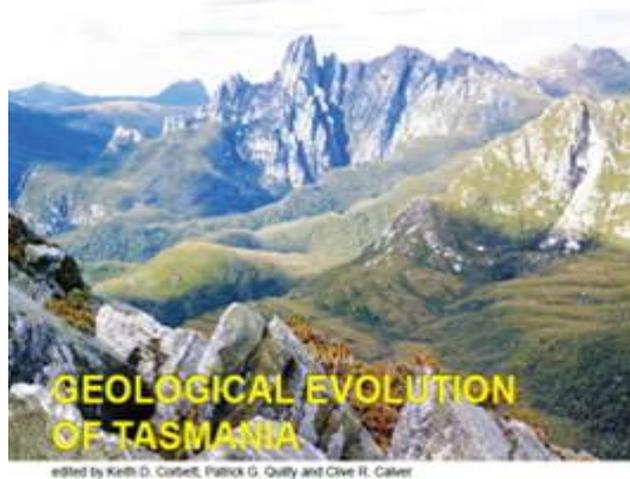
Any queries about your membership contact our membership officer Rebecca Carey ([Rebecca.Carey@utas.edu.au](mailto:Rebecca.Carey@utas.edu.au)).

**Undergraduate Student Members**  
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**Become a GSA Member and you can**  
**obtain ‘The Geological Evolution of**  
**Tasmania’ for \$75 including GST.**

[Students Join Here](#)

Once you are complete your membership please contact Caroline Mordant for your special price book. See details below



The flagship publication of the Tasmanian Division of the GSA, ‘The Geological Evolution of Tasmania’ (Special Publication 24 of the GSA) is available for ordering. All details are available on a specific part of the Utas CODES web site: [http://www.utas.edu.au/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0003/55313/Flyer\\_Order.pdf](http://www.utas.edu.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0003/55313/Flyer_Order.pdf)

Copies of the book can be obtained personally from Caroline Mordant ([publications@CODES.utas.edu.au](mailto:publications@CODES.utas.edu.au) or phone on +61 3 6226 7537).

Members Price is A\$90 + GST + postage where appropriate. Undergraduate student price is \$75.

Postage can be avoided by buying in person from Caroline Mordant in Earth Sciences (University of Tasmania). The book is also available at Fullers Bookshop and at TMAG in Hobart, and in the Devonport Bookshop, Devonport. Prices at these sites may vary from GSA prices, and the member price is not available at these sites either.

### Other Meetings

Other CODES Shortcourse dates available at <https://www.utas.edu.au/codes>

**16<sup>th</sup> September AusIMM Student Meets Industry Night Royal Yacht Club.** For more information [Tasmania Student Chapter – c \(ausimm.com\)](http://Tasmania_Student_Chapter_-_c_ausimm.com)

**22-24 November 2022 SGTSG Field meeting King Island** Postponed from February 2022. Biennial meeting at King Island to discuss the latest research and developments in tectonics and structural geology with 3 half day field trips. Limited to 60 people. For more details: <http://www.sgtsg.org>

### November 30<sup>th</sup>

One day online AIG Workshop ‘The Project Geologists Toolkit’ For more information check out this website <https://www.aig.org.au/events/project-geologists-toolkit-30-november-2022/>

### Final Words

*From Noel Kemp*

*Could this be the answer to the oldest fossil?  
Has Irish connections too!*



### GSA Tasmania Division Committee 2022-2023

**Chair: Karin Orth**

**Secretary: Sebastien Meffre**

[Sebastien.Meffre@utas.edu.au](mailto:Sebastien.Meffre@utas.edu.au)

**Treasurer: Claire Kain**

#### Committee Members:

Sheree Armistead  
Jeremy Asimus  
Rebecca Carey (Membership)  
Acacia Clark (Student Rep)  
Jacqueline Halpin  
Wei Xuen Heng  
Claire Kain (Geotourism)  
Peter McGoldrick  
Sebastien Meffre  
Phil Sansom (Education)  
Olivia Wilson

#### Geological Society of Australia website:

[www.gsa.org](http://www.gsa.org)

and our own website

<http://www.gsatasmania.org>

Any news, announcements or interesting photographs of Tasmanian Geology you would like to include in the next Newsletter, please send it through via email to [karin.orth@utas.edu.au](mailto:karin.orth@utas.edu.au) prior to the 8<sup>th</sup> of August 2022

# **GEOLOGIZE**

## **NOW FREE FOR GSA MEMBERS**

*Do you want to strengthen your geoscience communication skills? Maybe you want to educate a non-specialist audience about why geoscience is important.*

*If you do, take advantage of the GSA members-only license to Geologize's critically acclaimed course **Practical Geocommunication** for 2022 for **FREE!***

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### **What do you need to do next?**

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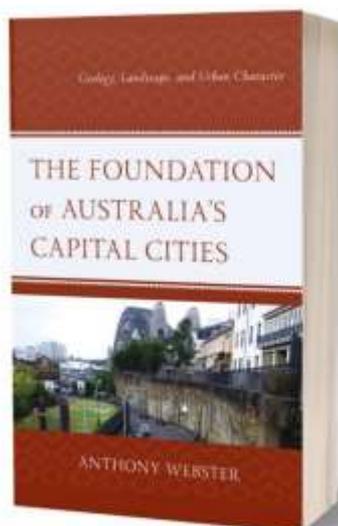
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## **THE FOUNDATION OF AUSTRALIA'S CAPITAL CITIES: GEOLOGY, LANDSCAPE, AND URBAN CHARACTER**

By **Anthony Webster**



“Webster has adopted a novel and extremely interesting approach in this book, which discusses the siting of the major cities of Australia. Tony has blended a plethora of rich historical accounts with a detailed discussion of the controlling local features of water supply, physiography, landscape and geology to provide a comprehensive and thought provoking account of the establishment and growth of our capital cities. I can highly recommend this book to all who are interested in Australian settlement history and the factors that affected the establishment of our major urban centres.”

— Ross Large, University of Tasmania

### **ABOUT THIS BOOK**

*The Foundation of Australia's Capital Cities* is the story of how the places chosen for Australia's seven colonial capitals came to shape their unique urban character and built environments. Tony Webster traces the effects of each city's geologically diverse coastal or riverine landform and the local natural materials that were available for construction, highlighting how the geology and original landforms resulted in development patterns that have persisted today.

### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

**Anthony (Tony) Webster** is adjunct senior lecturer of geology at the Centre for Ore Deposits and Earth Sciences (CODES), University of Tasmania and honorary senior research fellow at the Sustainable Minerals Institute (SMI), University of Queensland.

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- Chapter 8. Geology, Landscape and Australian Cities

Hardback:	ISBN 978-1-4985-9795-1	March 2022	Regular price: <del>\$120.00, £92.00</del>	After discount: <b>\$84.00, £64.40</b>
ebook:	ISBN 978-1-4985-9796-8	March 2022	Regular price: <del>\$45.00, £35.00</del>	After discount: <b>\$31.50, £24.50</b>

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## **Tasmanian Geoscience Forum 2022**



**GSA Tasmania Division, AusIMM and AIG are proud to bring you the**

### **12<sup>th</sup> Tasmanian Geoscience Forum**

#### **WHEN**

**Thursday 1st of December 2022  
9AM – 5 PM**

#### **VENUE**

**Tullah Lakeside Lodge  
Cnr Meredith Street &, Farrell Street Tullah TAS 7321**

**Field Trip options on the Friday 2nd Dec TBA**

**Registrations are open  
Please visit the website below for more information**

**<https://www.ausimm.com/conferences-and-events/community-events-details/12th-annual-tasmanian-geoscience-forum-geobash/>**