

Southern Sounder

Canberra South Branch

A Newsletter for Members

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What's up next!

Mawson Club Lunch

Wednesday 14th May

12:00

Biggest Morning Tea

Wednesday 28th May

10:30

Presidents Piece

Firstly, a big thanks to all members who were able to join us for the visit to Geoscience Australia. This was our first outing for 2025 and a great success. Thank you to our Welfare Officer, Lois.

I may add that if you were unable to join us at GA, remember that the Blackstone Cafe is open to the public as is the entrance foyer which houses a wonderful display of minerals plus other earth science displays.

We have been through a few weeks of electoral hoo haa which ended with the Federal Election on 3 May. There were many surprises coming out of the election with the Labor Party retaining government for the next three years.



A reminder that our next general meeting on the 28 May will be Australia's Biggest Morning Tea. As advised at our last meeting we have arranged for morning tea to be provided by the Stirling Club. We will charge \$20 per head with \$8 going to the purchase of morning tea and the remainder going to the Cancer Council. Also, the regular \$5 fee will not be charged but you will receive 3 raffle tickets. So I look forward to seeing you on the 28th for lots of chatting and a delicious morning tea.

Richard

Geo-Science Australia



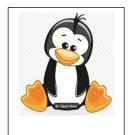
What a great morning! On Wednesday 30 April twenty-two members of our NSA branch visited Geoscience Australia in Symonston. Our group was addressed by a GA guide Louise, who gave an excellent overview of the work undertaken in the building and then a brief guided tour through the foyer. We were able to touch a piece of Black Rock from the moon. It is the only piece of moon rock in the southern hemispere. Then we went into the education room where we were shown large glass cyclinders containing layers of coloured sand. Louise explained that when school groups from all over Australia visit GA they are invited to add a selection of sand to one of the cylinders. These cylinders are 150mm in diameter and about 1500 mm tall. As the sands are of assorted colours and coarseness, the different layers demonstrate how sedimentary rocks are formed over millions of years. Science in action. In the same room we stamped our feet and saw the result of the vibrations on the seismograph. We also saw a large scale view of the continental shelf surrounding Australia.

In the National Earthquake Monitoring Centre across the corridor GA monitors the earthquake activity of the planet 24 hours a day using seismographs which are connected to the network of other seismographs around the planet. Predicting tsunamis generated by earthquakes are also monitored in the Centre.

The Blackstone cafe was a great place for refreshments and general conversation with each other before we headed back to the foyer for further browsing. It was so good to see so many members attending. Richard and Louise (photo) are standing in front of the globe gifted to GA by the School of Earth Science at the ANU. Lois



So, to all of the mothers out there, have a Happy Mother's Day and if you're not a Mother, you can enjoy the day as well.



Winter is with us, although you would hardly know it from the temperatures we have had, not good for the start of the Ski Season. But they are saying it is good for the Flu Season.

Remember, Vaccinations are available.