

## Spreading the word about geoscience

Geoscience Australia continues to offer extensive education and outreach programs to promote awareness and knowledge of the Earth sciences, and the contribution geoscience makes to the Australian economy, resource management and environmental protection.

Outreach programs, such as Open Day, and participation in activities to celebrate National Science Week and Earth Science Week, aim to raise awareness and promote the work that Geoscience Australia undertakes.



**Figure 1.** 'Man and penguin, Antarctica' by Chris Carson was one of the winning entries in the 2010 Top GeoShot competition.

Geoscience Australia's Open Day will be held on Sunday 21 August 2011. It is an opportunity for interested members of the public to visit the agency's headquarters at Symonston, ACT, and will coincide with National Science Week celebrations. A range of displays, tours and activities will showcase how the agency's research is being applied to some of the major challenges facing Australia today. Building and laboratory tours, an Antarctic experience, a walk back in time, water sample taste testing, rock identification, gold panning and exploding volcanoes are some of the activities planned for the day.

Earth Science Week is an international initiative to promote the Earth sciences and raise awareness of the contribution geoscience makes to the community. This year's theme is 'Our ever-changing Earth' and celebrations will be held from 9 to 15 October 2011. Geoscience Australia has participated in Earth Science Week activities for 13 years and has hosted Australia's Earth Science Week website and coordinated celebrations across Australia. Geoscience Australia will celebrate this year's event by acknowledging the 100th anniversary of Mawson's expedition to Antarctica.

In the lead up to Earth Science Week, Geoscience Australia also hosts two competitions: the *Geologi* short film competition and

the *Top GeoShot* photographic competition.

The *Geologi* short film competition is in its fifth year and is hosted by Geoscience Australia and the Australian Science Teachers Association. The theme for this year's competition is 'Geology and you'. It is open for individuals, groups or classes from any Australian primary or secondary school to submit a short film that explores the affect on the individual or community of natural hazards, rocks and minerals, geological history, local geology or recent geoscience research.

The *Top GeoShot* photographic competition is open to members of the public. It aims to produce a collection of images that capture the essence of Earth science in Australia and amateur photographers are invited to submit their photographs (figure 1). This year's winning entries (or 'TopShots') will be announced during Earth Science Week and will be on display in the foyer of the Geoscience Australia building.

**For more information on Open Day, Earth Science Week or either of the competitions**

email [education@ga.gov.au](mailto:education@ga.gov.au)

web [www.ga.gov.au/education/public-events](http://www.ga.gov.au/education/public-events)



<b>AMEC Convention 2011</b>	<b>28 to 30 June</b>
Association of Mining and Exploration Companies Inc Burswood Entertainment Complex, Perth, WA Contact: AMEC, PO Box 6337, East Perth WA 6892	P +61 8 9225 4399 or 1300 738 184 (Within Australia) f +61 8 9221 9377 or 1300 738 185 (Within Australia) e events@amec.org.au www.amecconvention.com.au
<b>XXV International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics General Assembly</b>	<b>28 June to 7 July</b>
Earth on the Edge: Science for a Sustainable Planet Melbourne Convention & Exhibition Centre, Melbourne, Victoria Contact: arinex pty limited, IUGG General Assembly Managers, 91-97 Islington Street, Collingwood VIC 3066	P +61 3 9417 0888 f +61 3 9417 0899 e iugg2011@arinex.com.au www.iugg2011.com
<b>AMSA 2011 Conference</b>	<b>3 to 7 July</b>
Australian Marine Sciences Association Esplanade Hotel, Fremantle, WA Contact: EECW Pty Ltd, PO Box 749, Wembley WA 6913	P +61 8 9389 1488 f +61 8 9389 1499 e emma@eecw.com.au www.amsa2011.com.au
<b>7th International Symposium on Digital Earth (ISDE7)</b>	<b>23 to 25 August</b>
Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre, Perth, WA Contact: International Conferences and Events, Suite 4, Level 2, 73 Hay Street, Subiaco, WA 6008	p +61 8 9381 9281 f +61 8 9381 9560 e isde7@iceaustralia.com www.isde7.net/
<b>Fire, Weather and Risk Workshop</b>	<b>2 to 4 September</b>
Craigieburn Hotel, Bowral, New South Wales Contact: Bob Cechet, Geoscience Australia, GPO Box 378, Canberra ACT 2601	P +61 2 6249 9246 e bob.cechet@ga.gov.au www.highfirerisk.com.au/fwrw2011/ fwrw_home.htm
<b>Mining 2011 Resources Convention</b>	<b>26 to 28 October</b>
Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre, Brisbane, Queensland Contact: Vertical Events, PO Box 1153, Subiaco WA 6904	P +61 8 9388 2222 f +61 8 9381 9222 e info@verticalevents.com.au www.verticalevents.com.au/
<b>China Mining Congress and Expo</b>	<b>6 to 8 November</b>
Ministry of Land and Resources, China Tianjin Meijiang Convention and Exhibition Centre, Tianjin, China Contact: China Mining Organising Committee	P +86 10 6446 6855 f +86 10 5885 7006 e info@china-mining.org www.china-mining.org/en/



<b>IMTA (Asia Pacific) Global Conference and Trade Show 2011</b>	<b>10 and 11 November</b>
International Map Trade Association Bangkok, Thailand Contact: Noleen Zander, IMTA (Asia Pacific), PO Box 1112, Unley SA 5061	P +61 8 8357 1777 f +61 8 8357 3001 e imtaaspac@chariot.net.au www.imtamaps.org/events/displayevent.php?id=117
<b>spatial@gov 2011 Conference &amp; Exhibition</b>	<b>15 to 17 November</b>
National Convention Centre, Canberra, ACT Contact: CeBIT Global Conferences, 80 Buckingham Street, Surry Hills NSW 2010	P +61 2 9280 3400 f +61 2 9280 1977 e cebit@hannoverfairs.com.au www.cebit.com.au/spatial
<b>Australian Geothermal Energy Conference</b>	<b>16 to 18 November</b>
Australian Geothermal Energy Association and Australian Geothermal Energy Group Sebel Albert Park, Melbourne, Victoria Contact: Rob Bulfield, Sapro Conference Management	P +61 8 8274 6063 e agec2011@sapmea.asn.au www.ausgeothermal.com/
<b>Surveying and Spatial Sciences Conference 2011</b>	<b>21 to 25 November</b>
New Zealand Institute of Surveyors and Surveying and Spatial Sciences Institute Wellington Conference Centre, Wellington, New Zealand Contact: Conference Works Ltd, PO Box 1449, Wellington, New Zealand	P +64 4 479 8616 f +64 4 479 4341 e convenor@sssc2011.org www.sssc2011.org

*For more information* on Geoscience Australia's involvement in the above events email [ausgeomail@ga.gov.au](mailto:ausgeomail@ga.gov.au)