

In all the hustle and bustle of the lead up to Christmas, don't forget that early next year all the pre-eminent regolith scientists in Australia will be converging on Mildura and if you plan to be a part of it, now is the time to get your abstract submitted! Only a few oral spots left!

And don't forget to register at the same time and book your place on the riverboat cruise, the trip to Lake Mungo National Park, the Arumpo Bentonite Mine and Gingko Heavy Minerals Mine and the post-conference visit to the Chowilla Floodplain. All this and more at the up-coming second conference of the [Australian Regolith Geoscientists Association](#) (ARGA).

The City of Mildura in New South Wales will welcome us between the 7th and the 10th of February 2012. This conference is being held jointly with the [Australian Clay Minerals Society](#) (ACMS) conference - more regolith bang for your buck!

The venue for the conference will be the renowned Grand Hotel in Mildura (Quality Hotel Mildura Grand). We plan two days of presentations (the 7th and 9th) with joint ARGA/ACMS sessions in the morning and separate ARGA/ACMS sessions in the afternoon. We have been extremely fortunate in securing Tony Mason, Bob Gilkes, Martin Kennedy and Jim Bowler as plenary speakers.

Jim Bowler and Tony Hope will lead the mid-conference field trip that will be held on the 8th of February. We will visit Lake Mungo National Park in order to review the geomorphological history of region, the Arumpo Bentonite mine and the Gingko heavy mineral sands mine. In case the hot weather is of concern, we will be travelling by air-conditioned bus.

The mid-conference field trip will be followed by the conference dinner which will be held on a River Murray Riverboat. The after dinner speaker will be Tony Hope, who will be launching his book on his adventures in the Riverland region at the conference.

The post-conference field trip will be held on the 10th of February and will be led by Richard Cresswell - a hydrogeologist well known to many ex LEMers. This field trip will focus on environmental management issues in the Murray River flood plain, heading west towards Renmark, Loxton and Kingston-on-Murray, taking in the salt interception schemes and River Murray wetlands.

Students are particularly encouraged to attend and present at this conference, and both ARGA and ACMS are offering free registration for all students presenting, and a limited number of student bursaries to assist with travel and accommodation costs.

Registration costs \$280 and includes the conference program, mid conference field trip and conference dinner. The post-conference field trip will cost \$55

To register, and for more information about this "must do" conference for all Australian regolith geologists, visit www.regolith.org.au. Alternatively, complete the attached registration form.

See you in Mildura in 2012!!

Lisa Worrall

President
Australian Regolith Geoscientists Association

Richard Cresswell

2012 Conference Organiser
Australian Regolith Geoscientists Association