

Congratulations to the winners of the 2025 SMEDG Geoscience Honours Student Scholarships



WINNERS OF 2025 SMEDG GEOSCIENCE HONOURS STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP ANNOUNCED



2025 SMEDG Scholarship winners (L-R) – Charlotte Billinghamurst, Penelope Beltran-Rehberg, Bae Beezley, Rory Mackett

The SMEDG Committee is pleased to announce the winners of the inaugural **2025 SMEDG Geoscience Honours Student Scholarship**. The purpose of this new initiative is to provide support and encouragement for students undertaking the geoscience Honours year at a NSW or ACT university with a project relating to economic geology.

SMEDG was delighted to receive strong applications from Honours students from five universities in NSW and ACT. The Judging Panel was impressed by the calibre of all the students and the challenges presented by their chosen projects.

The winners of the *2025 SMEDG Geoscience Honours Student Scholarship* are:

- **Charlotte Billinghamurst** (UNSW):
The role of native vegetation as hyperaccumulators of heavy metals in rehabilitation programs at NSW mine sites
- **Penelope Beltran-Rehberg** (SydUni):
A mechanism for regional granulite facies metamorphism in the Broken Hill domain (NSW), and implications for exploration
- **Bae Beezley** (ANU):
Characterisation of niobium mineralisation in the Gifford Creek Carbonatite Complex (WA)
- **Rory Mackett** (UNE):
The Wisemans Arm Formation – its implications for regional tectonism and exploration in the New England Orogen (NSW)

The SMEDG Committee congratulates all the students who applied for this scholarship, and the universities who continue to support the study of economic geology. Presentation of the *SMEDG Geoscience Honours Student Scholarship Award* certificates will take place at the *SMEDG Awards Dinner* on Thursday 28 August 2025 in Sydney, and the winners will present short talks on their projects at a future monthly SMEDG meeting.

The scholarship will be awarded annually, with applications open soon for the **2026 SMEDG Geoscience Honours Student Scholarship** - watch this space!