



Kimberley Society

Book Note

***Kimberley Coast: A Traveller's Guide to Bays, Basins, Islands and Estuaries* by A.W. (Sandy) Scott. Envirobook, Sussex Inlet (NSW), 2012. Soft cover, 124 pages, illustrated, ISBN 9780858812406, RRP \$29.95.**

Members who attended Sandy Scott's talk on [Bays, Basins, Islands and Estuaries of the Kimberley Coast](#) on 5 October 2011 will know what to expect in this book. Those who were unable to attend might have seen the summary of the talk in the *Boab Bulletin* in February 2012 or on our website.

The book explains, with the aid of photographs, maps and diagrams, how some of the diverse landforms of the Kimberley coast developed. The first section, titled 'The Making of Landforms', covers such aspects as faults and lineaments, earth movements, disintegration of rocks, changes in sea level, climatic influences, and weathering. The second section presents case studies of 14 visually impressive places.

While *Kimberley Coast* will be excellent for readers fortunate enough to see the coastline from the sea, it will also interest those who want to know more about the landforms there. A map shows locations and features, with the emphasis on those between Yampi Sound and Vansittart Bay.

The book stems from the author's personal interest in geomorphology and his work as a guest lecturer with Coral Princess Cruises. Having been asked each year about the physical landscape, and why the landforms look as they do, Sandy wrote this compact guide in which numerous colour photographs help with comprehension of the necessarily technical text. Page 54, for example, has images titled 'Saline mud flat on the eastern side of Vansittart Bay' and 'Slabs of beachrock formed on a sand beach on the eastern side of Vansittart Bay'. The facing page carries comments about the formation of beachrock, which, surprisingly, can form in months rather than hundreds of years. Sandy notes that: 'Possibly the most overlooked point about the coastal landforms of the Kimberley is the predominance of terrestrial conditions in their formation. The influence of the sea is a relatively recent phenomenon.'

Kimberley Coast can be purchased at: Broome Lottery Centre & News (Broome Boulevard Shopping Centre); Chinatown News (Paspaley Plaza Shopping Centre, Broome); The Bookshop Darwin (The Galleria, Darwin) and Walkabout Souvenirs (Kununurra Shopping Centre). It is also available from Envirobook, 5/168 Jacobs Drive, Sussex Inlet, NSW 2540, [email sales@envirobook.com.au](mailto:sales@envirobook.com.au), telephone 0401 427 032, or fax 02 4441 2004. Envirobook, which charges no postage on personal orders, sells other Kimberley books that include those by and about Mary Durack as well as Victoria Laurie's *The Kimberley*; Sheryl McCorry's *Diamonds and Dust* and *Stars Over Shiralee*; Di Morrissey's *Kimberley Sun* and *Tears of the Moon*; and John Bailey's *The White Divers of Broome*. A catalogue, mostly devoted to natural science books, is available at www.envirobook.com.au (under the "Distribution" tab).

A copy of *Kimberley Coast*, donated by Sandy Scott, was eagerly seized as the first prize in the September raffle. Six copies will be on hand at the October meeting.

Cathie Clement