



Professor Ross Taylor - A Brief Biography

Ross Taylor was born in New Zealand. He took degrees in chemistry and geology at the University of New Zealand before completing a Ph. D. in geochemistry at Indiana University. He lectured at the Universities of Oxford and Cape Town before moving to the Research School of Earth Sciences at the Australian National University where he worked for 30 years.

He has worked on the composition and evolution of the Moon, the continental crust, tektites and impact glasses, island arc rocks and many other topics involving trace element geochemistry.

He was involved in the study of lunar samples from the first sample return in 1969, when he was a member of the Preliminary Examination Team at NASA JSC, Houston, Texas and carried out the first analysis of the first lunar sample returned to Earth. Subsequently as a NASA Principal Investigator, he worked on models for lunar composition, evolution and origin.

He has published 230 papers in scientific journals and nine books, including *Solar System Evolution: A New Perspective*, *Destiny or Chance*, *The Continental Crust: Its Composition and Evolution* (with Scott McLennan), *Planetary Science: A Lunar Perspective* and *Lunar Science: A Post-Apollo View*.

He has been awarded the Goldschmidt Medal of the Geochemical Society, the Leonard Medal of the Meteoritical Society, The Bucher Medal and the Bowen Award of the American Geophysical Union and the Gilbert Award of the Geological Society of America.

Asteroid 5670 is named Rosstaylor

He is a Fellow of the Australian Academy of Science, an Honorary Fellow of the Royal Society of New Zealand and a Foreign Associate of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America. He is a former President of the Meteoritical Society.

He is an Emeritus Professor and Visiting Fellow at the Dept of Geology, Australian National University, Canberra, Australia, where he is currently working with colleagues at NASA and ESA on the New Views of the Moon Project.

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