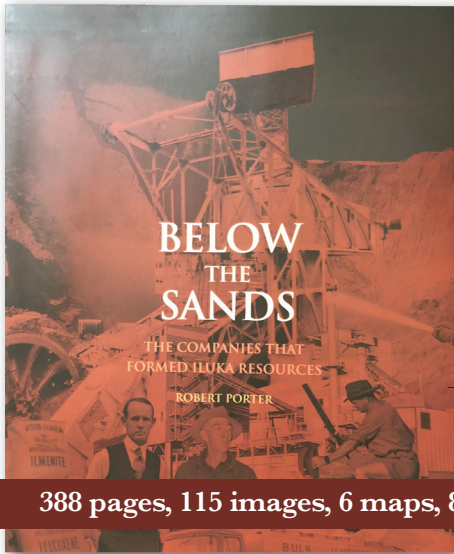


# BELOW THE SANDS



## The Companies that Formed Iluka Resources

**Consolidated Gold Fields, RGC, Westralian Oil, Westralian Sands, Associated Minerals Consolidated, Western Titanium.**

*Robert Porter*

**A\$45.00**

**388 pages, 115 images, 6 maps, 8 appendices. A limited print run edition, not available through retailers.**

*Below the Sands* charts the formation of Iluka Resources in 1998, through the amalgamation of the lineage of two streams of companies: Consolidated Gold Fields Australia (CGFA) and then Renison Goldfields Consolidated (RGC), with Westralian Sands. RGC, a diversified mining company with a spread of investments, was formed from CGFA, an offshoot of the British mining house, Gold Fields, that traced its origins to 1887 and formation by Cecil Rhodes. CGFA invested broadly, including in a mineral novel to the British group – beach or mineral sands.

Westralian Sands had humbler origins, formed as Westralian Oil by entrepreneurs in 1954 hoping to take advantage of the share market frenzy for oil. Oil was not found. Instead, the company encountered mineral sands and went on to produce in Western Australia, located adjacent to its CGFA controlled neighbour, Western Titanium.

This book conveys the complex and intriguing history of both sets of companies, including the events in London which led RGC to have corporate raider, Hanson Plc, as its major shareholder. Westralian Sands approached Hanson in London, suggesting an aggregation of the two companies. A merger by scheme of arrangement occurred in 1998; Iluka was formed. The 'small fish swallowed the whale'. The book explores the lead up to these events and the post-acquisition period to 2015.

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