



RGSQ Bulletin

February 2015

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From the President

I would like to open my President's Page for 2015 wishing you all a happy and prosperous 2015 and I would like to welcome Lilia Darii to our staff as Administration Officer to assist Bernard in the office. I would also like to wish Hayley Fremantle (Office Assistant) all the best for her future. Hayley finished work on 9th December after nearly 8 years in the office at Milton.

At the beginning of this new year I think RGSQ can look forward with a certain degree of optimism. Our office computer system has just undergone an overhaul to make our office more responsive and efficient, and on 22nd November Council held their first meeting regarding a strategic plan for our society. Following recommendations from that meeting we will meet again on 7th February to put in place governance for implementing that plan.

Enclosed in this issue of the 'RGSQ Bulletin' is our DRAFT program of lectures and events for 2015. This year we have an interesting

program of 'geography on the ground' with major treks to the Warrumbungles in Western New South Wales in April, overseas to Sri Lanka in September and another major to Kangaroo Island in South Australia at the beginning of October, as well as quite a number of day outings and evening lectures throughout the year.

I would like to invite all members of RGSQ to a promotional evening of Treks Revisited at 7.00pm on Friday 13th February, and highlighted with 'Back to Cape York', the 'North Western United States', and 'Hong Kong', and laced with interesting photos, artefacts and nostalgia. We will also introduce our major treks proposed later on in 2015 and into 2016.

I notice many of you are avid supporters of our evening program as well as our outdoors activities so I would assume you would be interested in delving into our much underutilised library. National Parks seem to be of considerable interest to you when inserted into our outdoor activities both domestically here in Australia and overseas.

Each month RGSQ receive a number of new periodicals which I'm sure would provide some interesting reading for all our members. As an example I have chosen one article from 'National Geographic', one from 'New Zealand Geographic', and one from 'Australian Geographic'.

If you read 'National Geographic' you could quite easily miss a very interesting insight into 'paper' on page 33 of the December issue which you can find on the rack at the top of the staircase as you enter RGSQ. It's titled 'No wonder you love paper'. 'Print and Paper Myths and Facts.' A reputable organisation such as National Geographic would have researched the facts before inviting you to find out more at www.youlovepaper.info.

Paper, is an inherently sustainable communication medium. Some discussion revolves around dispelling some of the myths regarding the use of paper, forest management and expansion, biofuels, the environment, carbon footprint, newspaper consumption of paper, greenhouse gas emissions, recycling and packaging. Open this page on your internet driver – it makes interesting reading.

'Rethinking National Parks,' is an article presented on page 75 of 'Australian Geographic'. Suggestions here relate to ecologists calling for a radical rethink on management of National Parks. Walking the dog, picnicking, water and shade trees are some of the issues mentioned, along with preserving unproductive stony country rather than examples of rich agricultural country. Under management, feral animals, and neighbouring landholders and threatened species, wildlife corridors and over visitation are some of the issues raised. Add

suggestions for depositories of wildlife in fenced refuges and islands and you have some idea of the scope for improvement in our National Parks system here in Australia. We even need to introduce and encourage our children to experience the great outdoors. Here again – it's on the shelf in your RGSQ Library.

Like Sharyn and myself I suspect many of you have travelled to New Zealand – some on a number of occasions. Flying into Auckland, New Zealand's largest city on a clear day reveals a number of features of The Auckland Volcanic Field. The green verdant hills and craters are testament to volcanic activity that can now be measured over the past 250,000 years. Eruptions have occurred 53 times over this period of time. New Zealand's Riskscape program of computer modelling includes aspects of civil defence, volcanic science, roads, telecommunications, electricity, water reticulation and sewerage and makes interesting reading from 'New Zealand Geographic', also featured on the shelves at RGSQ.

In these three articles we've mentioned ecology, national parks, and aspects of one of our nearest neighbours New Zealand in relating features of the Auckland Volcanic field – it's all very geographical. We now have a library convenor Ann Hanger, so I would urge you to contact Ann through the office, and make use of RGSQ's wonderful library resource.

Leo Scanlan

Condolences to Rob Francis

The Society would like to express our condolences to long time member, Rob Francis on the death of his wife Ailsa Fulton Francis who passed away peacefully on Saturday, 3rd January 2015.

Lecture Meeting – Tues 3 February, 2015

Global trends impacting Queensland over the coming 20 years

by Dr Stefan Hajkowicz

Where: "Gregory House,"
237 Milton Rd, Milton.

Time: 7:30 p.m.

Dr Stefan Hajkowicz is a principal scientist at CSIRO working in the fields of geography, economics and decision theory. His upcoming book "global megatrends" examines seven driving forces reshaping the world's economy, society and environment over the coming decades. Stefan completed a PhD and Bachelor of Arts in geography at the University of Queensland and post graduate qualifications in Economics at The University of New England. He is widely published in the international research literature in the fields of decision theory, strategy and planning. Stefan's day-to-day work involves helping the leadership teams of governments and companies explore plausible futures and make wise strategic choices.

Digital technology, natural resource scarcity, economic change, ageing population, healthcare challenges and changing societal sentiment will reshape the world over the next 20 years. These global megatrends are gradual yet inexorable trajectories of change. Queensland's economy, society and environment will be impacted by these megatrends. This talk takes you on a whirlwind tour of the future exploring plausible scenarios for life in the future. It's based on six years' worth of strategy & foresight research by Dr Stefan Hajkowicz at CSIRO in collaboration with numerous colleagues from research institutes, companies and governments worldwide.

Lecture Meeting – Tues 3 March, 2015

Mapping Queensland in the 21st Century

Presenter: Steve Jacoby

2014 TREKS REVISITED

When: Friday 13 February

Where: "Gregory House,"
237 Milton Rd, Milton

Time: 7 p.m.

All RGSQ society members are cordially invited to a **Tours and Activities promotional evening to be held at RGSQ Milton at 7.00pm on Friday 13th February.**

This is a great opportunity to review three of the more adventurous treks from RGSQ's 2014 programme of 'Geography on the ground', Cape York, The North West United States, and Hong Kong. We will also be promoting our 2015 treks to The Warrumbungles, Sri Lanka, and Kangaroo Island.

I would ask you again to mark 13th February in your diary and come along and enjoy a great social occasion for the start of RGSQ's activities for 2015.

Please register your interest with Bernard to facilitate catering arrangements. Phone 3368 2066.

Leo Scanlan

Welcome Lilia Darii

We would like to welcome Lilia Darii to the Society's staff. Lilia commenced working in the Administration officer's position in mid-December 2014. She will be working Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday mornings.

With an MBA, Lilia has previously worked in the not-for-profit sector and will be members' first point of contact when calling the office on the mornings she is working.

21st Birthday - Australian Geography Competition

The Australian Geography Competition commenced as a Year-9 competition in 1995 and has grown over the last twenty-one years to be a competition for students from Years 7 to 12. In 2014 over 70,000 students and 761 schools entered.

The Australian team members who compete at the annual International Geography Olympiad are selected from high performing students who enter the Competition.

www.geographycompetition.org.au

Day Trip to the Museum of Australian Military Intelligence, Canungra

When: Wednesday March 4th

Where: Canungra's Kokoda Barracks

Time: 9:30 a.m.

Cost: \$5.00

We will meet up in the car park outside the entrance to Canungra's Kokoda Barracks between 9.30 and 9.45 a.m. The barracks is just outside Canungra township on the road between Canungra and Beechmont. Because of limited parking inside the grounds, we'll run a shuttle service using two or three vehicles to the museum for as many times as are necessary. These journeys involve passing through a security checkpoint which will require ID such as a drivers licence.

The museum tour is set down for 10 a.m. and is expected to last till 12 noon.

Returning to Canungra township, members may wish to have a look at Lahey's Tramway tunnel (only a few minutes' walk), once used for transporting timber as well as for an ammunition dump during WW2. For those wishing to have a convivial lunch, we could meet at the Outpost Cafe in the main street at about 1p.m.

In Canungra township there is an attractive, well run visitors centre with information for those seeking further activities during the afternoon – e.g., local wineries.

Please notify RGSQ office of your intention to attend by Monday 23rd February. There is a \$5 administration fee for couples OR for an individual.

Lunch Talk Nepal

When: Wednesday 22 April

Where: "Gregory House,"
237 Milton Rd, Milton

Time: 11:30am

Cost: to be advised

Come along for lunch and talk on Nepal with slides.

RSVP to Office: 3368 2066



RGSQ SRI LANKA 2015

When: Sat 5 September
departing

Cost: To be advised

You probably haven't thought of Sri Lanka as a destination where you might see leopards so why not come with The Royal Geographical Society of Queensland in September of 2015 to exotic Sri Lanka? Yala National Park is one of the highlights with one of the highest concentrations of leopards anywhere in the world. If that's not enough Yala is the habitat of 215 bird species, a resident elephant herd of approximately 300-350, Sri Lankan sloth bears, and water buffalo. All 5 globally endangered sea turtles varieties also visit the park and it is home to two species of Sri Lankan crocodiles.

Other National Parks also beckon - Horton Plains with sambhur deer, wild boar, and otters. Udawalawe National Park has jackals, barking deer, potted deer, sambur, and large herds of elephant in their natural habitat.

It's not only the national parks. Sri Lanka is brim full of history and culture; Sigiriya Rock Fortress, King Kasyapa's citadel is a step back in time and one of the finest examples of Sri Lankan arts and culture. A tour of Polonnaruwa: once a medieval capital, with Buddha and Hindu sculptures, and examples of ancient irrigation canals. Kandy: the last royal capital of Sri Lankan kings, and, of course, the Temple of the Sacred Tooth relic of Lord Buddha.

There's still Weligama and the stilt fishermen, Galle, the southern capital, Dutch architecture, and we've managed to factor in an authentic Sri Lankan cooking class. Of course, you wouldn't travel to Sri Lanka without sampling a good cup of pure Ceylon Tea! A trip to

Nuwara Eliya and the cold and misty hills and lush green blankets of tea plantations should provide another highlight.

Last of all, there's the Kosgoda Sea Turtle Hatchery, Colombo, and, perhaps, a little night life and some lifelong memories. This tour to Sri Lanka is 14 Days/13 nights flying Singapore Airlines and departing Australia on Saturday, September 05, 2015, and arrives back in Australia on Monday, September 19.

Sound interesting? It's full of culture, wildlife, and excitement so if you're at all interested in coming along with a group of like-minded people, phone **Leo Scanlan at home on 3343 4398** for further information and register your interest. Participants will be registered on a first come basis and numbers will be limited.

Volunteers Please

We need to call on our generous members again for help with the Australian Geography Competition – to mail out the question sets. For those with experience, this is the mail-out where you use the counting scales to weigh questions and answer sheets.

We're looking for help from **Tuesday 10 to Thursday 12 March**, with maybe one or two people needed on Friday 13 March to finish up.

Please ring Bernard in the office (3368 2066) if you can help.

The final main working bee to send back the results and certificates is scheduled for **Tuesday 19 to Thursday 21 May**.

Your help is greatly appreciated.

I would like to thank all those members who did call to volunteer and especially to those that helped with the January mail-out of the Competition information packs: Dal and Wendy Anderson, David and Kathryn Carstens, Mary Comer, Roger Grimley James Hansen, Audrey Johnston, Peter Nunan, Pat Peek, Leo Scanlan, Wayne and Patti Spearitt, Helen Sutherland, Digby and Helen Warren, and John Wilkinson.

Bernard Fitzpatrick

DRAFT 2015 Programme

This is a preliminary programme for 2015 with a few items to be confirmed.

The final Programme will be available online by early February and will be posted out with the March Bulletin.

February 3, 7:30pm Tuesday

Lecture by Dr Stefan Hajkovicz
Global trends impacting Queensland over the coming 20 years

February 13, 7:00 pm Friday

Activity: 2014 Treks Revisited

March 3, 7:30 pm Tuesday

Lecture by Steve Jacoby
Mapping Queensland in the 21st Century
(title to be confirmed)

March 4 Wednesday

Day Outing: Military Intelligence, Canungra

March 23 – April 1

Australian Geography Competition

April 7, 7:30 pm Tuesday

Lecture by Lorene Long
Slider Settlements of the Granite Belt

April 22, Wednesday

Activity: Lunch talk Nepal

April 27 – May 7

Short trek: The Warrumbungles.

May 5, 7:30 pm Tuesday

Lecture by Dr Gilbert Price
Queensland's megafauna extinction

May 13 Wednesday

Day Outing: Larc Caloundra, RSL
Lunch, militaria museum Caloundra
RSL.

June 2, 7:30 pm Tuesday

Thomson Address by Distinguished Professor Jamie Kirkpatrick
How the interagency between people and trees creates spatial patterns in Australian cities

June 24, Wednesday

Day Outing: Scenic Rim Robotic Dairy.

July 7, 7:30 pm Tuesday

Lecture to be advised

July 8, Wednesday

Day Outing: Brisbane Airport

August 4, 7:30 pm Tuesday

Lecture by Rob Simson
Carnarvon National Park (title to be confirmed)

August 7, Friday

Activity: Dinner talk Britain

August 19, Wednesday

Day Outing: Rum Runner cruise to South Stradbroke

September 1, 7:30 pm Tuesday

Annual General Meeting

September 5 – 19

Overseas trek: Sri Lanka

September 24, Thursday

Day Outing: Indigiscape

October 6, 7:30 pm Tuesday

Lecture by Lisa Jones
Policing Queensland: a geographical perspective

October 10, Saturday

Trek: Kangaroo Island Trek to commence in Adelaide.

October 14, Wednesday

Day Outing: Kumbartcho Environmental Reserve.

November 3, 7:30 pm Tuesday

Lecture by Prof Shilu Tong
Health impacts of climate change (to be confirmed)

November 12, Thursday

Activity: Spatial Technology Workshop.

December 5, Saturday

RGSQ Christmas Party/Picnic
Wellington Point.

2016

April 2, Saturday 2016

Overseas Trek: Tanzania and Madagascar

September 3, Saturday

Static Trek: Singapore, 7-8 days.

RGSQ – 130 years

THE GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY OF AUSTRALASIA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE BRISBANE COURIER.

SIR,—It is proposed to establish a Queensland branch of the Geographical Society of Australasia. This society, established a little over two years ago in Sydney, has at present two branches (New South Wales and Victoria), with several hundred members in the aggregate, and a South Australian branch will shortly be formed. The society's proceedings for the 1883 session have been published, in the form of a fairly thick volume, embellished with several illustrations, and those for 1884 will be published in a few weeks. My visit to Brisbane had a twofold object—first, matters connected with the despatch of the society's expedition to New Guinea, and second—the formation of a Queensland branch of the society. As to the first, the expedition is now on its way to New

The Brisbane Courier, Monday 22 June 1885. Sourced from <http://trove.nla.gov.au>

On 10 July 1885, the first of a series of meetings was held in the Town Hall, Brisbane to consider the formation of a branch of the Geographical Society of Australasia (GSA) in Queensland. Present were Messrs W. Alcock-Tully (Chairman), W.M. Davidson, W.H. Miskin, J. Muir, H.E. Luck, E.J. Bennett, Rev. G. Woolnough, Mr Thompson (who acted as Secretary) and several others whose names were not given. The Chairman, in opening the proceedings, expressed "regret that the attendance was not large, but hoped they would be able to do good work."

The first item to be raised at this initial meeting was "what type of society were they to have in Queensland?" the Chairman, Mr Alcock-Tully, and Mr Thomson both stated it was possible to form a society independent of New South Wales and Victoria, but the Chairman felt they would gain little advantage from the disassociation with the already established geographical societies. Mr Alcock-Tully believed the object they had in view was the establishment of a kindred society to that in existence in Sydney and hoped to form a connection with the older society so they could avail themselves of the rules which had been prepared to further geographical research.

Mr Thompson then read a draft constitution based upon the rules governing the New South Wales and Victorian branches of the GSA and concluded by delivering an address extolling the need for a geographical society in Queensland.

Thompson argued that a geographical society would assist scientific research in the colony, bring knowledge about Queensland into world prominence and ensure further exploration of the colony with the aim of discovering its untold wealth.

The speech had the desired effect for Mr E. McDonnell proposed that it was pertinent to establish a Queensland Branch of the GSA."

The motion was seconded by Mr W.H. Davidson, and the resolution carried unanimously. A Committee, consisting of Messrs W. Alcock-Tully, E. McDonnell, J.P.

Thomson, W.H. Miskin, A.C. Gregory, J. Muir and H.C. Luck was appointed to examine and report upon the applicability of the rules of the New South Wales Society to the Queensland Branch.

The above Committee met in the Surveyor-General's (W. Alcock-Tully) office on 14 July 1885.

The constitution of the new Society had as its aims the advancement of geographical science, the study of physical and commercial geography, further exploration of Australasia, the dissemination of knowledge on the various types of geography through public lectures and publications to all classes, the collection of material for a compilation of a reliable Geography of Australasia, and the collection and publication of historical records of geographical interest and the memoirs of men distinguished by the advancement of geographical science in Australasia.

The above is extracted from peter Griggs, "A Dream in Trust." Queensland Geographical Journal, 3rd Series, Volume 8, July 1985.

Historical cadastral maps of Queensland online

The Department of Natural Resources and Mines' collection of scanned historical cadastral maps of Queensland are now available free through Open Data at

<https://data.qld.gov.au/dataset/historical-cadastral-map-seriesqueensland>

Details concerning these maps are held at

<https://www.dnrm.qld.gov.au/mapping-data/maps/research-history/maps-plans>

including instructions on how to access the scans and the list of 40 series.

- Collection dates from 1841 to 2005
- Over 5000 scanned maps arranged in 40 series
- Large number of series have a key map
- Includes the parish maps (the last ones our department published in the 1970s and 1980s)
- Includes some additional one off administrative maps
- Those still in copyright are made available via Creative Commons CC:By licence (people can view, print etc. without any restrictions).

Weather calendars

Each month of the Bureau of Meteorology's 2015 Australian Weather Calendar features a stunning large image related to Australia's weather, plus gives information on that month's climate, and assorted other information.

The Society has a few spare copies for sale. Because we made a bulk order, the cost is \$17.25 each. To reserve your copy, email or ring the Society. You can pick it up from the office, or collect it at the February members' meeting.

Gold Robberies

At the Christmas Party Quiz there was a question on gold robberies. The following are some interesting facts.

- In June, 1862 Ben Hall and Frank Gardiner stole £14,000 worth of gold at Eugowra (near Forbes, NSW). Today, the value would be \$5 million ++.
- 1877 - £5,000 worth of gold sovereigns stolen from P&O steamer, "Avoca," between Sydney and Melbourne.
- In 1982 \$652,000 of gold was stolen from Perth mint. Today, this would be equal to about \$2.02 million.

Audrey Johnston

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2015 Membership Renewal

Membership fees for 2015 were due on 1 January. According to our records, your membership has been paid up to the year shown in the top right corner of your mailing label. (For life members this space is blank.) Please contact the office if you think there may be a mistake in our records. If you have not yet paid, please circle the appropriate fee and send this in with your payment. The mailing label on the back of this sheet gives your name and address. Please correct it if there are any errors. You may like to consider making a tax-deductible donation for the Society's environmental and educational work at the same time. Thank you.

Ordinary	\$40.00
“ Pensioner rate	\$25.00
Household	\$55.00
“ Pensioner rate	\$35.00
Student/Junior	\$25.00
Schools/Non-profit organizations	\$55.00
Corporate	\$150.00
Life	\$400.00
Donation	\$
	\$

TOTAL

I enclose a cheque/money order payable to RGSQ; or, please debit my VISA Mastercard

Card No.: _____ / _____ / _____ / _____ Expiry date: ____ / ____

Cardholder name: _____ Cardholder signature: _____

Locate 15

10th to 12th March 2015, Brisbane

Locate 15 is the premier national spatial information conference and exhibition in Australia and NZ. It is the key forum to discuss location-based innovation and is the central meeting point of all sectors in one of the fastest growing industries in Australia.

Locate 15 is designed to energise; inspire both producers and consumers of spatial information; and drive greater awareness, adoption and innovation of spatial technologies.

More information at:
<http://www.siba.com.au/Events/Events/Locate-15.aspx>

Council Minute Secretary

Calling for a volunteer to be the Minute Secretary for the Society's Council meetings?

Meetings are held from 6pm to 8:30pm on the second Tuesday of each month except January at the Society's Offices at "Gregory House."

If you would like to help the Society as the Council Minutes Secretary please call Bernard in the Office: 3368 2066.



My Local Geography

Is there something of geographic interest where you live? Is there a place in Queensland you would like to share? We would like to hear about it.

Articles are welcome for the Society's Bulletin. Email your article to info@rgsq.org.au.

Upcoming Bulletin deadlines:

March – Friday 13th February

April – Friday 13th March

May – Friday 10th April



RGSQ Bulletin

February 2015

Lecture/Meeting, Tues 2 Feb 7:30pm
Global trends impacting Queensland over the coming 20 years, Dr Stefan Hajkowitz.

Tours & Activities: 2014 Treks Revisited,
Friday 13 February 7p.m.

Activity, Wed March 4, Museum of Australian
Military Intelligence, Canungra

Welcome Lilia Darii to the office staff

Volunteer days: Australian Geography
Competition, 10-12 March and 19-21 May.

Lecture/Meeting, Tues 3 March 7:30pm
Mapping Queensland in the 21st Century

The Royal Geographical Society of Queensland Inc
"Gregory House," 237 Milton Road, Milton Q 4064

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AUSTRALIA