



# RGSQ Bulletin

March 2017

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Patron: [H.E. Paul de Jersey AC, Governor of Queensland](#)

President: Professor James Shulmeister

## From the President

Dear members, I am just back from a 12 day student fieldtrip around New Zealand. Unlike Australia where we have been sweltering through a searing summer, New Zealand has had a notably cool and wet one. Despite this the evidence for long-term warming has never been so stark in the land of the long white cloud. I visited the Franz Josef glacier for the first time since I left New Zealand in 2009 and was shocked at how far the glacier has retreated in that time. I had seen the photos but the reality was startling. Dr Brian Anderson, who is at Victoria University in Wellington, has been studying the glacier during its retreat and he has uploaded a video of the 300m of retreat between January 2014 and January 2015. It is a fascinating piece of footage not only showing how a glacier oscillates as it gradually retreats (it, actually, does the same when advancing) but also showing the effect of removing a glacier on the stability of valley slopes.

Please have a look at <https://vimeo.com/119312940>.

On the 21<sup>st</sup> of February, Adrian McCallum kicked off our first lecture outside Brisbane in front of a captivated audience of close to one hundred people. The lecture was a resounding success! I am very excited as this feels like an important step in putting the Queensland (as opposed to Brisbane) into the RGSQ. The talk has already spawned a short Sunshine Coast lecture series with two more lectures planned for later this year. Provisionally, Bernard and I will be the lecturers. Watch your newsletter for announcements on the additional lectures. If the series is successful, we will try and embed a Sunshine Coast series and then we can look at extending in to other regions.

Back in Brisbane we are very pleased to announce that we have organised a special ANZAC lecture on April 18th to be delivered Martin Crotty Head of School, Historical and Philosophical Inquiry, University of Queensland. Instead of the standard talk about the ANZACs themselves, we have asked Martin to focus on how the whole concept of ANZACs evolved. It should be a very interesting talk with a different angle and I am looking forward to it.

It is Australian Geography Competition time again. This event is one of the key activities for the Society for a whole variety of reasons. It is our single biggest activity and is a geographical outreach that reaches about

70,000 Australian students a year. It is a joint effort with the Australian Geography Teachers' Association and an important way that we contribute to geographical education in the broadest sense. It is a massive undertaking and it wouldn't be possible without the help and dedication of volunteers from the Society. We hope that you (our membership) will rally to the cause again this year.

Jamie Shulmeister, President

## RGQS COUNCIL

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## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

We have much pleasure in welcoming **Mr Ken and Mrs Sue Fischer, Mr Paul Trotter, Mr Simon Tan, and Mr Peter Griggs** as new members. We hope your association with your new Society is long and mutually enjoyable.



Images from the USC lecture, courtesy of Adrian McCallum and Kay Rees.

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## LECTURE OF THE MONTH

### **"Cities in the sun. Observations from subtropical South Africa, Brazil, and Queensland"**

presented by **Paul Trotter** from *Fulton Trotter Architects*.

Tue March 7, 7:30 pm, "Gregory House", 237 Milton Rd, Milton

*Paul Trotter is an architect and Director of Fulton Trotter Architects. Paul is recognised with numerous awards for his work throughout Queensland and particularly extensive involvement with regional communities.*

In 2016, Paul visited universities and architectural practices across South Africa and Brazil in the name of subtropical architecture. In particular, he visited two cities in both countries. If you travel from Brisbane, across the southern hemisphere between 27 to 30 degrees latitude, you'll find yourself in Durban, South Africa and Florianopolis, in Brazil, with a lot of ocean in between. Like Brisbane, both major cities are located on the east-coast of their continent, surrounded by a large ocean expanse (arguably the best beaches in the world) and a north-to-south running current. To the west, each city is protected by a mountain range. These conditions - common only to these three cities in the world - produce a remarkably similar climatic response, but how do different cultures respond to the same topography and climatic conditions? Paul's presentation will explore this topic.

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## ANZAC LECTURE

### **"WWI and Australian History"**

presented by **Associate Professor Martin Crotty**

Tue April 18, 7:30 pm, "Gregory House", 237 Milton Rd, Milton



*Headstones in the Commonwealth War Graves Cemetery near the Australian National War Memorial in Villers-Bretonneux, France". Courtesy of Martin Crotty.*

Associate Professor Martin Crotty is the Head of the School of Historical and Philosophical Inquiry at the University of Queensland. He has long been interested in Australian society during World War I, and has for some

time been a public commentator on the way Australia remembers and commemorates its war experiences, particularly as they relate to World War I. In this lecture, Martin laments aspects of the Anzac legend for the way they trivialize and distort the realities of Australia's military past, but maintains nonetheless that WWI has to remain central to any telling of the Australian national story.

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### **SYNOPSIS: "The Saga of the Brisbane Metamorphics or what the hell is the NBG slate", lecture presented by Dr Cecil Murray**

During the lecture, Cecil Murray led us through the history of the dating of the Brisbane metamorphic rocks, his absorbing presentation accompanied by screened images of the varied rock formations, plus relevant maps, and tables, that helped the story he told come to life.



Small scale folding, New Farm, courtesy of Cec Murray.

Dr. Murray pointed out there were two problems for the geologists – the lack of fossils for the dating the rocks and the mystery of how the Yarool formation in the west of the New England Syncline belt remained in a near horizontal interbedded sedimentary state while the Neranleigh-Fernvale Rocks to the east were metamorphosed into a crumpled mess of overturned and micro-folded strata. Paleogeology is a confusing and frustrating study, and no more so than in this case when, as Dr Murray explained, how geology students on a field trip in 1934 in the Brookfield area returned with a graptolite fossil, a good indicator of an Ordovician or Silurian date. However, it was soon proved that the fossil had been purloined from the UQ geology museum and this find was a student hoax. Indeed, the history showed there were NO BLOODY GRAPTOLITES (NBG) or other useful fossils to be found throughout the Neranleigh-Fernvale or Brisbane Phyllite series.

Better dating became possible in the 1960s with the location and study of inter-bedded oolitic limestone fossils along very old shorelines, and the ability to detect minute radiolaria in chert samples from the Lake Manchester beds. These investigations pointed to an early Carboniferous age dating for the metamorphic rocks. Then, the arrival of the SHRIMP, Sensitive High Resolution Icon Microscope, allowed the study of radioactive zircon grains in the sandstone rocks helping to confirm the Carboniferous dating of between 300m-350m before the present.

The ultimate answer and explanation came from the understating of Plate Tectonics and how the Neranleigh-Fernvale rocks were crumpled and metamorphized while caught up in the subduction zone as the Australian continental plate advanced over the oceanic plate; while the Yarool rocks further west remained relatively unaffected and retained their near horizontal sedimentary formation. This subduction event probably started in the Devonian period.

Thanks to Dr Murray, we are better informed about the ancient "stage" on which our Brisbane area lives unfold in this Quaternary age. **Rob Simson, RGSQ Member**

**SYNOPSIS:**

**"Polar perambulations and other adventurous wanderings", lecture presented by Dr Adrian McCallum**

The lecture, "Polar Perambulations and other Adventurous Wanderings" organised by RGSQ in association with the USC, was the first ex-metropolitan Geographical presentation for decades. RGSQ Member and USC Lecturer in Geography, Jen Carter contributed to this organisation.

A large attendance and the enthusiastic appreciation of the lecture was real justification for the arrangements. Some two dozen RGSQ Members travelled from Brisbane. RGSQ Members resident in the Sunshine Coast and hinterland attended in strength, and many specially invited guests swelled the numbers.

Adrian presented a stimulating and exciting story, true to the nominated topic, appropriately illustrated with photos, video and graphical enhancement. He has packed an incredible array of experiences into his career and shared them with great clarity. His explanation of how he became involved in such a variety of challenging expeditions is summed up by the early advice he received from Sir Ranulph Fiennes. He sought advice on how to become involved in Polar expedition work. The very brief response was "Just do it!".

Adrian's presentation provided an up to date outline of the practices and capabilities of modern expedition work. Modern electronic equipment, internet communications, and well developed mechanical equipment contribute an ability to study polar sciences speedily and much more comprehensively these days.

The identification of a hidden crevasse, by electronic soundings, was a new technique which impressed. In the 1950's and 1960's the identification of hidden crevasses

was by caterpillar tractor --- in the same way as that illustrated by Adrian in one of his slides from the Antarctic, with a shiny new machine tipped dangerously into a large hole.

The inherent difficulties of the freezing conditions in polar and high, Himalayan, climates have not changed over the years, although there are improvements in clothing materials used.

The illustrations of surface travel on the floating Arctic Ice, which was the subject of one major expedition, outlined something of the challenging conditions encountered.

Donning of a "wet suit" to cross open leads between ice floes is a most daunting activity. With a waterproof outer garment over otherwise normal cold weather clothing to swim across the lead towing the floatable sledge is a high-risk activity. The up-side explained by Adrian is that the waterproof can be removed, allowed to freeze and then shaken free of ice, then stowed easily for next use.

Adrian also described the compensations to the harsh circumstances encountered. There are fields of flat unbroken ice, beautiful weather, no wind and all sufficient to be willing to return for more, whether it be Arctic, Antarctic or Mountain challenges.



*The example of traversing rafted ice, while man-hauling a loaded sledge, was an illustration of sheer hard work. This however is warm compared with swimming. Courtesy of Adrian McCallum.*

Of very topical interest was Adrian's experience with Australian Antarctic operations. He outlined his profession involvement in assessing the strength of the ice runway at Wilkins Airstrip, adjacent to Casey Station. This large operating airstrip, with capability for intercontinental aircraft, was subject to a news report, on the day of the lecture, outlining the difficulties encountered and solutions needed for safe operation.

The outline of the speaker in the February Bulletin gives some idea of the breadth of training and experience that

Adrian brings to the topic presented; and the audience certainly benefitted.

The presentation was in accord with the long-standing interest and involvement by RGSQ in polar exploration and studies. From the urgings by the Society in the 1880's for a presence in the Antarctic, especially concerned about meteorology, through supporting the work of Scott, Mawson and early "Heroic Age" explorers, and on to more recent involvement with Project Blizzard and informative lectures by Dr Phillip Law (1992), Surveyor Syd Kirkby (three key lectures and the Thomson Medal) and also important support for the Jubilee of ANARE display "Our Frozen Frontier" in 1997.



*Syd Kirkby was present for the lecture on Tuesday evening and he and Adrian McCallum were pleased to be able to meet for the first time.*

*Syd Kirkby, one of Australia's trailblazers and great explores with Dr Adrian McCallum, image courtesy of Kay Rees.*

A special attendee was noted by Adrian, in the person of a relative, Ross McCallum who served for several years as a Crew Member of Aurora Australis, Australia's Antarctic Supply Ship. Ross's duties took him on many visits to all Australian Stations and included inland work in the Prince Charles Mountains inland from Mawson Station. (A most desirable location to visit.) Ross McCallum travelled from Maitland to be present at the lecture. **David Carstens, RGSQ Member**

## ***"The Coldest Journey: the first expedition to cross Antarctica in Winter"*** **by Adrian McCallum. Part II**

### **Permitting**

One aspect that proved particularly challenging was the acquisition of permits to allow a British flagged expedition to traverse the continent over winter, a period when SAR cover was deemed not possible; the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) would be foregoing its international obligations if it approved such an expedition without appropriate cover or support. So, I turned to the keyboard again...

ALE and ALCI could provide support from their respective bases over the summer period but this expedition needed SAR support over winter; something that had not previously been procured.

The Canadian company Kenn Borek Air use a fleet of re-engined DC3s or Baslers to support polar operations at both ends of the globe. They work in the Arctic during the northern summer then transit south along the Americas to support Antarctic operations later in the year.

Kenn Borek Air had previously conducted the only ever wintertime medical evacuation from the South Pole and at a significant cost (~£2M), they were prepared to maintain an aircraft and crew in Punta Arenas, Chile, over the non-summer period of the expedition, thereby theoretically enabling extraction from anywhere along our proposed route at any time of year.

Ultimately, Kenn Borek's costs proved prohibitive, so after additional liaison with the FCO and doctors from BAS, it was agreed that approval would be granted, as long as the expedition carried the supplies and equipment typically held by a BAS Research Station, thereby enabling operations etc. to be carried out in situ, with no evacuation required.

This was a sensible compromise, but it resulted in a greater weight and space liability, that added to the ever-increasing weight and logistical issues faced by the expedition.

Additional matters that needed to be addressed included fitting of a Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) ahead of the lead vehicle to enable early detection of crevasses and frustratingly, although successfully proven by the USAP, the FCO refused the use of non-banded flubbers and thus a dozen or so heavy and expensive steel sledges were commissioned, within which the fuel bladders would be towed. This 11th hour requirement placed significant additional financial and logistical burden on the expedition.

### **The Expedition**

I had been with the expedition almost since its inception, planning the logistics and operations since 2008. It was now 2011 and D-day was approaching but so too was my PhD-completion, and my imminent return to Australia with my wife and two young sons.

Although Ran still desired me as Ice Team Leader and implored for my continued service in this role, I was aware of the impacts that a more than 13-month absence could have on my young family and I most regretfully resigned from the role of Ice Team Leader. There remained still much to be done, but now physically distant, I had limited influence over the final planning stages for the expedition and preparations continued apace.

My original calculations regarding maximum loads were unable to be adhered to and as supporting preparations continued under a new Ice Team Leader and a recently recruited team, budget constraints also bit and a new route was conceived, one for which less 'intelligence' was available.

I monitored final preparations from Australia and was fortunately invited to re-join the team in the capacity of Marine Science Leader, in Cape Town in December 2012 as final preparations continued for the voyage south.

### **Antarctica**

The SA Agulhas departed Cape Town early in January 2013 with a full crew of expedition members, supporters, crew, scientists and Naval Cadets. It was a busy programme as I coordinated thrice-daily bird identification sessions and oceanographic deployments, whilst the expedition members finalised plans for equipment maintenance, navigation, daily routines etc. There remained a lot to consider but the ice was imminent.

After 10 days sailing we hit the pack ice in the vicinity of 70oS 23oE on the coast of Dronning Maud Land and after rendezvousing with Alain Hubert, leader of the Belgian Princess Elisabeth Research Station, the long task of landing all fuel, equipment and supplies ashore began. These activities proceeded over a 24hr period, the longest task being the filling of fuel bladders from the hundreds of 44-gallon fuel drums secured in the Agulhas' hull. Each of these had to be cargo-netted ashore before being manually pumped into the waiting flubbers; a tedious yet essential business. Whilst the fuel transfer continued, the expedition team set-to preparing the bulldozers and completing final fabrication and insulation of the

cabooses; tasks that were unable to occur until the caboose structures were secured on their sledge bases.

Eventually, after almost two weeks of operations, the Ice Team were a. all securely ashore, and b. confident that they had both the materials and the procedures established to ensure their survival over the long cold months ahead.

### Departure

After a memorable final dinner aboard the Agulhas, the time had come to depart and amidst much waving and sounding of the horn, the Agulhas turned north through the pack ice towards Cape Town, leaving six lonely figures standing on the edge of that vast, cold and icy continent.

### Aftermath

The portents for a successful expedition were not good. In late February, not long after the Agulhas had returned to Cape Town, news arrived that Ran had been evacuated from the ice on the last flight of the season, with significant cold injuries to his hand, sustained during final training as he skied alongside the traverse train.

Committed to continuing in Ran's absence, the Ice Team traversed to the Belgian base for final preparations, before turning their vehicles south, for the climb up to the solar plateau. However, once established on the plateau, they experienced ongoing problems with the terrain, primarily an extensive field (~100 km) of hidden crevasses that necessitated their constant leap-frogging of fuel sledges and cabooses, in an attempt to circumvent this debilitating obstacle. Unfortunately, this almost constant scenario took its toll in both time and fuel, and whilst the team remained resilient and professional in their conduct, the opportunity to successfully cross the continent had passed. The Ice Team hunkered down for the Antarctic winter in their mobile base some 3-400 km from their starting point to await the return of the summer sun...



One of the reasons why the Coldest Journey did not eventuate as planned.

Source: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/thecoldestjourney/11035409655>

The Coldest Journey Expedition never did attain the goal of crossing Antarctica in winter, nor did it receive appropriate recognition for the number of technical hurdles that it overcame in trying to cross Antarctica in winter; in some cases, establishing protocols that are adopted now as standard by polar agencies around the world.

However, as one who remains "mad, bad and dangerous to know", Ran is a hard man to keep down and in October 2016,

the British press reported on Sir Ranulph Fiennes' enduring desire to complete the first winter crossing of Antarctica.

In January 2017, I 'fired' Ran an email; who knows what might come ... **Story by Dr Adrian McCallum**

## UPCOMING EVENTS



### MARCH ACTIVITY: FELTON FOOD FESTIVAL

**What:** Bus trip to Felton Food Festival

**When:** 26 March 2017

**Cost:** \$39 per person, please book with RGSQ Office

**Entry:** \$2 at the entrance to the festival.

**Getting there:**

- The 1<sup>st</sup> pick-up will be at Park Road, Eagle Junction 9.00am - the same point for pickup for our Pond to Plate trip.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> pick up point will be in Baroona Road 9.20-9.30am near the bus stop opposite the Shopping Centre travelling towards Milton Road.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> pick-up point will be at QEII Park and Ride in Mains Road, Macgregor.

**Getting back:** Depart Felton - 4pm

**Only 7 spots left**, if you'd like to join the RSGQ group please contact the Office at 073368 2066 or email [admin@rgsq.org.au](mailto:admin@rgsq.org.au) by March 7.

*The cost covers the bus trip to and from Felton and includes morning tea in Gatton.*

Please join RGSQ for a fabulous day out at the Felton Food Festival. Felton is just under two hours from Brisbane and the country festival is becoming increasingly more popular every year with over 12,000 people attending last year's event. On the way to Felton, we'll stop in Gatton for morning tea.

There will be many and varied market stalls, local farmers showcasing local produce, opportunities to find out more about the "paddock to plate" phenomenon, enjoy good food and simply have a great time with your fellow RGSQ members. To find out more about the festival, please visit: <http://www.feltonfoodfestival.org.au>.

**Coordinator:** Leo Scanlan

### APRIL: BUSH AND BEACH

Two gentle and contrasting walks

**When:** Saturday, 22<sup>nd</sup> April

**Cost:** \$30.00/person

**RSVP and pay:** 11<sup>th</sup> April

**To book** - contact RGSQ Office on 07 3368 2066.

**Caboolture Region Environmental Education Centre:** (CREEC) at Rowley Road, Burpengary. (If you reach the pub you have gone too far!) **MEET** at the information centre at 8.30am for a guided walk to commence at 8.45am. The track is about 1.5km long and

is well made. Pass through different vegetation, past a frog pond, a macadamia grove, you may see koalas and butterflies, a sensory garden, bat boxes, stingless bees and much more.

You might even see Burpengary Creek - if it has rained recently!!! The creek enters Moreton Bay. There is a nursery, too. The name, Burpengary, comes from burpen - car or burpen-kari which means 'place of green wattles' in the local indigenous language. The gentle walk will take about 1.5 hours. Have a quick snack before heading for Sandstone Point just before the Bribie bridge.

### Aboriginal fish traps - Sandstone Point developed by the Ningi Ningi tribe.

In March, 1823 Fennegan, Pamphlet, Parsons&Thompson set off from Sydney on a timber-getting expedition. Caught in a savage storm they were swept out to sea. Thompson was washed overboard and drowned. On 12 April, they landed on Moreton Island. Eventually they reached the mainland near Sandstone Point, just before the Bribie Bridge. They called it Bribie/Sandstone Passage.

MEET at the picnic area by 11.15am for a beach walk to begin at 11.30am. This will take about 1.5 hours. It is low tide at about 12.30pm.

FOR BOTH WALKS WEAR ENCLOSED WALKING SHOES, a hat, sun screen, sunnies, and BRING A WATER BOTTLE and CAMERA. **Coordinator: Audrey Johnston**

### MAY: TREK TO SPICER'S GAP ROAD CONSERVATION PARK

**When:** Wednesday, May 10

**Cost:** \$15

**RSVP:** Thursday, May 4

**To book:** contact the RGSQ Office on 07 3368 2066

Meet in Aratula for morning tea at 10am and then pool cars to drive up to Governor's Chair car park, visiting historical sites on the way. Bring your own lunch to have at Governor's Chair Lookout (short steep slope to lookout). Drinks and nibbles supplied. After lunch, take a walk along the Heritage Trail with historical plaques, 3.2kms return of gently sloping track. There is an alternative track back for experienced bushwalkers via Mt Mathieson (extra 4.5kms). Wonderful bird watching and wild life opportunities and geographical input from Bernard Fitzpatrick. If wet, will be postponed to May 17<sup>th</sup>. If oversubscribed, then a weekend repeat trip will be considered. **Coordinator: Chris Spriggs.**

### JULY: FIELDTRIP ON BRISBANE RIVER

4-hour CityCat trip on the river as part of the Institute of Australian Geographers' Conference

**When:** Thursday, July 13, 9am-1pm

**Cost:** \$50

*Expressions of interest only, please contact RGSQ on 07 3368 2066 or email at [admin@rgsq.org.au](mailto:admin@rgsq.org.au).*

The Brisbane River, a large dynamic waterway, is the pivotal physical element shaping the City of Brisbane and is, arguably, the City's greatest natural resource.

From its source in the Brisbane valley the river courses through the CBD before reaching its estuary in Moreton Bay. A great way to observe the City's changing development is on the river. The field trip will be a 4-hour journey aboard a CityCat ferry from the University of Queensland downstream through the CBD, Southbank Parklands to Hamilton warf, and returning to the University.



Image: By Brisbane City Council [CC BY 2.0 (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/2.0>)], via Wikimedia Commons

Dr. Iraphne Childs, a geographer from UQ's SEES and RGSQ member and Vice-President, will be joined by an officer of the Brisbane City Council's urban planning team to give commentaries on the river's geography, including notable flood events, historical and present-day waterfront land use. **Coordinator: Iraphne Childs**

### JUNE: SPECIAL MAP GROUP/TAAC EVENT

**Wednesday 28 June and Thursday 29 June, 2017**

**Class Size:** 10 to 12 only

**Cost:** \$20/person

**Registration of interest:**

8 Map Group members have registered an interest in attending the Workshop.

Other RGSQ members can Register an interest in attending by contacting the RGSQ Office at 07 3368 2066 or emailing at [admin@rgsq.org.au](mailto:admin@rgsq.org.au)

**A Joint Map Group/Treks & Activities Committee (TAAC) Event - 2 Day Workshop/Practical\_on Open Street Mapping (OSM):** To be held during the week and comprise:

- *Day 1:* Learning about OSM - Possible lecture room environment in the RGSQ Auditorium, with participants bringing along own charged laptops;
- *Day 2:* Using OSM to map buildings in Milton - Possibly participants using own laptops and work boards.

**Bob Abnett, Co-ordinator, Map Group**

## AUGUST

### RGSQ 4WD TREK TO FRASER ISLAND

guided by Mike West, 5 nights/6 days

Wed 23 to Mon 28 August, 2017



*Expressions of interest only, please contact RGSQ on 07 3368 2066 or email at [admin@rgsq.org.au](mailto:admin@rgsq.org.au)*

**SEE FRASER ISLAND WITH SOMEONE WHO HAS HELPED CONSERVE IT FOR YOU!**

**Places are limited - to book and for other inquiries, please contact RGSQ Office.**

During 4 days of 4WD trekking, Mike West, the man who got Fraser Island heritage listed, will personally guide you around K'Gari's best kept secrets, the indigenous name for Fraser Island, including the Valley of the Giants, which he named during the logging blockades in the 1980.

You will see Fraser's unique Patterned Fens that astound international scientists and marvel at Fraser's famous spring wildflowers display along the way while looking at the tallest known Tallowwood.

- *If you own a 4WD and are willing to take a couple of fellow RGSQ members with you on the trip, please let us know.*
- RGSQ has put together a package that includes the services of a chef who will take care of all the meals while we're on the island, including the packaged lunches, for a fee of \$60/day, so we can fully enjoy the island's wonders.
- Please book accommodation directly with Dilli Village by contacting Dianne Dianne Crichton, On Site Facility Manager on 07 4127 9130 or email at [dillivillage@usc.edu.au](mailto:dillivillage@usc.edu.au). Do not forget to mention that you are part of the RGSQ group!

To find out more about Dilli Village and Fraser Island visit the: <http://www.usc.edu.au/learn/the-usc-experience/usc-spaces/fraser-island-research-and-learning-centre/about-fraser-island#history>

## SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

### RGSQ TRAVEL GROUP: 2:00pm on Tuesday, 7<sup>th</sup> March

Bring some curious, or different, photos and some interesting stories to share. Please register your interest with the RGSQ Office by 6<sup>th</sup> of March. Look forward to seeing you. Friends welcome, too. **Coordinator: Audrey Johnston**

## KEN SUTTON

### MEMORIAL LIBRARY GROUP

**When:** Monday, March 27, 2017

**Time:** 9:00 am

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



## MAP GROUP

### March, 2017 - Events

- **Wednesday 8 March - 10 am to 12 noon**
  - **Group Visit to Map Collection of National Australian Archives (NAA), Cannon Hill.** Has maps covering Commonwealth Govt activities in Qld, Northern NSW, NT & New Guinea - when an Australian Territory. An email to Map Group members will provide details.
- **Late March: (for individual Map Group members to attend)**
  - **World Science Festival, 2017:**
    - *Dates:* Wednesday 22 to Sunday 26 March, 2017
    - *Organiser:* Queensland Museum
    - *Location:* Southbank Parklands
    - *Themes:* Robotics, Oceans, Physics, Space, Energy.
    - *Participants:* Scientists, researchers, science communicators, academics, inventors, entrepreneurs, panellists, street science participants and artists.

*Details:* [www.worldsciencefestival.com.au](http://www.worldsciencefestival.com.au)

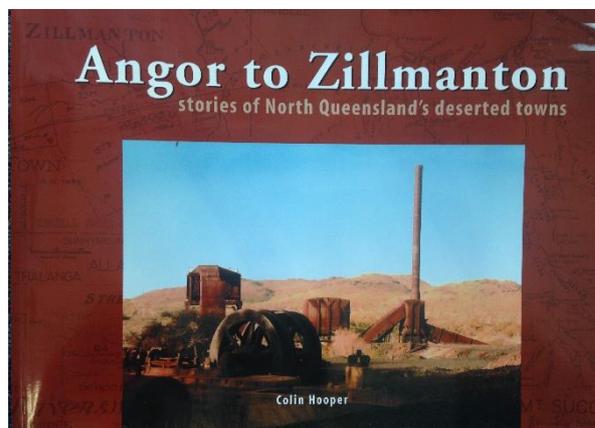
### April, 2017 - Gathering

- **Monday, 3 April - 10 am to 12 noon**
  - Presentation: Ian Francis - "Interpreting Nautical Charts"
  - Gathering afterwards.

Bob Abnett, Co-ordinator, Map Group

## BOOK OF THE MONTH

**"Angor to Zillmanton - stories of North Queensland's deserted towns"** (919.436 Hoo 2006)



You have no doubt heard of Maytown, the center of the Palmer River 1872 gold rush; and Ravenswood, south of Townsville, another of the 1870s mining towns - the later still struggling on with the hope of a new mining project in 2017 that will help keep the small town alive.

But have you heard of Byrestown, Cardstone, Noonday, Golden Gate, Carrington, Rockford or Coolgarra? And did you know about the Moutilyan Massacre or of the little port of Carnarvon on an island at the mouth of the Albert River was established prior to the development of Burketown.

*Angor to Zillmantown* was recently donated to the Ken Sutton Library and contains historical details and amusing anecdotes about life in these frontier towns that flourished and died in North Queensland between the 1870 and 1960s. It is a well-illustrated landscape-shaped paper back and an easy read.

The library group meets on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of the month from 9.30am till 1pm if you would like to join in and learn more about the Ken Sutton Library collection, including many rare books. **Rob Simson, Coordinator Ken Sutton Memorial Library**

## **Volunteers Please Australian Geography Competition**

We need to call on our generous members for help with the mailing of Australian Geography Competition information again in 2017.

**Mailing of the Question Booklets.** More helpers would be appreciated on **Tuesday 14 to Friday 17 March** from **9:30am to 5:00pm**. This task involves counting or weighing the required number of Question Booklets and answer sheets, and placing them in envelopes, Post satchel or boxes.

**Mailing of Certificates, Results and Prizes.** Helpers are required on **Tuesday 11 to Friday 14 July, 2017** from **9:30am to 5:00pm**. This task requires identifying school student certificates and result sheets, and placing them in envelopes, Post satchel or boxes.

If you can assist with any of the above, please call the office at 07 3368 2066 or email at [admin@rgsq.org.au](mailto:admin@rgsq.org.au). Thank you, your help is greatly appreciated!

# **RGSQ Bulletin**

**March 2017**

**Lecture of the Month: Tue March 7,** *“Cities in the sun. Observations from subtropical South Africa, Brazil, and Queensland” presented by Paul Trotter.*

**Event: March 10-19, “Canberra – 10 days in the Nation’s Capital” RGSQ Trek.**

**Felton Food Festival – Sun March 26,** *coach trip to Felton.*

**Map Group: Wed 8 March – 10 am to 12 noon**  
*Group Visit to Map Collection of National Australian Archives (NAA), Cannon Hill*

**Ken Sutton Memorial Library: Mon March 27,**  
9:00 am, “Gregory House”, 237 Milton Rd, Milton.

*Council meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month.*

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

**POSTAGE  
PAID  
AUSTRALIA**