



RGSQ Bulletin

November 2018

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President: [Dr Iraphne Childs](#)

■ From the President

Dear members, the move from Milton to the Society's new premises at 28 Fortescue Street, Spring Hill was completed in the last week of September. Thanks to all those volunteers who helped with the move and who continue to generously offer their time and assistance with various tasks involved with settling in. There is still much to be done in re-organising the space to suit our operations and collections. This work will take until the end of this year. We plan to be able to invite members to the new RGSQ home for the "Welcome evening" in February 2019.

On Tuesday, 2nd October, I had the pleasure of presenting the inaugural Ken Sutton Memorial Award to Professor James Watson at the University of Queensland.



His memorial lecture "*What becomes of Australia's biodiversity in the contemporary era?*" explained how and why Australia's biodiversity crisis is very different to the crisis being felt elsewhere. Professor Watson underscored the devastatingly poor record that Australia has in terms of the decline and extinction of unique Australian animal and plant species, mostly through habitat loss, especially since European occupation. Think of the dire situation now facing our koalas in Redlands where the population has crashed by 80 per cent from 1996 to 2014. Koalas may be in terminal decline in this location due to habitat loss through urban development, disease, dog attacks and car strikes. Given the seeming lack of genuine and effective commitment by our political leaders of all persuasions and at all levels of government to act on the biodiversity crisis, the question is posed "*If we care, what can we, as individuals, do about this?*" Professor Watson's presentation ended on a positive note of hope and strategy with some examples of excellent work being carried out by his team of researchers in the *Green Fire Science* research group.

One innovative geographical project that this group has been working on is mapping the correlation between

numbers and locations of endangered species in all Australian political electorates. The idea is to bring these data to the attention of elected representatives whose responsibilities presumably cover the well-being and sustainability of all species, ecosystems and biodiversity within their electorates as well as that of the human inhabitants! You may wish to consider how the politicians in your electorate score.



Meanwhile, we can still enjoy some wonderful displays of floral biota in Brisbane.

The native grevilleas, bottle-brushes and lilly pilly trees in a multitude of shapes and colour in our gardens attract nectar-feeding native birds, and the current drought does not seem to have deterred the brilliant purple carpets of exotic Jacaranda blossoms in their annual flowering. I hope you can enjoy these November sights in sub-tropical Brisbane.



Our final, very inspiring lecture for 2018 on 6th November, "*To Antarctica and Beyond: Expanding Leadership Horizons for Women in STEMM*" will again be held at the Lavalla Centre, 58 Fernberg Road, Paddington. This will be presented by Kathryn Scott, RGSQ member, who spent several weeks in Antarctica earlier this year, as the culmination of a Homeward Bound leadership program for young women with scientific backgrounds. I hope to see you there. *Thank you, Iraphne Childs.*

Photos courtesy of Kay Rees and Iraphne Childs.

References: <http://www.greenfirescience.com/au-electoral-analyses>
<https://www.smh.com.au/environment/koala-population-in-redland-falls-80-per-cent-government-report-says-20160512-gotqcp.html>

Dr Iraphne Childs

2018-2019 RGSQ Council

President	Iraphne Childs
Vice-President	Peter Griggs
Secretary	Margaret McIvor
Treasurer	Chris Spriggs
Councillors	Bob Abnett Paul Broad Jennifer Carter Duncan Cook Ian Francis Neal O'Connor Leo Scanlan John Tasker

CONTRIBUTORS

Bob Abnett, Iraphne Childs, Elin Charles-Edwards, Bernard Fitzpatrick, Wendy Harte, Audrey Johnston, Kay Rees, Kathryn Scott, Chris Spriggs, James Watson

PHOTOGRAPHY

Iraphne Childs, Elin Charles-Edwards, Wendy Harte, Kay Rees, Kathryn Scott, James Watson

NOVEMBER LECTURE

“To Antarctica and beyond: Expanding leadership horizons for women in STEMM”

by Kathryn Scott

Date: Tuesday, 6 November 2018

Time: 7:30pm-9:00pm

Venue: [Lavalla Centre, 58 Fernberg Rd, Paddington QLD 4064](#)



Why would 78 women with science backgrounds choose to do a leadership program in Antarctica?

The world needs more diverse representation in leadership now and for the future in responding to complex challenges such as climate change. Antarctica is a fragile, vulnerable, and immense continent, and while isolated from the rest of the planet, it is not removed from human impacts and presence.

In February 2018, after 12 months preparation through the Homeward Bound program, Kathryn Scott took part in the largest expedition of women to Antarctica. The cohort spent three weeks ‘south’, honing their skills and sharing experiences to build leadership capacity as women in STEMM (science, technology, engineering, mathematics and medicine). In her lecture, Kathryn will share learnings and highlights from this incredible journey along with insights into the who, what and how behind the Homeward Bound project’s vision to develop a 1000-strong global network of women leaders within 10 years.

Biography: Kathryn currently works as a Program Coordinator in the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries, Queensland,

and has worked on environmental and natural resource policy for the past two years since completing a Master of Environment (economics and policy major) in 2015. Kathryn began her career as a primary teacher, and then went on to undertake a range of non-teaching roles over her eight years working in the Department of Education. Kathryn is a current member of the RGSQ and has previously served as a member of the Society’s Council (2016-17). She now focuses her voluntary commitments at community level as a co-coordinator of her local Boomerang Bags group.

Photo: Kathryn Scott encountering the first of many (BIG) icebergs in Antarctica as a member of Homeward Bound’s second cohort in February-March 2018; courtesy of Kathryn Scott.

Ken Sutton Memorial Lecture

at

The University of the Sunshine Coast

“What becomes of Australia’s biodiversity in the contemporary era”

delivered by Professor James Watson

2018 Ken Sutton award recipient

awarded for his outstanding contribution to geography and globally recognised work in conservation



EVENT DETAILS

Date: Tuesday, November 13, 2018

Time: 7.15pm - 8.30pm

Venue: Lecture Theatre 2, University of the Sunshine Coast, 90 Sippy Downs Dr, Sippy Downs QLD 4556

Cost: Entry free, parking free after 6pm

Refreshments: after the lecture, in the foyer outside Lecture Theatre 2

Since European occupation of Australia, human activities have caused the dramatic decline and sometimes extinction of many of the continent’s unique species. In his lecture, James will describe the causes of the decline and extinction and explain how Australia’s biodiversity crisis is very different to the crisis being felt elsewhere.

James is a Professor at the University of Queensland where he leads the Green Fire Science research group, whose mission is to do applied research that is linked directly to the practice of conservation. James has published more than 200 peer-reviewed papers, currently serves on the United Nation’s International Panel for Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) Data and Knowledge Task Force, is a Research Fellow for the United Nation’s Environment Program-WCMC, a senior technical expert for United Nations Development Program’s Global Programme on Nature for Development and was a founding chair of the International Union for Conservation of Nature Climate Change Specialist Group. He is passionate about Australian conservation, especially when it comes to saving its most imperilled species.

UPCOMING EVENTS



RGSQ Christmas Celebration

Date: Tuesday, December 4

Time: 7:30pm-9:00pm

Venue: Lavalla Centre, 58 Fernberg Rd, Paddington QLD 4064

Cost: \$5 per person - members, \$7 per person non-members

RSVP: Wednesday, 28 November, <https://rgsq.org.au/whatson> or contact the Office on 07 3368 2066

The President warmly invites RGSQ members and guests to enjoy a final get together for 2018.

Come along and reminisce over your geographical adventures and catch up with your friends.

The registration cost will cover drinks, tea, coffee and Christmas Cake. It would be much appreciated if members are able to bring a plate to share.

I look forward to greeting you all on the night. On behalf of the RGSQ, I extend best wishes and season's greetings to all members and friends of RGSQ.

Geographers in the Spotlight

Congratulations to Dr Wendy Harte

Dr Wendy Harte undertook a study to determine ways in which geospatial technologies might be incorporated into initial teacher education programs to prepare preservice teachers to use these technologies in teaching geography. Her published results in an article won the 2018 Journal of Geography award for best university paper.



Dr. Wendy Harte is lecturer in the School of Education and Professional Studies, Griffith University Geospatial technologies (GT) are ubiquitous in school students' lives and Geography teachers are increasingly expected to incorporate GT in teaching geography. However, very little work had been done on how to prepare

preservice teachers to incorporate GT in their teaching practice. Dr. Harte's research evaluated GT learning experiences in geography curriculum courses in two initial teacher education programs. The aim of the research was to determine, from the preservice teachers' perspective, the effectiveness of the learning experiences for developing their confidence and preparing them to

incorporate GT in their teaching practices. The results of the study highlighted the value of providing GT learning experiences in geography curriculum courses and contributed to preparing preservice teachers to incorporate GT in teaching geography. The findings were published in the Journal of Geography (2017).

Reference: Wendy Harte (2017) *Preparing Preservice Teachers to Incorporate Geospatial Technologies in Geography Teaching*, Journal of Geography, 116:5, 226-236

By Wendy Harte

Focus on Geographical Research

"A snapshot of temporary mobility on the night of the 2016 Census"



Dr. Elin Charles-Edwards, Senior Lecturer in Human Geography, School of Earth and Environmental Sciences at the University of Queensland, is a population geographer and demographer. Her research is focused on understanding patterns, processes and determinants of human migration and mobility and its impacts on local and regional populations.

Dr. Charles-Edwards has been analysing temporary population mobility, moves of more than one night's duration that do not entail a change in usual residence. This involves an examination of the intensity, age and spatial patterns of temporary movements captured by the ABS Census of Population and Housing in 2016, and the creation of a classification of regions based on the age profile of movers. Using ABS TableBuilder Pro, summary metrics were calculated to measure the intensity and age profile of movements. Origin-destination flows were derived from a cross-classification of data on Place of Usual Residence and Place of Enumeration. A classification of regions (SA4s) was constructed from the age profile of movers at origins and at destinations. **Results revealed that 1,142,005 individuals** (about 5 per cent of the Australian population) were enumerated away from home on Census night 2016. Mobility peaked in younger (20-30) and older (65-70) age groups. Most movements were between capital city regions. Resource regions and coastal areas, however, were also important. Younger people dominated visits to cities and older movers comprise the majority of visitors to coastal areas, while remote areas had a significant proportion of visitors in the peak working ages. **In conclusion, it appears that temporary population mobility is selective by age and sex and geographically segmented by these characteristics.** Improved understanding of the attribute of visitors to regions can assist to formulate and validate estimates of temporary populations from emerging data sets.

Reference: Charles-Edwards, Elin and Panczak, Radoslaw (2018). *Elsewhere in Australia: a snapshot of temporary mobility on the night of the 2016 Census*. **Australian Population Studies**, [S.l.], v.2 n.1, pp.14-25, May 2018. ISSN 2208-8482.

Available at:

<http://www.australianpopulationstudies.org/index.php/aps/article/view/22>.

By Elin Charles-Edwards

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

KEN SUTTON MEMORIAL LIBRARY GROUP

The group will meet on Monday, the 26th of November, from 9.30am to 12 noon.

Venue: Level 1, 28 Fortescue St, Spring Hill, 4000



UPCOMING EVENTS CALENDAR NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 2018

If you are interested in the events below and would like to investigate joining the Map Group, please contact the Map Group Coordinator, Bob Abnett, via mobile 0412-135-794 or email abnett@powerup.com.au. Enquiries welcome.

Mon, 05 November 2018, 10:00am - 12:00pm

Map Group Event

Event - Sharing the Knowledge, 3 Short Stories from Map Group Members.

Details

3 short (20 minute) presentations made by Map Group members: Les Isdale - "Mapping Before Digits"; Jim Graham and Peter Nunan - "What's in RGSQ Library and Map Collection?"; Len Lowry - "From Lines to Coordinates".

As this event will be similar to a gathering, there will be a short Meeting afterwards to discuss the Draft 2019 Map Group Program – hopefully ready for adoption, so RGSQ can include it in the overall RGSQ 2019 Program.

Location

BCC's Mitchelton Library: [37 Heliopolis Parade, Mitchelton QLD 4053](#) (south of Samford Road and Brookside Shopping Centre)

Transport

Members to make own arrangements – Map Group's car-pooling list will help some members

Cost

Given the change in venue, there will be a \$2 donation for morning tea, as the venue has a kitchen for tea/coffee, plus some snacks provision (to be provided and covered by the donation).

Co-ordinator

Temporary Co-ordinator: Bob Abnett

07 3820 26 21 0412 135 794

abnett@powerup.com.au

Co-ordinator: Ian Francis

(07) 3266-2285 0457-628-033 brisfran@gmail.com

Mon, 03 December 2018, 9.30am – 11.30am

Map Group Gathering

Map Group End of Year Gathering - Geography Related Objects "Show and Tell"

Details

End of year celebration morning tea. Bring along an interesting object, map or artefact for "Show and Tell". Bring refreshments plate, sweet or savory.

NOTE: Mitchelton Library Meeting Room not available after 11.30am, but an outside deck for refreshments can be used on the day; extending the social aspect of this gathering beyond 11.30am.

Location

BCC's Mitchelton Library: [37 Heliopolis Parade, Mitchelton QLD 4053](#) (south of Samford Road and Brookside Shopping Centre)

Transport

Members to make own arrangements - Map Group's car-pooling list will help some members

Cost

Given the change in venue, there will be a \$2 donation for morning tea, as the venue has a kitchen for tea/coffee and an area for serving refreshments.

Transport

Members to make own arrangements

Co-ordinator: Bob Abnett

(07) 3820-2621 0412-135-794

abnett@powerup.com.au



Map with directions to [Mitchelton Library, 37 Heliopolis Parade, Mitchelton QLD 4053](#)

REPORT: Map Group tour of Fryer Library at the University of Queensland



Photo: RGSQ members during visit to Fryer Library, UQ, September 2018. Courtesy of Kay Rees.

On Wednesday 26 September, twenty RGSQ members met for a Map Group tour of Fryer Library at The University of Queensland. A selection of books & maps was displayed in the UQ's Art Museum teaching room, with a comprehensive talk by Librarian, Jeff Rickertt. Jeff spoke of the historical and philosophical aspect of how Australia was depicted on early maps when there was little or no factual knowledge of the "great southern land" below the equator. In those early days there was a strong belief that the world needed balance and symmetry, therefore, there had to be a large mass of land in the southern hemisphere to match what was in the north. Early 17th century maps were prepared especially for Dutch merchants who were looking for more land with Wilhelm Janssen and Abel Tasman mapping parts of what was called Terra Australis.

We were able to compare an 1812 French map and an 1814 map done by Matthew Flinders from his explorations in 1798 and 1803. Both these maps were precisely for the purpose of recording what was actually there – just the outline of the land with place names and no topography marked.

The Fryer Library holds many rare and quite unique items including a facsimile of a 1547 Illumination Atlas, maps and journals of Ludwig Leichhardt and works bequeathed by Father Leo Hayes who had gone on a number of expeditions organized by the Queensland branch of the Royal Geographical Society of Australasia. Some of his collection proved invaluable when General Douglas MacArthur was stationed in Brisbane during WWII.

After finding the display so interesting and vowing to definitely visit the Fryer Library again to discover more treasures, members adjourned to nearby Wordsmith's for lunch.

By Kay Rees, RGSQ member

REPORT: FUN, FERRIES AND FOOD

What better way to celebrate Brisbane – the River City – than to take a ferry ride and enjoy great company and the multicultural cuisine. Thursday, 13 September, 11 members met at North Quay to ride the free City Hopper ferry down to Sydney St to see the changing landscape along the river.

Our first stop was **Captain Burke Park** at Holman St Ferry Terminal where Audrey prepared an Aussie style outdoor picnic with pre-lunch nibbles.

Then, it was over the river to **Eagle St Pier** and George's (Greek) Seafood Restaurant for lunch. An unintended KEY element of the lift was experienced by some members as

they descended from Level 1 to the wharf. The operation instructions were most unusual and this added to the adventure.

Our last stop was **Southbank No 3** terminal. From here there was a short walk to Mado's (Turkish) Restaurant where we enjoyed the quiet ambience and finished the day with coffee and cake.

A fantastic day was spent as we shared the fine weather, company of members, food and the setting of our river.

By Jeanette Lamont, RGSQ member

2018 Australian Geography Competition

Another year of the Australian Geography Competition (AGC) is nearing its finale. Only a few more reports to be completed and the current website updated. However, the AGC Committee and RGSQ staff have already commenced work on the 2019 Competition. The AGC Committee is a joint committee consisting of volunteer members from both the RGSQ and the Australian Geography Teachers' Association (AGTA) and comprises Margaret McIvor (RGSQ and Chair), Kath Berg (RGSQ), Anne-Marie Gerlach (AGTA), and Jamie Clothier (AGTA). Anne-Marie and Jamie are also members of the Geography Teachers' Association of Queensland (GTAQ).

Late Thank You

A late, but **BIG THANK YOU** to RGSQ members who assisted and registered to assist with the certificate mailout for this year's Competition which did not happen until late August. After a delayed start date and working in cramped conditions in one of the ground floor offices at 237 Milton Road; Mary Comer, Alfonso Coronel, John Fairbairn, Margaret Hardy, Len Lowry, Neville McManimm, Mary and John Nowill, and Ron Owen sorted, packed and dispatched over 120,000 pieces of paper.

Due to delays in the arrival of additional prize books, and then interrupted by the move to our new home at Fortescue Street, Mary and John Nowill sorted and packed the student and school prizes in mid-September. Thank you!

I would also like to give a special thanks to Kath Berg who has given a lot of her time this year to support me in undertaking the Competition Coordinator's role and Competition administrative tasks related to the International Geography Olympiad and Geography's Big Week Out.

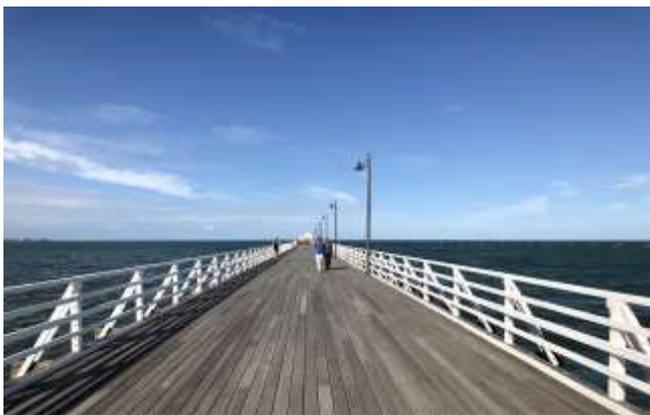
Volunteers Needed in November – Date Claimer Mailout

I did say aspects of the 2019 Competition had started! I would welcome the help of about five (5) RGSQ volunteers for the mailout of Competition promotional materials to schools. The job entails folding some cardboard desk calendars and placing these with a cover letter in envelopes.

At this point the exact days are unknown, but we are estimating mid-November. If you can spare a couple of hours, we'd appreciate your help.

Please register online, email me at execoffice@rgsq.org.au or call the RGSQ Office at 07 3368 2066. Thank you.

Bernard Fitzpatrick, Competition Coordinator



Phot: By Kgbo [CC BY-SA 4.0
(<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/4.0/>)], Wikimedia Commons

A February Frolic

Date: 19 February 2019

Meet by the pier at Shorncliffe by 10 am for a gentle opening to 2019 activities.

Scroll along the new pier (2016), then along the made path beside Moreton Bay.

Polish your shoes, shake your sunscreen and dust off your hats.

Full details in the December Bulletin.

RGSQ Bulletin

November 2018

Lecture/Meeting: Tuesday, November 6

"To Antarctica and Beyond: Expanding Leadership Horizons for Women in STEMM" by Kathryn Scott

Tuesday, November 13

Lecture at the USC: Ken Sutton Memorial Lecture

"What becomes of Australia's biodiversity in the contemporary era?" by Professor James Watson

Treks and Activities: November 1-15

RGSQ Trek through Tasmania

Map Group: Monday, 5 November

10:00am - 12:00pm: Event - Sharing the Knowledge, Three Short Stories from Map Group members.

NEW Venue: Mitchelton Library

Ken Sutton Memorial Library: Monday, 26

November, 9:30am – 12:00 noon, Level 1, 28 Fortescue St, 4000

The November Council will meet on the third Tuesday of the month

The Royal Geographical Society of Queensland Inc
Level 1, 28 Fortescue St, Spring Hill QLD 4000

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