

RGSQ Bulletin April 2017

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Patron: H.E. Paul de Jersey AC, Governor of Queensland

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From the President - ON CLIMATE CHANGE

hat a summer we have just had! A plethora of records have fallen across Australia. Brisbane had its hottest summer on record in terms of mean temperature at 26.8°C, which is about 1.7°C above average (Angry Summer 2016/17 – Climate Council). Brisbane also sweltered through 30 consecutive days above 30°C which was 11 days longer than the previous record stretch. When that stretch ended, it didn't stay below 30°C for very long either. So, is it climate change and are humans to blame?

Most scientists are reluctant to call human induced climate change for these extreme events but the evidence is becoming compelling. Australia is an unusual continent climatologically. Our weather and climate is among the most variable in the world. A land of droughts and drenching rains indeed. In a highly variable climate how can you tell whether extreme events reflect climate change and what is just normal variability? Well there is a way. If the climate was simply reflecting variability, then there would be an equal chance of warm records falling and cold records falling. For at least the last decade, we have seen record after record fall on the warm side and very few records fall on the cold side. Everything points to a warming trend. That doesn't mean we can't get a cold winter or a cool summer in the future but it means that we are far more likely to see more extremely warm ones than cool ones.

The next question is whether that warming constitutes 'natural' warming or is human induced. Those who argue against greenhouse gases and human causation often invoke either changes in the sun's energy or arguments that the world was warmer back in the age of the dinosaurs. Solar variability is simply too small scale to cause the effects seen and is fully accounted for in the climate predictions, while the argument about the dinosaurs is true but utterly irrelevant. Temperatures are rising in tandem with a global rise in atmospheric CO₂ which can be directly related to CO₂ emissions.

In the last few days, scientists have started reporting bleaching on the Great Barrier Reef. This is the second year running. When last year's event occurred, I was a little cautious about reading too much into it. As a geographer and earth scientist, I have a long-term view of the planet. I think in millennia rather than days. Despite some of the claims last year, bleaching events have occurred on the Great Barrier Reef in the past and will occur again. However, I am now concerned. The reefs are resilient to individual climate events, but like most natural systems they are unlikely to cope with a series of shocks or a rapid change to a new climate norm. We had a bleaching event

in an El Nino year last year. This year is climatically neutral and yet we have a bleaching event again. If this pattern persists, the reef as we know it may not. That would be an environmental tragedy and an economic disaster. Let's hope our politicians see beyond the short-term jobs and growth mantra of coal mine developments to the 70,000+ permanent jobs that depend on the reef.

* * *

The March lecture by new member Paul Trotter was very entertaining. I thought the talk would focus on building styles across the southern hemisphere and it did, to a point. It was more about the seasonal cycles in Brisbane and a fabulous diary that was a bit like a Mayan celestial calendar. If it sounds a bit strange, it was, but it was also great. You really needed to be there

Talking about really needing to be there, we have a special extra lecture to celebrate the anniversary of the ANZACS. Martin Crotty is going to talk to us about the real history of the Australian and New Zealand war efforts and how the ANZAC tradition has changed how we remember the Great War. Please come along on April 18th. In highlighting this talk, I don't want to undersell the regular April lecture (on the 4th) which will delve into the history of formation of Lamington National Park by Neville McManimm. I hope to see you all at Neville's talk.

Of course, the Society is much more than our lecture series and we have several treks and activities on the slate. As I write, a group of members is doing a whirlwind tour of Canberra. As a former Canberra resident, I am sure that they will enjoy the sites with a swag of national museums, galleries and monuments. It is my hope that they get to enjoy the 'Bush Capital', which remains a remarkably serene place to be. Later this month, Society members will be heading to the Felton Food Festival. This is becoming a major event in the regional calendar and should be a great day out. Thanks to Leo Scanlan for taking the lead on this. Although, it is already too late to book for this event, we have an excellent program of treks and excursions planned for the next few months. Please take advantage of them.

Finally, I would like to thank all the volunteers and the front office for the efforts that go into organising the mail out of the Australian Geography Competition. It is a massive task and we really do appreciate your efforts. \square

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Jamie Shulmeister, President

www.rgsq.org.au

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Above: Paul Trotter delivering the Mar

CITIES IN THE SU

"Wow Paul, I have only reached the middle of the diary but am overwhelmed with delight that I purchased it to complement your lecture at the RGSOIII I enjoyed the evening, thank you. We are so lucky to have such talented Members of the Society." Sue Reid, RGSQ member.

Above: Paul Trotter delivering the March lecture at RGSQ "Cities in the Sun", image courtesy of Kay Rees.

LECTURE OF THE MONTH

"History of the formation of Lamington National Park"

presented by Neville McManinn.
Tue April 4, 7:30 pm, "Gregory House", 237 Milton
Rd, Milton



Entrance to Lamington National Park. Image courtesy of Neville McManinn.

"Lamington National Park" is the topic for our guest speaker Neville McManimm. His talk will cover the history and stories that brought into being this great National Park we have on Brisbane's doorstep. The presentation will include some early Surveyors maps and reports, along with slides and other early documents.

Neville is a keen Bushwalker and to him it's the stories of Aboriginal history, Exploration and Settlement, Geography and Talking with Local Landowners that makes the country come alive so that an outing is "Not Just a Walk in the Park".

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

We have much pleasure in welcoming Mr David and Mrs Janice Flood, Mr Leonard and Mrs Laurelle Lowry, Mr Mingli Feng, and Mr Joe and Mrs Coral Reichman as new members. We hope your association with your new Society is long and mutually enjoyable.

ANZAC LECTURE

fulton trotter

"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 i n V ill e r s - 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.

* * *

SYNOPSIS

"Cities in the Sun. Observations from Subtropical South Africa, Brazil and Queensland." Lecture presented by Paul Trotter.

Written by Margaret McIvor. RGSQ Member and Chair of the Australian Geography Competition

Paul began his presentation with a brief background of his father Stephen E. Trotter, a lecturer in Architecture at QIT (Queensland Institute of Technology). Stephen Trotter was passionate about climate and this understanding informed his approach to architecture and design. After being awarded the Australian Sisalkraft Research Scholarship, Stephen Trotter travelled extensively for three months learning from likeminded people in the wet and dry tropics rather than from European counterparts. His research resulted in the

publication of his book "Cities in the Sun".

A Diary for Daydreamers

This interest in the climate of South East Queensland was passed from father to son and ultimately led to the publication of a diary in collaboration with Paul's daughter, Clare. Paul told the audience that his Year 1 teacher had drawn a diagram of the year as a circle showing North and South as well as the solstices and equinoxes. After becoming a bit obsessive, Paul wondered what patterns were when typical visible directions were added to the circle. Additional astronomical and meteorological information was applied in an attempt to understand the heat lag that happens in the Southern Hemisphere and the definitions of summer and winter. Ultimately, the South-East Queensland Mandela Seasonal was developed.

The eye at the centre of the circle is used as a metaphor to illustrate

how the seasons are changing. The floral overlay depicts the flowering times of common South-East Queensland native and exotic trees such as frangipanis, crepe myrtles, wattles and poincianas. The diary records Paul's observations of subtle weather changes throughout the year and provides, he hopes, "a more readily understandable, and more importantly, enjoyable way of spotting the changes within the season for children and adults alike."

Mullet Run, Australia day last year, Paul broke his arm when he fell over two metres onto bitumen. After returning home from hospital, Paul commented that he had nothing to do. This led to an examination of some maps, the position of twenty-seven and a half degrees latitude and an idea to locate universities mentioned in his father's book "Cities in the Sun". Between 27 and 30 degrees in the southern hemisphere, the cities of Durban, Brisbane and Florianopolis can be found. The three cities have many commonalities -

located on the east coast of their continent surrounded by large expanses of ocean, north to south flowing currents offshore and a mountain range to the west - which produce similar climate conditions. Because of the commonalities, all have a run of mullet in July.

With so much in common, Paul states that these should be sister cities. Temperatures are very similar but Florianopolis is a bit wetter. Although Durban has never experienced a cyclone, Brazil recorded its first in 2011. There are common street trees including the flame tree and turpenalia. Surfing is popular in each area but the Brazilians do not like cricket.

Despite the commonalities, there are many differences. Durban was settled by the Dutch and English whereas the Florianopolis area was colonised by the Portuguese.

Durban is a city about the same size as Sydney. It, too, is located on surf beaches. The country around Durban is very green, similar to the area around Childers or that from Tweed Heads to Murwillumbah. Unlike South-East Queensland's

topography, the area Durban elevated and 1000 hills. encompasses The infrastructure is amazing and a good road easily rises to the top at 1200 metres. Some inspirina architecture is evident such as the new Constitutional Court designed by Andrew Makin on the site of the old prison. Nelson Mandela chose the site and relics of the prison have been preserved as part of the court. Because labour is so cheap in South Africa, amazing projects can be undertaken. The new office accommodation in Kloot is one example.

Florianopolis is located on an island - a bit like Moreton or Stradbroke Island in proximity to Brisbane. Paul asked the audience to imagine Queensland's capital at Dunwich with a bridge to the mainland across Peel Island. On a drive similar to the one from Dunwich to Point Lookout, there is a big sand blow (perhaps more north to south) and a lake. The views resemble ours in context although some imagination is needed. The granite outcrops are like those on Magnetic Island but

the mullet run is more elegant than ours.

The city has a population of 1.1 million but is still growing. Everyone seems to be exercising in pursuit of the "body beautiful". Brazil continues to be aspirational and the way people dress is evidence of wealth. Surf shops selling Billabong are common and the Brazilian obsession for barbeques is evident.

Unfortunately, inadequate transport infrastructure has resulted in traffic madness. The streetscape is indicative of a poor public realm, perhaps due to the Portuguese influence. High tiled walls and water tanks on roofs are common. It would seem that architects are not involved in much design.

In conclusion, Paul told the audience that programs of collaboration exist between his students and those from participating universities in Brazil and South Africa.

Image: "The Mandela", courtesy of Paul Trotter.



Although we have more to offer from an architectural perspective, there is a lot that we can learn.

Paul was asked if the equivalents of "Queenslanders" are found in either place. He responded with a "No" although he qualified his answer by commenting that some Brazilian structures have verandas and eves made with heavy masonry.



Editor's note:

"A Diary for Daydreamers"
can be purchased from the
following book stores:

Folio Books Avid Reader Museum of Brisbane GOMA Bookstore Artisans

OR by contacting the author by email at:

brisbane@fultontrotter.com.au.

an incentive for farmers to produce the best quality. Farmers know their market in advance and have the security of continued income. The resorts advertise to guests that they 'buy locally', which is seen as both environmentally friendly and socially just because of the reduced food miles and fair trade connotations, and illustrates how contemporary geography capitalises on the interconnections between people and place. As a geographer interested in the social and cultural aspects of places, it is critical to be familiar and work with who and what already exists in a place, rather than to bring in new ideas and practices that may not work or, worse still, may negatively impact local people such as making their jobs redundant.

A fixed price, higher than the local market places, provides

Local people maintain their food security, growing subsistence crops, but sell the surplus through a community company or other business structure, and variously employ one of them as manager from surplus funds to maintain records and distribute profits, or use the profits for equipment such as crates and cool storage. Resort managers capitalise on the reduced costs of purchasing from nearby farmers (avoiding the costs of transport, storage, and a 'middle-man'), demonstrating how the spatial factor of proximity in business was critical to my research.

The weather in sub-tropical regions brings intense rain and cyclones that intermittently destroys crops, making it difficult to guarantee the regular supply needed by businesses. Cyclone Winston, which hit Fiji a year ago, was the strongest tropical cyclone ever to make landfall over Fiji and the Southern Hemisphere, and the second worst in world meteorological history. Nearly 40% of Fiji's population was affected, with damage costs estimated at over US\$255 million.

Difficulties were compounded for farmers when six weeks later, two tropical depressions dumped another 500mm, causing flooding and ruining disaster recovery efforts, food stocks, and the newly planted tomatoes of the farmers. Climate change predictions for more frequent, extreme, weather events mean that different regions need to work around their unique environments. The PGS organisations had the financial resources such that farmers could immediately recommence their own work, and be a conduit to reconstructing housing and replanting lands around the region. Resort managers were very understanding and invoked the "act of God" clause in the MOUs that allowed for the frequent natural disasters in Fiji, advising they would welcome resupply once the crops were again producing.

Feature Story

Rural geography in Fiji

By Associate Professor Jen Carter, Geography Discipline Leader, University of the Sunshine Coast, also RGSQ member.

"One of the great things about geography is that it connects humans and the environment, while maintaining its core focus on place and space."

This is what attracted me to become a geographer whilst still an undergraduate student at the University of Queensland. Now I use rural geography, one of the specialist fields of the discipline, in research I have led to develop and sustain a Participant Guarantee Scheme (PGS) in Fiji. Rural geography builds on connections between rural people and their environments, whether these are 'natural' or 'cultural' environments such as those created by 'agri-culture'.

The Sigatoka Valley is located in the rural hinterland of the Coral Coast of Fiji, a highly-sought tourist destination with beautiful resorts. I relied on the place-based or natural features of the Sigatoka Valley including its 'food bowl' and tourism appeal in developing PGS groups in the region. Firstly, farmers and nearby resort chefs visited each other's' workplace to understand their different needs and challenges. A memorandum of understanding is developed at the start of each growing season. The MOU specifies the amounts and type of vegetables needed by resorts for restaurant meals and a delivery schedule of varieties and times. Resort managers guarantee they will purchase from the farmers.



PGS members show their graded produce, which is ready to be transported to tourist resorts on the coral coast of Fiji. Courtesy of Dr Rob Erskine-Smith.

Based on the original PGS concept funded by AusAID in the Solomon Islands, the four PGS groups in Fiji were developed with assistance from the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research and the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. These groups have now generated an average of \$80,000 since they commenced, and they plan to produce, market and sell other vegetables using a regional brand of the Sigatoka Stallion. Their success and sustainability has seen the commencement of another fifteen groups, bringing the total to 19, and another is about to commence. The groups operate under an umbrella community company, the Sigatoka Valley PGS Farmers Company Ltd, which coordinates all the farmers in the rural area and their supply of produce.

The rural geography underpinning the PGS project has combined the spatial aspects of proximity of farmers and tourist resorts, and the natural features of the place as well as its particular environmental challenges, to show how geographers connect people and places in helping to solve contemporary complex global challenges!

UPCOMING EVENTS



APRIL: BUSH AND BEACH

Two gentle and contrasting walks

When: Saturday, 22nd April

Cost: \$30.00/person RSVP and pay: 11th April

To book - contact RGSQ Office on 07 3368 2066.

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 guick 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. On12 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

Note: This trek is now fully booked, if you're interested please contact the RGSQ Office on 07 3368 2066 to be waitlisted.

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 17th. 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.



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

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.

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

RSVP: Friday May 26

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

JUNE: FOLLOW THE MURRAY

An illustrated talk following the Murray from Goolwa to Albury.

When: Thu 15 June; 9.15am for 9.30am start

Cost: \$10.00

Book and PAY: contact RGSQ at 07 3368 2066 or email

at admin@rgsq.org.au by June 6. Cost includes morning tea.

Travel by coach, boat, car ferry and much leg as we travel from the mouth of the Murray (near Goolwa) to Albury. At times, we were not sure whether we were in New South Wales or Victoria.

The catchment of the Murray and tributaries covers 14% of Australia's mainland. The Condamine (which becomes the Darling) rises near Killarney, the Murrumbidgee near Khancoban and the Murray in the foothills of the Snowy. We actually visited the junction of the Darling and the Murray - a major difference in their widths!

So much variety in the scenery, the vegetation (magnificent eucalypts), land form and land use from cultivation to grazing to pine clad hills, the spectacular coloured cliffs, very old and very new hotels and housing, 'millions' of houseboats particularly near Echuca and 'tinnies', locks, lakes and dams,

the Snowy Hydro scheme (not on the Murray) and so much more

Quite an adventure and 'millions' of photos! But I won't show them all! Look forward to seeing you and bring your friends! Coordinator: Audrey Johnston

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

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

To express an interest and for any other inquiries, please contact RGSQ Office.

RSVP: Friday, April 28

Please note: this trek is currently fully booked, however if you're interested, please contact the RGSQ at 07 3368 2066 to be waitlisted.

During 4 days of 4WD trekking, Mike West, the man who got Fraser Island heritage listed, will personally guide you around K'Gari's, the indigenous name for Fraser Island, best kept secrets, 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 will make Dilli Village it's home while on Fraser.
 The package will include 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.
- We're working out all the detail currently, please wait with booking accommodation until advised by RGSQ. Thank you!

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

Coordinator: Wayne Mackenzie

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

KEN SUTTON MEMORIAL LIBRARY GROUP

When: Monday, April 24, 2017

Time: 9:00 am

Where: "Gregory House", 237 Milton Rd.





MAP GROUP

March, 2017 - Events

For individual Map Group members to attend:

World Science Festival, 2017:

- o Dates: Wednesday 22 to Sunday 26 March, 2017
- o Organiser: Queensland Museum
- o Location: Southbank Parklands
- o *Themes:* Robotics, Oceans, Physics, Space, Energy.
- Participants: Scientists, researchers, science communicators, academics, inventors, entrepreneurs, panellists, street science participants and artists.
- o Details: 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

Map of the month

"Grand Canyon – Bright Angel Map 1962"

Written by Chris Hall, Member of RGSQ Map Group

You will not get a more interesting place than the Grand Canyon and this map in the RGSQ collection will not disappoint.

Right: Grand Canyon - Bright Angel Map, 1962. From RGSQ Map Collection.



It was produced in 1962 by the US Geological Survey (USGS) and captures not only the topography of the area but also has a reverse side on which there is an extensive narrative on the origins, discovery, exploration, flora, fauna, climate and geology.

The reverse side of the map also includes two very helpful figures/inserts. A Sketch Map shows the entire 217 miles of the Grand Canyon as well as the 60 miles of Marble Gorge above it. A Cross Section drawing, below, also depicts the strata of rock and other geological aspects, which is defined by sea levels and Palaeozoic time periods.



Cross-section of Grand Canyon form Hopi Point, on the south rim, to Tiyo Point, on the north rim. From RGSQ Map Collection.

The Grand Canyon was not officially discovered until 1540 by a Spaniard called Garcia Lopez de Cardenas, who was dispatched by his commander to find a 'mysterious large river' far to the west. These visits by the Spaniards were forgotten until in 1857 a Lieut, Joseph C Ives visited the area and noted:

"Ours has been the first and doubtless the last party of whites to visit this profitless locality. It seems intended by nature that the Colorado River, along with the greater portion of its lonely and majestic way, shall be forever unvisited and undisturbed."

How wrong he was proved. Nonetheless, the first mapping of the area wasn't done until 1870 by Major John Wesley Powell.

Under the auspices of the Smithsonian Institute he performed his second exploration of the region for several years, bringing many distinguished geologists into the area with him. During the 1950s the USGS conducted aerial photogrammetric surveys and this map represents the first detailed mapping of the Grand Canyon region since the USGS first published a 1:48,000 scale map of Bright Angel in 1903. As with most US maps, it is based on imperial measurements but also includes scales in metric, such as the Distance scale at the bottom of the map and also the grid pattern has blue tick at 1,000 metre intervals. You'll find this map in the hanging section of the RGSQ map section.

A subsequent map, at 1: 24,000 scale, was published as a supplement in the July 1978 *National Geographic* Magazine - perhaps you can also find this in the RGSQ Library?

Call for information

I am seeking information to expand the Society's archives. I have details of all the Thomson medallists from 1990 to 2016. If you have information from earlier years I would appreciate it: year of award, name of recipient, title (e.g. Dr, Prof, etc.), scholastic achievements (e.g. Dr, Prof, etc.), current (or previous) occupations and locations, topic of Thomson address.

OTHER AWARDS

e.g. OA/OAM and reason; Uni medals - uni and topic; Fellowships - month and year; Other awards and reason.

Much of this information is not in the RGSQ Bulletins. Send it to by email to audrevi3@icloud.com or hand it to me at a meeting, or leave it at the Office. Look forward to much more info ASAP.

Many thanks. Audrey Johnston

Australian Geography Competition

The BIG mailout of 66,000 Question Booklets and **Answer Sheets** for the 2017 AGC. This mammoth



exercise could not be possible without the help of RGSQ members: Linda Austin, James Hansen, Margaret Hardy, Patrick McKewin, John McWatters, Mary Comer, Mary and John Nowill, Karen and Peter Nunan, Mike Piccolo, Kay and Graham Rees, Bob Reid, Sue Reid, Pattie and Wayne Spearritt, John Walker, Helen and Digby Warren, and Doreen and John Wilkinson. THANK YOU ALL!

Members' assistance will be required for the packing and mailing of the Certificates and Results commencing Tuesday July 11th.

Bernard Fitzpatrick, Australian Geography Competition Coordinator

RGSQ **Bulletin**

April 2017

formation of Lamington National Park" presented by Neville McManinn.

Anzac lecture: Tue April 18, "WWI and Australian History" presented by Associate Professor Martin Crotty.

Activity: Sat 22 April, "Bush and Beach"

Lecture of the Month: Tue April 4, "History of the Map Group: Mon 3 April, 10 am "Gregory House", 237 Milton Rd, Milton. "Interpreting Nautical Charts", by Ian Francis.

> Ken Sutton Memorial Library: Mon April 24, 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