



# RGSQ Bulletin

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

**President: Dr Iraphne Childs**

## From the President

Dear members, I hope you are keeping well and enjoying our spring weather. Lots of opportunities to do gardening if you are able to. I have really enjoyed catching up with many members on the phone over the past few weeks. Thank you for taking time to answer my calls and to have a chat. It has been a good opportunity to know more about members personally.

**The AGM:** In the final week of September you will receive documents (e.g. Notice of Meeting, 2019-2020 Annual Report to Members) relating to our Annual General Meeting on Tuesday 20 October. In recognition of Covid-19 related restrictions and in line with current corporate guidelines the meeting will be held via teleconferencing this year, utilising the ZOOM platform. There will be no in-person attendance at Gregory Place for this year's AGM. While varying from what would apply in normal circumstances, arrangements will achieve the same outcomes of giving all members the opportunity to register their vote, either via an RGSQ website poll or via postal vote, on important resolutions. The voting paper is a simple one-page document listing the resolutions listed in the Notice of Meeting which also includes information on nominating councillors, participation in the AGM via teleconference using Zoom and the voting procedure. All members are encouraged to participate in the on-line AGM meeting. If you wish to participate but do not have access to appropriate on-line facilities contact the RGSQ office to explore alternative access possibilities. Please feel free to ask any questions relating to the AGM process and /or any matters related to the AGM by calling the RGSQ office on 3368 2066.

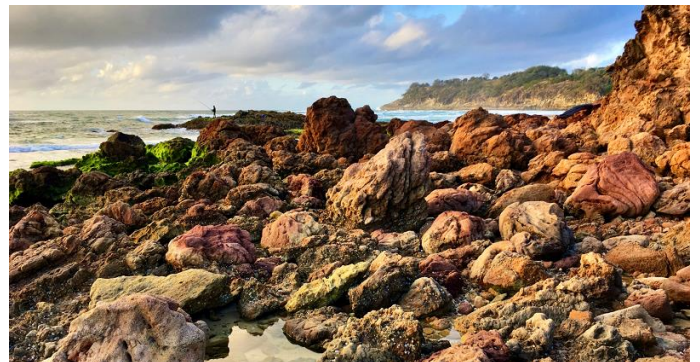
**RGSQ 2021 calendar:** The Publications committee have been working to produce the RGSQ 2021 calendar using 12 images from the competition entries, including the 3 prize-winning entries. Calendars should be ready for sale in October at \$15/each via the RGSQ website online shop & at RGSQ premises. The price for postage will be additional based on weight for the number of calendars purchased. An order form will shortly be distributed to members. We hope you may consider this option for your Christmas presents this year!

**The photo competition:** The RGSQ Publications committee met on 8<sup>th</sup> September to judge the 45 photo entries submitted by 15 members for the inaugural RGSQ Geographic Landscapes photographic competition. Judging was anonymous (i.e. without entrants' names attached to images) and criteria used for judging included composition, geographic feature, storytelling, creativity, emotion/expression. Thank you to all members who entered the competition and congratulations to the prize winners:

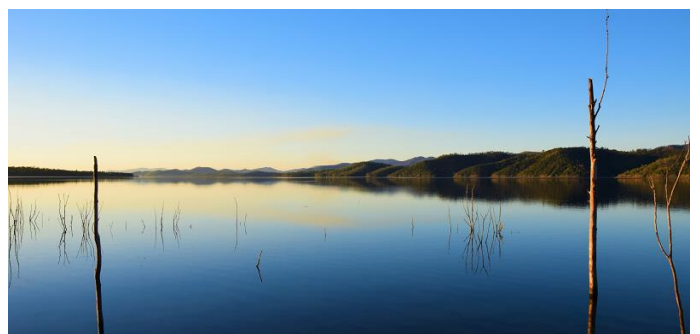
**Stuart Watt, 1<sup>st</sup> prize (2-nights at O'Reillys):** Qld Channel Country above Cooper Creek



**John Fairbairn 2<sup>nd</sup> prize (12 months free membership):** rocks & lone fisherman, Point Lookout, Stradbroke Island



**John Tasker 3<sup>rd</sup> prize (bottle of red wine):** reflections in Wivenhoe Dam at sunset



I look forward to seeing you "remotely" in your homes at the AGM zoom meeting.

**Dr Iraphne Childs**  
**President**

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

[www.rgsq.org.au](http://www.rgsq.org.au)

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### Ken Sutton Trust Award Lecture

6 October – 7:30pm

#### “Geography at the interface: The science and management of land along rivers”

presented by *Ian Rutherford, School of Geography  
University of Melbourne*

Register at: <https://rgsq.org.au/event-3986929>



*Erosion into a farm road along the Upper Murray River, NE Victoria, after the 2010 floods; photo by Ian Rutherford.*

Some of the most interesting geography happens at borders, intersections and interfaces. In this talk, I discuss the important and fractious interface between land and rivers. Like coasts, this is where the dynamism of nature meets the inflexibility of human societies. This world of moving river banks, riparian vegetation, flooding, and high-value floodplain agriculture, is now also a focus of environmental action across the world. I will discuss the key values and issues in rural riparian land, as well as the latest ideas for living with valuable but dynamic spaces.

Ian is a geographer and fluvial geomorphologist. He has worked for 25 years in the water sector as an academic and consultant, including several years working in state government. At present he is a Professor in the School of Geography at the University of Melbourne. Ian's research interests relate to processes of erosion and sedimentation in river channels, particularly human impacts on rivers, interactions between vegetation and rivers, and the dynamics of fine and coarse sediment pulses in rivers. His work has turned increasingly to the physical and social dimensions of restoration of disturbed fluvial systems. He has published over 80 journal articles, 50 consulting reports, and has been involved in over \$7 million in research grants, assisted by over 60 co-authors and 30 PhD students. His international work includes projects in South East Asia, China, the USA, Canada and South Africa. He has advised government through involvement in numerous committees and enquires. He has been the president of the Institute of Australian Geographers, as well as the Australia New Zealand Geomorphology Group.

**Please note:** This will be a virtual lecture delivered online via Zoom. The lecture link will be emailed to all registrants closer to the lecture date. If you have any questions, please email us at [info@rgsq.org.au](mailto:info@rgsq.org.au).

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## 2020 Annual General Meeting

Tuesday, 20 October – 7:30 pm

In recognition of Covid-19 related restrictions and in line with current corporate guidelines the meeting will be held via teleconferencing this year, utilising the ZOOM platform.

All documents for the upcoming AGM will be distributed to members in due course.

Register for the meeting on the RGSQ website at:

<https://rgsq.org.au/whatson>

If you are having trouble registering or have any questions about the AGM, please do not hesitate to contact us 07 3368 2066 or email [info@rgsq.org.au](mailto:info@rgsq.org.au).



## TREKS AND ACTIVITIES

For details of upcoming events and to book see <https://rgsq.org.au/whatson>.

The TAAC program has been badly disrupted by the COVID restrictions, and recent events have been restricted to 10 people, if not postponed.

There does appear an opportunity to raise these limits and we may be able to take more people for the November event to South Bank. Please watch for special announcements and check the What's On section of the website for updates closer to the date.

Next year's program is nearing completion and has a big variety of events including some of the postponed outings from this year.

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## Australian Geography Competition

### Competition Volunteers Needed

We need to call on our wonderful members again for the mail-out to return the 2020 Competition certificates and result sheets to schools. This will take place at 'Gregory Place' from Wednesday 7 to Friday 9 October. If you are able to assist, please register on our website at <https://rgsq.org.au/event-3725316>.

For any queries, please email Kath Berg on 0400 270 600.

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## CONTRIBUTORS

Kath Berg, Iraphne Childs, Ian Rutherford, Chris Spriggs

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## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

We have much pleasure in welcoming Ray Andrews, Alison Hosken, Samantha Altman, Isabella Edwards-Brown, Tylah Mills as new members of The Royal Geographical Society of Queensland. We hope your association with your new Society is long and mutually enjoyable.

## REPORT: Map Group Event: Exploring the Scenic Rim

By Laurelle Lowry



*RGSG group at Glenapp Station south of Rathdowney.  
Photo by Rob Sibson*

This two-day event originally scheduled for July was held on 20 and 21 August 2020. The group numbering 22 were accommodated in the Boonah Caravan Park/Showground, local motels or Bed and Breakfast and 3 guests being Boonah residents.

On Day 1, we met outside the Caravan Park on an extremely cool, windy day. Our tour manager, Neville McManimm, had put together an interesting program which could be interpreted as a Mystery Tour. In car convoy, we set off after Neville's lead car and with a detailed instruction sheet, were sure not to miss a thing. We headed out of Boonah travelling west, up and over the Teviot Range which is the watershed between the Teviot Brook/Logan Rivers system and the Bremer/Brisbane Rivers basin. Here, a great view was marred by the dusty conditions. Further on, we travelled many country roads with each twist or turn revealing historical railway bridges and embankments, railway station sites and sign, and irrigation drain systems. The road eventually brought us to Surveyor, Robert Dixon's Base Line marker. With our stop here to view the monument, Neville gave us a detailed explanation (including displayed maps) of the line marker positioning and the trials undertaken by surveyors in the days of early settlement.

After a morning tea stop at Warrill View, we travelled on to explorer, Alan Cunningham's Lookout. En-route through the valley of the Bremer River to our next stop, we passed the Rosevale Lutheran Church, the now derelict Rosevale Hotel, an old Main Roads blaze and stunning views of The Ramparts and Mt Castle. Our lunch stop was at the monument for Alan Cunningham's camp site No. 6 of 24 and 25 August 1828.

Continuing on, we learnt more about irrigation systems, viewed Mounts Greville and Edwards, Glennie's Pulpit (named after the Archdeacon), Mt Moon, Minto Crags and, in the distance across the plains the historical homestead of Coochin Coochin. After a late afternoon sociable happy hour, we all met up for dinner at the historical Dugandan Hotel.

Day 2 saw us car convoy again and ascend a long ridge to the south-east of Boonah for extensive views of the Main Range with each peak named for us by Neville. We travelled on via Mt Sugarloaf, Cannon Creek, stopping at intervals for views of Knapps Peak and Mt Maroon and then to Rathdowney for our lunch stop. Travelling on, we passed the flag post and plaque for the Glenapp Primary School. This was a one teacher school with about 50 pupils. The last teacher here 1959-1960, before the school closed, was our own RGSQ member, Mike Piccolo. For our next surprise - Neville guided us to the Glenapp.



*Mount Maroon left and Mount Barney centre. Photo by Ian Peacock*

Railway Station on the Brisbane to Sydney railway line. Once the site of a small township, the only building still standing is the signal box. This has been lovingly restored by two brothers who once were township residents. Of interest are the many historical photos on display. Rob Sibson, who was our host for the visit, is the dedicated, passionate volunteer keeping the site and surrounding area in good condition. An enjoyable time and delicious afternoon tea were welcome.

Back in convoy, following many more turns and farm lanes through lush vegetable crops, we were guided to another stop. On the road between the bridges of Christmas Creek and the Logan River, hidden under some bushes was the monument for Tabooba Railway Junction. This was where the shire railway line from Beaudesert branched for either Christmas Creek valley or Rathdowney. A train engine depot was located here in its heyday.

The next stop was at the "Logan Park" homestead (previously the grounds of the Tamrookum homestead) to view a special garden and fountain in the shape of a royal crown built to commemorate a visit from the Duke and Duchess of York, later King George VI and Queen Elizabeth in 1927.



*Tamrookum Church;  
photo by Ian Peacock*

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A short distance along the road was All Saints Church, Tamrookum for a guided tour. This church was erected in 1915 in memory of Robert Martin Collins, a successful pastoralist who is recognised as one of the fathers of the National Park movement in Queensland, having fought to have land in the McPherson Ranges reserved in its virgin state. Robert became president of RGSQ in 1898-99. He was joined in lobbying the Government by Romeo Lahey, and consequently, Lamington National Park was proclaimed in 1915, two years after Robert's death. After a wander in the grounds and the church cemetery, we proffered our thanks and goodbyes and all dispersed either for home or elsewhere.

Neville, a big thank you for a wonderful two days. We thoroughly enjoyed ourselves learning more about the Boonah district. Your research and knowledge excelled, making our experiences interesting and informative. We appreciate the time you devoted to this excursion and also your touches of humour.

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## **RGSQ members nominating for the 2020-2021 Council**

### ***Ms Kath Berg***

I was RGSQ's Administrator from 1989 to 2014 when I transitioned into a part-time role as Education Officer for a couple of years, and then retired. Years ago, my previous jobs included working for the South Pacific Commission, based in Noumea, and the NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service. At RGSQ, I started up the Australian Geography Competition in 1995 and am still actively involved in its organisation through membership of the Competition Committee. On retirement my husband and I shifted to the Gold Coast. We are gradually renovating our house, but more importantly, establishing a native garden on our 1800 m<sup>2</sup> block that backs onto a bush reserve. I was awarded the Society's Thomson Medal in 2016.

### ***Dr. Iraphne Childs***

Iraphne is currently President and a Fellow of the RGSQ and Senior Research Associate in the Queensland Centre for Population research within the School of Earth and Environmental Sciences, at The University of Queensland. Iraphne teaches and conducts research in the area of environmental hazards and population change. She was previously Senior Lecturer in Geography at Queensland University of Technology where she directed the Geography program. Iraphne has held teaching and research positions at the East-West Centre in Hawaii and has lived and worked in Japan for several years. Iraphne was born and grew up in England, has travelled extensively in Asia and volunteers with Red Cross Emergency to assist with disaster response during Queensland's summer. She is married to Ralph, has twin daughters and lives in Brisbane.

### ***Professor Jonathan Corcoran***

Jonathan has been an RGSQ member since 2018. He is Professor in Human Geography within the School Earth

and Environmental Sciences at The University of Queensland, and the director of the Queensland Centre for Population Research. His research interests lie in the fields of Population Geography, Spatial Science and Regional Science. His publications cover topics including human mobility and migration, human capital, and social problems each of which has a focus on quantitative methods. He is the co-editor of Australian Population Studies and Secretary of the Applied Geography Commission.

### ***Mr. Ian Harding***

I have been a member of RGSQ since mid-2018. I grew up and was educated in Devon, UK, coming to Australia in 1972 by traveling overland from England. My professional life has been in the publishing industry, working mostly as a publisher producing school textbooks, including geography texts. Before retiring my wife and I established our own publishing business which we ran for 10 years.

### ***Dr. Annie Lau***

I have been an RGSQ member since 2017. I am a lecturer in Geography at the University of Queensland, researching and teaching in physical geography with a focus on coastal hazards and coastal changes (e.g. storms, tsunamis, beach erosion). Before moving to Brisbane in 2016, I grew up and studied in Hong Kong, and pursued my PhD in Singapore. I love travelling and playing with sand for fun and my work as a coastal scientist!

### ***Professor Patrick Moss***

I became an RGSQ member in August 2019. I am a Professor in Physical Geography and Deputy Head of School, School of Earth and Environmental Sciences, The University of Queensland. I teach in the areas of biogeography and environmental management and I am undertaking research in Quaternary palaeoecology across Australia and South East Asia. I have been in Brisbane at the UQ since 2004 and prior to this I taught physical geography at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and the University of Iowa in the US. I grew up in Melbourne and completed a Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Geography/Bachelor of Science in Ecology from the University of Melbourne in 1994 and obtained a PhD (Palaeoecology) from Monash University in 2000.

### ***Mr. Leo Scanlan***

Leo has been a n RGSQ members since 1987. He has worked in the newspaper industry as well as the Department of Main Roads, and he is currently a Guide at Queensland Parliament House. He has undertaken formal studies in tourism and has brought these valuable skills to the Society through his long serving Chairmanship of the Society's Treks and Activities Committee. Leo is a past President of RGSQ and an RGSQ Fellow. Following his strong interest in geography he has organised and led numerous Society treks both within Australia and overseas.

## Ms. Daphne Stephens

I have been a member of RGSQ since 2014. I was born in Mundubbera where my parents owned and operated a mixed farm at Reedy Creek, 7 miles north of Gayndah. I graduated as a Town Planner in 1995 from the UQ as a mature aged student. This had followed 10 years of working in administration (4 at the UQ in various departments) and then child rearing. My 20 years' professional career was entirely in town planning development assessment work within the area of south-eastern Queensland, 19 years in private enterprise (mainly with Town Planning Strategies and Goodwin Midson & Partners) and one year in the Brisbane City Council. I am now retired and live with my partner Errol Wood (also an RGSQ member), have two married adult children and five grandchildren (2 boys and 3 girls - triplets).

## Ms. Pamela Tonkin

I have been a member of RGSQ since February 2018. I grew up in rural central Victoria. In 1975 I enrolled in a BA degree at Monash University and studied geography, biology, politics and philosophy and majored in both physical and human geography. I chose to take up a career as a librarian, and I have been employed in research institutions and universities either contributing to or supporting research. I now have my own publishing company and am working on the publication of classic works in the genres of fiction, travel and poetry. I also write travel guides.

## Professor Steve Turton

I formally joined the RGSQ as a member in June 2020 but have had a long interest in the Society. I reside with my wife Wendy on the Sunshine Coast hinterland and am now Adjunct Professor of Environmental Geography at Central Queensland University and the University of the Sunshine Coast. From 2006-2016, I held a number of senior roles as Professor of Geography at James Cook University in Cairns, including Director of Research for the Rainforest Cooperative Research Centre. I am a former Councillor of the Institute of Australian Geographers and a former member of the Wet Tropics Management Authority's Scientific Advisory Committee. I am a Past President of the Australian Council of Environmental Deans and Directors, Past-President of the Institute of Australian Geographers and Past-Chair of the National Committee for Geographical Sciences, Australian Academy of Science. In 2016, I was made a Distinguished Fellow of the Institute of Australian Geographers, and in 2017 was delighted to receive the Royal Geographical Society of Queensland's J.P. Thomson Medal, recognising outstanding contributions to geography over an extended period of time. I am currently an associate editor of *Geographical Research*. I enjoy bush walking, gardening, writing and overseas travel.

## Farewell to Bernard Fitzpatrick



Bernard worked his final day at RGSQ on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> September, having resigned his employment with RGSQ for personal reasons. Bernard joined the RGSQ staff in January 2014 as Executive Officer and subsequently accepted the position of Australian Geography Competition Coordinator in March 2019. We thank Bernard for his very significant contributions to RGSQ and the AGC both as an employee and a Society member. Iraphne and Kath Berg met with Bernard on his final day to wish him well on behalf of Council and all Society members. We presented Bernard with a gift of a Lilly-pilly tree in a pot. He intends to find it a good home in his garden. I'm sure you would join me in wishing Bernard all the best for his health and in his future endeavours.

**Iraphne Childs, President.**

## In memory of Rob Simson



Thank you to RGSQ member and keen orienteer, Chris Spriggs, for discovering the Rob Simson memorial chair in Toohey forest while orienteering. As we later found out, the seat, which overlooks Rob's favourite spot in the forest has been erected as a memorial to Rob as a former president of Toohey Forest Orienteering Club and Toohey Forest Protection Society.

Rob was a former RGSQ Councillor, recipient of the Thomson bronze medal, Coordinator of the Ken Sutton Memorial library and a geography teacher ahead of his time.

Reference: <https://oq.orienteering.asn.au/events/10425>; RGSQ Bulletin August 2018.

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**See all entries in RGSQ's landscape  
photography competition**

To see all entries in the 2020 landscape photography competition, check out the Members only tab - drop-down menu - photo competition 2020; the announcement on the RGSQ website home page <https://rgsq.org.au/> and see the photos on the winners page <https://rgsq.org.au/photocomp>.

# RGSQ Bulletin

October 2020

**Lecture/Meeting: Tuesday 6 October**

Bi-annual Ken Sutton Trust Award Lecture  
*"Geography at the interface: The science and management of land along rivers"* presented by Ian Rutherford

**7 to 9 October: AGC mail-out**  
*Volunteers needed*

**W:** [www.rgsq.org.au](http://www.rgsq.org.au)  
**E:** [info@rgsq.org.au](mailto:info@rgsq.org.au)  
**P:** 07 3368 2066

**2020 AGM: Tuesday, 20 October via teleconference. Please register on the website under What's On.**

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