

Special newsletter for RGSQ members



Member Connect

Issue 4

Patron: H.E. Paul de Jersey AC, Governor of Queensland
President: Dr Iraphne Childs

President's message

Dear fellow members, I hope you are continuing to stay safe as we move into the next stage of relaxing COVID-19 restrictions in Queensland. It is hoped that RGSQ will be able to resume some activities in August. We will keep you posted on our arrangements.

Queensland Day 2020

June 6th commemorates the day in 1859 when Queen Victoria signed Letters Patent for the State's "birth certificate" establishing Queensland's official separation from New South Wales as an independent colony. Moves towards statehood for Queensland began with a public meeting in 1851 to consider separation from New South Wales. Queen Victoria also granted the Queensland Coat of Arms, the oldest State Arms in Australia in 1893 and the first Arms assigned to a British colony since 1661. The Coat of Arms symbolises the Queen's constitutional authority in the State and since 2012 used as the government's corporate logo. The brolga has featured on the Queensland Coat of Arms since 1977 and in 1986 it became the official bird emblem of Queensland. The koala was officially named the faunal emblem of Queensland in 1971 and the Cooktown orchid became Queensland's floral emblem in 1959, during celebrations to mark the state's centenary.

Queensland Day Honours

Queensland Day on June 6th, 2020 was celebrated in the usual way by the granting of awards by Queensland's Governor, His Excellency the Honourable Paul de Jersey. This year two people whom many members may know were recognised.

Professor Gregory J.E. Hill: Many of us know Greg as a Geographer. He has received an **AO in the general division** for distinguished service to education, particularly the development of tertiary facilities in regional areas. He began his career as a primary school teacher, completed a BA Honours (Geography) and a PhD (wildlife/statistical ecology) at the University of Queensland. He taught at UQ for 15 years during which time I was fortunate, in my early lecturing career, to teach a couple of courses with Greg. In 2010 he became Vice-Chancellor at the University of the Sunshine Coast continuing in this position until his retirement in 2019.

Dr Colin J. Limpus: Those of us interested in marine science and conservation know Col and his tireless work with sea turtles in Queensland. He has received an **AO in the general division** for distinguished service to environmental science, particularly to the conservation of sea turtles and as a mentor of young scientists. Col's research helped convince the Queensland Government of the day to declare the waters off Mon Repos a marine park in 1990 and to make turtle exclusion devices compulsory on fishing trawlers in 2001.

With best wishes

Dr Iraphne Childs, President

<https://www.govhouse.qld.gov.au/office-of-the-governor/news-publications/latest-news/2020/june/2020-queens-birthday-honours-list.aspx>

<https://www.qld.gov.au/about/how-government-works/flags-emblems-icons>

<https://www.news-mail.com.au/news/col-celebrates-a-huge-50-years-with-the-turtles/3269672/>

Contact RGSQ: info@rgsq.org.au; www.rgsq.org.au

Letters From the Home Front

Neville McManimm

Like some other friends, I have been going through slides of times past. At the moment, some are away being digitized at a local company called Reel Box. These are of my five years living at Nhulunbuy in Arnhem Land during the 1970's. Reel Box has already digitized the VHS tape of my 50th Birthday Party. Did I really have that much hair?

Lockdown or not, I can still go through my back gate and get my piece of Sanity in the Nerang State Forest. I don't always stay on the forest roads or mountain bike tracks so I have a few quiet gullies and ridges I explore. The other day I sat within ten yards of the Red Tailed Black Cockatoos feeding in the casuarina trees.

I tried to have a conversation with an Echinda but each time it realised I was there it buried its nose deeper into the dirt. Not the sort of animal that one gets to cuddle.

At this time of year the Wattle trees are coming into flower and the bright colour and perfume are exciting on the senses. Summed up in section of a poem by Alfred Midgley.

“The wattle are in bloom again, the wattle are in bloom,

Woven into the pattern and relieving tints of gloom;

Each tiny tufted floweret, in yellow blanket rolled, Braving the blustering westerlies, and nights of nipping cold.

The wattle are in bloom again, the wattle are in bloom,

I brought a spray with me today, its scent pervades my room.”

.....

Looking forward to a cuppa and a chat. See you on the flip side folks.

WHAT'S ON?

SCENIC RIM VISIT TO BOONAH AND MT. FRENCH - 16 September 2020

To book, visit: <https://rgsq.org.au/event-3771619>

Meet at Boonah 9.30 am, Arthur Clive's Family Bakehouse, 12 High Street, Boonah. Morning tea will be on arrival at our own expense where we will meet Wendy Creighton.

Boonah is an interesting country town in the Scenic Rim. We will be guided through the centre of town by Wendy, who is the editor of local newspapers and author of "Blumbergville to Boonah, the early history of the Boonah Business District". It tells of fires, floods, droughts and the resilience of local people.

There may be time after the guided walk to have another look at the town before meeting at the Dugandan Hotel, 400m south of High Street, for lunch. (See menu on registration form). There is plenty of parking here.

After lunch we will drive up the winding, all bitumen and, sometimes, steep road to the top of Mt French, a climbers' haven, at 579m. There is a picnic area, camp ground and toilets here, also, much information regarding care of Queensland National Parks and the role of Rangers.

There are two tracks to the lookouts.

Track 1: Logans Lookout. 720m return on bitumen.

Track 2: Mee-boo-run Circuit. 850m unsealed with some flattish rocks to walk on in one section to the East Cliff Lookout. A Boonah map will be sent to those who register nearer the time.

Cost: Members \$30, Guests \$35, including lunch.

Coordinator: Mary Comer



Australian Geography Competition – Examples of past questions



Figure 2. Rock formation
© Stefan Karpiniec, CC-BY-2.0

10 How was the rock formation shown in Figure 2 created?

- A Block faulting caused the joints.
- B Columns developed as magma cooled and contracted.
- C Deposited sediments built up in layers and then tilted.
- D Existing rocks were changed due to heat and pressure.
- E A glacier scratched striations on the rocks.



Figure 6. Migration cartoon
© Simon Kneebone

23 The cartoon in Figure 6 is based on which of these reasons for interstate migration?

- A employment
- B family
- C lifestyle
- D retirement
- E study



GEOFACT of the day: *Where is the longest place name in the world?*



People who live in **TaumatawhakatangiHangakoauauotamateaturipukakapikimaungahoronukupokaiwhenuakitanatahu**, New Zealand have quite a job to do when jotting down their address - with 85 letters long, this is the longest place name in the world.

Source: <https://bestlifeonline.com/world-facts/>

Still curious? Check out the geographical presentations below:

- ✚ [We need to track the world's water like we track the weather](#)
- ✚ [Why you should shop at your local farmers market](#) – based on the American model, the talk “shows how to put your purchasing power into action to save local agriculture from collapse and transform the food industry from the bottom up.”
- ✚ [Four billion years of evolution in six minutes](#)

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