



RGSQ Bulletin

ISSN 1832-8830

March 2022

Vol 57 no 02

Published by The Royal Geographical Society of Queensland Ltd., a not-for-profit organisation established in 1885 that promotes the study of geography and encourages a greater understanding and enjoyment of the world around us.

Patron: [Her Excellency the Honourable Dr Jeannette Young PSM Governor of Queensland](#)

President: Mr John Tasker

From the President

With restrictions easing and hospitalisation rates dropping, I encourage members to take full opportunity of the in-person and hybrid events currently organised for the coming months. We have an exciting program ahead, including our March Lecture from Steve Noakes who is set to provide insights into the early history of Binna Burra and the RGSQ. In addition, event registrations are now open for several activities, so please visit the RGSQ website to ensure you don't miss out!

The 2022 Beijing Winter Olympics have been a fascinating event. With more than 180km between the key venues in Beijing, Yanqing, and Zhangjiakou, the 2022 Winter Olympics are one of the most spatially distributed in over 20 years. While engineering solutions have solved many challenges, including a driverless high-speed railway and more than 350 snow machines, the environmental cost of any modern Olympics remains a major concern. I encourage you to follow the links below to learn more about some of the key achievements and challenges of the recent Winter Olympics. As Queensland progresses towards our own Olympic Games in 2032, understanding the challenges of the events today is critical to inform how we can do better over the next decade.

As discussed last year, the Council and I will be working on a new Strategic Plan for RGSQ over the coming months. To support this work, we will shortly be releasing a survey so that all members can provide their input to shape the direction of RGSQ over the coming four years. I look forward to your participation and encourage any member to reach out to me to discuss our opportunities and challenges.

References:

- [A Satellite View of Olympic Terrain \(nasa.gov\)](https://www.nasa.gov)
- [We couldn't have the Beijing Olympics without snow machines. How do they work, and what's the environmental cost? \(theconversation.com\)](https://theconversation.com)
- [Artificial Snow: A Slippery Slope - American Chemical Society \(acs.org\)](https://www.acs.org)
- [Badaling Great Wall Station: The world's deepest high-speed railway station | CNN Travel](https://www.cnn.com)

John Tasker, President

Welcome New Members

We have much pleasure in welcoming *Wayne Brookes, Simon Costanzo, Paul William Curtin, Ian Francis, John Huth, Riley Kernaghan, Susan Margaret, and Van Thai Nguyen* as new members.

We hope your association with your new Society is long and mutually enjoyable.

What's happening on Council?

The Society's Council met on 15 February. Reports discussed by Councillors, and highlights of those reports, included:

- President (J Tasker): report on annual staff review; survey of members relating to upcoming strategic plan review
- Treasurer (A Lau): income and expenditure year to date largely in line with budget except for expenditure on the Australian Geography Competition which is below budget due to a postponed event
- Business Manager (L Darii): Daphne Stephens resignation from Council; changes to government regulations regarding check-in and vaccination; new membership referral programme and 2022 program of activities
- Australian Geography Competition (R Honey): new website and data management systems operational; work on 2022 Competition progressing well; '2021' Geography's Big Week Out postponed to April
- Collections (R Cook): planning exhibits for the new display cabinets; preparing for imminent transfer of records to e-Hive; establishing links with State Library of Qld
- Property (P Tonkin): possible purchases from surplus funds from the Gambling Community Benefit Fund; Body Corporate seeking more information on need for lift upgrade
- Scientific Studies (I Childs): project on North Stradbroke Island deferred; work on new project mapping disused walking trails at Binna Burra
- Treks and Activities (C Spriggs): overview of 2022 events; communication while on treks
- Map Group (K Rees): update on March and April events

For further information on any item, please talk to a Society Councillor at a trip or lecture or send an email to info@rgsq.org.au.

WHAT'S ON

For all upcoming RGSQ events, please visit the Society's website www.rgsq.org.au under 'What's On'.

March Lecture

Linking the Binna Burra story to the 1885 origins of the RGSQ

presentation by Steve Noakes Binna Burra Lodge Board Chairperson

Tuesday 1 March 7:30 pm Zoom only

Register: <https://rgsq.org.au/event-4642775>



Steve Noakes coming out of the bushfire devastation at Binna Burra Lodge in September 2019.

The Binna Burra story goes back to 1885 and the beginning of the Royal Geographic Society of Queensland (RGSQ) and its President in 1896, Robert Martin Collins (1843 - 1913), one of the founders of the National Park system in Queensland. Collins's fought a 20-year battle to conserve the McPherson Ranges, being joined in 1911 by the then young Romeo Lahey who energetically lobbied and petitioned for a national park. Two years after Collins died, the 19,035 ha Lamington National Park was declared in July 1915 – Queensland's ninth national park. In 1930 the National Parks Association of Queensland (NPAQ) was formed with Romeo Lahey (1887-1968) as the inaugural President (from 1930 to 1968) and Arthur Groom (1904-1953) the foundation Secretary of NPAQ. In 1933 Romeo Lahey and Arthur Groom led the formation of Binna Burra Lodge (initially the company was called Queensland Holiday Resorts). Fast-forward to 2019 and at the beginning of the Australian 'Black Summer Bushfires' the central lodge and pioneer cabins at Binna Burra were destroyed. Steve's address will link the Binna Burra story to the origins of the RGSQ, the development and management of Queensland's national parks and the 2019 impact of the Black Summer bushfires on the legacy of early conservationists such as Collins, Lahey and Groom.

About the presenter: Steve Noakes has been involved in the tourism sector for over 40 years - acknowledged as a leading advocate for sustainable tourism practices across the Asia Pacific region. He is founder of the international project management company, Pacific Asia Tourism, Chairperson of the Board of Binna Burra Lodge in Lamington National Park, Vice President of the National

Parks Association of Queensland, and part owner/Director of Ecologes Indonesia.

Over the past 25 years he has been Team Leader or a senior technical expert on a range of international sustainable tourism projects with current projects in Timor and Indonesia. Steve is described as 'the father' for Asia Pacific in the development of the United Nations endorsed Global Sustainable Tourism Council (GSTC). He has been an Adjunct or Visiting Professor in sustainable tourism and adventure tourism at Universities in Australia, Norway, and Finland.

Please note: This will be a virtual lecture delivered via Zoom. The lecture link will be emailed to all registrants closer to the lecture date. The lecture may be recorded, if you have any questions, please email us at info@rgsq.org.au.



TREKS AND ACTIVITIES

The Treks and Activities Committee are happy to offer four exciting events. Details below; to register please visit the website <https://rgsq.org.au/whatson>

UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND MUSEUMS

Friday 25 March



Meeting Place: To be advised closer to the event date

Time: 10.30am - 2.30pm (approximately), including lunch (at member's cost) at Darwin's Café (nearby to the Museums)

Cost: \$8.00 members; \$13.00 non-members

Full details and to register: <https://rgsq.org.au/event-4695707>; *Waitlist only*

Apart from its stunning setting and architecture, the St. Lucia campus of the University of Queensland is home to some real treasures. An exploration of just three of these is planned for two activities in late March 2022.

This trip is on the 25th of March and covers some of the UQ Museums. This will be followed by a separate event on the 27th of March which is a one hour guided tour of the famous grotesque sculptures in the Great Court by Rhyl Hinwood AM, the sculptor. Separate registrations are required for each event.

The UQ Anthropology Museum, and its (most recent) exhibition - 'Kirrenderri, Heart of the Channel Country'.

A visually striking and narrative rich exhibition chronicling extraordinary stories from one of the most remote locations at the very heart of Australia, guided by Museum staff.

The UQ RD Milns Antiquities Museum, which houses the foremost collection of classical Mediterranean antiquities in Queensland. Museum staff will talk about the creation and operation of the museum, and the museum's collection of antiquities which spans almost 3,500 years of history. Both of these museums are in the Great Court precinct.

While the visit will conclude at (approximately) 2.30pm, members will be free to visit other venues of likely interest:

The Physics Museum - and the Tar Pitch Experiment - the world's longest running scientific experiment.

UQ Art Museum which will be showing an Exhibition called Blue Assembly - Oceanic Thinking.

Access: Parking at UQ is extremely limited, particularly for visitors. The best and cheapest parking is on Sir William McGregor Drive on the riverside, but this fills up quickly. Travel by public transport (bus, CityCat) is recommended; 10-minute walk from the ferry terminal and eastern bus station, or 2 minutes from the western bus terminal to the Great Court precinct.

Convenor: Roger Grimley

UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND GREAT COURT SCULPTURES

Sunday 27 March

Meeting Place: To be advised closer to the event date

Timing: 4pm - 5pm

Cost: \$25.00 members; \$30.00 non-members

Full details and to register:

<https://rgsq.org.au/event-4695878>

This event is on the 27th of March and is a one hour guided tour of the famous grotesque sculptures in the Great Court by Rhyl Hinwood AM, the sculptor. This is following the separate event on 25th March visiting some University Museums.



Separate registrations are required for each event.

Great Court sculptures. The sandstone sculptures of the Great Court are icons of Queensland. Participants on the visit on the 25th of March will have their appetite whetted for this activity. The Great Court Sculptor, Dr. Rhyl Hinwood AM, will conduct a tour of the Great Court and talk about her work and experience in her creation of these stunning elements of Queensland heritage.

Convenor: Roger Grimley

CALOUNDRA GEMS DAY ACTIVITY Wednesday 27 April

When: 8:00 am departure, return by 5.00 pm

Where: Bus stop 27 in Park Avenue Clayfield, near Eagle Junction Station

Numbers: 25

Cost: members \$70; non-members \$75

Includes the bus hire, entry to the Aviation Museum and donations to volunteers at the other venues.

Full details and to register: <https://rgsq.org.au/event-4688664>



Caloundra is best known as a beachside holiday destination, but it is home to some unique exhibitions relevant to the development of Australia and Southeast Queensland. These include the **Queensland Air Museum**, the **Display of Military Memorabilia at the RSL Club**, and the **Caloundra Lighthouses**.

We will be travelling by bus, leaving from Stop 27 Park Avenue, Eagle Junction and going into Landsborough for morning tea (buy your own). There are a number of coffee shops and a bakery serving coffee so that we should be able to get quick service if we spread out.

We will head to the Queensland Air Museum near the Caloundra Airport. The Museum has more than 94 aircraft,



some of world aviation significance, and most of them of Australian significance. In addition, there is a large collection of aviation memorabilia. We will split into groups for a tour with guides who know the stories of the aircraft on display. Depending on COVID regulations, we may be able to enter some of the aircraft.

Lunch (buy your own) will be at the Caloundra RSL, and we will view the well-presented display of military material with some of the Sub-Branch Members. A lunch menu may be circulated so we can pre-order.

The two lighthouses are no longer operational, but they have a rich history as reference points for navigation along the coast and the channel leading to the Brisbane ports. Depending on the availability of volunteers on the day, we may be able to enter the lighthouses and the generator room.

Convenor: Bob Reid

TRIP TO CENTRAL QUEENSLAND

CALL FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST



Online expressions of interest are called for members who wish to participate in a 'tagalong' road trip to Central Queensland in September. The trip would visit a number of points of interest with a focus on their geographical significance.

Register: <https://rgsq.org.au/event-4692536>

The trip would start formally in Monto and visit Mt Morgan, Rockhampton, Gladstone, and places in between over a period of seven days, finishing in Gladstone on Day 7. Participants could choose their own route and timing for their journeys from Brisbane to Monto and return from Gladstone to Brisbane. The distance covered from Monto via Rockhampton to Gladstone would be about 600 km while Brisbane-Monto and Gladstone-Brisbane would together add another 1000 km.

Accommodation and meals would be at participants' choice and expense. Overnight stops would be at Monto, Mt Morgan, Rockhampton, and Gladstone; for each stop, there is a selection of caravan parks (with cabins) and hotels/motels.

In Gladstone, there may be one or two commercial tours with local commentators to provide information about this highly industrialised area.

The number of participants would be limited to 20. RGSQ would charge about \$150 to cover expenses of materials plus commercial tour fees. An advance deposit may be asked for closer to the date.

Online registration for this trip will be available on the RGSQ website in the near future.

NB: The dates for this trip have NOT been finalised (and could be at any time in September). Dummy dates were included for website purposes.

In the meantime, could you please indicate your interest by registering on the website or contacting the office on 3368 2066 **by 18 March** in order to gauge the level of interest.

Convenor: Ralph Carlisle

Map Group Presentation

The Struve Geodetic Arc

22 March, 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM @ Gregory Place, 1/28 Fortescue St, Spring Hill Qld 4000

Register: <https://rgsq.org.au/event-4681192>

Presenter: Keith Treschman, Map Group and RGSQ Member

Overview: Frederick Wilhelm von Struve 1793-1864 was a German working for the Russian tsar Nicholas in Latvia, then under Russian control. By the method of triangulation, he used 258 triangles, 265 station points, 13 points measured astronomically and produced the Struve Geodetic Arc. It took 1816-55 across Norway, Sweden, and Russia, but now that covers the nations Norway 4, Sweden 4, Finland 6, Russia 2, Estonia 3, Lithuania 22, Latvia 2, Ukraine 4, Belarus 5, and Moldova 1.

It approximates 26° E from 45° N in the Arctic to 70° N at the Black Sea. He used chains of 66 feet length made of brass with 100 links. He was at the observatory in Dorpat, now Tartu, in Russian Estonia.

The arc was 2821 km long. He measured the quadrant as 10 002 174 m x 4 for circumference is 40 008 696 m. Eratosthenes produced 38 624 000 m. Using satellites, NASA gives 40 007 017 m. Struve was 1679 m longer, a 0.004% difference.



There are 34 markers remaining in place, and these were declared a United Nations World Heritage Site in 2005.

Triangulation was invented in the 17th century as a new method of measurement of distances. A series of points were laid out in the landscape in a triangle configuration. The distance between two points needs to be measured. After that, from each point, angles were measured between all the other points that could be seen from that point using a **theodolite**. A theodolite is basically a telescope on a tripod with scales showing exactly in which position it's turned, and crosshairs and knobs to fine-tune its direction.

Costs: \$2:00 contribution towards morning tea

Limit: 30. Registration on the website is required

This presentation will NOT be recorded or offered as a ZOOM viewing.

Coordinator: Kay Rees

Member Referral Program

Every time you [refer](#) a friend who joins the Society you get \$10 off your annual membership and your friend gets \$10 off the first-year membership as well.

The easiest way to join the Society is online at www.rgsq.org.au/join



Refer a new member to the Society and you both save and the Society benefits

Terms and Conditions: the \$10 refund applies to your current year's membership and will be paid to you when a referred member pays for a membership with the Society. If a Student member refers a friend who becomes a financial member of the Society the new member will benefit from the \$10 refund for the first year of membership, but the Student member does not benefit financially as they pay no membership fee. The offer is open to current members and valid for up to 5 referrals. (Of course, we're happy for you to refer as many other friends as you wish).

Member Referral Program effective: January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2022. Subject to extension in 2023.

Thank you for your support!

Recording of February lecture

THE ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY OF QUEENSLAND
FEBRUARY 2022
MONTHLY LECTURE SERIES www.rgsq.org.au

REGIONAL WATERWAYS HEALTH REPORT CARDS:
WHAT ARE THEY AND HOW DO THEY BRING ABOUT CHANGE
MANAGEMENT IN GREAT BARRIER REEF CATCHMENTS?
LESSONS FROM THE WET TROPICS WATERWAYS PARTNERSHIP
PROFESSOR STEVE TURTON

If you missed the February lecture presented by Professor Steve Turton, RGSQ Councillor, **the recording is available on the Society's YouTube channel:** <https://youtu.be/MkYa9a1sx1E> **and on the website:** <https://rgsq.org.au/Past-lectures-2022>

Donation for the RGSQ library received from Charles Naylor



L to R: Charles Naylor, RGSQ member, Jim Graham, Coordinator of the Society's Library Collections Group, Iraphne Childs, Vice-President, and Ralph Carlisle Coordinator of the Society's Map Collections Group.

The RGSQ greatly appreciates the donation to our library by Charles Naylor, a member of RGSQ, and his sister, Vivien Bradley, in memory of their late mother, Adrien Naylor, née Vlasto (1924-2020). The donation comprises a set of six of the original inaugural volumes from 1935 to 1938 of *The Geographical Magazine* (now *Geographical*) the magazine of The Royal Geographical Society in the UK. The volumes are inscribed "Adrien Vlasto" in her handwriting. Adrien was born into an extended Greek family whose members settled in Liverpool, England, in the late 1800s. She was a keen traveller and amateur botanist and during her long life visited many European countries, as well as Australia and Zimbabwe. Her greatest passion was for the natural world, especially the flowers of Western Australia and the Swiss Alps. One of Adrien's earliest memories was passing through the Corinth Canal aged 5 and her father pointing out birds nesting in its walls. Adrien's relatives had adventurous spirits; her uncle, Marco Pallis, was a Himalayan explorer and climber in the 1930s, and her aunt, Marietta Pallis, one of the first women to be enrolled at Cambridge University, studied the botany and ecology of the Danube Delta in 1911-12. It is fitting that Adrien's books will have a permanent home in the collections of the RGSQ. Thank you, Charles, and, your sister, Vivien.

Mapping the Pacific Conference hosted by the State Library of New South Wales in Sydney

The conference Mapping the Pacific will "examine the traditional wayfinding knowledge of the Pacific community, European exploration and the mapping of the Pacific from the early modern era through to the 19th century."

The conference will be held on 2 and 3 March as a hybrid event - onsite and streamed online. Online only access is free.

Find out more about the conference, speakers and register at: <https://www.sl.nsw.gov.au/research-and-collections/research-and-engagement/mapping-pacific-conference>

Contributors: Kath Berg, Ralph Carlisle, Iraphne Childs, Roger Grimley, Steve Noakes, Bob Reid, John Tasker, Keith Treschman

Photography: Roger Grimley, Charles Naylor, Steve Noakes, Kay Rees

YOUR STORY IN THE BULLETIN

We always welcome stories from RGSQ members. If you wish to submit your story for the April Bulletin, please email copy to info@rgsq.org.au by 10 March or contact us at 07 3368 2066 if you have any questions.

RGSQ Bulletin

March 2022

Meeting/Lecture: Tuesday 1 March

Linking the Binna Burra story to the 1885 origins of the RGSQ presentation by Steve Noakes
Binna Burra Lodge Board Chairperson

W: www.rgsq.org.au
E: info@rgsq.org.au
P: 07 3368 2066

Tuesday 22 March: The Struve Geodetic Arc

Map Group Presentation

Friday 25 March: University of Queensland
Museums Tour

Sunday 27 March: University of Queensland
Great Court Sculptures Tour

The March Council will meet on the third Tuesday of the month.

The Royal Geographical Society of Queensland Ltd
PO Box 625, Spring Hill QLD 4004

POSTAGE
PAID
AUSTRALIA