



RGSQ Bulletin

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

President: Mr John Tasker

What's happening on Council?

The Society's Council met on Tuesday 20 September. Items of interest include:

- John Tasker noted the progress on updating the strategic plan. Strategic 1st, a company that specialises in working with non-profit organisations, has been retained to assist in the process. Members had just been sent a survey to provide input into the review.
- The documents connected to the Annual General Meeting were considered – the Notice of Meeting and voting papers, Council's Annual Report and the audited financial statements.
- Following the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, the Society had been invited to sign the Condolence Book at Government House. John Tasker had made an appointment for this.
- Following some adjustments made by the auditor to the 2021/22 finances, a slightly revised budget for 2022/23 was approved.
- The Society had accepted a donation of maps from the Brisbane Bushwalkers Club which will be processed by the Collections Committee.
- The Honours Committee made a recommendation on the award of the 2023 Thomson Medal.
- Members could now submit photos to the competition "Waterways or Wetlands of Qld".
- Mapping of existing and disused walking trails at Binna Burra had commenced.
- The speakers for the climate forum on 29 October had been finalised.
- The day trip to Redlands and the 7-day trek to Central Queensland had both been very informative and enjoyable.
- The planned talk "Early History of Lamington National Park" by Neville McManimm which had to be postponed from August will be held on 11 October.
- The Young Geographers had held three events in three weeks, with the Mapathon particularly successful.

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.

Message from the Society's Patron, the Governor of Queensland

On behalf of the people of Queensland, Graeme and I extend our deepest condolences to the Royal Family following the death of our Head of State, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Second.

From her childhood, The Queen was held in great affection by Queenslanders.

The strength of the bond between our people and our Sovereign was evident during Her Majesty's eight remarkably successful visits to our State.

Since becoming Queensland's Head of State in 1952, Her Majesty has been a powerful symbol of continuity and stability, a peerless exemplar of duty and service.

As Queensland's 27th Governor, I join with all the people of Queensland in mourning Her Majesty's death.

May her wisdom and calm assurance forever remain a source of strength, encouragement and solace to us all.

Her Excellency the Honourable Dr Jeannette Young AC PSM, Governor of Queensland

2022 Annual General Meeting

Tuesday 18 October 7:30 pm

This year's AGM will be held on premises and via teleconferencing using ZOOM.

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 on 07 3368 2066 or email 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'.

Monthly Lecture

Reclaiming lost ground: Transitions of mobility and parking by Prof Jonathan Corcoran and Dr Iraphne Childs

Tuesday 4 October @7:30pm
On premises and via Zoom

Register: <https://rgsq.org.au/event-4950009>



Solving the inner-city street parking problem in Christchurch, New Zealand. Courtesy of Dr Lihona Zhana [UQ]

Substantial amounts of land in metropolitan areas are dedicated to accommodating motor vehicles. In high-demand urban areas, parking spaces often cost more than the motor vehicle itself. With new transitions and trends in land use and transport, including car-sharing and automated vehicles, and the revival of urban living, important questions are raised about how we need to redesign and reuse urban space. The presentation will talk to the question of parking in Brisbane and showcase the new data that planners and policy makers need such that they are better equipped to improve the efficiency and liveability of metropolitan land use and transportation. A special case study of Boundary Street, West End will be included in the presentation.

Jonathan Corcoran is Professor in Human Geography within the School Earth and Environmental Sciences at The University of Queensland, Australia and the Director of the Queensland Centre for Population Research. His research interests lie in the fields of Population and Transport Geography. 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, Secretary of the Applied Geography Commission and a Councillor of The Royal Geographical Society of Queensland.

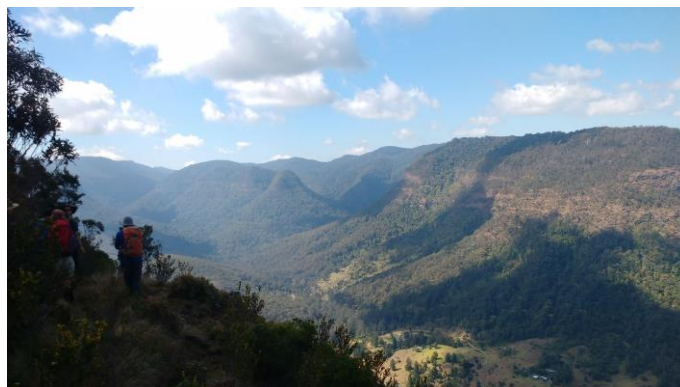
Dr. Iraphne Childs is currently Vice-President and a Fellow of the RGSQ and Senior Research Associate in the Queensland Centre for Population research within the School of Earth and Environmental Sciences, at The University of Queensland. Iraphne's research interests are in the area of population change, environmental hazards and disaster management. Iraphne has held teaching and research positions at the East-West Center in Hawaii, the Queensland University of Technology where she directed the Geography program and has lived and worked in Japan for several years.

Map Group Presentation

Early History of Lamington National Park presentation by Neville McManimm

Tuesday 11 October, 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM @
Gregory Place, Level 1/28 Fortescue St, Spring Hill
Qld 4000

Register: <https://rgsq.org.au/event-4953211>



Using slides, and early maps, this talk will be on the events leading up to the creation of the National Park and some events that happened after its proclamation. Neville has extensive knowledge spanning several decades working and tramping around Lamington National Park. This presentation will be a prelude to RGSQ's excursion to Binna Burra later in October.

EXPERT PANEL AND PUBLIC FORUM

Saturday 29 October, 9:15am – 3:45pm

Register: <https://rgsq.org.au/event-4964020>

Is Queensland prepared for a warming climate?

In recent years, summer climatic conditions, bushfires and floods have raised concerns as to what the future holds for us in Queensland. Is this the new summer "normal"? If so, how can we adapt?



The Royal Geographical Society of Queensland and the University of Queensland School of Earth and Environmental Sciences have organised a public forum to address these questions. We have assembled an excellent panel of prominent speakers to present some critical perspectives. We hope you can join us for this important event.

- **Keynote:** Assoc Prof Helen Bostock, School of Earth and Environmental Sciences, University of Queensland
- **Bushfire risk:** Mr Lee Johnson, Former Commissioner of Queensland Fire and Emergency Services
- **Flood risk:** Mr Jimmy Scott, Queensland Reconstruction Authority
- **Health risk:** Ms Sue Cooke, Griffith University Climate Action Beacon and Climate Ready Initiative
- **Policy context:** Mr Scott Buchanan, Wet Tropics Management Authority

DATE: Saturday 29 October 2022

TIME: 9.15am – 3.45pm

VENUE: University of Queensland Room 206, Steele Building (Building 3) Staff House Road, St Lucia. See [flyer](#) for map of campus.

PLEASE REGISTER: by Monday 24 October

COST: (includes morning tea and lunch)

\$50 general
 \$30 student concession
 \$30 RGSQ member
 \$15 Zoom

For any questions, please email info@rgsq.org.au or contact us on (07) 3368 2066.

Presented by:



Photo: Wind energy turbines at Windy Hill near Ravenshoe on the Atherton Tablelands in Tropical North Queensland, Australia. Credit: Wendy Townrow, www.istockphoto.com



Treks and Activities Report: Roaming the Redlands

On 18 August, 29 people (27 members and 2 guests) participated in this day activity. It was a coach trip with 3 pick-up locations: Eagle Junction, Morningside and Kianawah Park, Tingalpa. We were very fortunate with the weather as it was a perfect winter's day - no wind and 22 degrees max. We departed at 9am. Our local guide, Tarnya Hawkins, joined us at Capalaba.

Since settlement in the 1850's, the Redlands for many years was known as the "salad bowl" of Southeast Qld with its rich, red soil and sub-tropical climate. With increasing urbanization, this region is now experiencing rapid land use change as farms are being sold and sub-divided for small housing lots, and associated industries. The natural environment is threatened. On route we passed the conservation area for the Scribbly Gum and we were looking out for koalas.

In **Cleveland**, we drove past the Memorial Park where the Vietnam Day service was in progress. We then drove

around **Raby Bay**. In June 1979 the Qld Government approved a canal estate which would expand the suburb of Cleveland into Moreton Bay. Land reclamation created waterfront building sites for prestige residential and commercial purposes with canal access to Raby Bay for recreational boats moored either at the individual properties or in marinas. The first stage was opened in 1984. It is not without problems as the canal walls do need repairs.

We passed the historic Grandview Hotel, and Old Courthouse. At **Cleveland Point** we saw the timber lighthouse, restaurant and site of some well-known films (Unbroken, Chronicles of Narnia and Pirates of the Caribbean). It is a delightful location on a calm day.

Our first stop, **morning tea**, was at **G.J. Walter Park**. Here we were treated to a welcome tea/coffee with biscuit and cake. Following our Geography in Conversation meeting in June, **Chris Walker**, Secretary of Redlands 2030, met us to share his knowledge of the Toondah Harbour proposed development. It was a good vantage point to see the location and extent of the proposal.



Eastern curlew and White-faced heron Toondah Harbour viewed from G.J. Walter Park; 18 August 2022. Courtesy of Chris Walker.

We were fortunate that it was low tide, and a pair of Eastern Curlews were feeding on the mud flat. Chris had set up his camera with a telephoto lens so we could view the bird. He showed us maps of the area to increase our understanding. The thought of sacrificing 42ha of Ramsar treaty wetland (meant to be internationally protected) and constructing 3,600 units on public parkland and into the Marine Park to improve the channel for the North Stradbroke Ferry was horrifying. We were amazed at the low level of public awareness. To have a say there is an online petition ([change.org-toondah harbour](http://change.org-toondah-harbour)).

Next, we drove to **Wellington Point**. This took us past Whepstead Manor and the Wellington Point farm where freshly picked strawberries are available from May to early November. Other produce includes tomatoes, kale, broccoli, and cauliflower. The area was originally a dairy farm but today there are still some flower farms, orange orchards and taro grown.

Lunch was at the **Redland Bay Golf Club**. Here we had a private room with a view of a fairway and green. We had a choice of mains with either Apple Crumble or Carrot cake, tea and coffee. It was well organized, a delightful spot and delicious food.

After lunch we drove to the **Redland Bay** Ferry terminal for the 4 Bay Islands (Lamb, Macleay, Karragarra and

Russell) and saw where the Flying Boats departed, and the Water ambulance. Previously this area was known for its bananas and pineapples. We also saw the Uniting Church where the Ekka strawberry sundae originated.

On route home via **Mt Cotton**, we witnessed more changes where chicken and egg farms existed. After driving through the Sirromet winery and glimpsing its facilities and lavender fields, we arrived back at Tingalpa at 4pm and Eagle Junction by 5pm.

All said it was a very enjoyable day roaming the Redlands. We had a knowledgeable and enthusiastic guide, the benefit of Chris Walker and terrific company.

Contributed by: *Jeanette Lamont, trip coordinator*

Report: Geography in Conversation

A Power Network Fit for Purpose

On Tuesday 23rd August, 43 people gathered to hear three excellent speakers lead us in a conversation on the topic of A Power Network Fit for Purpose. Nineteen of the gathering were non-members.



Prof. Paul Simshauser, the CEO of Powerlink talked about the need to match energy supply and demand, and the inevitability of price increases despite the proliferation of wind and solar farms.

Mr Trevor Berrill, a consumer advocate, gave a long-term historical perspective on energy resources and costs based on his research over many years. He argued that Australia's energy has been too cheap, in part because of the ample supply of coal. It is now time to switch to alternatives including solar and hydro.

Mr David Shankey, Deputy Director General Energy, Dept. of Energy and Public Works focused on energy usage and the need to reduce this usage in households, transport and production. He advocated planning for replacement energy systems in the same geographical area as the current power stations. He also explained the challenge of extending into the market for solar panels and green energy for the rental market and low-cost housing.

Able moderated by RGSQ President, John Tasker, the speakers gave us an insight into the present and future energy supply and distribution in Queensland. All agreed that use of renewables whilst becoming more widespread and efficient, will need to be supplemented with Hydro power to meet peak demand.

Questions from the audience were "electric", probing not only the data on energy supply and demand, but also the

ethical issues of affordability by low socio-economic groups.

The well attended evening was yet further proof of the importance, relevance and popularity of this initiative of "Geography in Conversation". We are fortunate to have firsthand access to the information, ideas and opinions of such keynote speakers in such a pleasant and convivial setting.

Contributed by: *Graeme and Stella Rush*

Meeting Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II



On 8 October 1982 my wife, Sharyn, and I had the privilege of representing the Society at the State Reception for the Queen and Prince Philip.

How this came about, and how we personally met the Queen, was as unusual as how Elizabeth became Queen.

In August 1982 I was a newly minted vice-president of the Society and retired police commissioner Norm Bauer was the other. President Ken Sutton was overseas with a group of geography students. Norm died suddenly so I was sent the invitation to the event at the Queensland Art Gallery.

There was quite a crowd on the ground floor, so we went upstairs where an aisle was cordoned off. Diagonally across the aisle was a group invited by Lindsay Hartwig, the independent State member for Callide.

The previous year Mr Hartwig had been thrown out of the ruling National Party for dissent and was therefore persona non grata to Premier Sir Joh Bjelke-Petersen, who was accompanying the Queen.

As Joh and the Queen appeared Hartwig called out to get the attention of the Premier. Joh sternly ignored his pleas and looked straight ahead ... at me and Sharyn. We were trapped so I had to quickly come up with a story.

After the obligatory bow and curtesy, I told Her Majesty that I represented the RGS(Q) – as RGSQ was then called, that we would be celebrating our Centenary in three years' time, and that the Duke of Kent would be the royal representative. "Very good, very good." she replied with her signature smile.

Photo: from the original entrée card; courtesy of Peter Lloyd.

Contributed by: *Peter Lloyd, President 1987-89 and Honorary Life Member of RGSQ*

Binna Burra mapping trails project progress...

The RGSQ Scientific Studies team (Iraphne Childs, Ralph Carlisle, Annie Lau, Philip Gidley and Vrinda Eswaran) visited Binna Burra over 3 days 23-25 August to continue with the collaborative mapping project. Our thanks, again, to Binna Burra's Tim Medhurst who guided our team on the 23rd and 25th August.



Following the devastating 2019 fire at Binna Burra, good rains during the past couple of years have resulted in major re-growth of vegetation. Consequently, as was expected, many trails are currently blocked by fallen trees, vegetation and invasive weed species. Many stinging trees were encountered but mostly avoided!



Nevertheless, over the 3 days the team was able to traverse ("bush-bash" in many instances) and map using hand-held GPS several trails including the Senses trail, Lodge loop, Sky Lodge track, Powerline track, Possum trail, Garden and Cliff tracks, part of the Bellbird circuit and part of the Horse track. Data was loaded onto a laptop computer in preparation for producing maps with a GIS package. The team will make a final visit in early October to check data already gathered and finalize the mapping.

Much work will be needed to open-up the trails again after the mapping work is completed. Binna Burra Lodge management expects that Friends of Binna Burra (FOBB) volunteers will help with this.

Photos by A. Lau and T. Medhurst.

Contributed by: *Dr Iraphne Childs, Chair Scientific Studies Committee*

Report: Geography in Conversation

Queen's Wharf Development, Brisbane River Precincts and Lifestyles

The Geography in Conversation series is quickly becoming a not-to-be-missed event each month. Popularity builds, and the topics generate much discussion.



At the July event, continuing the discussions around climate, development and waterways, the public usability of privately built landscapes was addressed. 'Queen's Wharf Development, Brisbane River Precincts and Lifestyles' saw Paul Krautz, Project Director for the Queen's Wharf Brisbane Development and Andrew Demack, Advocacy Officer with Bicycle Queensland present and address questions on private developments on public land.

Questions from the floor covered aspects such as the ethics of gambling, mixed use active transport corridors versus dedicated active transport lanes, the effectiveness of government levers built into their lease contracts to private operators on public land, the changing climate and its effects on river front developments, balancing residential and tourism accommodation, retail offerings in the city and many other topics.

A candid Mr Krautz answered development questions with diplomacy, humour and insight, with Mr Demack passionately advocating the case for active transport users in popular precincts such as the riverfront.

It was heartening to hear of the preservation of nine heritage buildings in the Queen's Wharf precinct, and the onus on the private developer to look after the public land in their lease. Attendees were also pleased to hear of the advocacy Bicycle Queensland are undertaking for the increase of active transport networks throughout Brisbane.

Contributed by: *Stephen Schwer, Co-convenor Geography in Conversation*

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

We have much pleasure in welcoming *Brett Dascombe, Xinyue Zhang, Brian Roberts, Sophie Walker, Natalia Ramsay, Jessica Syme, Thomas Walker, and Lynda Aldridge*, as new members. We hope your association with your new Society is long and mutually enjoyable.

Contributors

Kath Berg, Iraphne Childs, Jonathan Corcoran, Jeanette Lamont, Peter Lloyd, Neville McManimm, Graeme and Stella Rush, Stephen Schwer, Pamela Tonkin.

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October 2022

Meeting/Lecture: Tuesday 4 October

Reclaiming lost ground: Transitions of mobility and parking, by Prof Jonathan Corcoran and Dr Iraphne Childs

Expert Panel and Public Forum

Saturday 29 October: *Is Queensland prepared for a warming climate?*

Map Group: Tuesday 11 October

Early History of Lamington National Park

Activities: Tuesday 25 October

Binna Burra Past and Present

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

2022 AGM: Tuesday 18 October

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