



Australia's Representative  
International Cartographic Association

# MSI- Connected!

Newsletter of the Mapping Sciences Institute, Australia

MAY 2013

VISIT [www.mappingsciences.org.au](http://www.mappingsciences.org.au)

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## FROM THE EDITOR

Hello and welcome to the May 2013 edition of MSI-Connected!. This edition includes profiles for newly-elected President, Don Pearce, and President-elect Trisha Moriarty – both members of MSIA Council outline their working history. This edition also includes a post conference review of the ANZMaps Melbourne. The publication is capped off with a book review of sorts and a contribution from the Bathurst group. I hope you enjoy this edition and encourage you to forward news worthy material and contributions (email me on [adam.ladhams@hotmail.com](mailto:adam.ladhams@hotmail.com)) for future ones.

*Adam Ladhams*



## PRESIDENT – DON PEARCE

I began my career as a Cadet Draftsman with the WA Lands Department in 1947 at age 16. In 1951, I joined a study group on the emerging use of photogrammetry

In producing maps which was quickly enlarged to cover discussions on all aspects of cartography. This group evolved further to become the Western Australian Institute of Cartographers of which I was a foundation member. At age 23, I became a Senior Draftsman, the youngest ever in the Department. In 1959, I was invited by the then Chief Draftsman of the Department of Mines, a small department of 25 people, to oversee the restructure into a large mapping agency that eventually grew to 132 people to meet the needs of an expanding resources State. The Department was renamed the Department of Minerals and Energy and Petroleum and in 1970, moved to its own 12 storey building.

In 1952, the Australian Institute of Cartographers (AIC) was formed, comprising all States except Western Australia. The WA Institute was very strong but co-operated with the AIC until amalgamating in 1970. I was President of the WA Institute on 2 occasions and was on the National Council for many years.

In 1964, the AIC took an historic step and joined the International Cartographic Association (ICA) which had a membership at this time of 64 countries. The ICA held Technical Conferences every 2 years and a major conference with a General Assembly every 4 years in countries around the world but always in the Northern Hemisphere.

In the 1970's the ICA was suggesting that Australia should lodge a bid to hold a Conference and General Assembly in 1980 or 1984. Eventually in 1978, the AIC decided to prepare a submission but first, decide in which State to hold it. WA was the choice and I was appointed to prepare the bid and if successful, to be the Conference Chairman.

The year 1984 was chosen and I began travelling to all the main cartographic countries to promote the Conference and get support for when the bid was lodged at the Tokyo Conference and General Assembly in 1980. The bid was successful and with a great team in Perth the AIC produced what was the best ever ICA Conference with a record number of delegates (981) and accompanying persons (134) and became the model for conferences for many years.

At the General Assembly, I was surprisingly appointed the Secretary General /Treasurer as it had always been someone from Europe. It began a very heavy time for me as I had risen to the position of Deputy Director of Surveys and Mapping in the Department and they were not happy with my dual roles.

The ICA experience was wonderful for me as I had to travel to countries I could only dream about and I met with all the top cartographers around the world, seeing the major mapping agencies such as the United States Geological Surveys, the US Defence Mapping Agency, NASA, the National Geographic Society, the British Ordnance Survey and many others in Switzerland, France, Germany, Sweden and Japan. I was able to observe the new techniques and developments in cartography that had not reached Australia.

I was also able to encourage the ICA to become a technical member of the United Nations, to invite the major Mapping Agencies to become Associate Members of the ICA as we did with Companies in Australia with the AIC. I was also part of the move to set up the International Union of Surveying and Mapping (IUSM) bringing together the International Societies of Surveying (FIG), Photogrammetry (ISPS), Hydrography (IHO) Geography (IGU) to meet once a year to discuss common issues and was a Board Member.

The downside to all this was that my Department didn't fully support me so it cost me financially and much of my annual and long service leave. I did not regret this in any way because what I got from it all could never be measured.

However, what was disappointing was that my position of Secretary General/Treasurer, was never really recognised in Australia but highly rated overseas and at a time when the AIC was also highly rated overseas because of the 1984 Conference, it was never built on at home.

Over the next 20 years we saw several name changes of the Institute in an endeavour to build members but none were successful and there was a gradual loss of members and more importantly ,a loss of the prestige that the Institute enjoyed in the 70's and 80's.

In 2000, I was awarded the Institute's Gold Medal for services to cartography and in 2002 at the 50th Anniversary of the Institute, I was awarded a second Gold Medal for services to International Cartography, great honours which I cherish.

I was never in favour of the name changes to the Institute because changing names didn't change the problems that existed .In the 80's, I had recommended the appointment of a Management Consultant to examine the mission of the Institute as the Australian Society of Architects and the British Cartographic Society had done. Both Consultants advised them against name changes as they saw the name as their greatest strength.

A lot of water has now passed under the bridge and I think it is an achievement that MSIA has survived .My life has been greatly enhanced by my involvement with the AIC, ICA and MSIA and I would like to encourage young people to become involved as I did when I was 20.

In 1987, I resigned from the State Government after 40 years and established my own family business in organising conventions and exhibitions .I have 3 daughters who were all cartographers with the Government and I bought a small mapping business called Geodraft which operated successfully with the convention business .Because of my management skills learnt in the Government and involvement with AIC and ICA, the Company won State and National Awards for professionalism and management.

When I turned 80, my family thought it time to retire so I did but for the last 2 years I have been assisting foreign students with maths and English in a Senior High School and have recently been asked to give talks on mapping so it has never gone away.

I am honoured to be appointed President again and I hope I can contribute something to further the aims of the MSIA .Sadly, Institutes and Societies like ours don't seem to be as important in the lives of young people as they were .Hopefully we can change that a little bit.



## **PRESIDENT-ELECT REPORT – TRISHA MORIARTY**

Councillors at their meeting in Melbourne on 9 April were unanimous in their support for the nomination of Trisha Moriarty for the position of President-elect.

Trisha is employed as Team Leader, Geoscience Knowledge Management with the NSW Geological Survey. Her academic qualifications include Bachelor of Science in Cartography from Curtin University of Technology and Diploma in Cartography from Perth TAFE. She has been in the cartographic Industry for about 12 years working first in WA with the Department of Planning, Marine Division and City of Stirling when a student before commencing with the (now former) Department of Mineral Resources (now Department of Trade & Investment) in 2002 as a Land Information Officer in the Cartographic section of the Geological Survey.

Trisha rejoined the MSIA in 2011 and accepted an invitation to become a Councillor in 2012. Her role on Council is that of Assistant Manager of the Education Program, understudying David Fraser.

Trisha believes that MSIA has an important role to play in fostering cartography and geo-information science in Australia and welcomes the opportunity to contribute to its development.

## **MAPPING SCIENCE INSTITUTE, AUSTRALIA STUDENT PRIZE AT QUT**



**MSIA Queensland Division President (L) and 2012 MSIA student award recipient, Vanessa Lamb (R).**

Queensland Division President and National Councillor, Adam Ladhams, attended the student awards evening in April 2013 at the Queensland University of Technology (QUT). The reception was held in the new Science and Technology building. Despite a fire alarm sounding and a subsequent evacuation of the building, Adam Ladhams had an opportunity to meet with the recipient of the Mapping Science Institute, Australia award, Vanessa Lamb, who is currently a 3<sup>rd</sup> year student studying a Bachelor of Urban Development (Spatial Science). The annual MSIA award is presented to the student who has achieved a high level of proficiency and demonstrated significant potential in the unit UDB381-Geospatial Mapping. Congratulations to Vanessa. We hope she hangs her framed limited edition facsimile map in pride of place, and is an MSIA member for many years to come.

## ANZMapS POST CONFERENCE REVIEW

*ANZMaps Conference (10-12 April 2013), Swanston Street, State Library of Victoria, Melbourne*

This year the MSIA National Executive decided to host the MSIA National Council meeting and Annual General Meeting one day prior to ANZMap's Conference on ....THEME.... This provided MSIA members the opportunity to attend the AGM and the conference opening reception at the same location. A committed number of MSIA members attended the ANZMaps conference. The conference was hosted at the State Library of Victoria, a lavishly appointed building. The conference opening ceremony was held in the Red Rotunda room, which features portraits. The technical papers were presented in the seminar rooms area, which made for 'intimate' seating arrangements. The opening presentation was by Peter Stanley, the award winning writer and user (he hinted he detests being called a client or customer) of maps. In a number of his books, he features mud maps and location maps of battles and historical accounts.

Another presenter (and author), Robert Clancy, provided an intriguing presentation about the development of Melbourne City; however Robert eventually reverted to the development and 'beautification' of his home town of Sydney.

The second day of technical papers included a number of suitably qualified presenters about maps, mapping, information services and local history. The last day provided delegates with a bus tour of various local 'haunts', relevant to the librarians, map users and other map enthusiasts.

Well done to ANZMapS for another great conference. We look forward to information about your conference in 2014.



**The front entrance of the State Library of Victoria, along Swanston Street, Melbourne**



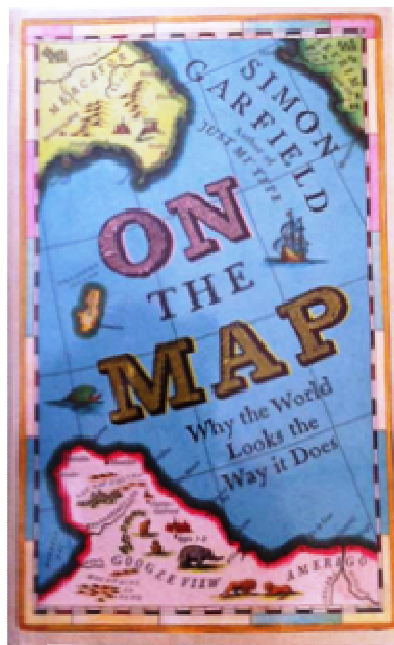
**Trisha Moriarty (centre), MSIA National President elect, speaking with other conference delegates**





© Keith Day / SWNS.com

Sunset highlights streets of stratocumulus over Buninyong, central Victoria by Keith Day. From the Bureau of Meteorology and the Australian Meteorological and Oceanographic Society photo competition.



Everyone likes to read a map book filled with History and other information, right? Well almost. ‘On the Map’ book begins quite aptly, with a foreword, which is rather poetic and suggests that maps themselves invite a spark of adventure. It almost appears that the person commenting on the book has little regard for maps as a source of information and has possibly done a Google search, particularly as they made a reference to (the mapping of) the human genome, which isn't the mapping you and I have come to appreciate. And no, cartouche and graticule are not exotic words that are unfamiliar to most people, even novice map users surely? Too much rhetoric for my liking and similarity the comments and phrases by Garfield require more originality would have not gone astray. Enough about the foreword, lets take a glimpse into the contents of the main text. The author has separated the book into a number of topics - quite loosely into chapters. The final section of the first chapter becomes more palatable due to the descriptive account of Britain’s greatest mappe monde housed in a cathedral in Hereford. The book lacks the flow and contains the prose of a seemingly first time writer (but who am I to judge). Many cartographers would take the author to task on claims that the digital revolution transformed cartography more than any other innovation - what about the printing presses that brought maps and atlases to the masses; aerial photography that presented a world not seen before; and the exploration era where so many adventurers opened up new frontiers, previously unknown worlds and created the maps and globes that we are all so familiar with? The digital era did bring us Facebook and other social media at the cost of human interactions, interpersonal skills in gen y and sore digits from texting.

Garfield explains the Blaeu's Atlas Major 'baroque and berserk' which is hardly befitting but the 'most beautiful atlas' in the same breath. A later atlas by Blaeu, the Klencke Atlas measured a massive 1.78x1.05m or more appropriately, as it should have been described, approximately 70x41 inches or 5'10"x3'5". There is mention of the Earth atlas that measures "20x18.5 inches". Interestingly the Earth Platinum atlas released in 2012 stands over 2m and is the world’s largest atlas. Then how the author catapults from the Blaeu atlases to the Times Atlas is astounding - I feel a degree of patriotism to the UK is at play. At one point, I was compelled to turn the book over to read the back cover and check if I was reading the British version - alas I was not. There are some facts and figures that are of note, such as Ogilby's map of London, published in 1677 was afforded a 15 year copyright and was one the first accurate maps of London itself showing a somewhat rebuilt city after the Great Fire. After which, Garfield uncontrollably then proclaims that the Ordnance Survey is the greatest thing on Earth, which is embellishment at its best. There are other feats around the world that rivals, if not betters the Ordnance Survey – although I will leave this pose for another time.

### Overall verdict

The book is for novice map and history enthusiasts. It provides a compilation of map facts which no doubt have been relayed in other publications. The book lacked direction and purpose, and poses as a collection of narratives sometimes combined into chapters; at other times, not. If not for the images placed throughout the book, it would be monotonous. The book should not be consumed for its literary prowess but as an accompaniment to other books. The book notes various significant maps and objects over time, in no order of disorderly time series - in addition to the Hereford map - discovery of America, Waldseemüller 1513 atlas, the Silver Map by English geographer Richard Hakluyt, and Mercator projection (reference to the Gall-Peters projection), Blaeu's atlas(es) – to name a few.

Upon finishing the final chapter, I felt stumped about all the book was purported to represent but didn't. This book is alas, not constructed to appease cartographers but mere book aficionados who gravitate to new and interesting titles. Now where is my copy of '50 shades of grey', I'm sure I left it around here somewhere?

Book review by Adam Ladhams

*If you have read a newly released book, sampled new software or mapping technology, why not send in your review to the editor.*



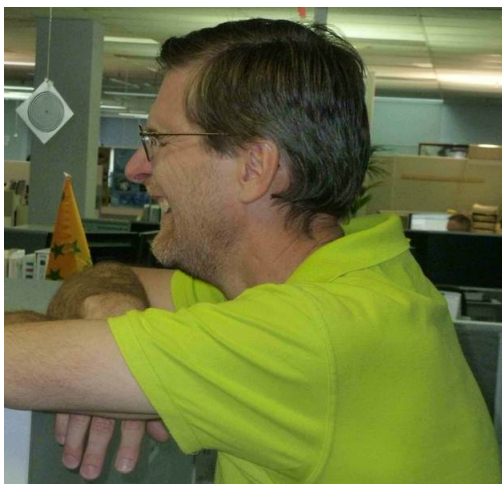
## TAKING CONSERVATION TO HEART. WRITTEN BY DAVID TAYLOR, SECRETARY, BATHURST GROUP

Doug Herrick, Chairman of the Bathurst Group recently took part in the “*World’s Greatest Shave*” for the Leukaemia Foundation on March 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> 2013.

Doug has been working for the Land and Property Information division of the NSW Department of Finance and Services as a senior spatial technician for over ten years and is very active in the orthorectification of the Leica ADS 40 imagery. Outside of work, Doug has a passion for looking after the environment and is involved in the Boundary Road Reserve Landcare Group, the Bathurst Wholefood Co-operative and Bathurst Community Climate Change Network

So it came as no surprise to his colleagues when for the World’s Greatest Shave, Doug went -

from this:




,to this:



A remarkable change.....

For his efforts and his dedication to the World’s Greatest Shave, Doug raised \$1065.45 for the Leukaemia Foundation. Well done, Doug!

If you wish to make a donation to the Leukaemia Foundation, you can contact Doug by email: [Doug.herrick@lpi.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Doug.herrick@lpi.nsw.gov.au) or by phone on (02) 6332 8149.



# We have a lot to look back on. And even more to look forward to.

This year, Curtin University is celebrating 100 years of excellence in Spatial Sciences.

We were the first in the world to offer a Bachelor of Science (Geographic Information Science) 25 years ago. Our Bachelor of Surveying and Mine & Engineering Surveying courses remain without equal in Australia after 50 and 100 years, respectively.

To celebrate these exciting milestones, we are hosting an anniversary networking event that you are invited to attend:

When: Friday 24 May 4-7pm

Where: Engineering Pavilion, Bentley Campus

RSVP: [spatial.curtin.edu.au](https://spatial.curtin.edu.au) by Friday 17 May

Don't miss this opportunity to hear from Curtin staff and industry experts on these milestones and those that lie ahead.

**Make tomorrow better.**

## THE LAST LAUGH

Q:How can you tell that compasses and scales are intelligent?

A:Because they're all graduated.

Q:Why didn't the map grids go to the punk disco?

A:Because they were all squares.

Q:What's big, white, furry and always points North?

A:A Polar Bearing.

Q:What do geographers grow in their gardens?

A:Compass roses.

Q:What do an astrologist and a cartographer have in common?

A:They both specialise in projections.

Q:What city always cheats at exams?

A:Peking

Q:Why does the Bogie Man know all the map symbols?

A:Because he's a legend.

Q:Why is it easy to get into Florida?

A:Because there are so many keys.

Q:Why can fish measure distances so well?

A:Because they have their own scales.

Q:Which has the higher IQ, latitude or longitude?

A:Longitude; it's got 360 degrees!

Q:What do penguins wear on their heads?

A:Ice caps.

Q:What sort of pudding roams wild in the Arctic circle?

A:Moose.

Q:What rocks do young geologists play with?

A:Marbles.

Q:Where do fish keep their money?

A:In riverbanks.

Q:What did Delaware?

A:A New Jersey.

Q:Why did the sophomore refuse to date the geology assistant?

A:Because he was such a gneiss guy, and she found him boring.

Q:Where is it always 90 degrees, but never hot?

A:The North and South Poles.

*"Show me an embezzling glaciologist and I'll show you a man with his hand in the till."*

*"Esker me no questions and I'll till you no lies."*

[Source: <http://geography-site.co.uk/pages/fun/jokes.html>]

