

NEWSLETTER 85

December 2001  
ISSN 0811-9511

<http://australianmapcircle.org.au>

## AMC 2002 CONFERENCE

**James Cook University, Cairns, Queensland 14-17 July 2002**

<http://www.tesag.jcu.edu.au/cartography/amc2002.html>

Adella Edwards and Peter Griggs of James Cook University are organising the 2002 Conference at the JCU campus in Cairns. The July dates will allow non-tropical Australians a warm winter getaway, without the excessive heat and humidity of the tropical summer. Cairns also offers plenty of after-conference tourism opportunities, from the Atherton tableland tourist railways, to expeditions to Cape York or the Burke and Wills cairn near Normanton.

Further details will be published on the conference website above, on the AMC website, the amcircle e-group, and in this newsletter.

### Contacts:

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## OTHER CONFERENCES

**AURISA and ISA** will hold a joint conference in Adelaide in 2002. As well, the Spatial Sciences Coalition, a group of five "spatial" associations, AURISA, IEMSA, ISA, MSIA and RSPAA, have begun preparations for a joint conference in Canberra in 2003.

**The New Zealand Map Society Conference** will be held over three days in Hamilton from Monday 4 to Wednesday 6 February 2002. More details can be seen on the homepages of the Map Library of the University of Waikato. <http://www.waikato.ac.nz/library/resources/nzmapsociety.shtml>  
Contact: John Robson, Map Librarian, University of Waikato, Hamilton, NZ [jrobson@waikato.ac.nz](mailto:jrobson@waikato.ac.nz)

Picture a map of India as big as a tennis court with two or three hedgehogs crawling over it. Each hedgehog might represent one of the dust storms which, during the summer, wander aimlessly here and there over the Indian plains, whirling countless tons of dust into the atmosphere as they go...until the monsoon rolls in and squashes them flat.

-- J.R. Farrell, "The Siege of Krishnapur".

**Australian Map Circle Inc, Newsletter #84, June 2001, ISSN 0811-9511**

An occasional series of newsletters produced to keep members of the Australian Map Circle informed about matters of immediate interest and to supplement *The Globe*, journal of the AMC. Please send reviews, notices and other items of general interest for inclusion in future *Newsletters* and *The Globe* to John Cain:

**The Australian Map Circle Inc.**

**c/- Department of Geography and Environmental Studies  
The University of Melbourne, Victoria, 3010, AUSTRALIA**

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The Australian Map Circle's ABN is **19 046 516 617**. As a not-for-profit association with an annual turnover of less than \$100 000, the AMC is not required to register for, or charge, GST and does not do so.

This issue of the newsletter was produced by Brendan Whyte, email: [b.whyte@pgrad.unimelb.edu.au](mailto:b.whyte@pgrad.unimelb.edu.au)

**FELLOWSHIPS and PRIZES**

RMIT University in Melbourne is offering scholarships for postgraduate study in geospatial sciences. For more information, contact: Dr William Cartwright, Associate Professor in Multimedia Cartography, Department of Geospatial Science, RMIT University, GPO Box 2476V, Melbourne 3001 ph: 3-9925 2423, fax: 3-9663 2517, email: [william.cartwright@rmit.edu.au](mailto:william.cartwright@rmit.edu.au)  
International student enquiries to Dr Kefei Zhang: [kefei.zhang@rmit.edu.au](mailto:kefei.zhang@rmit.edu.au)

**NOTES AND NEWS**

**The Globe** is now available on APAIS (Australian Public Affairs Information Service) Full Text. This allows users of APAIS, for example in subscribing Libraries across Australia, to read the complete text of articles from *The Globe*. This database is available for subscription on the Informit Online Internet service or on CD-ROM. For the former, see <http://www.informit.com.au> for the latter, see: <http://www.rmitpublishing.com.au> You can also contact RMIT Publishing directly on: ph: 3-99258100, fax: 3-9925 8134 or [info@rmitpublishing.com.au](mailto:info@rmitpublishing.com.au)

**AMC Newsletter** current and previous issues back to #71 are now available online, at <http://australianmapcircle.org.au/newsletter/>

**The Globe** back issues are available at \$10.00 per copy, plus postage. The following issues are still in print: #9, 10, 11, 13, 14, 15, 16, 18, 19, 22, 24, 25, 28, 29, 30, plus all issues from no. 33 onwards. We may also be able to supply photocopies of issues that are out of print. Enquiries to the AMC Secretary, John Cain, email: [j.cain@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:j.cain@unimelb.edu.au).

An up to date version of the list of back issues is also available at <http://australianmapcircle.org.au/> (look under *The Globe*) – we have been selling quite a few back issues lately. Also on the site are the Contents of issues #41 onwards, and Notes For Authors.

## MAP NEWS

HELSINGIN SANOMAT 7.8.2001 (www.helsinginsanomat.fi)

Melvin Nelson Perry who is suspected of theft of old maps earlier this year was brought to Helsinki-Vantaa airport by two policemen late Monday night. He was transported directly to Pasila police prison and will most likely be arrested due the alleged thefts.

Perry who has resided in London wanted to come to Finland voluntarily, which Interpol informed to the Finnish Police etc. etc. ....the chief of the investigation Pekka Korhonen think Perry felt overwhelmed by the dimensions the case was rapidly reaching and wanted to come voluntarily. His history with several thefts of old maps has been known to British authorities and therefore he had been under surveillance.

The police suspects Perry stole by gentlemanly manner (sic) ancient maps from the University of Helsinki Library. Four of the maps are still missing, but two have been returned to the Finnish Embassy in London. The identity of the anonymous person who returned the maps is still under investigation. Now that Perry has been arrested the goal is to find out what has happened to the missing maps and whether Perry acted independently or had received orders for maps.

British citizen Melvin Nelson Perry (44) stole in February six maps from the Helsinki University Library in front of the eyes of library personnel. His elegant behaviour and refined English might have misled the librarians. The auction value of the maps is believed to reach 0.5 million Finnish marks. The library was unable to prevent the theft although it had received warnings. The oldest map is from the 15th and the youngest from the 17th century. Two of the stolen maps were returned via the Finnish Embassy in London to the University Library, but the returned maps were not among the most valuable.

Perry has committed similar crimes before Helsinki also in Hague, Copenhagen, and Stockholm. He was convicted in 1995 for 4 years in prison for thefts committed in the British Library and Cambridge university. In Helsinki he had stayed in Hotel Arthus and flown back to London with a cheap airline. In March the British police was able to locate Perry and arrest him. Then Finland asked for his extradition. The maximum sentence for the crime in Finland is four years in prison. etc.

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The Age reported on 17 July on the unveiling of a giant yellow surveyor's pole just south of the Bourke St pedestrian bridge in Melbourne, commemorating the location of erstwhile Batman's hill, from the top of which surveyor Robert Hoddle drew the street-grid of the central city. The hill itself was levelled in 1862 for the Spencer St rail yards.

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Also in July, Hillston, NSW was named the demographic centre of Australia. However the calculations used appear to have been for a demographic median rather than a mean, the former being less appropriate to Australia's population distribution. After calculations in 2000 and 2001, it has been calculated the spot 7km NW of Hillston is moving NbyNE at 3.4m/day (1.24km/year). The spot is likely to cross the Orange-Broken Hill railway line between the Trida and Conoble sidings at some stage during 2003!

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Surveyors from RMIT and the Victorian Department of Natural Resources and Environment have calculated the geographic centre of the Melbourne urban area. It is under a park bench in the SW corner of Ferndale Park, Glen Iris Rd, Glen Iris (Melways p60 A7). A plaque and survey mark have been embedded in concrete beneath the bench. The point will be used to track future urban sprawl. See the Age for 25 July: <http://www.theage.com.au/news/state/2001/07/25/FFXEJ8AKIPC.html>

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The **Sydney Map Group** has already scheduled two events for next year:

**Thursday, January 10, 2002 6pm for 6.30pm**

A special Sydney Map Group evening presentation of the current blockbuster at the State Library "Matthew Flinders: the ultimate voyage". The meeting will feature the Curator, Paul Brunton. The cost is \$16.50. Please send money direct to the State Library (C/- The Bookings Officer), or ph 9273 1770, indicating it is for the 'SMG evening - January 10'. Please advise me of attendance, and whether you wish to join us for a meal at a local restaurant after the talk. The venue is in the Library Gallery.

**Friday, May 3, 2002 6pm-7pm**

"Antique Maps - Collectibles with a difference" At L3, State Records, Nurses Walk, The Rocks  
Special Guest: Jenny Harvey, President of IMCoS. Speakers to cover the topic from a collector's, dealer's and IMCoS viewpoint.

Contact: Robert Clancy Fax: 2-4923 6998, email: [relancy@mail.newcastle.mail.edu.au](mailto:relancy@mail.newcastle.mail.edu.au)

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In September, the Commonwealth Government announced a new policy for Spatial (GIS) data access and pricing. Noteworthy details are: Fundamental spatial data will be provided free of charge over the Internet, and at no more than the marginal cost of transfer for packaged products and full cost of transfer for customised services. There will be no copyright restrictions on commercial value-adding to fundamental spatial data. An Internet-based public access system will be developed within the framework of the Australian Spatial Data Infrastructure. Full details can be found at: [http://www.csd.gov.au/cwlth\\_access\\_pricing\\_policy.htm](http://www.csd.gov.au/cwlth_access_pricing_policy.htm) For a definition of "fundamental spatial data", check <http://www.csd.gov.au/csdcfd.htm>

## MAPS AND MAP PRODUCTS

AMC member Richard Johnson has had a new book published:

*"The Search for the Inland Sea : John Oxley, Explorer, 1783-1828"*,  
Melbourne Uni Press, 2001; ISBN: 0-522-84959-8, 320pp, \$49.95 HB.

John Oxley, Surveyor-General of New South Wales, ranks among the great explorers of Australia. His expeditions along the Lachlan and Macquarie Rivers were feats of dogged endurance and persistence, as he pursued his dream of finding the mysterious 'inland sea' that he firmly believed lay in the Australian interior. Officials including Governor Lachlan Macquarie, who was eager to find potential agricultural land for the growing colony, supported his explorations. Oxley discovered and named many landmarks and recorded them meticulously on charts and in his journals. During the years following these expeditions, Oxley travelled to Port Macquarie, to Hobart Town with Commissioner John Bigge, to parts of the wild coast of Van Diemen's Land, to the site of today's Gladstone, and to Moreton Bay where he discovered the Brisbane River and the site of the city of Brisbane, later leading the first settlers to this area. The hardships he suffered--at sea as a young man, and then on his arduous expeditions--eventually took their toll on his health, and he painfully relinquished both his position as Surveyor-General and the hope of finding his elusive inland sea. This is the first biography of an important figure in Australian colonial history.

For more, see [http://www.mup.unimelb.edu.au/catalogue/0\\_522\\_84959\\_8.html](http://www.mup.unimelb.edu.au/catalogue/0_522_84959_8.html)

*"The Canadian Military Atlas: the Nation's Battlefields from the French & Indian Wars to Kosovo"*,  
text Mark Zuehlke, maps C. Stuart Danie, Stoddart, HB C\$100.00, ISBN 0773732896,.

Rox Moxham, "*The Great Hedge of India*", Carrol & Graf, NY, 2001

The story of one man's hunt over several years for the remnants of a thorn hedge that the British built across India to stop salt smugglers in the 1800s. Production costs prohibited the inclusion of decent maps or photos, but some can be found at his website, [www.roymoxham.com](http://www.roymoxham.com)

Howard Quinlan & John R Newland, "*Australian Railway Routes 1854-2000*", PB, Australian Railway Historical Soc (NSW Division), Redfern NSW, 12/2000 reprinted 3/2001. A\$29.95. ISBN 0-909650-49-7

Statewise lists of rail line opening and closing dates and lengths. Schematic rail network maps for each state, differentiating gauges.

"*China railway Atlas, Mongolia, Taiwan*", 2nd edition, Quail Map Co, Exeter, 1998. ISBN 1 898319 35 9. 40pp. GBP10 plus postage.

An atlas of current rail lines in China, Taiwan and Mongolia, with most stations named, in Pinyin. Scale about 1:3,000,000. Includes 7 pages of city enlargements. Available at local bookshops specialising in railways and transport, or by mail from Stanfords: <http://www.stanfords.co.uk> ; Quail: <http://www.rinbad.demon.co.uk/quail.htm> ; Transport Diversions: <http://www.transportdiversions.com>

Judith Scurfield, [judiths@slv.vic.gov.au](mailto:judiths@slv.vic.gov.au), still has copies of her husband's book for \$45.00 hardcover, \$20.00 paperback, plus \$5.00 postage and handling:

G. Scurfield, "*The Hoddle Years*", Institution of Surveyors Australia Inc., Canberra, 1995.

Nicholson Baker, "*Double Fold: Libraries and the Assault on Paper*", Random House, NY, 2001, For review, see <http://www.arl.org/preserv/baker>

**Ethiopian maps:** The Ethiopian government sells nine 1:1 million sheets of their country for US\$7 each, a street plan of Addis Ababa for US\$13, and a catalogue for US\$2. These prices appear to cover airmail postage to Australia. Contact Mr (?) Tesfaye Maru: [tmaru\\_2000@yahoo.com](mailto:tmaru_2000@yahoo.com)

**Lhasa map:** "On this spot - Lhasa", a new edition of a map of Lhasa is now available, showing prisons, PLA and PSB installations, cultural sites, etc, together with much background information. US\$5.95 each, \$4.95 for ICT members, plus \$1 for postage. Bulk rates down to US\$3 each. email [tenzind@savetibet.org](mailto:tenzind@savetibet.org) at the Campaign for Tibet, 1825 K St, NW, Suite 520, Washington, DC 20006, USA [www.savetibet.org](http://www.savetibet.org) ; [info@savetibet.org](mailto:info@savetibet.org)

**NSW Map Catalogue:** Land and Property Information NSW (formerly Land Information Centre) has released a new edition of the topographic map catalogue. (June 2001). Copies available from Joanna McLachlan, Librarian, Land and Property Information, PO Box 143, Bathurst 2795.

**Macao maps:** Maps and aerial-photo postcards of Macao can be purchased from the Macao Cartography and Cadastre Bureau. Their website is hard to navigate, but a direct link to their price list is <http://www.dsc.gov.mo/eng/price.htm> For online historical maps, and thematic maps, see [http://www.dsc.gov.mo/eng/old\\_map.htm](http://www.dsc.gov.mo/eng/old_map.htm) and <http://www.dsc.gov.mo/eng/Thematic.htm> Payment including the postal fee should be made by bank draft payable to "Direccao dos Servicos de Cartografia e Cadastro". Postage is calculated once an enquiry/order is made. 8 MOP ~ US\$1

**Beijing:** The June 2001 issue of "*Chinese National Geography*" includes an article titled "Read Beijing in old maps" pp50-58. It is in Chinese, but has several illustrations of old city maps. There is also a foldout aerial photo of the Forbidden City/Tiananmen on one side, and an old parchment map of the same area on the rear.

I cannot help thinking that on discussions of this kind, a great deal of misapprehension arises from the popular use of maps on a small scale. As with such maps you are able to put a thumb on India and a finger on Russia, some persons at once think that the political situation is alarming and that India must be looked into. If the noble lord would use a larger map - say one on the scale of the Ordnance map of England - he would find that the distance between Russia and British India is not to be measured by the finger and thumb, but by a rule"

Lord Salisbury.

## ONLINE MAPS

### Map Indexes

<http://www.maplibrarian.com>

<http://www.mappingandbeyond.com>

Ian Overton's sites for his Map Librarian map indexing project.

Contact: Ian Overton, Managing Director, Mapping and Beyond Pty Ltd,

33 Queen Street, Thebarton, South Australia, 5031 Ph: +61 8 8303 3841 Fax: +61 8 8303 5719

71 Queens Road, Melbourne, Victoria, 3001, Ph: +61 3 8517 9320 Fax: +61 3 8517 4777

### Geocaching

[www.geocaching.com](http://www.geocaching.com)

A site of coordinates for hidden caches (urban and rural) around the world, allowing GPS users to play treasure hunt. Once you find the hidden cache, take one object from the container, but leave something of your own behind: a CD, some foreign coins, non-perishable sweets, etc.

### Andorra

<http://www.andorra.ad/bibnac/angles/publica.htm>

A bibliography of official Andorran government publications, including maps and several atlases.

### Relief Maps (1)

<http://www.reliefweb.int/w/map.nsf/home?OpenForm>

A site with a variety of interesting maps covering natural and un-natural disasters-refugee camp locations, refugee flows, administrative divisions, population densities, road networks, etc

### Relief Map (2)

[www.toiletmap.gov.au](http://www.toiletmap.gov.au)

Where to go when you need to go. An online map of public toilets around Australia.

### German historical maps

<http://www.hoeckmann.de/index.html>

Colour historical maps of Germany at the end of the 18th century.

### Prized maps

<http://www.avenza.com/MPcomp/2001>

Winning entries from Avenza Systems' map design competition (the producers of MAPublisher software).

### Great Circle Calculators

Several websites that perform calculations of great circle distances between points on the globe:

[http://www.nijix.com/english/applets\\_e/applet\\_e2.html](http://www.nijix.com/english/applets_e/applet_e2.html)

<http://gc.kls2.com>

<http://www.gb3pi.org.uk/great.html>

<http://www.indo.com/distance/> (scroll down beyond the stuff about Bali)

### Indian topographic map sale

<http://www.monitor.net/~jmko/karakoram/u502-sum.htm>

An ex-Lonely Planet author, Dr John Mock, based in California, is selling a pile of 1:250,000 US AMS 502 topographic maps of Afghanistan/Pakistan/India/Nepal. for US\$5 each. Further maps in this series are available from [www.omnimap.com](http://www.omnimap.com) (US\$15) and [www.stanfords.co.uk](http://www.stanfords.co.uk) (GBP8)

### Cave maps

<http://www.speleobooks.com/catindex.html>

A catalogue of books on caves and caving, also has images of several maps of US cave systems on sale, including Mammoth Cave and Carlsbad Caverns.

### Cycle maps

<http://www.vicroads.vic.gov.au/scripts/esrimap.dll?name=pbn&cmd=map>

Vicroads' online map of cycling routes in Melbourne.

## MAP HUMOUR

### Stories from travel agents:

A man called, furious about a Florida package we did. I asked what was wrong with the vacation in Orlando. He said he was expecting an ocean-view room. I tried to explain that is not possible since Orlando is in the middle of the state. He replied "Don't lie to me. I looked on the map and Florida is a very thin state."

I got a call from a man who asked "Is it possible to see England from Canada?" I said "No". He said "But they look so close on the map."

A woman called and asked "Do airlines put your physical description on your bag so they know who's luggage belongs to who?" I said "No, why do you ask?" She replied "Well, when I checked in with the airline they put a tag on my luggage that said FAT, and I'm overweight, is there any connection?" After putting her on hold for a minute while I looked into it (I was actually laughing) I came back and explained the city code for Fresno is FAT and that the airline was just putting a destination tag on her luggage.

### Australian ineptitude

A Melbourne-produced guidebook to NZ, placed in rooms of "prestigious international hotels" in that country, mislocated numerous places. Even overlooking frequent spelling errors, the central North island section was graced with pictures of Fiordland, the Northland pages showed mountain-bikers in Central Otago, Christchurch's Mona Vale homestead and gardens are given under Dunedin, and another garden illustrates both the Taranaki and Canterbury pages. The company responsible, Waiviata, could offer no explanation, as "staff responsible for the edition had left the company". A revised edition is due out this month. (*NZ Herald*, 15/6/2001, pC1)

## MAP TRIVIA

### Jordanian Campsite

Mapping detectives armed with magnifying glasses will notice "Jordan" in very small print on the grid line between references G2 and H2 on map 169 in the Melway Greater Melbourne Street Directory. This is the part of the Rosebud West foreshore where the Jordan family have camped each January for about the last 35 years. Apparently Richard Jordan has a friend in Melways!

### Mom Peak

A colleague is almost certain that the world's most southerly palindrome is Mom peak at 85d 27m S. The gazetteer story on Mom Peak is intriguing: "A peak (3,260 m) in eastern Otway Massif, 5 mi SE of Mount Petlock. Mapped by USGS from surveys and U.S. Navy air photos (1959-63). This name recognizes the activities of Shirley (Mrs. James C.) Anderson of San Diego, CA, widely known as "Antarctica Mom" among U.S. personnel wintering over in Antarctica. In the years following 1961, Mrs. Anderson communicated with thousands of wintering personnel in Antarctica and her efforts contributed greatly to their morale."

## Stolen Maps

Alan Ventress of State Records NSW is hoping to trace some maps stolen from State Records NSW sometime in 1999. The maps form part of a series of 118 Charting copies of County of Cumberland Parish Maps (CGS 13028). The 29 maps stolen were numbered 262-289 in our map numbering system, and cover the period 1835 to approximately 1850. These manuscript maps were kept and used in the Registrar General's Department. They include an almost complete set of 'clean copies' of the original maps of the 56 parishes of the County of Cumberland (covering the greater Sydney metropolitan area). These maps were compiled in 1835, are finely drawn with hand-colouring, and include a number that were signed and dated by T.L. Mitchell (the Surveyor-General at the time). The series also contains later 'working copies' of maps of each parish, with numerous office annotations.

Of the 29 maps, 23 have been recovered, with six still outstanding, as follows:

Map No 272, Parish of St Andrew, 1835?	Map No. 273, Parish of St Andrew, nd
Map No. 275, Parish of St George, nd	Map No. 277, Parish of St John, 1835
Map No. 280, Parish of St Lawrence, c.1846-50?	Map No. 287, Parish of South Colah, c. 1846-50?

The maps measure approximately 600mm by 400mm, and all were in fair to poor condition. It is likely that the identifying AO Map No. reference (usually in the bottom left hand corner) will have been removed by trimming or erasure.

Alan Ventress, Assoc Director, City, State Records NSW, PO Box R625, Royal Exchange, NSW 1225, ph: 02 8276 5653, fax: 02 8276 5626, mobile: 0415 750 175, email: [adc@records.nsw.gov.au](mailto:adc@records.nsw.gov.au)  
<http://www.records.nsw.gov.au>

## Obituary

Members of the Australian Map Circle will be saddened to learn that Joe Lines died in mid-September. Joe was Business Manager of the AMC for many years, an Honorary Life Member, and a friend to many in the Circle. Although he had not been so active in recent years, he attended Victorian meetings when he could - he will be missed by all of us.

- Judy Scurfield