

Australian Map Circle Inc.

Minutes of the 1999 Annual General Meeting

Monday 5 April 1999, St. John's College, The University of Queensland

1. Attendance.

Present at the meeting:

John Cain	Roger Rees	Judith Scurfield	Victor Prescott	Adella Edwards
Greg Eccleston	Effie Rees	Bill Stinson	Frank Urban	Barbara
Estelle Canning	Maura O'Connor	Richard Miller	Don Somerville	Wojtkowski
Denis Shephard	Glenys Young	Dorothy Prescott	Majorie Somerville	Les Isdale

Apologies were received on behalf of: Pam Faragher, Chandra Jayasuriya, John Roberts, Peter Johnson, Stuart Duncan, Marta Chiba, Joe Lines, David Hancox, Margaret Eva.

2. Minutes of the previous AGM.

The minutes of the 1998 AGM were circulated with the *AMC Newsletter* and available at the meeting. Note that Maura O'Connor's correct email is moconnor@nla.gov.au; and under 10.2 (best wishes) the second reference to Mary Lines should be to Molly Foale. The minutes as amended were accepted by the meeting.

3. Matters arising from the minutes.

- Item 10.6, National Mapping Program, see President's report.

4. President's Report.

Copies of the President's Report were distributed at the meeting and may also be published in the *Newsletter*. Greg Eccleston spoke briefly to the report. Maura O'Connor spoke briefly on plans for the AMC 2000 Conference, to be held at the National Library of Australia from 30 January to 2 February 2000; plans are going well with one speaker already accepted and the first sponsor, Intergraph, in place. With regard to the National Mapping Program, Roger Rees mentioned that \$2 million for two years has been allocated for updating of the 1:100,000 mapping of Australia – sufficient to make a start though it is a big and ongoing job. The President's Report was accepted by the meeting.

5. Business Manager's Report.

The audited financial statement was distributed at the meeting and may also be published in the *Newsletter*. John Cain spoke to the report on behalf of the Business Manager, Marie Morden. The current membership trend seems to be upwards, with 230 copies of the *Newsletter* and *The Globe* being circulated for each issue. The balance of the AMC accounts as at 31 December 1998 was \$21,708, excluding the AMC99 accounts. John also noted that a cheque for \$2180.97 to finalize AMC98 was received by the Executive in June 1998, but during the audit it was realized that this had not been banked. The cheque appears to have been misplaced and the Executive is in the process of locating it or having a replacement cheque issued. [The cheque has since been found and banked and will appear in the 1999 accounts]. The accounts were audited by Mr. Ewan Smith, CPA. The accounts were accepted by the meeting.

Matters arising from the Business Manager's report:

The major items of expenditure were *The Globe*, AACCCM meeting expenses, and Portuguese translation fees.

- John Cain noted that *The Globe* covers the cost of production of two issues.
- John Cain noted that with regard to AACCCM (see 1998 minutes, item 10.1) the total expense of \$4470 was offset by a payment of \$3388 from AACCCM, being the Australian share of royalties from the sale of AACCCM publications; a net cost of about \$1100.
- Victor Prescott spoke for the Editorial Committee regarding the Portuguese translation fee, which was incurred for the translation of a paper by Alfredo Pinheiro Marques, -- a paper never before presented in English concerning Portuguese exploration and discovery, which the author was prevented from presenting at the 1997 History of Cartography Conference in Lisbon, apparently for political reasons. The paper will be published in *The Globe* #48.
- Roger Rees asked about the term deposits, John Cain responded that these are a prudent reserve to cover fluctuations in the finances of the Circle.

6. Report of *The Globe* Editors.

The Editorial Committee report was distributed at the meeting and may also be published in the *Newsletter*. Two issues of *The Globe* appeared during 1998, #46 and #47. The report was accepted by the meeting.

Matters arising from the Editors' report:

Bill Stinson requested the use of a harder cover on *The Globe* than that used for #47. He also asked about electronic journals and whether we are in danger of cancellation by major libraries? Maura O'Connor commented that a major problem with electronic journals is archiving. Bill disagreed, mentioning project MUSE and the use of PDF files for example. Les Isdale asked whether any move towards electronic publication would mean no production of hard copy; John Cain responded that no, either way hard copy production would be retained for the foreseeable future.

7. Branch reports.

7.1 Brisbane: Les Isdale reported that Brisbane has been organizing the conference, during which it has learnt about the late registration problem and the problem with getting papers. He does not hold out great hopes for regular meetings by a Queensland branch. Don Somerville commented it was not impossible.

7.2 Sydney: Bill Stinson reported on the meetings of the Sydney Map Group, a group organized by Robert Clancy including people from IMCOS, AMC, MSIA and others, which has had three meetings so far, two in 1998 and one in 1999. There was some comment as to whether this group is a competitor to AMC, but Bill and Richard Miller stated it is just a social group of people interested in maps.

7.3 Melbourne: Greg Eccleston reported that the Victorian Branch met four times during 1998, at the University of Melbourne Library Map Section (digital maps), the Melbourne Excimer Laser Clinic (Eyeball maps), the State Library of Victoria (map treasures) and a Christmas function, with an average of 15 members at each meeting.

8. Returning Officer's report.

On behalf of the Returning Officer, David Jones of the University of Melbourne Library, John Cain reported that one nomination had been received for each of the four Executive positions. The following were therefore declared re-elected:

President:	Greg Eccleston	Secretary:	John Cain
Vice-President:	Estelle Canning	Business Manager:	Marie Morden

9. Next AMC Conference.

As noted under the President's report, the next AMC Conference will be hosted by the National Library of Australia from 30 January to 2 February 2000. A call for speakers was circulated at the Conference. The Executive is seeking a host for the 2001 conference and any offers will be very welcome.

10. Other business.

10.1 Conference Attendance: ((Much of this discussion took place after the Business Manager's report, and also at other points during the meeting. It is gathered here for clarity)). Richard Miller asked about conference attendance; John Cain replied that this seems pretty stable around 30 for the last several years; the Executive is very happy to hear suggestions for increasing attendance. John Cain commented on the decline of map collections in Australia which are a major source of conference attendance. Bill Stinson commented on the need for lists of papers/speakers to be available well in advance of the conference to support attendance. Les Isdale noted the difficulty in getting papers for the conference, mentioned MSIA professional development program as a possible source. Victor Prescott suggested establishment of a fund to subsidize attendance by young members at conferences. Richard Miller suggested targeting subsidies/prizes to cartography courses. Les Isdale suggested Royal Geographical Society geography competition, perhaps memberships as prizes. John Cain noted that the idea of a biennial conference was very unpopular when discussed at the 1998 AGM. Les Isdale also questioned whether a biennial conference would increase attendance in any case?

There being no further business, the meeting was then closed.

End-of-Conference Resolutions.

As the AGM was held before the conference, at the conclusion of the conference resolutions were taken from the floor to allow members to raise issues. The following motions were approved:

- That the AMC promotes and supports placement of a plaque on the place of Francis Barrallier's death in London. The Executive to make enquiries.
- That the AMC supports the adoption of an Australian Standard for conservation materials. Executive to write to AICCM supporting adoption of such a standard.
- That the AMC supports the inclusion of the meaning of placenames (where known) in Australian placename gazetteers available over the Internet. Executive to write to CGNA to draw this issue to their attention.