

Minutes of the Australian Map Circle Annual General Meeting

Wednesday 11 February 1998
The University of Wollongong

1. Present at the meeting:

John Cain	Dorothy Prescott	Col Bruton
Marie Morden	Len Jac	John McCarthy
Greg Eccleston	Roger Rees	Bill Stinson
Marisa Toniato	Maura O'Connor	Don Somerville
Greg Scott	Cheryl Evans	Marjorie Somerville
Judy Scurfield	Frank Urban	Brian Cusack
Les Isdale	John Hillier	Jim Sinclair
Victor Prescott	Richard Miller	David Hocking

Apologies were received from:

Stuart Duncan, Betty Duncan, Joe Lines, Margaret Eva, Rachel Bitten, Brian Rogers, Max Foale, John Boardman, Chandra Jayasuriya, Steven Waite, David Hancox, John Roberts, Pam Faragher.

2. Minutes of the previous AGM.

The minutes were circulated with the AMC newsletter and were available at the meeting. It was noted that under item 3, point 12, it should be RASvy, not RASC. The minutes as amended were accepted.

3. Matters arising from the minutes.

- Point 10 (AMC t-shirts): These have been produced and were available for sale at the meeting.

4. President's report.

The report was circulated with the agenda and may also be published in the *Newsletter*. Greg Eccleston spoke briefly to the report. The President's Report was accepted by the meeting.

5. Business Manager's Report.

The report and audited financial statement were circulated with the agenda. The report may also be published in the *Newsletter*. There were 166 (up from 159) financial members, of a total of 218 members (up from 199) during 1997. The balance of the AMC accounts as at 31 December 1997 was \$27,712 (excluding the AMC'98 Conference account) with a surplus of \$1290 for 1997. The accounts were audited by Mr Ewan Smith, CPA. The report and accounts were accepted by the meeting.

6. Report of *The Globe* Editors.

The report was circulated with the agenda and may also be published in the *Newsletter*. Two issues of *The Globe* appeared during 1997, #44 produced by Bill Stinson and #45 by the new editorial committee of John Cain, Greg Eccleston and Victor Prescott.

7. Branch reports.

- The meeting congratulated Cheryl Evans on the visit to the Mitchell Library and Australia of Ralph Ehrenberg, Chief of the Geography and Map Division of the Library of Congress.
- Victoria: Greg Eccleston reported on a total of three functions for the Victorian Branch in 1997.
- There are currently no other active state branches, and the Executive continues to work towards establishing branches in other parts of Australia.

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.

The executive again reported the great difficulty experienced in finding hosts for the Annual Conference, with a number of approaches from the Executive having been rejected. No host has yet been found for the 1999 Conference. John Cain suggested that we may wish to consider a biennial conference, but the meeting felt this was more likely to result in a decline of the Circle and supported the continuation of an Annual Conference. Maura O'Connor commented on the current difficulties being experienced by map libraries around Australia, with many being downsized or abolished. Dorothy Prescott suggested Bathurst might be a possibility for a future AMC Conference.

Les Isdale said that a group of Queenslanders would get together to consider hosting the 1999 AMC Conference, and would report back to the Executive within a month or so. [Qld subsequently confirmed].

10. Other business.

10.1 AACCCM: Dorothy Prescott spoke on AACCCM (Anglo-American Cataloguing Committee for Cartographic Materials) of which she is a member, and which is currently working on a revision of *Cartographic Materials: a manual of interpretation*. Comments are invited from persons engaged in map cataloguing to either Maura O'Connor (Map Curator, National Library of Australia, 2600; moconnor@nal.gov.au) or Dorothy Prescott (44 Lucas St, East Brighton, 3187; prescott@geography.unimelb.edu.au).

10.2 Best wishes: The meeting expressed its best wishes to several members who are currently ill: Stuart Duncan, Mary Lines, Bruce MacDonald and Mary Lines.

10.3 Honorary Life Membership: Greg Eccleston on behalf of Stuart Duncan proposed to the meeting that Judy Scurfield be elected to Honorary Life Membership of the Australian Map Circle. The motion was carried unanimously.

10.4 NLA Developments: Maura O'Connor spoke on a number of recent developments at the National Library of Australia, including the Network Services Project (Amicus), the production of a multimedia cdrom on Captain Cook, and that consideration is being given to scanning the rare maps collection.

10.5 Pre-1900 Australian Maps Cataloguing: Little progress has been made on obtaining additional funding for such a project. Bill Stinson mentioned the "Cinderella Project" and Maura O'Connor noted the collections of maps held by Historical Societies.

10.6 National Mapping Program: John Hillier spoke to express his concern at the parlous state of the National Mapping Program. The meeting passed a resolution that:

"The AMC registers its concern at the continuing degradation of the National inventory of infrastructure, the National Mapping Program, which is being neglected, particularly the 1:100,000 mapping program and also the 1:250,000 mapping program".

The Executive was asked to follow up on this issue.

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

John Cain, 29.05.98. e:\maps\amc\agm98doc