Australian and New Zealand Map Society

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting Tuesday 28 April 2015

Training Room 3-4, Level 4, National Library of Australia, Canberra A.C.T.

16.00 AEST

**Attendance:** Michael Cleary, Karen Craw, Kay Dancey, Greg Eccleston, Andrew Eliason, Bronwyn Foott, David Fraser, Les Isdale, David Jones, Robert King, Maggie Patton (Chair), Michael Pearson, Effe Rees, Roger Rees, Judith Scurfield, Julie Senior, Jennifer Sheehan, Denis Shepherd, Brendan Whyte, Barbara Wojtkowski, Martin Woods (21)

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<td>Previous AGM minutes and matters arising</td>
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<td>Matters arising:</td>
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<td>President’s report (tabled)</td>
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 Moved Michael Cleary and Seconded Judy Scurfield, that the Report as distributed be accepted. CARRIED

4. Business Manager’s report (tabled)  

Andrew Eliason spoke to his report which was distributed to the meeting  

2015_BusinessManagersRpt.docx  

Society membership is down from last year; New Zealand membership especially is reduced. Expenditure and revenue from the last (jointly held) conference is reported as nil. The main expenditure this FY has been The Globe, and an award made to the Editor, Brendan Whyte. Online banking was set up at the end of 2014.

Comment from Greg Eccleston:  
The independent auditors received an honorarium in 2013, as did Brendan in 2014; are these becoming annual financial commitments? Andrew stated they are discretionary.

Comment from Michael Pearson:  
What does the Committee think are the causes for the drop in membership? Discussion: The AGM was promoted to the Membership via email, a posted letter, and with a flyer in The Globe; it is assumed that online access to The Globe via subscription bundles usually means that corporate subscription to hardcopy is dropped. Also, as map libraries close, there are fewer people working in the field and therefore less interest in renewing subscriptions.

Comment from Barbara Wojtkowski:  
The move to add The Globe to ProQuest may not be such a good idea. Discussion: Subscription bundles reach different audiences; some bundles offer full PDF access, others text only (i.e. no illustrations).

Moved Roger Rees and Seconded Karen Craw, that the Report as distributed be accepted. CARRIED

5. Report of the Editor of The Globe  

Brendan Whyte as Editor of The Globe spoke to his report which was distributed to the meeting  

2015_Globe editors report.doc  

There have been 2 issues since the last AGM with a waiting list of papers to publish. The planned refreshment of the cover will utilise otherwise unused space.

Comment from Karen Craw:  
Will the cover remain recognisable and consistent from issue to issue. Brendan stated that it is part of the design brief to do so.

Comment from Michael Cleary:  
A high standard is always achieved; the Membership offered their congratulations to Brendan for his consistent work.

Moved Greg Eccleston and Seconded Karen Craw, that the Report as distributed be accepted. CARRIED

6. Regional reports  

a) National Library of Australia  
The main service point has changed when the Maps Reading Room closed; viewing is by appointment in the Special Collections room. Maps and aerial photography are to be re-housed as all the old compactor shelving is being replaced. The Library is replacing its digital infrastructure in 2015, including tools for importing, managing and preserving map imagery.

b) State Library of Victoria  
Sarah Ryan is the Coordinator, Collection Development & Discovery, looking after “Australiana” including the Map Collection.
SLV First World War exhibitions are very successful, including displays of WWI objects
found on Turkish beaches and some Turkish maps drawn from the SLV collections.

c) Monash University
Main focus has been digitising the terrain studies, which is comprised of text, photographs and maps, and is the subject of a paper to be presented at the 2015 Conference.

d) Australian National University
Focus on digitising maps that have been produced in-house, successfully have placed online over 500 maps dating from the last 20-30 years; the aim is to have about 900 hard-copy maps online by the end of 2015.

e) National Library of New Zealand
Digitising programme focussed on a joint project in association with the University of Auckland and LINZ, mainly series maps covering New Zealand.
In January, the Australasian Rare Books Summer School was held in Wellington, and attended by Karen Craw (Hocken Library) and Mark Bagnall (Alexander Turnbull Library, NLNZ), amongst others.

f) Auckland War Memorial Museum
Since 2013, the Museum website, digital content platform and content management systems have undergone a re-build, due to be launched to the public as Collections Online at the end of May 2015. The Library catalogue will receive its first online refresh for almost 18 months by this time.

g) State Library of New South Wales
The SL has a 3-year project underway digitising 40,000 estate subdivision plans, going through the suburbs A-Z. Klokan Technologies Georeferencer crowd-sourcing tool is being used to georeference selected maps online.
The SLNSW Sydney Map Group meets regularly with a variety of topics for discussion; next meeting is scheduled for May 2015.
There are no longer any Sydney-based universities with a map collection.

**Action:** Webmaster: Individual library digitising projects to be added to the ANZMapS website; acquire details from delegates

7. **Election of Officers**

The President, Maggie Patton, stepped down, and the returning officer, Julie Senior, occupied the Chair. She reported that nominations for positions on the Australian and New Zealand Map Society Committee closed on Monday 27th April 2015. There being only one nomination received for each position, the nominees were accepted.

President: Martin Woods (mwoods@nla.gov.au)
Vice-President: Maggie Patton (mpatton@sl.nsa.gov.au)
Business Manager: Andrew Eliason (friormon@gmail.com)
Secretary: Julie Senior (jsenior@aucklandmuseum.com)
Ex-Officio: Jennifer Sheehan (jennifer.sheehan@anu.edu.au)
Ex-Officio: Mark Bagnall (mark.bagnall@dia.govt.nz)
Editor of The Globe: Brendan Whyte (bwhyte@nla.gov.au)

Moved Martin Woods and Seconded Barbara Wojtkowski, that the nominations to office are accepted.  
CARRIED

Martin Woods, President, occupied the Chair for the remainder of the meeting.
General business

a) ANZMapS website
Maggie Patton demonstrated the ‘new look’ ANZMapS website as a work in progress. The desired functionality aims to be seamless and easy for users to navigate. An online forum is also being developed, one not restricted to members - any user can create an account (login & password) to participate. As PayPal is the preferred option to be the online membership payment facility, web-hosting and security will be regularly reviewed by the Committee.

Members are invited to offer comments either verbally or by email to Maggie, maggie.patton@sl.nsw.gov.au

b) ANZMapS logo
To tie in with the re-design of the website, a recognisable but up-to-date branding on The Globe masthead and cover is underway.

c) Attracting new Membership by advertising the Society
The Committee put to the Membership the need to promote the Society, and for ideas. Discussion ensued around taking out regular advertising in publications, including but not limited to, Position magazine (ANZ-wide independent publication for the spatial industries). This would be a continual expenditure of Society funds. The Society represents current and heritage interests; what competition is there from similar societies? What can ANZMapS offer as a point of difference? Could ANZMapS link with a university course, offer a scholarship, or establish a training fund for young people? Regular up-take is a difficulty – e.g. it was noted that Patricia Alonso Memorial Prize-winners (who are offered a years’ free subscription to ANZMapS), often do not renew their membership after that year has expired.
Digital promotion could include social media although ANZMapS is already on Facebook and Twitter; a prize of AUS$1-2k could be offered for spatial data mash-ups – tie-in with conferences, other map-making competitions (e.g. Barbara Petchenik Children’s World Map Drawing Competition). To be continued.

d) GeoSciences Australia Oral History Project
Martin Woods, as a member of the Advisory Committee for this project, reported on the joint initiative between GeoScience Australia and NLA. Interviews are conducted by Patrick Lyons, Peter Redman and Fiona Rothchilds, recorded from 11 April 2014, and, hoping to capture 80 subjects, have completed 20 interviews to date. The audio files are catalogued on the NLA catalogue, http://catalogue.nla.gov.au/Record/6455816

e) ANZMapS conference 2016
Discussion ensued about the possible location for the 2016 ANZMapS conference – Alice Springs, Perth, Tasmania and Wollongong were mooted. To be decided.

AOB

1. To expedite the selection of the best paper from the 2015 Conference for the Dorothy Prescott Prize, a selection committee lead by Brendan Whyte was nominated from the Membership present: Judy Scurfield and David Jones.

2. Given the success and attendance of the last 2 conferences, the Committee should consider approaching other map-interest groups about holding joint conferences in the future.

3. 2015/6 is designated International Map Year (IMY), http://mapyear.org/
| 10. | Closing comments | ANZMapS President Martin Woods acknowledged the continued generous support shown to the Society by the National Library of Australia. The Society Membership demonstrated their appreciation to the Committee, and to the Organisers of the conference. Meeting closed 17.27 hrs. |

Julie Senior, Secretary  
14 May 2015