The 47th annual ANZMapS conference was held 24-25 September in Canberra at the National Library of Australia (NLA). There was a keynote presentation at the beginning of each day.

To open the conference, Dr. Martin Woods, ANZMapS President and Senior Curator of Maps and Research at NLA, delivered a keynote on the relevance of map societies and libraries in the past, present, and future. This extraordinary history will include Magellan’s entry into the Pacific in 1520 and the cartography of James Cook in the year that marks the 250th anniversary of Cook’s charting of the Pacific.

The conference is open to cartographers, geographers, historians, map collectors, curators, and everyone with an interest in maps. This three-day conference will commence with an evening reception on 6 September at the SLNSW.

Further details on the conference program, optional tours including a seminar day at the National Library of Australia and registration will be available soon.

The 47th annual ANZMapS conference was held 24-25 September in Canberra at the National Library of Australia (NLA). There was a keynote presentation at the beginning of each day.

To open the conference, Dr. Martin Woods, ANZMapS President and Senior Curator of Maps and Research at NLA, delivered a keynote on the relevance of map societies and libraries in the past, present, and future. On the Wednesday, Igor Drecki, Research Services Adviser at Auckland University and Editor of the newsletter of the International Cartographic Association (ICA), delivered a keynote about the history of the ICA and the possibilities and opportunities open to ANZMapS, which has just been admitted to the ICA as an affiliate member.

There was a strong focus on student presentations, mainly masters and PhD students, but also a paper by a high school student. All four eastern states and territories were represented. It is refreshing to see the exploration of current thinking and emerging trends by a group of presenters who bring greater diversity to the ANZMapS community. Some of the topics covered included mapping of the Pacific, marine conservation, socio-ecology in southeast Asia and the significance of place to the Indigenous people of Australia and Papua New Guinea.

Save the Date
Annual ANZMapS Conference 2020

From 7–9 September 2020 the State Library of New South Wales (SLNSW) will host an international conference, *Mapping the Pacific*, in collaboration with ANZMapS, the Society for the History of Discoveries and the International Map Collectors Society.

*Mapping the Pacific* will examine the traditional wayfinding knowledge of the Pacific community, European exploration and the mapping of the Pacific from the early modern era through to the 19th century. This extraordinary history will include Magellan’s entry into the Pacific in 1520 and the cartography of James Cook in the year that marks the 250th anniversary of Cook’s charting of the Pacific.

The conference is open to cartographers, geographers, historians, map collectors, curators and everyone with an interest in maps. This three-day conference will commence with an evening reception on 6 September at the SLNSW.

Further details on the conference program, optional tours including a seminar day at the National Library of Australia and registration will be available soon.

2019 Annual ANZMapS Conference
‘Mapping in Action’

The inaugural student prize of $1000 was awarded to Robert Streit, a PhD student at James Cook University, Townsville, for his presentation on “Space use in reef fishes: why we need maps in reef ecology.”

The conference concluded with a tour of NLA’s Maps Collection and a workshop showcasing a crowdsourced georectification project using the Library’s digitised parish plans. Georectification allows the overlay of historic maps on modern maps. The geo-rectifier tool used by NLA is derived from the “Map Warper” open source software developed and maintained by UK-based GIS expert Tim Waters.

The Society’s AGM was held on the Tuesday evening, followed by an informal dinner at Gryphons café and bar in Griffith.

Sarah Ryan  
Senior Librarian,  
Collection Development  
& Description,  
SLV

Image above: Micah Edwards, student presenter from Nowra Christian School  
Photo: Maggie Patton

**Member Profile**  
**Greg Lauer**

**Tell us a bit about yourself?**

I was born in New Zealand and have always been fascinated by topographic maps. While other kids had posters of sports stars or swim suite models on their bedroom walls, I had topographic maps. The currency in my household was topographic maps - chores such as mowing the lawn or hanging out the laundry was based on map units.

After a longer than usual gap year (7 years) of traveling the world I attended the University of Canterbury focusing on Geography and Political Science and graduated with a MSc (Hons) in Geography. I have since been working for technology companies in the GIS and GPS space.

My current role is with East View Geospatial where my responsibilities include looking after customers in the Asia Pacific region and working on new and exciting ways to deliver geospatial data to our customers. I am also a board member of OSGeo Oceania which was formed to support and grow the open geospatial community in the Oceania region.

**What do you love about Brisbane?**

For the last 12 years my partner and twin 9 y/o girls have made Brisbane our home. As well as the climate, lifestyle and limitless 4W driving, the key benefit for me is that it is a great hub to easily travel to the Pacific, Asia and beyond.

**What attracted you to becoming an ANZMapS committee member?**

My initial interest in being a member of ANZMapS was through my passion for 20th century topographic mapping and in particular WWII and conflict mapping. I attended my first ANZMapS conference in Brisbane in 2014 and it was great to share my hobby with other like-minded people. I have been hooked ever since. I am really excited about the opportunities to be part of the ANZMaps Society.

**How do you see organisations such as ANZMapS contributing to the world of mapping, map stewardship and research?**

I feel that ANZMaps holds a special position in the mapping community as it straddles the creating of hard copy and digital mapping products and the consumption of those products through libraries, institutions and end users.

With the current trend of libraries and Universities in reducing their mapping related staff, and mapping agencies stopping the printing of hardcopy sheets, digital mapping is coming to the forefront.

We are lucky in Australia that we have institutions such as the National Library of Australia and the Australian National University who are leading the way in making available digital reproductions of maps. As newer technology such as ‘slippy’ maps and web map services become mainstream I see ANZMaps taking a role in developing standards for the storage and/or archiving of such services.

**What is the most fascinating place you’ve travelled to?**

This is a really hard question! I have been lucky enough to travel to over 100 countries and more recently have been exploring the South Pacific. But if I had to choose one place it would be the Karakoram Highway in northern Pakistan – a fascinating mix of both physical and cultural geography mixed with geopolitical intrigue. I am hoping to take my family there soon, as Pakistan is now issuing eVisa’s.
I thoroughly enjoyed attending the ANZMapS “Mapping in Action” Conference in Canberra this year! I am a reef fish ecologist by training and have only recently ventured into the field of GIS and mapping during my PhD, so I had been a little worried about being a newbie and a non-cartographer at the conference. However, that worry was entirely unnecessary, since the Society and everyone at the conference had created a wonderfully welcoming atmosphere for the many student delegates. I particularly enjoyed the sheer diversity of talks, spanning linguistics, archaeology, public health, urban architecture, threatened species, marine park usage, Captain James Cook and fictitious treasure maps! To me this diversity really highlights the universal value of maps: they allow us to visualize information, draw new insights, and above all, share our stories, irrespective of our field of work. Beyond the diversity of talks, the diversity of maps shown during the fascinating tour of the map collection was another highlight! The value of cataloguing this abundance of geographic, historic and cultural treasures – but also the sheer task of managing and digitizing the entire collection – became obvious in this unique behind-the-scenes look.

Mapping had already shaped my own PhD research, focusing explicitly on spatial patterns in coral reef ecology, but since the conference, I am even more keenly aware of the value of maps. In my discipline of coral reef ecology, it is crucial to communicate our ecological findings to reef managers and policy makers, who are ultimately responsible for implementing conservation strategies based on the best available evidence. After my experience in Canberra, I am now more convinced than ever that maps help in sharing the important stories. Hence, I will now include explicit “map-centric” sections in my thesis and want to explore other spatial communication tools, like StoryMaps. My supervisor is already worried that I converted from fish-dude to map-dude, but I believe there is value in straddling both. Thus, the conference was not only a fun couple of days, but has left a lasting impression on me and my work. At the conference, I was very honoured to receive the inaugural Australian and New Zealand Map Society Award for best student presentation. I am very thankful for the Society’s appreciation of my work, especially given how much I enjoyed the conference. But even more so, I’d like to commend the Society for establishing this award as a tool to further engage with students.

It was evident at the conference how much student contributions to the society are valued, especially since this year’s conference had a particular focus on student presentations. Given the recent developments in digital capabilities for mapping, using drones, GIS software, photogrammetry techniques and growing computing power, it seems that maps and spatial data are at the leading edge of research across many disciplines. I believe this is best highlighted in a notion shared by many of the student presents: “I didn’t use to be a map person, but while doing my research I realized I needed maps. So I went ahead and made one.” I think it is fantastic that the Society is forward looking and actively engaging with this growing wave of map-minded people. I’d like to thank the Society again for my award, and more broadly, for creating such a welcoming environment, hosting such an inspiring collection of talks and sharing your diverse and deep love for maps! I hope to see you again at one of the upcoming conferences.

Robert P Streit, PhD Candidate
Reef fish ecology and evolution lab,
James Cook University, Townsville,
Australia

Inaugural Student Prize Winner
‘Fish-dude to map-dude’

Image above: ANZMapS past President, Dr Martin Woods awarding the prize to winning student presenter Robert Streit
Photo: NLA

Image: A steephead parrotfish cleans excessive algae off the reef. And mapping where it feeds, matters. Photo: Robert Streit
Philanthropic Collaboration between USP & ANU

A Trans-Pacific friendship

The University of the South Pacific (USP), Laucala Campus library and CartoGIS Services staff from the Australian National University (ANU) have collaborated over the past 3 years to digitise the USP library’s Pacific map holdings. The objective of the project is to preserve, conserve and make accessible these map holdings.

The collaborative project began in late 2016 following a meeting between CartoGIS Services manager, Kay Dancey and Senior USP Librarian, Elizabeth Fong in Suva.

The collaboration is a low-cost, high-return project with the transporting of hardcopy maps dependent on the generosity of travelling scholars willing to carry maps between USP and ANU.

The first delivery of 20 maps arrived at the ANU with Dr Nic Halter, an ANU alumni, on his return home for Christmas. The maps were digitised, metadata collected and the hardcopies repackaged in time for Nic’s return for the start of the 2017 academic year. Since that initial transport, a total of 10 couriers have carried 348 items, guided by USP Pacific Librarian Gwen Rounds.

Along with the original hardcopy maps, the digital files are made available to USP for use on campus by staff and students. With USP’s agreement, any non-copyrighted digital map files are also lodged with the ANU Library’s Open Research Archive as part of the Asia-Pacific Map Collection.

The CartoGIS Services’ Asia-Pacific Digital Map Collection stems from a hardcopy map collection of 30,000 that originated within the ANU’s College of Asia and the Pacific in the 1950’s. At present, a third of this collection has been digitised with upcoming projects aimed at digitising the remainder of the hardcopy collection.

The success of the collaboration between the USP and ANU illustrates an economic philanthropic model that develops relations and assists in the preservation, conservation and access of valuable cultural material.

The ANU is looking to build other relationships and collaborations with interested Pacific institutions.

Jenny Sheehan
CartoGIS Services, ANU

Digitised USP maps include:
- large scale series maps of Honiara, Solomon Islands at 1:500
- 1:2 500 town maps of Luganville, Port Vila, Honiara, Fongafale, Tanawa
- Individual islands and atolls of the Ratak and Ralik Chains of the Marshall Islands
- 1:62 500 1943 series of Viti Levu, Fiji
- Tectonic maps of the Pacific
- 1876 Hydrographic chart of the Track of H.M.S. ‘Pearl’ during the last voyage of Commodore Goodenough

In 1990, a small team of artists produced an extraordinarily detailed map of inner Melbourne, with 3-D views of buildings, and quirky interpretations of scenes such as the River Yarra, its bridges, sports grounds, railway yards, piers, and many other landmarks. They called it The Magic Melbourne Map, and based their ideas on earlier panoramic views by artists such as A.C. Cooke and Samuel Calvert.

You may own a copy in black and white or colour, but do you also have the later version of The Melbourne Map, an entirely new map, updating the city’s vastly changed face to 2018? This has also been produced by the two original team members, Melinda Clarke and Deborah Young Monk, now with the addition of Lewis Brownlie as chief illustrator, and Sean Rodwell as digital colourist. Those of you who attended the ANZMapS Conference in Melbourne in 2016 may remember Melinda and Lewis giving a presentation on the process of creating the new map. As with the earlier one, they took thousand of photographs, notes and sketches, some from hot air balloons, the tops of city buildings, and from street level. Then Lewis began illustrating the map, first in pencil and afterwards in ink. After the first version was published in black and white, Sean joined the project and spent many months colouring the image digitally. Deborah created many of the character drawings that have been added using digital processes. These provide elements of humour, such as sports people on the playing fields, squawking seagulls, a Chinese dragon, and a Vegemite jar. They also provide the “Can you find?” challenge to those who search the map carefully.

Publication of The Melbourne Map was eventually achieved with the black and white version in 2018, and then the coloured version in 2019. Limited edition prints are available, and following popular demand, a 1000-piece jigsaw puzzle and a “Can you find?” perpetual calendar have just been released. While the map itself has been entirely designed and published in Australia, the team could not find an Australian company producing jigsaws, so used a New Zealand manufacturer for this.

The whole Melbourne Map project is a privately funded initiative, with the aid of a very successful crowd-funding campaign that includes donations to a charity. The result is an amazing representation of a city at a particular moment in time, but one which is still undergoing major changes.

It is a fascinating and attractive item to display on an office or living-room wall, and it will undoubtedly stimulate interest for all who study it.

Judith Scurfield
ANZMapS Committee member

Image: The Melbourne Map published by Melinda Clarke, illustrated by Lewis Brownlie with contributions from Deborah Young, City Maps Illustrated, Newtown, 2018
State Library of Victoria

UPDATE

Building redevelopment & organisational restructure

On 5 December the five year building redevelopment at SLV will be complete. Seating capacity has increased by 70% with 40% more space available to the public. The Ian Potter Queen’s Hall, the original reading room of the Library has been restored and will reopen for the first time in 16 years. There is also a new exhibition gallery, children’s library, and a dedicated space for budding entrepreneurs.

We have also undergone an organisational restructure. Collection format teams including Manuscripts, Pictures and Rare Books have been dissolved as have some subject based teams including Australian and Victorian Published Collections and Arts. Expertise from these teams formed the basis for my new team called Collection Curation and Engagement.

Recent acquisitions

- Biblia, dat is De gantsche H. Schrifture, vervattende alle de coinonijcke boecken des Ouden en des Nieuwen Testaments, Te Dordrecht by Pieter Keur, T Amsteldam, Pieter Rotterdam, 1719 – A Dutch bible featuring a world map that shows the Dutch charting of the Australian coastline in the first half of the 17th century, up to and including the voyage of Abel Tasman in 1642.
  - Global war map, Rand McNally c1944.
  - Sunday Sun Pacific War map, supplement to the Sunday Sun and Guardian, December 5, 1943.
  - The Melbourne Map published by Melinda Clarke, illustrated by Lewis Brownlie with contributions from Deborah Young, City Maps Illustrated, Newtown, 2018.

Recently digitised

Our Digital Archive Management System has been upgraded with migration ongoing. Throughout the implementation we’ve continued to digitise material which will shortly be uploaded the Library’s website.

- A large chart of the world ... probably executed in the time of Francis I of France, for his son the Dauphin, afterwards Henry II. These items are facsimiles of old Australian charts now in the British Museum, produced in 1885 by Vincent Brooks, Day & Son, London under the direction of the Trustees of the Free Public Library, Sydney, New South Wales, the Trustees of the Public Library, Museums, and National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne and the Board of Governors of the Public Library, Museum, and Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide.
- Swan River, Western Australia by Captain Walter Meriton of the East Indian Company Ship Atlace, 1816. The item above is a manuscript map with an intriguing provenance discovered last year through discussions with a number of institutions including NLA, the State Library of Western Australia, the State Records Office of Western Australia, the British Museum, the British Library and East India Archives in London.

Digitisation in progress

Approximately 1600 1:2500 scale Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works plans from the 1970-80s. This video was recently produced about the detail plans produced by the Board of Works from the 1890s onwards.

Sarah Ryan, Senior Librarian, SLV
Recent acquisitions

The Library has recently acquired Fernandez de Quirós Memorial No. 1, 14 Dec 1607, Madrid, the first and oldest of 14 known printed Memorials to King Phillip III of Spain. Pedro Fernandes de Quirós (1563–1615) was best known for his participation in Spanish voyages of discovery in the Pacific Ocean. In 1606 he landed on a large island (Vanuatu) which he mistook to be the famed great Southern Continent and named it Australia del Espiritu Santo. Quirós wrote at least 50 memorials (or ‘sponsorship’ requests) addressed to the Spanish King desperately seeking Royal support to fund his next expedition. The King did eventually promise funding for another voyage, but Quirós died shortly after arriving in Panama in 1614.

Future Events

Wednesday 5 February, 6pm-7pm
The state of the map
With Julie Sweetkind-singer

Today’s technologies allow people to use geospatial information in a variety of ways. This talk will explore ways data trapped in paper maps are being transformed into actionable information, how satellite imagery is being used to affect health outcomes, and how historical maps interact with imagery to compare the past with the future.

Julie is presenting this lecture in her role as a faculty member of the 2020 Sydney Summer Rare Book School.

Monday 2 March, 6pm-7pm
Frames that Speak: An Introduction to Cartographic Cartouches with Chet Van Duzer

The decorative frames on maps called cartouches were an important cartographic design element from the fifteenth to the nineteenth century and continue to be used on twenty-first century maps. In this talk Chet Van Duzer will discuss the early history and development of cartouches, examine some of their sources, and explain their symbolism of several remarkable cartouches in detail.

Chet is a Researcher in Residence at the John Carter Brown Library and a board member of the Lazarus Project at the University of Rochester, which brings multispectral imaging to cultural institutions around the world. He has published extensively on medieval and Renaissance maps.

Bookings

Save the date: Mapping the Pacific exhibition opening in July 2020

Pacific Islanders have been living in and crossing the Pacific Ocean for thousands of years. This exhibition will acknowledge the extensive knowledge of the Pacific community and explore the European mapping of the Pacific, over 300 years from the early 1500s.

The year 2020 is the 500th anniversary of Ferdinand Magellan’s entry into the Pacific and the 250th anniversary of James Cook’s extraordinary exploration and mapping of the Pacific from the north to the south.

The exhibition will celebrate the beauty, design and science of mapping and the outstanding collections of maps, charts, atlases and globes held within the Library’s vast collections.

Maggie Patton,
Manager Research and Discovery
SLNSW
National Library of Australia

UPDATE

There have been some significant changes in Maps at the NLA and more to come in the months ahead.

Of huge significance for Maps, the Library has commenced a whole of organisation restructure, the first in many years. For collection areas like Maps, the most obvious change is a move from format-based collecting and processing, to functional teams. Planning commenced in September and is now well under way. From mid-2020 this means there will be no Maps Section (or Pictures, Manuscripts, Oral History, Asian sections). This is momentous for us. Many of you will know that there has been a Maps section at the Library since about 1960, so it will be the end of an era. However, there will still be curators and subject specialists to play a part in the development of the Maps collection and map-related research. Existing Maps staff will be working out our new roles in coming months along with other Collection staff at the Library.

Big leap in digitisation

After three years, our two 'Modernisation' projects are concluding. 'Australian Maps Digitisation' and 'Maps Formed Collections' were managed by Rhys Cardew and Susie Russell respectively, and have contributed a huge amount of online content and improved access to many maps. In all, over 28,500 twentieth century maps have been scanned, mostly of Australian states and territories, including topographic, cadastral, and land use of various types. Approximately 30 'formed' collections were described, with improved access to collections formed around such identities as aviator Harry Lyon, geographer J S Cumpston, and geologist T W Edgeworth David.

Map Search pilot

In the past 6 months NLA IT and Maps staff have developed 'Map Search', an online search tool and geo-referencer. Map Search allows the user to view historical maps (mostly C20th parish and topographic) over open-source topo and street layers, to export geo-referenced maps, and even to edit features on maps. It's still in pilot phase and is available to test online, and we welcome any comments. It is planned to go into production in 2020.

Cultural landscape research

This year Maps hosted Dr Bess Moylan as a curatorial Fellow. Her 3-month project, 'Improving access to historical maps to support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders cultural landscape research', has had a profound impact in the way in which we use maps, describe them and make them available for indigenous researchers. Bess consulted widely and her report raised questions concerning map description, reinterpreting and redescribing content on maps, managing cultural sensitivities, issues around language attribution, consultation and sharing content with communities. Following submission of the report, many of the recommendations were incorporated into our work. And, as one of the outcomes of the project, the Library has commenced review of its collection of maps collected by the welfare worker and anthropologist Daisy Bates, acquired in the 1940s, which have considerable useful place information for Western and South Australia.

Dr Martin Woods,
Senior Curator,
Maps & Research Programs, NLA