AMC 2005 CONFERENCE

The Australian Map Circle’s 33rd Annual Conference was held at Graduate House, University of Melbourne from 6 to 9 February 2005. The conference was organised by Greg Eccleston with assistance from Barbara Wojtkowski, Ian Morden and David Jones. Besides a wide variety of papers, delegates visited the State Library of Victoria, the Department of Sustainability and Environment, the Public Record Office of Victoria and the Bureau of Meteorology. In addition there were visits to the Royal Botanic Gardens and the opening of an exhibition of Near Eastern maps from the University’s Walker Collection at the Baillieu Library. The AMC executive would particularly like to thank Greg Eccleston for his leadership in organizing the conference.

Photos from this and past conferences can be viewed at australianmapcircle.org.au/images/index.html

The 6th annual Estelle Canning Memorial Prize for the best paper presented at the conference, was awarded to Amy Griffin of ADFA, Canberra, for her paper “Can movement help map readers see clusters that move through space and over time?”

The 2006 conference is tentatively scheduled for Perth.

UPCOMING MAP CONFERENCES AND EVENTS

Society for the History of Discoveries, 15th annual prize essay contest
Deadline 1 May 2005.
Essays may deal with voyages, travels, biography, history, cartography, techniques and technology, or other aspects of discovery. www.sochistdisc.org/essay-contest.htm

IFLA Workshop on Paper Maps
The Geography & Map Libraries Section, Special Libraries Division, International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) announces a workshop on paper maps. Contact: David C. McQuillan, chair, IFLA Geography & Map Libraries Section davidmcq@sc.edu

Map Libraries in Transition II
Modeled on an earlier conference in 1993, and sponsored by the Cartographic Users Advisory Council (CUAC) and the Library of Congress Geography and Map Division (LCG&M), the conference will feature presentations and discussions focusing on current and future issues facing the providers of cartographic data. The conference will be held at the Library of Congress’ Madison Building. Planners are hoping to keep conference costs (and thus registration fees) at a minimum. Contact Paige Andrew pga2@psulias.psu.edu, Mary McInroy mary-mcinroy@uiowa.edu
The Australian Map Circle Inc. Newsletter. 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. Edited by Brendan Whyte. Please send reviews, notices and other items of general interest for inclusion in future Newsletters and The Globe to:

Brendan Whyte, The Australian Map Circle Inc, c/- Department of Geography, The University of Melbourne, VIC, 3010, AUSTRALIA Phone: (03) 8344 8484 Email: bwhyte@unimelb.edu.au

GST: 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 registered for and does not charge GST. Consequently, the AMC does not issue ‘tax invoices’, as these may only be issued by organizations that are registered for GST.

Oxford Seminars in Cartography 2005
2 June 2005, School Of Geography & the Environment, Oxford, UK
“Paper to pixels: the digital manipulation of The Gough Map”, Rob Watts (Bournemouth Uni/Digi-Data Technologies Ltd). Seminar begins at 5pm. Contact Nick Millea, ph 44-1865-287119, email nam@bodley.ox.ac.uk

XXII International Cartographic Conference
9-16 July 2005, A Coruña, NW Spain
This conference will feature an International Map Exhibition (Australia’s contributions are being coordinated by Prof. W. (Bill) Cartwright, RMIT), tours, papers and even a children’s programme. www.icc2005.org/html-eng/english.html

21st International Conference on the History of Cartography,
17-22 July 2005, Budapest, Hungary
The conference will feature papers, posters and workshops lazarus.elte.hu/~zoltorok/iche2005.htm

Spatial Sciences Institute Conference
12-16 September 2005, Melbourne, Vic.
This year’s theme is ‘Spatial Intelligence, Innovation and Praxis’. Call for papers: www.spatialsciences.org.au/Docs/Downloads/SSC2005_CFP_revise.pdf

“400 Years Mapping of Australia” Seminar
August 2006, Darwin, NT
Being organised by the Mapping Sciences Institute of Australia to be scheduled to coincide with arrival of the Duyfken replica and other events. Calling for paper now. Contact Trevor Menzies: ph 8-8946 6313, fx 8-8946 7088, email trevor.menzies@cdu.edu.au

1606-2006 Map Exhibition
September - November 2006, Curtin University Art Gallery, Perth, WA
Based on the Kerry Stokes and Woodside Valley map collections, and organized for the Australia on the Map 1606-2006 commemorations. www.australiaonthemap.org.au/eventswa.php

South Australian Map Exhibition
October 2006 - January 2007, Adelaide, SA
Ray Choate from Adelaide Uni is seeking South Australian members interested in participating in a exhibition of maps from South Australian public institutions and private collectors in 2006. Contact Ray Choate, University Librarian, Barr Smith Library, Adelaide University, Adelaide, South Australia 5005, ph 8-8303 4064, fax 8-8303 4369, email ray.choate@adelaide.edu.au
The Australian Map Circle
Estelle Canning Memorial Prize

1) The prize was endowed by Victor and Dorothy Prescott, in memory of the AMC’s Vice-President 1997-98, who passed away on 20 September 1999.
2) The prize consists of $250.00 and a certificate awarded to the author presenting the best paper, as judged by the AMC President, at each AMC Conference from 2000 to 2009.
3) The certificate will be awarded at the end of the conference.
4) The prize money will be sent to the winner once the winning paper:
   - is submitted for publication to *The Globe* Editorial Committee,
   - is corrected or amended by the winner as required by the editorial referees, and
   - is accepted for publication in *The Globe* by the Editorial Committee.

### Past Winners

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Conference</th>
<th>Winner</th>
<th>Title of Paper</th>
<th>Published</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>“Can movement help map readers see clusters that move through space and over time?”</td>
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</table>

MAPS ON THE WEB

[www.sunysb.edu/libmap/coordinates.htm](http://www.sunysb.edu/libmap/coordinates.htm) “Coordinates: Online Journal of the Map and Geography Round Table of the American Library Association”. Coordinates consists of two series of individually paginated articles. Series A consists of original peer reviewed articles. Series B consists of essays, project reports, technical notes, republished articles, and other materials of interest to the cartographic community. The initial issue is made up of four articles, including pieces by Mark Monmonier and David Rumsey. Articles are published individually as received. A wide range of articles will be accepted dealing with the history of cartography, GIS, maps on the Internet, map interpretation, map librarianship, and other subjects related to cartography.

[www.journalofmaps.com](http://www.journalofmaps.com) British-based free online “Journal of Maps”, designed to publish articles featuring large colour maps at which other journals would baulk. Registration is necessary to access the content, but this is a formality. First issue has several geological maps, and one titled “Mapping the British Motor Sport Industry in Northamptonshire”.

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Paste Winners

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Newsletter #93, March 2005
RECENT BOOKS mentioned or authored by AMC conference delegates


**MAP SHEETS, BOOKS & DVDs FOR SALE**

“*Water Map of Melbourne*”, $35, from Earth Systems, Suite 507, 1 Princess St, Kew, Vic 3101. Ph 3-9205 9515, email enviro@earthsystems.com.au. They have produced 3 other maps: World Environment, Australia Environment, and Australia Water maps.


**Gecko Maps**, Switzerland, do a nice map of Cambodia. They also have large scale topo maps of Mt Kailash, Tibet; Pik Lenin, Tajikistan; Island Peak, near Mt Everest, Nepal etc.

www.karto-atelier.com/d/index_1.html

**Geoscience Australia** has recently (mid-2004) produced topo maps of Ashmore Reef, Cartier Id. and nearby reefs/islands, as part of the standard 1:50,000 map series covering all of northern Australia. [For the July 2004 map index see www.ga.gov.au/image_cache/GA3338.pdf ]

Sheet numbers & titles:
- 3269-1 South Scott Reef
- 3270-2 North Scott Reef
- 3574-2 Hibernia Reef
- 3669-4 Browse (island)
- 3672-4 Cartier Islet

Note also that eight 1:100,000 topo sheets in and around Alice Springs are now available:
- 5550 Macdonnell Ranges
- 5551 Anburla
- 5650 Alice Springs
- 5651 Burt
- 5652 Bushy Park
- 5750 Undoolya
- 5751 Laughlen
- 5752 Alcoota


www.silkwormbooks.info/each_titles/e_thailand/atlas%20in%20Thailand.html


www.anadamanseapilot.com/index.htm

“*Bangkok & Vicinity A to Z atlas*” ISBN 9749200772, B280 in Thailand (~A$10). Maps in English and Thai. Has 1:50,000 maps of the greater Bkk area, city plan showing the new airport (to be completed c.2007/8), index in Thai, 1:25,000 central city maps, separate maps of expressways, subway/skytrain, postcodes, future roads. Covers Bangkok, Samut Sakhon, Samut Prakon, Nakhon Pathom, Nakhon Nayok, Pathum Thani, Nonthaburi

www.pnmap.thaipanit.com


*Newsletter #93, March 2005*


MAPS IN THE NEWS

NGA Invites Public Comment on Proposed Removal of Aeronautical Information from Public Sale & Distribution

www.nga.mil/NGASiteContent/StaticFiles/OCR/nga0411.pdf

The National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA) announced in November 2004 that it is considering withdrawing its Flight Information Publications (FLIP), Digital Aeronautical Flight Information File (DAFIF), and Navigation Planning Charts from public sale and distribution. NGA has proposed to implement the changes on 1 October 2005, but invites public comment on the proposed action until 30 June 2005.

Comments may be sent to:
National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency, Mail Stop D-111, Attn: Public Release of Aeronautical Products, 4600 Sangamore Road, Bethesda, MD 20816-5003, USA.  Email aero.ocr@nga.mil

The Agency is considering this action principally because increased numbers of foreign source providers are claiming intellectual property rights or are forewarning NGA that they intend to copyright their source. NGA relies on foreign data obtained through bi-lateral geospatial information sharing agreements and through direct purchase from private foreign companies. This foreign produced source is merged and integrated with NGA produced data to create and maintain the aeronautical data and products in question. NGA and its predecessor organizations (NIMA and DMA) have published DOD’s flight information products since the late 1940s to support the worldwide missions of DOD aircraft and have made some products available to the public since 1973. The publications are sold to the public through the auspices of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). NGA is a national intelligence and combat support agency whose mission is to provide timely, relevant, and accurate geospatial intelligence in support of national security. Geospatial intelligence is the exploitation and analysis of imagery and geospatial information to describe, assess, and visually depict physical features and geographically referenced activity on the earth. Headquartered in Bethesda, MD., NGA has major facilities in Washington DC, Northern Virginia, and St. Louis areas with NGA support teams worldwide.

[Note: This proposal means that the 1:500,000 Tactical Pilotage Charts and 1:250,000 Joint Operations Graphics, the only medium-scale mapping available for many countries, would be unavailable for purchase by libraries and individuals. The RAAF has already restricted the sale of these maps covering Australia, Indonesia and surrounds. A current catalogue of NGA’s aero charts is at naco.faa.gov/content/naco/catalog/pdf_files/NGA_Aero.pdf  Note the change of ordering procedure on the final page! Pdf files for the Dates of Latest Editions (DOL) for NGA and NACO aero and nautical charts are linked at www.naco.faa.gov/index.asp?xml=naco/doles  -Ed.]
Map Thief Peter Bellwood Sentenced To 4½ Years Jail On 22 Dec 2004 - BBC.

Peter Bellwood, a 52-year old former landscape gardener from Colchester, Essex, has been jailed by the Swansea Crown Court for 4½ years. Between March and August 2000, Bellwood used a razor to remove 50 pages from the Welsh National library’s rare Mercator and John Speed atlases. He then sold the maps to private collectors for £70,000. After his arrest in July 2004, he admitted six charges of theft.

For more on this story enter ‘Peter Bellwood’ into the search box at bbc.co.uk/news or go direct to news.bbc.co.uk/go/pr/fr/-/1/hi/wales/4118631.stm & news.bbc.co.uk/go/pr/fr/-/1/hi/wales/4117055.stm

Live In Your Own World…

The same developer that built “The Palm Islands” in Dubai (a giant island shaped like a palm surrounded by other islands forming a poem in Arabic) is now building “The World”, a 6x9km offshore map of the world (~1:4500 !!) guide.theemiratesnetwork.com/living/dubai/images/palm_location.jpg
guide.theemiratesnetwork.com/living/dubai/the_world_islands.php

MAPS ON THE WEB

map.search.ch/index.en.html A gorgeous zoom-able and pan-able satellite image street map of all of Switzerland.

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www.globalsecurity.org/eve/andaman-maps.htm Asian tsunami maps.

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www.reliefweb.int/rw/rwb.nsf/doc114?OpenForm Asian tsunami and other disaster maps.

***

members.aol.com/marismits/EurLinks.htm Links to online mapping sites for European countries from Andorra to Ukraine.

***

lazarus.elte.hu/hun/digkonyv/topo/3felmeres.htm The entire Austro-Hungarian 1:200,000 Mitteleuropa map series (WW1 era) scanned, and linked to a very nice online index. Great for family historians! Note: longitudes are based on Ferro, in the Azores, 17º 40' west of Greenwich.

***

www.genealogyunlimited.com/h-europe.html has a link to a poorer quality index for the above series, and info on how to obtain reproduction copies of the Austro-Hungarian 1:75,000 series (8 per 1:200,000 sheet).

***

wwp.greenwichmeantime.com/info/prime-meridian.htm A table of countries and which meridians they used before everyone adopted Greenwich (useful if the prime meridian it’s not obviously mentioned on an old map). Interesting to note that in exchange for adopting Greenwich, the Europeans expected the Brits to adopt metrics…

***

www.comics.com/webmail/ViewStrip?key=34855486-4d14aa3746-FF a recent ‘Rubes’ cartoon about maps.

***

learn.arc.nasa.gov/worldwind/ Seamless satellite images of the world.
SIGNIFICANT ACQUISITIONS
It has been a year of significant acquisitions for NLA Maps, including the following items:
(see Gateways online for more details on acquisitions at nla.gov.au/ntwkpubs/gatehome.html)

1) Richard Cushee - Matched pair of terrestrial and celestial globes; 1731;
   Call numbers Map Globe 6 and Map Globe 7 (see ‘Gateways’ April 2005)
   Terrestrial globe significant as it is the earliest printed English map to define the east coast of
   Australia, nearly 40 years before Cook.

2) Charles. F. Beautemps-Beaupre - Manuscript map of Australasia; 1796;
   Call number: Map rm 3852 nla.gov.au/nla.map-rm3852 (see ‘Gateways’ Feb 2005)
   One of three copies compiled by Beautemps-Beaupre on board the D’Entrecasteaux expedition
   to Australia. It shows the full extent of Dutch, French and British knowledge of the Australian
   coastline prior to Flinders voyage.

3) David Carnegie - Manuscript map of Wstn Australia 1894 & lithographed wall map 1897.
   Call numbers: Map rm 3850 nla.gov.au/nla.map-rm3850 and Map rm 3851 (not yet scanned).
   (See ‘Gateways’ Feb. 2005)
   Manuscript map Carnegie’s first WA expedition in 1894 and a lithographed wall map showing
   his more ambitious 1896-1897 expedition.

4) French world map compiled by A. Duplessy around 1780.
   Call number: Map rm 3803 nla.gov.au/nla.map-rm3803 ('Gateways'
   nla.gov.au/ntwkpubs/gw/72/map.html)
   A previously unknown single hemisphere world map titled Globe plat ou mappe-monde d’une
   projection nouvelle.

5) ‘Geographie’ Jigsaw puzzles by Hyacinthe Langlois 1841.
   Call number: Map rm 3827 ('Gateways' nla.gov.au/ntwkpubs/gw/72/map.html)
   A boxed set of jigsaw puzzles published in 1841, is a wonderful example of a French
   educational tool for teaching geography to young children.

6) Rare map of Pacific Ocean and the Americas, by Johannes Matalius Metellus 1589.
   Call number: Map rm 3826 ('Gateways' nla.gov.au/ntwkpubs/gw/72/map.html)
   Maris Pacifici vulgo mar del zur Terra Australis siue magelanica nondum detecta, by the
   French cartographer Johannes Matalius. Metellus’ Maris Pacifici vulgo mar del zur Terra
   Australis siue magelanica nondum detecta published in 1598, is the second oldest map of the
   Pacific and a reduced derivative of the Abraham Ortelius Maris Pacifici of 1589.

7) Early geological maps relating to Australia and New South Wales.
   Including Call number: Map rm 3776 nla.gov.au/nla.map-rm3776 ('Gateways'
   nla.gov.au/ntwkpubs/gw/70/maps.html)
   This significant collection of maps gathered by the geologist David Branagan during his
   working career, reflect the pioneering work of some of Australia’s early geologists and
   mineralogists. It includes Robert Brough Smyth’s First sketch of a geological map of Australia
   including Tasmania, 1875.

8) German School Atlas by K. Vogel around 1841.
   Call number: Map ra 291 (not yet scanned) ('Gateways'
   A very attractive, unusual and rare German school atlas issued in loose-leaf format and housed
   in a gilt-edged box. It consists of 16 hand-coloured maps of the continents of the world, with
   more detailed maps of parts of Europe.

9) Astronomia-Teutsch Astronomei, 1545.
   Call number: Map ra 290 nla.gov.au/nla.map-ra290 (see ‘Gateways’
A very rare and unusual mid-sixteenth century German astronomical work published by Cyriaco Jacob zum Barth at Frankfurt-am-Main in 1545. Written in Gothic German, the work is a detailed study of astronomy and features a windhead world map with the southern hemisphere landmass titled Australia—the proper noun form of the Latin word Australis.

NLA Renovations
As part of ongoing renovations of the LG1 level of the Library the Map reading Room through to the Map curator’s office received new carpet, with the Reading Room also freshly painted! This occurred prior to the International Web archiving conference held early November. The Newspaper Reading Room is currently undergoing similar renovations.

New Equipment and Services
- Copies Direct facility went live in May 2004. Readers are now able to place orders for photocopies and photographic copies of items from the Library’s collection via the Internet. By selecting the Copies Direct button from the catalogue details page of required item the system automatically transfers the relevant bibliographic details to the online order form. Once other details such as payment etc are complete the order arrives in the maps section. If the request is for rare material the reader will be directed to a photographic, ie digital file on CD.
- The Map Section PCs have had CD writers installed so the group can reproduce images on CD of NLA map collection material that is already scanned and available online. This means such requests can be supplied within three days instead of the nominal three week turnaround period required for photographic orders of hardcopy material.
- New digital microform readers with email facility are currently being installed in the Newspaper Reading Room and one in the Map Room.
- Australia's most famous manuscript, James Cook's Endeavour Journal is now available online nla.gov.au/nla.ms-ml

Maps in Series; Online Map index; Special Map Collections
- The Library plans to include records for individual mapsheets that are currently only catalogue maps in series to series level.
- Slow progress is being made with the concept of developing an online map index to the Library’s map series collection, which comprises about 2/3 of the collection or around 400,000 map sheets.
- Records of material in special collections such as Braga are also being gradually addressed to make such collections more accessible.

Update on Rare Maps and Atlases
- Digitisation 2004-05 and beyond. Almost all of the Nan Kivell, Ferguson & Tooley rare map collections have been scanned and are now available online via the NLA catalogue. From 2005 onwards the rare map collection will be digitised and it is envisaged that the scanning process will be complete in 3-4 years (current estimates of 1,000 rare map scans per year).
- Rare Atlas - analytics: One staff member and a volunteer are working on Rare Atlases to catalogue individual plates within loose-leaved and bound volumes. Each plate will include a brief record which will be linked to the main record details and vice versa via the catalogue. Notable works, such as the Doncker Sea Atlas of 1659 and the London Atlas by Arrowsmith have been scanned, others will eventually be available online.

Last but not least
Concept for ‘Maps Australia’ ‘Cartography Australia’ ‘Carto Australia’ ???? ‘Picture Australia’ is an Internet based service that allows you to search many significant online pictorial collections at the same time. Music Australia …..to be launched Feb 2005
1. Attendance & Apologies
Apologies: Michael Ross, Roger & Effie Rees, Maura O’Connor.

2. Minutes of the previous AGM.
The minutes of the 2004 AGM were circulated with the AMC Newsletter #91 March 2004 and were available at the meeting. Accepted (moved Victor Prescott, seconded John Knight).

3. Matters arising from the minutes.
None except as dealt with below.

4. President’s Report (John Cain)
The executive met several times during the year, linking to Adella Edwards by telephone. Apart from this year’s conference organisation, the main business was attempting to find future conference hosts.

5. Business Manager’s Report (Marie Morden)
- After a $2274.43 surplus in 2003, the AMC reported a $893.61 deficit for 2004.

<table>
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<th></th>
<th>2003</th>
<th>2004</th>
<th>General Account</th>
<th>2003</th>
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<tr>
<td>Income</td>
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<td>11,184.65</td>
<td>11,417</td>
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<tr>
<td>Expenditure</td>
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<td>12,078.26</td>
<td>20,949</td>
<td>21,977</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surplus (Deficit)</td>
<td>$2,274.43</td>
<td>($893.61)</td>
<td>TOTAL ASSETS</td>
<td>$32,366</td>
<td>$31,922</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- The accounts were audited by Law, Little and Associates.
- The accounts were accepted (moved Marie Morden, seconded John Spring)
- Marie Morden also asks that members write your credit card numbers carefully on your renewal and conference forms. Every year some are badly written and the AMC pays transaction costs attempting to process them.

Discussion:
The deficit for 2004 is partly due to a $500 donation to the NZMS to help with the 2004 joint conference, and a decline in membership receipts. This decline is partly attributable to the fact that we send out invoices for each year around Dec/Jan, so that a year’s subscriptions are not necessarily received in that calendar year: some 2005 subscriptions were received in 2004, and some for 2004 in 2003 etc. Nevertheless, the secretary is chasing up non financial members.

- It should be noted that printing and postage, over half our expenditure, covers the Globe and newsletters and other mail-outs to members. The two Globe issues sent in 2004 were fractionally over the 250g weight limit, so that postage for them was much more expensive than anticipated. The Globe committee are aware of this and endeavouring to keep issues below 250g.

- It was suggested by Greg Eccleston that membership fees might be raised having been static for many years, & by John Knight that a tickable donation box be added to annual invoices. The executive feels however that fees are adequate to cover our costs, and that as we are a non-profit organisation, this small deficit is no cause for panic after several surpluses. In addition to the current account, we retain over $20,000 in term deposit.
6. Publications Report (John Cain and Brendan Whyte)

**Membership.**
- Our membership list currently includes 201 members, hardly changing from last year. Invoices for 2005 were recently posted. About 20 members are not expected to renew in 2005. 85 members were paid up for 2005 as of Saturday 5 February.

**The Globe.**
- The Globe editorial committee consists of Victor Prescott, John Cain, Greg Eccleston and Brendan Whyte. *The Globe* #55, was posted out in late February. A second 2004 issue, #56, was posted in December, after some delay. We remind members that while we aim to produce two issues a year, publication frequency is one or two issues a year, due to the work involved for the Editorial Committee, and the somewhat erratic number and timing of contributions.
- The Globe is now available via non-exclusive electronic subscription through APAIS (Australian Public Affairs Information Service) and InfoRMIT (RMIT publishing) based in Australia, and during 2004 the Globe committee agreed to sign up for similar agreements with two American publishers, H.W.Wilson of New York and Gale Thompson of Detroit. While RMIT are sent a digital copy of the Globe, the other publishers scan the paper version themselves.
- Bill Stinson suggested EBSCO’s Australian and NZ Reference Centre be approached to publish the Globe electronically. Brendan Whyte noted that all electronic publication to date has been initiated by the publishers.

**Newsletter**
- Brendan Whyte, prepares the Newsletter. Two issues were produced in 2004: #91 in March and #92 in September. Back issues are available on the AMC website. Members are encouraged to contribute items for the Newsletter.

amcircle@yahoogroups.com
- The AMCircle email list continues to prove an excellent way to redistribute surplus maps between libraries and individuals, as well as to communicate events and news items of interest, and to help map librarians obtain answers to patron queries. Traffic remains steady at just under 40 messages per month. At 5 February 2005 the list had 101 members, up two from last year, with an additional 13 whose email accounts are currently ‘bouncing’. The moderators are Adella Edwards, John Cain and Brendan Whyte.

australianmapcircle.org.au
- The AMC website also remains popular, with conference details and back issues of the Newsletter available. The Secretary and President receive a small but steady number of enquiries about the group and maps in general from around the world as a result of the site. The website is maintained by John Cain.

7. Branch reports

**Melbourne:** hosted a Christmas dinner at Graduate House, and a trip to a volcano exhibition in the Baillieu Library at Melbourne University.
- John Cain reminded the meeting that the executive encourages the formation of local branches and is happy to help with mail outs or seeding funds, but the initiative and organisation for local groups must be local.

8. Returning Officer’s report (David Jones)
The incumbent executive were returned unopposed: President John Cain, Vice-President Adella Edwards, Secretary Brendan Whyte, Business Manager Marie Morden. Dorothy Prescott noted that at only one previous AGM had a vote been necessary.

- No offers to host the 2006 or 2007 conferences had been received. The executive hope to have conferences in the near future in Adelaide and Perth, both cities where no conference has been held for over 15 years.
- 2006: Perth would be a good venue for 2006 to tie in with the VOC [Dutch East India Company] Society over there, the Batavia wreck in Fremantle, etc, all pertinent to the *Australia on the Map 1606-2006* celebrations. Adella Edwards also mentioned a possible MSIA-organised seminar in Darwin in mid-2006 to coincide with the proposed visit by the *Duyfken* replica. The only WA member who has offered to help with the conference is Kylie Smith at the WA State Library. Amy Griffin from ADFA kindly offered to coordinate the conference organisation, with support offered by the executive.

- 2007: Adelaide is a possible venue for 2007, as Ray Choate, librarian, of Adelaide Uni has contacted the AMC regarding a proposed map exhibition to be held there late 2006-early 2007. He suggested that conferences could tie in with it, as the Bibliographic Soc of Australia & NZ may do. Brendan Whyte will keep in touch with him regarding this. We have previously had offers of a venue (but no organisational assistance) from the SA State Library. Bill Stinson indicated willingness to help organise an Adelaide conference. [see Upcoming Map Conferences column in this Newsletter. -Ed.]

- Gerry Clarke asked if the conference could be held in school holidays, not outside, to make it easier for families with children to attend. John Cain replied that conferences held outside school holidays made venue, accommodation and transport bookings much easier and cheaper. Thus February was a good time because while schools were back, universities were not, so colleges were available as venues/accommodation, and university staff were more likely to be available. Brendan Whyte was asked to conduct a survey in the next newsletter as to members’ preferences.

**10. Other Business.**

1. Automatic distribution of new maps to State libraries [Judith Scurfield]. This issue was partly answered by the conference speakers from Geoscience Australia and Victoria’s DSE. GA will deposit only with the NLA, because it is legally required to. State libraries will have to buy material they require, even of their own state. But the occasional free CDs are not enough in quantity or quality for archival purposes. Perhaps the Council of State Librarians should write to GA requesting that material covering each state be deposited with state libraries, if national coverage is too excessive a demand.

2. Withdrawal of US aeronautical charts from sale [initially raised on AMCircle by Brendan Whyte]. While not directly affecting us, librarians and users of NGA maps such as JOGs, TPCs, ONCs, etc should submit feedback to the NGA. Brendan Whyte to report the feedback URL to AMCircle. [see Maps in the News column in this Newsletter - Ed.]

3. NLA report by Maura O’Connor [presented by Teresa Donnellan]: Reproduced above.

4. The meeting indicated strong support for a ‘Maps Australia’ concept of online digitized maps from many libraries, accessible from one search engine, similar in concept to the NLA’s ‘Pictures Australia’.

5. Poor state of Victorian parish plans etc. held by DSE - not catalogued, no plans to restore the ones in poor condition [Greg Eccleston]. Greg had seen many old maps in less than adequate storage in the DSE basement. He has spoken with the Phillipa Nelson of the Public Records Office of Victoria, who will liaise with the Surveyor General about having them deposited with the PROV. Greg will draft a letter for the AMC to send if required.

6. The meeting congratulated Assoc. Prof. Bernie Joyce on his recent promotion (Dec 2004).

7. John Spring suggested that topics such as those discussed above in ‘Other Business’ be kept as a hot topic list to give conference organisers ideas for speakers to invite.

**Close of Meeting 3:40pm**