

**msia**  
mapping sciences institute, australia

ICA member  
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eCARTO newsletter

JUNE, 2009

An occasional electronic newsletter for members of the MSIA – contributions welcome.

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If you have any brief items of interest to fellow MSIA members please email them to [david.fraser@rmit.edu.au](mailto:david.fraser@rmit.edu.au) for eCARTO. If you have more substantial articles please send them to [greg.heron@nt.gov.au](mailto:greg.heron@nt.gov.au) for your magazine "Mapping Sciences National".

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[PLEASE INVITE ONE PERSON TO BECOME A MEMBER OF THE MSIA.](http://www.mappingsciences.org.au/member.htm)

Membership application can be undertaken by visiting  
<http://www.mappingsciences.org.au/member.htm>

### **Conference awareness**

#### **GIS Defence & Security Strategies For Central & Eastern Europe**

29<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> September, 2009, Marriot Hotel, Prague, Czech Republic

The CEE region is currently developing its GIS infrastructure and strategies to integrate with the rest of Europe and NATO. We have launched [DGI CEE 2009](#) to provide a great opportunity for you to hear from top level GIS executives in the region and to find new ways of working together in Europe.

#### **Gi4DM 2010 Conference**

February 2-4, 2010

<http://www.gi4dm-2010.org/dates.php>

Remote Sensing and Geo-Information for Environmental Emergencies

Centro Congressi "Torino Incontra"

Torino - Italy

[www.gi4dm-2010.org](http://www.gi4dm-2010.org)

### **Australia - Cartographers of Renown project**

Adam Ladhams has included on our website (<http://www.mappingsciences.org.au/>) a poll so that votes can be lodged for Australia's Most Renown Cartographers. Click on the "[Who is Australia's Most Renown Cartographer? VOTE HERE](#)" text and then click on the radio button to the left of the name to record your preference (see form below).

Many thanks go to Adam for this initiative.

**Who is Australia's Most Renown Cartographer?**

- 17th CENTURY - Hessel Gerritz
- 18th CENTURY - Matthew Flinders
- 18th CENTURY - Major Mitchell
- 19th CENTURY - John Arrowsmith
- 20th CENTURY - Bernie Goodrich
- 20th CENTURY - Lawrence Fitzgerald (Brigadier)
- 20th CENTURY - Edgeworth David
- 20th CENTURY - Frank Bryant
- 20th CENTURY - Robert (Bob) Williams
- 20th CENTURY - Don Pearce
- 20th CENTURY - William Cartwright
- 21st CENTURY - Yans (Google)
- Other

Please Specify:

### Mapping Australia

Captain James Cook, the English explorer, navigator and cartographer, made three epic voyages around the world. Cook emerged as a superb navigator, one who could best be relied upon to find any southern lands (*Australia*) as he was an outstanding cartographer and would be able to map it accurately.

<http://dl.screenaustralia.gov.au/module/1320/>

### Young Cartographers Group

Can a couple of young members get together and form the foundation of a new “Young Cartographers” group within the MSIA? If you can do this then the MSIA National Council will resource the initiative and provide support for your activities. The group will be allocated a webpage on the MSIA site and news from the group will appear in the eCARTO newsletter and the Mapping Sciences National magazine. Contact David Fraser if you wish to organise this group.

### Salary Survey Report for Job: Cartographer (June 2009)

#### Median salary by years experience

[A median is the number separating the higher half of a sample from the lower half]

<u>Australia</u>	1-4 years	5-9 years	10-19 years	20 years or more
Cartographer	\$40,500 (AUD)			\$54,000
GIS Officer	\$42,000			\$63,000
Land Surveyor	\$46,000	\$51,000	\$64,000	\$72,000
<u>U.S.A</u>	1-4 years	5-9 years	10-19 years	20 years or more
Cartographer	\$42,383 (AUD)	\$79,530	\$60,878	\$79,706

Source: <http://www.payscale.com/research/AU/Job=Cartographer/Salary>

Looking for a job in the spatial sciences industry? Go to GISjobs Australia ([www.GISjobs.com.au](http://www.GISjobs.com.au)) which provides recruitment, training and consulting services around Australia dedicated to the spatial industry.

### SSSI Dialogue

On Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> June, David Fraser (MSIA) had a relaxed chat with Chris Pettit (Convener of the Spatial Information/Cartography Commission of the SSSI) on ways that we could work

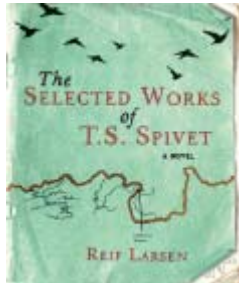
together in the future. We decided to move forward slowly and engage in some 'lite' cooperation where there is mutual benefit in doing so.

## **MSIA Member Contributions**

The following information was obtained from articles supplied by Richard Miller (MSIA) who is the cartographer and map curator at the University of Wollongong. Thanks Richard!

### **1. The Selected Works of T.S. Spivet**

by [Reif Larsen](#)



What a completely original and mind-boggling book, with heart, soul - and maps! I defy anyone not to be hooked and beguiled Roger Bratchell, Marketing Director

T.S. Spivet is a 12-year-old genius mapmaker who lives on a ranch in Montana. His father is a tight-lipped cowboy and his mother is a scientist who for the last twenty years has been looking for a mythical species of beetle. His brother has gone, his sister *seems* normal but might not be, and his dog – Verywell – is going mad.

It's odd, but then families are. T.S. makes sense of it all by drawing beautiful, meticulous maps kept in innumerable colour-coded notebooks: maps of the countryside, maps of his family's behaviour, maps of animal and plant life. He is brilliant, and the Smithsonian Institution agrees, though when they telephone with news that he has won a major scientific prize they don't suspect for a minute that he is twelve years old

<http://www.randomhouse.co.uk/catalog/book.htm?command=Search&db=main.txt&eqisbndata=184655277X>

### **2. Jewels in the Crown - A History of the Bridge Street Plan Room and Crown Plans 1788 - 2008**

**published by:** NSW Department of Lands

*'Jewels in the Crown - A History of the Bridge Street Plan Room and Crown Plans 1788 - 2008'* has been produced as part of the scanning project, preserving the unique history of the building, the BSPR and the plans.

<http://www.heritageaustralia.com.au/bookreviews.php?id=5>

### **3. Last Titanic Survivor Dies**

"Millvina Dean, the last surviving passenger on the Titanic, has died in England at the age of 97. .... 'According to enthusiasts' website Encyclopedia Titanica, Ms dean worked for the government as a cartographer during World War II and then for an engineering company."

(Illawarra Mercury, Tuesday June 2, 2009)

<http://www.encyclopedia-titanica.org/>

## **LinkedIn.com**

<http://www.linkedin.com/>

*"LinkedIn is an interconnected network of experienced professionals from around the world, representing 170 industries and 200 countries. You can find, be introduced to, and collaborate with qualified professionals that you need to work with to accomplish your goals."*

David Fraser has just become a member of LinkedIn and has created an MSIA group which other LinkedIn members can join. He invites you to become a member of LinkedIn and join the MSIA group. This does not replace the MSIA website but provides another way of letting professionals within Australia, and around the world, know of our existence and of the activities we undertake. The site also allows members to open up discussion topics. You are also kept up-to-date with the latest MSIA news since any changes made on the MSIA group site will be sent to you automatically by email.

## **International Cartographic Association news**

The June 2009 newsletter of the ICA can be found at

[http://www.cartography.org.nz/ica/ica\\_news/ica\\_news\\_52\\_2009\\_1\\_lq.pdf](http://www.cartography.org.nz/ica/ica_news/ica_news_52_2009_1_lq.pdf)

The 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration for the International Cartographic Association was held in Bern, Switzerland in June. Professor William Cartwright (FMSIA), President of the ICA, presented at this gathering (See photograph).



ICA was founded June 9, 1959, in Bern, Switzerland. Preparatory conferences, during which its foundation was discussed, were held from 1956-1959: the Esselte conference, Stockholm 1956, the Rand McNally conference, Chicago 1957 and the DGfK conference, Mainz (Germany) 1958. The first General Assembly was held in Paris in 1961: that is also when the statutes were accepted. Later conferences have been held around the world from India (Delhi, 1968) to South Africa (Durban 2003), from Italy (Stresa, 1970) to Mexico (Morelia, 1987), from Australia (Perth, 1984) to China (Beijing 2001) and in many other locations.

The international nature of ICA activity has also been reflected by the work of its Commissions and Working Groups over many decades, under the leadership of many different people and in many different places. These organisations have addressed the full range of scientific, technical and social research which is the mark of ICA activity.

Throughout its 50-year history, ICA has brought together researchers, government mapping agencies, commercial cartographic publishers, software developers, educators, earth and environmental scientists, and those with a passion for maps. The cartographic world has

changed significantly since 1959 – the role and impact of ICA has been steadfast. Proud of its traditions, ICA looks forward to the next 50 years: we hope they will be as vibrant and valuable as the first 50 years.

### **And the winner is.....EARTH atlas**

In the March issue of eCARTO it was reported that Mr Damien Demaj gave a presentation at the AMC / MSIA National conference about the production of, **EARTH, the largest atlas in the world**. The EARTH atlas has now won the prestigious award, “Australian Book Of The Year” at the 33rd Galley Club Awards held on 19th June 2009 (Sydney, Australia). EARTH also won the category of best produced limited edition book. Millennium House congratulates all of the cartographers from the International Cartographic Association that helped contribute to this publication.

[http://www.mapstop.co.uk/product251\\_Earth-Atlas---Millennium-House.aspx](http://www.mapstop.co.uk/product251_Earth-Atlas---Millennium-House.aspx)

## **SECTION 2: SPECIAL FEATURE - Mapping in the News**

*(Go to each link below for more information on the article)*

### **Heading in the right direction**

Kim Thomas, Guardian

June 11, 2009

Imagine that you have your own personal travel guide. It has satellite navigation, so when you get into your car it can direct you to where you want to go. Before you arrive you will know which of the town car parks have spaces left. And when you've finally parked the car, take your guide with you and it will direct you, on foot, to your final destination.

For anyone who has found themselves stuck in a traffic jam, or has been unable to find a car park in a busy town centre, or has got lost on foot, it sounds too good to be true. Yet the technology to make it happen is already here. So why aren't we all carrying such a device in our pockets? (Go to link)

<http://www.theage.com.au/news/digital-life/mobiles--handhelds/articles/in-the-right-direction/2009/06/09/1244313140163.html>

### **US deal puts tech company on map**

**Bridie Smith**

June 15, 2009



Southbank-based Maptel has secured a \$600 million contract to digitise data collection for the US census, using its ArcPad software. *Photo: Joe Armao*

A MELBOURNE technology company that designed software used to record the location of properties destroyed in the February bushfires has landed a lucrative deal with the United States Government.

Maptel, a Southbank-based company that specialises in mobile mapping systems, has secured a major slice of a five-year, \$600 million contract to digitise data collection for US authorities. Known as ArcPad, the software will be used in the US census to verify and update the addresses of 145 million households, as well as lock in the GPS co-ordinates for each household before the count next year.

The hand-held devices use GPS technology for data capture, rather than navigation.

"It's more thinking about maps as a geographic database," Mr Slavik said. (Go to link)

<http://business.theage.com.au/business/us-deal-puts-tech-company-on-map-20090614-c7fa.html>

## **Amateur spies put North Korea on the map**

Asher Moses

June 2, 2009 - 12:24PM

A group of amateur spies has used Google Earth to provide a rare glimpse inside North Korea, one of the world's most secretive countries.

By default the Google Earth map of North Korea is completely bare, with no roads or landmarks labelled.

Over two years, US doctoral student Curtis Melvin and other volunteers pored over news reports, images, accounts, books and maps painstakingly identifying and locating thousands of buildings, monuments, missile-storage facilities, mass graves, secret labour camps, palaces, restaurants, tourist sites, main roads and even the entrance to the country's subterranean nuclear test base.

The result, [North Korea Uncovered](#), is one of the most detailed maps of North Korea available to the public today. The small file, which can be installed on top of Google Earth, has been downloaded more than 47,000 times since an updated version was released last month. (Go to link)

<http://www.theage.com.au/news/home/technology/amateur-spies-put-north-korea-on-the-map/2009/06/02/1243708441374.html>

## **Melting snow prompts border change between Switzerland and Italy**

By Peter Popham in Rome

Tuesday, 24 March 2009

Global warming is dissolving the Alpine glaciers so rapidly that Italy and Switzerland have decided they must re-draw their national borders to take account of the new realities.

The border has been fixed since 1861, when Italy became a unified state. But for the past century the surface area of the "cryosphere", the zone of glaciers, permanent snow cover and permafrost, has been shrinking steadily, with dramatic acceleration in the past five years. This is the area over which the national frontier passes and the two countries have now agreed to have their experts sit down together and hash out where it ought to run now.

Daniel Gutknecht, responsible for the co-ordination of national borders at Switzerland's Office of Topography, said "the border is moving because of the warmer climate", among other reasons.

(Go to link)

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/europe/melting-snow-prompts-border-change-between-switzerland-and-italy-1653181.html>



## **New sections of China's Great Wall uncovered**

7:18PM Monday Apr 20, 2009

BEIJING - The Great Wall of China is even greater than once thought.

A two-year government mapping study has uncovered new sections of the ancient Chinese monument that total about 180 miles (290 kilometers), according to a report posted on the State Bureau of Surveying and Mapping website.

Using mapping technologies such as infrared range finders and GPS devices, experts discovered portions of the wall - concealed by hills, trenches and rivers - that stretch from Hu Mountain in northern Liaoning province to Jiayu Pass in western Gansu province, the official China Daily reported Monday. (Go to link)

[http://www.nzherald.co.nz/world/news/article.cfm?c\\_id=2&objectid=10567611](http://www.nzherald.co.nz/world/news/article.cfm?c_id=2&objectid=10567611)

## **Google mines online searches to map flu in Mexico**

April 30, 2009 - 10:13AM

Google.org has begun using flu-related internet search traffic in Mexico to create an online map that might provide clues to how influenza is spreading in that country.

The internet giant's philanthropic arm has been doing the same for the United States at its <http://www.google.org/flu-trends/> website since late 2008 but global spread of an influenza strain traced to Mexico prompted a longer reach.

"We launched Google Flu Trends after finding a close relationship between how many people search for flu-related topics and how many people actually have flu symptoms," Google software engineers Jeremy Ginsberg and Matt Mohebbi said in a blog post at the California firm's website. (Go to link)

<http://www.theage.com.au/news/technology/web/google-mines-online-searches-to-map-flu-in-mexico/2009/04/30/1240982316070.html>

## **Mapping Piracy**

New York Times, Catherine Rampell <sup>⊥</sup>

April 14, 2009, 4:45 pm

For those following the Somali piracy stories, the International Maritime Bureau in the USA has a live map of piracy incidents around the world, which includes details on each attack.

In 2005, Southeast Asia seemed to be the epicenter of piracy, whereas Somalia's coastline has been dominating the piracy trade this year. Still, the pirates in Southeast Asia seem to have a higher success rate, given the ratio of red pointers (actual attacks) to yellow pointers (attempted attacks) in each region. (Go to link)

<http://economix.blogs.nytimes.com/2009/04/14/mapping-piracy/?scp=2&sq=mapping&st=cse>

## **Geographical Curiosity**

Working on projects related to the Gippsland Lakes (left image) in Victoria and the Hue lagoon in central Vietnam, David Fraser noticed the similarity between the geographies of these two areas. Colleagues in Hue were so taken by the similarity that they requested a visit to the Gippsland Lakes when visiting Victoria a while ago.



Gippsland Lakes, Victoria



Hue Lagoon, Vietnam