Welcome, all, to this, the Summer edition of Maplines, admittedly a touch tardy, as for many of you, our summer months are well and truly behind us and we are now turning our attention once again to ensuring the wood stores are fully stocked and chimneys have been swept. But that is all to come.

For now, let us reflect on what has been a good summer for us here at Maplines and for BCS in general. Our anniversary year has been enjoyed by many and the Symposium yet again proved to be a big success with our membership – full details on pages 10-13.

Over the years, Maplines has developed from a black and white, short newsletter into the full colour magazine that it is today and, as we all embark on the next 50 years of BCS, wondering in which direction we might be heading, here at Maplines we too are evolving. We are delighted to now be working with PV Publications and we hope that together with their input and skills we can continue to develop the magazine and all its features to the needs of the Society. If you have not done so already, do read their message from Managing Director, Stephen Booth (below) and do get in touch with us with any comments you may have regarding the subject.

Finally, thanks must go to Stephen Low, one of our readers, who contacted us after the publication of our previous issue and had this to say. "Now it may be coincidence that both BCS and BBC’s Dr. Who both celebrate their 50th anniversary this year but something strange seems to have happened to the geographic space time continuum; that the National Grid has ripped open and distorted geospace itself. It may well be worth BCS further investigating this phenomenon it first reported in Maplines Spring 2013, page 9 (Mapping the Meridian). The image displayed of Greenwich park and beyond may well have been taken by Boris Johnson (Major of London) asking for the Society’s Carto-time travellers to check out why the O2 Arena appears now to exist in duplicate. Perhaps as Greenwich Park was being prepared for the Olympic Games in 2012, this was a secret attempt by LOCOG to add extra ticket capacity for the Gymnastics and Basketball events later that year.* Rest assured, Stephen, our geospace time travellers have now visited the site and have concluded all is well again, noting that only the National Grid was indeed a little ‘spongy’ in that sector.

Thank you, once again, to all who have contributed to this issue, and should you feel like getting in touch with us, then don’t hesitate to do so.

Adam
On behalf of Martin, Mark and Adam.

Notes from our President

I started primary school in January 1963 during the very celebration of the Olym pic Games, and my memory is that it was no time to be going to school in short trousers! A few months later some wise people had the idea of founding the British Cartographic Society and here we are 50 years on and still going strong. Indeed, it can be argued that we are going stronger than ever, with membership numbers on the increase and a very healthy turn out of almost 150 delegates at the Symposium this year.

There is obviously still a great interest in cartography as evidenced by the many books on maps that adorn our bookshelves and a huge amount of discussion and debate on the internet on all aspects of making, updating and publishing maps or perhaps more broadly ‘cartographic output’. We all probably have in our mind’s eye what we know as a map but, with the changing technology, so our understanding of what a map is will change. Paper maps remain important and despite the occasional headline including phrases such as ‘old-fashioned’ they are here to stay for quite some time yet.

The big growth area, however, is in digital mapping, especially in the mobile device market. The majority of mobile phone users will have a ‘map app’ that they will use in the same way as the more traditional paper map – to know ‘where they are’ and ‘where they are going’. As we begin to see tablets and other portable devices begin to out-sell laptops and desktops, these apps will proliferate and ‘the experts’ predict that this particular market sector will grow by almost 14% to 2016.

A major strength that the BCS has is that many of the key UK players are Society members and in recent years we have actively engaged with this new cartographic community to maintain our influence and relevance.

In our anniversary year it is inevitable that we reflect on our past as well as look forward. The BCS 50th anniversary book has selected news stories from each of the last 50 years and illustrated them with related maps and images – my thanks go to the production team who have worked on this tirelessly, they have done a splendid job. The 50th anniversary special issue of the Cartography Journal has also recently appeared adding to the celebrations. As Ken Field notes in his editorial it is ‘high-quality, thought-provoking and cutting edge content’. Cartographic in all its forms remains in very rude health.

As promised, I am ‘tweeting’ regularly and I now have over 30 followers, small fry at the moment but steadily growing. I also hope that you are finding the monthly bulletin, available via the website, interesting and entertaining. I welcome any contributions, so if you spot an interesting or quirky map-related story please let me know. Tweet me!

Pete Jones
BCS President

There are several ‘big’ events still to come in our anniversary year, including talks by Jack Dangermond, the Esri President, at the RAF Club in London and Chris Fleet from the National Library of Scotland in Edinburgh. Our EGM and AGM take place on Monday 25th November at the British Library and will be followed by a talk by BBC presenter and author Nicholas Crane. Further details of all these are available elsewhere in this issue.

I hope to see you there!

From the Editors

"PV Publications is delighted that BCS has entrusted us with the production and publication of Maplines. We believe this magazine provides a lively and informative platform for readers, allowing you to contribute with editorial and advertise relevant services. We look forward to a fruitful co-operation with BCS to help grow Maplines’ readership and financial sustainability."

– Stephen Booth, Managing Director

For details of advertising opportunities and rates, please contact Sharon Robson at sharon@pvpubs.demon.co.uk.

Contents

The Magazine of the British Cartographic Society (Registered Charity No. 240034)
Volume 19, 2nd Issue – Summer 2013

Maplines Regulars
p.14 Omnimium Gatherum
p.19 Corporate News
p.19 BCS Admin
p.20 Quiz

Also in this Issue...p.16 ICC Dresden Report
p.18 Cambridge Conference Report

If you would like to sponsor the Maplines Quiz please contact the Editors.

A Black Country Experience
What do a concrete narrowboat and RMS Titanic have in common?

7 Map Or No Map? Are smart phones and iphdes the solution to deficiencies in tourist maps?

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8 Japan’s Lost Homes Project

Pete Jones reports back from a presentation on the Great East Japan Earthquake.

10 Today, Tomorrow & Beyond
Highlights from the 50th BCS Annual Symposium held in September.

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All Symposium photography © Martin Lubikowski, ML Design
What do a concrete narrowboat and RMS Titanic have in common? Delegates who signed up for A Black Country Experience will know the answer straight away. The rest of you will have to read on.

Most people would immediately link Ironbridge with the Industrial Revolution in this country but not realise that the Black Country was in the forefront of industrial innovation and manufacturing. In fact, one Abraham Derby Esq, he of blast furnace fame, was born in a manor house on Wren’s Nest in the heart of the region in 1678. At one time it was said that if something wasn’t made in the Black Country or surrounding area it wasn’t made anywhere else in the World. Walsall was famous for its saddles, Willenhall for its locks and keys, Bilston and Cradley Heath for chains and nails and so on.

As part of its 50th anniversary celebrations, the British Cartographic Society organised a two-day trip to the Black Country to reveal the hidden gems that most drivers rushing past on the M5 motorway would have no idea are there. Local writer and broadcaster, Graham Fisher MBE, escorted us through an exploration of the area’s rich industrial heritage from the first canals built for transportation of mineral ores to the mass manufacturing of glass, its demise and the rise of artisan glassmaking.

The two-day programme was packed with activity bringing together the geology of the area with mineral exploitation and subsequent industrial manufacturing – from the region’s origins over 420 million years ago to present day artisan glassmaking. Despite Graham being under special instruction to restrict his usual Black Country humour and accent, the group mainly understood him and was entertained regally for the duration. The final denouement was the unveiling of the 2012 Portland Vase, made in 2012 to showcase that glassmaking and decorating skills are still extant in the area despite the closure of all the major glassworks over the years.

We are most grateful to all the venues for their warm welcome and good old Black Country hospitality and thanks, too, to our host, Graham Fisher MBE who worked tirelessly to keep us entertained. But the greatest appreciation must go to Ian Dury of Stourbridge Glass Engravers, project coordinator of the 2012 Portland Vase Project who kindly delivered several pieces of cameo glass for us to see – even the spectacular 2012 Portland Vase was brought out of hiding for us.

Graham and I were charged with the awesome responsibility of returning the priceless vase and other artefacts back to their owner, Ian, at Ruskin Glass Centre. Although the event was over and farewells had been said, several delegates stalked us to Ruskin and enjoyed an out-of-hours shopping experience at Stourbridge Glass Engravers with purchases of several precious items.

Nice one, Methinks this event was a success.

Answer to the question in the opening paragraph – The Black Country.

Guests of Stourbridge built concrete narrowboats during the war to save on wood and steel. They were very cumbersome with a low payload, easily damaged against locks and hated by the skippers. Only six were made – one is in the Waterways Museum, the anchor for the Titanic was made in Netherton.

Stuart Crystal of Amblecote supplied thousands of glasses to the White Star line, owners of the Titanic. Stuart Crystal of Amblecote supplied thousands of glasses to the White Star line, owners of the Titanic.

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MARY SPENCE MBE
Programme Committee Past President

See over on page 6 for a full diary of visits, experiences and comments.
Day 1: Canal's Friday 12th July 2013

10:00 Dudley Canal and Limestone Mines trip
A 45 minute boat trip into the limestone caverns under Castle Hill, Dudley, carved by men to gain access to the limestone. Tableau scenes in the mines depict how miners worked in the tunnels during the 18th century. Highlight: orchestral music in the vast 'Singing Cavern' 250 feet underground.

11:00 Black Country Living Museum visit
An entire Black Country canal side village has been created brick by brick from redundant buildings moved to the site from various parts of the region – all set to represent the industrial landscape in the 1930s. Bread, sweets, chains, nails and horse brasses are all made there and costumed 'residents' are on hand to chat with you and explain their roles in this historical re-enactment. Highlights: 1. A tram ride. 2. Fish and chips for lunch made in the old-fashioned way with beef dripping – yummy!

14:00 Dudley Archives visit
Treasurers of the collection were put on display for us to study including a selection of maps depicting canals (some of which were never built), mines and industrial manufactories. Our visit coincided with their last day open to the public in readiness for the move to new premises at the end of the year. Highlights: 1. The archive's oldest document, a papal bull of 1182 recording the grant of lands of the priory in Dudley. 2. A landscape plan by Lancaster, Capabilities Brown of 1779. 3. A glass recipe book from the Jack Haden Collection (Jack Haden was a local historian specialising in the glass industry). 4. The Kny Sketchbook – a portfolio of glass designs by Frederick Englebert Kny of Thomas Webb & Sons.

19:00 Supper at Ma Pardo's
Highlight: real ale at £2.10 a pint – five varieties brewed on the premises
Highlight: faggots in pans – a Black Country delicacy.

Day 2: Glass Saturday 13th July 2013

10:00 Stourbridge Canal 'Jewels on the Cut' guided walk
A 1½ mile walk from Bonded Warehouse, Stourbridge, to Red House Glass Cone, Amblecote highlighting the many glassmaking facilities and other industrial manufactories that once operated in the area. Highlights: 1. Site of Foster, Rastick & Co – birthplace of the first ever locomotive to run in the USA, the Stourbridge Lion, and its sister, The Agenoria, now in York Railway Museum. 2. The concrete narrowboat (unnoticed by passers-by) used as bank protection near the former Stuart glassworks.

12:00 Red House Glass Cone
Audio tour of the cone including glass blowing demonstrations then free time to explore the art and craft studios. 140 years this weekend with re-enaetments, military vehicles and vintage stalls. Highlight: live glass blowing demonstration.

13:00 Glass Workshop
An opportunity to try glass engraving with Charlotte Hughes-Martin. Samples of glass were provided and, under Charlotte's careful guidance, the rabbit-in-the-headlights looks soon gave way to intense concentration and pride in achievement. Highlights: 1. Paul's masterpiece, an engraving he had previously done metal engraving 2. Giles's determination to buy a Dremel and perfect his glass engraving technique at home.

14:30 Presentation: 'Stourbridge Glass and the Portland Vase'
An illustrated talk by Graham on the history and significance of Stourbridge Glass (400 years old last year) and the story of the 2nd century Roman cameo glass Portland Vase and its replication in Stourbridge by John Northwood and Joseph Locke in the 1870s. Both these replicas are housed in the Corning Museum of Glass, New York. Various other replicas have been made elsewhere over the years including a Jasperware version by Josiah Wedgwood, but the latest one to be added to the list is the 2012 vase - made in Stourbridge to showcase the still extant skills. Highlight: unveiling the magnificent 2012 Portland Vase to an astonished audience.

Favourite comments:
'Drive easy, there's full o' faggots' Tim Newey, owner of Ma Pardo's as we piled into the minibus back to the hotel
'Dangerously smooth' BCS President, of the ale at Ma Pardo's

What the delegates said:
'I'd do it all over again this weekend if I could.'
'an absolute eye opener how rich the area is, with a fascinating industrial, history, and geography'
"our visit to the Black Country . . . a memorable it is something we will treasure'.
'We both really enjoyed our Black Country experience and have raved about it to various people.'
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Lost Homes Project

Dr Tsukihashi is not a geographer, but the Associate Professor in the Graduate School of Engineering at Kobe University. He started the Lost Homes project, an initiative through which local communities in the affected areas collected and recorded memories of places lost to the tsunami so that they can be passed on to the next generation.

Dr Tsukihashi explained how people’s memories of their neighbours give the towns a special sense of place and that it is this sense of place living on through memory that has become a source of psychological support to those in the affected areas. This echoed very strongly one of the themes that was examined at the Design Group SIG in March, where two of the speakers, Kate McLean and Anya Beaumont emphasised how important memories are, especially those triggered by association with smells or familiar action.

Two years after the earthquake and tsunami struck, massive reconstruction projects are ongoing, but local communities are increasingly concerned that as the ‘new’ appears communities were like and to preserve memories of their towns and villages used to look may gradually disappear. Dr Tsukihashi wanted to do something to help people record what these communities looked like and has embarked on a project to produce 1:500 scale 3D models of the affected areas. The models are based on a 500m x 500m grid pattern and to cover the affected area over 4000 will be needed. At the end of March 2013, 128 had been completed.

The models are constructed of the same method as the Haig 3D maps were constructed of the Western Front in 1914. Starting with a flat block 1m by 1m, the relief is built up by adding layers traced from contour lines to create the 3D representation of the area. To start with they are simply white 3D models with no detail.

Once the basic models are completed, a series of workshop events are organised so that local people can then add the additional details of how they remember their communities. One such workshop was run by a volunteer network “Kesennuma Mirai Keikaku” aimed at reviving Kesennuma-City. At these workshops, the Lost Homes white scale models are displayed usually in the town hall or suitable municipal building as well as at areas that were badly damaged. With the help of aerial photography of pre-tsunami vintage, the white models are then painted and other features added to reflect the memories of visitors and local inhabitants. They are also encouraged to write messages on little paper flags that are added to the landscape to personalise the model for the community. It is this process of adding detail to the basic models that has helped to evoke the memories of lost homes.

No government funding has been provided and the basic white models have all been made by volunteer architecture students and university laboratories. They have proved to be an excellent way of helping people to remember what their communities were like and to preserve those memories for future generations. As well as the models themselves, several of the workshops have also had a form of theatrical narration, where local memories and testimonies have been read out to help bring the models to life. One particular testimony included in the presentation literature is especially poignant. The translation from the original Japanese is rather idiomatic but I didn’t want to correct it: I took my 87-year-old mother upstairs and came back downstairs to fetch things. When I looked in a drawer, I looked outside of the window a white station wagon and a yellow roof drifting flowing into. Muddy stream flooded quietly and eerily. I thought I would die. As soon as I had rushed upstairs, I lost memory instantly. At the next moment, I found myself holding onto a foam fish container. I wanted to live. Tsunami drew back and we could survive.

Even now, two and a half years after the tragedy, the memories are still very raw. The project will continue for many years yet until the models have been completed. More details can be found at www.losthomes.jp/en

On Good Friday I attended a presentation at the Japan Foundation in London on responses to the Great East Japan Earthquake. The BCS Restless Earth workshop is currently based on this disaster and I was keen to hear some first hand accounts of how the rescue effort had been put together and co-ordinated. What I had not really been prepared for was the magnitude of the recovery effort and the way in which the Lost Homes project is working to help people remember their communities as they were before the tsunami hit the east coast of Japan in March 2011.

The major presentation was given by Dr Osamu Tsukihashi from Kobe University, itself hit by the major earthquake in 1995.

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More details can be found at www.losthomes.jp/en
Celebrating 50 years!

The BCS gives thanks to our members, sponsors and presenters for helping to make the 50th Anniversary celebrations such a success, including Dr Michael Wood, OBE FBCartS (left) who had the honour of cutting the cake!

Our sponsors were: Cadcorp, Collins Bartholomew, Esri UK, Leica Geosystems, Newgrove, Ordnance Survey, STAR-APIC, The Geoinformation Group and Victoria Litho.

What a fantastic four days at Hothorpe Hall! This 18th century hall, almost in Leicestershire, was the venue for the British Cartographic Society’s Symposium to celebrate the Society’s 50th Anniversary. It proved to be an excellent choice for the event. The facilities, food and staff were first class. And we were delighted, over the moon, that by the start of the sessions 167 people had registered for all or some of the events.

‘Give me a map to look at, and I am content!’

The Map Curators Group met on Tuesday to discuss the ‘Changing Face of Map Curatorship’. A first-class set of presentations to start proceedings (see page 12).

The GIS SIG met on Tuesday afternoon and their theme was to explore the notion that ‘Good Design Matters’. Legibility, visual contrast, figure, visual hierarchy, an understanding of colour, hue, chroma, lettering and text placement all matter. Color Brewer and Type Brewer are useful tools. The theme, the elements of good design, was echoed in later presentations.

In the evening, the Exhibition was opened by the BCS President, Peter Jones; there were 20 exhibitors. This was followed by the Helen Wallis Lecture, which was delivered by Nick Millea, Map Librarian from the Bodleian Library in Oxford. Nick’s theme was that there is a lot to learn from early maps but what has really changed over the centuries is the media used and the tools to produce maps. He quoted several times from Wainwright, A Pennine Journey: a story of a long walk in 1938. My favourite line is: ‘Give me a map to look at, and I am content’.

Wednesday morning began with Mike Cooper (Leica Geosystems) talking about the integration of GIS and IT in Surveying: followed by Max Baber (US Geospatial Intelligence Foundation) who said that geospatial intelligence was about driving actual knowledge for solving of the most complex human challenges; and then Richard Carpenter (UKHO) argued that the mapping of the closest planets was much better than that of the oceans on earth. Then representatives from Esri Switzerland (Mapping the Swiss Way), Global Mapping (The Fashion of Map Design), Ordnance Survey (OpenData Masterclass) and Sheffield Hallam University (Visual and Tactile Maps) led the morning workshops. After lunch, Tom Timms (Star-Apic) compared 1983 with the present day and concluded that the presentation of good data was critical. Graham Mills (Technics Group) spoke about the problems associated with the mapping of underground pipes, particularly in urban areas, and Seppe Cassettari (The Geoinformation Group) emphasised the importance of data attribution in UK Map for 3D graphics.

Mapping chiefs unite

One of the highlights of the Symposium was the Keynote Session, which included all five of the heads of our National Mapping Agencies. Vanessa Lawrence said that cartography was even more important how his organisation not only produced maps but also was the land registry, valuation, rate collection agency and also monitored claims for EU funding submitted by farmers in the province. Ian Moncrieff, UKHO, said that the advent of GPS had been a significant advance for maritime navigation and surveying and that UKHO was now producing data centric packages rather than being product specific. Finally, John Ludden, BGS, described the importance of their work in the detection and extraction of mineral, oil and gas reserves and concluded with the words, ‘We are going deeper’!

Gala toasts BCS winners

The reception, prior to the black-tie gala dinner, was held on the terrace at Hothorpe Hall, overlooking the countryside on a lovely summer’s evening. About 90 people attended the dinner. The toast to the BCS was proposed by Georg Gartner, President of the International Cartographic Association (ICA). Then there were two awards ceremonies: the first for awards won by BCS members at the recent ICA Conference in Dresden (see report on page 16) and the second, the BCS awards. The recipient of the BCS awards was Mary Spence from Global Mapping.

Drawing to a close

On Thursday morning, Ian Robinson (Cadcorp) spoke about the cartographic challenges of adding data to a background map when using an interactive web application. Paul Naylor (OS) spoke about cartographic design principles, examples of which are now available on the OS website. Irene Ticker (SIL International) described her work producing the atlas, ‘Languages of the World’, with particular reference to the changes seen in Korea over the years. Brian Walker (Glasgow School of Art’s Institute for Innovation Design) described the research work he was doing to provide walkers with better maps/diagrams. Workshops followed with Mapping the Meridian (The Geoinformation Group), Mapping the Immediate Smellscape and the problem is that the presentation of maps/ diagrams. Workshops part of a slow learning process.

After months of meticulous planning, the BCS Symposium for 2013 can be considered as an unequivocal success. A record number of delegates for recent years, an outstanding set of presentations & workshops and a truly invigorating keynote session all contributed to a very successful event. The black tie gala dinner was extremely popular, leading many delegates to comment that we should make it black tie every year. I was particularly pleased that we were able to welcome back a host of past Presidents, some just for the gala dinner, many for a lot longer. The Society remains in rude health, but we mustn’t rest on our laurels if we are to continue to grow and attract more new members. The BCS Programme Committee did an excellent job in putting together a superb event and special mention must go to Fiona Cocks, our Symposium Co-ordinator, for the incredibly smooth organisation of the whole event. I would also like to thank all of our Sponsors and Presenters, who helped to make it such a success. I look forward to welcoming you all back to the 2014 Symposium.

Peter Jones MBE CGeog, BCS President
After lunch there were four further presentations. Ken Field (Esri Inc) stepped in at short notice with his strapline, 'build it right and build it fast'. However, having the tools to do so without knowledge was limiting and he outlined ten recommendations. Peter Fretwell (British Antarctic Survey) described the work done to produce the 1 km resolution Bedmap 2 map of the bedrock under the Antarctic and provided copies of the map for delegates to take away. Jason Peters (Posthumous Plans) described the fascinating work he had done to discover the history of Huntingdonshire by studying the changes to wooded areas over time. Finally, Armelle Kauf-Couillet and Andre Moine (TheMA Research Unit) showed how projects such as TGV track extensions could be explained to authorities using animated displays. The President, Peter Jones, closed this most successful 50th Anniversary Symposium at 1600 and invited all to attend the 2014 Symposium, which will be held at the end of June/beginning of July in the south of England.

On Friday morning, six golfers took part in the BCS President’s Golden Ball golf competition at Lutterworth Golf Club. The light rain was a little unwelcome but didn’t dampen spirits. The trophy was won by Peter Fretwell (British Antarctic Survey) who beat Andy Wilson (Victoria Litho), previous holder of the trophy by just one point. I beat the President by two points to win the prize for 6th and last place!
40 maps that will help you make sense of the World if you’re a visual learner like myself, then you know maps, charts and infographics can really help bring data and information to life. Maps can make a point resonate with readers and this collection aims to do just that.

Hopefully some of these maps will surprise you and you’ll learn something new. A few are important to know, some interpret and display data in a beautiful or creative way, and a few may even make you chuckle or shake your head.

The first in the series shows you where Google Streetview coverage is and the second map shows the three countries in the world that do not use the metric system of measurements, see maps right.

To view the other 38 maps visit: http://twdstletter.com/2013.09/maps-that-will-help-you-make-sense-of-the-world

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Nicholas Crane
‘Reflections of a Map Man’

In association with the British Library

The British Cartographic Society invites you to attend

‘Reflections of a Map Man’
by Nicholas Crane

at the

Conference Centre, British Library
126 Euston Road • London • NW1 2DS

on

Monday 25th November 2013, 18:30 - 20:00

Nicholas Crane

Guest of Tusk patron, Nicholas Crane is a long-time contributor to the cartographic community for his biography of General Moncrieff and his two BBC series, Map Man. His work covers on his experiences as an explorer and geographer and the role that maps have played in his life both professionally and privately.

This event is open to all:
Cost: FREE to BCS members, £7.50 non-members
This event follows the AGM which is free to attend and for dinner.

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS

For details of all BCS events and to register for this talk please visit: www.cartography.org.uk

To celebrate our 50th Anniversary the BCS has produced a book marking 50 years of mapping excellence. Travel through the past 50 years of selected historical events illustrated by mapping from around the world.

Available from the BCS Admin office for only £15.

To obtain your copy of this beautiful book contact Roger Hore at BCS Admin on admin@cartography.org.uk

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A Celebration of 50 years of The British Cartographic Society

Visit the BCS website at www.cartography.org.uk

Visit the BCS website at www.cartography.org.uk

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Saint Catherine’s Monastery

Saint Catherine’s Monastery commonly known as Santa Katarina lies on the Sinai Peninsula, at the mouth of a gorge at the foot of Mount Sinai, in the city of Saint Catherine in Egypt’s South Sinai Governorate. The monastery is Orthodox and is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Built between 548 and 565, the monastery is one of the oldest working Christian monasteries in the world, according to UNESCO. In the area around the monastery, a small town has grown, with hotels and swimming pools, called Saint Katherine City.

According to tradition, Catherine of Alexandria was a Christian martyr sentenced to death on the wheel. When this failed to kill her, she was beheaded. According to tradition, angels took her remains to Mount Sinai. Around the year 800, monks from the Sinai Monastery found her remains. Though it is commonly known as Saint Catherine’s, the monastery’s full official name is the Sacred and Imperial Monastery of the God-Trodden Mount of Sinai. The patronal feast of the monastery is the Transfiguration. The monastery has become a favorite site of pilgrimage.

The complex houses irreplaceable works of art: mosaics, the best collection of early icons in the world.

With thanks to Wikipedia

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Lost Rivers of London #14

The Peck: springing in East Dulwich and running through Peckham, was enclosed in 1823. It can still be seen on the west side of Peckham Rye Park.

www.strangemaps.wordpress.com

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THE CARNAC NEOLITHIC ALIGNMENTS

A recent visit to Southern Brittany introduced me to the fascinating monuments around Carnac. 6000 years old, more than 10,000 standing stones surrounded by mystery and legend. Great beaches too, well worth a visit. ML

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Andy Drizen’s Tube Map Live (Tunes), a free iOS app (native iPhone and iPad versions) that shows the real-time positions of London Underground trains on the iconic Tube map, using official data. The app essentially promotes Drizen’s £1.99 Tube Tracker which is a much more comprehensive way of planning your journeys across the Capital. It does, however, lose the rather spooky icons of trains travelling along the tube lines which you get in the free app. Both good though and for those of us who love map related apps, well worth looking at.
A real celebration

As well as the academic programme, there was the usual social programme with an ice-breaker in the excellent exhibition area on Monday evening with ample supplies of food and drink. This year the orienteering event was based on an urban course around the conference centre. Although the number of entries was not large, the location allowed for the armchair (or bar stool) orienteers to cheer on their more athletic compatriots. A highlight of the Banquet was a magnificent fireworks display, staged looking over the river Elbe to the historic centre of Dresden, making the event a real celebration, compared to the damp squib of the ‘Gala Event’ in Paris two years ago.

The ICA’s highest award, the Carl Mannerfelt Gold Medal, was presented to Prof. Taylor Foster of Canada for a long-term contribution to the subject and as an outstanding ambassador for cartography on an international stage. The UK fared well in judging of the maps. With a reduction of categories to five this time, winning three awards was particularly gratifying. The Glasgow Smellmap by Kate Maclean of Canterbury Christ Church University was third in the ‘other cartographic products’ category; Harper-Collins were second in educational products for their World Watch Atlas and in by far the biggest category – printed maps – the winner was Ken Field for his ‘Grand Canyon’ map, which looked in 3D, making it available in 2013.

International Map Year?

National delegates were called to a special meeting with the ICA executive to hear news of its initiative to promote 2015 as International Map Year. This idea was first mentioned in Paris in 2013, but plans have now become much firmer. There is support from the United Nations, but formal recognition for the initiative is unlikely as this typically takes five to eight years to achieve. In addition to awarenessaising for the year, the hope is that ICA member countries will develop a series of events in their own countries as part of the programme. A book, ‘World of Maps’ will be launched, intended as a popular introduction to maps and cartography, not an academic text, and will be published in several languages. David Fairbairn has recently joined the international organising committee and the UKCC will take forward plans for UK participation in this global celebration of maps.

A PERSONAL REFLECTION

The conference comprised over 900 papers in several parallel sessions, which were accompanied by a wide range of plenary keynote talks (some started rather earlier in the day). In an effort to cram as many papers in to the programme as possible, presentations were limited to only 14 minutes. I must admit that, at first, this seemed pretty brutal (some of you, I understand, take at least 25 to get going...!), but it did have the unexpected bonus of shortening the time given to endure the less interesting talks. As one would expect, the range of topics was immense and certainly something for everyone map-minded, from new developments in LiDAR to smell maps. Clearly, it was impossible to see everything. As one would expect, the range of topics was immense and certainly something for everyone map-minded, from new developments in LiDAR to smell maps. Clearly, it was impossible to see everything. As one would expect, the range of topics was immense and certainly something for everyone map-minded, from new developments in LiDAR to smell maps. Clearly, it was impossible to see everything.

Lunch was served in the exhibition space, which provided a good opportunity to browse and mingle amongst the national entries and corporate stands. Unfortunately, the concept of ‘gala dinner’ for the local organisers extended beyond the provision of the occasional canapé and delegates were treated to a hearty buffet meal followed by ‘a surprise’ (the words of IC A President, David Forrest PhD, FB Cart.S, Chair, UK Cartography Committee). I spoke to towards the end of the week who had agreed that ICC2013 had been enjoyable and worthwhile overall and appreciated the hard work of the Brazilian hosts a hard act to follow in two years’ time. Those who were lucky enough to stay for the Closing Ceremony were treated to (more than) a glimpse of what the delegates of ICC2013 could expect – ‘less than a bold extravaganza’. By Dr Alex Kent
Delivering geographic authority

Vanessa Lawrence addresses the third session of UN GGIM © Ordnance Survey Great Britain

The Conference Conference

opened in Churchill College with Vanessa Lawrence CBE in the chair and 150 senior leaders of national mapping and cadastral organisations attending. Later in the week, these attendees plus more experts and several ministers, segued into the third session of the UN Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management (UN GGIM) in the Corn Exchange in the town centre.

I attended day one of the Cambridge Conference but the press were not invited to the UN GGIM. The Churchill conference seemed more interesting and less formal than the UN session. There was no translation and speakers were not displayed on three big screens. Although the theme was ‘Bringing Geographic Authority to Information’, it was clear that, despite convincing presentations of the power of spatial information to support governments and commerce, the delivery and control of that information by government agencies cannot be taken for granted. Commercial satellite imagery providers and geospatial technology vendors are able and willing to invest in spatial data and make it more easily available to applications in all sectors of the world economy.

Keynote speaker, Janet Williams, chair of Interpol’s Protection and Security International Experts Group and National Security Adviser for the Qatar World Cup 2022, emphasised the importance of spatial data in the planning and day-to-day running of the security operations around the London Olympics and the royal wedding.

Second keynote, Paul Davies, executive head and chief meteorologist, UK Met Office, explained how vital relevant geographic information – topographic, administrative and socio-economic – is in planning for the aftermath of natural and man-made disasters. Importantly, he cited global cooperation in the field of meteorology, including relevant standards, that might be a model for other disciplines.

Two of the afternoon speakers discussed the pricing and licensing issues with which our mapping organisations have to grapple. Chris Holcroft, Royal Meteorological Society, reviewed the Public Service Mapping Agreement in Great Britain and the challenges faced by Ordnance Survey. Anne Catherine Fosstrup, director general of Norway’s Kartverket, was honest about their continuing struggle to get the pricing model right – despite their worldwide reputation as an exemplar of spatial data infrastructures. Tim Trainer, chief of geography division of the US Census Bureau, gave a detailed account of the state of cadastral parcel and addressing information in the USA. He suggested that there are enormous hidden costs due to duplication of collection and management of the 150 million addresses in the US and the complete lack of consistency between and within states. This is having detrimental effects on healthcare, emergency services, the post office and many others.

The Hotline Lecture was given by Nick Crane, author and television geographer, who will speak to BCS later this year. He entertained with tales of the re-triangulation of Great Britain and of Gerardus Mercator, of whom he is writing a biography. For the UNGGIM session, refer to http://ggim.un.org/ggim_committee.html but do not prepare to be excited!

By Robin Waters

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he Society has the pleasure of welcoming the following new members who have joined since the Spring 2013 issue of Maplines:

Corporate Members: NATS Swanwick Centre, Temple Group Ltd.

UK Members: Mr G W Barnett, Mr D Barter, Mr P Bartlam, Mr P G Bishop, Mr R Bradfield, Mr A G Campbell, Ms C Chapman, Mr G Ciffe, Mr J I Denham, Mr K Fitzsimmons, Mr P Gosling, Mr P Kelly, Rear Adm R C Lane-Nott, Miss D Logvina, Miss K McIntyre, Miss F P Meraji, Mr A Mullineux, Mr T S Knott, Dr O Schroth, Mr L Sewell, Mr Sinha Roy, Miss A Stone, Miss L Tyzack, Mr M J Wesson, Mr A Wilcock, Mr J D Wragg.

Overseas Members: Prof. J Moenius, Associate Member and an evening cruise on the Thames.

Mr A Edwards, Mr R Monk, Mr N Sanderson, Mr A J Terry.

And finally...

As I write my input for the Summer issue of Maplines, I am happy to reflect that we have had a summer this year and that my Pimms bottle has had to be replaced on more than one occasion and my only complaint is that during this glorious weather I was stuck in my office doing the end of year accounts. My wife and I attended the Black Country Experience (see page 4) run on behalf of the BCS by the team of Mary Spence and Graham Fisher, whose knowledge of his local area and that of glass-making was extensive and the boat trip along to Dudley Canal to the limestone mines was fantastic. The icing on the cake was eating fish and chips out of a newspaper for lunch at the Black Country Living Museum and an evening cruise on the Thames (not for those with a delicate stomach) topped off with some excellent ale.

The Annual General Meeting of the Society will take place on the 25th November 2013 in the British Library (London). In the weeks prior to this, members will receive the agenda along with voting forms for the election of officers and members of Council plus an amendment to the Constitution. Included in this package will be a pre-paid envelope in which to return voting forms. It would be appreciated if members would make every effort to complete and return voting forms as it is your right to have your say and members of Council to represent you. My regards to you all.

Roger Hore, BCS Administration 15 The Crescent, Stanley Common Ilkeston, Derby DE7 6GL, UK Tel: 01629 53994 Fax: 01629 53624 Email: admin@cartography.org.uk

BCS Admin & Corporate News

The British Cartographic Society invites you to attend ‘GIS and Web Cartography’ by Jack Dangermond at the Royal Air Force Club 128 Piccadilly · London · W1, 7PY Friday 25th October 2013, 11:00

This event is open to all. Cost including refreshments: £15 BCS members, £20 non-members. To confirm attendance and book, please contact alan.grimmwade@cosmographics.co.uk.

For details of all BCS events and to register for this talk please visit www.cartography.org.uk

The BCS at the Summer 2013 Conference

Visit the BCS website at www.cartography.org.uk

Alan Grimmwade, BCS Corporate Liaison Officer alan.grimmwade@cosmographics.co.uk
As PV Publications Ltd has been entrusted with the production of *Maplines*, we decided to test the mettle of BCS members in your regular quiz!

Our quiz theme is *Coordinates and Projections*! We hope that you find our questions to be a good mix of the obscure and the obvious.

For the first set of correct answers, the prize is a beautiful book on maps and charts from the age of discovery. *New Worlds* is large format (37 x 44 cms) and features 120 maps and charts, many in colour. Good luck!

Please send your answers to *maplines.editors@gmail.com*.

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**Don’t miss out on a bargain!**

To celebrate our new partnership with *Maplines*, PV Publications are running a special discount on select books for BCS members*:

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- **OS Tales** – Was £7.95. **NOW £6.00**
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More information on all our books can be found at: [www.pvpubs.com/books.php](http://www.pvpubs.com/books.php).

*NOTE: The special offer is valid until the *Maplines* Winter 2013 edition is published while stocks last. This special offer applies only to phone in orders (payment by debit/credit card only). There is an additional charge for postage & packaging, which will vary by book weight and whether you order within UK or overseas.*

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**Congratulations to Rob Clynes, from Douglas on the Isle of Man, who was the winner of the Spring 2013 quiz.**