From the Editors & President

Welcome to the latest edition of Maplines. Winter is finally upon us and the long summer hours of daylight are but a distant memory. A perfect time to reflect on the past year and to look forward to the next.

As ever, a series of fascinating articles is contained in this copy, many of which focus on the theme of keeping mapping relevant in the current time, but also looking back on the past to ensure the discipline of cartography remains as a discipline, the New Mapmakers Award showcases new talents in the field and there is a series of images of the 2014 winning project. Talking of awards, there is an article on the BCS Symposium award winners as well as a piece on how to enter for next year’s awards, to inspire design ideas.

So, this edition has plenty of interest for everyone. Maplines – the gift that keeps on giving.

Finally, all that remains is to wish all our readers a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Louisa
On behalf of Martin, Louisa and Mark
Maplines Editors

Notes from our President

This year has been another excellent one for the Society with growth in a number of key areas. Our membership has topped 700 for the first time in many years and is on a steady upward trend that shows we are still viewing as being both relevant and important in the GIS era, where concerns have been expressed that whilst GIS has been great at opening up the world of mapmaking, the lack of cartographic training and development has sometimes compromised the quality of the final output. The BCS stand at events throughout the year has proved to be very popular with delegates, many of whom are keen to find out more about cartography and are very interested in training opportunities. To address this growing demand the Better Mapping Seminars will be running again in 2015, with a ‘Basics’ course aimed at those with no previous cartographic experience and a more ‘Advanced’ course aimed at the web-user. Details will appear in the BCS website and will be widely advertised, so please spread the word if you know of people who would like to take up this opportunity.

I have been reflecting on why the BCS has been so successful in increasing its membership base, especially at a time when other professional associations seem to be experiencing a drop in numbers. We do have a lot to offer and, whilst we don’t market ourselves ‘aggressively’, the word does seem to be spreading that the BCS is a good organisation to be involved and engaged with. One of our major strengths is the breadth of our membership, which is drawn from across the whole cartographic community. It includes individual freelance cartographers and map enthusiasts, some major corporate players, academic institutions, local and central government bodies, utility companies, emergency services and a whole host of overseas members. It is this diversity that makes the society so well in looking forward to future cartographic needs. Our Special Interest Groups (SIGs) also showcase some of the best elements of the BCS. We plan to feature their activities in Maplines next year to ensure that everyone is aware of what they do and the events that they are running.

The Map Curators Group hold regular events around the country; the GIS SIG ran the ‘Mapathon’ at the Symposium this year; the Design SIG ran the ‘debate’ at the Symposium; and the Historical Military Mapping Group (HMM) ran a very successful Bomber Command Study Tour in Lincolnshire.

We have had some ‘firsts’ this year as well. I have already mentioned the BCS P President

One major development for next year is that we will be providing online access to the Cartographic Journal for all BCS Members. This has been arranged with our publisher, Maney’s, and the reflects the way in which most journals are now accessed and utilised. And whilst on the Cartographic Journal I need to say a ‘big thank you’ to Dr Ken Field who is standing down as editor after nine years. Ken has taken the journal forward in a huge way and has ensured that it is one of the premier journals in the field with no shortage of articles being submitted for consideration.

And so it just remains for me to thank you all for your support of BCS over the past year and wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Pete Jones
BCS President

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have been under no illusion that Roman might was right. In a similar vein, the pursuit of mapping of new lands in the 15th and 16th centuries also had a political purpose. Maps of showing a newly discovered area on a map acted as a kind of cartographic claim; to map was to own. The Cantino Planisphere (1502), the first map to show the line of demarcation between Spanish and Portuguese possessions agreed by the Treaty of Tordesillas in 1494, acted as a bold statement that the newly found lands were the domain of those two powers, and that others should keep out.

The active falsification of history was a relatively late development, although the practice of some medieval monks of concocting charts to establish claims on lands for which proof of ownership was lacking (or in some cases had never existed at all), may have shown the way. The Donation of Constantine, an 8th century forgery which purport to document a land grant by the Emperor Constantine to the Papacy in AD 315 was used by successive Popes to confirm the legitimacy of their claim to the Papal States in central Italy. It received its cartographic affirmation in 1580 with the painting by Ignazio Danti of the Galleria delle carte geografiche in the Vatican, a gallery of maps of Italy which, crucially, showed the Papal States. Claims to possession shown on a map have a solidity about them which words on a page struggle to achieve and of this Pope Gregory XIII, who commissioned the Galleria, was all too aware.

The technique of presenting a political case through maps to crowd out alternate (and undesired) realities and even expunge whole countries from the historical record came to full fruition in the 20th century. The maps produced by Nazi Germany in the late 1930s, in the aftermath of its annexation, first of the Sudetenland, then the rest of Czechoslovakia and finally the Anschluss with Austria in March 1938, present a Grosseutschdeutsche Reich (“Great German State”) in which those formerly independent areas are coloured in the same shade as Germany and enclosed within the bold line which marks its borders. On closer examination, Austria has been transformed from Osterreich into Ostmark, a mere province of Greater Germany, while within Czechoslovakia all the place-names are printed in German. It is as if those countries had never existed and the dissemination of such a map was intended to reinforce the idea that the entity of reality very recent creation which swallowed them up had really always existed.

As well as tools for the visual redrafting of history, maps have become themselves actors in the great political dramas of the 20th century. The modern Middle East is a region which has been cursed by cartography and the desire by seemingly irrevocable groups to map the political lines of control. The aspirations of the Arabs to independent states in the aftermath of the First World War, a conflict in which they had helped the Allies defeat the Ottoman empire, led to frantic attempts by British to answer those demands and to balance them both against their own interests and the increasingly assertive calls by Zionists for a Jewish state in Palestine. After intense negotiation, the lead diplomats on either side, François Georges Picot and Sir Mark Sykes, agreed a map which they hoped would be a template for the area’s future. Yet the Sykes-Picot map with its division of the Middle East into areas of control and areas designated “A” and “B” for indirect influence, satisfied nobody. When details of it were leaked by the Bolsheviks after the Russian Revolution in 1917, there was outrage among Arab leaders and would have been seen as the reneging on promises of independence they had been given by the allied powers. The French were forced to retreat, the newly independent in Syria and the British an uprising in Mesopotamia and the Sykes-Picot map became a symbol of European powers’ desire to end the Middle East settlement on the Middle East advantageous only to themselves. As late as 2014, when the extreme Islamist group ISIS declared a “caliphate” which straddled the borders of Iraq and Syria, it was declared by some commentators to mark the “end of the Sykes-Picot settlement”, so strong was the historic resonance of the map.

In similar vein, the map which emerged from negotiations to find a way of dividing the British Mandate of Palestine between its Arab and Jewish communities played a key role in the first Arab-Israeli War which broke out in 1948. Drawn up after six months of intense discussion in the UN Special Committee on Palestine (UNSCOP) and adopted in November 1947, it acted as a catalyst for the dissatisfaction of both sides about the extent of the territory they were to receive. The Arabs were outraged at being allocated only 43% of Palestine (when in population terms they were in the majority), while the Jewish side felt that the narrow strips of land awarded to them would leave their new state too vulnerable to attack by its Arab neighbours. The pre-emptive declaration of independence by Israel on 14th May 1948 and the resultant invasion by Arab armies from Lebanon, Egypt, Syria and Jordan sparked a war which ended with Israel in control of almost 50% more territory than the UN had envisaged. The solid lines on the UNSCOP map had only crystallized the two sides’ desire for a greater share of territory. This was only the first failure of many bids to solve the Palestinian issue, in which a series of maps, most notably those accompanying the 1993 Oslo Accords, marked successive attempts to draw final lines of control, whose very solidity provoked strong reactions and bids to negotiate or enforce alternative solutions.

Maps have long given cartographers the ability to present their own (or their patron’s) view of the world, sometimes influenced by ideological or political motives. In extreme cases this has been inspired by the desire to present a false view of the past or to shape a current political agenda. In the future, the possibility offered by new media to create or modify maps digitally with relative ease, and to disseminate them almost instantaneously may make this phenomenon ubiquitous. In the battle to shape history, maps are powerful weapons and, where once only a select few could wield them, now there are literally millions.

By Philip Parker, Chief historical editor, consultant and contributor to The Times History of the World in Maps.
Everyone loves a good story and a story well-told. The Battle of Bannockburn, Scotland, 1314 is the blood-thirsty story of how Robert the Bruce pushed Edward II back, changing the path of Scotland. Legend has it, that it was a spider who saved Robert the Bruce and enabled him to then rise again to defeat the English. This topic has even more poignancy after the recent Scottish vote.

They were fighting over Stirling Castle, a strategic site which provided a bridge to the Highlands and the key to Scotland. The warring parties fought in a period well before gunpowder, so understanding battle tactics on foot and on horseback in difficult terrain was essential. Ultimately, Robert the Bruce was able to repel Edward II, because he knew the landscape better than his opponent and used this knowledge to his advantage.

For the Battle of Bannockburn Visitor Centre, operated by the National Trust for Scotland for Places of Historic Interest or Natural Beauty, celebrating the 700th anniversary of this historic battle was a challenge. With debate about the actual site and no physical objects available for display, creating an exhibition on the 1314 battle could have been a very dry affair.

“Bannockburn is a spectacular triumph for the combined forces of 3D science and historical narrative.” - The Telegraph.

However, Chris Walker from Bright White Ltd, was commissioned in 2009 by the National Trust for Scotland to develop a simulated battle scene based on previous works, based on their own software called ‘MediaMaps’.

Over the next few years, Chris worked with various academics to collect, record and evaluate historical data. Mainly working with Dr Richard Tipping, an archaeologist, they tried to establish the land usage in 1314 in the area of Stirling Castle and comparing that with the current landscape.

As most of the land today has been turned into agriculture and with some of that being underwater, the team used LiDAR and Land Surveys to record the landscape in 3D. The area they covered also meant surveying not only around the castle, but also the local hamlets and villages. They then re-modelled the data according to the historical records both written and as maps, to try to give a picture of the terrain of the area circa 1314, which gave Robert the Bruce his critical advantage.

The results from five years work is very impressive; a fully interactive battle game based on a 3D understanding of the landscape, as it was in the time of Robert the Bruce, who is the star attraction at the Battle of Bannockburn Visitor Centre. Schools are encouraged to bring their classes to learn about the period and 30 children at a time can play. Divided into two teams, each side are given roles looking after troops within the game, each with their own strategic moves. This is a huge hit with all the children, who can see if they can do better at winning the war than either Edward II or Robert the Bruce.

“The highest compliment I can pay to this centre is that it rises to its setting. Through sensitive architecture, modern scholarship and stunning computer graphics, it will enable people from Scotland and around the world to understand why Bannockburn has resonated down these ages.” - Alex Salmond.

Chris Walker summarises the project as: “A coming-together and alignment of a large number of organisations, consultancies, practices and people. I genuinely believe that every person on this project wants exactly the same thing - a landscape, venue and interpretation of the highest quality possible.”

By Caroline Robinson, Clear Mapping Co.
The British Cartographic Society is pleased to announce that the winner of its 2014 New Mapmaker award, sponsored by the National Geographic Society, is the Interactive Atlas of Infectious Disease: An interactive iBook for iPads produced by a group of undergraduate and graduate students enrolled on the Computer-Assisted Cartography course at Oregon State University.

The map can be downloaded from http://cartography.oregonstate.edu/AtlasOfInfectiousDiseases.html which also has a static (pdf) version available.

For further details of the competition see http://www.cartography.org.uk/default.asp?contentID=1040

The Times History of the World in Maps

This new addition to the range of Times atlases is a sumptuous collection, covering mapping from 1500 BC through to the present day.

The hard cover book has full colour plates, accompanied by explanatory text, and has contributions by Nicholas Crane, military cartographic historian Dr Peter Chassuead, historian Philip Parker and BCS luminaries Dr Kenneth Field and Mick Ashworth.

The atlas is a collection with 70 of the most significant maps produced, many here made publically available for the first time. It shows the political relevance of mapping through the ages as well as the impact this format has in disseminating information to a wide audience.

To the cartographer, it is also a fascinating history of the art itself, from basic clay tablets through to remote sensing and Internet mapping.

The atlas is laid out chronologically and begins by studying an early Babylonian town plan of Nippur, the earliest known example of its kind, through Matthew Paris’s 1250 map showing London to the Holy Land, early maps of the Americas and Australia as well as maps showing the expansion of the colonial territories in Africa. These serve as interesting snapshots of an expanding world.

It is interesting to see maps later used for political gain and propaganda. Most will be familiar with maps of the British Empire, with the territories highlighted in red but also present here are maps of the Cuban Missile Crisis, an early map of the United States showing free and slave states and a vision of Japanese co-Prosperity in East Asia from 1942. Also of interest is the use of particular projections, to enhance the size of certain countries for political emphasis.

Some of the most poignant maps in the publication are from the 20th century world wars. A large-scale map of Ypres from 1914 is particularly thought-provoking in this anniversary year, as it shows the number of casualties recovered from this part of northern France.

The atlas is to the usual high quality expected from The Times and is a fascinating history of the science of cartography as well as an insight into the political power of the map.

Published by Times Books, UK RRP £50. Format 360mm by 264mm, hardback.
While octopus cartoons strikingly represent a pipeline as the barrel knotted. Other common variants are found in Eastern Europe. More frequently, octopus are clearly represented as detailed search revealed just two of energy supplies, this image has repeated by others (fig. 1). What is surprising is that over the last decade or so, while Russia has flexed its power through its control of energy supplies, this image has not been used more frequently. A detailed search revealed just two examples where the arms of an octopus are clearly represented as energy pipelines (one featuring Vladimir Putin’s face), with only two other cartoons showing Putin as an octopus grasping at Ukraine or Eastern Europe. More frequently, cartoons show either the Russian bear or Putin turning the tap on a pipeline, or with the pip(e)s knotted. Other common variants represent a pipeline as the barrel of a Russian tank - a powerful visual metaphor for the close relationship between ‘soft power’ (economic and diplomatic) and the threat of ‘hard power’ (military).

While octopus cartoons strikingly embody the projection of power, formal thematic maps can also play an important role in supporting geopolitical discourse concerning political and economic penetration in international affairs. Numerous examples, for instance, accompany recent news articles on Russian control of gas supplies to Europe. The recognition of the importance of infrastructure networks to geopolitics is however, far from new. Rail routes were a key issue in the debate concerning ‘sea-power’ versus ‘land-power’ in the early 20th century – as illustrated (cartographically, as well as verbally) by the British political geographer Sir Halford Mackinder in his classic book on world power - *Democratic Ideals and Reality*. In the 1930s and 40s, Axis air networks in South America became a major strategic concern for the US, as exemplified by Hall and Peck’s (1941) ‘Wings for a Trojan Horse’ published in the influential journal Foreign Affairs (Fig. 2) and a range of other articles in both political and commercial journals (e.g. *Aviation Monthly* (US)) with maps clearly warning particularly of German penetration.

The geopolitics of ‘fluid-power’ - the control of oil and gas supplies – has become a key contemporary issue in geopolitics, especially Russia’s ability to influence the politics of its so-called ‘near abroad’ (blizhneye zarubezhye - the former Soviet states). During the last decade, thematic maps accompanying news stories portray Russia as the control centre of a sprawling array of pipelines. While there is no attempt here to claim that the map designers are in all cases consciously attempting to portray these networks in a sinister fashion, the maps are clearly suggestive of the penetration of Russian ‘soft-power’ into the European political arena. Russia certainly sees itself as wielding influence through this means, with Putin himself clear in reasserting Russia’s status as an energeticiskaia sverkhderezhava, or ‘energy superpower’.

Supply maps have played an important part in news media representations of several key geopolitical events involving Russia in recent years, for example, its intervention in Georgia in 2008, the cessation to gas supplies to the Ukraine and Europe in January 2009, and the Ukraine crisis of 2013-4. While care must be taken not to read too much into the construction of thematic maps, many are clearly designed to connote ‘threat’ to the West, as a reading of both text and maps makes clear. One of the most blatant was produced by The Times (7 Jan. 2009), under the headline containing the words ‘energy war’. The large full-colour map showed Russian pipelines as broad sweeping red arrows, including shadow effects that visually lift the arrows into the air that reinforce the military connotation, and are evocative of the dynamic arrows often used in war maps. The article is also accompanied by a commentary that describes Gazprom as ‘a political weapon’, not a market player. Several other news carriers were more moderate, but generally portrayed Russia’s network in red, and sometimes with arrow-heads (see The Independent, 7 Jan. 2009), presumably to denote direction of flows, but which also connote aggression, especially when accompanying an article entitled a ‘New cold war’. The use of red can simply be attributed to the strength of red in the colour hierarchy, to denote a feature of interest, but it is also well known for symbolising danger or aggression, especially on war maps.

During the 2013-4 Ukraine crisis, the fact that numerous Russian pipelines cross the troubled state raised major concerns in the Western news media. The Mirror, for example, under the headline ‘Ukraine crisis: Gas prices across Europe could it if Russia threatens to turn off supplies’ (7 Mar. 2014) showed the pipelines across Ukraine in bright red, with bold red arrows showing the point of entry from Russia, and blue arrows at the point of exit – it would not be too great a leap of faith to regard this design as heightening the sense of threat. The Mirror’s map gives its source as the ‘National Gas Union of Ukraine’ (a Cyrillic script website with the Ukraine top-level domain), although the English language source is likely to be a version of the map published by East European Gas Analysis (a US based consultancy) (fig. 3). The latter is given as one source by the BBC for its map (3 Mar. 2014), together with the Gas Union. The BBC map also derives additional information on gas fields from the EEAG map that are not featured on the Gas Union version. These two original sources do use the red and blue arrows, but these are much less obtrusive. They also show the pipelines in more technical detail and as thin black lines. Similar maps with minor variations are published by several other news providers. Only CNN (3 Mar. 2014), however, went as far as to strip the map of the pipelines, showing only two of the many entry points as large bold arrows (and the exit point in blue) – a rather bizarre version that emphasises the threat while removing the contextual information.

The geopolitical importance of these pipelines echoes earlier news maps illustrating the Russian military incursion into Georgia in August 2008. Several of the UK’s newspapers showed just how close Russian troops came to the key Baku-Tbilisi-Ceyhan (BTC) oil pipeline as indicative of Russia’s potential to seize control of or disrupt alternative energy supplies to its own. A map in The Daily Telegraph (11 Aug. 2008) used an exaggerated ‘blast’ symbol to show airstrikes close to the pipeline. The Times produced six maps during the crisis, with another in June 2009 (following fears of a second invasion), all of which clearly showed the vulnerable BTC pipeline, and included inset maps indicating its regional importance, alongside discussion of the wider geopolitical threat to the West. The Financial Times also produced numerous maps highlighting vulnerability of both the BTC and the Baku-Supsa pipeline further south.

These examples exemplify the importance of maps within popular geopolitical discourse, and in particular the need for the public to be well informed about the importance of the geography of energy supplies within what is still an unsettled post-Cold War world. However, the news media needs to take care that their maps remain as objective as possible and not fall into connotations of ‘threat’ beyond those that actually exist; the tendency to use symbols more redolent of war than peace is, perhaps, a step too far when diplomacy should always be the first recourse to regional crises.

By Peter Vujaković, Professor of Geography at Canterbury Christ Church University.
BCS Membership Committee

The BCS Council meets five times a year and prior to those council meetings the Membership Committee has a meeting. The members of the Committee are: Jane Sprague and Richard Carpenter who look after awards, Alan Grimwade who represents the corporate members, Alison Gentleman who represents the educational members and Laura Stafford whose responsibility is publicity.

We start with a review of the membership. I’m delighted to be able to tell you that, as at the 22nd November, we have 697 members including 77 corporate members and 9 educational members (all schools). So by the end of 2014 we should meet our target of 700 members. Next on the agenda – awards. The 2014 Awards have yet to be posted online, all the information has been provided and the necessary work to do this was expected to be completed by the end of the month. Also, it agreed that there would be another award for school children based on their classwork during the academic year. Esri UK has already offered to help. Support for this venture would also be sought from The Geographical Association. Whilst the number of schools joining the society was increasing slowly as a result of the Restless Earth Workshops for schools University membership needs to be encouraged there being just four – a real gap in the membership hierarchy. On reflection, perhaps the Universities should be included as educational members.

The number of corporate members continues to grow and it would be good if a few more would put information about their company’s activities on the BCS website – the latter does need updating we know and work is in had to set that process in train. The schools we visit are always very happy to receive maps so if any of the corporate members would like to donate any maps they would be most welcome. You will have seen Roger Hore’s recent email concerning copyright theft. We felt it important that all our members were made aware of this particular scam.

We usually have to consider the BCS Fellowship applications but there weren’t any this time – shame. Most of our new members are recruited at the events we attend so it’s vital that we keep all our marketing materials up to date so we’ll have some new banners very shortly.

By Peter Jolly,
Chair of Membership Committee.

Cartography in the News

The BBC covered the news that James Gregory set out what is believed to be the first meridian line in St Andrews, some 200 years before the Greenwich Meridian was established. In 1673, Gregory laid the Greenwich and would have meant our reliance on ‘St Andrews Mean Time’, rather than GMT. The Greenwich Prime Meridian was adopted in 1884 as it had become relied upon by so many, particularly in the shipping industry, but it is interesting that this much earlier work has now been recognised. Source: bbc.co.uk, 3rd October 2014, via Rob Sharpe.

A new book of the history of Edinburgh through mapping has recently been published, including the first known map of the city from 1530. The maps cover important stages in the development of the city, such as the arrival of the railways, to what was in the 1851 known as ‘Joint Railway Station’, later Waverley Station. Also, a map produced by the temperance movement shows the number of public houses and other outlets to purchase alcohol, in an attempt to call for licensing of such establishments. Edinburgh: Mapping the City is compiled by Chris Fleet, map curators, map historians and map collectors. A newsletter, Cartograph, is issued up to three times a year; an annual workshop, combined with a special visit, is arranged and other workshops and training days are organised as required.

Map Design Group, Co-Conveners

For more information contact us at dgi@wbr.co.uk

From the editors at mapsines.editors@gmail.com

A miscellaneous collection of people and news

BCS Special Interest Groups

Special Interest Groups are open to all members, there are no additional fees.

Map Curators Group, Convenor Mrs Ann Sutherland - For librarians, curators, map historians and map collectors. A newsletter, Cartograph, is issued up to three times a year; an annual workshop, combined with a special visit, is arranged and other workshops and training days are organised as required.

Map Design Group, Co-Conveners

To join or for further information on any one of these groups please contact BCS Administration at admin@cartography.org.uk

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

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Visit the BCS website at www.cartography.org.uk
The Bodleian Library Blog

As with other departments in similar institutions the Map Department of the Bodleian Library is a treasure trove of material. Within the collection there are maps of countries from Abu Dhabi to Zimbabwe and then up into the solar system, and of Ambridge to the Island of Sodor via Middle Earth. We have First World War trench maps, D-Day planning maps; maps showing cholera outbreaks; and breweries, gin houses and pubs in Victorian Oxford.

Despite such a wealth of material it has always been a challenge getting information on the depth of the collection across to our readers. Staff experience and a comprehensive card catalogue (which is currently being digitised and more and more of the collection is accessible via our online catalogue) can only take us so far, but with the advent of the Internet we at the Bodleian believe we have found an answer to our problem, we’ve set up a blog.

The impetus for doing so has an unlikely source, the redevelopment of the Map Department’s traditional home in the New Bodleian Library, based in Broad Street in the centre of Oxford. Built in the 1930s the listed building was in need of an extensive refurbishment to fit in with modern standards, which necessitated its entire contents - collections, staff and fixtures and fittings - to move out to various locations in and around the city and beyond.

As well as the entire collection of maps, atlases and Ordnance Survey volumes catalogued and listed in our card and online catalogues we also had to sort through and move to the newly built Book Storage Facility, a number of donated collections from other libraries which hadn’t been looked at. In moving and sorting through these collections many interesting and unusual items have come to our attention; United States Navy charts with mine identification guides on the back; maps made by the Polish Ministry of Information and Documentation on the Warsaw Uprising; and a map showing the different ships and heads of state that were at the opening of the Kiel Canal in 1895 being just a few examples.

The desire to bring such a wealth of new material to a wider audience led to the setting up of our blog in September 2012. Deputy Map Librarian and GIS expert Mike Athanson were asked to look into how to achieve this and has created, using WordPress, a visually pleasing back-drop featuring an extract from the first edition map covering Oxford. Articles appear on a central strip, which is illustrated with maps.

Up until the setting up of the blog in September 2012, the conventional approach to alerting the public of new additions to the collection was via our monthly accessions list, an important publication that lists title, scale and publishing information.

Now we can feature key maps much more fully on the blog, writing about the contents and their provenance (if known) and most importantly, show them as well.

The blog for the Map Department of the Bodleian Library can be found here:
http://blogs.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/maps/
concluding in the afternoon with a visit to the jewellery quarter.

It has long been felt that there are many folk put in charge of maps and who need help in coping. Therefore on Tuesday 9th September, prior to the workshop, a training day entitled “Feral maps and how to tame them” was organised by Paula Williams, Curator, Maps, Mountaineering and Polar Collections, National Library of Scotland. Speakers included Andrew Janes from the National Archives, Debbie Hall from the Bodleian Library Paula Williams on cataloguing maps Chris Walker on scanning and geo-referencing, April Carlucci on storage and Donna Sherman on promoting your map collection. Interspersed with each talk were map bites, the first on map terminology.

All in all, both the training day and the workshop were voted to be a success.

By Ann Sutherland, MCG Convenor.

The Map Curators held their annual workshop at Birmingham University Conference Centre in September. The theme was “Hands across the Map: co-operation and partnership in map collections.”

Speakers before lunch included Peter Jones, MBE, President of the British Cartographic Society, Magdalena Peszko of the British Library, Oliver Russell from Worcester Archives and Record Service. After lunch Michael Athanson from the Bodleian Library was followed by Jim Ranahan of the Library of Birmingham and Ifigenia Vardakosta from Harokopio University, Athens, Greece. Peter Jones spoke on “Vultures, vodka and ladies of the night”; this was a description of his experiences in collecting maps for the DGC. Magdalena works on a project for the Qatar Foundation Partnership and how the British Library is involved. Oliver Russell described the tithe map project in Worcestershire and how working with local groups provides GIS resources for the Worcestershire Historic Environment RECORD.

The lunch break provided an opportunity to discuss the mornings’ presentations with the speakers. The afternoon session commenced with Michael Athanson describing how he provides University wide support, training and consultancy in digital map making using GIS. This was followed by Jim Ranahan giving a very amusing account of moving a map collection to the new library of Birmingham. Unfortunately Ifigenia had to leave but Paula Williams read her paper on users perspectives for geospatial collection development in open access era: the case for Greece.

The annual business meeting was held after the tea break. On the 11th September a group visit was made to the Cadbury Collection followed by a visit to the new Library of Birmingham concluding in the afternoon with a visit to the jewellery quarter.

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

A Celebration of 50 Years of The British Cartographic Society

AN IDEAL CHRISTMAS PRESENT!
Following a very successful 2014 awards year I am very much looking forward to viewing all the entries for the 2015 awards and meeting as many entrants as possible during the course of the Symposium. I found it fascinating in the run up to the 2014 awards, mainly during email exchanges, as I discovered either more about the entry or the entrant. Every map is produced for a reason and there is a story behind it. I love stories, so get in touch and tell me your story behind your map.

Currently there are still the four awards categories of Avenza, John C Bartholomew, OS OpenData and Stanfords. As Jim Irvine mentioned at the Symposium in June the John C Bartholomew Award has changed slightly in its criteria. Full details may be found online in the awards section.

The 2015 Symposium will be held in September rather than June next year but the qualifying production year for the awards will remain the same, 1st May 2014 – 30th April 2015, as will the closing date of 30th April 2015. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any queries at all about either the criteria or processes involved.

Last year there were 40 entries for all four categories, the majority of which were for the Stanfords Award. This year I would like to see a marked increase in the number of entries across all four awards categories. Whilst the judging will take longer and the logistical problem of how to exhibit all the entries at the Symposium will be a nightmare I would like you all to give me a challenge. Vanessa Lawrence rallied the cartographic community at the Symposium as OS OpenData is used by so many cartographers and yet the number of entries for that particular award was very disappointing. Her rallying cry extends to all the categories. Don’t let her down. The revised John C Bartholomew Award should enable many more entries to be submitted for that category too.

Remember, so long as the map fulfills the entry criteria it can be entered for as many categories as you like. And if you are not a map producer but know of a map that could be entered then please encourage the cartographer to look at the awards section online and enter their creation, or contact me and I will endeavour to contact them. You never know, it might just win and they might just buy you a pint!

By Jane Sprague, BA (Hons), FRGS, FBCart.S BCS Awards Officer. Jeanne3594@aol.com Jane.Sprague679@mod.uk
The 14th edition of The Times Comprehensive Atlas of the World has been published to the same high, professional standard that we have become accustomed to.

The hard cover book has 320 pages of high quality maps and illustrations showing how the world has changed since the last edition in 2011. The atlas, having been first published in 1895, is now 119 years old.

New features in the atlas include: a double page spread of the Arctic Ocean which shows the differing extents of sea ice in the summers of 2010, 2012 and 2013; new maps of sub-ice features in both the Arctic and Antarctic; Physical maps of all the continents showing land features which offer a useful counterpoint to political mapping.

There have been major updates in the following areas: 5000 place name changes, most notably in Brazil, Japan, Spain, South Korea and Taiwan; Updated national parks and conserved areas including the Kavango Zambezi Transfrontier Conservation Area, the largest conservation area in the world; the addition of over 50 major waterfalls around the world.

The information section at the front of the atlas is packed with well-illustrated, informative articles including new articles on energy and climate change.

This atlas is a must have item for anyone or any organisation who is interested in authoritative geographical information of the world. In the words of Jethro Lennox, editor of the Atlas: "In this digital age, the experience of opening an atlas and exploring the world still cannot be matched by modern technology. The large format of The Times Comprehensive Atlas of the World allows you to see the bigger picture on a single page, at a scale that’s easy to view and easy to read. While a computer screen limits our ability to enjoy such an overview, the atlas enables you to see places and regions in their true geographical context. ‘There’s no need to search for a place, you can just open it up and start dreaming.’ I couldn’t agree more!"

Published by Times Books, UK RRP £150. Format 450mm by 310mm, hardback with slipcase.
**UKCC & BCS Admin Report**

**Members have the choice of four subscriptions 2015**

The call is out for expression of interest in standing for ICA vice-president and for Commission chairs. The Commissions are the heart of ICA activities and the UK has been strongly represented by commission chairs and vice-chairs in recent years. The UKCC will meet in January and consider proposals and decide what will be put forward to the General Assembly.

In addition to the main conference in Rio, many of the commissions are planning pre-conference workshops. These are much more focussed than the main conference and typically bring together small groups of people with clearly shared interests. Most often they are free to attend or only have a nominal registration fee to cover catering. Being smaller meetings, they offer a great way of getting to know people and share ideas. Information about ICA commissions and their activities can be found at:

http://icaci.org/commissions/

One of the major tasks in preparation for the General Assembly is the preparation of the National Report on cartographic activities over the last four years.

Our practice has been to publish this as a special issue of The Cartographic Journal, and this will be done again. This has always been well received by members, but was a bit disappointing in 2011 due to a lack of contributions. This is an ideal opportunity for all involved in cartography and mapping in the UK to let the rest of the UK and international community know what you do. All that is required is a few hundred words about your activities. We would like the issue to be well illustrated, so each contribution can be accompanied by an illustration of your work. We aim to have as comprehensive as possible coverage of government agencies, private companies, free-lancers, educational establishments and related organisations. The call for contributions will be going out early in the New Year, so do please respond. If you would like further information please contact me.

As well as the national report, we will also be organising the UK contribution to the international map exhibition held as part of ICC2015. Again, this is an excellent opportunity to promote your products, bottle paper and digital. At the time of writing I await confirmation of details from the organisers, but I expect the deadline for contributions to be end of January. The UK will retain reputation to maintain, having won three awards in each of the last two international exhibitions.

**International Map Year**

A major initiative of the ICA is International Map Year 2015-16. Many things are still in the planning stage, but a website has been created:

http://internationalmapyear.org/

A small group met recently to discuss UK contributions to this international celebration of maps and we will be publishing a programme soon. There is an opportunity for all mapping related activities over the next year or so to be badged with the International Map Year logo, so do contact me if you would like your event to be added to our list of activities. One of our plans is to develop materials for a travelling exhibition. Initial thoughts are that this could supplement a display of maps in a local library – an ideal opportunity for local libraries to show off what they have, but also link to a national and global context. A full programme should be available in the next edition of Maplines.

By David Forrest, Chair, UK Committee for Cartography. david.forrest@glasgow.ac.uk

**New Members**

The society has the pleasure of welcoming the following new members who have joined the society since the publication of the Summer 2014 edition of Maplines.

**Corporate Members:**

Cassini Publishing Ltd, Pear Technology Services Ltd.

**Educational Members:**

Alsgater School.

**UK Members:**

Miss A Altringham, Mr W Apted, Mr D Bazazi, Mr J Barwell, Mr M Barwell, Mr C Burnett, Dr U Demsar, Mr P Devoy, Mr S Gandhi, Mr R Graham, Dr F Gravestock, Mr C Hellyar, Mr D Hogan, Mr E Inman, Mr J Leigh, Ms V Marlowe, Mr P Naylor and Mrs A Serfn.

**Overseas Members:**

Ms A Prabhakar.

**UK Associate Members:**

Mr K Bland, Miss H Davies, Mr R Phillips and Mr G Seggie.

And Finally, I would like to thank all those members who returned their ballot papers the response this year was the highest (20%) for quite a few years. After the plaudits now the plea — all those members who do not pay their membership subscriptions by Standing Order will have by now received their renewal form for 2015. Could I ask that you please return them with payment as soon as possible. It takes a great deal of time and money to constantly chase up late payments and I believe that members are aware that the subscription renewal date is 1st January each year and not on the anniversary of joining the society.

The society is currently re-negotiating the contract with Maney Publishing regarding The Cartographic Journal which members receive as part of their society membership. Included in the new contract will be the facility for fellow, ordinary, associate, small corporate and educational members to be given access to the journal online, to accomplish this Maney Publishing will be contacting all members for whom we have an email contact address direct to give them instructions on how to access the journal online. So for those members who are not receiving updates from the society by email (we send out a lot) it means that we do not have a current email address for you — so a second plea, if you do not think we have the correct email address please send it to me at admin@cartography.org.uk.

Having just returned from the Annual General Meeting and latest Council Meeting (with a gentle reminder ringing in my ears from the Maplines editor to get my piece in soonest!) I remembered that I usually make a comment about the weather and the Met Office around this time of the year but after listening to a very interesting talk given by Helen Willetts, BBC Weather Presenter, following the AGM I think I will leave well alone.

My regards to you all and all the best for 2015.

By Roger Hore, BCS Administration.

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**UKCC & BCS Admin Report**

**Love guest speakers who talk about the same things.**

How often do you hear that being said about organised events? Maybe it can put us off attending. Recently I have taken more time to attend local business networking events, outside of our “normal” circles. Although the initial reaction is often along the lines of, “I have never met a cartographer before (like we are from another planet) or do you work for the Ordnance Survey?” So you produce Sat Navs etc, I have been pleasantly surprised by the results.

Given the opportunity to have these conversations, I quickly realised there is a real lack of knowledge about our industry and what we have to offer. Mapping is used in so many ways, but too many people/businesses don’t appreciate what we as cartographers do and if you like, press the default button and settle for something that “will do” rather than engage the skills that are available.

Business is about building relationships and networking is the perfect way to build your business. Sales people will say, “if I could just get in front of our potential customers, get to know them, tell them why we can trust us, the sales would come”. They are probably not wrong.

Maybe potential clients don’t know we exist or what we can do for them. Networking is about meeting and talking. People come prepared to do business at networking events, they are off site, and more relaxed, a perfect time to have a meaningful conversation.

The BCS gives us perfect opportunities to network, yes the same faces are there (that is a good thing), but let us all look outside the box and encourage more new faces into our circles.

By Alan Grimwade, BCS Corporate Liaison Officer Cosmographics. alan.grimwade@cosmographics.co.uk
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