

ANZMapS Bulletin March 18, 2023

Dear members and friends, this is the first of our bulletins to consider the future of ANZMapS, anticipating a Special General Meeting (SMG), to be held in late May (date to be confirmed).

Special General Meeting

As mentioned in the email circulated to members last month, we face challenges in maintaining membership numbers, in garnering content for *The Globe* and producing events, but most fundamentally, in filling committee positions. The current committee is due to vacate in September 2023, with some key personnel unavailable for ongoing service. These include your President, Secretary, Business Manager, and Editor.

While there will be scope at the SMG to discuss *The Globe* and other issues, the main purpose of the SMG will be to consider whether a committee can be achieved, and if so, what changes may need to be made to make it sustainable. If you wish to consider what's currently involved, there are role descriptions on the website for each position. If you are interested in joining the committee I can, from many years experience sincerely recommend getting involved. It's a great opportunity to talk about maps with knowledgeable people, and run a society.

This would see us to the Annual General Meeting in September, at which point the 2010 Constitution allows those present to vote in a new committee, or potentially vote on matters relating to the winding up of the Society. The Constitution may be found on the Society's About page - <https://anzmaps.org/about/>

Over the next two months, your committee will be communicating with you and adding documents to the website, and I encourage all who wish to, to comment in response to the bulletins via the email list or privately to committee members if you'd like to know more about participation on the committee.

Some questions to consider, and that have so far been considered by the present committee, include:

- Are there potential changes to the running of the Society that may be made that would enable it to continue?
- Are there companion societies that ANZMapS might approach for merger?
- How will *The Globe* continue, e.g. run via a paid Editor and editorial committee, and be made more economic and sustainable?

Any changes in the business of the Society would of course require some form of ongoing administration and participation, so above all a committee is essential.

***The Globe* and membership**

The journal will continue to be issued as long as our Editor receives suitable content, so please continue to subscribe and receive the next issue, due out in the first half of this year. [Subscriptions for 2023 are now payable](#)

Bulletins and other communications

The intention is to send the membership fortnightly Bulletins between this one and the SGM at the end of May, advising of any documents, summarising progress and comments as these are received (comments without attribution if requested).

The SGM will be the primary face to face opportunity (via Zoom) to discuss the future of ANZMapS, to gauge interest in committee participation, and potentially make recommendations to the AGM. On behalf of the committee I encourage you to engage with the issues, and consider involvement on the committee.

In terms of the communication plan, the committee will be doing the following:

- The committee as a whole will ensure there is a website news item for each update, including a link to relevant documents at www.anzmaps.org
- Brendan Whyte will update the email list and be responsible for recording any feedback on the list and website
- Martin Woods will email fortnightly bulletins to the membership and Sarah Ryan is responsible for collating any feedback given
- The committee will develop role statements so that all can consider existing committee roles and responsibilities
- Member comments and questions will be collated and summarised prior to the SGM.

Contact details for all committee members are here: <https://anzmaps.org/about/>

Future bulletins will be circulated fortnightly prior to the SGM. Please join us in this discussion, and consider what you can do to help the society shape its future.