



# Newsletter

Winter 2014

## Spatialites,

Welcome to this warm winter edition of our Newsletter where we introduce the new executive team at Fungis, reminisce about the Staying Connected event and AGM in June and highlight continuing spatial innovation in the North.

Since I was flying overseas, the first Fungis AGM and workshop I missed since I moved to FNQ in 2010 was this June's AGM. When I spoke to Alistair (the outgoing Chair) a few days later, I heard that I had been voted in as chair. I had offered to continue to serve on the exec but wasn't expecting this. That's the last meeting I miss!

We have a **vibrant executive** with some new faces and some who have been involved since Fungis started. I must thank the outgoing team for their dedication through the last few years to build the organisation up to its current strong financial position and excellent reputation for hosting creative and inspiring programs.

As we look through old meeting minutes and go through the notes from the Directions forum at the June workshop, **we have gained a clearer idea of where this organisation needs to go**. We are certainly standing on the shoulders of giants and this helps us to continue to build our user group.

In response to Fungis members' expressed desire for more face to face workshops/seminars, the Exec is

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## Editors' Corner

**The editorial team** needs your help in developing upcoming issues of this newsletter which we hope to deliver to you every quarter. Please send us any fun pictures and articles relating to your work in GIS. After all it is not all just in front of the computer! **We need funny stories about what people think GIS is, hair loss incidents from dealing with software and inspirational and innovative projects that you are working on, have seen online or at conferences.**

newsletter@fungis.org

Do you know???

What is the tidiest  
element on a map?

The neatline

# Meet the Exec

Our aims for Fungis over the next year...



**Chair: George Chandee Corea**

"Take spatial innovation to non-professional users"



**Deputy Chair: Trevor Parker**

"Professional development is essential to keep your finger on the pulse"



**Treasurer: Nicole Austin**

"I just want to have fun and wish the same for others"



**Secretary: Anne Stapledon**



**Commonwealth Government Representative: Melanie Smith**

"Make connections with like minded organizations in other regions"



**NRM Representatives: Sharlene Blakeney**

"Encourage better membership communication and knowledge sharing"



**Newsletter Representative: Leigh Twine**

"Deliver helpful spatial solutions for Fungis members."



**Other Representative: Alistair Hart**

"Provide continuity of corporate knowledge and support well-informed decision making by the Executive as a group."

aiming to organise a get together every quarter starting with simple networking events. The first of these will be held on Friday the 19th of September evening. 10 attendees will be asked to share for 3 minutes each on their spatial adventures and we will have some fun and games. **Speakers will get free entrance! Vote online now to choose the venue.**



QCon14 is happening in Cairns from 7th to 10th October, and Fungis will be hosting a Ladies' Breakfast on Wednesday 8th October for QCon delegates and others wanting to start the day with energy and laughter! :-). Don't miss this opportunity to network with spatial professionals without having to attend QCon.



At the end of November (28th-30th) we will have a weekend workshop with Shaun Kolomeitz (a spatial professional with over 25 years experience, the last 10 with open standards and open source systems). **The challenge will be to create useful spatial information with only freely**

“ The early days of GIS were very lonely. No-one knew what it meant.

”

-Roger Tomlinson, **Father of GIS**

**available software and data.** This will be at the historic Woodleigh Station.

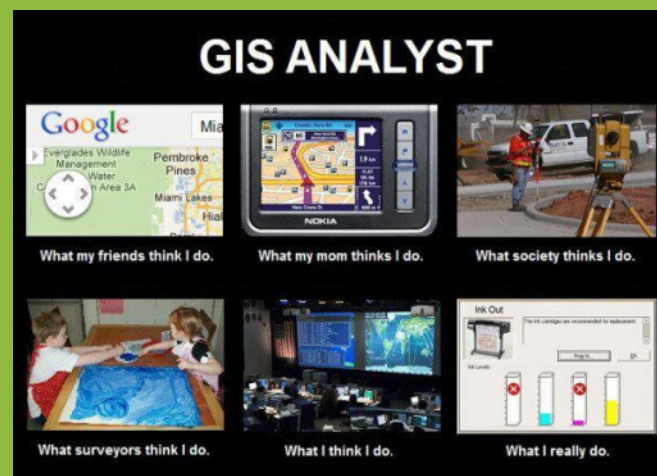
We have been **revitalising our website** for the last few months and plan to use it to **engage the membership** more. I hope all of you have signed on as a "Friend of Fungis" and paid your membership dues.

The site is designed to be dynamic and to sustain it we need people to continually supply new content and update existing information. Read the detailed article in this newsletter for a walk through. Please take the time to login and post new articles about any spatial program.

We plan to create a **premium, members only section** which will work with SIBA, AusIndustries, Senator McLucas and other organisations and individuals to **provide information on available projects and funding resources.**

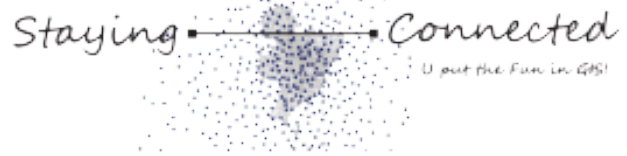
## GIS What I Do For Work

Here is a popular meme floating around the social media circles was the "what I do versus what other people think I do" meme. Eventually, someone made one for GIS. Here's the meme for GIS Analyst:



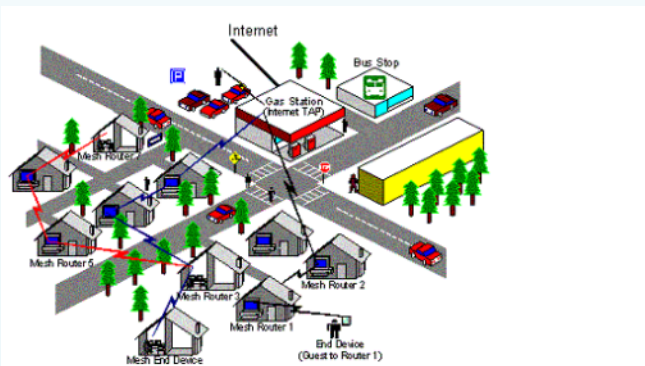


# Conference Wrap-up



On the back of a massively successful 25yr anniversary that was the 2013 FunGIS conference, the 2014 conference held on the 6th June at the Pacific International was no letdown. As Chair, Alistair Hart kicked off the day in true AI style, welcoming delegates before handing over to keynote speaker JoAnn Resing.

The theme for the event 'staying connected' was most appropriate following the year that funGIS had had and JoAnn's keynote address on wireless mesh networking complimented this theme perfectly. With a mini wireless setup complete in the conference room JoAnne was able to demonstrate how easily wireless networking can be implemented to improve communication, equipment control and general lifestyle in a rural setting.



The conference sponsor, was next to take the stage with a product update from Greg Hickey. It was interesting to hear the direction that ESRI are taking with ArcGIS, where it will be evolving to make better use of online mapping and making GIS accessible more broadly across an organization. As per usual the Pacific International provided a scrumptious morning tea and the intimate crowd provided a great opportunity to properly network and get to know the other delegates.



After morning tea we had first time presenter at a FunGIS conference – Nicky Austin, who kindly shared with us her quest in aerial imagery acquisition using her personal drones and open source software. Nicky was followed by longstanding presenter Alistair, with a presentation on enabling the workforce with accessible GIS. Both presentations had fantastic examples of imagery that they had captured from both sky and street views.

Sergeant Jeff Magnus of was next off the block. Jeff introduced the new disaster incident and emergency management system (DIEMS). The web based program has only just been adopted by police across Australia and prior to this they relied on internal networks and servers, not the most reliable option in an emergency response. Jeff also spoke about the importance of GIS skills in emergency situations, particularly in control centres where GIS can be a matter of saving lives. At lunch time we were treated to an aerial display by Nicky Austin, who expertly handled her drone within the airspace of the conference room.

Following lunch and on a more serious note, the AGM was this year preceded by the directions forum. As the dynamics of the FunGIS executive committee were changing it was seen fit that we discussed where we would like to see the organization go, prior to making any executive decision through the AGM. It was recognized that the executive committee needs some new energy injected into it.

The AGM had a fair turnout with some members who were unable to make it to the entire day, joining in during their lunch breaks, revealing just how much members care about the future of the group. We farewelled our outgoing Chair Alistair and phoned in

George who was holidaying in Sri Lanka to see if he would step up to the big job. The rest of the exec was elected and it was exciting to see a few returning members and some new ones too.



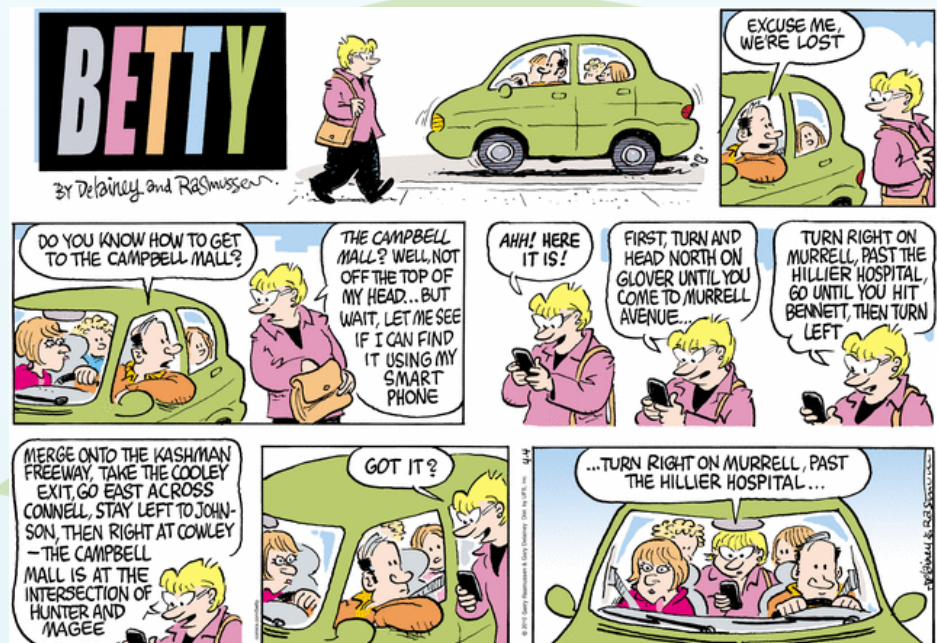
After a serious afternoon we broke for afternoon tea and some cool Weis Bars whilst preparations began for the Spatial Olympics hosted by life member Bob Peever. A fantastically fun way to end the day, the Spatial Olympics saw teams compete in what were mainly sprint events - racing to the map shop and back, scanning a globe and testing their geometry skills.

Overall the day was a casual and intimate affair which was quite the contrast to the organization of the 2013 conference. The low key day allowed members and delegates to relax and catch up with one another which really brought home the message and theme 'staying connected'. Good work to those who put in the effort in keeping the FunGIS spirit going this year.



### Pictures:

- \*Sgt Jeff Magnus of Queensland police presenting on the Disaster Incident Emergency and Response System.
- \*Nicole Austin flying her drone
- \*Alistair Hart, Xiao Shang and Andrew Mitchell holding the inaugural Spatial Olympics trophy and the drone.

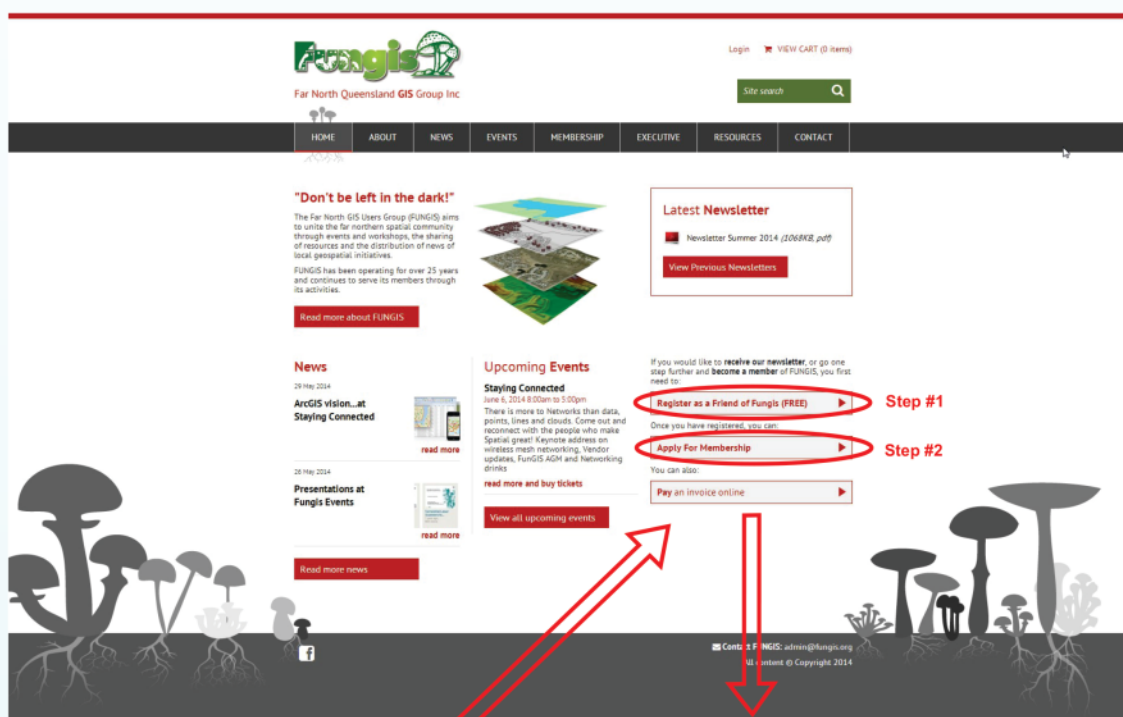




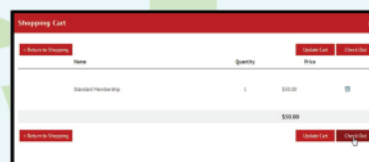
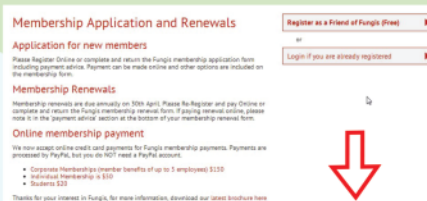
# Website Editing Process

Fungis has a splendid new website which will make it easier to stay connected to your profession through the Fungis community. Go have a look at:

<http://www.fungis.org>



To gain the full function of the new site you will have to register as a Friend of Fungis. This is FREE. You can then complete your 2014 membership form and pay



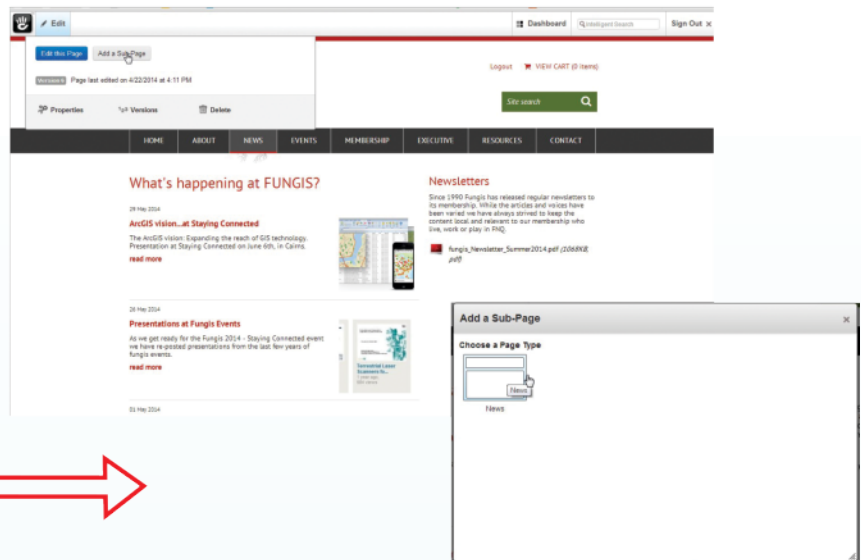
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The Fungis website belongs to the membership.

All members can be given the following rights if they request it as part of their membership

- a. Ability to edit and immediately post ANY news article.
- b. Ability to edit any other webpage but the edits are only made public if a web admin approves it.
- c. Their username is recorded as the editor (a history is maintained.)

The editing process is very simple. When you are logged in you will see:



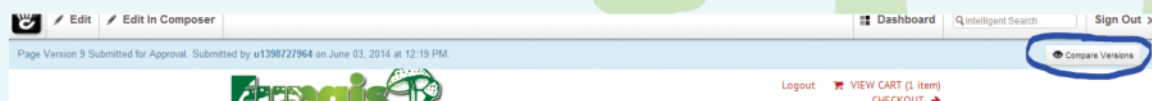
There are 2 distinct sections to each news article.

This is the content that is seen on the home page. It has to be very short. This is repeated in the main page of the news item so it should not have any of the same text

The above shows the main content of the article. Once the text is edited click "Submit to Workflow"

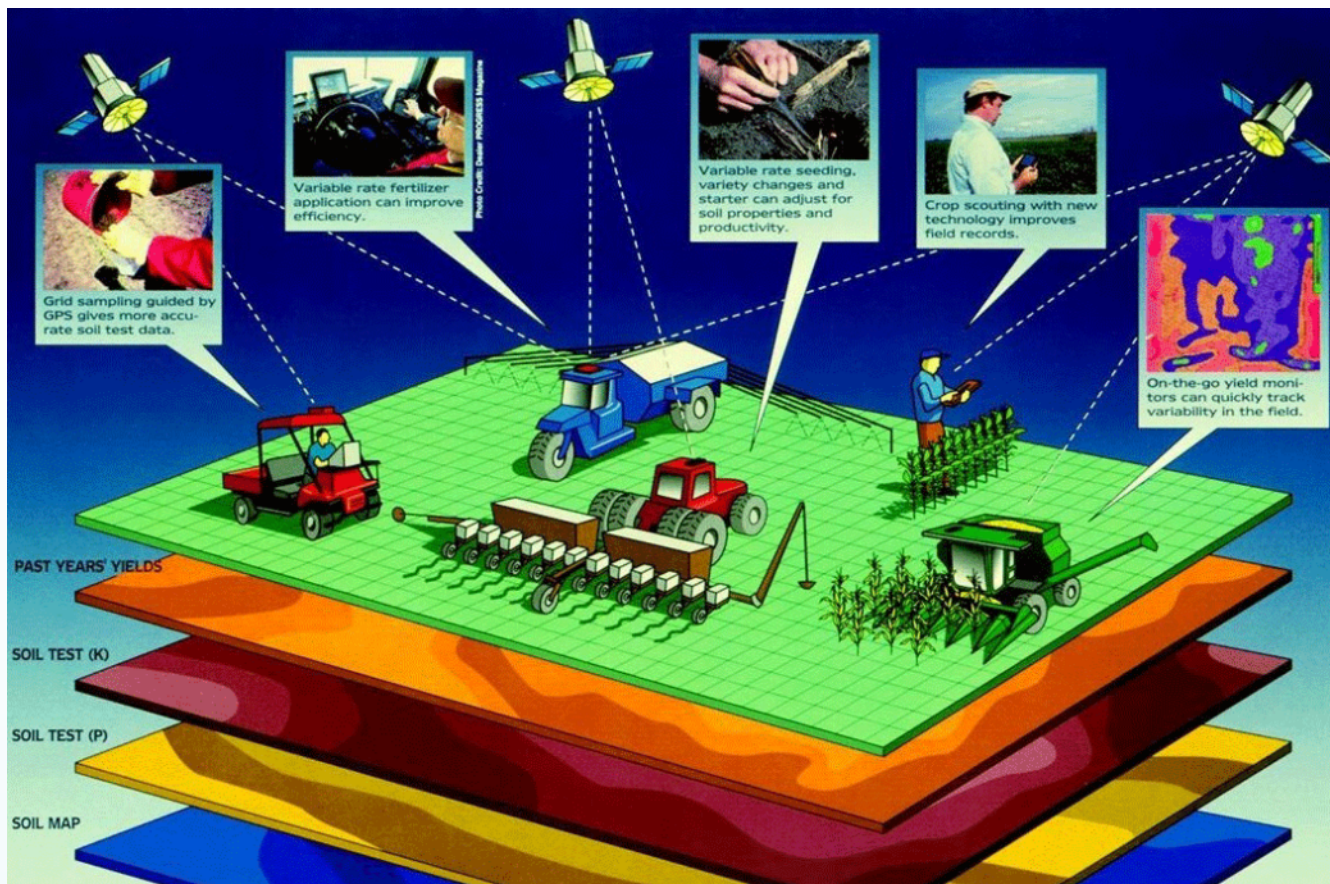
If you are editing an existing article, you can jump directly to step 3 and 4 by using the "Edit in Composer" button

You will then see the following on the top. You can compare versions and see what edits have been done



**Please consider contributing to the website to make it a more dynamic and interesting place for us all to gather**





# GIS

What my friends think I do

What my mom thinks I do

What society thinks I do

What my clients think I do

What I think I do

What I really do



# Local Events

## Spatial Ideas After Dark : Sept 19th (evening)



At our directions forum in June and many other events, spatial professionals have indicated that they want to network more and have events that are fun and held regularly.

We have thus planned Spatial Ideas After Dark. We will meet at a restaurant or pub somewhere in the area and have short 3 min pitches of what fun things we are doing with GIS -it may even be a drinking game :-)

**Location:** We want to have it at places that are convenient for the majority. Please vote on our website by Sept 5th.

## FunGals - Tuesday 8th October

Fun-Gals is a Fungis initiative designed to engage women in surveying and spatial sciences across the far-north. The launch of the program will offer women in the industry the opportunity to come together in a relaxed and informal forum to present and discuss ideas over breakfast, followed by time for networking before work. Fun-Gals is inspired by the SSSI Women in Spatial initiative.

**Location:** To Be Confirmed (somewhere in the Cairns CBD at 7am)



## QCON14 : Oct 7-10, 2014

QCON14 is a unique platform for members of the Surveying and Spatial Community to network, share ideas and learn about innovations and industry advancements. The theme this year is: 'Repositioning for a Sustainable Future' QCON14 will look at how the Surveying and Spatial Sciences can help provide a balance of economic prosperity and environmental sustainability, while also examining the changing roles of our profession to ensure our own longevity. <http://www.cvent.com/events/qcon14/>

**Location:** Cairns Convention Center, Cairns, QLD.

Contact: SSSI Queensland Office on 07 3217 2566 or [qcon14@sssi.org.au](mailto:qcon14@sssi.org.au)

## Practical Open GIS Workshop: November 28th to 30th, 2014

This is a QGIS workshop that is tailored to non-spatial professionals. Day 1 will go through the fundamentals of GIS and QGIS. Day 2 will be focussed on practical application of QGIS. Spatial professionals who aren't familiar with QGIS are encouraged to attend this day. The Saturday dinner will also be a networking event where you can discuss more advanced GIS analysis that you could implement for the attendees.

**Location:** Woodleigh Station, Ravenshoe

Contact: [info@fungis.org](mailto:info@fungis.org) ; 0451534563 ; [www.fungis.org/events/open-gis/](http://www.fungis.org/events/open-gis/)