



The Royal Society of Queensland Inc.

PO Box 6021, St Lucia 4067.

General inquiries rsocqld@gmail.com

President president@royalsocietyqld.org.au

ABN 64 658 824 035

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Proceedings of the Royal Society of Queensland SPRINGS SPECIAL ISSUE 2019

GUIDE TO AUTHORS

INTRODUCTION

The *Proceedings of the Royal Society of Queensland* (PRSQ) publishes natural history topics of relevance to Queensland, with a very broad range of subjects including biodiversity, conservation, use, management and economic significance of natural resources; all aspects of botany, geology, hydrology and zoology, the biology, impacts and management of introduced species, biomedicine studies and papers on culture and heritage. The journal will also publish papers on general science, including science-related policy, education and philosophy.

All submitted papers except thesis abstracts will be peer reviewed prior to a decision being taken on their publication.

Papers submitted for publication in PRSQ must not contain material that has either been published or is currently under consideration for publication elsewhere.

From time to time the Society publishes “Special Issues” on a focused theme. A distinct *Guide to Authors* will apply to each of these issues. This Guide applies to a **Special Issue on GAB Springs**, proposed to be published in 2019.

GENERAL PROVISIONS APPLYING TO ALL PROCEEDINGS

Types of manuscript

The following types of manuscripts will be considered:

(i) **Scientific Papers** – Full papers containing substantial new data or a substantial review. Submitted papers should not exceed 20 manuscript pages including figures, tables and reference list; or 10,000 words of text.

(ii) **Short Communications** – A maximum of 4000 words. Primary research articles reporting discrete items of completed research or topical reports of developments relevant to natural resources in Queensland.

(iii) **Thesis Abstracts** – A maximum of 500 words. Thesis abstracts aim to disseminate and summarise work performed at the Honours, MSc and PhD level. The author must provide evidence that the thesis is completed and accepted. (There will be no peer review of thesis abstracts).

(iv) **Opinion Papers and Historical Papers** – An opinion piece (maximum of 6000 words) should be written as a perspective, not a formal review. It should be of interest to a broad readership, with an emphasis on its Queensland relevance. A brief review and critique of past and current

work should be given, but the author's own outlook on the subject should be included, in addition to their view on new directions in the field and how it should progress. The author does not have to agree with conventional thought, but should present both sides of any debate. Historical papers should describe past events related to the natural resources of Queensland. These papers should include an abstract, introduction and conclusion as well as the appropriate headed sections within the paper.

(v) **Book Reviews** – Authors of books on topics within the scope of PRSQ may contact the Guest Editor to arrange for a book review by a mutually agreed reviewer who has demonstrated expertise in the topics covered. Such reviews may be up to 2000 words, and include profiles of the book author and reviewer.

The PRSQ acts to highlight research and researchers relevant to Queensland. To further this, an Author Profile may appear at the end of each paper. It contains brief details of the authors and their research interest. It can be up to a maximum of 100 words in length.

Style guide for submissions to PRSQ

Authors are urged to follow this style guide. Failure to do so may necessitate the return of the manuscript to the author for style revision, and associated delays in publication. It is advisable for authors to examine the style of papers in the previous volume PRSQ before submitting papers.

MANUSCRIPTS' FORMAT

Manuscripts should be submitted electronically to the Guest Editor as a Microsoft Word document, formatted for an A4 sized page with wide margins (at least 2.5cm). Text should be double spaced and every page (including the title page) numbered. Please use the word processing software to number all lines in the manuscript sequentially.

Scientific papers should be organised as follows: Title page (title in upper case), names and addresses of authors); ABSTRACT (300 words maximum); INTRODUCTION; MATERIALS AND METHODS (including study area); RESULTS; DISCUSSION; ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS; LITERATURE CITED; AUTHOR PROFILE. Alternative headings may be relevant for other types of manuscripts; please consult the Guest Editor if clarifications are required in this regard.

Please apply paragraph styles (see the latest volume of PRSQ for examples) to all text. Paragraphs should be separated by one line with no indentation.

References should be arranged alphabetically under authors' names. Publications by the same author(s) in the same year should be listed as 1993a, 1993b, etc. Several papers by the same author should be arranged: sole author; one co-author; several co-authors (listed chronologically).

The use of italics is restricted to names of genera and species.

Accuracy in calculations, figures, tables, names, quotations, references etc. is the complete responsibility of the author(s).

References should be in the APA 6th format.

TABLES & FIGURES/ILLUSTRATIONS

Excessive use of table and figures, and large tables should be avoided.

Each table should be typed on a separate page, be numbered and have a brief title.

Photographic figures should be of good contrast and a high resolution (at least 600dpi). Figures should be saved in TIFF format, independent of the manuscript.

Figure captions should be typed on a separate page at the end of the manuscript in the form: FIG.1. Study region.

Do not embed tables or figures into the manuscript file.

Figures should be restricted to only 2-dimensional representations. Do not forget the labels and units. Captions for the figures should give a precise description of the content and should not be repeated within the figure. Tables should be created using the table function.

Submission of manuscripts

Authors should submit their papers electronically to the Special Issue Guest Editor. The submission will normally consist of the following files:

1. Manuscript in Microsoft Word format.
2. Figure captions in Microsoft Word format.
3. Each table and figure submitted separately in table format or as TIFF files.

Peer review

Authors may include with their submission the names, affiliations, and email addresses of two possible referees expert in the field. Such persons should be chosen so as to give a completely independent and unbiased appraisal of the submitted paper.

Proof corrections, costs and offprints

Proofs will be sent to the author via e-mail as an Acrobat PDF (portable document format) file. The e-mail server must be able to accept attachments up to 4 MB in size. Acrobat Reader will be required in order to read this file. This software can be downloaded (free of charge) from the Adobe.com Web site.

Authors are requested not to make major changes to their papers at the proof stage, and to return the details of corrections to the Guest Editor as soon as possible, preferably in Word format.

There are no page charges for publication in the PRSQ. Authors will be sent a PDF version of the final published paper. Authors of papers with colour figures may be asked to pay for the associated costs unless covered by sponsorship.

Membership of the Royal Society of Queensland

Membership of the Society is strongly encouraged and is open to any person interested in the progress of the natural sciences in Queensland. However, it is not a requirement for authors to be members of the Society in order to submit papers to the *Proceedings*.

Copyright

Copyright relating to papers published within the Proceedings, and the right to charge fees for reproduction are transferred to and retained by the Society.

GAB SPRINGS SPECIAL ISSUE 2019

From time to time the Society publishes themed Special Issues with a regional focus; examples being The Border Ranges, the Mulga Lands, The Brigalow Belt and the sand islands.

The Royal Society of Queensland is aware of tremendous current interest in the history, Indigenous values, scientific understanding and management of springs in the GAB. Recent research on these springs has documented their biodiversity and ecology, risks to these springs,

and management issues. Knowledge of rare and endangered species is growing, and new species are still being discovered. Historic knowledge of the springs (e.g. early maps of their distributions), their importance to indigenous peoples, geomorphology and hydrology, physico-chemical environment, taxonomic and ecological research findings, threat studies, protection processes (e.g. legislation), management programs, and societal values all point to the need to assemble a Special Issue of papers of wide general and scientific interest. It is anticipated that there will be a strong demand for this compendium.

The Royal Society of Queensland has agreed to publish a Special Issue in addition to its regular issue of the *Proceedings* capturing these themes and others of relevance to the broad topic.

Guest Editor

The Guest Editor for the Special Issue is Dr Renee Rossini:

Dr Renee Rossini
PhD, Hons (BSc/BA) The University of Queensland,
Ecologist, Queensland Trust for Nature
renee.rossini@ugconnect.edu.au
Telephone: 0400 264 285

Professor Angela Arthington, Member of Council, Royal Society of Queensland, has offered to join an Editorial Committee and to advise the Guest Editor on matters arising.

Professor Angela H. Arthington
Australian Rivers Institute,
Griffith University, Nathan QLD 4111
a.arthington@griffith.edu.au
Telephone: 0434 171 657

Please do not use the email address of the Society's Honorary Editor for this Special Issue.

Scope

The disciplinary scope of the Special Issue will be similar to that of the *Proceedings* generally, outlined above, but geographically focused on the GAB springs and their environs, and possibly other springs not within the GAB if worthy contributions are offered. It is expected that the Special Issue will include papers on history, importance to indigenous peoples, geomorphology and hydrology, physico-chemical environment, taxonomic and ecological research findings, threat studies, protection processes (e.g. legislation), management programs, and societal values. Papers on the co-existence of pastoralism and the mound springs will be welcome.

Find attached with this general outline, a proposed chapter outline for the entire issue, with invited authors and topics of interest proposed by the editors. This is submitted only as a guideline, and the editors are happy to adjust any authors contribution to their desired topic, and to accept papers from authors not included in the outline.

Papers from local natural history societies and community groups, and from local government of the region and State and Commonwealth Government officers will be welcome. Papers from disciplines other than the natural sciences – such as sociology – will be welcome, so long as they relate to the natural environment and resources of the springs of the region.

Abstracts from completed theses including honours degrees will be published.

All papers (except thesis abstracts) will be peer-reviewed, but papers need not be in traditional scholarly format. Opinion Pieces and Short Communications, Book Reviews and Historical Overviews will be welcome (see descriptions above).

If in doubt about the suitability of a proposed article, please consult the Guest Editor for advice.

Sponsorship

The cost of printing the Special Issue will be approximately \$7-8000. At the date of writing, these funds are not in hand. Sponsorship from any person or body interested in creating a permanent record of these amazing environments will be warmly welcomed. Please contact the Guest Editor to discuss options. A funding drive will likely commence once the contents of the Special issue have been firmed up with authors.

Sponsorship could take the form of a pre-commitment to order a particular number of hard copies at \$40 each. A print run of 250 is anticipated, but is negotiable depending on demand.

Digital record

All copies of the Proceedings and Special Issues are placed online shortly after publication. Full-text search capability of the Society's Proceedings is available back to 1859.

Copy deadline

A proposed title and author list should be sent to renee.rossini@ugconnect.edu.au by the 20th September 2018.

All final manuscripts should be submitted to the Guest Editor by 1 April 2019 or earlier, or such other date as negotiated with the Guest Editor.

Authorised by the Council of the Royal Society of Queensland.