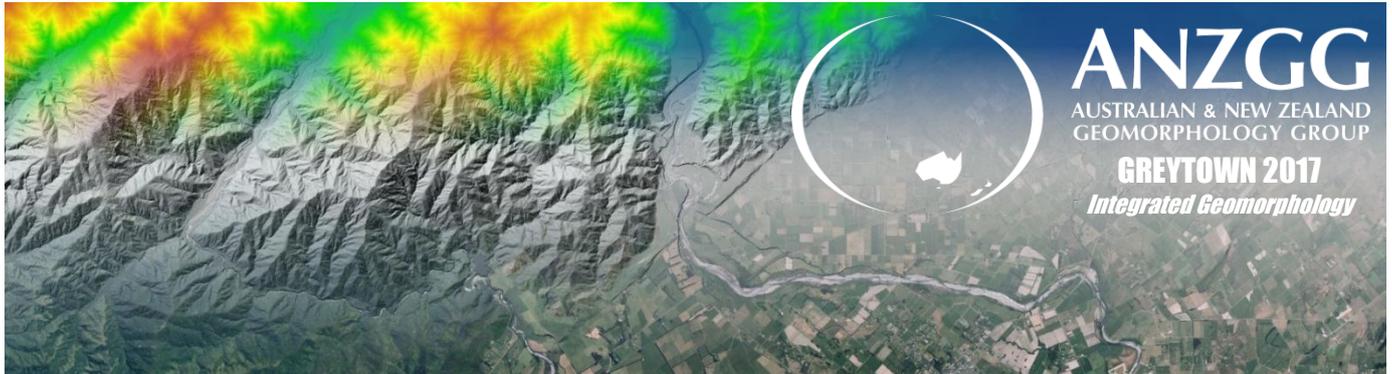


Australian and New Zealand Geomorphology Group Conference, Greytown, New Zealand, February 2017

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Summary of conference

The BSG provided support for the 17th Australian & New Zealand Geomorphology Group ([ANZGG](#)) conference in Greytown, New Zealand 6-10th February 2017. The [2017 conference](#), organised by the Physical Geography Group at Massey University, attracted 86 participants – from Australia, NZ, Japan, China, USA and Europe – who delivered 63 oral presentations and 19 posters. This included four excellent keynote presentations from Jacky Croke (Uni. of Queensland), Graeme Campbell (Wellington Regional Council), Tim Davies (Uni. of Canterbury), and Alastair Clement (Massey Uni.). Each keynote presenter connected with the conference theme 'Integrated Geomorphology' which identifies the value of interdisciplinary linkages and working alongside practitioners to solve problems facing society. A conference highlight was the dinner at a local vineyard where Russ Van Dissen (GNS Science) gave an outstanding talk on the 2016 Kaikoura earthquake, and Brad Pillans (Australian National Uni.) knocked almost everyone out of his impossibly-difficult geomorphology quiz after just 3 questions.

Fieldtrips

Two mid-conference fieldtrips provided ~60 fieldtrip participants with a taste of the diverse landscape and management issues of the region. Fieldtrip 1 'Room to Move' toured the Ruamahanga River and tributaries, focusing on the difficulties of living alongside an active floodplain, and the attempted management 'solutions'. The fieldtrip followed Graeme Campbell's keynote presentation on the challenges of floodplain management. Fieldtrip 2 'Mountains to the Coast' begun at the famous Pigeon Bush site on the Wairarapa fault, where an astonishing ~18 m of dextral offset of a stream channel from the 1855 Wairarapa earthquake can be seen. Next was a visit to discuss a series of dune ridges that mark the former edge of a water body (Lake Wairarapa; formerly Wairarapa Bay) which has been gradually infilled during the Holocene. Another stop was along Putangirua Stream to view an example of badlands erosion in Miocene conglomerate. For both fieldtrips the final stop was Lake Onoke where participants enjoyed a beverage during sunset. The fieldtrip guides are available on the [ANZGG website](#).



Figure 1: Fieldtrip 1, aside Lake Onoke – where river meets sea. The spit is periodically opened for flood management. (Photo: W. Conley)



Figure 2: Putangirua Pinnacles, Fieldtrip 2. (Photo: K. McQueen)

Certified Environmental Practitioner - Specialist Category in Geomorphology

A forum at the conference, led by Mick Cheetham and Kirstie Fryirs, discussed the development of a professional accreditation system for geomorphologists in Australasia. The outcome of the discussion, and subsequent vote at the AGM, was to proceed in establishing a Specialist Category in geomorphology under the Environment Institute of Australia and New Zealand. This was seen as a positive step for giving geomorphologists in NZ & Australia better recognition and support in their work.