

**Rural Studies Study group
Report for 2005-2006**

Since the last meeting in Armidale in 2005, the Group has been reasonably quiet. Most activity has centred on preparations for the 2006 IGU/IAG/NZGS conference. Also, during this time the Group's webpages have been thoroughly updated and reorganised, thanks to the able help of Ollie Mikkelson. I have already paid Ollie and will seek the approval of the business meeting to transfer that amount from the Group's funds back into my university account.

As of the Brisbane conference, there will be something of a changing of the guard for the Group. Matthew Tonts will relinquish his role as Newsletter Editor. I want to thank Matthew for his efforts over the past few years in compiling the Newsletter and keeping us in touch with each other. This report also marks my last as Group Convenor. I took over the reins back at the Sydney IAG Conference, and it is now time for some fresh thinking and 'new blood' to lead the Group.

Opening Balance	\$1 145.89
Webpage maintenance (15 hours @ \$30.57/hr) =	\$458.55

Available balance (if webpage support is approved) \$687.34

Thanks to Fran Rolley, who has continued to keep a close eye on the Group's finances for the past few years.

Neil Argent
Convenor, Rural Studies Group