

Notes on the New Aus-e-Stage Mapping Service demonstration

Date: Monday March 7, 2011

Present: Gillian Arrighi Jonathan Bollen Paul Coddington Bill Dunstone
 Helena Grehan Joon Kwok Paul Makeham Liz Milford
 Corey Wallis

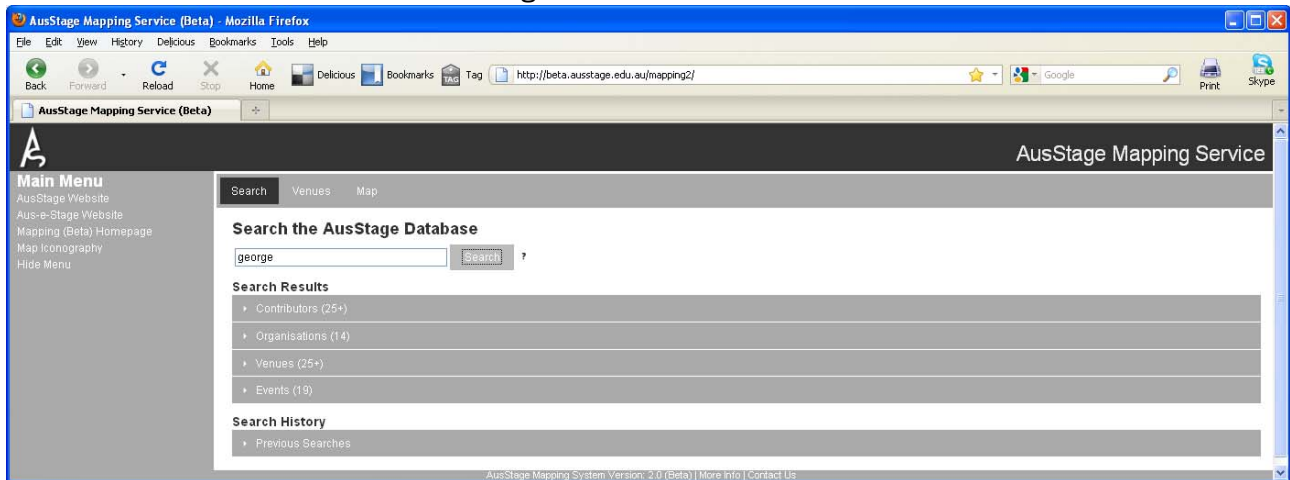
Apologies: Christine Garnaut Julie Holledge Helen Trenos

Liz Milford, Corey Wallis and Jonathan Bollen gave an on line mapping demonstration to attendees.

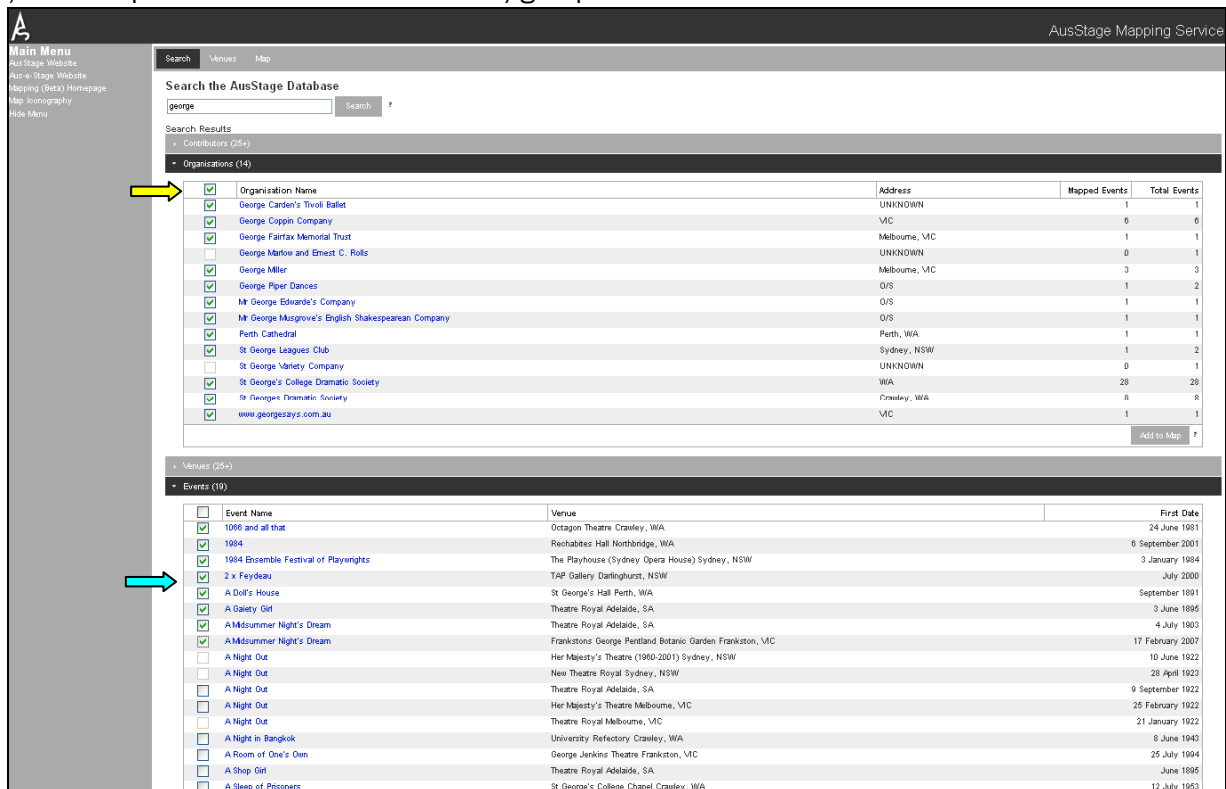
The home page for the Aus-e-Stage Mapping Service is at: <http://beta.ausstage.edu.au/mapping2/>.

A simple **Search** for “george” was used in this example.

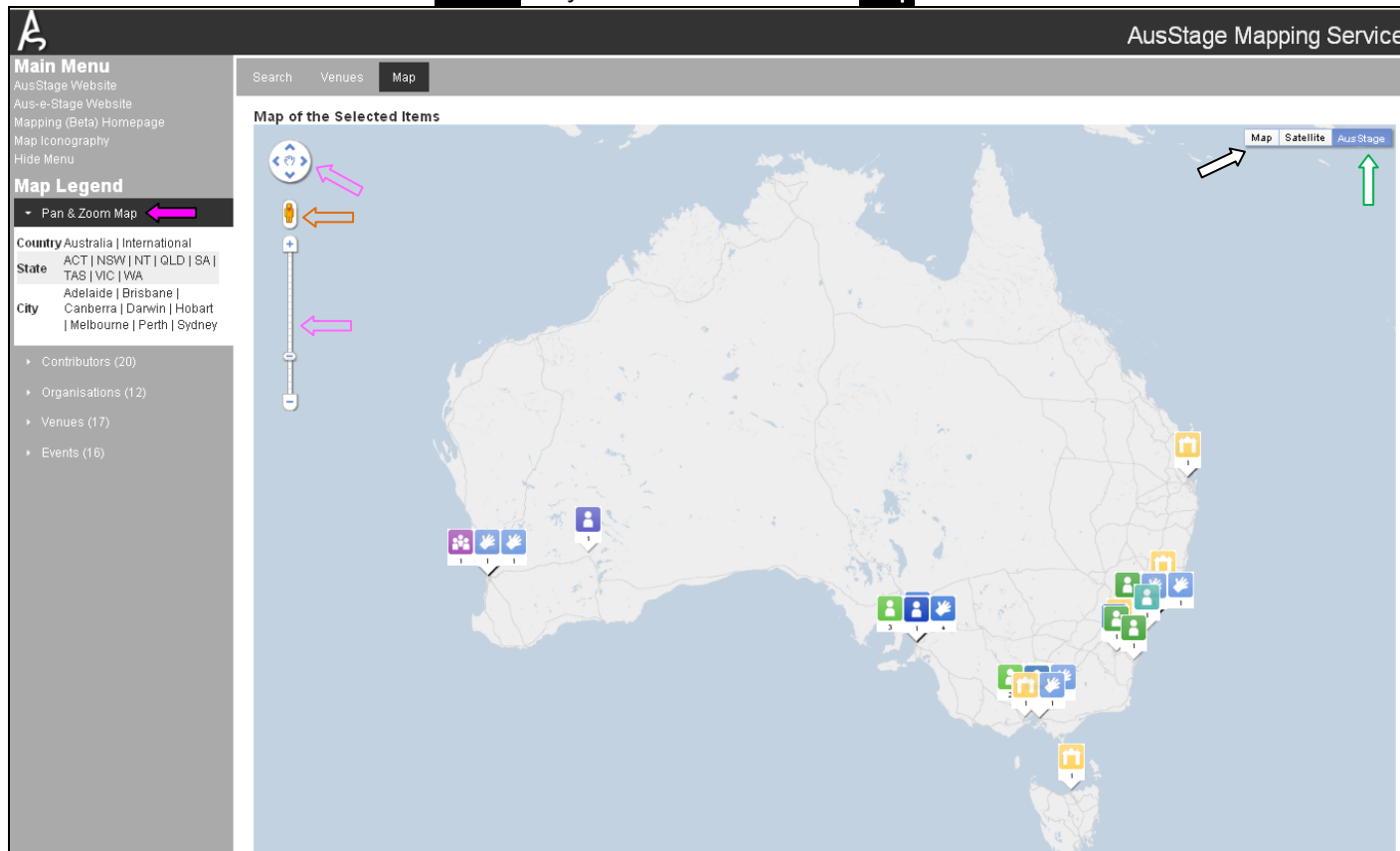
This resulted in 25+ contributors and venues – meaning that there are more than 25 results available (if a specific result was expected narrower search criteria are needed in this instance). The first 25 are displayed under these tabs. Results also included 14 organisations and 19 events.



By opening each tab it is possible to either add all for that section by selecting the **top left tick box** (in the section header) or selecting **1 or more individual items**. To add to the map click “add to map” at bottom right of each section (note, to add contributors, organisations, venues and events this process needs to be repeated for each section). The map will load after each selection/group of items is added.



Once all items are added from the **Search** they can be viewed via the **Map** tab.



Use of the **Pan and Zoom** function in the **Map Legend** menu allows specific and quick focus to particular regions of interest ranging from capital city to state level or even out to a worldwide scale. Zooming by mouse wheel roll and zooming and panning using the **Google Map Slider** and **Pan Control Tool** are also standard options.

The map shows a number of markers depicting:

1. Contributors
2. Organisations
3. Venues
4. Events.

Please note, present icons in use are draft format and still under discussion.

A key to iconography in use and the colour palette is available via the **Map Iconography** menu item under the left Main Menu.

Help on Map Iconography

AusStage Map Iconography

Map iconography refers to the way in which information is displayed on a map using icons. The AusStage mapping service uses a number of icons to display information on a map.

The colour of an icon indicates the number records associated with the location.

When a contributor or organisation is added to a map, one of a sequence of 48 colours will be assigned to that record. This individual colour will be used when there is only one organisation or contributor associated with the location.

The iconography and colours used in AusStage maps is as follows:

	1 record	2 - 5	6 - 15	16 - 30	31+
Contributors	Individual Colour				
Organisations	Individual Colour				
Venues					
Events					

Individual Colour Palette

Close

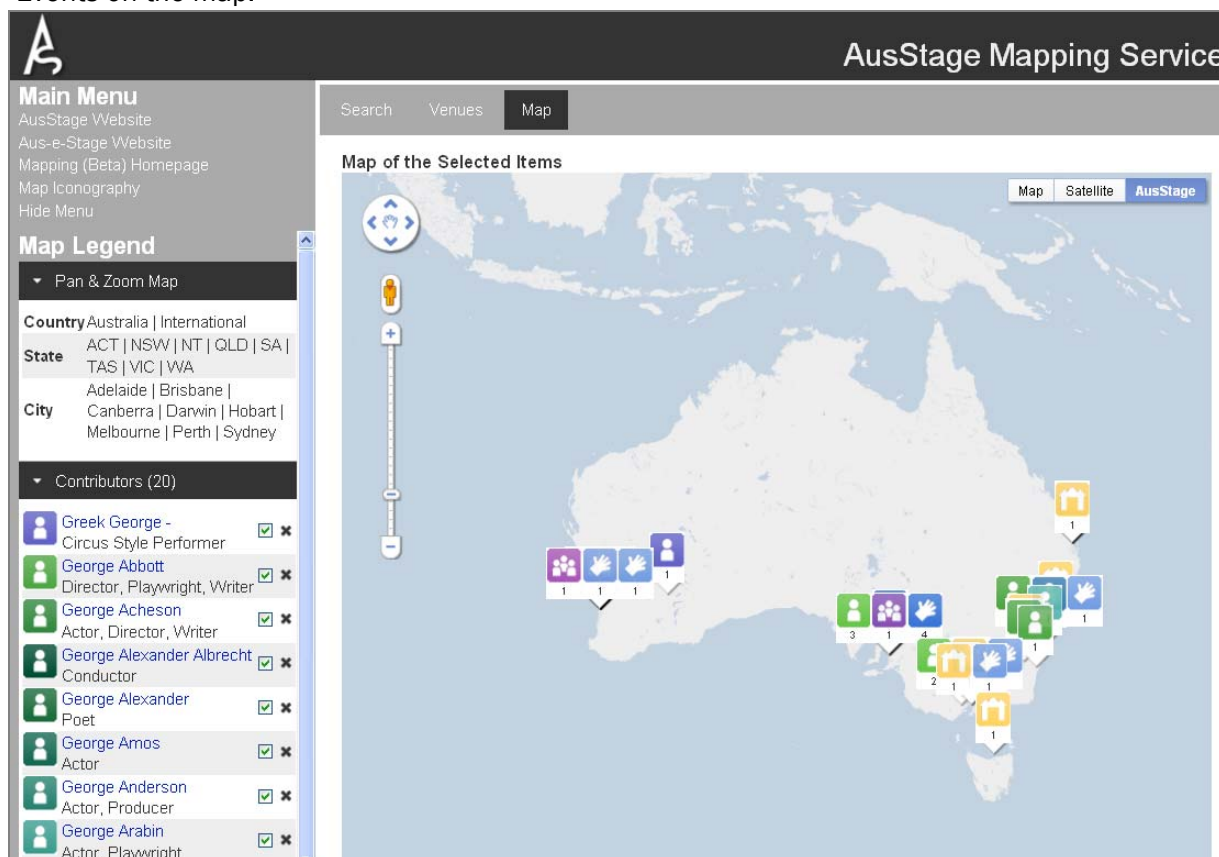
The map can be viewed in several modes. The default **AusStage** view has been designed in a relatively simple monochrome style to offer maximum visualisation of the varied AusStage data. Google style **Map** and **Satellite** views are also available with further sub-options to view in terrain mode **Map** **Satellite** **Terrain** with or without labels **Map** **Satellite** **AusStage** **Labels**.

Street view is also a useful tool and can be used by clicking on the orange person symbol and dragging it to the point of interest on the map. To exit street view the x in the top right corner is used.



Items in the left hand **Map Legend** can be expanded for more detail.

- **Contributors** show the contributor name and their function. Each one is represented with a different coloured icon in the legend which is shown on the map (sometimes zooming in on the map is required to see all icons as they may be overlaid when concentrated in a particular area).
- **Organisations** show the organisation name and location and are also coloured individually in the legend and on the map.
- **Venues and Events** are unique as there is only one of each (Events are linked to Venues which have specific location geocodes attached) and are therefore only reflected in one colour (venues are yellow, events are blue). Clicking on these icons in the Map Legend takes users directly to zoomed in Venues / Events on the map.

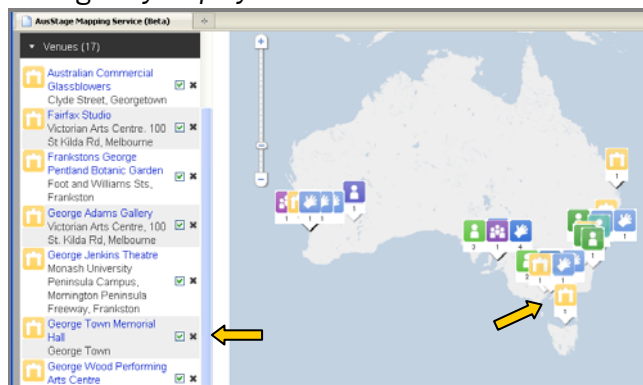


All items contain links (hyperlinked) to the AusStage database for textual information.

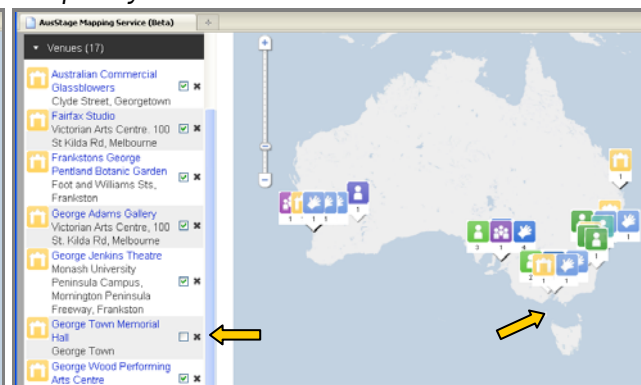
For each item use of the tick box to show/hide on the map can be applied and use of the x to remove the item altogether (confirmation to remove message will appear).

For example, to remove Venue **George Town Memorial Hall** in Tasmania:

As originally displayed



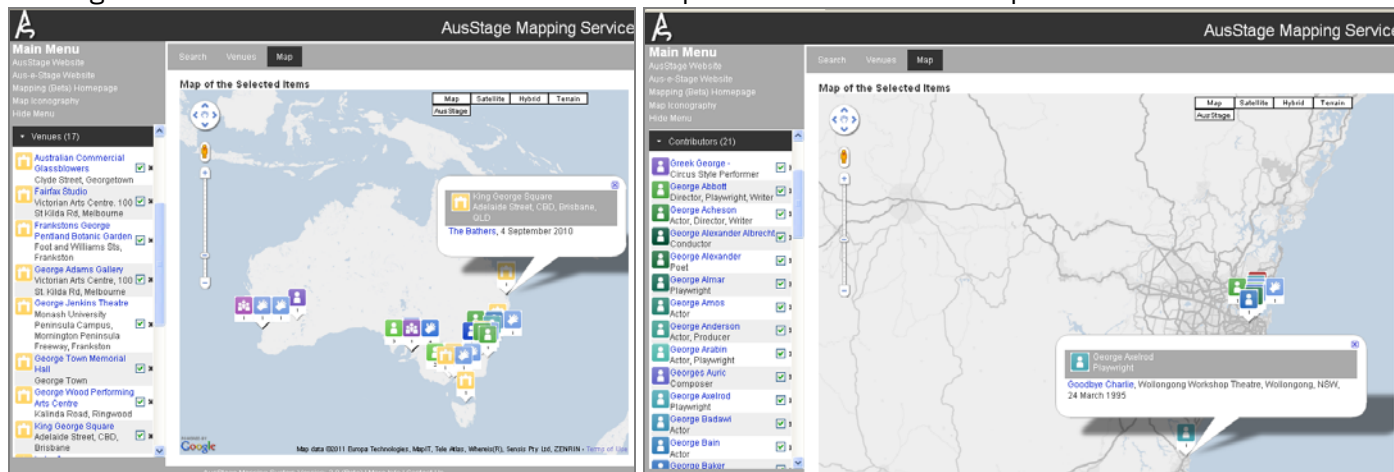
Temporary removal



Or Permanent removal

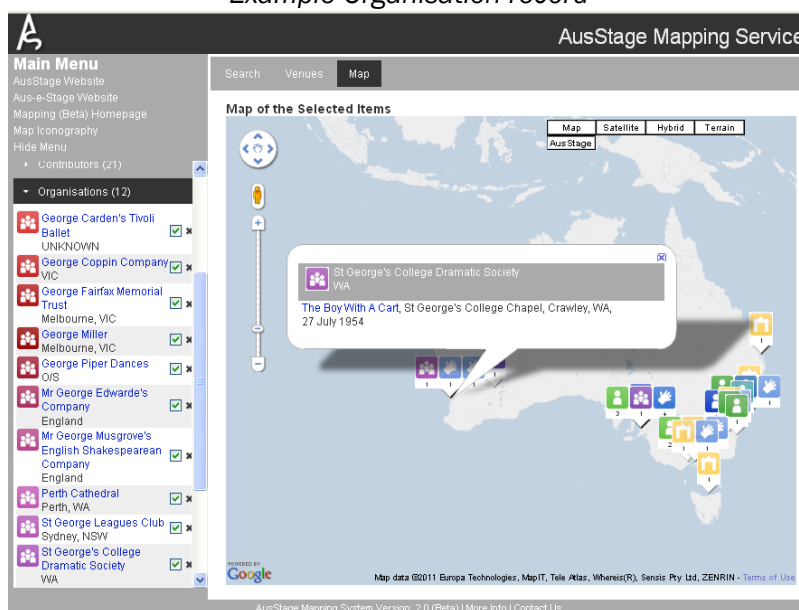
Info windows have been created to display AusStage information on the map. All icons on the map have a number attached to them. This number reflects the number of records of that type at that particular location.

Clicking on an icon with a number 1 on it reveals a simple info window. For example:

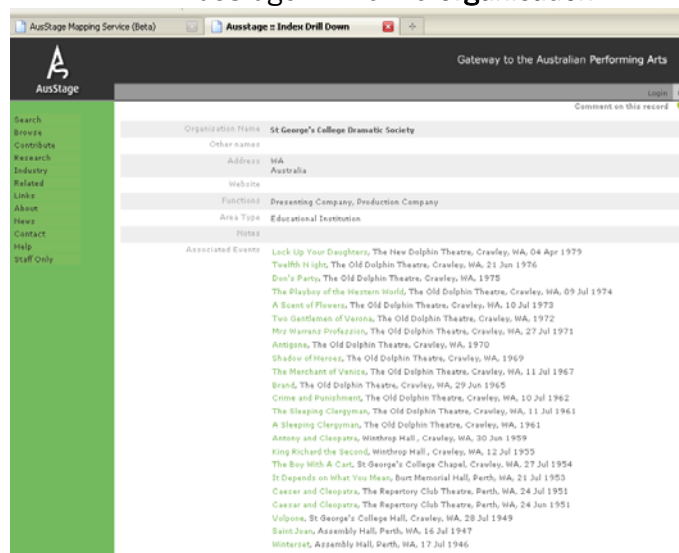


Each info window contains hyperlinks to the **Contributors**, **Organisations** or **Venues** (the top line of the info window next to the icon) and to the actual **Event** (hyperlinked in the lower part of the info window). These link directly to the textual AusStage database record (opens in another window) as shown in the example below.

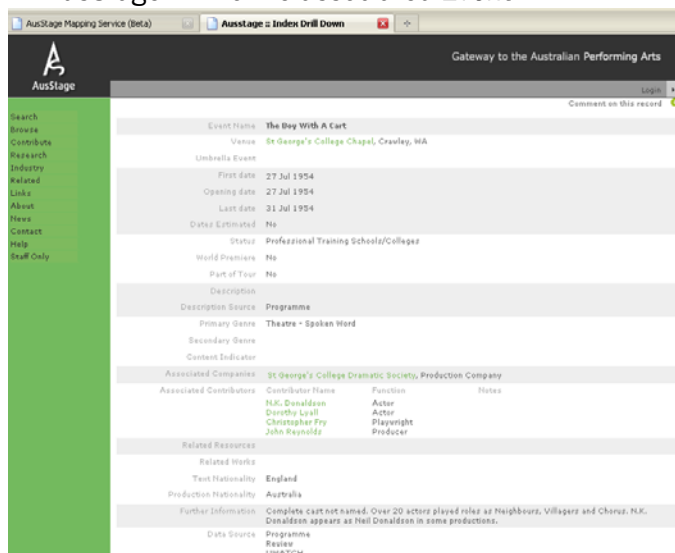
Example Organisation record



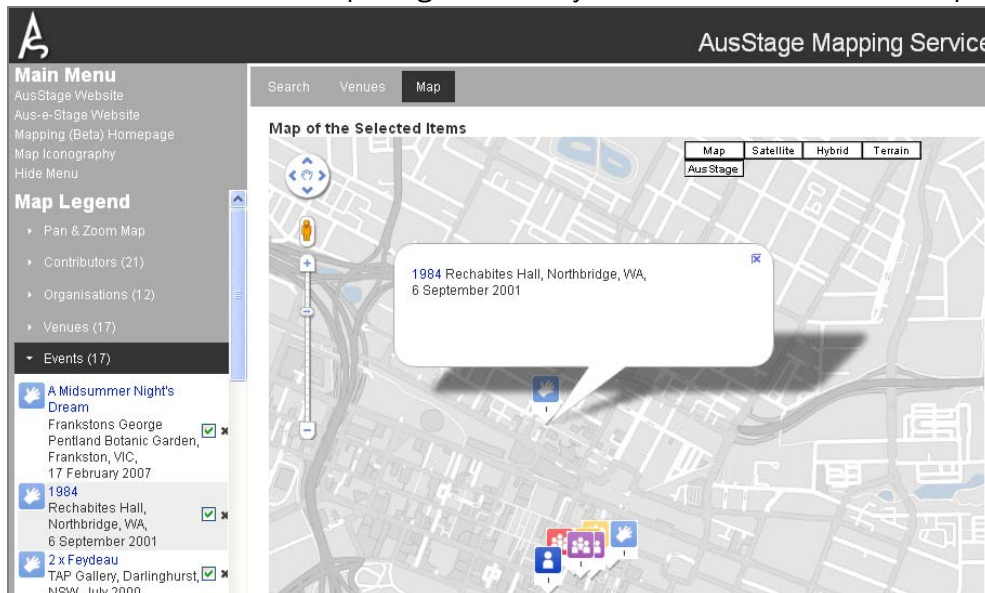
AusStage link to the Organisation



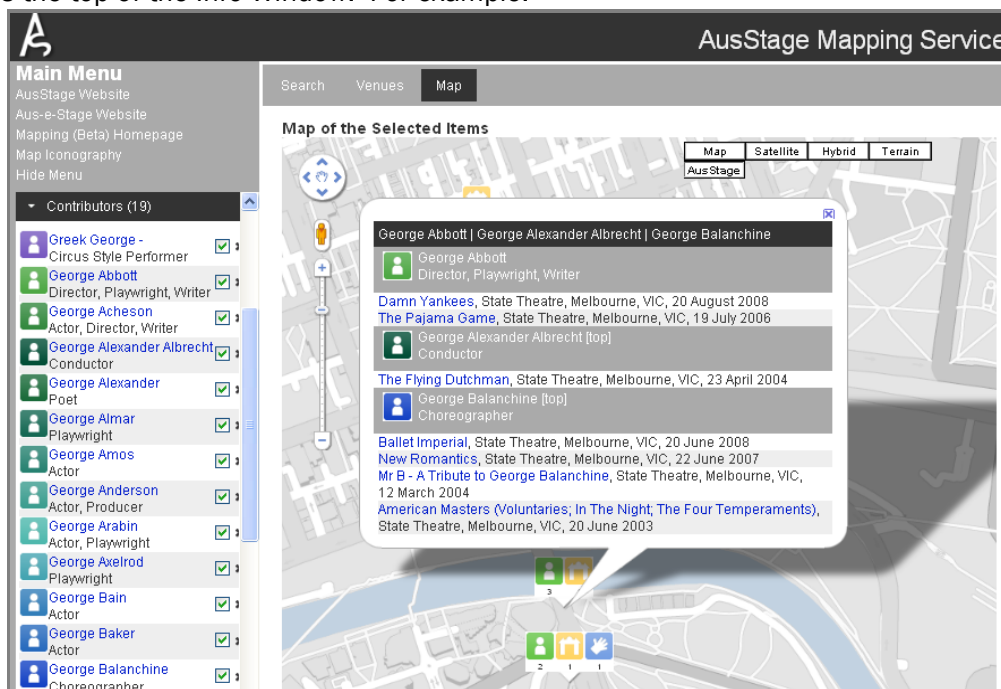
AusStage link to the associated Event



In the case of **Events** the Info Window is simpler again with only the **Event** detailed. For example:

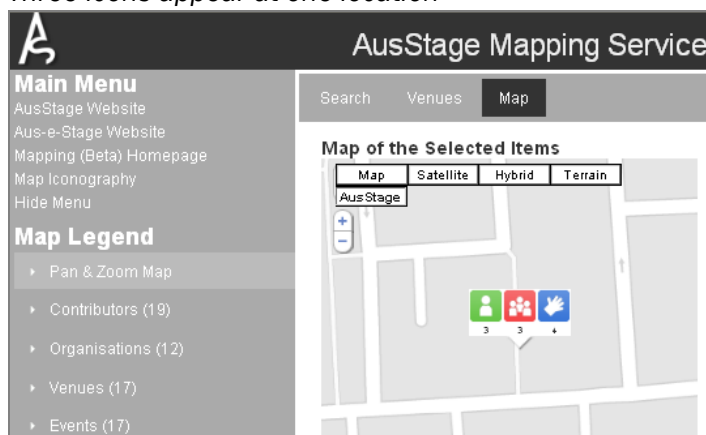


Selection of an icon with number 2 or more on it shows more complex data in the Info window. Multiple items are listed across the top of the Info Window. For example:

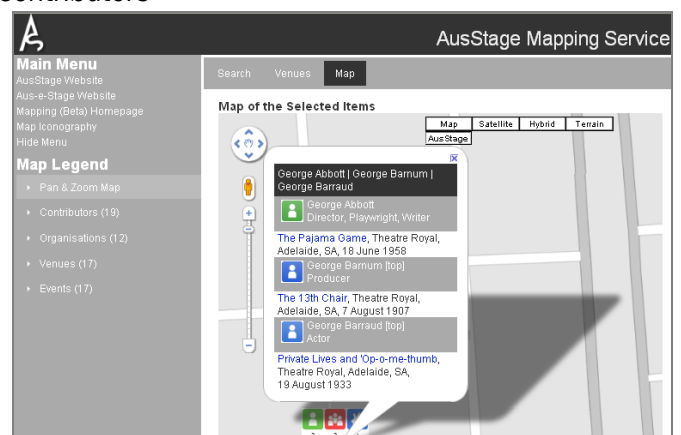


Or at a further level there may be multiple icons linked to the one location. For example, the icons in the screenshot below show that there are 3 **Contributors**, 3 **Organisations** and 4 **Events** all at the same location.

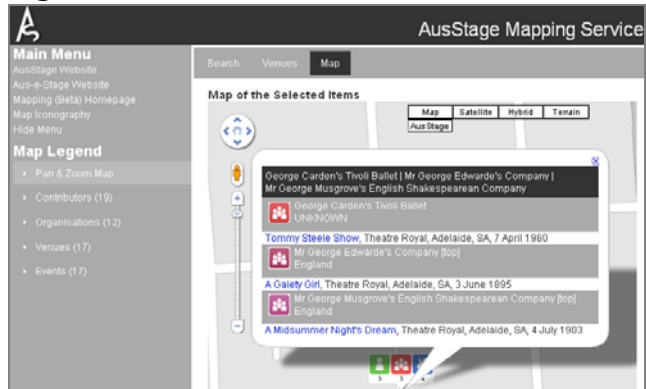
Three icons appear at one location



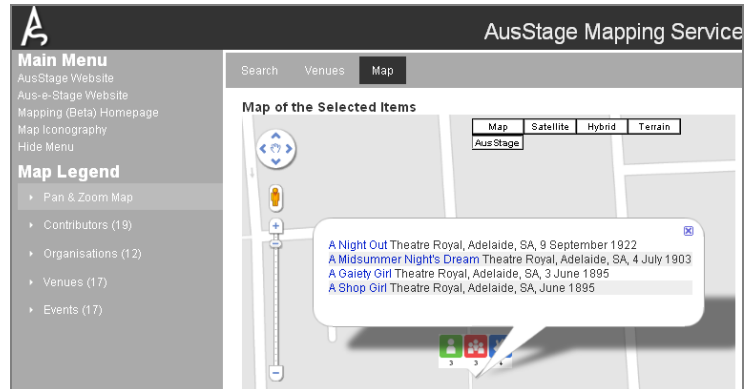
Contributors



Organisations



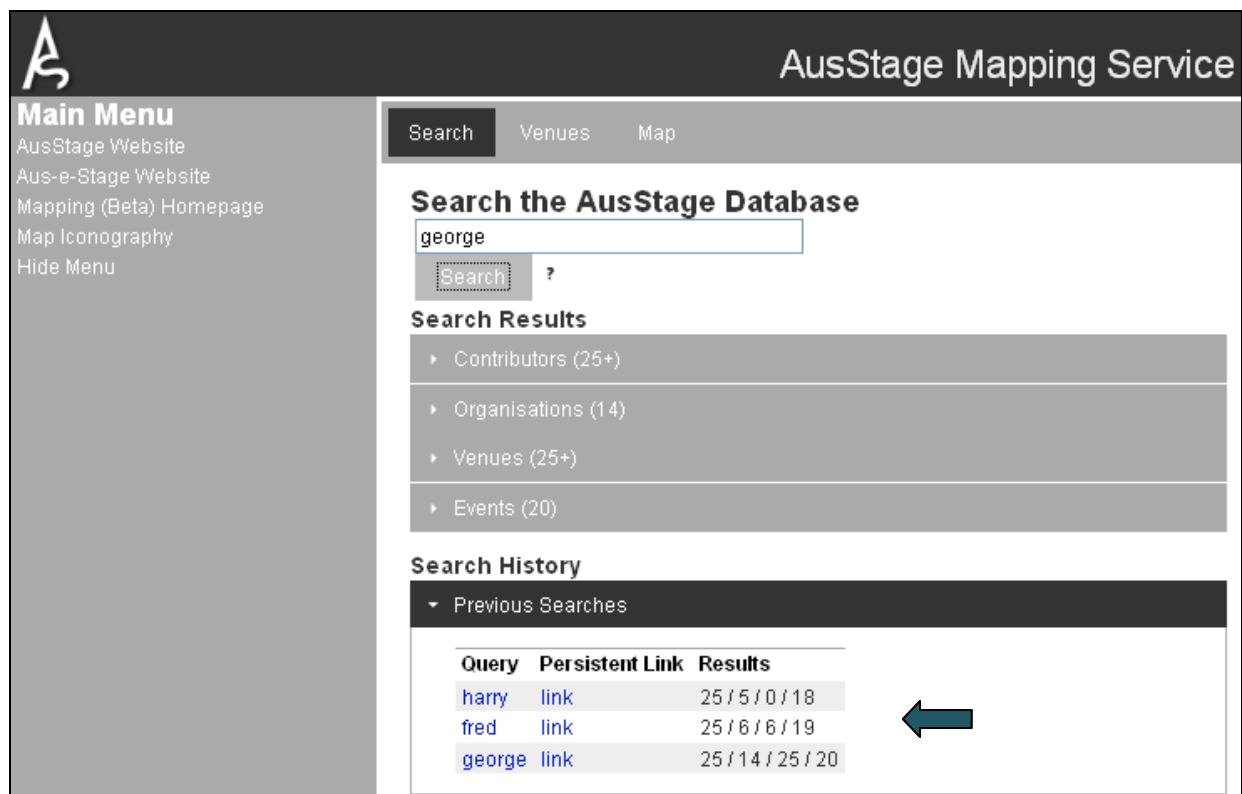
Events



Some further Info Window comments:

- It can be noted that in the Info Windows Event data is displayed chronologically in reverse order (newest at top) but other items are displayed alphabetically.
- If the Info Window does not fully display (due to the amount of data contained) it is possible to move the screen to adjust the view by simply clicking mouse, holding and dragging (down) whilst on the map interface.
- To close the Info Window simply click on the x at the top right corner of the pop up box.

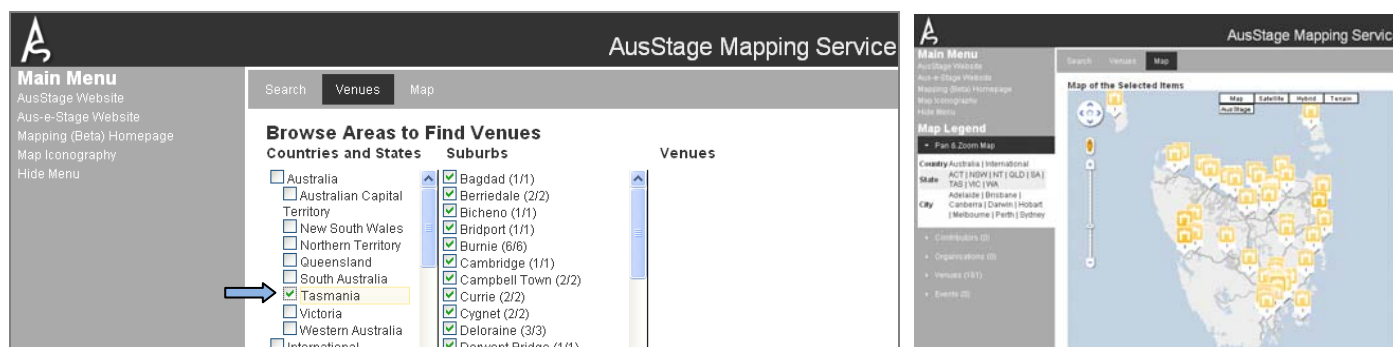
At the bottom of the **Search** page a **Search History** tab is available. This allows users to look at previous searches for the current session and go back to the results of these for easy re-mapping.



An alternative way of viewing AusStage data on maps is available via the **Venues** tab. This method offers a way to drill down through a geographical hierarchy, to browse particular areas to locate venues.

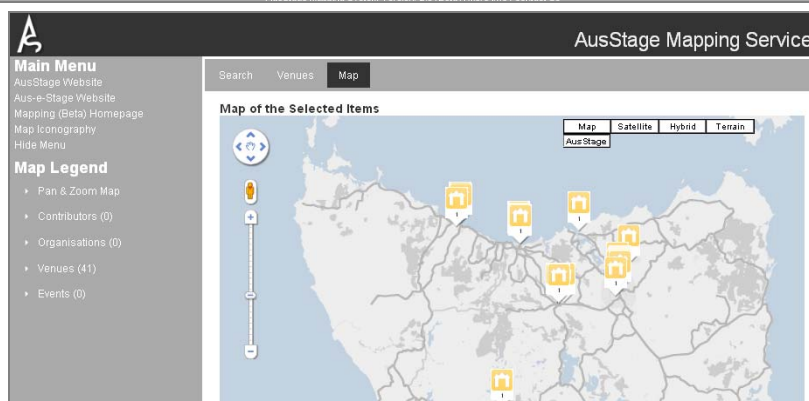
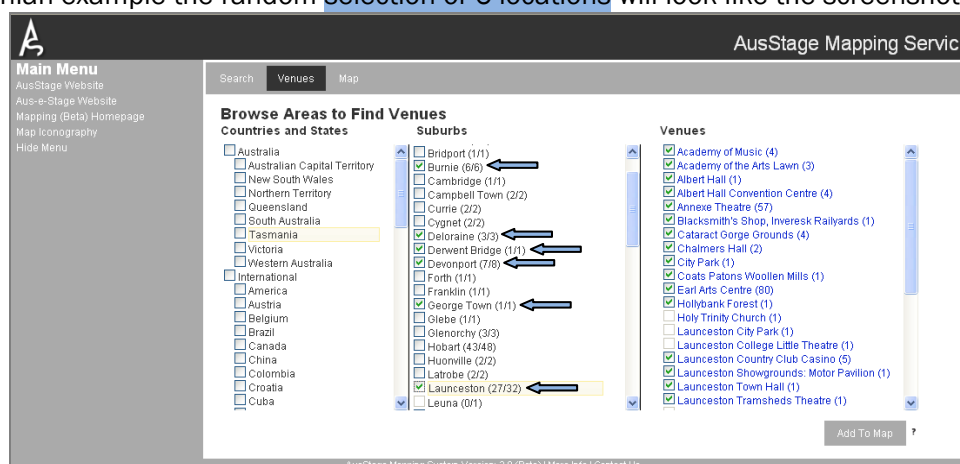
In the first instance all venues located within Australia, Internationally or by state may be viewed by making selections in the first column of the venue interface and then clicking add to map button at bottom right.

For example, a search for **all venues in Tasmania** would look like this.



If a narrower scale is required the general area in the first column is clicked (but box not ticked) to reveal the suburb/town listings in the second column.

Using the Tasmanian example the random **selection of 6 locations** will look like the screenshots below.



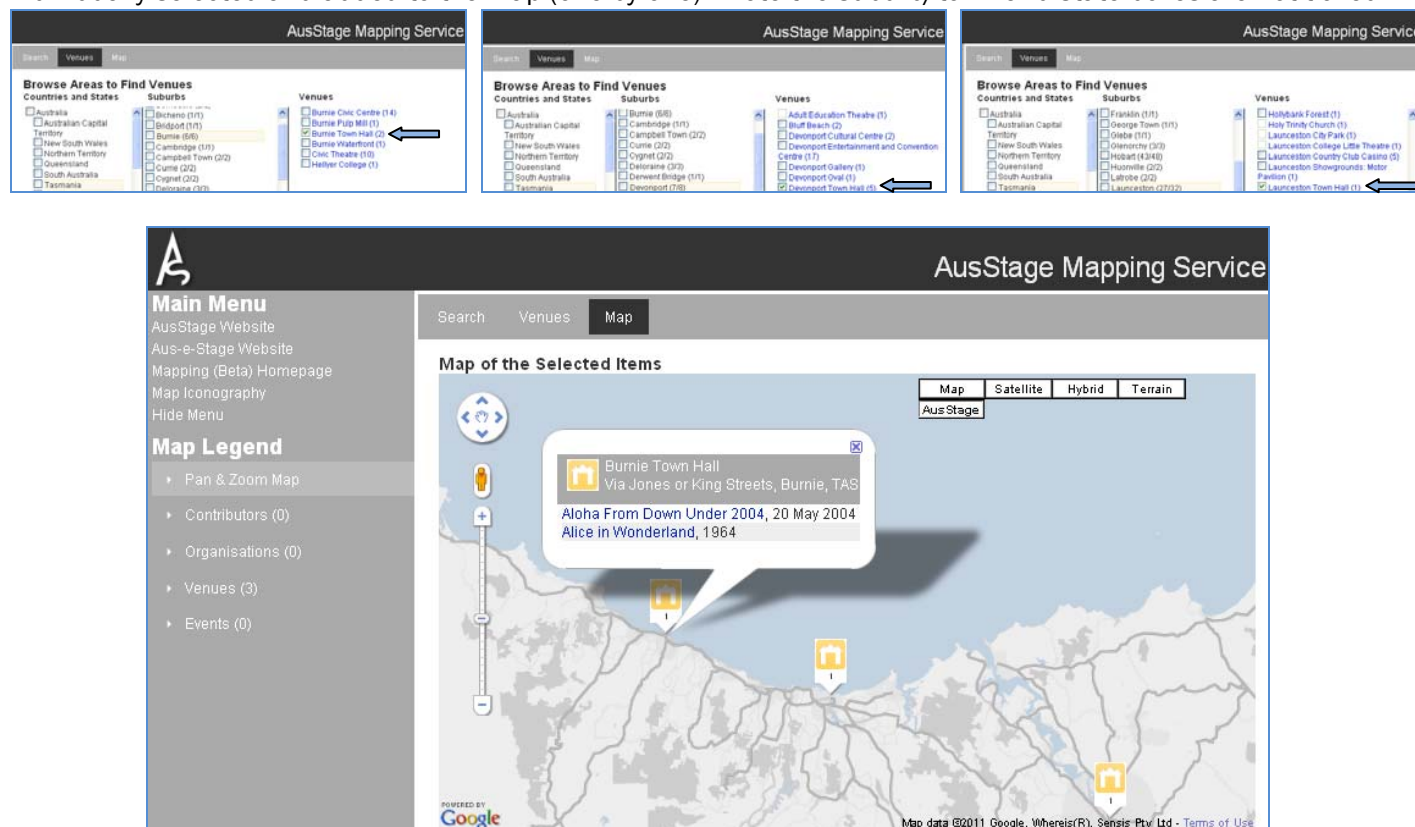
Note the venues for the last suburb/town selected are displayed in the third column by default but all venues for the selected suburbs/towns are shown on the map when the **Add To Map** button is clicked.

The numbers after the suburb/town listings reflect the number of geocoded venues in that suburb/town and the total number of venues for that suburb/town.

For example, in the example above Launceston 27/32 means that 27 of the venues in Launceston have geocodes attached but there are 32 in total in the AusStage database (therefore 5 have not been geocoded). At times it has not been possible to geocode some venues – many venues are historical and no longer exist (and cannot or have not been tracked to date), many relate to informal performances (such as Indigenous performances) in unknown outdoor locations and in some cases new data entry does not yet included geocode information (this is being constantly updated but some gaps to occur from time to time).

To drill down even further it is possible to **select specific venues** attached to suburbs/towns in the third column of the Browse Areas to Find Venues page.

For example, to just show “Town Hall” performances in Burnie, Devonport and Launceston three venues are individually selected and added to the map (one by one). Note the suburb/town and state boxes are not ticked.



It should be noted that page refreshing is required before doing a new Browse Areas to Find Venues search as former display results will remain on the map, often compounding the expected results.

Future priorities for Aus-e-Stage Mapping development include:

1. Clustering
2. KML exports
3. Timemap js
4. Geocoding assistance page