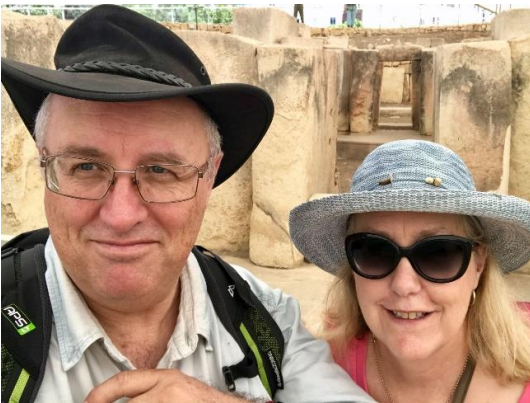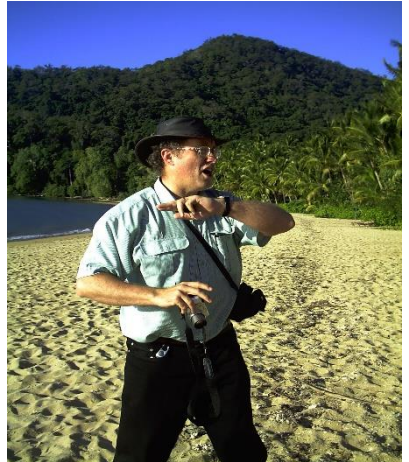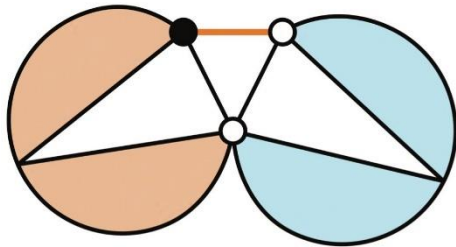# A Tour of Combinatorics and Statistical Mechanics

Symposium in memory of Richard Brak

7th of February, 2022

Evan Williams Theatre
Peter Hall Building
University of Melbourne

Clockwise from top left: Guttmannfest 2015 in Newcastle (credit: Jesper Jacobsen), Richard's reconstruction of the throne room of the palace at Knossos, directing the group photo at Guttmannfest 2005 on Dunk Island (credit: Thomas Prellberg), a puffin in Iceland (credit: Richard Brak), Richard and Rachel at the Tarxien temple in Malta, a polygon bijection (from A Universal Bijection for Catalan Structures, 2018).

Program

8:15am	**Welcome**
8:30am	Mireille Bousquet-Mélou
	A mini-survey on walks in a cone
9:00am	Thomas Prellberg
	Staircase polygons revisited: an open question by Richard Brak
9:30am	Stuart Whittington
	Self-avoiding walks interacting with a surface and subject to a force
10:00am	E. J. Janse van Rensburg
	Pulling spiders
10:30am	**Morning tea**
11:00am	Gary Iliev
	Localization of semiflexible polymers near a penetrable interface
11:30am	Chris Soteros
	Entanglements in lattice polygons in tubes
12:00pm	Andrew Rechnitzer
	Trials and tribulations of preserving topology
12:30pm	**Lunch**
1:30pm	Judy-anne Osborn
	Richard Brak as role model
2:00pm	Tony Guttmann
	Spiral walks on the triangular lattice
2:30pm	Iwan Jensen
	Odds and ends about osculating paths
3:00pm	**Afternoon tea**
3:30pm	Aleks Owczarek
	Critical scaling of lattice polymers confined to a box
4:00pm	Nicholas Beaton
	The powered Catalan numbers
4:30pm	Jan de Gier
	The one-transit model
5:00pm	**Closing remarks**

Organisers: Nathan Clisby, Tim Garoni, Aleks Owczarek, Tony Guttmann.

SILENT STREET, GRAMPIANS, AUS.   RB
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