Welcome to my first monthly newsletter to bring you up to date with my map-related news, and details of forthcoming dates for the diary. If you would like to receive this every month, make sure you are on my mailing list.

Underground Maps Unravelled shortlisted for design awards
Both book and cover of Underground Maps Unravelled have been nominated for the 2012 50 Books 50 Covers competition. Sponsored by Design Observer, Designers & Books, and AIGA, and from the web page: Tracing its roots back over close to 90 years, this survey of the best in book design represents perhaps the longest-standing legacy in American graphic design.

Web page news
In October, French and German versions of www.tubemapcentral.com went live. Translating a web page is an enormous job, many thanks for Bernhard Lürßen and Bernard Hanquez for all their great work. In the future, I would like to add a Spanish translation too, any offers for assistance?

In the media, on the web
- Map of the month features in the Austrian Times
- London and New York circles maps still generate interest, this time at Random Olivia
- Madrid Circles map gets the attention of the Vaya Madrid facebook page
- Something from Croatia, but I am not sure exactly what!
- More coverage from Germany, this time from Die Welt
- Yoga instructor Kim Metz exhorts us all to try and be a map

Dates for your diary
Presentations
- Tuesday 3rd December, Information provision not information pollution on transport maps. Manchester Town Hall, 11:15. Part of the Mapping & Information for SmarterTravel conference. Ticket only, purchase tickets here.

Exhibition
- Monday 11th November to January 2014, Off the Rails, Wivenhoe. A small exhibition at Wivenhoe railway station, with some of my maps displayed on the platforms, and a new embroidery by Elizabeth Newton and a special Christmas design on display in the ticket hall.

Workshop
- Schematic Mapping 2014. An international workshop on the design of effective schematic maps, to be held at the University of Essex, April 2nd/3rd, 2014. Special discounted registration rate until 22nd November, deadline for submissions of papers, posters and designs in 16th December. Full details here.
Map research

Student projects began in October, and we will be investigating journey planning and design preferences comparing concentric circles maps versus traditional design rules. We will look at London and Berlin designs so that we can see just how much people’s familiarity and expectations influence their performance and preferences. In another study, we will try to see how sensitive people are to their journey planning performance when choosing between maps.

Map of the month: Wien in einer kreisförmigen Zukunft (Vienna in a Circular Future)

This month, Vienna gets the concentric circles treatment. This network is a favourite amongst people who research into computerised map design: although the system is fairly small, it has an interesting shape. A new extension to U2 opened in October, and there are plans for further expansion. For the full projected network, a very geometric solution is possible, with lines radiating outwards at 30º intervals, just like a clock face.

Don’t forget, copies of my book Underground Maps Unravelled and also print-on-demand posters can be ordered from my web pages, www.tubemapcentral.com. The December newsletter will have a festive theme. You can subscribe to this on my web pages.

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