

Western Crossings by Richard Cox

**Royal
Geographical
Society**
with IBG

Advancing geography
and geographical learning

- A 'Be Inspired' Society talk
- Monday 15 April 2013
- 2.30-4.00pm



The National Pass, Blue Mountains, New South Wales by V.C. Scott O'Connor © RGS-IBG (PR/044430)

Western Crossings by Richard Cox:

The Blue Mountains of New South Wales, rise up to 1,215 metres (just under 4,000 feet) and are intersected by precipitous ravines which barred the early British colony from pastoral expansion. Although the Aborigines knew of routes through the mountain landscape, complete crossings by colonists were only achieved in 1813. Governor Macquarie then commissioned a road, built by William Cox, the speaker's great-great-grandfather, which opened up the plains beyond the mountains. Richard will focus on the crossings made by Gregory Blaxland, William Lawson and W. C. Wentworth in 1813, followed up by George Evans, the deputy surveyor of the colony.

Ticket Information: free to RGS-IBG members and educational users. Non-members: £5, payable in advance - pre-booking required. **Venue:** Education Centre, Royal Geographical Society (with IBG), 1, Kensington Gore, London SW7 2AR. **To book a place:** ☎ Telephone +44 (0)20 7591 3044 ✉ Email showcase@rgs.org