



Lorraine Chaffer, Editor

EDITORIAL

Welcome to the third issue of the GTA NSW bulletin for 2016. In this issue support for implementation of the new Geography K–10 Syllabus in 2017 continues with all articles linked to existing and /or new syllabuses for K–6 and 7–10.

Primary teachers and students across the state have been learning the skills needed to undertake fieldwork for geographical inquiry. In a new section titled WHAT'S HAPPENING IN OUR SCHOOL?, the *Kindergarten love geography* article by Rebecca Pierpoint showcases the fieldwork activities of kindergarten students at Waverley Public School. These activities were integrated into the unit **People live in places** attached to the article.

Differentiating the curriculum is a key thread in two of the articles in this edition.

- In *Differentiating geography fieldwork to address student needs* Louise Swanson and Darika Pose examine strategies for differentiating fieldwork activities to cater for students with a range of learning difficulties.
- In the *Bow River Waterscape* visual resources are the basis for three different inquiry activities that examine the way water connects people, places and environments and the importance of water management to reduce water scarcity. This has been written for the Stage 4 Unit **Water in the World**. In a mixed ability class, students can undertake an independent inquiry, a guided inquiry based on a set of questions or a class inquiry with strong teacher direction. Alternatively, different stage 4 classes within a school could choose one of the three learning activities to suit the needs of students. This is the final in the series of four articles titled *Canada: Beautiful, liveable but vulnerable* by Lorraine Chaffer in which Canada is used to teach components of the content of the new Geography K–10 syllabus, Stage 4 and 5 topics. Comparisons can easily be made to Australia.

Invasive species in Australia's aquatic environments written by Lorraine Chaffer is an interesting case study for those choosing inland water environments such as wetlands or rivers for the option study in the Stage 5 Unit **Environmental Change and Management**. The study offers a springboard for an investigation into invasive species in marine environments or a comparative study of another country.

Teachers looking for new ideas for integrating fieldwork into Stages 4 and 5 topics might find the article *Year 7 Fieldwork: Investigating the environment* by Grace Larobina a useful starting point. With a focus on observing, measuring and recording primary data and representing relevant secondary data the activities are easily adapted to studies with a biophysical geography focus such as **Landforms and Landscapes, Water in the World, Sustainable Biomes** and **Environmental Change and Management**.

GTA activities

Throughout term 3 GTA NSW has continued to provide support for teachers unpacking the new syllabus as well as the teaching and learning of geography from Kindergarten to the HSC.

GTA NSW councillors Susan Caldis, Louise Swanson, Catherine Donnelly and Lorraine Chaffer have provided after school professional learning activities to introduce the new syllabus to primary schools in Sydney, Newcastle and the Central Coast. This support will continue throughout term 4 when and where possible and on the request to GTA NSW.

The HSC student lecture series was taken “on the road” with lectures presented to HSC students at Lindisfarne Grammar School in Banora Point and John Pauls College, Coffs Harbour. With feedback from these events a revised version of the HSC lecture series will be investigated by Lorraine Chaffer for 2017 with possible implementation in regions lacking access to HSC support events.

A special **HSC edition of the bulletin** is still planned for term 4 but will rely on member contributions to be a success by supporting teachers with new or updated material for their HSC 2018 classes.

GTA NSW members are encouraged to attend the AGTA conference in Melbourne in January 2017. The conference offers a wonderful range of speakers and topics for Geography teachers across all states and territories based on the Australian curriculum. Several GTA NSW councillors will present at the conference.



**AGTA 2017
CONFERENCE**

**Geography for an
inter-connected world**

9–12 January 2017 – University of Melbourne, Parkville Campus

We invite Australasian and international geography teachers and academics to attend the four day AGTA 2017 Conference to be held from Monday 9 to Thursday 12 January 2017 at the University of Melbourne, Parkville Campus. The conference organisational arrangements are being undertaken by the Geography Teachers Association of Victoria.

The organising committee are delighted to announce the following outstanding keynote speakers for the AGTA 2017 Conference — Dr Rachel Carey, Professor William Cartwright, Professor David Lambert, Dr Michael Solem and Professor Bruce Rasmussen.

Conference delegates will have the opportunity to participate in a stimulating education program of presentations, hands on workshops and field trips as well as a preconference study tour to western Victoria.

CONFERENCE LOCATION

The University of Melbourne – Parkville campus offers a variety of unique cultural, architectural and landscape features which play an important part in the history of the City of Melbourne and the story of Victoria.

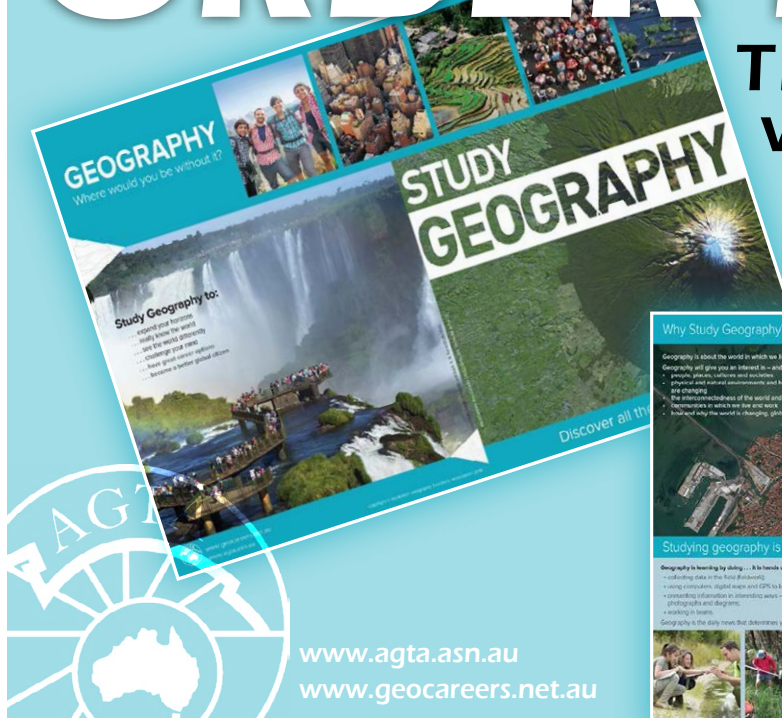
Visitors to campus can download a self-guided walking tour map which provides you with a plotted history of campus architecture and other landscape features.

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