

Honorary Life Membership citation



DR SUSAN BLISS

Dr Susan Bliss joined the Geography Teachers' Association of New South Wales (GTANSW) in 1961 as a student at Sydney University and became a GTANSW Councillor in 1981, giving continuous service until her retirement in 2013. During this time Susan admirably filled the roles of President, Vice President, Geography Bulletin Editor and Councillor, contributing extensively to the programs run by GTANSW over that time. Her prolific application for grants have secured over \$1.1 million for GTANSW for professional learning and resource development. Susan represented GTANSW on the Board of Australian Geography Teachers' Association and took on the roles of Business Manager and Treasurer.

Susan is recognised by her peers and Geography educators Australia wide as one of the longest continually active Council members in the Association's history. Susan continues to support GTANSW through her remarkable contributions to the association journal the Geography Bulletin, contributing over 20 articles since 2013 to support teachers implementing the new NSW Geography Syllabus K-10 and presenting lectures and workshops at conferences.

Susan's passion for Geography led her to travel the state on behalf of GTANSW presenting at over 50 regional and country conferences on syllabus content, geographical skills, fieldwork, programs and teaching methodology. She liaised with organisations across many scales to develop education programs and resources, present at conferences or consult. Examples include NSW Environmental Education Centres and Zoos; the Asia Educators Teachers Association, Primary Teachers Association NSW, Metropolitan Social Science Teachers Associations; Geographical Society of NSW; NGO's such as Birthing Kit Foundation and World Vision; Sydney Harbour Trust; Australian universities; the International Geography Conference (The Hague) and a United Nations resource. As an avid traveler, Susan represented GTANSW on tours to Syria, Iran, Cuba and South America to further her learning and share this through conferences and Geography Bulletin.

Susan's achievements and service have been recognised through many awards including the meritorious McDonald Holmes Medal (Geographical Society of NSW and GTANSW), Outstanding Professional Service Award (Professional Teachers Council NSW), GTANSW Fellowship for distinguished service to the Association and to Geographical Education and Geoff Conolly Award for Bulletin articles.

It is with great pleasure that the GTANSW Council awards Dr Susan Bliss with Life Membership to the Association.

Honorary Life Membership citation



NICK HUTCHINSON

Nick Hutchinson's involvement with Geography Teachers' Association of New South Wales (GTANSW) began in the 1970's and continues to this day, a period approaching 50 years. During this time Nick played a very active role as secretary for a considerable period starting in the 1980s and as president between 1999–2002 and 2011–2013. Nick is renowned for his academic and thought provoking contributions to the GTANSW journal the Geography Bulletin, helping to fulfil one of the main aims of the GTANSW in supporting the professional learning of teachers.

As a GTANSW executive member, Nick also represented NSW admirably on the Board of the Australian Geography Teachers' Association where he served as secretary from 1998 to 2001, a board director between 2000 and 2013 and chair between 2006 to 2008. Nick was a member of the ACARA Curriculum panel during the development of the Australian Curriculum Geography, a member of the GeogSpace writing team to support the new Australian Curriculum Geography and organised the AGTA Biennial Conference in New Zealand in 2015 on behalf of GTANSW and

Nick has been recognised with many awards for his contribution to geographical education through his work with both GTANSW and AGTA. Awards include the 2015 AGTA Don Biddle Friend of Geography Award; 2012 Geoff Connolly Award for meritorious contributions to the Geography Bulletin; 2009 Professional Teachers' Council NSW Outstanding Professional Service Award and in the meritorious 2003 Macdonald Holmes Medal for distinguished contribution to the field of geographical education in Australia presented by the Geographical Society of NSW and GTANSW. In 1991 Nick was awarded a Fellowship of the Geography Teachers' Association, NSW for distinguished service to the Association and to Geographical Education in Australia.

It is with great pleasure that the GTANSW Council awards Nick Hutchinson with Life Membership to the Geography Teachers' Association of NSW.



Honorary Life Membership citation



DR GRANT KLEEMAN

Dr. Grant Kleeman joined the Geography Teachers' Association of New South Wales in 1996. Amongst his colleagues and peers Grant is widely recognised as a continually active Council member in the Association and highly regarded as one of Australia's eminent geographical educators. In recognition of Dr. Kleeman's sustained and dynamic presence in geographical education he was awarded the **McDonald Holmes Medal** by the Geographical Society of NSW and GTANSW in 2007. This award is peer nominated and peer assessed, developed specifically to acknowledge ongoing and distinguished contribution to geographical education in Australia.

Grant was awarded a GTANSW Fellowship in 2009, one of the highest honors that the Geography Teachers' Association of New South Wales bestows on a member for distinguished service to the Association and to Geographical Education in Australia. He was also recognised by the NSW professional Teachers Council with the Outstanding Professional Service Award (2010) in recognition of the voluntary work undertaken for GTANSW.

Currently, Dr Kleeman holds one of the Vice-President positions as well as the role of Honorary Treasurer. He continues to expertly fulfil both these executive roles and willingly shares his knowledge in providing a range of considered, achievable solutions to guide the GTANSW Council through decision-making processes. For over a decade, Grant was Editor of the **Geography Bulletin** (the GTANSW journal), a role often completed in collaboration with his close friend and colleague Dr Susan Bliss. Grant was instrumental in bringing colour and an online presence to the journal; he would also ensure an academic input was evident to assist teachers with their professional reading requirements. During the early and mid 2000's, Grant completed two terms as President of GTANSW and with that came the responsibility of accurately representing NSW geography education perspectives at a national scale through his involvement as a Board member for the Australian Geography Teachers' Association (AGTA). Due to Grant's longevity of service as an executive member of GTANSW Council, his national role on the AGTA Board continues to this day. Grant was AGTA Chair from 2014–2017. He is now the Association's Honorary Treasurer and Immediate Past Chair.

It is with great pleasure that the GTANSW Council awards Dr. Grant Kleeman with Life Membership to the Association.

Honorary Life Membership citation



BARBARA HEATH

Barbara Heath joined the Geography Teachers' Association of NSW in 1960 and in 1971 became a member of GTANSW Council, a role she held continuously until 2013. During her time as a GTANSW councillor, Barbara was a very active member, taking on many roles. Barbara was Minutes Secretary for five years, and on the Program Committee for over 15 years in which she took responsibility for organising venues, speakers and conference activities for many teacher conferences and HSC student lectures.

Barbara was always available to support GTANSW activities organised by other councillors including the marking of fieldwork projects, the registration of delegates at conferences and workshops and HSC Review evenings. Barbara supported the relocation of the GTANSW office to several different venues over the years. Many council activities would not happen without the behind the scenes support of councillors such as Barbara.

In 1992 Barbara received a GTANSW fellowship, one of the highest honours that the Geography Teachers' Association of New South Wales bestows on a member for distinguished service to the Association and to Geographical Education in Australia.

The award of Honorary Lifetime Member is a special award that recognises distinguished service to the Geography Teachers' Association of New South Wales. The award is an acknowledgement by your colleagues of your outstanding contributions over such a long period.

It is with great pleasure that the GTANSW Council awards Barbara Heath with Life Membership to the Geography Teachers' Association of NSW



Honorary Life Membership citation



PAUL ALGER

Paul Alger has been a member of the Geography Teachers' Association of NSW for many years since his arrival in Australia in the 1970's. GTANSW membership was an important part of Paul's role as Regional Social Sciences (K-12) Consultant in the Riverina region of NSW. Paul became a GTANSW Councillor in 1996.

During this time as a GTANSW Councillor Paul held the position of Minutes Secretary for over 15 years retiring from the position in 2015 having taken hand written minutes for up to ten meetings a year over that time. Paul has given generously of his time and expertise, continuously supporting GTANSW activities such as conferences, professional learning events, the coordination and evaluation of GTANSW resources, office relocation and the marking of fieldwork projects for the Arthur Phillip Awards. It is this essential background support that enables the association to provide high quality professional learning events and syllabus support to teachers and students in NSW. Paul remains an active member of the GTANSW Council.

In recognition of the voluntary work undertaken by association committees the PTC NSW annually presents an Outstanding Professional Service Award to individual association members. Paul received this award in 2015.

The award of Honorary Life Membership is a special award that recognises distinguished service to the Geography Teachers' Association of New South Wales. The award is an acknowledgement by his colleagues for outstanding contributions over such a long period.

It is with great pleasure that the GTANSW Council awards Paul Alger with Life Membership to the Geography Teachers' Association of NSW

