



Lorraine Chaffer, Editor

## EDITORIAL

This second special edition of the Geography Bulletin is dedicated to case studies for People and Economic Activity. Many of these articles are also relevant to studies on Interconnections in Stage 4 and Sustainable Biomes in Stage 5.

Many thanks to the following people for their contributions to this edition.

### Economic Activities

Rae Dufty-Jones from Western Sydney University for an interesting article titled '*Going Bananas*' on the global and local economics of the Australian Banana Industry.

Drew Collins for his insight into *dairying* as an economic activity.

Lorraine Chaffer for a short piece illustrating the variety of PDF and visual resources that are available to support studies of different Economic Activities with mentions of *tourism, viticulture, livestock, coffee* and a focus on the *dairy industry* at a local and global scale.

Patricia Dybell for a comprehensive collection of information sources on *coffee* with a brief synopsis of each corresponding to the syllabus dot points.

Susan Bliss for an intriguing series of articles on '*Big Data*' as an economic activity – a very contemporary choice of study given the explosion of digital technologies and global data.

- *Part 1: Big Data. Products and services*
- *Part 2: Big Data. A changing world*
- *Part 3: Understanding Big Data – Student activities*

### Economic Enterprises

Susan Bliss has provided two economic enterprise case studies for coffee

- *Gloria Jeans*
- *Starbucks*

Susan's article on coffee in the Geography Bulletin Edition 4 also provides the foundation for a study of coffee as an Economic Activity.

### GTANSW Senior Geography Conference

The first GTANSW conference for teachers of senior Geography was held at Federation Conference Centre in Surry Hills on Monday 6th November. Presentations included: 'Busting the Bands' (Matt Carroll); the Senior Geography Project (Grace Larobina); Current Trends relevant to years 11 and 12 topics (Grant Kleeman); Some more difficult skills (David Latimer); People and Economic Activity (Alexandria Lucas); Local to global – incorporating your own geography into senior lessons (Martin Pluss) and ICT for Senior Geography (Andrew Toovey).

Thank you to all presenters and participants for making the day a success. Feedback indicates that most participants took something valuable away from the day. It was always going to be difficult catering to the needs of a diversity of teachers at different stages of their senior Geography teaching. It was wonderful however to see more experienced senior Geography teachers share their teaching strategies, ideas and resources and the beginnings of some networking between teachers and schools.



*Image: Matt Carroll presenting at the GTA NSW Conference for Senior Geography Teachers.*

The Conference was organised to focus on sharing ideas, resources and teaching strategies and not the delivery of content for different topics, as some participants had anticipated. With the variety of different case studies that could be taught, the inclusion of content based workshops was minimised, with a plan to provide these as part of the Annual Conference in April 2018 where teachers will have a choice of options from Stages 4–6.

It is also hoped that a session on HSC marking can be incorporated, however some clarification from NESA is required before GTA can proceed with this plan.

### Facebook and Google Drive

To further support HSC Geography teachers, GTA has set up a Facebook Group titled **GTANSW Teachers of HSC Senior Geography**. Membership is limited to teachers in NSW, particularly those teaching or who might teach senior Geography in the future. When applying to join the group there are three questions that require answering.

A **Google Drive** folder has been created for the collation and sharing of resources to support the teaching of Geography in Years 11 and 12. Members of GTANSW and the Facebook support group can access and contribute to this drive and folders it contains. In the HSC Folder is a copy of all **HSC stimulus books** from 2001–2017 and the Examination papers and exam feedback for 2011–2016. There is also a folder for teaching programs

### GTANSW website

A page on the GTANSW website has been created to make files available to those members who are not Facebook users. This can be found under the Resources tab.

This page also contains the video-taped sessions from the Senior Geography Conference.

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