



Lorraine Chaffer, Editor

## EDITORIAL

Welcome to the first edition of the GTA Bulletin for 2018. Term 1 is shaping up as a very busy term with the GTA Annual Conference on Monday April 9<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday April 10<sup>th</sup> at Novotel, Sydney Olympic Park and the first webinar of a series to be provided throughout the year.

Many thanks to our 2018 conference sponsors Landcom (Gold sponsor), Sydney Olympic Park (Bronze sponsor) and Education Perfect (Bronze sponsor). We look forward to the participation of these sponsors in our conference and encourage members and conference participants to visit their trade displays to learn about services and resources that support Geography teachers across NSW.



Thank you also to the contributors to this edition. These include:

- Jens Koff (Creative Spirits) for the second article in our series on Aboriginal Australia
- Dr Susan Bliss for two resources: Namib Desert and Earthquakes: Haiti and Chile.
- Dr John Buchanan for an interesting perspective on the Haiti earthquake titled Whose fault? Port-au-Prince, Haiti: An illustrative case study in natural disasters
- David Massingham for Game of Thrones Mapping Activity
- Melinda Rowe for Changing Places Task for Stage 5
- David Allchin for an introductory activity for Landscapes and Landforms
- Leah Arthur for sharing two teaching units:
  - Let it Burn, a Teaching Unit for Stage 5: Environmental Change and management with a focus on bushfires.
  - Push and Shove, a teaching unit for Stage 4: Landscapes and Landforms with a case study of Mount Everest.

## STAGE 6 GEOGRAPHY REVIEW

NESA has release a survey for teachers to review the current Stage 6 Geography syllabus, as the first step towards a new Stage 6 Syllabus in the future. There are no timelines at this stage of the process.

GTANSW encourages members to have their say by completing this survey – <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/5RQJMS7>



GTANSW Facebook Page is used for major events and the general promotion of Geography at <https://www.facebook.com/GTA.NSW/>

GTANSW has two specific support groups:

- GTANSW Teachers of Senior Geography Group  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/841307156040600/>
- GTANSW Primary Geography Teachers Group  
<https://www.facebook.com/search/top/?q=gtansw%20primary%20geography%20teachers%20group>

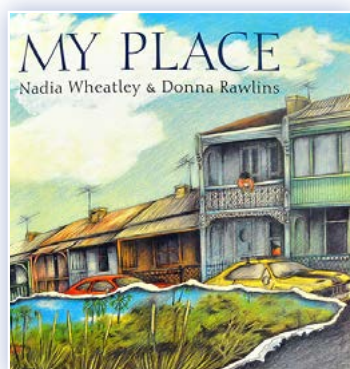
Admission to these groups is on request and requires questions to be answered before approval is given.

The GTANSW 2017 Annual General Meeting was held in October. The Presidents Report, AGM Minutes and Financial statement are also included in this edition of the bulletin along with a list of GTA Councillors for 2018.

### GEOGRAPHY ALIVE: A new GTANSW resource for primary teachers

GTA has celebrated the launch of a new online Primary Geography resource Geography Alive. <http://gtansw.org.au/geography-alive/>

The initiative includes sample units of work organised by stage of learning. Currently, there are 10 units available. Each unit includes an overview linking it to the NSW Geography Syllabus (K–6), detailed lesson plans with step-by-step instructions, teaching resources and, where appropriate, student worksheets. The units have been drafted by a team of experienced Primary teachers and many have already been 'road tested' in the classroom.



The units are discrete entities. They do not represent a 'scope and sequence' that covers all syllabus requirements. Over time, additional units will be added to the site. Teachers are encouraged to share their own units with their colleagues across NSW.

See sample pages from Stage 2 Unit My Places: Picture book study in this edition.

### GTA NSW Events for Semester 1 2018

- **Webinar program** – See the GTA website for news of each new event. The first Webinar for the year was on Practical ideas for Inquiry Based Learning in Geography. The next webinar will be held on Thursday 22nd March on Geography Alive – Resources for Primary Schools.
- **Annual Conference** – See the flyer in this edition or the GTA website for all necessary information and links – <http://www.gtansw.org.au>
- **2018 HSC Preparation Lectures** for Year 12 students and teachers:
  - *Newcastle*: Callaghan College, Jesmond Campus on Thursday 14th June
  - *Goulburn*: Trinity Catholic College on Monday 18th June
  - *Sydney (CBD)*: NSWTF Conference Centre Surry Hills on Tuesday 26th June
  - *Sydney (West)*: PTC NSW Training Rooms, Auburn on Saturday 30th June.



**GTA** COLLABORATE  
INSPIRE LEARN

**GTANSW Annual Conference**  
**My challenging Geography Classroom**  
Monday 9<sup>th</sup> & Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> April 2018

[Click here for online registration](#)