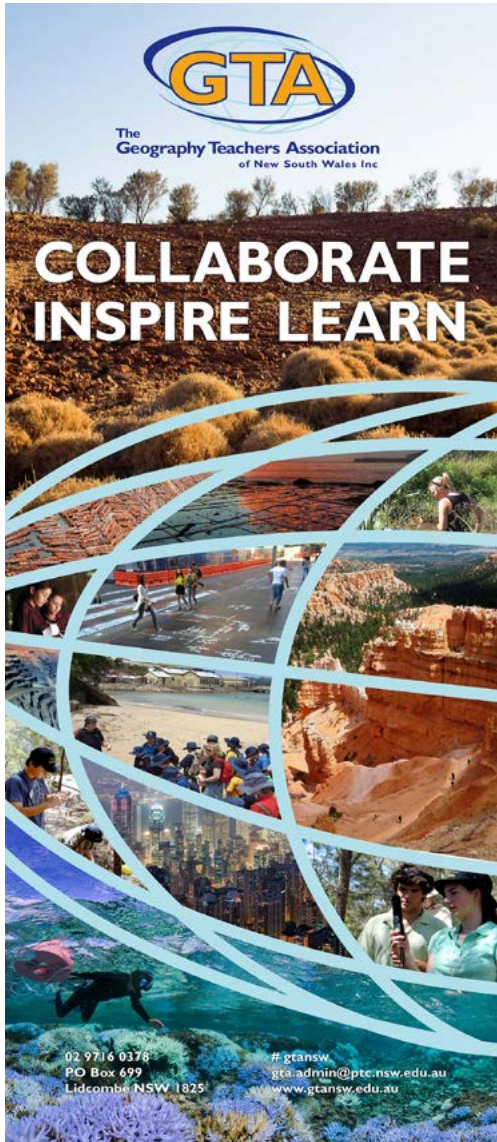


2017 ANNUAL REPORT

Geography Teachers Association of NSW

Lorraine Chaffer, President GTANSW

The Geography Teacher's Association of NSW (GTANSW) has had a highly successful year providing professional support for Geography teachers and students across NSW and the ACT.



GTANSW professional learning events are inclusive of all sectors and actively promote engagement with primary, secondary and preservice teachers. Professional Learning activities are open to members and non-members, except for one GIS training workshop. Fees for non-members remain higher to encourage membership.

Targets for 2017 included

- increasing membership
- increasing regional representation on GTA council
- maintaining regional support
- increased digital and social media presence

Membership has grown slightly, with concessional and personal memberships increasing at the expense of corporate memberships.

Five Life Memberships were presented at Annual Conference to Dr Susan Bliss, Nick Hutchinson, Dr Grant Kleeman, Barbara Heath and Paul Alger.

Fees: \$180 School / institution; \$90 personal; \$50 primary and \$40 concession.

2017 Membership was 375 (an increase of 25 members over 2016)

Fees will increase to \$190 for schools in 2018

GTNSW Council had 19 members during 2017 and has increased its regional representation for 2018. Two new councilors at Tweed Heads and Wagga join regional representatives from Canberra (1) and Newcastle (2) – who were supported to attend the planning day in October and officially welcomed at the AGM. The 2018 council has 21 members.

Office Support

The GTANSW Office shares a space with the Professional Teachers' Council NSW and other teachers Associations. Monthly meetings are held in the boardroom and our resources are stored at the PTC NSW office. The Professional Teachers' Council NSW provide administrative, financial, publishing and organisational support. This work load increases before major events such as conferences.

Council activities and events

GTANSW Council is run by volunteers whose hard work and commitment is responsible for the large number of successful events held in 2017. These include:

- **2017 GTANSW Annual Conference** held over two days at Novotel, Sydney Olympic Park with an extended program of 48 workshops covering syllabus content, pedagogy, skills and tools for teachers from K-10. Masterclasses were videotaped and made available to conference participants and GTANSW members. (200 attendees each day + 20 displays)

- **Awards for highest achievers in the HSC Examination 2016** and their teachers
- **Arthur Phillip Fieldwork Awards and 2016 HSC Review** (Annual Conference)
- **Webinar program** using Zoom. Five webinar Twilight Events, NESA Accredited and recorded for the GTANSW website for members.
- **Regional Conferences**, at Tamworth, Bateman's Bay and Wagga (with RivSSTA)
- **Inaugural HSC Senior Geography Teachers Conference** (100 participants)
- **HSC Student Lectures** were held at three locations in 2017. A declining attendance over recent years is being addressed with some revamping of this series for 2018 using new locations and one holiday workshop in Sydney.
- **GIS Workshop** in association with Esri Australia, to support now available ArcGIS Software available to schools.
- **AGTA / GTANSW Skills Roadshows** held in Sydney and Newcastle to support both experience teachers and those new to teaching Geography and primary teachers. GTANSW Councillors also assisted with the roadshows held in other states.
- **GTANSW Councillors** represented GTANSW at various events during the year including:
 - Representation on the AGTA Board (3 x GTANSW, 1 x ACT / NSW)
 - DoE HSIE Cross curriculum meeting
 - GTAV Annual Conference in Melbourne
 - AGTA Conference in Melbourne
 - Rural Fire Service collaboration
 - University of Western Sydney HSC Enrichment Day
 - Environmental Education Centre visits
 - School visits to assist with resources and programming (includes Distance Education, public, private, primary and secondary schools)
 - Presenting at interstate AGTA events
 - Promotion of AGTA skills and Literacy publications
 - PL Events for Centre for Professional learning
 - Liaison with NESA when required
 - Liaison with ESRI to promote their free Arc GIS for schools program and provide professional learning opportunities.

Planning for 2018 has begun with dates set for the Annual Conference (9th & 10th April 2018) and HSC Student Lectures (June 2018).

Publications and projects

- **Geography teaching resource for K–6.** A free resource for the GTANSW website, currently in progress.
- **7–10 Assessment and Skills resource** (Planning stages)
- **The Geography Bulletin.** There were four issues produced in 2017 and two *Special Editions for Senior Geography Teachers*. The electronic journal is available to members online.
- **Online registration** now well established for all GTANSW professional learning events.
- **Social Media:**
 - Facebook page for GTANSW events and general geographical information
 - GTANSW Facebook group for Senior Geography Teachers NSW only
 - Google Drive resource folder for NSW Senior Geography resources
 - Support for two other Facebook Groups for Geography Teachers
 - Twitter Account (Events only)

2018 will see a new more attractive and user friendly website – www.gtansw.org.au



Geography Bulletin – Special HSC Editions Issue 1 & 2 2017

Geography Bulletins 2017



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