



Lorraine Chaffer, Editor

EDITORIAL

Welcome to the first edition of the Geography Bulletin for 2019. This edition has a content focus on Stage 5 Sustainable Biomes. A big thank you to all contributors.

Biomes

- *Introduction to biomes* (Lorraine Chaffer)
- *Sustainable biomes crossword and answers* (David Proctor)

Challenges to food production

- *Urban sprawl is threatening Sydney's foodbowl* (The Conversation)
- *Bees, biomes and food security* (Lorraine Chaffer)
- *Farming on thin ice* (The Crawford Fund)
- *Planning for climate extremes in global farming* (Pursuit, Melbourne University)

Human alteration and management

- *Dehydration and rehydration of the Australian landscape* (Campbell Wilson)
- *Sustainable water and energy management in Australia's farming landscapes* (WJ Hurditch)
- *Careers in agriculture* (Lynne Strong, Art4Agriculture)
- *Sustainability: Newcastle Grammar School's rooftop gardens* (Drew Collins)

Classroom Resources

- *Using Dark Emu in the Geography classroom* (Simone Barlow and Ashlee Horyniak)

EDITION 2 OF THE GEOGRAPHY BULLETIN WILL FOCUS ON URBAN PLACES AND LIVEABILITY.

Upcoming GTA NSW & ACT events

- **HSC Exam Preparation Lectures**
 - Newcastle Thursday 13 June
 - Sydney Tuesday 18 June
 - Coffs Harbour Friday 28 June
- **Term 2 Webinar program**
 - Monday 13 May – Water in the World (Louise Roberts, Sydney Water)
 - Thursday 30 May – Ecosystems at Risk: Tundra Environments (Louise Swanson)
- **Regional Conferences**
 - Kiama – Thursday 30 and Friday 31 May
 - Coffs Harbour in Term 4 (date tbc)
- **Skills Workshops**
 - Warwick Farm (September date tbc)
 - Potts Point (September date tbc)
- **Online Learning Geography Concepts 101** – At your convenience

Australian Geography Teachers Association Conference

This event is being held on the Gold Coast, Tuesday 1 – Friday 4 October with presenters from all states.

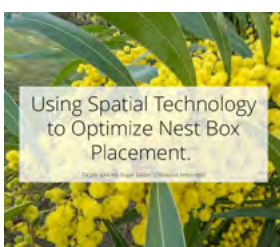
Don't miss this opportunity to meet and share with fellow geographers from across Australia. Conference website – <http://www.agta2019.com.au/index.php>

GTA NSW & ACT is giving four lucky teachers the opportunity to apply for a sponsorship that will pay for the full registration. (See the flyer in this issue and on the GTA Website).



Congratulations: Competition winners

GTANSW & ACT congratulate the winners of the inaugural **National Geospatial Information Competition** run in late 2018. NSW students took home the first and second prizes from entries from schools across Australia.



First place was Elizabeth Peabody and Micah Edwards who were in Year 7 at Nowra Christian College in NSW last year. They completed a **storymap** called '**Using spatial technology to optimise nest box placement**'. The judges felt that they used data they had collected, geospatial tools and geospatial information really well to outline their problem, analyse it and draw a conclusion.

As part of their prize, Lizzie, Micah and their teacher will attend the Locate19 Conference in Melbourne, including the Asia-Pacific Spatial Excellence Awards Gala Dinner to showcase their work to the industry and to see how geospatial tools can be used in the real world.

Second place was Bede Taylor and Tom Abbott who were in Year 9 at Barker College in NSW last year. Their video, '**Solving homelessness in NSW using geospatial technologies**', examined homelessness in Sydney and across NSW.

The 2019 Competition will be announced soon! For more information on the competition, or on Spatial Science as a career path for young people, please visit the [Geospatial Science website](#).



Geography Teachers Association of NSW & ACT

REGIONAL CONFERENCE KIAMA *OBSERVE, INQUIRE, CREATE*



SPECIAL OFFER – first 40 delegates to register for the conference have the option to attend, at no additional charge:

- The pre-conference dinner – **Wednesday 29 May, 6.00pm**
- Kenny Escapes: Berry wine tasting tour and lunch – **Saturday 1 June, 11.00am – 5.00pm**



Thursday 30 & Friday 31 May 2019

The GTA Regional Conference in the Field: Observe, Inquire, Create will be held over two days at the luxurious Sebel Harbourside, 31 Shoalhaven St, Kiama.

Day One of the conference – the first session updates teachers on current research on the role of geographic fieldwork in improving and enriching student outcomes. The second session involves teachers in practical fieldwork activities in coastal, rainforests environments and urban areas where teachers will select and apply strategies to develop geographic knowledge and skills that can be implemented with their students.

Day Two – teachers work in small groups to broaden their knowledge and improve their teaching practice by selecting and using the knowledge and skills from the previous day's fieldwork activities to create a sequence of fieldwork activities that will engage students in fieldwork and enhance geographic knowledge and skills.

Regional Conference registration opens Friday 29 March on the GTA website – www.gtansw.org.au

Early Bird member rate \$460 or non-member \$480

This event is proudly supported by





The Geography Teachers' Association of NSW & ACT

SPONSORSHIP OFFER

GTA NSW & ACT will be sponsoring four NSW teachers to attend the AGTA Conference on The Gold Coast during October 2019

About the conference

The Australian Geography Teachers Association conference takes place on Queensland's Gold Coast from Tuesday 1 to Friday 4 October 2019.

The 2019 conference theme is 'The Innovative Geographer'. In an ever changing world, the study of Geography has become increasingly important. The technologies needed to collect, manage and represent our world are constantly changing. The proliferation of 'big data' and the everyday use of spatial technologies means that Geography teachers need to innovate in the classroom to ensure their students have the 21st century skills they will need to be successful beyond high school.

The 2019 AGTA conference program will provide opportunities for teachers from across Australia to share and reflect on their own innovations in the Geography classroom.

For further information about the conference – www.agta2019.com.au & agta.asn.au/Conferences/

About the GTA Sponsorship

The sponsorship will pay full registration for the main conference from 1 – 4 October 2019.

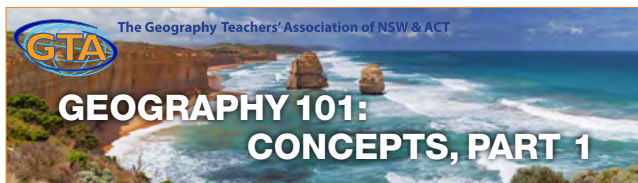
To be eligible entries need to come from teachers in Northern NSW who teach in GTA MEMBER SCHOOLS or are INDIVIDUAL GTA MEMBERS. (By definition – from Sawtell / Coffs Harbour area to the NSW – Queensland border).

Conditions of sponsorship

Successful participants will be required to submit an article for publication in the GTA Geography Bulletin stating how they benefited from the experience and how they intend to integrate what they have learned into their Geography Teaching Programs.

Applications open Monday 22 April and close on Friday 24 May. Submit your application HERE

www.gtansw.org.au • gta.admin@ptc.nsw.edu.au • 02 9716 0378



A flexible anywhere, any time online learning opportunity through Open Learning

Geographical concepts are a foundation for teaching Geography in NSW. This professional development course, created by Dr. Paul Batten on behalf of the GTA NSW & ACT, examines the seven key concepts from the Australian Curriculum Geography and NESA Geography Syllabus K–10. These concepts are: place, space, environment, interconnection, scale, sustainability and change.

The purpose of the course is to build teachers' understanding of these core concepts. By completing the learning activities participants will demonstrate their capacity to use three of the concepts – place, space and environment – to create engaging Geography lessons.

Skills developed in this course include: applying knowledge of the content and teaching strategies of Geography to develop engaging teaching activities (NESA Standard 2.1.2), providing opportunities for ATSI respect and understanding (NESA Standard 2.4.2) and contributing to collegial discussions to improve professional knowledge and practice (NESA Standard 6.3.2).

The course is designed for flexible delivery, where participants can start, progress and finish at times convenient to them. The collaboration is in a 'pay it forward' style, where participants engage with previous contributions and contribute themselves – learning in the process, but also adding to the galleries of exemplars and case studies for future participants to review.

Cost: \$90 Register at <https://www.openlearning.com/ptc-nsw/courses/geography-101/>
For further information about this course contact – gta.elearning@gmail.com



Geography Teachers Association of NSW & ACT, through the Professional Teachers' Council NSW – is endorsed to provide the NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA) Registered Professional Development for teachers accredited at Proficient, Highly Accomplished, and Lead levels.

Completing the Geography 101: Concepts, Part 1, on 29 October 2018 – 29 October 2019 will contribute 3 Hours of NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA) Registered PD addressing 2.1.2; 2.4.2; 6.3.2 from the Australian Professional Standards for Teachers towards maintaining Proficient Teacher Accreditation in NSW.

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2019 HSC PREPARATION LECTURES FOR YEAR 12 STUDENTS & TEACHERS

Once again this year, GTA NSW has organised lectures for HSC Geography students and teachers. The presenters are experienced educators and HSC markers. Sessions cover: Ecosystems at Risk, Urban Places, People and Economic Activity and Geography skills and exam advice.

DATES AND LOCATIONS

Thursday 13 June	Newcastle: Callaghan Secondary College (Jesmond Campus, Janet St, Jesmond)
Tuesday 18 June	Sydney: NSWTF Conference Centre (Reservoir St, Surry Hills)
Friday 28 June	Coffs Harbour: John Paul College (Hogbin Drive, Coffs Harbour)

TIME

9.30am – 3.00pm, registration from 9.00am

COST (inc GST)

\$40 per student for member schools/teacher
\$60 per student for non-member schools/teacher

Teacher attending with students admitted FREE. Teachers attending with students will receive a link to lectures presented on the day for distribution to students after the event.

Teacher attending without students – \$80 member and \$100 non-member

ONLINE REGISTRATION – CLICK HERE

Supply a list of attendees with your school's registration • Registration closes one week prior to each event • Students are encouraged to bring writing equipment and paper or tablet devices to mind map key concepts and advice.

GEOGRAPHY FIELDWORK UNLOCKED

Geography Fieldwork Unlocked is the third book in the Geography Unlocked series. Like companion publications – *Geography Skills Unlocked* and *Geography Literacy Unlocked* – the resource seeks to support and enhance the teaching of Geography in Australian Schools.

The Australian Geography Teachers Association (AGTA) has published the book with Dr Grant Kleeman, one of Australia's leading Geography educators, acting as coordinating author.

➔ NOW AVAILABLE

ABOUT THIS RESOURCE

Geography Fieldwork Unlocked features 34 inquiry-based fieldwork activities developed by a team of experienced Geography educators. Section 1 of the book introduces the reader to inquiry-based fieldwork. It also provides guidance in developing fieldwork action plans, research methodologies, and data collection tools and approaches. It also provides guidance on the presentation and communication of fieldwork findings.

Section 2 features nine fieldwork activities for primary students (Years F/K–6). Each of these activities has been designed to develop students' conceptual understanding and the skills associated with inquiry-based learning.

Section 3 showcases 25 fieldwork activities aligned to the topics studied by students in Years 7–10.

Each fieldwork activity is framed by one or more inquiry questions. They also feature: a statement of expected learning; a list of the equipment needed to successfully complete each fieldwork activity; a short introduction; background information that contextualises student learning; pre-fieldwork activities; and detailed step-by-step instructions on how to complete each fieldwork task.