Annual conference registrations open

The registration brochure for our conference, Planet Earth, is now in your school and available on our website www.gtav.asn.au. The dates in your diary should read Sunday 10th – Tuesday 12th August. Sunday and Monday are both held at Camberwell High. Tuesday is the fieldwork day and while it begins at Highfield Park there is a range of destinations. Our keynote speakers are Dr Peter Christoff, Vice President of ACF, who will speak about climate change and Professor Paul James, Global Cities Institute, RMIT, who will focus on urban issues.

There is an extraordinary range of sessions being offered and the GTAV is grateful for such wonderful support. Register now to take advantage of this opportunity to refresh your content and strategies, network with wonderful colleagues and examine a wide range of resources.

The GTAV 50th birthday

In 2009 the GTAV will celebrate its 50th birthday and we want you to be part of the celebrations. Register your details on our 50th anniversary web page www.gtav.asn.au/anniversary/ to ensure that you are invited to the party.

The subcommittee’s tasks include planning a celebration dinner and compiling a record of the history of the association. The library is building our collection of publications of the GTAV and we are still missing some copies of the "Newsletter of the GTAV". Hence, we are seeking your assistance to delve into the back cupboards or the shed to see if we can unearth Nos 1-18 and 23-26 from the late 1960s. If you are able to help please contact our librarian, Libby Hillman, at the GTAV librarian@gtav.asn.au

Professional Learning

The GTAV program provides opportunities to enhance your Geography teaching build your love of the subject and inspire students while at the same time satisfying the Standards of Professional Practice.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term three 14/7 – 19/9</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sun 20 July VCE student population lecture</td>
<td>Melbourne University</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 21 July Basic Geospatial Skills and Knowledge</td>
<td>Holmesglen</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 25 July Geography 7-10 relevant and Fun</td>
<td>Pascoe Vale</td>
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<td>10-12 Aug 42nd Annual Conference</td>
<td>Camberwell</td>
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<th>Term four 6/10 - 19/12</th>
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<tr>
<td>Sat 11 Oct VCE exam revision lectures</td>
<td>Melbourne University</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 21 Nov Applied GIS</td>
<td>Monash</td>
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<td>Mon 1 Dec VCE conference</td>
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The year’s program is available and updated at www.gtav.asn.au. Choose the Support tab and Professional Development. Registration forms will be mailed to schools and can also be downloaded from the website. The Victorian Institute of Teaching has a section on its own site that lists conferences. Our events are included on this list. Visit www.vit.vic.edu.au/ and choose professional Learning and Forthcoming Conferences and Events. Our professional learning calendar can also be accessed from the new Pdi site at www.vit.pdi.vic.edu.au. A search term such as geography will find us. Our events are also included in the Education Times.

Individual assistance

Contact Anne Dempster, Education Officer, at eo@gtav.asn.au or phone 9824 8355.
Melbourne Museum Melbourne Story

The Melbourne Story exhibition is now open. For Geography teachers, the exhibition offers an overview of Melbourne’s development as a city and the impact this has had on its people and the environment.

This exhibition would complement an urban studies unit or could be a component of a city-based unit. The display is divided into 6 time segments. Visit the Melbourne Museum site http://museumvictoria.com.au to see a brief description of each time period.

The wide range of objects in the exhibition means students will be attracted to a variety of information sources. The following could be a simple way of encouraging students to enjoy the exhibit and gain some insights. There is a range of possible responses, which will encourage students to think before making a choice.

As you look at the Melbourne Story find examples for each of the following:

- Influence of natural factors on the choice of site for Melbourne
- Influence of natural factors on growth of Melbourne
- Influence of human factors on the growth of Melbourne
- Interaction of human and natural factors in Melbourne
- Examples of spatial association (similar distribution patterns)
- Key dates - why you think they are important
- Links between names and the past
- Examples of suburbs that grew in each of the time periods
- The changing size and shape of Melbourne

The time period 1945-1980 includes information about the MMBW 1954 Metropolitan Planning Scheme as well as information about public housing – an opportunity to consider spatial change over time and to reflect on recent urban planning suggestions.

Immigration Museum Waters of Tuvalu

An exhibition, the Waters of Tuvalu: an Island at Risk, will be held in the Community Gallery at the Immigration Museum (400 Flinders Street). This clearly links to studies about the Pacific and about climate change. This exhibition will open 5 August 2008.

Geography leading to a career

The incredibly relevant content and skills in Geography make it a valuable stepping stone to a career.

www.myfuture.edu.au This careers website is a joint Australian and state government venture and contains links to careers that will appeal to those who study Geography. There is a new version of the “Do you enjoy or are you good at Geography” poster with which many of you are familiar.

Melbourne University clearly describes how geographic skills and insights open career prospects.

www.social-environmental.unimelb.edu.au/geography

Monash University presents reasons for studying geography and environmental science and the range of employment opportunities.


Planning is diverse (eg. coastal, urban, transport, health, environmental) which broadens its appeal. Studying geography is an ideal starting point for a career in planning. Visit www.whatisplanning.org/ (Part of the Planning Institute of Australia website) to see profiles of planners, employment prospects and modules of work for teachers.

RMIT www.rmit.edu.au/gsssp provides information about career opportunities related to the environment and planning.

LaTrobe University also offers a course and information about planning.

www.latrobe.edu.au/planning/

The Place of Geography in your Career Choice is a flyer available from the GTAV. Will you include Geography in your passport to a successful future? This flyer can be found on the GTAV website. Visit www.gtav.asn.au and search for passport.

Visit www.geocareers.net.au to find examples of careers and courses in all Australian states with a geography flavour. You can find interviews with those who have geography related careers and courses that include geography.

JOBS for Geographers is a regular inclusion in Interaction. Read about a wide range of careers that benefit from geographic skills and knowledge.
**Water as a resource**

**The Water Debate:** visit the BBC website and search for the Water Debate. [www.bbc.co.uk](http://www.bbc.co.uk)

There you will find audio files, quizzes, hot spot map, fact file and discussions about issues such as water privatisation.

**VCE support material:** There is now some support material on our website [www.gtav.asn.au](http://www.gtav.asn.au) for the VCE topic of water in the Murray-Darling Basin The link on the home page will take you to a range of exercises provided by practising teachers. The GTAV thanks those who willingly shared their work. Tasks are organized under the subheadings of Bibliography, Geographic Characteristics, Use and Management, Visuals, Revision, SACs and Conferences.

**Current resources:** water has been a topic in recent media and shows can usually be accessed at the relevant websites:

- **7.30 Report:** [www.abc.net.au/7.30/archive.htm](http://www.abc.net.au/7.30/archive.htm)
- **4 Corners:** [http://www.abc.net.au/4corners/](http://www.abc.net.au/4corners/)
- **Catalyst:** [http://www.abc.net.au/catalyst/](http://www.abc.net.au/catalyst/) (eg. Fire, flood and acid mud 1/5/08)
- **Landline:** [http://www.abc.net.au/landline/](http://www.abc.net.au/landline/)

**Shepparton Irrigation Area:** This new comprehensive resource, developed by [Landlearn](http://www.landlearn.com.au), is based on sites in the Shepparton Irrigation Area. This resource includes fact sheets, images, suggested activities and very clear route descriptions. The resource called [Water and Food](http://www.landlearn.com.au) can be ordered from [landlearn.program@dpi.vic.gov.au](mailto:landlearn.program@dpi.vic.gov.au)

**Our Watermark:** This 160 page document published by the [Victorian Women’s Trust](http://www.victorianwomenstrust.org.au) brings together an incredible range of information including text, tables, graphs and maps all in a very clear format. It is divided into 5 parts: The Big Picture (eg. water cycle, surface water, severe drought, our footprint, wasted water, climate change), The Way Forward (eg principles for reform), Becoming Super-Efficient Water Users (eg. business, farmers, households), Building Community Momentum and Glossary.

For information about how to acquire a copy of this book see [www.watermarkaustralia.org.au](http://www.watermarkaustralia.org.au/)

The entire document can be viewed in pdf format at this site.

**Goolwa map:** published by Geography Teachers’ Association of South Australia. Visit [http://gtasa.asn.au/](http://gtasa.asn.au/) and the follow link to featured product.

**Mildura map extract 1: 25,000:** this map is available from GTAV

**Annual conference:** speakers include:

1. Philip Heaphy, MDBC contact in Victoria, will speak about managing the shared waters of the Murray Darling Basin.
2. Keith Ward, Goulburn Broken management Catchment Authority, will speak about icon water management – the challenges of the Barmah-Millewa Forest.
3. Neil McBeath, Department of Primary Industries Echuca, will focus on sustainable water use in the MDB – a Victorian viewpoint.
4. Jo Haw, Murray Darling Association, will explain The Living Murray Program.

**Oxfam education:** this website has lessons for 8-14 year olds involving research, interactive whiteboard activities, interpreting images and data collection about a range of topics including water [www.oxfam.org.uk/education/](http://www.oxfam.org.uk/education/)

**Blue Gold:** The global water crisis and the commodification of the world's water supply
A Special Report issued by the International Forum on Globalization (IFG), by Maude Barlow

**What’s in a Name?**

[Australia’s Geographical Names](http://www.icsm.gov.au/) is a free internet-based teaching package developed by the Committee for Geographical Names of Australasia (CGNA) that can be downloaded from [www.icsm.gov.au/](http://www.icsm.gov.au/). There is a video and lessons designed for primary school with many ideas applicable to level 5 classes. This is a way of tapping into students’ love of places.

**Relief in Sight**

This exhibit from AusAid about responses to humanitarian crises is coming back to Victoria for our [Annual Conference](http://www.reliefinsight.com.au/). You should also visit the website for curriculum ideas and images: [www.reliefinsight.com.au/](http://www.reliefinsight.com.au/)
Sanitation
Do you know that 2.6 billion people live without access to satisfactory sanitation? This year is the International Year of Sanitation and the Global Education Project Victoria has produced a 20-page booklet for secondary students, Dying to go to the toilet; the sanitation challenge. This colour publication uses text, images, maps and statistics to address this vital issue. The contents include:
• Sanitation – what is the issue?
• What are the global and regional patterns?
• How are people affected by sanitation?
• How does poor sanitation affect the environment?
• Case studies – Timor-Leste, Papua New Guinea, Bangladesh
• Action – what can be done to improve sanitation?
This wonderful resource is free and can be collected from the GTAV. If mailed to your school there will be a postage and handling charge.
There is also a resource for primary students, Lifting the lid, which provides activities about sanitation across a wide range of learning areas. This resource is also free and can be collected from GTAV or posted for a small charge. Other wonderful resources for junior geography include Potatoes (to mark the year of the potato), Teaching about other countries and Where are we in the world? Visit the South Australian Global Education Project at www.global-education.asn.au

Beijing Olympics
Looking for material about the Olympics?
1: Visit www.afssse.asn.au/ to access ready-made lessons including topics such as: Where is Beijing?, How can Australians get to Beijing?, What is the path of the Olympic torch?, What might the weather be like?, Where are events being held?, What other attractions are there in Beijing?
2: The latest Primary Geographer from the Geographical Association is called China: Olympic Special. It can be borrowed from the GTAV library.
3: Visit www.geography.org.uk/ and choose Beijing Olympics on the home page. Alternatively search for Planet Sport. You will find colourful, detailed resources for primary, lower, middle and upper secondary. AGTA and GA have prepared this material.
4: This unit has also been presented in the June 2008 Interaction. It is called Teaching about the Beijing Olympics and is written by Bob Digby. Links to enquiry pages can be found on the GTAV website. Click on the information about the latest Interaction on our home page.

Art Competition
The Australian Meteorological and Oceanographic Society is holding a competition to encourage students to be inspired by the beauty and power of the skies and the oceans. The atmosphere and the ocean have long been a source of inspiration, and students can channel their feelings into a short story, poem, song, painting or something that captures the essence of what they feel.
Work needs to be submitted by 26 September 2008 and details can be found at http://www.amos.org.au/education

Research Matters
The latest bulletin from the Department of Planning and Community Development (formerly DSE) includes data from Suburbs in Time, currently being prepared, which will provide information from 1981 to 2006. The bulletin includes maps to show change over time in dwellings per suburb and maps to show the movement of people between suburbs. You can access this data at www.dpcd.vic.gov.au/research

Free worksheets
Spatial concepts – To support this fantastic poster set you can find student worksheets and teacher notes on our website: www.gtav.asn.au and search for spatial concepts.
Fiji - The GTAV has prepared worksheets to accompany the Fiji broadsheet. Visit www.gtav.asn.au and search for Fiji.
Things that matter - These cartoons, drawn by Peter Nicholson, are supported by activities on our website. Once again the worksheets are ready for you. Visit www.gtav.asn.au/Materials/index.htm
Murray-Darling – There is a link on our home page to take you to resources provided by experienced teachers.
E Learning

Here are some reminders of sites that will help you incorporate elements of ICT into student learning.

**Education Channel**
www.education.vic.gov.au/schools/ which has links to useful sites and examples of webquests.

**Search engines**
- **Filamentality**
  www.kn.pacbell.com/wired/wired.html is a site with lessons, webquests and information for teachers. The link to lessons, webquests and tools provides examples of work. For instance there is a topic, Searching for China, that provides a variety of Web-based activity approaches: a Hotlist, Multimedia Scrapbook, Subject Sampler, Treasure Hunt, Introductory WebQuest or Full WebQuest. In each activity you are sent to relevant tools to allow steps to be followed.
- A useful search engine is [www.clusty.com](http://www.clusty.com) which will search and provide subheadings to help you refine your search list. This will certainly improve search efficiency.

**Images**
- TED, Technology, Entertainment, Design
  www.ted.com presents free talks from great thinkers about a range of subjects. For instance there is a 20-minute talk by Al Gore presented this year about climate change and the need for political action. This is not a repeat of *Inconvenient Truth*; it is an update and encouragement to be optimistic.
- **Teachertube**: www.teachertube.com/ is a collection of educational, instructional videos including serious topics and light-hearted offerings like the animaniacs song, the *Nations of the World*.
- [www.geographyatthemovies.co.uk/index.html](http://www.geographyatthemovies.co.uk/index.html) contains short videos submitted by teachers and students
- Coast images in VCE resources section of GTAV website www.gtav.asn.au

**Podcasts**
- The Education Podcast Network has material available www.epnweb.org/ for your information and for class use.
- A search for geography podcasts will provide a range to choose from. Some are very short which would increase their usefulness in class.
- Melbourne University has weekly *Up Close* podcasts - many of interest to Geographers www.unimelb.edu.au/

**MapZone GIS**

An excellent starting point for GIS.
http://mapzone.ordnancesurvey.co.uk
If you have difficulty simply type *mapzone* into a search engine.

There are 6 case studies organized as missions and found under the *GIS Zone* tab. At *GIS Zone* choose English. You will find the case studies under the *GIS Missions* tab.

The case studies are *Flood* damage control, *Wind* power location, *Control* and command (ambulance dispatching), *Shopping* for profit (shop site selection), *Farm* management and *Crime* stopper (police support).

The other tabs (*GIS Focus, GIS Reality, Teacher Zone* and *GIS Extras*) are worth a look. You might like to use some of the sections to provide information about GIS and why it is useful.

Students will need to read the instructions!!! They provide the criteria they are required to satisfy.

The scoring system becomes available when you click on a site. You need to complete the scoring for all elements at the site to save the totals. You may prefer to provide a score sheet to allow students to focus on one criterion at each site, then move onto another criterion at each site, inputting the choices afterwards. Example: Shopping for profit

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criteria for each site</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
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<tr>
<td>Availability of land</td>
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<td>Reasonably priced land</td>
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<tr>
<td>Access for customers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Proximity of customers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Access to high income customers</td>
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There is a suggested lesson plan for each topic including time allocation, to help avoid busy work, and plenary tasks.

Students enjoy these exercises – they don’t seem like class work. They are geographical, fun and don’t require an enormous amount of preparation.

Also, they will work at all levels.

***Remember the content may not matter if the point of the exercise is to show that criteria is needed to make a decision, that compromise is often required, that justification will be needed, that different perspectives (SHEEPT) will be relevant and that spatial data is invaluable.
Bibliography for Climate Change

• The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
  www.ipcc.ch/

• UN Framework Convention on Climate Change:
  http://unfccc.int/2860.php

• United Nations Environment Program:
  http://maps.grida.no/

• The Climate Institute
  www.climate.org

• The Australia Institute
  www.teachingclimatchange.com.au

• The Australian Climate Change Science Programme

• The Commonwealth Science and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO) Atmospheric Research:
  www.cmar.csiro.au/

• Ozclim – Exploring climate change scenarios for Australia
  www.csiro.au/ozclim/home.do#useOzClim

• Bureau of Meteorology
  www.bom.gov.au/climate

• Australian Conservation Foundation:
  www.acfonline.org.au

• Greenpeace Australia
  www.greenpeace.org.au

• World Wildlife Fund (including the Climate Change, Solutions for Australia)
  www.wwf.org.au

• Australian Government
  www.australia.gov.au/Climate_Change

• Victorian Government

• Geopolitics of climate change


• The Herald Sun (2007) “Saving the Planet Earth” series (Solar and more; Wind and more; The Future)(supplement) The Herald and Weekly Times, Melbourne.


• The Age, Fairfax Newspapers, Melbourne.

• “Nature gives us all we need to tackle climate change now”, Steve Shallhorn 13/12/2007

• “Going underground: gas heads for the ground floor” 22/2/08

• “Mildura power station to help cut emissions” 26/2/08

• “Greens worry over new gas storage facility” 3/4/08

• “Bio-fuel for the future” 14/4/2008

• “Climate pinch on Australia” 10/12/07

• “Government non-committal as report urges drastic measures” 22/2/08

• “Delight for Greens as Australia joins the main game” 17/12/07

• “Victoria urged to cut dirty industry subsidies” 17/12/2007

AGTA Sunshine Coast conference

The biennial conference of Australian Geography Teachers’ Association will be held from 29 September - 2 October 2008 at the University of the Sunshine Coast Queensland. The program and registration form are now available on the AGTA website

www.agta.asn.au Registrations are open until 22 September.

Geoscience

Visit the site for Geoscience Australia for much useful information www.ga.gov.au

The education section includes a city quiz, examples of geography in the news and Fabulous Facts about Australia. For instance, did you know that new measuring by Geoscience has the three longest rivers in Australia as Murray (2520km), Murrumbidgee (1575km) and Darling (1390km)? The natural hazards section provides a lot of data (eg. recent earthquakes in Australia), visuals and links (eg. recent earthquakes in the world).

You can also work with online maps in the MapConnect section. See the suggestions on the next page.
Using Spatial Information (Geographic Information Systems)

MapConnect

GEODATA TOPO 250K Series 3 maps online


You need to agree to the terms and click on submit.

Click on the Automatically Refresh Map

• If a small map appears in the northwestern corner just click on the map and your click point will move to the centre of the map frame. Where ever you click on a map will become the new centre point.
• Click on the legend. Now Zoom into Victoria by clicking on the most westerly button and drawing a rectangle to enclose Victoria.
• Notice new features appear on the legend. As you change the scale the features on the legend will change.
• As you open the lists in the layer tab you will notice that many are not available. The red star will take you to the scale at which that layer becomes active. The scale is given in the south-western corner.
• If you don’t like the scale you are working at, there will always be a tab to take you back to the previous view or back to the original scale.

Let’s look at the screen.

1: What is the latitude and longitude for each of the following?
  • Bairnsdale
  • Melbourne
  • Kerang
  • Warrnambool

2: Distinguish between a layer and the legend?

3: What is the scale of the original map? Rewrite the scale as a statement (eg. 1cm on the map represents __________ in real life.)

4: On a map showing all Australia use the measuring tool to find out how far it is to travel around Australia passing through each state capital. Go directly from one capital to the next. You just need to click on each city. What is the total distance? Which is the longest segment?

Patterns

Zoom to Victoria again and make sure the Major roads layer is on (under transport).

1: Describe the pattern made by these roads.

2: Zoom into to find the names of these major roads. You have to go to a larger scale before the layer with the names will work.

If you want to stay at a scale and move you can simply click on the direction arrow (NESW) on the relevant side.

3: Make sure the Landsat mosaic layer is on. It probably will be.

Describe the degree of spatial association between major roads and landform.

Topography

Take an area that is easy to identify (like Wilson’s Promontory or the Grampians) and zoom in.

Go in until you can read the names of the hills/mountains.

1: What is the contour shape of a hill/mountain?

2: Water has to flow down hill. What shape do the contours make in a valley?

3: Zoom into an area where you are pretty sure there will be walking tracks (eg around Mt Buller). Make sure you have the following layers activated: foot tracks, streams, contours. What do you notice about the (spatial) association between landform and tracks?

4: By zooming into an area (like inland from Bairnsdale) and activating the layer of perennial (under Hydrography) and the Landsat mosaic you will be able to show a watershed. You can do this at a larger scale as well.

Once you’ve explained at this scale students could find another example at a more local scale. It could also be an opportunity to show that some of the rivers we talk about in relation to Melbourne’s water supply are some distance from Melbourne.
Geography Networks 2008

The teachers listed below have volunteered to be a point of contact for colleagues in 2008. Contact your network leader to be included on their email list.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Geography Network</th>
<th>Network Leader</th>
<th>School</th>
<th>School phone</th>
<th>Email</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>North West</td>
<td>Stuart Potter</td>
<td>Donald High</td>
<td>5497 1205</td>
<td><a href="mailto:potter.stuart.j@edumail.vic.gov.au">potter.stuart.j@edumail.vic.gov.au</a></td>
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<tr>
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<td>East Gippsland</td>
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<td>Western District</td>
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<td>Horsham College</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mildura</td>
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<td>Irymple</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:andrews.christopher.n@edumail.vic.gov.au">andrews.christopher.n@edumail.vic.gov.au</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>North Eastern Metro</td>
<td>Trish Douglas</td>
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<td>Prahran Bayside</td>
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2008 Sub-committee Conveners

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<tr>
<th>CONFERENCE</th>
<th>Maree Boyle / Dominique Wiegand</th>
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<td>PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT</td>
<td>Anne Dempster</td>
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<td>CURRICULUM</td>
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<td>Peter Wheeler</td>
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Help us help you
Are you on our email list? Is someone from your school on our email list? Help us get information to you. Simply contact the GTAV at office@gtav.asn.au

Fieldwork data bank
The GTAV is putting together a bank of ideas for fieldwork. Are you happy to share an example of your work? Do you know of a terrific location? Do you know of a wonderful contact? Do you have advice? Contact the GTAV.