With Term 4 underway, preparations for 2006 have commenced for many of us in schools and certainly at the GTAV. I would like to take this opportunity to invite members to become more involved in the GTAV in 2006 by perhaps joining the Committee or one of a number of sub-committees and working groups. These are all fundamental to the management and progression of the organisation and are dependant on the involvement of active, interested geographical educators. During November these committees for 2006 will be formed and therefore, I ask that if you are interested, to contact the GTAV office for more information and nomination procedures. The Committee looks forward to welcoming existing and new members in the coming months.

Dominique Wiegand
GTAV President

VALE
Phyllis Reichl 10.01.1915 – 27.08.2005

The Geography Teachers’ Association of Victoria Inc. deeply regrets the passing of Life Member Phyllis Reichl.

Phyllis was an active member of the geography education community and served on the GTAV Committee from 1967 to 1972. Phyllis taught at Ormiston and Fintona. Phyllis ceased full time teaching in 1965 but continued to make a valuable contribution with her writing and involvement in developing a wide range of teaching resources.

The GTAV wishes to acknowledge the extensive contribution Phyllis made to geographic education over many decades and extends its sincere sympathy to her family.

A full obituary will appear in the December edition of Interaction.

Upcoming Professional Development

The VCE conference will be held over two days this year, Thursday 24th and Friday 25th November. The new format will allow teachers to look at the new course in depth, with the Thursday dedicated to unit 1 and 2 and Friday concentrating on unit 3 and 4.

The VCE student lectures have been taped again this year and are available for purchase.

Melbourne Stopover/Volvo Ocean Race

The race will be in Melbourne during the second week of Term 1, 2006 (Monday 6–Friday 10 February, 2006). Here’s the chance to bring your students to see these majestic yachts, hear the tales of life at sea from the yachties themselves and explore the interactive displays at Waterfront City Race Village, Melbourne Docklands. Register with excursions@melbournestopover.com.au

Free buses are available for metropolitan schools to get to the venue.
Hurricane Katrina

Disasters like Hurricane Katrina are devastating to the communities involved and disturbing reminders to all of us of the Natural Hazards that face everyone. At the same time they provide wonderful and rich learning opportunities for our students. As students see the events unravel in the media they naturally come up with the why, how and what if questions. Geography teachers are in a special position to be able to help students find the answers to their questions. The websites below are just some of millions on Hurricanes and in particular Hurricane Katrina.

http://www.nationalgeographic.com/forcesofnature/

Once you are on this site you will need to choose Hurricanes. This site gives good information and some animations on the formation and workings of hurricanes as well as their impacts.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hurricane_Katrina

Both of these sites are specific to Hurricane Katrina. They will help students understand the development of the hurricane and the reasons behind the devastating impacts. Many of the words in the article link to other articles to give more specific meanings.

http://earth.google.com/katrina.html
http://www.nasa.gov/vision/earth/lookingatearth/h2005_katrina.html
http://coastal.er.usgs.gov/hurricanes/katrina/

These sites have some good before and after images and help provide an idea of the scale of destruction.

The GTAV has available two maps in pdf format, that were provided to us by ESRI Australia. One of the maps shows the paths of major hurricanes in 2005 and the other shows the path of Hurricane Katrina. If you would like a copy of these simply email eo@gtav.asn.au with Hurricanes in the subject and we will email a copy to you.

GTAV Award for Geographical Education 2005

This award is presented to teachers who have made an outstanding contribution to geographical education in one or more of four categories. These are classroom teaching, the development of geographical education materials or resources, professional development and an administrative role or responsibility contributing to geographical education. The two recipients of GTAV Awards that were presented at the GTAV’s 39th Annual were Clare Rafferty (centre) and Andrew Chisholm (Left) pictured here with president Dominique Wiegand.

Are you an experienced Geography teacher able to teach across the whole secondary range?

Would you enjoy a year spent living and teaching in the UK?

My name is Keith Southwell and I am a Geography teacher based in a successful secondary school 12 kms outside of Nottingham. I teach Geography to A level and am looking for a teacher to exchange with for 1 year starting January 2007. I can offer a 4 bed house in a great village 15 minutes outside of Nottingham, 1 hour from the Peak district and 2.5 hours from London. My journey to work takes 20 minutes. For further information contact southwells@ntlworld.com.
Are You Getting Started with GIS or Thinking About It?

FREE TO SCHOOLS:

$500 DIGITAL MAP DATA FROM DSE

Get ready for 2006 and make your purchase of digital data before the end of the year. Begin to build your digital map collection of the local area or your fieldwork sites.

Go to:
http://services.land.vic.gov.au/landchannel/content/productCatalogue
Register on line and place your order.

WANT TO LEARN MORE?

Come to the GIS Network meeting at 4.15pm Tintern AGGS (Ringwood East) on Tuesday 25th October. A representative from the Department of Sustainability and the Environment will outline how to access data and use a GPS.

Please register your interest in attending this meeting by contacting the GIS Network Coordinator, Pat Beeson (pbeeson@plc.vic.edu.au)

GTAV’s 50th Birthday Celebration

In 2009, the GTAV will celebrate its 50th birthday. The GTAV is looking for interested people to join a working party, led by GTAV Life Member Rob Berry, to plan for this significant milestone.

VCE Geography Text 2006

GTAV’s new student text for the new Study Design 2006, New Perspectives: VCE Geography Units 1-4 ISBN 1 876703 08 3

is well into production and will be available for the new school year. It is priced at $74.50 and can be placed on school booklists through the usual suppliers and is available through GTAV.

Google Earth

Google Earth is a free program available at http://earth.google.com. Google Earth runs on most newer PC’s. You need to visit the website to see if your computer is suitable. There is not currently a version for Macintosh computers.

The program provides free satellite images for the entire globe. It also has aerial photos for large cities, like Melbourne. The program allows you to rotate the earth and zoom in to any point of interest. It’s a great way to get students interested in mapping, aerial photography and GIS. For much of Melbourne, students should be able to zoom in to see their own roof top! It’s good for developing a sense of scale and for building students spatial acuity. By tilting the view, you can approach a point on the earth as you would in a plane and get a feel for the topography of the landscape. Students can use the program to measure the distances between points and around locations, such as the Melbourne metropolitan area.
### Geography Networks 2005

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Geography Network</th>
<th>Network Leader</th>
<th>School</th>
<th>School phone</th>
<th>School fax</th>
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<td>q <a href="mailto:prangers@hotmail.com">prangers@hotmail.com</a></td>
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The networks meet and focus on significant issues including support for VCE teachers with information regarding SACs and the sharing of Unit ideas. **Why not be a Leader? The Networks marked * require your support!**

### NEED TO CONTACT ANYONE AT GTAV? Phone: 9824 8355 Fax: 9824 8295

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Visit GTAV online:  [www.gtav.asn.au](http://www.gtav.asn.au)

**GIS Network Contact**

Pat Beeson - PLC  Ph. 9808 5811

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