



The Geography Teachers' Association of NSW

2017 ARTHUR PHILLIP



FIELDWORK COMPETITION

AWARDS CEREMONY

Novotel Sydney Olympic Park, Homebush

GTA NSW Conference – Monday 9 April 2018

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The Geography Teachers' Association of NSW – Awards Ceremony

The “Investigating Places” Primary Fieldwork Competition

First Place

Cody Thacker

Medowie Public School

Teacher: Darren Gould

Synopsis: How technology can help save the planet.

Cody's investigation was about “How technology can help save the planet: An investigation into environmentally sustainable housing”. A creative and imaginative project that highlighted the scope of technology incorporating a clear curriculum priority. The project showed planning and the connection between people and environments. The project is supported by both primary and secondary sources.

The Geographical Fieldwork and Research Competition

First Place

Olivia Yu

Meriden

Teacher: Anita Kondichetty

Synopsis: Improving the liveability of Burwood.

Surveying residents and ranking of criteria that measures liveability to determine initiatives needed to improve Burwood's liveability in the future. The extensive findings highlighted many of the concerns the residents had including the widespread issue of traffic congestion. In the report, Olivia used geospatial technologies to locate the area. The data analysis demonstrates a high standard of research and knowledge.

Second Place

Student: Trisha Chari

Meriden

Teacher: Anita Kondichetty

Synopsis: Improving and evaluating West Ryde's liveability.

In this report, Trish conducted primary research and used geospatial technology to complete the task. She has investigated by using a survey of local residents then very creatively offered suggestions on how to improve the liveability of the suburb based on her survey findings. The final report is geographically detailed and succinct.

Third Place

Scarlett Pearce

SCEGGS Darlinghurst

Teacher: Katie Treacy

Synopsis: The liveability of Rose Bay.

Scarlett has effectively used geospatial technologies, primary and secondary research to thoroughly investigate the liveability of Rose Bay. She incorporates graphs and a wide variety of images to demonstrate a clear understanding of the topic. The report is well supported and draws upon her investigation and included a newspaper article to highlight and support her research

Fourth Place

Lucia Gelonesi

SCEGGS Darlinghurst

Teacher: Katie Treacy

Synopsis: The liveability of Paddington.

Lucia has utilised geospatial technology, primary research in the form of surveys and secondary sources to investigate the liveability of Paddington. The report showed a strong understanding of issues surrounding liveability. The task included writing a newspaper article where Lucia was able to summarise her findings and present this in a creative manner.

The Dr Don Biddle Places and Environments Study

First Place

Lydia Hall

St Mary Star of the Sea College

Teacher: Lisa Kendell

Synopsis: The nature of transport in the Illawarra region.

This extensive Research Action Plan uses a variety of primary research methods and is carefully planned and detailed. Highlights of the RAP include the surveys using a large sample, photos and fieldwork to investigate the nature of transport in the Illawarra region. Secondary sources are used to supplement primary research. The research findings are presented in an engaging and sophisticated way using a Weebly which incorporates graphs, photos and maps that utilise ARC GIS mapping. The report also proposes effective solutions to the issue of transport.

Second Place

Laura McKay

Hunter School of Performing Arts

Teacher: Natalie Hudson

Synopsis: Mine Subsidence in Lambton and surrounding suburbs.

This project was extensively and effectively researched. Secondary sources provided background on the causes and effects of subsidence while primary research methods of surveys, interviews, and photos provided detailed information on the specific impacts of subsidence in the Lambton area. The findings were well presented and organised and included the use of

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spatial technologies to map the impacts of subsidence. Overall, the research was extensive and showed a thorough knowledge of research method

Equal Third Place

Grace Alston

Hunter School of Performing Arts

Teacher: Natalie Hudson

Synopsis: The construction of the new Rankin Park to Jesmond Bypass.

This Research Action Plan examined how the construction of the new Rankin Park to Jesmond Bypass (part of the Newcastle Inner City By-pass) will affect the residents, public, bushland and transport mechanisms of the surrounding community. The report utilised geospatial technology to map, surveys, interviews and photographs. Primary research combined and integrated secondary sources to provide a thorough investigation into the positive and negative impacts of the bypass on the biophysical, built environment and members of the community. A well planned, researched and presented Research Action Plan

Yvone Delos Reyes

Hunter School of Performing Arts

Teacher: Natalie Hudson

Synopsis: Urban Consolidation is a contemporary issue for Australian cities and environments.

This is the subject of this thoroughly researched Action Plan. The concept of urban consolidation, causes and impacts was researched. This was followed by a variety of primary methods including a survey that utilised social media for data collection, photos and interview. The results of the research were very effectively presented in a Weebly and included graphs and interview transcripts. Geospatial technologies were utilised to create maps used in the report. The report also highlighted recommendations for future projects in the Newcastle area.

Fourth Place

Georgia Vaughan

Hunter School of Performing Arts

Teacher: Natalie Hudson

Synopsis: Air quality in Armidale.

Air quality in Armidale is the focus of their research action project. The project adopts effective primary and secondary methodologies to research the issue, implications and recommendations for the future. The research used extensive historical data on air quality for Armidale to establish the extent of wood smoke on air quality. Primary research included surveys, interviews and photos to assess the current situation and provide the basis for detailed proposed of actions that could be utilised considering the variety of points of view in the community.

The Brock Rowe Senior Geography Fieldwork Award

Equal First Place

Hannah Carlon

St Mary Star of the Sea College

Teacher: Adam Everatt

Synopsis: the relationship between the design of cities and urban heat.

This SGP focused on the relationship between the design of cities and urban heat. Primary methodology used to gather the data is strongly supported by a variety of secondary sources including the use of spatial technologies such as My Maps on Google Earth. The use of an infra red camera showed the sophistication of Hanna's work and the scope of technology available for our Geography students. The representation of the findings through graphs and data was notable. This was a detailed study highlighting a global concern about the world's population concentrated in cities and an awareness that these areas continue to become denser, the human impacts are intensified. This report examines the Urban Heat Island effect with particular focus on how urban design can contribute positively or negatively to the severity of the Urban Heat Island effect.

Jessica Green

St Mary Star of the Sea College

Teacher: Adam Everatt

Synopsis: Food Organics Garden Organics.

FOGO is an acronym for 'Food Organics Garden Organics'. The investigation of this Senior Geography Project (SGP) was between Wollongong City Council and Shellharbour City Councils. The aim of the project was to investigate the use of FOGO bins in the Shellharbour Council, and to determine if this program would be suitable for Wollongong Council. An outstanding in-depth and accurate investigation using a number of primary and secondary sources were analysed in relation to the topic. A significant part of the research was a visit to Whyte's Gully Waste Depot (Wollongong Council landfill site) and Dunmore Waste Facility (Shellharbour Council landfill site), to collect photographs, observations and data to support the investigation. From the creation of the SGP, Jessica raised awareness about the prevention and elimination of waste entering landfill, for the benefit of a sustainable future.

Second Place

Annabelle Brophy

Santa Sabina

Teacher: Eva Guiguis

Synopsis: The Summer Hill Flour Mill and Lewisham Towers developments.

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Annabelle's Senior Geography project heavily focused on the environmental, social and economic impacts the Summer Hill Flour Mill and Lewisham Towers developments will have on the surrounding area and community. More specifically, Annabelle discovered the impacts on local businesses, traffic, flora & fauna and on the residents in the surrounding areas. Through geographical investigation techniques such as interviewing, observing, photographing, conducting thorough research and performing surveys on local residents. The results concluded that although there were definite negative outcomes due to the developments, many positive impacts are also noted. Her observations show that it is clear that the area is becoming increasingly gentrified due to the developments and investment of capital, which have had a positive addition to the area; the investigation identified many interesting geographical factors affecting the liveability of the community & areas. Creative use of photographs to show change over time and a focused rationale that reflected the body of her work.

Equal Third Place

Milena Cugali

Cecil Hills High School

Teacher: Fleur Farah

Synopsis: How does the traffic congestion at the intersection of Cowpasture Road and Frederick Street Cecil Hills create an unsafe environment for local communities?

This SGP researched the traffic issues at the intersection and how this issue can be resolved to create a safe environment for the community and those that visit the area. Melina used her survey questions to raise awareness of this long-standing safety issue using traffic counts, and interviews were an effective way of collecting information. Her self evaluation showed that she had gained geographical knowledge and improved her perspective on this matter.

Grace Holland

Warners Bay High School

Teacher: Kendall Dieleman

Synopsis: Waste Water Treatment in the Lake Macquarie Area.

Waste Water Treatment in the Lake Macquarie Area has become an increasingly prevalent concern. Residents show a need to be further educated about the impacts of their behaviour on the ecology of the research area. Grace has effectively used both primary and secondary sources to support her methodology. The aims and scope of the SGP examined the effectiveness of the existing education programs about wastewater treatment. Excellent references to the survey that Grace created using Survey Monkey.

Luke Poier

Sydney Grammar School

Teacher: Shona Newall

Synopsis: An investigation into the formative processes of NSW beaches in particular, Stockton, Collaroy, Cronulla, Hyams beaches.

In his SGP, Luke aimed to discover the biophysical processes that created the coastal regions within NSW. The study included a variety of fieldwork methods to collect the data including sand and mineral analysis as part of his study of the geological composition of the coastal areas. This enabled him to make assumptions about the origins of the sand deposited on the beach. Luke's SGP is clearly set out and used data effectively to visually represent his findings. An interesting area of his study were the evaluations about the limitations of his study and the scope of the findings

Fourth Place

Alexandra Molloy

Santa Sabina College

Teacher: Eva Guguis

Synopsis: Croydon Station upgrade.

The SGP was a study about the Croydon station site and the structures dating from the 1892. This site holds particular enduring value unique to the area as it is illustrative of the expansion of the railways in the late 19th and early 20th century highlighting the heritage significance of development along the line. Thus being in the midst of an extensive Croydon station upgrade and remodel, this inquiry explores the protection of heritage in Croydon and is largely centralised around this development and its consequences. The three main areas explored are identifying the areas of heritage significance being altered, how these heritage impacts will ultimately affect the community in the short term and additionally the long term as well as the response on a local and state level. Strong supportive analysis and methodology

Equal Highly Commended

Michael Agiotis

Sydney Grammar

Teacher: Brett Marturia

Synopsis: Recreational use of the present and future recreational use of the Parramatta River.

The SGP researched the cultural attitudes concerning the recreational use of the present and future recreational use of the Parramatta River and how these reflect the biophysical environment. Michael used the Hen and Chicken Bay, the peninsula at Abbotsford as the site for his study. Primary research included water quality testing comparing before and after rainfall to determine the impact on water quality for safe

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swimming. His data was visually presented using tables and graphs that summarised his hypothesis.

Alba Engelen

SCEGGS Darlinghurst

Teacher: Darryn Sullivan

Synopsis: How does graffiti affect different communities in Surry Hills?

Alba's topic was "How does graffiti affect different communities in Surry Hills" directly answered the questions in SGP. The rationale showed the conflicting view of graffiti as a work of art and as a criminal offence. Alba has diligently explored the public perception of the effectiveness of graffiti prevention as part of her inquiry. The data analysis used visual representation such as graphs and spatial technologies of the research area.

The Dr Susan Bliss Cross-Curricular Priority Awards

Equal First Place

Nara Baek, Cherie Ghadiali, Angel Poi

Tara Anglican School for Girls

Teacher: Elizabeth George

Synopsis: The Values of the Landscape – Lake Parramatta and the Burramattagal.

This research project focuses on the Landforms and Landscapes topic and the inquiry question "Why do people value landscapes?" The project examines the nature of the landscape of Parramatta Park and Burramattagal way of living within the landscape. How the land is valued is viewed in terms of Aboriginal stewardship and the importance of the influence of landscape on culture especially the dreamtime and food. The project was very effectively researched and presented using a Weebly.

Mia Azzi, Daiana Chen, Holly Stott

Tara Anglican School for Girls

Teacher: Rebecca Wood

Synopsis: The Values of the Landscape – Lake Parramatta and the Burramattagal.

This project explores how the Burramattagal people of the Durag tribe lived in the Lake Parramatta landscape. It was effectively researched through fieldwork and the findings creatively presented in a Weebly. Focusing on the Landforms and Landscapes topic and the inquiry question "Why do people value landscapes?" the project details the cultural and environmental significance of the landscape and the significance of landscape.

Second Place

Thomas Melliush

Broughton Anglican College

Teacher: James Ulrich

Synopsis: The Recycling of Coffee Pods.

This Research Action Plan examined the environmental issue of the coffee pod waste. The research used surveys to establish coffee pod use in the local community, current knowledge of and use of recycling facilities. Access to recycling services for coffee pods in the local community was mapped and showed the spatial dimensions of the issue. Further action for recycling was proposed for the sustainable use of coffee pods in the future.

The Dr Maurine Goldston-Morris Civic and Citizenship Award

Equal First Place

Jessica Green

St Mary Star of the Sea College

Teacher: Adam Everatt

Synopsis: Why does Shellharbour Council have FOGO bins [Food Organics Garden Organics] and Wollongong Council does not?

A Senior Geography Project that explored the Question: Why does Shellharbour Council have FOGO bins [Food Organics Garden Organics] and Wollongong Council does not". The SGP raised awareness of the issue of food waste; with 40% of all waste in "red lid bins being food waste" is a question for all. The need for more consistency between council areas was clearly one of Jessica's aims. Jessica justified her work with the extensive use of primary and secondary evidence. The most compelling part of her primary evidence was the interview she conducted with Councillor at Wollongong City Council. The questions showed a clear determination for change in council practice and a willingness to push this agenda as a concerned citizen of ecological sustainability and the reality of landfill. The questions Jessica raised and the quality research in her discussions clearly had an impact on the Councillor and there were discussions of perhaps introducing FOGO bins in the future.

Cody Thacker

Medowie Public School

Teacher: Darren Gould

Synopsis: How technology can help save the planet.

Cody's investigation was about "How technology can help save the planet: An investigation into environmentally sustainable housing." Cody used both primary and secondary sources to research data

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on water and energy use to construct a model of a sustainable home. Cody produced a YouTube video of his project; this online resource has educated people about sustainable housing. By creating this video, he has promoted citizenship by educating the viewers of his resource with the wider community and his peers.

The Dr Maurine Goldston-Morris Teacher Award

Adam Everatt

St Mary Star of the Sea College

Adam Everatt is awarded for the consistency in the quality of student submissions. He has clearly engendered a curiosity to learn about geographical issues and has encouraged his students to undertake their own primary research creatively. The students submitted a variety of topics that are of global interest and concern demonstrating the true breadth of learning that Geography offers. Further Adam has embraced and encouraged the use of geographical tools and skills that are reflected in the nature of the work that was submitted. Adam is commended for his ability to foster high order thinking and the synthesis of geographic data

Natalie Hudson

Hunter School of Performing Arts

Natalie Hudson's students have presented research action projects of the highest calibre. It is apparent that Natalie has fostered not only a genuine interest and engagement in Geography she has engendered a spirit of inquiry. Further, Natalie has encouraged her students in the discipline of fieldwork and the use of a variety of primary methodologies. Her students are also versed in the use of spatial technologies. The quality of the written reports of Natalie's students indicate that geographic literacy is a priority. Natalie is to be commended on the quality of her students' research and presentations.

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GTANSW would like to congratulate all the winners and also commend the students and teachers who have participated in this competition.