

COMPETITION RESULTS



Geography's Big Week Out and International Team

Each year sixteen Year 11 students from around Australia are selected to participate in Geography's Big Week Out (GBWO) based on their scores in the Australian Geography Competition. The 2020 GBWO had to be cancelled because of COVID-19. Continually changing border, quarantine and gathering restrictions, flight cancellations, and last-minute cases of COVID, made organising the 2021 GBWO particularly challenging, but after three changes of date and location, the "2021" GBWO was finally held in Brisbane from 9 to 13 April 2022.

The participating students were:

Student	School	State
Amad Arzavi	Comet Bay College	WA
Hamish Carson	Shore School	NSW
Zara Ford	Canberra Grammar School	ACT
Elyse Helmgren	Ascham School	NSW
Patrick Holland	Hobart College	TAS
Elijah Jacobson	Sydney Grammar School	NSW
George Leeton-Watts	Wesley College - St Kilda Road Campus	VIC
William Matthews	Brisbane Grammar School	QLD
Rachel Morden	Timboon P-12 School	VIC
Lucy Schwarz	Arden Anglican School	NSW
William Stafford	Sydney Grammar School	NSW
Justine Thomas	Comet Bay College	WA
Annika van den Brenk	Sunshine Coast Grammar School	QLD
Ioanna Vaughan-Jones	Walford Anglican School for Girls	SA
Jessica Wang	St George Girls High School	NSW

COMPETITION: GEOGRAPHY BIG WEEK OUT



On the last day the students sat a 2-hour test, and from that the four highest-scoring students have been selected to represent Australia at the **2022 International Geography Olympiad (iGeo)**. Best of luck to our Australian students:

- Lucy Schwarz, Arden Anglican School, Sydney, NSW
- Justine Thomas, Comet Bay College, Rockingham, WA
- Ioanna Vaughan-Jones, Walford Anglican School for Girls, Adelaide, SA
- Jessica Wang, St George Girls High School, Sydney, NSW

Teams from a diverse range of approximately 50 countries compete in the iGeo each year. The 2022 iGeo was to have been held in Paris in August but will now be held virtually. Instead, the Australian team will come together on the Gold Coast to compete. The students sit three challenging tests, including a Fieldwork Exercise that by necessity will be adapted to a virtual delivery. All students will be observed and recorded by international monitors during the tests, both through the computer on which they were working, and through a second observing camera, via Zoom. Opportunities for students from different countries to interact with each other are built into the programme.

Australia has been taking part in this highly prestigious international contest since 2006. Year 11 students from this year's Australian Geography Competition have the chance to be selected for the Australian team to the

The fieldwork focussed on investigating public spaces in central Brisbane and assessing their quality. Three quite different sites were assessed – the City Botanic Gardens, a central city square and a pedestrian mall in a downtown area. Tasks included mapping, surveying users, estimating transient populations, and analysis and visualisation of data.

The geographical concepts and skills learnt through participation in the fieldwork has inspired me to further analyse and evaluate urban environments in other parts of Australia. GBWO gave me opportunities to collect primary quantitative and qualitative data/observations which was a fun yet challenging experience that has deeply enhanced my geographical skills and understanding. Jessica



2023 International Geography Olympiad in Bandung, Indonesia (COVID-19 allowing).

The Australian Geography Competition is a joint initiative of the Australian Geography Teachers' Association and the Royal Geographical Society of Queensland. Costs of participating in GBWO and the iGeo are met by the Australian Geography Competition with support from the Australian Government Department of Education, Skills and Employment, the University of Melbourne, and the University of New South Wales.

For further information on the Australian Geography Competition, Geography's Big Week Out or Australia's participation in the International Geography Olympiad, please see the website or contact Rachel Honey.

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