



New Zealand Board of Geography Teachers

(N.Z. GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY INC.)

"The Network"

The NZBoGT Newsletter for Geography teachers

February 2006

Term One

Issue No. 29

Chairperson's Report

Greetings all and welcome back to a new year of Geography with 2006 promising to be another dynamic year in Education and particularly in our Geography community.

The Board is already planning this year's round of Maatangi Whenua for Year 11 students and the Planning and Decision Making Competition for Year 13. These competitions are always well received by many schools but if you have not participated in the past please do try and incorporate them into your programme this year. They offer some great opportunities for our students to meet and compete against other students. Please, don't hold back because you think your students may not be at the level of others – allow your students the experience and they may surprise you. The Board is only able to organise these competitions through the sponsorship of EXITO and Transit New Zealand and we are very grateful for their ongoing support.

A team of four students who competed successfully in the finals of Maatangi Whenua last year will be off to Australia at the end of June to compete in the International Geography Olympiad. We will give them every support we are able. There will be more information on their exploits later in the year.

We teachers look forward to the release of the new Social Sciences Curriculum over the next few months. Please, please, please participate in the consultation processes that surround this. Comment on both the things you like and those you don't. If we don't take the opportunity to inform the writing process we may end up with a document dominated by other subjects' priorities.

Through the very generous sponsorship of EXITO last

year the Board was able to provide, free to schools, an excellent resource on Quarrying. Their continued sponsorship has funded the creation of additional material to go into that box. This time the subject is Gold Mining and we will be launching the new resource at the Board of Geography Teachers meeting in March. The resources will be sent out to schools soon after.

As I've mentioned, the New Zealand Board of Geography Teachers will be holding their annual meeting in Wellington on the 17th and 18th of March. At that meeting we will be reviewing your comments from the exam survey, (I hope you have returned them), we will meet with representatives from the Ministry of Education and NZQA and we will be making our plans for the year. If you have any issue you would like raised or any good ideas for us please feel free to email me with your thoughts prior to the meeting.

Enough from me, I've classes waiting and fieldtrips to organise... Best wishes for an exciting and rewarding year.

Annette Lanigan
Chairperson
New Zealand Board of
Geography Teachers
Contact
Home: 04 383 5137
Email: A.Lanigan@xtra.co.nz
or AnnetteL@mana.school.nz



HODs are encouraged to photocopy this newsletter for ALL their staff, otherwise please at least pass on this copy to your school's geography staff to share the information:

HOD



Regional Teacher Representatives

The six Regional Teacher Representatives on the NZBoGT are elected by their NZGS regional branch to present the views and issues of their regions' geography teachers, and to keep their local teacher groups informed about NZBoGT issues and events.

What is the NZBoGT?

The NZBoGT is a standing committee of the New Zealand Geographical Society (NZGS). It includes six regional teacher representatives, together with one representative from a New Zealand University, a College of Education, and the NZGS Editorial Board. The board represents the subject *Geography* at a national level in curriculum and assessment areas. It is entirely funded by NZGS subscriptions.

	Auckland	Jane Foster Email: j.foster@maristcollege.school.nz c/- Marist College Fax 09 815 1441
	Waikato	Philippa Ferguson Email: pferguson@tgc.school.nz C/- Tauranga Girls' College Fax: 07-5788447
	Manawatu	Hugh Drake Email: drakeh@pnbs.school.nz c/- Palmerston North Boys' High School Fax: 06 354 5175
	Wellington	Amanda Picken Email: amanda.picken@xtra.co.nz Ph. 04 383 7665
	Canterbury	Jocelyn Pappriell Email: Jocelyn.pappriell@unlimited.school.nz c/- Unlimited Paenga Tawhiti School Christchurch Tel: 03 374 9453
	Otago	Margaret Williams Email: williamsmargaret@hotmail.com C/- Waitaki Girls' College Fax: 03-4346783

Other Board members:

Annette Lanigan	Mana College, Chairperson
Lex Chalmers	University of Waikato, Tertiary Liaison
Murray Fastier	Christchurch College of Education, Teacher Education Liaison
Mary Flaws	Editor, GeoEd section, NZ Geographer
Peter Holland	University of Otago, Ex-officio, President NZGS
June Logie	Head Office NXGS, Administration, Network

Why belong to the NZ Geographical Society and the NZBoGT?

1. There is no other association to represent Geography or Geography teachers. If as Geography teachers we do not advance our discipline it will go nowhere. By being part of the New Zealand Geographical Society we are part of something much larger than can better represent Geography, and thus also become part of the Royal Society of NZ, which brings further advantages.
2. That representation becomes particularly important when dealing with Government and in particular the Ministry of Education and NZQA. The Board has developed good links with both. The communication is two-way and has benefited Geography and Geography teachers.
3. As we embark on particular projects, such as the curriculum review now, or the implementation of Unit Standards and Achievement Standards in the recent past, or the review of Standards or examination papers, it is important that Geography teachers have an infrastructure that allows us to gather opinions and ideas. The Society and the Board have the structure and interest to undertake such activity.
4. Because members provide the only source of funds, only members can participate in the activities of the Society and the Board. This particularly applies to Maatangi Whenua and the Year 13 Planning and Decision Making Competitions. Likewise, only members enjoy discounts on their purchases from the Geography Resource Centre.
5. The Society and the Board promote an annual Geography Week, to advance the subject in our schools.
6. The Resource Centre, and the Board, develops resources specifically for Geography teachers. A major contract with EXITO (Extractive Industry Training Organisation) developing teaching materials for the Year 11 Resources topic, with Quarrying completed in May 2005 and Gold Mining due for launching in March this year. Coal Mining will be started before the end of 2006. For Year 12 and 13, material is being developed for the Current Geographic Issue topic: Oil and Gas Extraction (also for Year 11) and the Petrochemical Industry; and Waste Management and Resource Recycling.
7. The Board has developed CDs to support the implementation of Levels 1, 2 and 3 Achievement Standards. They are only available to member schools.
8. There is considerable movement in the Social Science curriculum area. Now, more than ever, it is important that Geography teachers, and Geography, have a voice and be heard. No-one else is going to do it for us.
9. The Society, and some Branches, provide support for Geography teachers in helping them keep up-to-date with new approaches and dimensions of the discipline.
10. Geography conferences in NZ are organised by the Society, or a group of teachers operating within the Society. This major dimension of professional development relevant to our subject is actually provided by the Society, usually with considerable Ministry of Education financial backing.
11. While membership is not cheap, it does represent value for money for what members receive, including the New Zealand Geographer (with a GeoEd section designed primarily for teachers and a useful Landscapes section) as well as all the other services and provisions of the Society and the Board.
12. In some regions, but not all, the local Geography teachers' group actually functions as part of, and with significant links to, the local branch of the New Zealand Geographical Society.

So there are lots of reasons why teachers should join – those above, plus more. You should have received a subscription notice. Complete and return it so you continue to receive all the benefits of membership, including the Network (published once a term).

NZ Board of Geography Teachers Annual Meeting

The Board's Annual Meeting is always held in Wellington in March. In 2006 it will be Friday 17 and Saturday 18 March.

This is the only actual physical meeting the Board has all year. All other communication is by email, etc, so the Wellington meeting is a critical time for members to report back to the full Board. They are an extremely busy two days, but a lot is always achieved in that time.

While the agenda is very full, Board members can, in fact should, take to the meeting any concerns that teachers in their regions have. Teachers should ensure they communicate, preferably in writing (email or fax is fine), any problems, worries, brilliant ideas, etc to their regional representatives to take to Wellington.

There is at least one region where the three-year term of their regional representative is coming to an end. The term can be extended, but other teachers may like to consider a time on the Board to represent their region as a way they can put something back into their chosen discipline. You might like to discuss it with your regional representative.



Year 13 Planning and Decision Making Competition 2006

This year's competition is designed to line up with students presenting themselves for Achievement Standard 3.3 in geography (focusing on the role of Geography in Planning and Decision Making).

Details about the 2006 competition will appear in the next Network. The timeframe will be similar to that of previous years. Entries must be sent to your regional representative towards the end of Term 3.



NEW ZEALAND BOARD OF GEOGRAPHY TEACHERS

2006

MAATANGI WHENUA: NEW ZEALAND GEOGRAPHY COMPETITION

This competition is open to all schools that are members of the New Zealand Geographical Society Inc. Please note that there is no Schools Round in 2006.

Students studying Geography at Year 11 are eligible to take part.

Please select your three best Year 11 Geography students to enter the Regional Round. These will be held in up to 12 different locations, with a representative team being selected from each of the six geography regions.

Regional Round: Weeks 3 or 4, Term 2. (Your regional rep will advise the locations and dates for your region)

Finals (Hamilton): End of Week 4, Term 3 (Exact date to be confirmed).

Entry fee to Regional Round: \$30 per school. (To be sent with Entry Form).

If your school is interested in participating, please complete the form below and post it **by Friday, 24 March (enclosing your \$30 fee)** to:

June Logie
 NZGS
 C/- School of Geography and Environmental Science
 City Campus
 University of Auckland
 Private Bag 92019
 Auckland.

ENTRY FORM – Maatangi Whenua: Fax to (09) 373 7434 or email to
 nzgs@auckland.ac.nz

School: _____

Address: _____

Contact Name: _____

Email: _____

Fee of \$30 enclosed. NB Mail separately if you fax or email your entry.

GISMAPED (GIS in Schools)

Messages from Anne Olsen and Stephanie Eddy

Congratulations to Diocesan School for Girls who won the Community Atlas competition for y7-10 students. Their project can be seen at www.gismaped.co.nz. A group of students from the team were flown to Wellington to present their project and receive the prize for the school. We are grateful to Eagle Technology and Explorer Graphics for sponsorship. Sally Brodie will be the contact for the Community Atlas competition this year. Sally was elected to the ESRI Use Group committee at the annual conference in November replacing Anne Olsen.

Workshops for 2006

Term 1

Investigations with GIS (for beginners)

31 March – 1 April, Dunedin (register with the College of Education)

31 March – 1 April, Auckland

Term 2

A workshop: for both beginners and those who have attended an Investigations workshop.

26-27 May: Wanganui/Taranaki—venue to be confirmed.

Term 3

16-17 September—venue and details to be confirmed.

Term 4

The annual ESRI Users Group conference will be held in Wellington 30 October – 2 November at the Michael Fowler Centre.

For further information and to register interest contact

ann@gismaped.co.nz

or Stephanie@gismaped.co.nz

IMAGIS – GIS lessons for New Zealand will be available in April. It is currently in the USA for final checking. This is a two CD set. Disk 1 contains 22 lessons, with full instructions, worksheets, answers, teacher notes and other information and links. Disk 2 contains further data and tools that can be used to create projects. The cost will be \$155+GST.

Advertisement

My geography class is going on two 3-day field trips next year... yeah right!



LEARNZ

takes you there...

Geography field trips. Your first thoughts?

Timetabling nightmares, letters to parents, endless phone calls, work sheets to write, syllabus and assessment links, money to collect, buses, risk management, work for relief teachers, endless loose ends. Get home exhausted. Too busy.

Why bother? But what if...?

What if you could take your class on a 3-day trip with **none of these hassles**. No money to collect, no squashed lunches, no form filling, no larrikins at the back of the bus **and** loads of background materials provided including self marking quiz activities and all coordination done. Too good to be true?

Teaching **coal mining** next year? Bring your class, in your timetabled class time on a field trip to opencast and underground mines. Have students interact with mine managers, miners and geologists who deal every day with the concepts you teach.

Teaching **gold mining** next year? Bring your class on a field trip to Macraes gold mine in Otago. Have students interact with mine managers, miners and geologists who deal every day with the concepts you teach.

Teaching **social studies**? Bring your class to an opencast mine and join environmental co-ordinators who work every day with the curriculum concepts you teach.

These are **LEARNZ virtual field trips**. Absolutely designed to motivate your students and support your teaching. Just like the very best field trip, these virtual trips put student learning right into real world contexts.

Yes, it is computer based – but don't shy away! There is professional development available. It truly requires a low technology input

THIS 'N' THAT...

Curriculum Review

Look out for developments. Jocelyn Pappill will be reporting in the Term 2 Network but please respond quickly to any consultation requests.

Exam Survey

Have you responded? If not, get the survey completed today and mail/fax it to the Executive Officer, NZGS, C/- School of Geography and Environmental Science, University of Auckland, Private Bag 92019, Auckland. Fax: 09 373 7434. These are currently being processed but we still have time for a few more.

Geo-Ed section, NZ Geographer

This has replaced the NZ Journal of Geography as of May 2005. This year Geo-Ed is expected to have articles about last year's Planning and Decision Making winning entries. Although some of the articles printed so far have had an academic bias, it is primarily the editor's intention to print material of direct interest to secondary school teachers. Please submit! Ideas and material are always welcome. Have a look for teaching material in the Landscape section e.g. Antarctica, Scott Base and its environs (Christine Elliott) in the May 2005 issue.

Global Education Fund

Go to www.globaleducationfund.org.nz/ to find out about a contestable pool of money allocation through the NZX government aid agency, NZAID Nga Hoe Tuputupu-mai-tawhiti. This fund is available to individuals (not schools) for small projects to develop awareness and understanding of global perspectives among New Zealanders and to encourage them to become responsible global citizens.

Statistics

Expert Data Users newsletter: to subscribe send an email to listserv@stats.govt.nz

Gateway to key government statistics: www.statisphere.govt.nz

House and Home – Petone Settlers Museum

Resources from this '100 Years of State Housing' may be useful for a range of achievement standards:

www.petonesettlers.org.nz

IGU2006 – Brisbane conference

The International Geographical Union's regional Congress takes place in Brisbane this year from July 3 to 7, dovetailing with the joint IAG and NZGS conference. There will be Geographic Education sessions on themes in geographical education. The deadline for super early bird registration is 24 February. The IGC website is www.igu2006.org.

Geography Resource Centre

NCEA 2005 exam resources have arrived and back orders are being filled by Tina, Sally's replacement. NCEA 2004 exam resources: only stocks of level 2 and Scholarship remain – levels 1 and 3 have sold out. An order form listing the most frequently ordered resources is enclosed.



The New Zealand Geographical Society (NZGS)

Contact your **regional branch secretary** to find out more about our parent organisation:

Auckland:	Jay Gao: C/- School of Geography & Environmental Science, University of Auckland, Private Bag 92019, Auckland. Email: jg.gao@auckland.ac.nz
Waikato:	Lynne Garnham, c/- The Department of Geography, Tourism and Planning, University of Waikato, Private Bag 3105, Hamilton. Email: lynneg@xnet.co.nz
Manawatu:	Regina Scheyvens: C/- Geography Programme, School of Global Studies, Massey University, Private Bag 11222, Palmerston North. Email: r.a.scheyvens@massey.ac.nz
Wellington:	Linda Singh, 74 Old Porirua Road, Ngaio, Wellington. Email: lsingh@paradise.net.nz
Canterbury:	Laura Miller, Department of Geography, University of Canterbury, Private Bag 4800, Christchurch. Email: lmi24@student.canterbury.ac.nz Tel 03 364 2987, ext 8839
Otago:	Alyson Manning, C/- Department of Geography, Otago University, P O Box 56, Dunedin. Email: the5mannings@paradise.net.nz

The Society has a homepage on the web at <http://www.nzgs.co.nz>