



Geographical education over the course of fifty years

Nick Hutchinson

The contents of the journal, *Geographical Education* are examined at the beginning of each decade as a means of discovering continuities and circularities that exist in the wider field of school education, societal transformations, changes in philosophical stances within the discipline, and changes in teaching methodologies. The necessity for strong disciplinary foundations, and the implicit threats to geographical education imposed by the introduction of social studies, led to the formation of AGTA. Similarly, the imposition

of the high school teaching framework, *Studies of Society and its Environment* eventually led to the development of the Australian Curriculum: Geography. The contents of the journals provide a record of travels over some bumpy roads but they do also represent a spirit of optimism, dedication to trying out new ways of teaching geography, and attempts to keep in touch with the bewildering changes that have taken place in university geographies.

Year	Bookshelf	The world beyond
1970	Berry, B. & Horton, F. (Eds.). (1970). <i>Geographic perspectives on urban systems</i> . Englewood Cliffs: Prentice Hall. Taylor, G. (1970). <i>Sydneyside scenery</i> . Sydney: Angus & Robertson. First published in 1958.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Earth Day, April 22: the birth of the conservation movement • Bangladesh floods and famine • Kent State University massacre, Ohio, USA • President Nixon authorises invasion of Cambodia • Aswan High Dam opens in Egypt • A portion of the West Gate Bridge collapses in Melbourne
1980	Morgan, D. (1980). <i>Merchants of grain</i> . Ringwood: Penguin Books. Smith, N. & O'Keefe, P. (1980). Marx and the concept of nature. <i>Antipode</i> . 12(2), 30–39.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ronald Reagan elected as US President • <i>Solidarity</i> formed in Poland • Iran–Iraq war starts • Mount St Helens erupts, Washington State, USA • Nine-week-old Azaria Chamberlain disappears at Uluru
1990	Haggett, P. (1990). <i>The geographer's art</i> . Oxford: Basil Blackwell. Turner II, B. et al. (Eds). (1990). <i>The Earth as transformed by human action: Global and regional changes in the biosphere over the past 300 years</i> . Oakleigh: Cambridge University Press.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • German reunification • Iraq invades Kuwait • Nelson Mandela released in South Africa • Resignations of Margaret Thatcher, UK, and Lee Kuan Yew, Singapore • The first McDonald's opens in Moscow • Fraser Island forests protected by agreement between conservationists and timber industry

2000	<p>Connell, J. (2000). (Ed.). <i>Sydney: the emergence of a world city</i>. South Melbourne: Oxford University Press.</p> <p>Crang, M. & Thrift, N. (Eds.). (2000). <i>Thinking space</i>. London: Routledge.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International Year for Culture of Peace • Worst flooding in Mozambique for fifty years • The Øresund Bridge between Denmark and Sweden opens • The final reactor at the Chernobyl Nuclear Power Plant closed • 250,000 people walk the Harbour Bridge to support reconciliation with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people
2010	<p>Anderson, J. (2010). <i>Understanding cultural geography: Places and traces</i>. Abingdon: Routledge.</p> <p>Nolan, N. (2010). The ins and outs of skateboarding and transgression in public space in Newcastle, Australia. <i>Australian Geographer</i>. 34(3), 311–327.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Devastating earthquake, Haiti, death toll 316,000 • Mt Eyjafjallajökull eruption, Iceland, disrupts air traffic • Deepwater Horizon drilling rig explosion off Louisiana coast • Indus basin inundated, 20% Pakistan underwater • Red Shirts try to unseat the government, Bangkok • Guide to the Murray-Darling Basin Plan, 4000GL to be released to the river