



Welcome to all our frequent followers and newbies

Sadly, we are soon to be saying farewell to our current teachers from Canada and USA. We sure do hope they have had a WONDERFUL year in Australia and have enjoyed both teaching, travelling and friendships.

We are really looking forward to welcoming our 2017 Aussies back and hearing all about their adventures.

Our end of year dinner is soon - we welcome everyone to share a story or two and hope to see our current international teachers and those who are heading off on their own adventure for 2018. Such excitement.

End of Year Dinner

INTERNATIONAL TEACHERS ASSOCIATION -FAREWELL DINNER

FRIDAY 24 NOVEMBER 2017 - 7.30 – 11.30

at Da Hu Peking Duck Restaurant - [171 Little Bourke St, Melbourne VIC 3000](#)

Cost: ITA members and partners \$55.00, non-members \$65.00.

DET RECEPTION for 2017/2018 ITFs:

International fellows who are sadly coming to the end of their stay in Victoria and those fellows who are excitedly getting ready to head overseas for 2018 will be farewelled at an Official Reception held by the

Department of Education in the late afternoon of 24th November at Treasury Place. This takes place before the ITA farewell dinner, held this year at DaHu Peking Duck in Little Bourke St. Melbourne. This is a separate, but complementary, event. We'd love to see you at both.

BOOKINGS: Send your RSVP to alice.bray.itf@gmail.com with cheque or EFT to ITA, BSB 704 – 191, Account No. 11117, reference your name and dinner, PLEASE INDICATE HOW MANY ARE ATTENDING.

or mail to Alice Bray ITF, 4 Calvin St Hawthorn, 3122.

Please RSVP by 17th November 2016

SNOW



President: Mary Moore
– moore.mary.mk@edumail.vic.gov.au
Membership: Maurene Bode
– bodie.maurene.a@edumail.vic.gov.au
Secretary: Barry Beechey - barrytalking@live.com
Treasurer: Di Leighfield - dileighfield@yahoo.com
Social: Alice Bray - alice.bray@gmail.com
Web page: www.ita.vic.edu.au
Facebook
– <https://www.facebook.com/ITA1975/> [International Teachers' Association]

Coming Up:

- Social Dinner - Past and present and current ITFers - all welcome. Carringbush hotel on November 9th at 6:30ish pm. We love to talk about our exchanges. Actually, we just love to talk.
- Our ITA farewell dinner. We'd love to have a skit or wee presentation from our international exchangees - something that sums up your year. Actually, whatever you like. We'd also like to hear something from our outgoing Aussies. Here's your notice to start networking and get prepared :-) :-)
- Ballarat Chapter are hosting a Christmas Picnic- Lake Wendouree Tuesday December 5 , 5:30 pm
@ Lake Wendouree Rotunda – right side of large Adventure playground (across from and public toilets)
BYO : Chairs Drink and some food to share.
Please come along and farewell Brian and Natalie, Colin Jen and the boys.
If inclement weather Helen and Brian have kindly offered their house at 226 Forrest Street as a venue.
RSVP to Gaye byFriday December 2nd.

Been and gone:

It was lovely to meet our outgoing Aussies at their briefing day. Thanks for the opportunity to share in this experience, to feel your nervous energy, excitement and anticipation. You are keeping the dream alive for us in the ITA. Thank you!

Global contacts

It's a bit quiet as summer holidays have preoccupied our Northern Hemisphere exchange leagues. You can find the **British Columbia Exchange Teachers' Association** June newsletter here: <http://feb122010.wordpress.com/> Click on the section called On Exchange. This newsletter has memories of Canberra and if you are heading to Vancouver this year or next, some great info. If you want the PDF version, please email me.

Retirements

We would like to acknowledge Marg Orme for the work she had done with the ITF over the past few years. Whilst she is not officially retiring from work, she is no longer involved in the International Teaching Fellowship. As a past ITFer, she kept the dream alive with her participation at ITA committee meetings and with stories of travel and contacts. Of course, Marg also had high expectations of us all as teachers and this resulted in some great research projects undertaken whilst participating in the ITF. Thank you Marg for all your hard work and commitment to the ITF.

Tribute to Nick Le Souef

Our dinner meeting this year will not be the same without Nick. His generous donation of an opal each year for the Farewell Dinner raffle went a long way towards keeping the association afloat financially. His generosity including spending time teaching members about the different qualities and opals and showing how to cut and polish the stone. Overseas visitors were encouraged to make the long road trip to Nick's claim at Lightning Ridge. One former ITF spouse spent a year at Nick's shop learning the trade and then went home to establish a business of his own.

Nick was a highlight of many Farewell Dinners. He would recount tales of mining adventures and his exploits as a daredevil. He also used to bring some wildlife. Nick held records for sharing enclosures for the longest periods with venomous snakes, spiders and sharks. He had a strong philanthropic streak and spent time in the window of his shop in Melbourne breaking records for living with redback spiders to raise money for charities. He had a passion for Australian wildlife and conservation.

Nick will be sadly missed. Condolences from the ITA go to his children Jonas and Atheka and their extended families.

Lightning Ridge Opals - 63 Elizabeth St. Melbourne. Jonas and Atheka welcome ITA members to sit and chat about opals or wildlife. Visit opals.net.au

Where are they now? Mary Moore

My first exchange was in 2000 to Minnesota. I remember meeting another exchangee [and we did become lifelong friends] and I clearly recall us looking at each other when we were on the plane saying, "What have we done? Are we mad?" I remember our briefing day, where 74 other ITFers gathered to hear past exchangees speak of their experiences. Ania Ryan had been to Minnesota and told the story of not needing to chill wine - just stick it outside and watch it freeze. I had never really seen snow before. Yikes. I soon knew all about snow. It was the snowiest winter on record whilst I was there. I remember getting off the plane and seeing all the Christmas lights twinkling in the snow and how dark it was at 4:30 and felt like I was immediately part of a postcard and film set. I had to pinch myself that it was all true. What a year. It certainly had its ups and downs, peaks and troughs. I remember Ania also saying that this was an opportunity to reinvent ourselves. I think I did that!

Not to be happy with one exchange, I put my hand up for another. This time, I had met a fellow [who'd have thought!] and we had just got married. I said to Adam, "how do you feel about living overseas for a year?" I don't think he really got time to think. So off we went to Canada to celebrate our second year of marriage. This was a very different exchange to Minnesota. Both were full of amazing adventures and learning new things. As a single ITFer and a married ITFer, I recommend both :-).

The exchange experience never leaves you. You hanker for the good times again. Smells, sounds, sights take you back to a moment. Whether it was a good or a not so good moment, it was still a moment that no-one else has experienced or necessarily understands. That's why I love the ITA - being a member keeps those memories alive. I am heading back to the USA and Canada again next year to catch up with my mates and see my class of 2014 graduate. That friend I mentioned from Minnesota? We're catching up in New York at the end of my revisit to celebrate a birthday. That's what the ITF/ITA does for you.

Are you interested in a Victorian International Teaching Fellowship [teacher exchange program]?

The Victorian International Teaching Fellowship (VITF) is a high quality professional learning opportunity that enables Victorian teachers and school leaders to spend a year teaching in a school overseas.

The VITF requires direct exchange of teaching positions and accommodation. Placements are normally from January to December however some July to July placements can be arranged with principal approval. Countries involved include Canada, Germany, UK and USA and some International Schools.

Eligibility:

The program is open to permanent, full-time teachers and school leaders from government, Catholic and Independent schools with a minimum of four years' tertiary education and five years' teaching experience prior to the year of exchange. Australian citizens working in primary, secondary and special schools are eligible.

All applications need to include the recommendation to participate from your principal (or relevant regional representative if the principal is the applicant.)

Application:

Applicants must read the terms and conditions before completing the application form - see the link below.

Applications to participate in the 2019 program close shortly.

Further information regarding the program can be obtained

<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/teachers/management/Pages/oslearnexp.aspx>

OR emailing Louise Freeman - freeman.louise.l@edumail.vic.gov.au



2018 Chapter Dates:

Ballarat Chapter weekend: Explore Sovereign Hill; Wildlife Park, Social Dinner and host families.

Saturday 24th and Sunday 25th of February

Yarra Valley Chapter weekend: Healesville Sanctuary, Gin Factory, winery, bike riding, social dinner and campfire.

Saturday 5th and Sunday 6th May



We farewell our 2017 families who have added to the value of Victorian teaching this year and wish them well back in their home communities and schools. Next year, the following communities will be hosting our international teachers:

Melbourne: Doncaster, Laurimar, Langwarrin, Mooroolbark, Brunswick, Lynbrook

Regional: Mansfield, Mirboo North, Bendigo [Bendigo South East College], and Warrnambool.

Have you learnt your Aussie Christmas Songs and lingo? Prawns for the Christmas barbie, taking your eskie to the beach for a game of cricket in your thongs.

Songs: Six White Boomers; White Wine in the Sun (Tim Minchin) Aussie Jingle Bells (Bucko & Champs) Christmas Photo (John Williamson) How to Make Gravy (Paul Kelly) The 12 Days of an Australian Christmas (from yesteryear) Wiggly, Wiggly Christmas (The Wiggles) Six White Boomers (Russel Coight) and I'm sure you've sung Home Among the Gum Trees and Kookaburra Sits on the Old Gum tree all year.... Can't wait to hear what cultural goodies our overseas teachers are bringing back to us.

MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM THE ITA. STAY IN TOUCH.