

TASITE

Ken Price

President

As a volunteer organisation TASITE's activity has been constrained by the availability and workload of committee members, several of whom have changed roles and are limited in the time they can contribute. However we have continued to engage with ICT education issues.

TASITE has maintained a strong relationship with Australian Computer Society (Tasmania Branch) and have a representative on the ACS national Education Board. This board is looking at the issues facing teachers of ICT nationally, the development and implementation of the Australian Curriculum Digital Technologies curriculum, and support models for those in schools who coordinate and support ICT.

TASITE has also been involved with the NICTA - funded Digital Careers initiative <http://digitalcareers.edu.au/about/> including promotion of the Young ICT Explorers program <http://www.youngictexplorers.net.au/> in the state. We have also helped promote the Bebras <http://www.bebbras.edu.au/> challenges, with over 1500 students entering from Tasmania (a higher proportion than in other states).

TASITE has worked with the Catholic Education Office and other jurisdictional partners to provide a day-long makerspace/STE(A)M conference on August 17 in Hobart. <http://makerspace.tas.edu.au/>. This conference, which is sponsored by Google and Digital Careers, features renowned educator Chris Betcher as keynote speaker and aims to give teachers some new ideas about STEM in the classroom.

Later in the year we hope to hold a session focussing on the use of Minecraft in the classroom, and also sessions in which 2014 and 2015 Hardie Fellowship recipients will outline their findings in relation to ICT and STEM in education.

Further activities will be listed on our website at <http://tasite.tas.edu.au/events.htm><http://tasite.tas.edu.au/events.htm>