

**Calendar Semester 1, 2008**

**February**

- 22 Newsletter 2 copy to Editor  
 243 HSC & SC 2007 Feedback and Advice Day, Macquarie University

**March**

- 14 Mathsearch Expression of Interest due at MANSW Office  
 18 Extension 2 Long Inservice Starts, Hornsby  
 19 Extension 1 Long Inservice Starts, Ashfield

**April**

- 11 Newsletter 3 copy to Editor

**May**

- 2 Mathsearch entries due  
 2 Talented Students' Day: expressions of interest due  
 7 Extension 1 Long Inservice finishes  
 16 Newsletter 4 copy to Editor  
 20 Extension 2 Long Inservice finishes

**June**

- 6 HSC Lectures Day ticket applications due  
 13 Talented Students' Day lecture choices and payment due  
 27 Newsletter 5 copy to Editor

**July**

- 7 HSC Lectures  
 25 Talented Students' Day

The first Stage 6 related inservice opportunity for 2008, namely the 2007 HSC and SC Feedback and Advice Day, to be held at the regular venue (Macquarie University) will take place on Saturday 23 February. In an effort to make this valuable day available to all members outside the metropolitan area we are making plans to trial the video production of an edited version of the day's offerings. This production is an ambitious and innovative venture and there may be glitches and stumbling-blocks to be encountered, but I am sure that we must make this effort in the interests of our members involved in Stage 6 across the State. Long inservice courses are planned to commence in week 8 of Term 1 for Extension 1 (at Hornsby) and for Extension 2 (at Ashfield); visit the website for more details and get your application in early as places are limited. Currently the Board of Studies development of new Stage 6 Mathematics courses is in the Draft Syllabus stage; it is due for release and consultation sometime during Term 2, 2008. It will be vital that all members involved in Stage 6 read the draft documents carefully and provide as much feedback as possible to the Board of Studies. MANSW executive members will represent the view of the members in our responses. Up to date information will be posted on the MANSW website.

All members find relevant, innovative, and practical presentations at our ever-popular Annual Conference. The 2008 MANSW conference may break the record for early closure of placements, so please make plans now if you are to attending. We'd love to see you there, at North Wollongong, from Friday 19 to Sunday 21 September. As usual, MANSW membership entitles you to substantially discounted registration so please ensure that your membership is current. Further details of the conference will be posted on our website. Other important information on the website includes Luna Park dates, forthcoming publications, and other conferences.

The Premier's Teacher Scholarship to teachers working in any school or TAFE in NSW includes funding for overseas travel and we have been

## From the President

To all MANSW members: Happy New Year! I trust that your end of year holidays were relaxing and that you're ready now to tackle the 2008 school year with renewed vigour.

During the holidays MANSW has been preparing for 2008. Teachers of early Year 1 up to Year 10 will be pleased to know that plans are in place for 2008 inservice opportunities, and similarly preparation for a fresh set of written material is in under way. The first inservice opportunity for Primary teachers will be entitled 'Take a chance', and it is being presented at Glenwood. Early registration is recommended to avoid disappointment. It will take place on Thursday 27 March. For those teaching Years 11 and 12, I can report that production of the popular resource, the MANSW solutions booklet for 2007 HSC examinations, is running on time.

advised that Mathematics is a targeted area for 2008. Your 1000-word proposal needs to be ready for submission very early Term 2.

This will be a busy year. More and more members are regular readers of MANSW e-news, and as I said earlier we are trialling video records of presentations. If you have particular expertise in this or some other area that you would like to offer, without making a commitment to regular attendance at meetings, please contact MANSW office. I wish all members a fruitful and rewarding school year and look forward to seeing you at a MANSW sponsored event.

DAVID KEANAN-BROWN

## Secondary Program

An exciting program is planned for Semester 1, starting with the HSC and SC Feedback and Advice Day. Again we are presenting the very popular Extension 1 and Extension 2 Long Inservice Courses. Details of the full Secondary Program are continually being revised on the MANSW Website

([www.mansw.nsw.edu.au](http://www.mansw.nsw.edu.au)).

Please register early for courses as we can only run them if sufficient people register by the closing-date.

### **HSC and SC Feedback and Advice Day**

**Feedback and Advice Day**  
**Saturday 24 February, 8.45 a.m. – 4.00 p.m.**  
**Macquarie University, Mason Theatre**

Senior Markers will be present to discuss the marking and responses to the 2007 Mathematics HSC examinations and the 2007 Mathematics SC Test. HSC 2007 Solutions books will be available free for members as part of their 2007 membership and for purchase by non-members. Please see the enclosed flier for the detailed program and a map of Macquarie University.

**Cost:** Free to members / \$35 for non-members

**Prior registration** is not required for this day—just register at the desk and collect your copy of the 2007 HSC solutions.

Registration will commence at 8.45 a.m. There will be an opportunity to renew membership and purchase MANSW publications at morning tea and lunch time. Tea and coffee will be provided but participants will need to make their own arrangements for lunch (as it is university vacation time the only food available on the campus will be from some vending-machines). Please note there is a strictly enforced 'pay and display' parking-fee payable at machines scat-

tered throughout the parking areas (correct change is necessary).

### **Long Inservice Courses**

Prior registration with payment is required for the following courses. Numbers are limited, so if you would like to attend you should complete a registration form that is included with this newsletter and also available on the MANSW website and send it with payment to the MANSW Office as soon as possible so that you do not miss out. The courses will be cancelled if there are insufficient registrations by the closing-date.

#### **Teaching Mathematics Extension 1** **Wednesdays, 5.30 – 8.00 p.m.**

**19, 26 March; 2, 9, 30 April; 7 May**  
**Hornsby Girls' High School**  
**Edgeworth David Ave, Hornsby**

This popular course will again cover a variety of topics of interest to teachers who have little previous experience teaching the Mathematics Extension 1 syllabus.

**Cost:** \$150 (members) / \$225 (non-members)

**Closing-date:** 7 March 2008

#### **Teaching Mathematics Extension 2** **Tuesdays, 5.30 – 8.00 p.m.**

**18, 25 March; 1, 8, 29 April; 6, 13, 20 May**  
**Bethlehem College**  
**Bland Street, Ashfield**

This popular course will again cover a variety of topics of interest to teachers who have little previous experience teaching the Mathematics Extension 2 syllabus

**Cost:** \$200 (members) / \$300 (non-members)

**Closing-date:** 7 March 2008

### **Member of the Month**

This month's lucky winner is Yue Yan Chan of Cherrybrook. Congratulations, please contact the MANSW Office to claim your book-voucher prize.

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# 2007 HSC Solutions

Sincere thanks go to the members who donated their time and experience on a rainy Saturday at the MANSW office on 1 December 2007:

Emma Campbell, John Cascun-Valencic, Col Holliday, Rosemary Leslie, Sharon London, Jeffrey Mizzi, Svetlana Onisczenko, Ric Porter, Rod Selden, Anthony Tong, Margaret Travis, Nikki Vanderhout, May Wassef, Heather Weber, and Cath Whalan.

Their efforts in writing and editing solutions to the 2007 HSC examination papers enables MANSW to provide this valuable resource to colleagues and their students for yet another year. Whilst it was raining outside, the activity inside was marvellous to behold—teachers working together, learning from each other, and producing quality work of which to be proud.

Thanks also go to members who submitted solutions:

John Adlard, Jenny Birchfield, Marianne Castor, Yue-Yan Chan, Si Chun Choi, Stan Condous, Holly Gyton, Chris Horley, Terry Lee, Rod Lyon, Phil O'Rourke, Binh Pham, Tony van Rovenstein, Nigel Simmons, Mitchell Struyve, Satha Umakanthan, Barry Walsh, Margaret Wood, Ian Woodhouse, and Robert Yen.

The Solution Books will be available at the *HSC and SC Feedback and Advice Day* planned for 23 February 2008 at Macquarie University.

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## Student Services

During 2008 MANSW will be offering a range of activities for students. The activities include:

*Maths at Luna Park*—specific dates throughout the year

*Investigating Maths competition*—Term 2

*Mathsearch competition*—April/May

*HSC Lecture series*—June/July holidays

*Talented Students' Day*—Early Term 3

Specific information concerning costs, application dates, and registrations is included on a separate sheet that is designed to be placed on the staffroom wall. Additional information is available on the MANSW website.

### Mathsearch competition

If you have talented students in Year 11, or exceptional younger students, enter them in the Mathsearch competition. Students who indicate talent in the Mathsearch competition are

included automatically in the MANSW nominations for the National Mathematics Summer School (NMSS) in the following January. Every year the office receives numerous emails and phone calls from students who hear about the NMSS 'at the last moment' and want to be included. We are unable to include these students in our nominations even with their pleas that they would have entered the competition had they known about it. These students always assure us that they would have done well in the competition had they had the opportunity.

Expressions of interest for the 2008 Mathsearch competition will be required early in Term 1. Make sure your students are informed about this opportunity.

### *The Stories We Tell*

MANSW's centenary is in 2010. *The Stories We Tell* is the publication we plan to publish to celebrate our centenary, but this won't be possible without your contributions. Do something about your submission this term. We want items from Preschool classrooms to Year 12 Extension 2. Your contribution could be a way you help students remember a fact, an introductory joke, an anecdote, a story, or a cartoon. We'll take any ideas! If you use it in your classroom we'll include it in our centenary publication.

### **An example from *The Stories We Tell***

The word 'nominate' means to name. A 'denomination' is the name of a class of items. In fractions the 'denominator' gives the name of the fraction; that is, whether it belongs to the family of tenths, fifths, quarters, etc.

As well as being the 'top' of a fraction a 'numerator' is a person who counts objects.

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# Annual Conference



Did you find the choice of sessions at the Conference so great this year that you had to miss some that you would have liked to attend?

Look on the MANSW website [www.mansw.nsw.edu.au](http://www.mansw.nsw.edu.au) to see if the presentation notes are available for the sessions you are interested in.

## **2008 MANSW Conference at Novotel, North Wollongong 19–21 September 2008**

Remember to put the conference into your school calendar and professional development budget.

A call for presentations and brief information is enclosed in this Newsletter. Watch future Newsletters and the website for more details and registration information

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**Copy for Newsletter No. 2 is due by 22/2.  
Publication date is 10/3.**

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# What year is this?

When you are considering your program for Mathematics activities during the year you might find the United Nations and Australian year designations useful as the basis of themed activities

2008 (MMVIII) is a leap year in the Anno Domini (or common) era, in accordance with the Gregorian calendar.

The United Nations has designated 2008 as:

- *International Year of Planet Earth*. The Year's activities will span the three years 2007–09.
- *International Year of Sanitation* in conjunction with the *Water for Life Decade*.
- *International Year of the Potato*; noting that the potato is a staple food in the diet of the world's population, and affirming the need to focus world attention on the role that the potato can play in providing food security and eradicating poverty.

The Australian Government has declared 2008 as:

- *The Year of the Scout*, because 2008 is the centenary year of scouting
- In Chinese astrology most of 2008, starting with 7 February, will overlap with the Year of the Rat (Dates before February 7 are Year of the Pig). The next Year of the Rat will be in 2020.

It corresponds to the years 5768–5769 in the Hebrew Calendar, 5109–5110 in the Hindu Calendar, and 1428–1429 in the Islamic Calendar. Further details can be found at <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2008>