

Calendar Terms 3–4, 2008	
<b>July</b>	
25	Investigating: Mathematics entries due at MANSW Office
25	Talented Students' Day, UTS Broadway
<b>September</b>	
2	Investigating: Maths Award Ceremony
19–21	Annual Conference
<b>October</b>	
16	Annual General Meeting, MANSW Office

## From the President

Term 3 is that time when we look forward to the MANSW Annual Conference. We will meet at the Novotel, located on Northbeach in Wollongong, from Friday 19 September until Sunday 21 September. I hope you can attend, and perhaps bring some of your colleagues. Our conference committee has ensured that participants with a special interest in secondary mathematics, and beyond, will be well catered for. This includes the interesting keynote speakers, engaging session presenters, exhibitors showing off the latest materials, and opportunities to network and share ideas during a fabulous lunch. For more particulars, or a registration page to download, please consult the MANSW website

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

This annual event has filled to capacity in recent years so it is wise to apply well before the closing date.

If you haven't been to Luna Park maybe this is the year that you go. Hop on a coach or a train, bring your Year 7 to Year 12 students with you and let them 'Learn as they Ride'. It's a fun excursion, the material supports secondary mathematics content, and it is set down for particular days in August, September, October, and November. In order to secure the date that suits your school, check the MANSW website and apply. If you just want to chat about it first, contact our friendly office staff on 9878 1487.

We are still talking about the new Stage 6 courses, even though the consultation period ended last term. The writers are busy at the Office

of the Board of Studies finalizing syllabus documents and support materials. Important decisions involving technology and assessment are being made. Naturally we want to know what is definitely in and what is definitely out of the new syllabus, and we want to know now but we shall just have to be patient. All the documents and decisions are due out in November or December this year. Senior schools have 2009 to prepare for implementation, with the first Year 11 classes under the new syllabus in 2010.

Your newsletter was posted on Monday 21 July, I hope you received it in time to be reminded to send off your school's entries to the 2008 Investigating Mathematics competition, because the advertised closing date is Friday 25 July. This competition, which accepts entries from pre-schoolers to students in Year 12 attracts outstanding original pieces of work, from individuals, from small groups, and from whole classes. Luna Park, Talented Students' Day, and several other amazing activities, are organized by the Student Services branch of our wonderful MANSW executive, where every executive member is a volunteer.

Did you know that we have added links to online mathematical resources to the MANSW website. These links are listed according to Stages 1 to 6 as well as a topic category that can be browsed, and there is also a keyword search. We are always looking to add to this list; your suggestions are most welcome and can be made by filling in a form electronically.

If you would like to join the MANSW executive or if you would like to contribute in some other way, please email our Professional Officer, Bernice Beechey; her email address is

[Office@mansw.nsw.edu.au](mailto:Office@mansw.nsw.edu.au)

or telephone her on 6987 81487 and make inquiries. You will be treated like royalty. Bernice can also help you with inquiries concerning the Annual General Meeting, which will take place on 16 October at the office in Kent Road. All current members are most welcome to attend.

DAVID KEANAN-BROWN

# Student Services

## Change of days available for Mathematics at Luna Park

Are you considering a Mathematics excursion to Luna Park? Please take into account that Luna Park will now only be open on Mondays and Fridays during school term until the end of the year, so look at your school calendar to find a suitable date. We have added extra Mondays and Fridays to the available dates so look at the included flier to choose a date to suit your students.

### Investigating Mathematics

Your students should be putting their finishing touches to their entries and your will be organizing for your in-school judging to choose your winners in each category to send to MANSW by 25 July for the State judging.

### 2008 National Mathematics Summer School

Nomination by MANSW Member schools

Each year MANSW conducts Mathsearch to identify students who might be invited to the NMSS in the following January. If you have students that you feel could qualify to be nominated please use the enclosed form to suggest the name of a student from your school to be considered for the 2009 National Mathematics Summer School. The student would usually be in Year 11, currently studying Mathematics Extension 1, have entered and been involved in a range of mathematical competitions and activities, and be capable of successfully undertaking Mathematics Extension 2

# Items of Interest

## National Literacy and Numeracy Week 2008 1–7 September

Join schools across Australia and get your students collecting, sharing, and investigating data! This year the sixth annual *Reach for the Stars* project will see students making and testing predictions about the distribution of coins thrown onto a target.

For more information about this popular free annual project for all students from preschool to secondary go to [www.nlnw.edu.au](http://www.nlnw.edu.au) where you can register online.

### ITEC

The Initial Teacher Education Committee (ITEC) has responsibility to identify and manage the

ITEC panels that review applications for the approval of programs on behalf of the Quality Teaching Council of the NSW Institute of Teachers. ITEC appoints panels for the purpose of assessing programs.

In the April Newsletter there was an item calling for ITEC Panel members. ITEC is now calling for nominations for curriculum specialists for the panels.

It is expected that a nominee would have knowledge of, and understanding of the application of, the Institute's Professional Teaching Standards.

In addition, the desirable criteria are one or more of the following:

- Expertise and/or relevant postgraduate studies in curriculum design and development
- Participation in curriculum development processes, and syllabus, assessment, and examination committees of the Board of Studies NSW OR employment at an education-system level working with Board of Studies NSW curriculum
- Experience working with a teacher-education institution and preservice teachers; for example, a university program/course advisory committee, or in initial teacher-education research.

Further details may be found at [www.nswteachers.nsw.edu.au](http://www.nswteachers.nsw.edu.au). Inquiries can be made through John Healey (Primary/Early Childhood) and Rosemary King (Secondary) at the NSW Institute of Teachers

### Workshop on integrating statistical ideas into mathematics

*Organized by the NSW Branch of the Statistical Society of Australia. Wednesday 6 August 2008, 1.00–5.30 p.m., Macquarie University.*

This workshop will be of interest to secondary school mathematics teachers and teachers of statistics at university, heads of secondary school mathematics departments, personnel involved in developing secondary school mathematics syllabuses, and those interested in constructive ways of supporting teachers who will be teaching statistics topics within the Mathematics General 1 and Mathematics General 2 syllabuses, to be introduced in secondary schools in 2010.

#### *About the workshop*

The workshop will start with an update on the place of statistics topics in the new Mathematics General 1 and Mathematics General 2 syllabuses. This will be followed by a number of presentations focusing on ideas for aiding teachers to teach the statistical topics in lively and memorable ways. After the coffee break the break-out groups will

discuss the pros and cons of the various proposals put forward by the earlier speakers.

To register your interest for the workshop please email Boris Choy at [boris.choy@uts.edu.au](mailto:boris.choy@uts.edu.au) or Caro Badcock at [cbadcock@bordnet.com.au](mailto:cbadcock@bordnet.com.au). For more detailed information and a report on the workshop held in July 2007 go to [www.statsoc.org.au/Branches/nsw/branchhome.htm](http://www.statsoc.org.au/Branches/nsw/branchhome.htm)

### Students with intellectual difficulties

David Paterson, Senior Lecturer in Special Education and Educational Psychology in the School of Education at the University of New England, is currently investigating ways that students with intellectual disabilities in regular secondary classrooms seek help for academic difficulties. This is an important aspect of the ways that classroom teachers can support students in regular classrooms; the information you can provide will assist all educators in providing more effective instruction for a diverse range of learners.

If you have, as a permanent member of a Year 7, 8, or 9 class that you teach, a student with a disability, you are invited to complete a questionnaire that can be accessed at [www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=mKZKbyfq3pHzNvTLHMPnBQ\\_3d\\_3d](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=mKZKbyfq3pHzNvTLHMPnBQ_3d_3d)

If you have any queries you can email [dpaters1@une.edu.au](mailto:dpaters1@une.edu.au)

### Free Mathematics Excursion: An introduction to mathematics of surveying

*For Year 10 (5.3) Mathematics Students, at Bicentennial Park, Homebush, 9:30 a.m. – 2 p.m., Friday 29 August 2008*

The Sydney Olympic Park Authority has kindly offered the use of Bicentennial Park to run this Mathematics education event. This field day is being organized by members of the Institution of Surveyors NSW in cooperation with the School of Surveying and Spatial Information Systems (UNSW) and interested Mathematics teachers.

Students will:

- participate in hands-on activities using sophisticated technology
- solve interesting problems using their Year 10 Measurement and Trigonometry skills
- take part in Mathematics-based activities associated with daylight stars and the Park's sundial.

Representatives from UNSW School of Surveying and Spatial Information Systems, volunteer retired teachers, and teacher education students will be assisting at each activity. Students will work in groups of five and prizes will be awarded at the end of the day. Class teachers will assist with supervision and movement around the activi-

ties in the park. There is ample bus parking, wide open spaces for students to investigate surveying principles and towers, and other features to explore their trig skills.

A presentation summarizing the activities will be given at the annual MANSW conference later this year. There are a limited number of student places available. If you wish to attend, please email Peter Garside at the following email address: [darkside\\_68@hotmail.com](mailto:darkside_68@hotmail.com) indicating the number of Yr 10 (5.3) students you wish to attend, or telephone 0423 166 752 for more information.

Please RSVP by Friday 8 August.

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**Copy for Newsletter No. 6 is due by 1/8.  
Publication date is 18/8.**

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### Member of the Month

This month's lucky winner is Barbara Gunn of Putney. Congratulations, please contact the MANSW Office to claim your book-voucher prize.

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**Change of days  
available for  
Mathematics  
at Luna Park**

**see page 2**

## Do you have your own copy of these resources?

Use your Personal Membership or your School's Membership to benefit from the member discount on these MANSW publications

**Problem of the Week by Peter Gould** 41 rich problems with solutions and suggestions for teachers, ready to photocopy and use with your junior classes.  
Members \$30.00      Non-members \$40.00

**Cooperative Problem Solving in Mathematics by Peter Gould** Photocopiable sets of problems designed to enable students to work cooperatively in mathematics.  
Members \$30.00      Non-members \$40.00

**The Case of the Mystery Bone by Doug Clarke** An excellent teaching resource on measurement focusing on forensic medicine and mathematics of the human body  
Members \$20.00      Non-members \$25.00

**Teaching Ideas for Senior Mathematics—Book 1** Invaluable source of background, teaching approaches, and student activities for Mathematics and Extension 1 courses  
Members \$20.00      Non-members \$30.00

**Teaching Ideas for Senior Mathematics—Book 2** Invaluable source of background, teaching approaches, and student activities for Extension 2  
Members \$20.00      Non-members \$30.00

**Enrichment Maths by Anne Joshua**  
Designed to meet the needs of talented junior secondary students providing challenging material. Includes topics not usually covered such as pigeonhole principle, bases, congruences, and number theory  
Members \$55.00      Non-members \$70.00

A source of extra practice questions for your Year 12 students

- **HSC Mathematics Practice Papers and Solutions by Mark Arnold**  
Members \$30.00      Non-members \$40.00
- **HSC Mathematics—Extension 1 Practice Papers & Solutions by Mark Arnold**  
Members \$30.00      Non-members \$40.00

**The Motivating Maths Series: Probability by Anthony Mahoney** contains more than 25 practical, fresh activities and teaching ideas for Probability. All activities are able to be photocopied for non-commercial classroom use.  
Members \$55.00      Non-members \$70.00

Each of these resources is available from MANSW. Go to the MANSW Website [www.mansw.nsw.edu.au](http://www.mansw.nsw.edu.au) and download the Publications Order Form to place your order.