



PRIMARY NEWSLETTER

OF THE MATHEMATICAL ASSOCIATION OF NEW SOUTH WALES, INC.

June

2007

Editor: Cathy Attard, email cathyattard@ozemail.com.au
Office: Kent Road Public School. PO Box 339, North Ryde NSW 1670
Tel. (02) 9878 1487 Fax (02) 9878 1675 Email office@mansw.nsw.edu.au
Office hours: Monday-Friday 10.00am- 4.00pm
Web-site: www.mansw.nsw.edu.au

Calendar 2007

June

- 11 Queen's birthday.
- 29 Newsletter 5 copy to editor

July

- 20 Investigating: Mathematics student entries due at MANSW Office

September

- 30, 1-2 October – Annual Conference

MANSW was invited to attend one such Focus Group meeting on 10th May to discuss our initial thoughts and views on the Draft Writing Briefs. Although the documents had only been released publicly eight days beforehand, MANSW members expressed many different points of view during these discussions. We strongly emphasised the importance of having a significant period of time for discussion and consultation on the five different draft syllabuses next year *prior* to any Focus Group meetings being held. We also indicated how important it was for teachers to receive more specific information about the role of technology in the examinations for the calculus courses as soon as possible. We were very pleased to see both an additional offering for students in the form of the proposed General Mathematics 1 course and the flexibility that a common General Mathematics Preliminary course could provide for schools. On a number of occasions, we also mentioned the crucial role that the support documents, including Specimen HSC papers, will provide in assisting mathematics teachers in planning for the simultaneous implementation of all the new Preliminary mathematics courses in 2010.

Further details about the Stage 6 review process are available on the MANSW website. We strongly recommend that all MANSW members check the website regularly for further updates as they are released. Also, if you haven't yet received any *MANSW e-news* bulletins, please e-mail our office to make sure we have your current e-mail address and this will ensure that you are always kept informed of all the latest mathematical news and events.

From the President

We are almost half way through another year and the volunteers that form your MANSW Executive have been busy organising conferences, publications, student services and the list goes on! As many of you would have read in the May edition of *MANSW e-news*, the Board of Studies has released the Draft Writing Briefs for the new Stage 6 courses and the consultation period has just finished. Copies of the documents, along with the surveys, were available on the Board website and were also sent to every school to provide teachers with the opportunity to provide feedback and comments. During May, a number of Focus Group meetings were also held with a sample of teachers from around the state.

Our very popular lectures for HSC students will be offered again this year on Monday 2nd July at Sydney University, for all levels of HSC Mathematics. These lectures are intended as revision and examination preparation just prior to the Trial Examinations and students can choose to attend two course specific sessions, each two and a half hours long. Registrations close on 8th June – so get your entries in as soon as possible. *Talented Students' Day* at UNSW on 20th July is also a great opportunity to expand the horizons of our young Year 12 mathematicians currently enrolled in Extension 2 Mathematics. Full details about all these MANSW activities are available on our website.

Have you and the staff at your school registered for the 2007 MANSW Annual Conference? Margaret Bigelow and her conference committee are busy preparing another fantastic adventure at Panthers Port Macquarie from 30th September – 2nd October and we'd love to see you there. There will be a River Cruise on the Sunday evening and the conference dinner on Monday night has a Jungle Fever theme. We would also love to hear from any teachers who are keen to present a workshop at the conference and remember - MANSW members receive substantial discounts on their registration!

As always, I hope Term 2 is being kind to you and look forward to chatting with you at a MANSW event soon!

HOLLY GYTON,
President

We have a new e-mail address
office@mansw.nsw.edu.au

Member of the Month

This month's lucky winner is Mark Fitzpatrick of Bowral. Congratulations Mark, please contact the MANSW Office to claim your book voucher prize.

Primary Program: Term 3 Inservice *Mathematics Fun Days* *at Mowbray Park PS (Lane Cove)* *Thursday 2nd August 2007*

Our *Mathematics Fun Days* inservice in Term 3 at Mowbray Public School (Lane Cove) will provide a launch for PAMphlets 67, 68, and 69, which are all devoted to activities suitable for mathematics fun days. The afternoon will commence with a plenary session focusing on the organisation of fun days and an outline of the activities. Participants will then be invited to trial a selection of the activities described in the PAMphlets.

The new PAMphlets, 67 (Number and Data), 68 (Patterns and Algebra, and Measurement) and 69 (Space and Geometry, and Investigations) will be available on the afternoon at the bargain price of \$5.00 for the three. We envisage that teachers will find the broad range of activities useful for classroom tasks, as well as being practical and engaging for a whole-school mathematics fun day. Of course all current MANSW members who have a primary membership will receive the three PAMphlets in mailouts later in the year.

Please register NOW if you would like to attend this enjoyable afternoon. The date (2nd August) is in Week 3 of Term 3. Don't put off your registration until next term, because you may miss out!

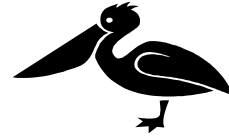
DIANE McPHAIL
Primary Program Manager

Professional Teachers Council News

- The Professional Teachers Council will be holding an *Effective Vocabulary Instruction* for HSIE, Science and Mathematics teachers 5:00 – 6:30pm Thursday 7 June 2007 at Burwood
- The Professional Teachers Council will be holding a *Communication in the Classroom Workshop* for all Primary and Secondary teachers 9am – 4:00pm Saturday 16 June 2007 at Leichhardt

This workshop will engage teachers in activities and strategies that support effective communication interactions and techniques in classrooms, the correct use and care of the voice, classroom acoustics and behaviour management

Further details for each of these events can be found on the PTC website www.ptc.nsw.edu.au



2007 MANSW Conference at Port Macquarie 30 Sept – 2 Oct
We'd love to see you there!

See the attached flier for further details and remember to put the conference dates into your diary now!

