



PRIMARY NEWSLETTER

OF THE MATHEMATICAL ASSOCIATION OF NEW SOUTH WALES, INC.

July

2007

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Calendar 2007

July

- 20 Investigating: Mathematics student entries due at MANSW Office
- 20 Talented Students' Day, Sydney University

September

30, 1-2 October – Annual Conference

haven't already done so, apply now to be sure that your students don't miss out!

And speaking of missing out ... it's not too late to register for the MANSW Annual Conference! Port Macquarie will be inundated with all things mathematical from 30th September to 2nd October and we would love to see you there. The full conference program is looking fantastic, with many great keynote addresses and workshops. Registrations will close on Friday 31st August, or earlier if the conference is full. So register early to avoid disappointment! The conference dinner is one party you won't want to miss.

From the President

Welcome back to Term 3! I hope that you all had a refreshing holiday and are full of creative, exciting ideas to bring to your classrooms in the second half of 2007.

This time of year is a busy one for a full range of MANSW student services. Our very popular HSC Lectures were held on Monday 2nd July at The University of Sydney. These were once again a great success, very well attended and I take this opportunity to thank our wonderful volunteer presenters who did such a great job for the students. Similarly, our Talented Students' Day will also be held at The University of Sydney on Friday 20th July and I thank them again for their support of this activity. Our dates for Mathematics at Luna Park are also filling very quickly – if you

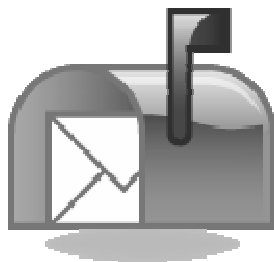
The NSW Branch of the Statistical Society of Australia is presenting a workshop titled *Integrating statistical ideas into mathematics* on Wednesday 25 July 2007 at Macquarie University. The Draft Writing Briefs for our new Stage 6 courses containing more statistics and so the aim of such workshops is to build links between people involved in planning and delivering the statistical components of secondary school mathematics syllabi and those involved in continuing the statistical education of students once they are in tertiary institutions. This particular workshop aims to raise some of the issues in including statistical ideas in secondary school mathematics and discuss paths that can be taken to improve the links between mathematics and statistics. More information, including how to register for this free workshop, is available in the 'What's New' section of the MANSW website.

The National Mathematics Summer School (NMSS) is a program for the discovery and development of mathematically gifted students from all over Australia. It is a two week residential summer course held each year at the Australian National University in Canberra. Students participate in a series of lecture courses and tutorials from mathematicians in a number of branches of mathematics at a relatively advanced level. Do you have a talented student currently in Year 11, studying Extension 1 Mathematics, who should be considered for NMSS? More information, further links and nomination forms are available in the 'Student Services' section of the MANSW website.

I hope Term 3 is kind to you and I look forward to talking with you at the MANSW conference at the end of the term - if not before!

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 Lyndell Hatch of Frenchs Forest. Congratulations Lyndell, 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

Please register NOW if you would like to attend the *Mathematics Fun Days* inservice on Thursday 2nd August. Don't put off your registration, because you may miss out! The inservice will provide a launch for PAMphlets 67, 68, and 69, which have been printed and are ready for distribution with Newsletters during this term and next Term.

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.

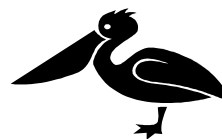
The afternoon will commence with a plenary session focusing on the organisation of fun days and an outline of the activities. Participants will then be invited to trial a selection of the activities described in the PAMphlets.

DIANE McPHAIL
Primary Program Manager

Are you missing out?

Throughout 2007, MANSW has begun sending out *MANSW e-news* to our members between our regular printed newsletters. These electronic bulletins have included the most up to date information on syllabus reviews, activities around Australia and reminders about MANSW events. These e-news bulletins and e-news flashes ensure that MANSW members are always kept informed.

If you haven't received any copies of *MANSW e-news*, then please contact our office immediately to update your e-mail address.



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!

Investigating 2D Shapes with Geoboards What Am I?

Materials

1 Geoboard between 2 students

Elastic Bands

Paper

Pencils

- Partners sit back to back
- The person with the Geoboard makes a three or four-sided figure.
- The other student must ask a question requiring only a yes or no answer in order to identify the hidden shape
- The person asking the questions records what they know about the shape as questions are answered
- When the shape is guessed both children need to record a diagram of the shape, labelling the properties.
- Compare the shape on the Geoboard to items in the immediate environment and list.
- Using extra elastic bands, test the Geoboard shape for tessellation

EXTENSION:

- Identify the polygon by geometric name and classify according to angles, sides, vertices and symmetrical qualities.
- Create an enlargement and/or reduction of the original shape on the Geoboard.
- Investigate symmetry
- Identify the angles on the Geoboard shape and the drawing. Label, estimate and measure where appropriate
- Create a shape on the Geoboard using a specific number of pegs, eg. 20, 25 etc.

Cathy Attard & Karen McDaid.