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Annual General Meeting

The MAV held it's annual general meeting on Saturday, 14 September. The preceding event was an MAV Public Lecture, delivered by Dr Marty Ross. Despite its title; The Joy of Gambling, the only "losers" were those who missed a stimulating and topical contribution to one of the age's great social issues from the perspective of a mathematician. Following this the members returned Dr Max Stephens as President of the Association and elected a Council consisting of:

Dr Max Stephens (President)
Ms Anna Austin (Vice President)
Ms Lynda Ball Mr Jeff Capuano
Ms Jennie Droge Ms Jennifer Le Marshall
Mr Ray Peck Dr David Shallcross
Mr David Tout Mr Phillip Tascone
Ms Sharon Taylor Ms Colleen Vale
Mr Michael Westbrook

Thanks and congratulations to those Councillors. The meeting then wished both Sally Turnbull and Pauline Rogers of the MAV office well as they left on maternity leave.

2002 MAV Conference

Book your places now!

Bookings are flooding in for the MAV Annual Conference on 5 and 6 December. Remember that sessions fill very quickly, so get your applications in soon. **Applications close Friday 25th October.** The synopsis book was sent to all members in the first week of September, and can also be downloaded (and networked within your school for easy access) from the MAV website at:

<http://www.mav.vic.edu.au/pd/confs/index.html>

VCE Trial Exams 2002

MAV 2002 VCE Trial Exams are now available and all orders have been sent out to schools. If you haven't yet ordered your copy, do so now!

Cost: \$45 per exam or \$240 for the complete package (6 exams); \$300 for the complete Electronic package (all prices include GST, no postage payable). Order your copy today using the publications form on page 7.

Membership Renewal

MAV membership has a new structure for 2003, which includes special categories to suit small schools and multi-campus schools, as well as the option for journal only subscriptions (including the Common Denominator). All MAV members will receive a copy of the new information, together with an application form, by the end of October. **To renew your membership for 2003 you will need to complete the new application form.**

WERMS Are Here!

Written Exam Revision for MathS

All 3 student exam revision books for Year 12 students are now available - Maths Methods, Further Maths and Specialist Maths.

Cost: \$28.50 per subject (inc. GST) plus postage

Discounts available for multiple copies (contact the MAV office).

2003 PD Planning

Call for Venues and Ideas for 2003 Professional Development

Full day programs for Primary, Middle Years and VCE Teachers, as well as after-school sessions, are being planned for both metropolitan and regional areas. Members are encouraged to put forward their suggestions regarding the content for any of the above programs, as well as volunteer their schools as possible venues. Free places at the PD are offered in exchange for venues!

If you have any suggestions or would like further information, please contact Mary Walkinshaw, Professional Development Officer at mwalkinshaw@mav.vic.edu.au or phone 03-9389 0303.

From the President

Farewell Sally and Pauline Welcome Simon and Doreen

After the Annual General Meeting, held on Saturday, 14 September, members had the opportunity to farewell our Executive Officer, Sally Turnbull, and Professional Officer, Pauline Rogers. Both Sally and Pauline have left to have a baby in the near future. It was a wonderful occasion to thank these two people who have done so much for the MAV and to wish them well for the future.

Sally has been Executive Officer since 1999. She was the key mover in assisting the MAV to embark on a strategic planning process that has provided a blueprint for the current and future work of the association. The MAV is a strong, financially sound and dynamic association as a result of that process. In addition, Sally took the lead in refurbishing our office at Cliveden and in integrating office computer systems. We wish her and Stuart all the best for the birth of their first child, and look forward to her return after family leave.

Pauline has been one of our two Professional Officers since 2001. She has had special responsibility for student activities and publications. This year, seeing her preside at the awards ceremony of the Mathematics Talent Quest, it struck me how lucky we were to have a person of Pauline's organisational skills and public presence. She has supported many schools in developing maths games days. Pauline has managed MAV publications in varied areas such as *Computer Enriched Mathematics* for the primary and junior secondary years, VCE trial examination papers, and the recently completed three books of *WERMS (Written Examination Revision for Mathematics)* for VCE students. Pauline and Adam plan to live in Mildura. From there, Pauline will retain an ongoing role in developing VCE trial papers and examination solutions.

At the AGM, members also had the chance to meet our new Executive Officer, Simon Pryor, who will replace Sally while she is on leave. Simon has been a drama teacher, professional developer and policy adviser in education. In recent years, he has run his own business *pryorknowledge* with a special focus on providing services to business and local government. (He is a former mayor of the City of Brunswick and a director of a small brewing company.) Simon has made an easy entry to the MAV with his calm manner, good humour and rapid appreciation of our work. He and Sally worked in tandem for two weeks before Sally left.

In view of Pauline's departure, Council advertised for a new Professional Officer. It decided that this position should have a focus on services for the growing number of primary teacher members. I am delighted to report that the MAV has appointed Doreen Forrest from NSW to fill the position. Doreen is currently teaching at the University of Western Sydney (Nepean). She has been a classroom teacher and has been active in the Mathematical Association of NSW in supporting primary teachers. It's a wonderful result for the MAV to have attracted a person of Doreen's skills and expertise. She has an exceptional record in all aspects of mathematics education, in particular in the early and middle years of schooling. She has presented at MAV Annual Conferences and will do so again this year. Welcome, Simon and Doreen.

MAX STEPHENS
President

Problem of the Month

The Mule and the Donkey

(Suitable for Year 4 (use concrete materials) up to Year 9-10 (algebraic solutions) students)

According to legend, Euclid was the author of this puzzle. 'A mule and a donkey were carrying a load of sacks. The donkey groaned, so the mule said to him: "Why are you complaining? If you gave me one sack, I would have twice as many as you; and if I gave you one of my sacks, then we would have equal loads".'

How many sacks was each carrying?

This problem is taken from *The Book of Classic Puzzles and Word Games* by Gyles Brandreth, published by Chancellor Press, 1992.

Last Month's Solution:

A. 142kg

Common Denominator Deadlines – 2002

Receipt of copy: Monday 14th October, 2002
Receipt of inserts: Monday 28th October, 2002
For mailing on: Monday 4th November, 2002
Products and services advertised and opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the Editor or the MAV

Pauline's Final Words...

This is my last chance to say goodbye, until next January, when I will be re-joining the MAV on a part time basis from Mildura, along with a new addition to our family! I would like to thank everyone I have had the opportunity to work with over the past 2 years. It has been an interesting, challenging and rewarding experience.

Pauline Rogers

Hello From Simon

As your new Executive Officer I have been busy learning the ropes and preparing for the next stage in the strategic planning process begun by Council. Although my first profession was teaching and then the professional development of teachers, my background in more recent times has been in economic development and the management of not-for-profit organisations. I have also worked with young people as they endeavour to turn an idea into a business. In fact, this was how I got involved with the brewery Max Stephens mentions in his column.

The most important lesson I have learnt throughout the years, though, is that leadership, solutions and energy comes from the bottom up. The members and stakeholders of any enterprise need to be willing to apply themselves, be it a small country town struggling to survive, a start-up business or an association like the MAV keen to improve the range and quality of its services. During the last four weeks I have been incredibly impressed with the level of involvement displayed by MAV members to their organisation. This commitment, combined with the professionalism and experience of an excellent team in at the MAV office means that great things, I am sure, are in store for the MAV over the next few years. And I must say, I am really excited about the opportunity to contribute to all of this over the coming months.



More about Doreen Forrest



Max Stephens has reported that the MAV has a new Professional Officer - Student Activities and Publications. Doreen Forrest's work in tertiary teacher education has had an emphasis on primary mathematics and integrated curricula and the development and teaching of enrichment programs and mathematics remediation programs. Doreen also knows the Mathematical Association of NSW well. She has contributed to their professional development program, their talent quest and with their publications. Interestingly, Doreen's professional development work has often been conducted through partnerships involving the Association, her university and western Sydney schools.

As Max reports, Doreen will be joining us for the MAV Annual Conference, 5 - 6 December 2002. However, she will not be formally commencing with the MAV until January 2003. Doreen has made it clear to us that the first places she wants to visit as part of her induction program are classrooms and that the first people she wants to talk to are school students and classroom teachers. Do I hear any offers?

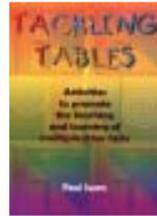
Simon Pryor
Executive Officer

Upcoming Conferences

- The MAV 39th Annual Conference, Monash University, Clayton, Thursday 5 and Friday 6 December, 2002.
www.mav.vic.edu.au/pd/confs/index.html
- The Australian Association of Mathematics Teachers Bi-Annual Conference: "Mathematics ~ Making Waves", Brisbane, 13-17 January, 2003.
www.amt.edu.au/2003
- The 10th ICME will be held in Copenhagen, Denmark, 4-11 July, 2004. For further information go to www.icme-10.dk/

Publication Review

Tackling Tables



Primary and Middle Years Resource, by Paul Swan

Activities to promote the teaching and learning of multiplication facts.

The ability to fluently recall the basic multiplication facts, or tables, is an important facet of mathematics. Drill and practice activities are often used to develop recall of these facts.

The purpose of this publication is to provide teachers with some alternatives to the standard drill and practice activities used in many classrooms. The book is divided into several parts: ideas and activities, reproducible photocopy sheets, background information and teachers notes.

141A Cost: \$17.50 for members \$26.00 for non-members, plus postage (52 pages). Prices inc. GST.

2002 Ford Maths Talent Quest



Awards Ceremony

The Awards Ceremony for the 2002 Ford Maths Talent Quest was held on Friday 30 August, at Wilson Hall, The University of Melbourne. The guest speaker was Dr Burkard Polster, School of Mathematical Sciences, Monash University, who entertained and captured students' imaginations with the mathematics of juggling.

Many of our sponsors were also there to have photos with the prize winners and to present the awards. We would like to thank all our sponsors, but particularly Ford Australia, the Faculty of Engineering at The University of Melbourne and the Faculty of Engineering at Monash University. Thank you also to the Vice-Chancellor's office, who once again made it possible for us to use Wilson Hall for this wonderful occasion.

Congratulations again to all of this year's prize winners, and to Genevieve Chiang, Ashwood College, who was the lucky winner of the Maths Trail Competition.

Look out for information about the 2003 Maths Talent Quest with the February Common Denominator.

Genazzano FCJ College Year 6 Games Day

On Friday 30th August the Genazzano Mathematics Club hosted its third Year 6 Maths Games Day. The mission of the Mathematics Club is to raise the profile of mathematics as a broad, creative and entertaining pursuit and promote mathematical activity throughout the Genazzano FCJ College community.

One of the ways it is pursuing this objective is through the hosting and organisation of a Year Six Interschool Mathematics Games Day. The aims of this activity are:

- To foster the enjoyment of mathematics.
- To provide a fixture in primary school mathematics with a focus on mathematical problem solving.
- To provide opportunities for students to assist with the planning, logistics and running of such an occasion and in doing so develop their leadership skills.
- To provide an opportunity for collaborative professional development for the teachers of visiting schools.

The girls in the Maths Club planned and ran each session. They displayed incredible initiative in generating ideas and creating and assisting the participating students to complete the activities. The success of the day belongs to them!

Twenty six schools from the Booroondara and surrounding municipalities were in attendance.



Students participating in the Year 6 Games Day

The mathematical activities included :

A series of problem solving tasks which involved students working in their teams on a series of problems, one-on-one games of strategy which had individual team members competing against one another and floor games which incorporated physical activity where teams competed directly against one another.

Our congratulations to all participants, in particular the top three placed teams who were from Genazzano FCJ College, Christchurch Grammar and Ruyton Girls School.

Mr Phillip Tascone
Curriculum Leader, Mathematics
Genazzano FCJ College, Kew

2001 MAV Teacher of the Year Honoured Again

The MAV's 2001 Teacher of the Year, Ms Betty Key, Swinburne University of Technology (TAFE Division) has been awarded the "Outstanding Teacher of the Year" in 2002 for the Victorian Training Awards. "I get many students who, at the start of the course, say they dislike or even hate maths and are only doing it because it is a prerequisite for their university course. As they progress they get an understanding of the subject and they start to enjoy it. It is quite common for them to come to me at the end of the course and tell me they really love mathematics. I get a great satisfaction when that happens," she recently told the Herald Sun. Congratulations Betty!

Web Review

PLUS



<http://plus.maths.org/>

Plus is an Internet magazine that aims to introduce readers to the beauty and the practical applications of mathematics.

Plus provides:

- feature articles, which describe applications of maths to real-world problems
- games, and puzzles
- reviews of popular maths books and events
- a news section, showing how recent news stories were often based on some underlying piece of maths that never made it to the newspapers
- a puzzle for you to sharpen your wits against
- a lucky dip of mathematical curiosities
- opinions on various maths-related topics and news stories.

It also includes a regular interview with someone in a maths-related career, showing the wide range of uses maths gets put to in the real world.

All past issues remain available online, which makes Plus a useful resource for maths school students and teachers..

Are your students struggling to stay awake in class?

They could be suffering from a perpetual case of jetlag!

www.goamazing.com, a website designed for students in Years 9 and 10, looks at why teenagers are so sleepy with a new article, "The Jetlag Phenomenon". A 6-lesson student project relating to Mathematics accompanies the article. The project includes histograms, intervals, frequency and graphing, and students collate, compare and assess data. Visit www.goamazing.com to be fascinated by insights into Mathematics, Science and Technology that are relevant to teenagers and supplemented with practical teachers notes for use in the classroom.



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email: enquiries@maths.monash.edu.au
visit: www.maths.monash.edu.au

Hassle Free PD

"We were very happy with the ease of organising this very successful and empowering PD. Many thanks." A direct quote from Gayle McMahon of Lalor North Primary School, after she had used the MAV's Hassle Free PD service. Gayle was given the task of organising a half day professional development for her school. The day was to include information on the:

- Early and Middle Years Research Projects
- Open Ended Questions
- Problem Solving
- Games

As her school was a member of the MAV she decided to give us a call. One fax and another phone call later, she had the name and number of a presenter confirmed for the date that the school had chosen. One more phone call and she and the presenter had worked out the program for the day. All she had to do then was organise the caterer.

Another comment from Gayle after the day was - "Staff commented positively to the presenter and the session renewed their enthusiasm towards maths teaching."

During 2002 the MAV Council reviewed the pricing for this service - Members' cost is \$50 per presenter, Non-members' cost is \$100 per presenter. Clients will also be responsible for the presenters' fee/s, and any travel or accommodation costs (plus GST).

Do you need to organise a day, half day, or session of professional development for your school? The MAV can help! Fill in the Hassle Free PD Faxback Form on the back of this newsletter, or give us a call. Contact Mary Walkinshaw on 03-9389 0303 or at mwalkinshaw@mav.vic.edu.au

MAV Publications Order Form

TAX INVOICE

To order any of the publications advertised in this newsletter, fill out the details below and return this form with your payment to the MAV at 61 Blyth Street, Brunswick, Vic, 3056 or by fax on (03) 9389 0399.

Contact Name: _____

School: _____

Address: _____ Post Code: _____

Telephone Number: (____) _____ Fax Number: (____) _____

Please supply:

Qty	Title	Total
Postage and Handling inc. GST For orders: less than \$40 - \$5.00, from \$41 to \$100 - \$7.00, over \$100 - \$10.00. For overseas orders, contact the MAV office for rates.		
TOTAL PAYABLE INC. GST		

Method of Payment

Please note: orders will not be processed until we have received full payment or you have quoted your school's purchase order number below.

1. Cheque: I enclose my cheque/ money order for \$_____ (made payable to the MAV)

2. Credit: Bankcard Mastercard VISA

Card Number:

Signature: _____ Expiry date: _____

Cardholder's name: _____

B. Purchase Order Number: _____

The Mathematical Association of Victoria - ABN 34 004 892 755
61 Blyth Street
BRUNSWICK VIC 3056

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advancing education

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For further information or to be placed on the NEAP teacher mailing list, contact:
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58 Pelham Street Carlton Victoria 3053 Tel 03 9663 2523 Fax 03 9663 7182 Web Site www.neap.com.au

HASSLE FREE PD FAXBACK

Do you need to organise a day, half day, or session of PD for your school? The MAV can help! Fill in this Hassle Free PD Faxback Form, or contact Mary Walkinshaw on 03-9389 0303 or at mwalkinshaw@mav.vic.edu.au

FAX: 03-9389 0399

Attention: Mary Walkinshaw

SCHOOL/ORGANISATION NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

_____ PCODE: _____

PHONE: _____ FAX: _____

EMAIL: _____

CONTACT NAME: _____

DATES & TIMES OF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SESSION(S):

VENUE: _____

DISTANCE AWAY FROM MELBOURNE METRO. AREA (KM): _____

The MAV also has two training rooms available at Cliveden from \$100 for half a day to \$165 for a full day. Please tick the following box if you would like more information & a booking form:

Topic(s) to be covered. Please be as specific as possible:

Preferred presenter(s)

Estimated Budget: \$ _____

**Members' cost is \$50 per presenter, Non-members' cost is \$100 per presenter. Clients will also be responsible for the presenters' fee/s, and any travel or accommodation costs (plus GST).