



# Mathematicians in Schools

Mathematicians  
in Schools

**Mathematicians in Schools** is a sub-program of  
**Scientists in Schools**, an Australian Government initiative



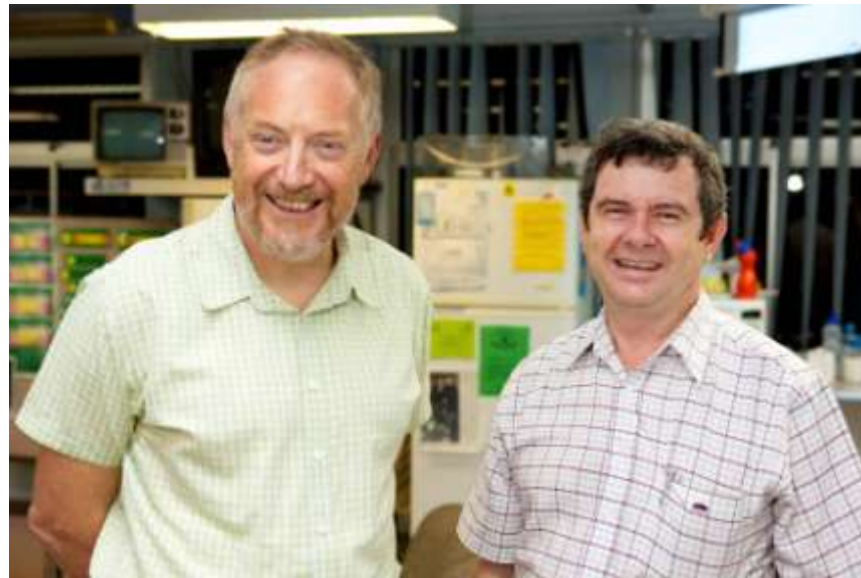
# What is Mathematicians in Schools?

- Mathematicians in Schools is a sub-program of Scientists in Schools
- SiS began in 2007 and is funded under the Quality Outcomes Program administered by DEEWR
- MiS began as a sub-program in July 2009

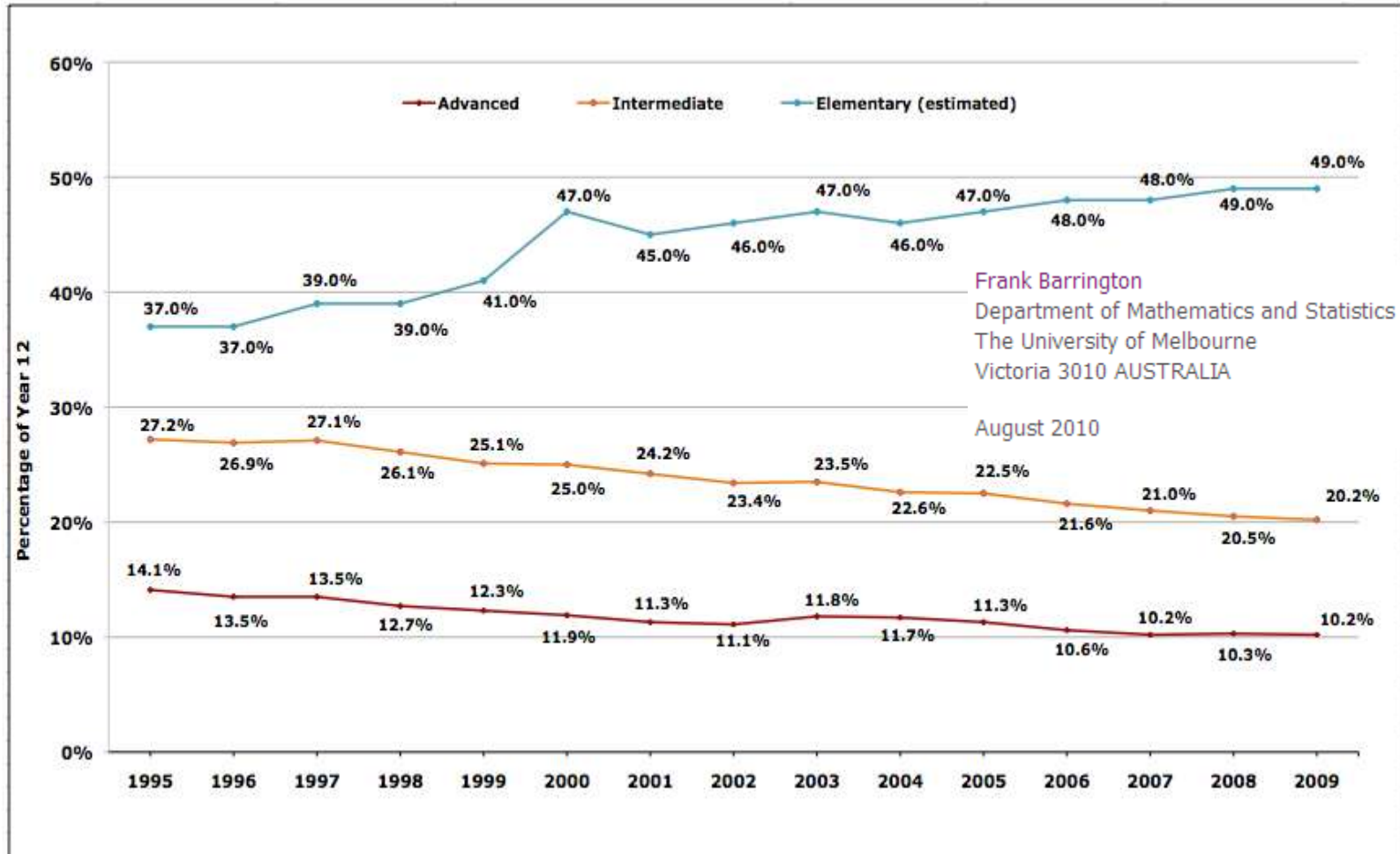


# What is Mathematicians in Schools?

Mathematicians in Schools creates and supports **ongoing, flexible, professional partnerships between mathematicians and teachers** in order to benefit school communities.



# Why Mathematicians in Schools?

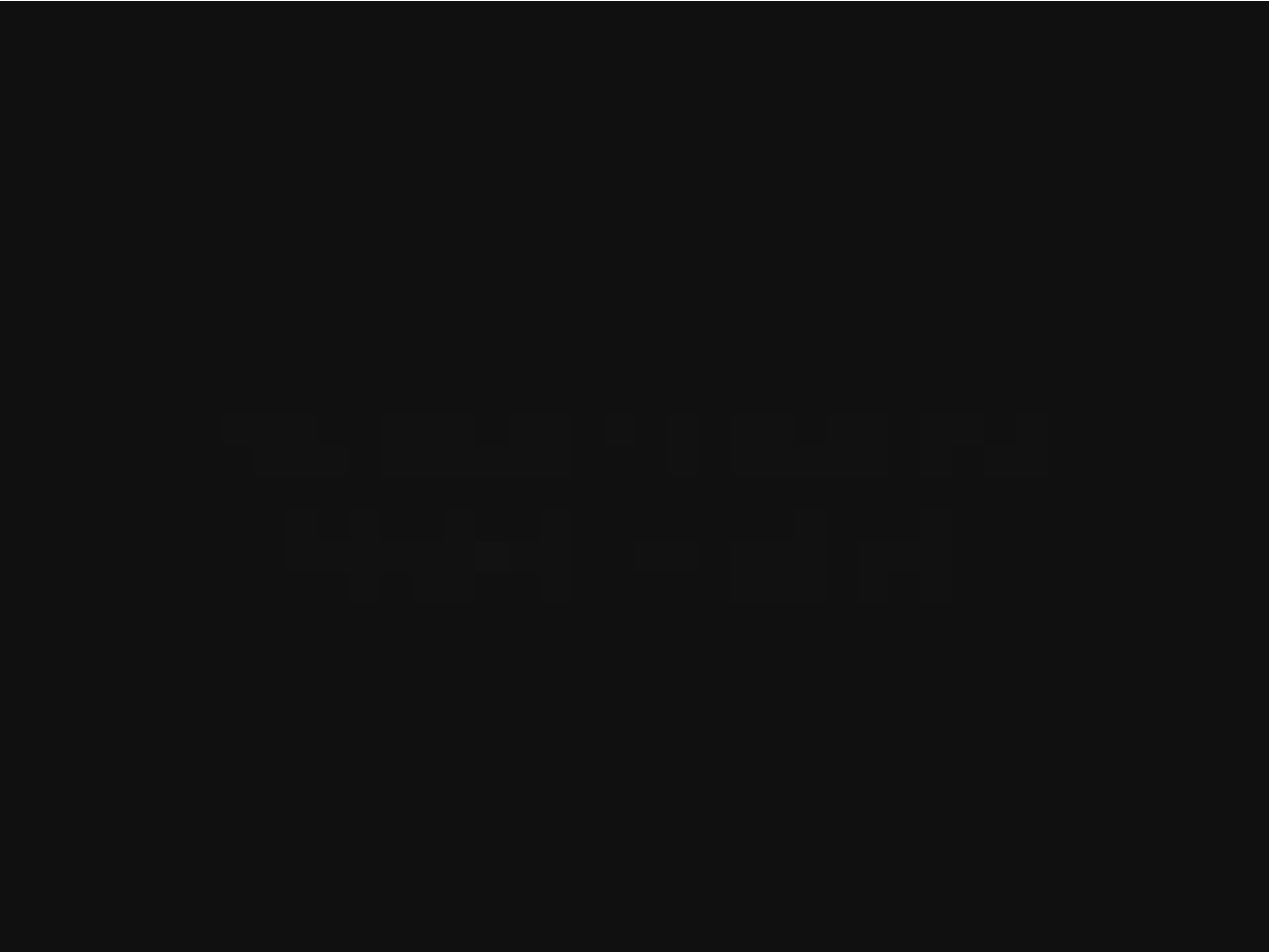


<http://www.amsi.org.au/index.php/news/84-science-news/123-updated-year-12-mathematics-figures>

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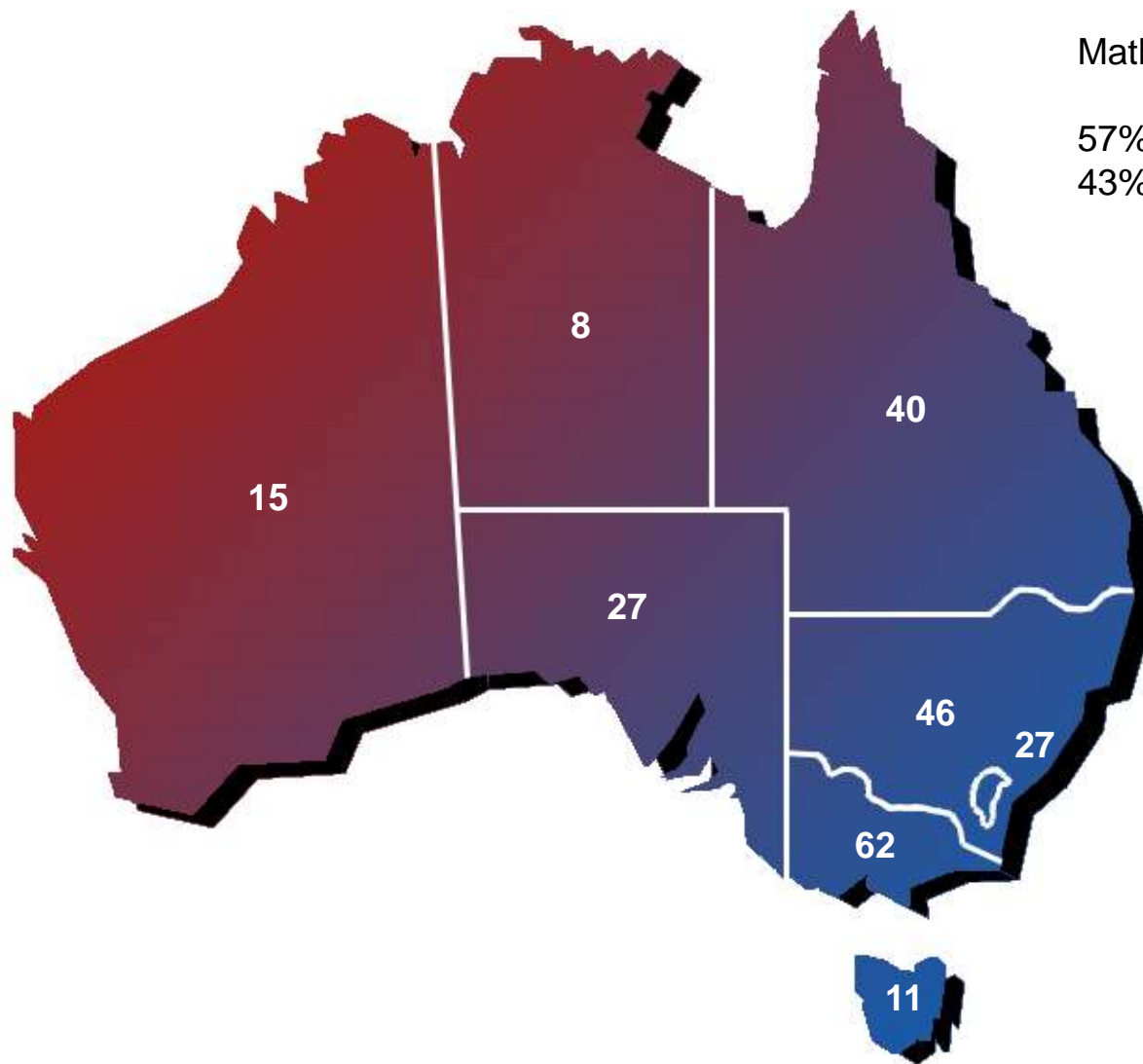


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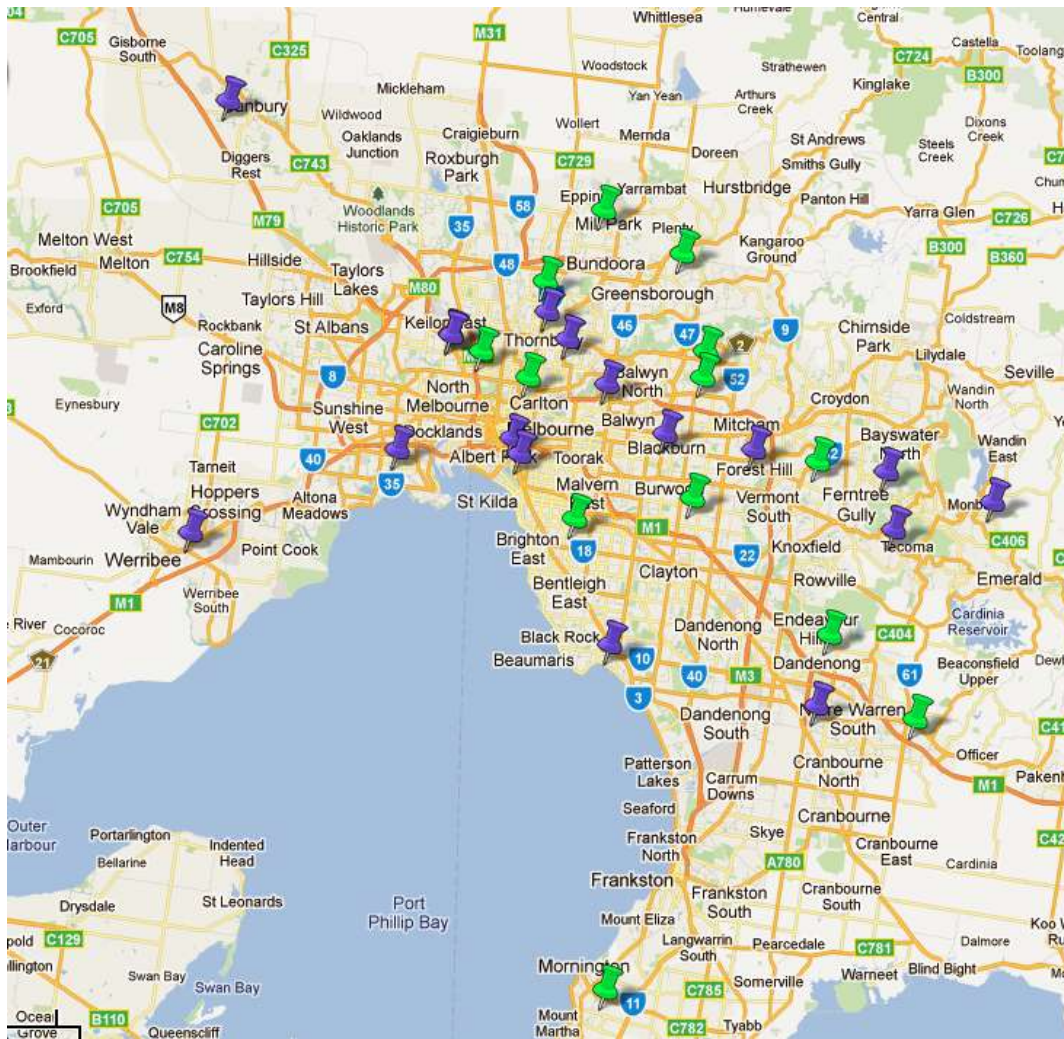
# Partnership distribution



Maths partnerships = 236

57% primary  
43% secondary

# Partnership distribution - Vic



Vic partnerships  
(cumulative since 2009)  
= 62

Currently 37 active  
partnerships

# Who participates?

**Teachers** from all education sectors and year levels

- **Applied Mathematicians**
- **Pure Mathematicians**
- **Statisticians**
- **Informaticians**
- **Engineers**
- **Scientists**
- **Accountants**
- **other mathematical professionals.**



# The process of getting involved

1. Visit the website ([www.mathematiciansinschools.edu.au](http://www.mathematiciansinschools.edu.au))



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[Scientists in Schools](#)

## Link up and learn

Mathematicians in Schools is a free national program supporting long-term, professional partnerships between practising mathematicians and teachers across Australia.

Information for ...  
**Mathematicians**

Information for ...  
**Teachers**

## Message from our Patron

"Mathematics underpins so many aspects of our lives and provides the foundation for science, engineering, economics, finance and many other professional fields. For all these reasons, it is critical to help students early on to appreciate the beauty and power of mathematics and to begin to understand how it plays out in so many areas. Of course, teachers are already experts at encouraging and guiding students, but having the added support of a working mathematician provides obvious benefits not only for students but for the teachers and mathematicians as well.



Dr Louise Ryan  
Chief, CMIS.

Mathematicians in Schools provides opportunities for the maths community and the teaching community to work together in long-term, professional partnerships of their own design. The partnerships created and supported through this program will connect students and teachers with mathematical role models, and will allow mathematicians of all persuasions to engage with their local communities to share their knowledge of and passion for mathematics and its various subspecialties and related fields.

I'm honoured and delighted to be the patron of Mathematicians in Schools. I encourage maths teachers and mathematicians to join in and discover new inspiration for maths education in our schools."

Dr Louise Ryan  
Chief, CSIRO Mathematical and Information Sciences

This project was funded under the Quality Outcomes Program administered by the Australian Government Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations.

The views expressed on this site are those of the author and do not necessarily represent the views of the Australian Government Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations.



# The process of getting involved

1. Visit the website ([www.mathematiciansinschools.edu.au](http://www.mathematiciansinschools.edu.au))
2. Register online with your request
3. You are placed on the “map/list of available teachers”
4. Mathematicians who register and have applied for a WWCC are offered teachers in their area
5. Teacher accepts mathematician
6. Partnered – contact details sent
7. Get in touch
8. Support/contact

# What do partnerships do?

Partnerships are **flexible** for you to choose the **style** and **timing** that suits you best

Once you are partnered:

- **Contact your mathematician** and plan to meet
  - **Discuss the mathematicians**
    - Expertise
    - Time commitment
  - **Discuss your**
    - Maths/science curriculum
    - How you expect the mathematician to fit in
- **Contact me** for help
- Give the mathematician **feedback**

# Current examples

## Our current partnerships:

- Presentations / Demonstrations
- Projects / Investigations
- Excursions / Field Trips
- Extension / Remedial Groups
- Extra-curricular activities
- Provision of resources
- Long-distance / Online
- External programs (AMT's MCYA)

# Presentations / Demonstrations

**Sue Ditchfield, Monbulk College, Victoria**

**Dr. Christian Rau, Monash University**



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# Presentations / Demonstrations

**Alwyn Powell, Darling Heights State School, Toowoomba**  
**Assoc Prof Ron Addie, University of Southern QLD**



# Projects / Investigations

**Rex Bloggs, Glenmore State High School, QLD**  
**Dr. Noel Patson, Lecturer, Central QLD University**



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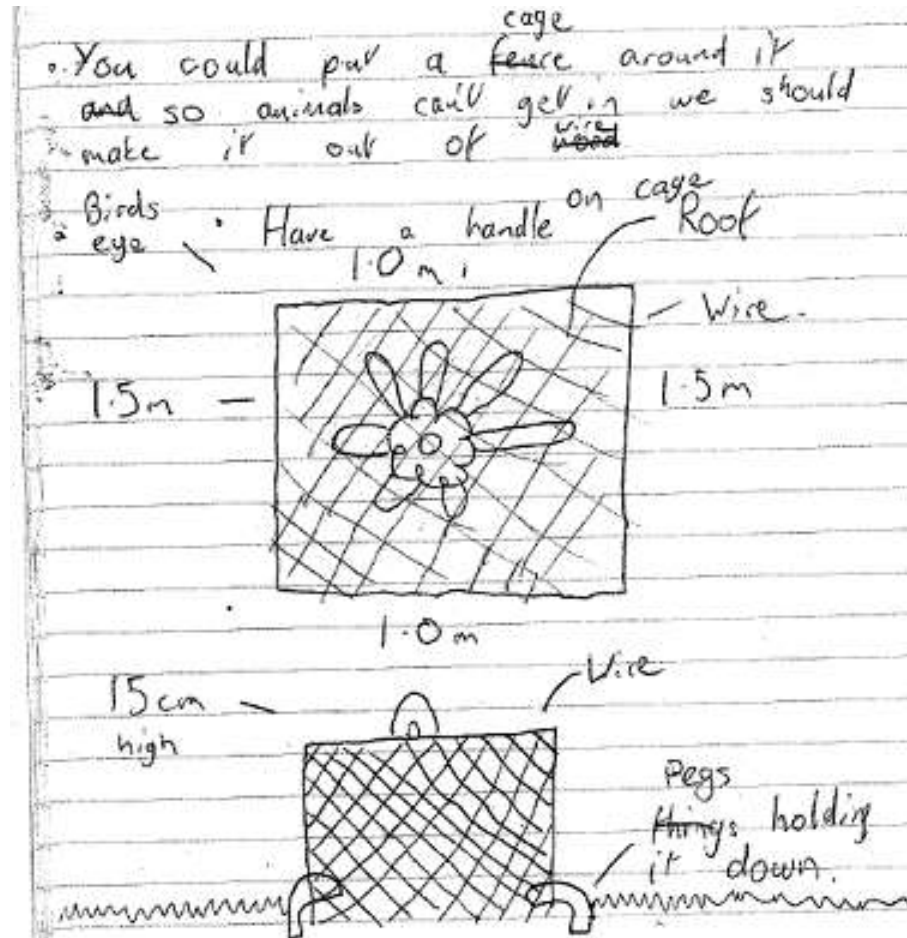
# Projects / Investigations

**Cheryl Smith, St Joseph's, Mundingburra, QLD**  
**Kelly Stokes, Engineer, Townsville City Council**



# Projects / Investigations

Chris DiCorleto, St Gabriel's Primary School, Traralgon  
Megan Burns, Scientific Officer, Gippsland Water



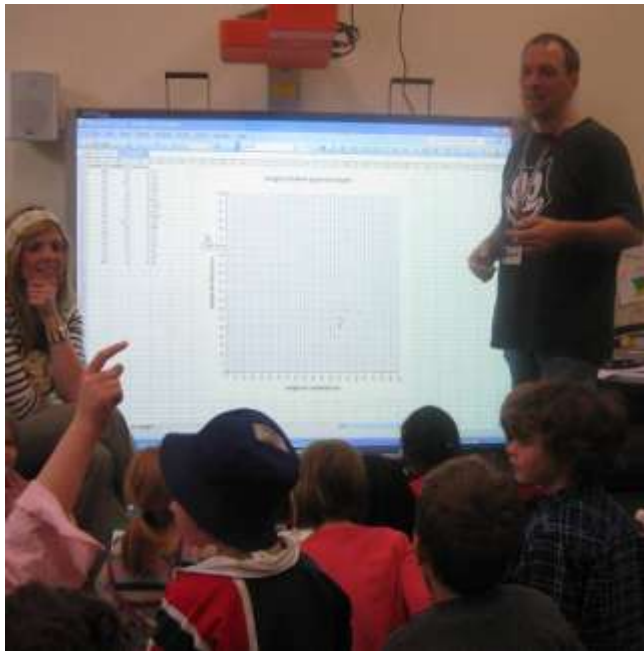
# Excursions / Field Trips

**Marie Jackson, Darling Range Sports College, WA**  
**Prof Nazim Khan, Maths Professor, University of WA**



# Extension / Remedial Groups

**Belle Cook, O'Connor Cooperative School, Canberra**  
**Dr David Lovell, CSIRO Mathematics, Informatics and Statistics**



# Provision of Resources

**Marty Svilha, Upwey HS, Vic**

**Steve Francis, Vermont SC, Vic**

**Elena Polyakova, MacRobertson Girls HS, Vic**

**Prof Geoffrey Brooks, Head of Maths, Swinburne University**

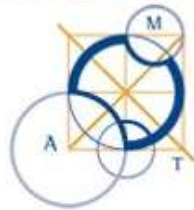


# Long distance / Online

**Jennifer Stacey, Distance Education Centre, Thornbury, Vic**  
**Dr Sergey Suslov, Swinburne University of Technology, Vic**



# External Programs



## AUSTRALIAN MATHEMATICS TRUST

*Enriching Mathematics Learning*

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## Events

### Mathematics Challenge for Young Australians

Director: [Dr Kevin McAvaney](#)

The Mathematics Challenge for Young Australians targets the top 20 per cent of primary students in Years 5 and 6, and secondary students in Years 7 to 10. Whereas it is directed at all students in this category it may be particularly useful in schools where teachers may be working in isolation and have a handful of talented students spread out over a number of classes.

The Challenge provides materials so that these teachers may help talented students reach their potential. Teachers in larger schools also find the materials valuable, allowing them to better assist the students in their care.

This program is supported by the Australian Government's Department of Innovation, Industry, Science and Research (DIISR).

The aims of the Mathematics Challenge for Young Australians include:

- Encouraging and fostering:
  - a greater interest in and awareness of the power of mathematics;

# Why do mathematicians volunteer?

- ***Desire to communicate mathematics***

“Nurture the next crop of budding mathematicians”

“An investment in Australia's long term future”

- ***Personal satisfaction and gain***

ie: passion for outreach, improve the links to real-life maths, participate at children's school, CV boost

- ***Corporate Social Responsibility***

As part of the company's volunteering strategy (ie: ANZ, AXA)

- ***Make community aware of the mathematicians organisation***

Teacher → students → parents → wider community



# Thank you!

[www.mathematiciansinschools.edu.au](http://www.mathematiciansinschools.edu.au)

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