Welcome to another year of Tournament of Minds. We hope you had a safe and happy festive season, and are once again ready to delve into the wonderfully challenging world of TOM.

The major news in 2008:

► School registrations and team nominations are now to be completed online using our new web portal at: www.tomvic.org.au. Once you have registered to use the portal, you will be able to access all relevant documents, including manuals, forms, invoices, sample challenges, curriculum resources and, of course, the Challenges when they are released on 11th July. See page 6 for full details of how to access and use this facility.

► The school registration fee has risen to $135. We will discontinue the procedure of charging a separate school registration fee for each campus. Instead schools will need to pay a registration fee for each Division they enter. If the school has both Primary and Secondary teams, two registration fees ($270) will be due.

► All payments from schools will be handled centrally by the TOM Office. Please ensure all registration, workshop and team nomination payments are sent to our Hawthorn address.

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► All payments from schools will be handled centrally by the TOM Office. Please ensure all registration, workshop and team nomination payments are sent to our Hawthorn address.

► We are providing additional workshops in Melbourne and around the state, to better assist our TOM facilitators and coordinators. We also have several new workshops on the program including a full-day workshop entitled “The Magic of Thinking” presented by Tony Ryan. See the “School Program Brochure” for all workshop dates, venues and the registration form.

► Applied Technology is back—again with Animation as the theme.

► Victoria has the honour of hosting the Australasian Pacific Finals this year.

Register you School easily through the new TOM Web Portal www.tomvic.org.au

Log on to the web address above. Under the heading NEW USERS, click on ‘REGISTER’. Press the ‘Register New School’ and enter your details. We will then send you an activation code once your details are confirmed. Activate your account using this code, then press SEND PASSWORD. Your password will be emailed to you shortly. Using your email address and this password you will now be able to access the TOM Portal.

► Full details are on page 6.
**Tournament dates 2008**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Regional Tournaments</th>
<th>Venue</th>
<th>Dates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Metro Central</td>
<td>Swinburne University of Technology, Hawthorn</td>
<td>Aug 23 &amp; 24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Metro Northern</td>
<td>La Trobe University, Bundoora</td>
<td>Aug 23 &amp; 24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lilydale</td>
<td>Swinburne University of technology, Lilydale</td>
<td>Sat Aug 23 only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geelong</td>
<td>Deakin University, Warrn Ponds Campus</td>
<td>Sun Aug 24 only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central Victoria</td>
<td>La Trobe University, Bendigo</td>
<td>Sat Aug 23 only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gippsland</td>
<td>Monash University, Churchill</td>
<td>Sat Aug 23 only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goulburn Valley</td>
<td>Goulburn Valley Grammar School, Shepparton</td>
<td>Sat Aug 23 only</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**State Final**

- La Trobe University, Bundoora
  - Sun 14 September

**Australasian**

- La Trobe University, Bundoora
  - Sat 25 October

**Pacific Final**

- To be part of it!

**Who can help?**

- **State Director:** Geoff Whyte
- **Deputy State Director:** Peter Lamb
- **Regional Directors:**
  - John Jones: Central Victoria Region
  - Peter Lamb: Geelong Region
  - Michelle Moore: Gippsland Region
  - Carole Brewster: Goulburn Valley Region
  - Lauren Ho: Lilydale Region
  - Stephanie Rose: Metro Central Region
  - Geoff Whyte: Metro Northern Region

- **Executive Officer:** Robert Nash
- **Professional Development:** Geraldine Nicholas

All can be contacted via email: vic-director@tom.edu.au.

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**You be the Judge!**

Many of our judges make a point of expressing to us what an inspiration and joy it is to see the fine creative efforts produced by teams in solving the TOM Challenges.

**Why don’t you be the judge?**

TOM relies on hundreds of judges from many different organisations and backgrounds who volunteer each year … and we’d just love you to be part of it!

Judges have a very important role in our program, in providing an immediate, positive and constructive verbal feedback to teams, and in assessing the performance based on a detailed set of scoring criteria. We very much welcome new volunteers in all Regions throughout the state. It is our aim to have at least one teacher from each participating school on our judging panels as well as other adult members of the community.

A Judge Registration Form and Information Sheet is on pages 3 & 4 of this newsletter. Each participating school should provide at least one judge to assist on the day. Judges can organise not to be judging when their school’s teams are presenting.
JUDGE REGISTRATION FORM 2008

Please fill in your contact details and select the venue and preferences for Challenge, Division and judging times and return this form to the TOM Office by fax, email or post (contact details below).

Name: .................................................................  Availability:  Yes  No

Organisation/School: ..........................................................

Experience:  New       Some Experience       Experienced       Chief Judge Experience

Mailing Address: ..........................................................  Postcode: ............

Phone: .............    Fax:......................    Mobile: ........................................

Email: ...........................................................................................................

(Please tick one box above, against your preferred communication method – mail, phone, fax, mobile or email)

Venue & Sessions: Please tick the Venue(s) and Session(s) in which you prefer to judge:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Venue &amp; TOM Region</th>
<th>Day(s)</th>
<th>Sessions</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>La Trobe University, Bundoora</td>
<td>Sat 23rd August</td>
<td>Sat 8-11.30am</td>
<td>Sun 8-11.30am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Metro Northern Region)</td>
<td>Sun 24th August</td>
<td>Sat 11.30-3pm</td>
<td>Sun 11.30-3pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Sat 3-6.30pm</td>
<td>Sun 3-6.30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swinburne University of Technology</td>
<td>Sat 23rd August</td>
<td>Sat 8-11.30am</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hawthorn (Metro Central Region)</td>
<td>Sun 24th August</td>
<td>Sat 11.30-3pm</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Sat 3-6.30pm</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swinburne University of Technology</td>
<td>Sat 23rd August only</td>
<td>Sat 8-11.30am</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lilydale Campus (Lilydale Region)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Sat 11.30-3pm</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Sat 3-6.30pm</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>La Trobe University, Bendigo</td>
<td>Sat 23rd August only</td>
<td>Sat AM</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Central Victoria Region)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Sat PM</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monash University, Churchill Campus</td>
<td>Sat 23rd August only</td>
<td>Sat AM</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Gippsland Region)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Sat PM</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goulburn Valley Grammar School</td>
<td>Sat 23rd August only</td>
<td>Sat AM</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shepparton (Goulburn Valley Region)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Sat PM</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deakin University, Waurn Ponds</td>
<td>Sun 24th August only</td>
<td></td>
<td>Sun AM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Geelong Region)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Sun PM</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Timetabling Notes:

Challenge: Please tick the Challenge type you would prefer to judge:

Applied Technology  Language Literature  Maths Engineering
Social Sciences     Spontaneous       Any

Division: Please tick which Division you would like to judge:

Primary  Secondary  Either
The Role of the Judge
TOM judges have a twofold role. Firstly, they provide immediate, positive and constructive verbal feedback to teams. Secondly, they assess the performance of the team based on a detailed set of scoring criteria. This information is strictly confidential and is used by the TOM Committee to select teams to move on to the next stage of the Tournament. Judges are an integral part of the Tournament of Minds program and could not function without the help of the hundreds of judges who volunteer each year. We value the dedication and commitment of our experienced judges and are always delighted to welcome new judges. We thank you for your time and wonderful support of Tournament of Minds.

Judging Panels
All teams present to a panel of judges. This panel usually consists of three judges. There will be an experienced judge on the panel and one of the judges is usually a teacher. Of course also having judges from outside education is a wonderful strength of TOM.

Selecting a Region
It is of course up to you which Region you judge in and on what day you judge - for those regions with Regional Tournaments over two days.

Selecting a Challenge
Each team that participates in TOM presents two different Challenge solutions. One is their Long Term Challenge solution. This is the result of 6 weeks of preparation. Each team can choose to work on a Long Term Challenge in one of the following categories: Applied Technology (Animation), Language Literature, Maths Engineering or Social Science. This presentation is conducted in front of the judging panel and an audience. Each presentation takes ten minutes.

Each team also presents a solution to the Spontaneous Challenge. As the name suggests, this is an unseen challenge that is given to the team at the time of their presentation. Only the team and the judging panel are able to watch this presentation. A Spontaneous Challenge presentation generally takes about five minutes.

You may choose to judge the Spontaneous Challenge or one of the four categories of Long Term Challenges. You also have a choice with regard to judging Primary or Secondary school teams.

Time Commitment
The time commitment varies from region to region. As a guide, in metropolitan regions a judge typically sits on a panel for one session of approximately 3.5 hours on one of the days. In other regions the sessions are generally from 2-3 hours.

Judges should arrive about 30 minutes prior to the appointed time. Some panels will feel the need to discuss their scoring for a short time after their session has finished. Some TOM judges generously offer to judge for more than one session.

Training for Judges
In July, each judge will receive a copy of the Judges Instruction Manual, the four Long Term Challenges and a sample of a previous Spontaneous Challenge. It is expected that judges would familiarise themselves with the rules, and the Challenge they are judging (if it is a Long Term Challenge). If judging the Spontaneous Challenge, it will only be shown to judges just prior to their judging session.

All judges are asked to attend a Judges Training Session. The session, run at the venues below, will provide additional helpful information and provide an opportunity to practise judging challenges, meet other judges, note any rule changes and ask questions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Venue &amp; Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Central Victoria Region</td>
<td>Wednesday 6th Aug</td>
<td>La Trobe University, Bendigo 7-9pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geelong Region</td>
<td>Monday 18th Aug</td>
<td>Sacred Heart College, Newtown 7-9pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gippsland Region</td>
<td>Tuesday 5th Aug</td>
<td>Kurnai College, Morwell 7-9pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goulburn Valley Region</td>
<td>Thursday 7th Aug</td>
<td>Goulburn Valley Grammar, Shepparton 7-9pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lilydale Region</td>
<td>Wednesday 13th Aug</td>
<td>Swinburne University, Lilydale 7-9pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Metro Central Region</td>
<td>Thursday 14th Aug</td>
<td>Sacre Coeur, Glen Iris 7-9pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Metro Northern Region</td>
<td>Tuesday 12th Aug</td>
<td>Ivanhoe East Primary School 7-9pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Judges must strive to make Tournament of Minds a positive experience for all students regardless of what happens during their presentation.
2007 Results

Our congratulations to the winners of the State Final who all progressed to the Australasian Pacific Finals in Canberra last October. Victoria has once again produced fantastic results with all teams performing admirably. The following places were gained with—obviously—exceptional presentations:

Hartwell Primary School
First Place: Social Sciences (Primary)

Emmaus College
First Place: Applied Technology (Secondary)

St Brigid’s Primary
Honours: Maths Engineering (Primary).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State Final 2007</th>
<th>Applied Technology</th>
<th>Language Literature</th>
<th>Maths Engineering</th>
<th>Social Sciences</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Primary Division</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Place</td>
<td>Birmingham Primary School Team 1</td>
<td>Girton Grammar Team 2</td>
<td>St Brigid’s Primary School (Healesville) Team 1</td>
<td>Hartwell Primary School Team 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Honours</td>
<td>Loreto-Mandeville Hall (Junior) Team 1</td>
<td>Plenty Parklands Primary School Team 1</td>
<td>Deniliquin North Primary School Team 2</td>
<td>Laburnum Primary School Team 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The Knox School Team 2</td>
<td>St Paul’s College Team 2</td>
<td>North Fitzroy Primary School Team 1</td>
<td>Sherbourne Primary School Team 1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| **Secondary Division** | | | | |
| First Place | Emmaus College Team 1 | Greensborough Secondary College Team 1 | Girton Grammar Team 5 | Irymple Secondary College Team 2 |
| Honours | St Paul’s College Team 2 | Newhaven Secondary College Team 2 | Catholic College Wodonga Team 1 | Loreto-Mandeville Hall (Senior) Team 1 |
| | The Knox School Team 4 | McKinnon Secondary College Team 1 | | South Gippsland Secondary College Team 1 |

Above: The Australasian Pacific Final Victorian Team—Canberra 2007

Student Incursion Program

Over 750 primary and secondary students participated in our inaugural program in 2007. This popular program is based on the TOM principles of creative problem solving in an environment that fosters both team work and cooperative learning.

Many dates for early 2008 have been taken already so please book early to ensure we will be available to suit your dates.

The format and content of these workshops is flexible to suit your needs. We can provide a one-off workshop for 1.5 hours, or a series of five workshops over several weeks.

The workshops will often include:
- Team Skills—What is a team? What roles and skills are necessary to build an effective team.
- Creative Thinking—What is creative thinking? How to use thinking tools and strategies to generate unconventional solutions.
- Unpacking the Challenges—Use critical thinking together with the judging criteria to evaluate and develop solutions.

For full details and cost, please call Geraldine Nicholas at the TOM Office on 9818 8311 Wednesdays to Fridays.
How to Register your School

What is the TOM Portal?
The TOM Portal is a website that provides a simple and efficient method of communication between TOM and schools who have registered for the TOM Program in 2008.

There is controlled access to the functional areas of the website that allow you to:
- Edit your school’s contact information
- Update your school coordinator’s contact details
- Register your school for the TOM 2008 Program
- Download your School Registration Tax Invoice
- Download your 2008 TOM Pack – including the Schools’ Instruction Manual, Facilitator’s Handbook, sample Challenges, curriculum resources & all the team forms
- Download the 2008 Challenges, from 11th July 2008
- Register your team
- Download your Team Nomination Tax Invoice
- View your TOM history and registration status.

How do I access the TOM Portal?
Go to our portal website at www.tomvic.org.au. There is also a link to the TOM Portal website from the Victorian page of the www.tom.edu.au website.

To gain access you will first require an activation code.

Schools who have not participated in TOM before or did so more than five years ago are able to register their interest in the 2008 program. Once the entry has been authenticated, TOM will email the school with an activation code.

Once you have your activation code, press [Activate Account]. Enter your code and click [LOG ON]. The ‘Activate Account’ page appears and your school name is displayed together with the name and email details of your school’s last TOM coordinator from the TOM database. If these need to be updated, enter the new name and email and click [UPDATE].

Once these details are correct, click the [SEND PASSWORD] button and an email will be sent to the coordinator’s email address containing your portal password.

How do I Register my School?
Log on as an existing user, using your coordinator’s email address and the password we have supplied via email.

On logging in to the TOM Portal you will notice a number of additional menu items listed under ‘Registered User’s Area’ on the left of the page. To register your school click ‘Tournament Registration’.

Simply select the TOM Region in which you intend to participate, enter your school’s anticipated number of teams and click [REGISTER]. Both items of information are for our planning purposes only, and both are confirmed when you register your teams after the Challenges are released on 11th July.

To confirm your registration you must send $135.00 (GST Free) to the TOM Office before the closing date of Friday 30th May 2008. Payment may be made either by cheque or via EFT payment.

Once registered, your invoice and remittance advice forms can be downloaded from the ‘My Documents’ page. To assist with processing, please include a copy of your remittance advice with your payment.

Full instructions are available on the ‘Help’ page or you can call for assistance on 9818 8311.