

2005 Queen's Birthday honours

Medal (OAM) in the general division

Mr Geoffrey Roy Ball, University of Sydney, for service to education, particularly promoting the study of mathematics and to professional associations.



Prior to his retirement in 1996 Geoff was the Director of First Year Studies in the School of Mathematics and Statistics at Sydney University. Geoff is well known for his involvement with the Mathematics Olympiad and for his commitment to mathematics teaching in universities and schools.

Geoff¹ has been a significant contributor to the Australian Mathematical Olympiad Committee (AMOC) and the training of students, both nationally and within New South Wales. For 16 years he was the New South Wales Director of AMOC and since his retirement in 1996 has continued to carry much of the load with Bill Palmer, particularly with the training of and interaction with students.

He was also AMOC's Director of Training for three years from 1987 to 1989, Director of the April International Mathematical Olympiad (IMO) Selection School from 1984 to 1989 and Deputy Team Leader of Australia's IMO Team from 1983 to 1989.

He also contributed heavily to the development of the Mathematics Challenge for Young Australians Enrichment series, including as a writer. Specifically he was co-editor of the Polya Enrichment Development Team (1992 to 1995 with Keith Hamann) and he was also a member of the Gauss Enrichment Development Team (1993 to 1995).

He also spent a number of years as a member of the problems committee of the Australian Mathematics Competition for the Westpac Awards.

Geoff has also been involved over a number of years with the running of MANSW competitions, including Mathsearch. In Mathsearch, entrants submit a maths project (charts, models, reports, etc.) for judging. The competition spans the whole K to 12 spectrum.

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