

MathsJam - Ideal Professional Development for Teachers

What is MathsJam?

Monthly MathsJams happen in various cities around the world, usually but not always at 19:00 on the penultimate Tuesday each month. They are typically held in pubs. A list of current cities can be seen at <http://www.mathsjam.com/>, which also describes the nature of the events as “MathsJam is a monthly opportunity for like-minded self-confessed maths enthusiasts to get together in a pub and share stuff they like. Puzzles, games, problems, or just anything they think is cool or interesting.” There are 3 groups in New Zealand (Auckland Christchurch and Timaru).

What is the Oceania MathsJam Gathering?

This will be the second OMG. The first was in Christchurch in 2019, and brought together folks with an interest in recreational Mathematics from across New Zealand (not all of whom had been involved with MathsJam previously). Some of the topics covered can be seen in the [archives](#) of the event on the OMG website.

In 2021, the OMG will be in Geraldine. A distinctly jammy connection!
<needs some stuff here about accommodation/event costs. Maybe transport>.

What are the benefits for teachers?

MathsJam is an opportunity to do some Mathematics for yourself! Art teachers usually do some sort of art, Music teachers play an instrument, this is a chance for Maths teachers to do some maths, in an informal atmosphere.

If you are interested in introducing problem solving methods into your classroom, looking to use Low Threshold/High Ceiling Tasks, trying to find materials to motivate, or materials to challenge your most able students, then this is the place for you! Most of all, if you want to network with the wider mathematical community, beyond education, then this will be a valuable experience for you.

How we can help

Given that these are quite direct benefits, it should be possible for you to apply for funding to attend from your school. You will need to talk to your PD coordinator. For those who require, we can provide a Certificate of Attendance, and if you need to report back to your department (you'll have plenty of ideas to share anyway!), there will be a report of the Jam archived on our website at some point of 2021.