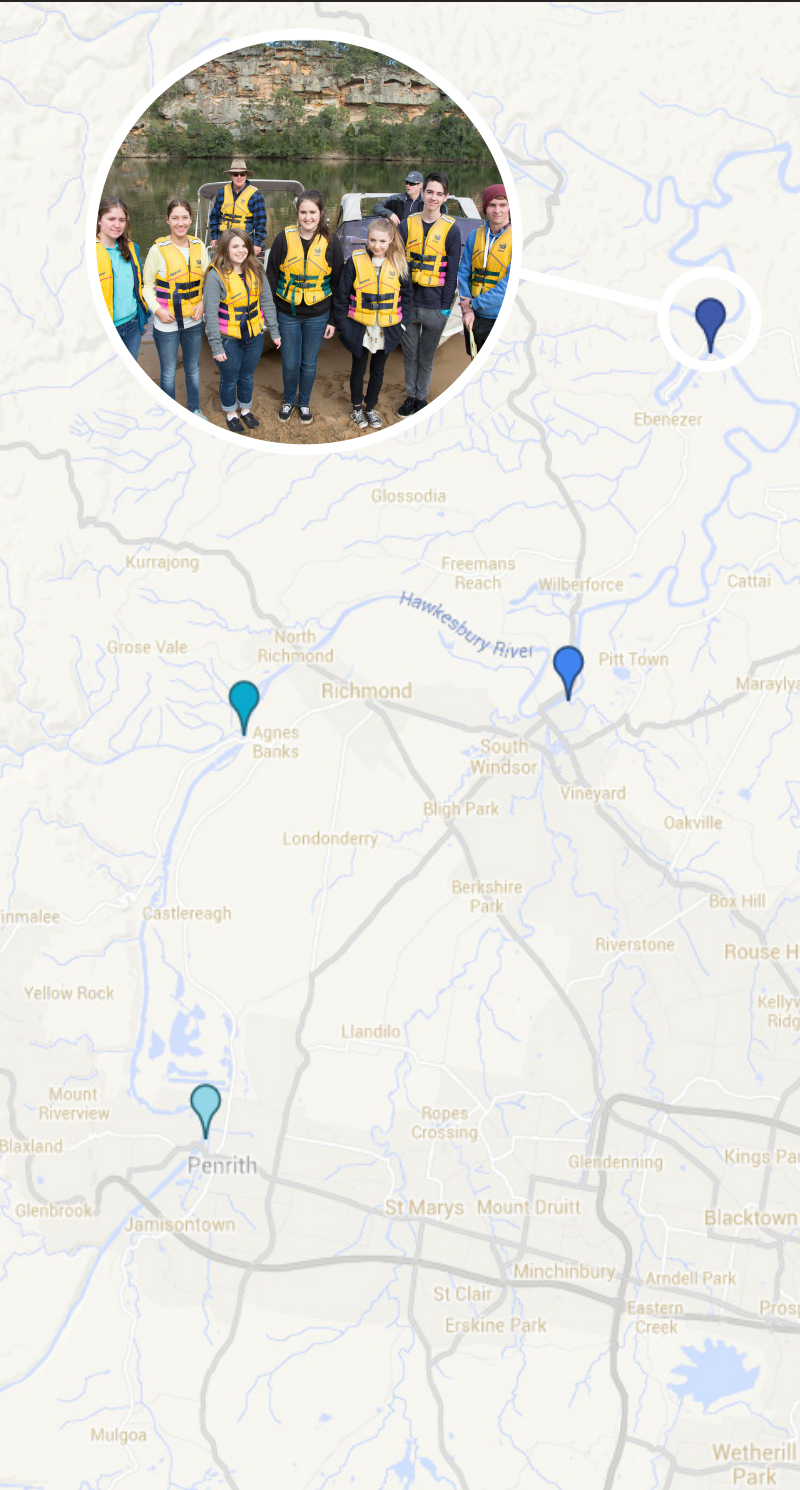


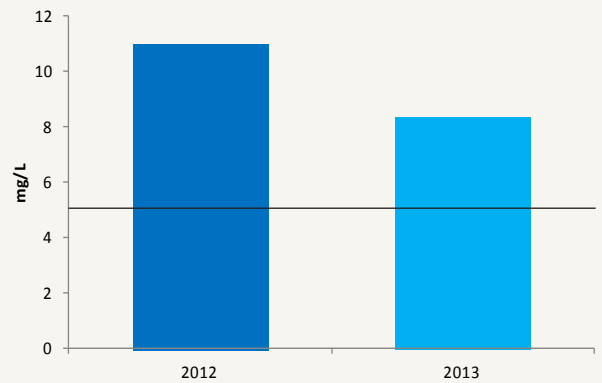
Pulse of the River

'Pulse of the River' was developed by Brewongle Environmental Education Centre and UWS School of Natural Sciences. Now funded by the Office of Sustainability this program is a rich and engaging Stage 6 Science field study.

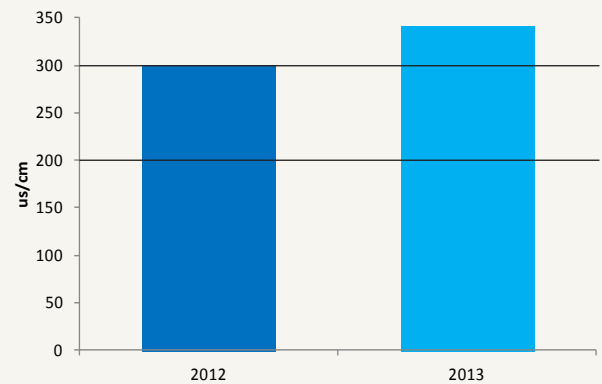
Students utilise the latest water quality equipment with UWS staff; collect data on water quality, biological indicators like phytoplankton and complete an assessment of the riparian zone on the Hawkesbury River near Sackville, NSW. This is their findings.



Snapshot



Dissolved oxygen (above) is the amount of oxygen that is present in the water. It is measured in milligrams per litre (mg/L). Fish, yabbies and water bugs all need oxygen to survive. The 'healthy' range is around 5.0mg/L. Temperature limits the amount of oxygen that can dissolve in water; this is why the 2012 measurements are higher than 2013 as they were collected in summer.



Electrical conductivity (above) is the movement of charged particles through water. It is measured in micro siemens per centimetre (us/cm). The 'healthy' range is around 200-300us/cm. The higher the electrical conductivity of water, the higher the amount of dissolved solids such as heavy metals, organic materials, fertilisers and other harmful chemicals.

