



Ngā mihi mahana kia koutou katoa, Greetings to you all.

In this issue of Tui Tuia ...

2017 is drawing to a close and we look to 2018 with excitement at the potential for Literacy Aotearoa as an organisation to grow and develop to meet the needs of adults throughout the country who want to improve their literacy, numeracy and communication skills.

By gaining confidence to develop these skills students have been able to make significant changes in their lives by sharing their learning with their whānau, looking at new opportunities for further learning, employment and participating in their communities.

The *2016 Progress in International Reading and Literacy Study (PIRLS)* was released 5 Hakihea (December)

ranking New Zealand's children as 32nd in the world. Numerous articles have since been published in response (see links back page).

In an interview on Newstalk ZB, Te Tumuaki Bronwyn Yates talks about the 1.3 million adults in New Zealand who have difficulties with using literacy and numeracy in their everyday lives. Bronwyn discusses the impact that parents' skills have on their children's literacy and numeracy development. She highlights the importance of oracy, "Great literacy skills are actually built on great oracy skills."

"Irrespective of whether parents feel confident in their reading and writing, what all parents can do is probably talk with their children,

take the time to talk with them and to sing with them, to enjoy engaging with language in ways that they know. That can range from singing songs, waiata; those who do rap - then rap; those who just want to sit down and have a chat; for those who feel confident reading to their children. Anything that gets you and your child or children engaged in literacy orally will build a stronger platform. The second thing is, be that role model. Enjoy learning, show that you're willing and even though sometimes it might be scary to learn, just show your children that you are bold enough to step into a learning role."

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Celebrations of Learning and Longevity

Meanwhile, Ngā Poupou have delivered learning services to people in their communities, assisting students to achieve their literacy and numeracy learning goals. One programme that enables adults to make significant positive changes that offer new opportunities for themselves and their whānau is a Learner Licence Programme in Cannons Creek.

Several Poupou celebrated their 40th anniversaries this year – showing the strength and resilience of dedicated staff and their supportive communities.

Literacy Bay of Plenty celebrated their 40th anniversary with their members (and cake! - photos right).

The New Zealand Book Council has launched a #ReadtoSucceed campaign to encourage reading – a number of celebrities answer the question: Why Read?... so as summer approaches it may be time to find a good book or magazine from your local library, or add a title to your wish list...

We wish you and your whānau all the best over the Christmas holidays, ngā mihi ki a koutou...





Driving Success for Cannons Creek Locals

From David Watt, Manager Literacy Aotearoa Porirua

A driver's licence course is creating opportunities for residents in Cannons Creek. Literacy Aotearoa Porirua is providing driver licence tuition and support, having received funding from the Tindall Foundation.

"The lack of a driver licence is a barrier to employment", says course tutor Howard Lukefahr. "You only have to look at the job websites to see that many will require a licence".

The Learner Licence Class is on Wednesday mornings in collaboration with the Cannons Creek Opportunity Centre and Wesley Community Action.

The course meets in the Opportunity Centre's facility on Bedford Court in Cannons Creek. Some of the students have also been staying on after class to become familiar with computers and skills required to gain employment.

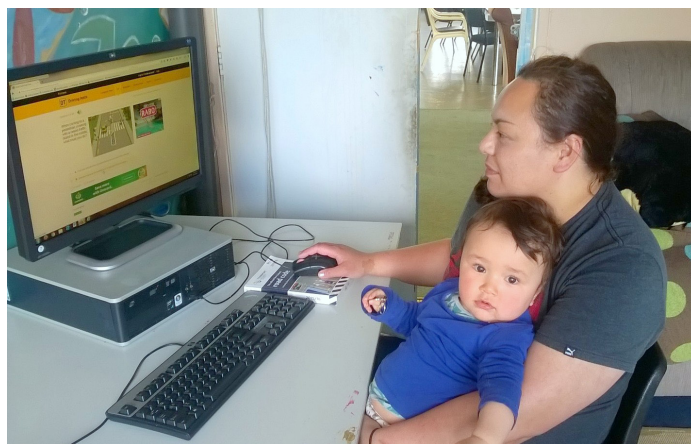
A new class is running on Saturday mornings which will help new migrants recently settled in Porirua and others. This class focuses on English literacy, computer skills and driving-related knowledge. It began on October 14 at the Opportunity Centre and is run in collaboration with the Porirua Union and Community Health Service.

The Tindall Foundation grant is managed by local fund manager Nikau Foundation.

"We are pleased to see people improve their employment prospects through the Learner Licence Class", says Louise Parkin of Nikau Foundation.

"There's a deeper issue we also want to address. Evidence points to unlicensed drivers at risk of fines. If left unpaid this can lead to court appearances and can even escalate to a prison sentence."

"We are pleased that the Nikau Foundation shares the vision of Literacy Aotearoa Porirua. We want the citizens of Porirua to realise their own potential. The Tindall Foundation funding helps us develop new initiatives like working in Cannons Creek as opposed to our usual base in Hartham Place", says David Watt, Manager of Literacy Aotearoa Porirua.



"This year we will deliver between 20-100 hours of free tuition to over 150 adult learners", says Mr Watt. "We also run many computer, maths, and reading and writing, healthy living and learner licence classes. We take a holistic approach with learners. We are helping them to apply for jobs or to find volunteer and training opportunities."

Links:

- <http://www.aa.co.nz/about/aa-research-foundation/programmes/youth-traffic-offences/>
- <https://www.justice.govt.nz/assets/Documents/Publications/young-people-infringement-fines-qualitative-study.pdf>
- About Tindall Foundation: <http://tindall.org.nz/>
- About Nikau Foundation: www.nikaufoundation.org.nz





Kiwi personalities back the book

What do a Shortland St star, three reality TV stars and four media broadcasters have in common? They know how important it is to love reading.

The New Zealand Book Council launched their advocacy campaign #ReadToSucceed on 20 Whiringa ā rangi (November).

"We published research earlier this year that found almost 400,000 Kiwis didn't read a book last year. The increasing demands of society and work mean more than ever New Zealanders need to be able to read to function effectively at work and everyday life.



The #ReadToSucceed campaign is the first of many that the Book Council will run to inspire more Kiwis to read, and to buy and borrow more books," says Book Council Chief Executive Jo Cribb.

From now until Christmas, the Book Council will share how much reading matters. Their Kiwi book ambassadors will help spread the word about where a love of reading can take you. The public will be encouraged to join in as well – they can post photos of themselves reading with friends and whānau online for a chance to win a bookshelf of books for the family home this Christmas.

Here are what the Book Council Kiwi book ambassadors have to say about reading:

Jayden Daniels (Curtis Hannah, Shortland St)

"I'm a huge reader. It's really important in my job – each week I have to read pages and pages of scripts, memorise them, and understand them so I can give the performance that hopefully you will love!"

Gilda Kirkpatrick

"Information is ammunition. Reading helps kids to cope with the challenges that they're going to face in life.

Nigel Latta

"Books are great, they've always been a part of my life – I've always enjoyed reading. Brains love new stuff, and books are full of new stuff! So get a couch and a good book and read."

Heather du Plessis-Allan

"Reading expands your world! It gave me a whole bunch more options."

Hilary Barry

"I think it's one of the most precious times a parent can have with a child, instilling in them a love of books and a love of reading, and just spending incredibly intimate bonding time together. It would be my one word of advice for new parents – read to your kids."

Dom Harvey

"Reading matters a great deal. It's a form of escapism, it's educational, and it increases your knowledge base."

LINKS

- Win a bookshelf of books:
<https://goo.gl/yJmimo>
- #ReadToSucceed ambassador videos:
<https://goo.gl/g6TYRN>
- Book Council reading research
<http://www.bookcouncil.org.nz/programmes/research/>





From the Manager's Desk @ Literacy Waikato

*From the Literacy Waikato newsletter,
by Louise Gaastra, Manager Literacy Waikato*

Another year has sped by, and we are preparing for a summer of rest and relaxation, catching up with friends and odd jobs, and hopefully having long hot days after a long wet winter. Tutors and students need a break after all their hard work.



Recently I attended an excellent conference run by 'Exult' an organisation with the vision statement: "Every non-profit working at their full potential". The conference was very well run, full of practical ideas and information and I felt rejuvenated after it.

While I personally got a lot from the two days, I was struck by the passion and commitment of the not-for-profit sector that were represented there. We do some fantastic work with our students, but we work in only a limited sector. There were volunteers and organisations that work in a multitude of areas – all providing valuable and accessible help for our community. Most of them working with minimal funds, all of them adding to the richness of our life's journey.

I was struck by those who have seen a need and filled it. Not waiting for someone else to take up the slack. I was also struck by the younger people who are getting involved in multiple ways to help and support others. (One of the speakers was Sam Johnson – 'The Student Army' guy). Speakers talked about a shift from the Industrial economy to the Knowledge economy and now to the Human economy. We cannot live in isolation and ignore the difficulties faced by others.

Tutors at Literacy Waikato understand this, so do the people who support us. As we approach the end of the year we are grateful for your support. We appreciate the way in which you let people know about what you do and your notes and emails of support.

An organisation like ours doesn't reach 40 years in the community without support from multiple sources. Thank you. Meri Kirihimete.

Louise

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"So many literacy and numeracy students in our organisation take that moment, they step into being readers, being writers because they are not beginner thinkers, they are just learning to read and to write and in doing that they role model to their children," said Bronwyn.

The third message Bronwyn had was to the government to develop a strategy for how to address those 1.3 million adults so that they can have all of the literacy and numeracy skills they need to feel confident and competent to realise their full potential.

"That is our biggest challenge coming into 2020 and beyond."

Listen to [ZB interview with Te Tumuaki Bronwyn Yates](#) (5/12/17):

RNZ:

[NZ's literacy score drops for first time in 15 years](#)

Stuff:

[International report shows children's literacy suffered under National Standards](#)

NZ Herald editorial:

[Time to take a serious look at our literacy](#)

ODT:

[Record literacy level drop](#)

Goal 1: Te Kōmako

Extending Our Reach:

Goal 2: Te Rito

Focusing on What Matters

Goal 3: He Tāngata

Growing The Demand



Literacy Aotearoa Incorporated

Compass House, Level One, 162 Grafton Road, Grafton, Tāmaki Makaurau Auckland 1010
Postal Address: Private Bag 78800, Grey Lynn, Tāmaki Makaurau Auckland 1245
Phone: (09) 302 0817 Email: admin@literacy.org.nz www.literacy.org.nz