

# Tui Tuia

Newsletter of Literacy Aotearoa

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**Kia ora koutou e ngā tauira, ngā pouako, ngā kaiarahi katoa, tena koutou katoa.**

**Greetings to you all. Ngā mihi o te tau hou, Happy New Year 2011 (MMXI).**

What will 2011 bring? It is the 11<sup>th</sup> year of the 3<sup>rd</sup> millennium and of the 21<sup>st</sup> century; and the 2<sup>nd</sup> of the 2010s decade. The United Nations has designated 2011 the International Year of Forests and International Year of Chemistry (Wikipedia). According to the Chinese calendar, 2011 is the year of the rabbit, 'a placid year, very much welcomed and needed after the ferocious year of the Tiger.'

In 2011, Literacy Aotearoa will continue to focus on meeting the priorities of the Tertiary Education Strategy by delivering and reporting on high quality literacy, language and numeracy programmes (See page 2). In this issue, great outcomes for learners enrolled in our programmes are shared, one from a community-based programme at Literacy North Shore and another from the workplace of Fletcher Construction. These stories will inspire both learners and tutors as we prepare to begin delivery of programmes throughout the country. Online resources and upcoming events feature on the back page.



**Literacy North Shore - A dream come true**

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*An excerpt from Literacy North Shore's newsletter, courtesy Manager Jane Rigby:*

We have been particularly jubilant this month celebrating with a student the successful completion of all requirements necessary to join the police force. Lasela approached our organisation in 2008 with a dream to become a policewoman. She had already passed the physical test but unfortunately was not so successful in the literacy or numeracy arena.

Since 2008 Lasela has worked with five tutors either in a one-on-one or group situation, determined to not give up on her goal. Last year saw her passing the literacy component and she was able to concentrate this year on numeracy. Working with a numeracy specialist, Lasela continued to work hard and finally sat her test in early November. We were overjoyed when her texts started coming through telling us all that she had passed! Her dream is fast becoming a reality although she still has a few more steps to take before she will hear that she can start her police training!

A celebration with flowers and champagne marked her amazing journey and she has promised to come back again when she is on the beat and show us how good she looks in blue! It is stories like this that keep us focused and grounded despite the uncertainty that seems to always surround funding.

To all our tutors and to the staff who support the work that is done, thank you. You are an amazing team and your effort and energy is greatly appreciated.



*Lasela (holding champagne) with tutors (from left to right):*

*Sandy Latimer, Maggie Bell-Booth, Dee Searby  
& Helen Thorn*





*Adapted from Kōkiri! Hakihea (December) 2010*

In 2011, Literacy Aotearoa will be meeting the priorities of the Tertiary Education Strategy (TES).

Literacy Aotearoa intends, particularly through its delivery of qualifications at Level 5, but at times also through its delivery of literacy, language and numeracy programmes:

- To enable students to complete high quality qualifications that lead to employment or higher level education, through the ILN and Workplace Literacy Employee Targeted programmes;
- To deliver tailored learning opportunities, such as marae and iwi-based provision, and in Pasifika learning environments;
- To provide specialised literacy tutor qualifications and training, through the delivery of CALT (Level 5) and NCALE (Level 5).

Literacy Aotearoa intends through its delivery of literacy, language and numeracy programmes:

- To engage learners who have not been well served by education in the past;
- To improve literacy, language and numeracy skills for individuals and whānau;
- To contribute to the overall cohesiveness of the community.

As the proposed government funding reductions take effect in the coming financial years, the onus will remain on all of us to ensure that the achievements made by learners around the country are well reported and therefore highly visible.

In 2011, Literacy Aotearoa will provide professional development to ensure Ngā Poupuu governing bodies, managers and tutors are well equipped to plan, deliver and report to a high standard. Further development of the database and an organisational intranet will support Poupuu in this regard through increased communication and monitoring capability both within Poupuu and between Poupuu and National Office.

**Follow-up workshops for the governing bodies** of the 45 Poupuu on engagement with Māori and Pasifika communities, achievement of TEC priorities, and TEC funding criteria for 2013, will take place (Initial workshops were carried out in 2010).

Further **professional development** will be provided to **all Poupuu** to extend the current levels of knowledge and proficiencies of the Learning Progressions and the Assessment Tool to the tutor pool of over 1000 tutors.

At the **National Office**, additional capacity will be provided to improve achievement levels for Māori and Pasifika at higher levels, and also to improve reporting performance to TEC and other major stakeholders.



*A note from Nellie Garthwaite, Manager of Southern Adult Literacy:*



**Southern Adult Literacy** has recently shifted premises to 41 Leet Street, Invercargill. We held a low key opening and Christmas party on December 13<sup>th</sup> for students, tutors and stakeholders.

Everyone enjoyed drinks and nibbles and Ann Boyles (Chairman) and Lesley Pay (first Coordinator in 1978) cut the Christmas cake.



Our ILN group 'Advancing Women' created and painted a piece of artwork for our new Centre.





*This article was submitted by Jacqui Gibson, Skills Highway Team, Department of Labour.*

The Fletcher Construction Company is boosting the quality of a major Auckland infrastructure project – and the skills of the staff involved - with workplace literacy training provided by Literacy Aotearoa.

Fletcher Construction runs a 12-week course called BOOST on basic reading, writing, maths and communication twice a year. The company set up literacy training three years ago to help employees get unit standards, become more competent at work and move up the company ladder to leadership positions.

General Manager, Engineering, Graham Darlow is a keen supporter of Fletcher's literacy training.



*Fletcher Construction General Manager, Engineering, Graham Darlow*

"We knew we had a whole lot of fantastic people working for us, who potentially could be promoted to leading hands, foremen and superintendents. But their lack of education meant they would probably never make it," Mr Darlow says.

"To get things built, you need teams of people. For teams to operate in an efficient way, they have to be well led. Leaders, in turn, must be able to plan and organise."

"We find team leadership is best done by people who have come 'off the tools'. But if you can't fill out a supervisor's form or you can't multiply, add, subtract and divide then you're never going to be more than a labourer," he says.

In 2010, 29 workers from a number of projects took part in Literacy Aotearoa programmes, run on-site in work time. They were carpenters, labourers, supervisors, crane operators, leading hands and team leaders.

"Training has been great for this team – beyond improving their reading, writing and maths skills. It has improved their confidence, self-esteem and effectiveness as leaders. On important regional infrastructure projects like this one, we need people with high self-esteem and confidence. It helps them operate efficiently, take responsibility and be accountable," Mr Darlow says.

*Q: How has BOOST helped you?*

*A: My maths has improved heaps. Every week I learned quick easy ways to solve real-life maths problems. I've learned how to calculate the volume of concrete I need for a certain area. I've even cracked trigonometry.*



*Fletcher Construction  
Apprentice Carpenter  
Ryan Munro*

*Q: What's work like now?*

*A: I'm much faster and I don't ask others for help as much as I used to. If I've got a maths problem I use a pencil and a piece of wood to figure it out instead of reaching for the calculator on my phone.*

*Q: What about life outside work?*

*A: I'm using my new skills a lot. I worked out how much money I needed to spend on petrol to get from Auckland to Dargaville recently. It's been great for improving my darts game too.*

In June 2010, the Department of Labour launched a new website with advice, tools, case studies and tips on workplace literacy training.

To read more case studies on literacy training, go to: [www.skillshighway.govt.nz/ind](http://www.skillshighway.govt.nz/ind) (click on the **case studies** link).

Encourage others to follow Fletcher's lead by suggesting they take the [online Skills Gap Indicator test](#).



**ACEnet Resources (NZ)**

'ACEnet Resource of the Week' is an email sent out each week by Tai Samaeli of ACE Aotearoa. Links are provided to resources relevant to adult learners and educators. If you want to sign up to this weekly email, contact: [tai.samaeli@aceaotearoa.org.nz](mailto:tai.samaeli@aceaotearoa.org.nz)

One resource highlighted recently is below.

**30 things we know for sure about adult learning.**

Ron and Susan Zemke compiled this list in 1984, but it is as relevant today as it was when it was first presented. When Ron Zemke died in 2004, the Minneapolis Star Tribune claimed that he "transformed customer service in the United States". He did this through following the principles described in this resource:

<http://honolulu.hawaii.edu/intranet/committees/FacDevCom/guidebk/teachtip/adults-3.htm>

**Literacy Aotearoa Website (NZ)**

To access Ngā Poupuu websites or to read Ngā Poupuu newsletters from around the country click on the following link:

<http://www.literacy.org.nz/links.php> or go to [www.literacy.org.nz](http://www.literacy.org.nz) and click on the **Literacy Services** button, then click on **Links** in the menu bar on the left.

**Upcoming Events 2011**

Literacy Aotearoa Ngā Poupuu Managers' Hui

1-2 Poutu te rangi (March) 2011, Auckland

Hui / Fono for Māori and Pasifika practitioners in ACE

9-11 Poutu te rangi (March) 2011, Auckland.

Theme: E is for Everything

Email: [huifono@aceaotearoa.org.nz](mailto:huifono@aceaotearoa.org.nz)

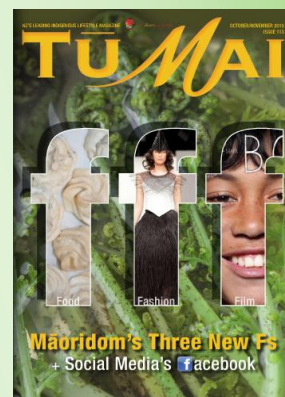


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**Tu Mai – E-magazine (NZ)**

Click on the link below to read this magazine. In this, the first e-edition of the magazine there is 'something for everyone':

*'Three new F's for Maoridom highlight our forward-looking stories. Building on the existing Farming, Fishing and Forestry industries - Fashion, Film and Food (not necessarily in that order) roll out as new areas of Maori participation and success.'*

The contents page, shown below, is bright and inviting and almost text free. Only page numbers are shown. [http://www.ebookonline.co.nz/tumai/tumai\\_magazine/](http://www.ebookonline.co.nz/tumai/tumai_magazine/)

Hot off the press, or hot on the web: [http://www.ebookonline.co.nz/tumai/tumai\\_114\\_decjan2011/](http://www.ebookonline.co.nz/tumai/tumai_114_decjan2011/)

