

Tui Tuia

Newsletter of Literacy Aotearoa

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Kia ora koutou e ngā tauira, ngā pouako, ngā kaiarahi katoa, tēnā koutou katoa. Greetings to you all.

In this issue, personnel from Ngā Poupou (our member providers) and the national office have been 'Walking the Talk', at Ngā Hui Heke, the three annual regional hui. Presentations and discussion focussed on quality in literacy provision at all levels of the organisation as we work towards the goal of delivering services to 100,000 New Zealanders. Examples of this commitment are demonstrated in a story featuring learners in a Parental and Life Skills course in Nelson, and in Feilding tutors show 2 x 20 years of dedication.

"Literacy is listening, speaking, reading, writing, numeracy and critical thinking, interwoven with the knowledge of social and cultural practices. Literacy empowers people to contribute to and improve society"



Ngā Hui Heke o Literacy Aotearoa - Kaupapa - Walking the Talk

The three regional hui for Literacy Aotearoa took place throughout the month of Haratua (May) in Whangarei, Wellington and Nelson. The agenda for Day One of each hui focussed on the need for national and local alignment of the organisation in pursuit of our Vision, Mission and ratified Strategic Direction.

The challenge was put that if the entire organisation were to operate plans consistent with the national plan at the same time, the impact could be tremendous, and the collective effect of its implementation may have potential beyond anything we have seen in the past. The implementation process has begun. Those Poupou that participated in the Managers' Hui (1-2/03/12) updated the membership and reported back on the first 90 days of their project plans, instigated in Poutū te rangi (March).

Discussion focussed on sub-regional development and gathering ideas on how Literacy Aotearoa can be reorganised as an organisation to achieve the



Te Hui Heke 3 – Personnel from Region 3 Poupou attend the Regional Hui at Fairfield House, Nelson

vision of all New Zealanders to be critically literate and confident in the use of English, Te Reo Māori and New Zealand Sign Language by 2020. The slide presentation from this session is available to members on our website and includes feedback collated from each of the regional hui.

In addition, presentations on the first day analysed the finances and achievements of 2011, including services to 7,993 students with a total of 373,491 delivery hours.





Ngā Hui Heke continued...

The External Evaluation and Review of each Poupou was also discussed. The EER will highlight achievements and include practical recommendations and plans for action to support the continual growth in capability and capacity of Te Poupou. Self-review documentation will be distributed shortly to each Poupou to assist in preparation for External Evaluation Reviews.

Exciting new projects for this year include contracts with Te Puni Kōkiri (young Māori mothers in Waikato and Gisborne) and Active Physio (in the North Island).

The hui for Regions One and Three continued for a second day providing professional development opportunities for all participants.

Te Hui Heke Tuatahi, Region One was hosted by Literacy Whangarei, at Pehiaweri Marae, Glenbervie, Whangarei. Their workshop sessions included: Remote tuition via linked computers; a Language game with Bill Gates; MS Office 10 – new features to streamline workflows (Outlook, Word, Excel); and producing Student publications.

Te Hui Heke Tuarua, Region Two was a one day hui held at the Brentwood Hotel, Kilbirnie, Wellington, hosted by the Literacy Aotearoa National Office.

The election for the Tauwi Te Kōruru representative was held and Ian Miller of Taranaki Adult Learning Services was re-elected.

Te Hui Heke Tuatoru, Region Three was hosted by Adult Learning Support (Nelson) at Fairfield House in Nelson. Their workshop sessions included: Brain and Body; Digitally Supported Learning; “I’m sorry but...”: Exploring the impact of language choices; Database for beginners; Setting goals and direction with your students each session and keeping them engaged; Spelling Strategies; and Excel in Excel.



A Lifetime with Literacy Feilding

A celebration of dedication and commitment took place at Literacy Feilding recently.

Jill Taylor and Trevor Holtham were each awarded Lifetime Membership of Literacy Feilding after 20 years of service in a range of roles from tutor to governance committee positions.

Both Jill and Trevor continue to share their skills and expertise at Literacy Feilding and numerous other organisations in Feilding.



Ruth Dalzell, Manager of Literacy Feilding, says it is people like Jill and Trevor, who through their commitment to volunteering in our communities keep New Zealand running.



Parental and life skills course participants from the Parental and Life Skills Course at Adult Learning Support, Nelson – see the story on page 3.



Young Nelson mums benefit from real-life skills course - ALS Nelson walking the talk

With thanks to Cameron Forbes, Manager Adult Learning Support for this article.

Five young Nelson mothers are this week completing a free “Parental and Life Skills” course, hosted by Adult Learning Support (ALS) Nelson.

Over the last nine weeks for three days a week the mums, who are aged between 18 and 26, have been learning a wide variety of parenting skills including cooking, goal setting, budgeting, CV and work preparation, crafts, household repairs, health and exercise.

Cameron Forbes, manager at ALS, says the course came about when they identified a ‘real life’ education gap for young mothers. “Young women of this age need life skills first, qualifications second. The aim is to give these mums the tools they need to make good decisions in their new role as parents,” he says.

“With the current government’s focus on getting women off the Domestic Purposes Benefit, it’s easy to forget that people need basic skills before they can go forward. Some of these women have barely ventured outside their homes since having their babies, so they need to raise their self esteem, develop new skills and reconnect with society.”



Girls can do anything! Teamwork and installing a spare tyre.

Feedback from the women themselves supports this: “When you’re a young mum, you get stereotyped. Then you come to this course and people see you’re not like that; we can learn, we are worthwhile”, says Melissa Fairbrother. Mary Jean Orr agrees: “This course has made us care more about ourselves as well as our kids, and it’s great to have to get up in the morning and get motivated”.

“This is the third time this course has been held”, says Cameron. “We’ve seen some great outcomes from each, with one development being that learners from previous courses have returned to contribute to the current one. They set a great example for the current participants. The course has gained a very good reputation in the community and we will be running the next one in September.”



Cooking time: the focus is on affordable, nutritious food.



Learning happens! The distraction of toddlers doesn’t stop lessons, this one on how to change a tyre.



Mums aren’t the only ones learning! This little one gets into the spirit of the course.

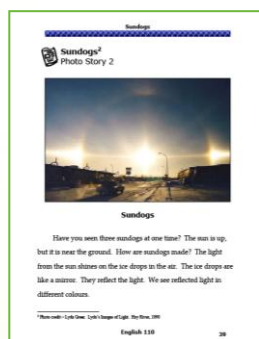


<http://www.nwt.literacy.ca/>

The Northwest Territories Literacy Council website is filled with resources and links on adult and family literacy, adult education, plain English and much more.

Scroll through the '[adult literacy and essential skills](#)' resources for some great ideas and a list of '[high interest low vocabulary](#)' books.

The **English 110:**
Five Photo Stories
resource (stories and learning activities for beginner readers) provides an excellent model of student centred resource development.



The stories each have one photo and contain between 16 and 60 words.

A range of activities is included that look at sentence patterns, word tracking, word order, sequencing, writing, punctuation, learning vowel sounds and extending learning.

Adapt the resources by using a photo and story of something relevant to learners in your area.

Upcoming Events

There are many conferences in the month of Pipiri (June) 2012. For more info go to:

<http://www.literacy.org.nz/calendar.php>



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'*Secrets and Words*' is a contemporary drama of five stand-alone BBC television episodes, with the common theme of adult literacy.

Each episode features adult characters facing some degree of difficulty in reading and writing. The dramas explore the day-to-day struggles the characters face and the impact that keeping it a secret has on their relationships, friendships, jobs and parenting.

The programmes can be viewed on You Tube and are saved as 3x15 minute segments per episode. Enter: 'Secrets and Words' and 'episode' and the number.

1. **Love Letters** – a man discovers love letters in his wife's wardrobe but can't read them.
2. **Help me if you can** – a woman struggles to read prescriptions and is terrified when a man collapses.
3. **A Study in Time** – a trainee teacher loses his ability to read and write following a tragic accident.
4. **The Crossing** – explores the unlikely friendship between lollipop (pedestrian crossing) lady, Kathleen, and 10-year-old Megan.
5. **Mightier than the Sword** – a woman is keen to improve her reading and writing skills in adult literacy classes but her partner doesn't want things to change.

For more information about the series, go to:
http://www.bbc.co.uk/mediacentre/proginfo/2012/13/secrets_and_words.html