



TCAL Newsletter – April 2016

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To renew your TCAL membership go to:
<http://tcal.org.au/join-online>

1) News from the TCAL Management Committee

Welcome to TCAL 2016

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome back the returning committee members – Michael Christie, Lucy Whitehead, Sian Midgley, Harry Atkinson, Hugh Fielding, Jenny Seaton and Janet Parsell. Welcome also to new committee members - Monica Wiggins, Jennifer Dunbabin, Robeka Somers, Anita Planchon, and Annette Griffin. A huge thank you to those elected in their new positions. Also, a big thank you to Chris Oriel and Tim Polegaj who have stepped down from the committee this year to pursue other interests. On behalf of TCAL, I would like to wish them well in their ventures.

We are all looking forward to a bright 2016 with a newly invigorated TCAL team. We are already getting off to a great start with Harry managing this first newsletter of the year and the website subcommittee organising a newly built website. TCAL, as the peak body for literacy practitioners in Tasmania in 2016, will aim to further relationships within the LLN field for the benefit of all Tasmanians. As you will see in this newsletter, there is plenty on offer.

I would also encourage you all to renew your TCAL membership for 2016, or become a member for the first time <http://tcal.org.au/join-online>. **TCAL is a not-for-profit organisation**, entirely run by volunteers and depends on membership contribution to continue its great work. Thanks for your support!

Deborah Stroh-Reilly
President TCAL

Annual General Meeting

The TCAL Annual General Meeting was held on Saturday, 19th of March 2016 at the Tarooma Cottage. The following is the list of the newly elected Management Committee for 2016.

President -Deborah Stroh-Reilly
Vice President - Lucy Whitehead
Secretary and Public Officer - Sian Midgley
Treasurer - Michael Christie
ACAL Representative - Annette Griffin
Management Committee - Harry Atkinson, Hugh Fielding, Jenny Seaton, Janet Parsell, Monica Wiggins, Jennifer Dunbabin, Robeka Somers, Anita Planchon.

New TCAL Website – www.tcal.org.au

Exciting things are happening... TCAL have enlisted a designer to upgrade the existing TCAL website. The construction has commenced, the newly created website should be finished and online in the next couple of months. Watch this space...

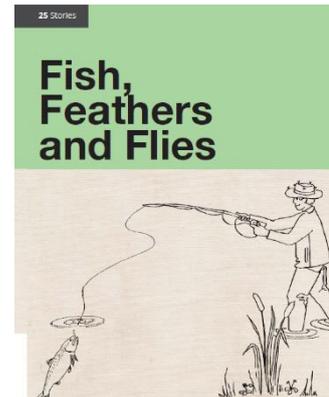
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25 Stories - New Resource for adult learners

During the late 1980s and early 1990s, the Adult Literacy and Basic Education (ALBE) Resources Unit in Devonport, Tasmania, published over 50 stories that had been written by learners as part of their literacy learning program. The writers were closely involved in the production of their stories, with the understanding that the resources would be made available for other learners, teachers and tutors. Since their initial publication there has been continuing interest in these stories. They contain relevant content and appropriate reading levels for adult learners. They are widely used by individuals and organisations across Australia as reading resources and as models for writing.

25 Stories is a selection of those works that have been recently republished and available free for download.

The books are now complete, and will soon be made available to download from the TCAL Website www.tcal.org.au



Namaste Book Series 2 - Additional Resource for adult learners

TCAL was successful in obtaining a grant from 26TEN to auspice and work alongside Keiron Galloway – co-author and illustrator of the second series of the Namaste books. The first series was about three women seeking asylum in Australia, while the second series continues with three men telling their stories of fleeing their homeland under dangerous circumstances, living in limbo, and leaving everything behind for a new life in Tasmania. The stories are deeply moving, with the themes of family, community, freedom and independence. All the protagonists emphasise education and life skills as necessary for creating fulfilling and autonomous lives and write about the great sacrifices they made in achieving these skills.

The Hon Elise Archer MP, Speaker of the House of Assembly and Liberal Member for Denison, attended the second series book launch which was well attended, with Isaiah Lahai giving a moving presentation about his life as a refugee and then being welcomed to Tasmania.

There has been great interest from across Tasmania and the mainland in using these books as a literacy teaching resource as they have been written in simple, plain English.

The books also will soon be made available to download from the TCAL Website www.tcal.org.au



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2) Plain English Competition

Building plain English skills in Tasmania

26TEN has a goal that all Tasmanians [communicate clearly](#) which is why we are working with our network of members and supporters to build plain English skills.

26TEN supporters have a chance to build skills by winning a place on a two-day plain English workshop run by the [Plain English Foundation](#) on behalf of 26TEN. If you are not already a supporter [please sign up](#) to enter.

This inspiring and comprehensive course gives you practical tools for structuring and writing work documents such as emails, newsletters, procedures and reports.

Previous participants have said:

- “This feels like the best value 2-day training I have ever attended. Way above my expectations”
- “Incredibly valuable. Applicable tools plus practice”
- “I will use all of what I've learned. Time really well spent.”

About the competition:

- It is open to [26TEN supporters](#)
- The workshop will be held in Hobart 5-6 May 2016 and focuses on writing for business eg correspondence, newsletters, procedures and policies
- There are two places available and government employees may enter
- The competition closes at 5 pm Friday 8 April 2016
- Winners will be randomly selected and notified on Thursday 14 April
- The places are valued at over \$1000 each.

To enter, please: [REGISTER NOW](#).

If you have any questions, please email@26ten.tas.gov.au

or call Allison Mitchell on 6165 5512.

3) Australian Training Awards - Excellence in Language, Literacy and Numeracy Practice Award

Let's publicise and share this widely – it would be wonderful for us to have a Tasmanian winner.

Applications close on 31 May 2016

This is a direct application award, and includes self-nomination. Also, you don't have to be delivering accredited training

<http://www.australiantrainingawards.gov.au/award/excellence-in-language-literacy-and-numeracy-practice-award>

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4) 26TEN News

Planning leads to action for 26TEN

26TEN has made great progress since the launch of [26TEN Tasmania: Tasmania's strategy for adult literacy and numeracy](#) last October. In the Strategy we outlined our long-term goals for the next ten years and turned them into a [2-year action plan](#).

Part of the strategy was to expand the 26TEN Coalition and it has now met twice since the launch with Daryl Quilliam, Mayor of Circular Head leading the way as Chair. He is determined to lift literacy and numeracy in Tasmania, especially in his own community and has already been a great advocate for 26TEN. Each Coalition member has been working on their sector plan and consulting widely in their own area of expertise.

Jo Crothers represents practitioners on the Coalition. Over the past 35 years, Jo has been active as a leader, mentor, teacher, coordinator and volunteer tutor in the field of adult literacy and vocational education and training. She is advising on the next stage of development of the workforce plan for adult literacy practitioners in Tasmania.



Jo Crothers

Professional Development for Practitioners

Workshops

This year 26TEN is running a series of three professional development workshops: in Hobart on 24 - 26 May and in Devonport on 11 – 13 October. Jenni Oldfield, from JOConsultancy, will deliver the workshops.

Day 1 will cover an introduction to the Australian Core Skills Framework (ACSF) for those who haven't encountered the framework before. Come along and discover what the ACSF is and how it can be used to identify a learner's skills, to identify the requirements of training, and to plan learning programs and the skill development of learners.

Day 2 will focus on developing more advanced skills to use the ACSF for assessment, to develop an assessment task, for making judgements about a learner's skill levels, for planning program delivery and for reporting.

Day 3 will focus on foundation skills in the workplace. The workshop will cover how to go about working with employers, how to design a program to suit a workplace need, and the types of skills and knowledge trainers need to work in a vocational setting.

To renew your TCAL membership go to:
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Practitioners are invited to select the workshop or workshops that best suit their professional development needs.

ACSF Validation and Moderation

As well, 26TEN and LINC Tasmania are running six ACSF validation and moderation sessions. The next is on Tuesday 26 April.



Hard at work at one of last year's workshops

PD Register

Sign up to our professional development register [available on the 26TEN website](#) to make sure you don't miss out on that perfect training for you.

A summary of activity since the launch of the 26TEN Tasmania Strategy

Since October 2015 the 26TEN network has:

- nine new members (organisations) and 122 new supporters (individuals)
- established a health literacy supporters network with the Department of Health and Human Services and University of Tasmania
- held eight literacy awareness workshops and 12 plain English workshops
- run two professional development workshops for literacy practitioners
- been active on social media, increasing the number of likes on our Facebook page from 550 to 619
- managed community and employer grants with 15 applications received
- supported two new 26TEN Communities, Huon Valley and Derwent Valley

Let us know if you would like to know more of any of our activities or sign up your organisation as member or yourself as a supporter.

Contribution by Jennifer Dunbabin - Services Coordinator – 26TEN



A big thanks to our heroes, at the launch

5) RAPAL and ACAL - Stories of Resilience

Learner stories

The UK's RaPAL (Research and Practice in Adult Literacies) and Australia's ACAL (the Australian Council for Adult Literacy), are working on a joint publication of adult literacies learners' stories, with support from our respective Adult Learners Weeks.

To renew your TCAL membership go to:
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We are seeking learner stories (tale, cartoon, story, poem, images, multimedia audio or video... we don't mind!) of their experiences of learning English, maths and ICT as adults and in what ways this adult learning supports them to improve their quality of life.

It would be great to have some Tasmanian stories included, but there's not a lot of time - the final deadline is 30th April 2016 for publication in mid-2016.

More details, including about submitting stories, on <https://rapal.org.uk/resilience/>

6) Adult Literacy Research and Resources

There are many organisations with websites dedicated to the publication and dissemination of research and resources developed as a result of the research undertaken in the adult and family literacy field. Here are just a few.

- In Australia the National Centre for Vocational Education Research (NCVER) funded a number of research projects. [The reports](#) developed from these projects examine a wide range of literacy and numeracy issues such as evidenced based teaching and learning strategies, to the professional development needs of literacy practitioners.
- Better Beginnings in Western Australia also feature a [research page](#) on their website which shows learning to read is one of the most important factors in school and life success and that an early exposure to books and stories substantially contributes to success in early literacy.
- In the UK the National Research and Development Centre for adult literacy, language and numeracy (NRDC) was established by the UK government in 2002 as part of its Skills for Life strategy that aimed to improve the literacy, numeracy and language skills of adults in England. [On this website](#) you will find over 150 publications produced by NRDC since then, including research reports, research reviews and policy analysis.
- In Canada the National Centre for the Study of Adult Learning and Literacy (NCSALL) was a federally funded research and development center focused solely on adult learning. NCSALL offered an accessible, timely, and valuable source of pertinent information for the field of adult literacy education. [All materials are available to download.](#)
- In the US the National Institute for Literacy (NIFL) was created to provide national leadership on adult literacy through improved communication and information exchange. The Literacy Information and Communication System (LINCS) [Resource Collection](#) provides free online access to high-quality, evidence-based, vetted materials for use by adult educators.
- Since the 1980s the national Adult Literacy Agency (NALA) in Ireland has worked continuously in partnership with government departments, organisations, tutors and learners to build an understanding of good practice in the delivery of adult literacy services. NALA provides access to [research and resources](#) which practitioners will find useful.

Contributed by Hugh Fielding, Senior Literacy Co-ordinator LINC Tasmania

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7) Further Adult Literacy Resources

Facebook – ‘FS Teach’ <http://bit.ly/FS TeachGroup>

Jo Hart (WA) who is part of the National Foundation Skills Strategy (NFSS) Project Community of Practice started it. It has lots of interesting posts, ideas and information for foundation skills practice. This is a closed site, so those interested need to request to join.

Blog - llnandvetmeetingplace.wordpress.com

They don't post very often, perhaps once a month, but when they do it can be useful information for those working in Vocational Education and Training (VET) and LLN.

Contributed by Monica Wiggins, Director Avidity Training and Development

8) Learner profile

“I worked as a leading hand and machine operator for nine years before being made redundant... back then it was different; but these days you need computer skills for work”

Glen signed up for the ‘Into Work Know How’ program because he knew he needed to develop computer skills to get back to work.

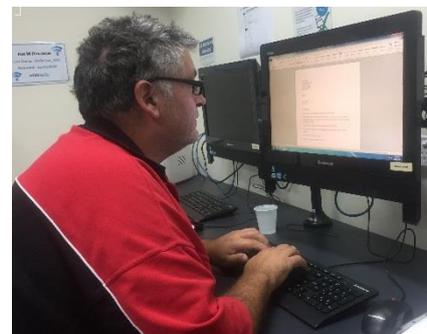
When training commenced, Glen started from scratch, initially he learnt how to turn the computer on, to use the mouse and keyboard and open files and documents.

As training progressed, Glen's skills improved. Glen can now search for jobs online, write and receive emails, find local business addresses and use maps to get directions.

With newly gained computer skills and confidence, Glen's recently commenced work within a warehouse for two days per week.

The ‘Into Work Know How’ program provided by Work & Training delivers free, one-on-one literacy and ICT skills support for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in the Northern suburbs of Hobart. The main aim of the program is to provide support with the skills to transition into sustained employment.

Contributed by Harry Atkinson, Literacy and Numeracy programs Manager at Work & Training.



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9) Stop Press – New TAELLN Workshops

LINC Tasmania is running workshops in 2016 to be delivered by Philippa McLean, under the auspices of TAFE South Australia, for three units that are counted as part of the Graduate Certificate in Adult LLN Practice.

Three one day workshops will be held on the following dates;

Wednesday 11th May

[TAELLN501B - Support the development of adult language, literacy and numeracy skills](#)

Wednesday 27th July

[TAELLN805 – Design and conduct pre training assessment of adult language, literacy and numeracy skills](#)

Wednesday 9th November

[TAELLN815 – Develop strategy for adult language, literacy and numeracy skill development in a community program](#)

26TEN/LINC Tasmania will subsidise 5 places to this training for external practitioners at a cost to them of \$300 per person. (First come first serve)

Contact Jenifer Dunbabin 03 6165 6064 for further information.

10) TCAL Contact Details

There is a range of ways to contact TCAL

Email - tcalmanagecomm@gmail.com

Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/tasmanianCAL>

Post - PO Box 818/ SANDY BAY/ TAS 7006

Web – www.tcal.org.au

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