

Newsletter April 2013

Welcome & Overview of 2012

Welcome to the first 2013 TCAL newsletter. We had a great year in 2012. I will take this opportunity to provide members with an overview of the AGM and planning session in Ross on 9 February. This is especially relevant for those of you that could not attend the day.

The AGM started with the President's report detailing many of 2012's successes. While space here does not allow me to provide all details, a nutshell version includes:

- Re-establishing the TCAL newsletter
- Holding community of practice events in the South and the North West
- Receiving a grant from Skills Tasmania to implement the Steps and Stories project that resulted in the Steps and Stories publication in both hard copy and a PDF on the TCAL website, it contains nine stories from Tasmanians about how they improved their reading, writing, communication, learning and math skills, if you haven't read it then I suggest that you do
- Receiving a Volunteer Grant from the Australian Government, Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs
- Commencing the review of the TCAL Constitution, and
- Hosting the successful 2012 ACAL Conference.

2012 Management Committee was thanked and all positions vacated. Thank you Jenni Anderson as 2012 President, Liz Webster and Trish Hopwood-Wade as Vice Presidents, Michael Christie as Secretary and Public Officer, Jo Carswell as Treasurer. Other Management Committee members also received a thank you including John Tucker, John Kelly, Valda Jennings, Chris Oriel, Harry Atkinson, Jen Dunbabin, Gail Wilson, Elizabeth Delaney and Renate Hughes.

The 'woo-hoo' thank you went to the 2012 ACAL Conference Sub-committee including Jenni Anderson as President, Valda Jennings as Chair, Janet Parsell as Liaison with Hotel Grand Chancellor, Jo Carswell as Minute Taker, Michael Christie, Liz Webster, Heather Jones, Trish Hopwood-Wade and Wendy Stothers.

Next was the Treasurer's report detailing the annual financial statement. Phew, what a year!

The new Office Bearers and Management Committee were elected including Valda Jennings as President, John Tucker as Vice President, Michael Christie as Secretary and Public Officer, Harry Atkinson as Treasurer, Jo Carswell, Liz Webster, Hugh Fielding, Heather Jones, Janet Parsell, Chris Oriel, Jenny Seaton and Cheryl Smeed.

Later, Dick Adams MP, as TCAL's Patron, was present during the constitution review. Dick commended the committee for solid contributions to a plain English version of the draft constitution as well as the ability to reach swift and effective decisions. On a final note, a workshop in the afternoon established a list of tasks and topics to be undertaken throughout the coming year. This list is now informing TCAL 2013 Operational Plan.



Where to in 2013?

The operational plan aims to set the direction for TCAL in 2013. It includes topics and tasks such as:

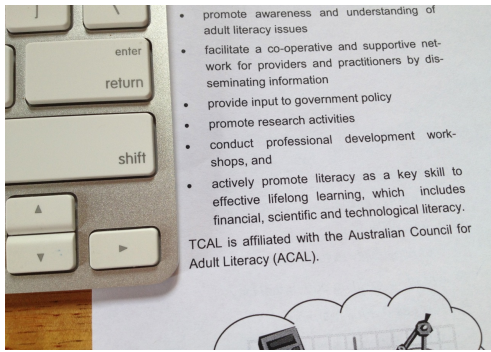
- Expanding the communities of practice
- Planning the 2013 TCAL state conference
- Passing the reviewed constitution and developing a policy and procedure manual
- Advocating for adult literacy and developing media campaigns
- Applying for grants and funding
- Developing partnerships, and
- Maintaining the website and increasing online presence.

Stay tuned to the TCAL website and the next newsletter for more on these topics. In the meantime, as members, please feel free to put your hand up to help out. We are confident that we have many members with skills sets appropriate to the above tasks.

Facebook

TCAL now has a Facebook page and you are welcome to add value. To begin, please like the page. All Facebook pages need at least 30 likes in order for the administrators to see insights and analyses. Go to <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Tasmanian-Council-for-Adult-Literacy-TCAL/377881692325020>

The link to the Facebook page is also up on the TCAL website <http://tcal.org.au>



Events

Skills Tasmania Conference is on 20 to 21 May at the Wrest Point Casino. See <http://www.skills.tas.gov.au/skillstas/events/conference> Skills Tasmania is bringing **Bob Boughton** back to Tasmania for their conference.

Bob will also be presenting to TCAL members and other interested parties on **Wednesday 22 May, 5:30 to 8:00 PM**. Add this date and time to your calendar or diary. The topic is **Popular Education and Communities of Practice**. You are welcome to attend this event. It will be free to TCAL members. A poster will go up on the website once a venue is arranged. We look forward to seeing you there.

Additionally, Bob will be presenting to 26TEN members during the day on Wednesday 22 May.

The Australian Core Skills Framework (ACSF) validation and moderation workshops are up and running. The first workshop for 2013 was held on 27 March and the next workshop is on 15 May. See <http://acsfmoderation-validation.adultliteracyportaltasmania.wikispaces.net/About>

Grants and Funding

The Australian Government, Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs (DFAHCSIA) Volunteer Grants 2013 closes on 24 April. See <http://www.fahcsia.gov.au/our-responsibilities/communities-and-vulnerable-people/programs-services/volunteer-grants>

The 26TEN Grants Program closes on 30 April . The 26TEN grants aim to increase the core skills levels of people in the workplace and communities to build a culture of life-long learning, making it easier for employees and community groups to access literacy support. See <http://www.linc.tas.gov.au/26ten/news>

The Tasmanian Community Fund Grant Round 26 closed in February and March. Grant Round 27 will open in August. See

ACAL Update

The call for presentations for the 2013 ACAL Conference opened in March. Local Practices, Global Contexts is on from September 30 to

October 2 and is hosted by the NSW Adult Literacy and Numeracy Council. For more information <http://www.acal.edu.au/13conf/call.htm>

State Council for Adult Literacy updates include:

- The Northern Territory Chapter of ACAL has reformed and invited Siobhan Gaskell to talk to them about 26TEN on behalf of LINC Tasmania. See http://www.artsandmuseums.nt.gov.au/northern-territory-library/news/past_events#.UWNT-7-eoyE
- Western Australian Adult Literacy Council (WAALC) state conference 18 to 19 July 2013, 'Getting back to our roots: Literacy for empowerment', <http://www.waalc.org.au/13conf/index.htm>
- Queensland Council for Adult Literacy (QCAL) in partnership with the Queensland Association of Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages (QATESOL) state conference 25 to 26 May, 'Exchanging Ideas - old and new, large and small', <http://www.qcal.org.au/index.php> and
- Victorian Adult Literacy and Basic Education Council (VALBEC) state conference 17 May, 'Literacies in a diverse world', <http://www.valbec.org.au> .



To contact TCAL with news or resources that you would like to share in the next newsletter, email tcalmanagecomm@gmail.com or post to TCAL, PO Box 818, Sandy Bay TAS 7006. News and resources may be a great website that you have stumbled upon, good practice teaching or tutoring tools, an engaging book that you've read, successful events or workshops ... and so on. Of course these would be relevant to adult literacy practices.