



ESOL Home Tutors (Nelson/Marlborough)

Tutor Newsletter

July 2008

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Please tell your learner of the events and news in this newsletter that would interest him/her.

Happy Matariki

I hope you are all well. I know there seem to be a lot of bugs and things going round at the moment, so I hope you are managing to avoid the worst of them.

Well the conference has come and gone. More about that elsewhere in this newsletter, but I think the conference was a great success – we certainly got lots of positive feedback from all over NZ! Nelson, its weather and the shopping near at hand also received positive comments! I do want to acknowledge the wonderful work done by Louise Pemberton in particular and by Brian our chairman, the committee and other helpers as well for all their splendid efforts. Louise was our local Conference Organiser, so she had to liaise with National Office, the hotel, the sponsors, the lighting and sound people, etc.etc.etc to make sure everything ran smoothly. And it did (run smoothly, that is) so full marks to her – and she seemed so calm!

It was wonderful to see about 30 people from our Nelson and Marlborough schemes at the conference – tutors and learners - and from what I have heard they got a lot out of it too. Apart from the workshops etc it is great to be able to meet others in the same field and to get an idea of how our organisation works at a national level.

So now it's back to what counts as 'normal' work around here, but the conference has reminded me again (as if I needed reminding) how special are all the people I work with – staff, committee, volunteer tutors and learners and how lucky I am to be able to work with you all.

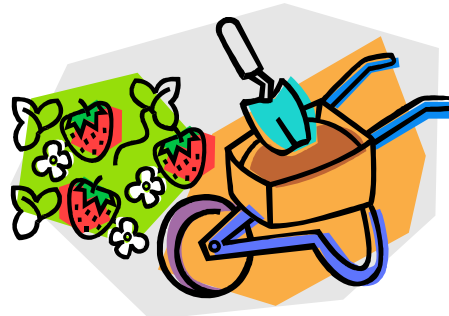
Thanks very much once again.

Doug

A Night at the Movies

ESOL Home Tutors (Nelson) has arranged a viewing of the movie

“Grow Your Own”



for tutors, learners and friends.
A film about a group of refugees who are given garden allotments in a British city. A tale of “**real life, true love and plump vegetables**”, it will make you think, laugh and leave you feeling good.

Sunday 20 July at the Suter
Film starts at 6.30pm. Be there at 6pm for a free glass of wine and a chat.
Please book and pay at the Home Tutor office by Wednesday 16 July.
Cost: \$14



National Home Tutor Conference

The annual conference of the National Association of ESOL Home Tutor Schemes was held at the Rutherford Hotel in Nelson from 16 – 18 May. Over 200 people attended – tutors, learners, committee members and supporters from all over NZ. The conference was opened by Maryan Street (Associate Minister for Tertiary Education), closed by Nick Smith (MP for Nelson) and ‘bookended’ with dances by a group from the Chin community and by 8 year old Mee Mee Win (daughter and granddaughter of Burmese refugees). In between there were four keynote addresses, a panel discussion and 26 workshops on a range of relevant topics – plenty for all tastes I hope.

Highlights of the conference certainly included a wonderful and very moving keynote address by Mar Mar Kyi Maung about how her identity has had to change since coming to Nelson from Myanmar. As one of the delegates said in an evaluation form, “Excellent – set the scene for why we are all here.” There was also a very good keynote talk from two people from Sealords describing what they do to help employees from a non-English speaking background. Marion Bowker’s (ex Home Tutor and committee member) workshop on ‘working with low-level learners’ was also very highly rated.

On the Saturday night we had local band Bana Nua running an Irish Ceilidh for us – and a great time was had by all there too. There is nothing like a dance-floor full of sweating, high-kicking home tutors! Of course the Nelson weather did its part too – not to mention the shops near the hotel.

So all in all a great conference, though I must admit that it was a great relief when it was all over. Tremendous thanks must go to Louise Pemberton, Ruth and Arunesh from National Office and to our committee and other

helpers for all the hard work that went into making it such a success.

If you are interested in seeing the notes from some of the addresses and workshops, some of them are available on our National website. If you go into the website at www.esolht.org.nz and then under *News*, click on *Conference notes*, you will find them.

National Representation

At the recent national AGM, held during the conference, new members were appointed to our national bodies. The new Board includes Mar Mar Kyi Maung, who was previously the Ethnic Advisory Group representative on the Board, but is now an elected Board member. She has stood down from the EAG, but Nisa Rose, one of our local committee members, has now been appointed to that Group. Doug Adam has stood down from the Board after four years. So, we still have a great representation from Nelson!

SCHEME COMMITTEE

At our local AGM on 8th April, our governing committee for the 2008 – 09 year was elected. It is made up of Brian Wilke (Chair), Sue Gardener (Treasurer), Jill Harris, Mary Kroch, Fay Lewis, Louise Pemberton and Nisa Rose. Doug Adam is an ex-officio member of the committee without voting rights and Kathleen Bolwell is minutes secretary. We meet on the second Tuesday of every month. The committee have already been very busy with the conference, but also have the Quality Standards review to keep us out of mischief over the next few months.



Some of the Nelson support team at the conference.

Standing, from left: Brian Wilke, Louise Pemberton, Fay Lewis, Mary Kroch, Doug Adam, Linda Stern, Masami Ichikawa

Seated, from left: Sharyn Boyle, Eileen Ciminiello, Kathy McDonald, Nisa Rose.

Thanks to

We couldn't do our job without the generous support of the following funders:

Tertiary Education Commission
Canterbury Community Trust
Community Organisations Grants Scheme
Lottery Grants Board
Nayland College
Waimea College
NZ Post



Remember that computers are available for use in the Nelson Home Tutor office. Bring your learner along and try out the language or typing programmes. You can also access language learning sites on the internet.

THE BANNER

Our Literacy Class made a large banner. We made it for the ESOL conference. The conference was in Nelson this year.

It took us three months to make the banner. It was hard work. Everyone designed their own block. We are very pleased with how it looks.

We spoke to Marcus from the Nelson Mail. Martin took our photo holding the banner.

Our banner is beautiful. We are proud of all our hard work.



by Martin de Ruyter, Nelson Mail

Holding the banner, from left: Thi Pu Thach, Kathy McDonald, Sardhoun Nud, Betty Sammes, Thi Na Thach, Hien Thach, Nari Thi Thach, Ney Nut, Eileen Ciminiello, Den Thi Thach and Porlym Houy, with three year old Helen Thi Con in front.

When I First Came to

New Zealand... Kathy McDonald, the tutor of our Literacy Class, asked members of the class to write something about an experience they had when they first arrived in New Zealand. Here is one of them:

When I first came to New Zealand I was at Mangere. I wanted a shower. The shower was too hot so my husband turned it to "warm". My husband had to wait for me every time I had a shower. I did not know the words "cold", "warm" or "hot". It took me six weeks to learn to get the temperature just right.



- Den Thi Thach

TUTOR TRAINING

We are in the middle of our second tutor training for 2008. We have quite a small class this time (7) but they make up for it in quality! The lucky seven are: Tony Adolph, Mollie Buckle, Lynn Duckett, Jess Hattersley, Carol-Ann Hughes, Pamela Power and Susan Rooney.

The final tutor training course for 2008 starts on 5 September, so if you know of anyone who might be interested in joining our merry band, please ask them to contact Doug.

Goodbye Denise!

Most of you will have met Denise Hutterd, the coordinator of what used to be called Nelson Refugee Assistance, but is now the Nelson arm of RMS Refugee Resettlement and soon to become Refugee Services! You will, at least, have met her talking about refugees on our tutor training course. For many years she was the sole person employed by NRA and as such is known, appreciated and loved by many former refugees in Nelson. Well, Denise has decided that it is time to retire so will be finishing at the end of June. She will certainly be missed by us at the office – always willing to help and work together, if we can get her when she is not out solving a problem or supporting a client! So thanks very much, Denise, and enjoy your retirement.



Denise's replacement is someone who is well known to us. Gabrielle Humphreys was a coordinator of ESOL Home Tutors in Christchurch and then worked as Scheme Management Support Coordinator in our National Office, so we really look forward to working with her in her new role.

Tutor 'Lunchtime' Sessions?

We are looking at some possible changes to our monthly tutor lunchtime sessions.

Firstly, the lunchtime sessions will now be held on **the last Wednesday** of every month, rather than Thursday. Mary, our Resources Coordinator will now be working on Wednesdays rather than Thursdays and it makes sense to have her there for the lunchtime sessions, hence the change. So from Wednesday 30 July the lunchtime sessions will be on Wednesdays.

I have also had a request from some tutors who can't come on a lunchtime to see whether we could hold a similar session one evening each month. What do you think of that? We would carry on with the lunchtime session, but I would be happy to hold an evening session once a month as well if tutors were keen to come. The idea would be, like the lunchtime one, an opportunity get together with other tutors and share ideas, problems, suggestions etc – or just have a chat. If you are potentially interested in an evening session, could you let me know which evening would be good for you and I'll see what interest there is.

POT LUCK DINNERS

The Nelson Multi-Ethnic Council organises a monthly potluck dinner. These are held at 6.30 pm on the first Friday of every month at Victory School hall, Totara St, off Vanguard St, Nelson.

The next ones are on
Friday 4 July and Friday 1 August.

Perhaps you could take your learner along.

MARY SAYS...

Starting 3 July I will be working in the Resource Room from 10am – 2pm on Wednesdays (changed from Thursdays). This means that the Tutor Lunchtime Session will also be changed to the last Wednesday of each month at 12 noon.

EXCITING NEW ADDITIONS TO OUR LIBRARY!!

Resources are improving weekly in our small, but expanding Resource Room. In the last six months, we have bought approximately **100 new books** to meet the needs of our tutors and learners. Many of these books have been **requested** by you, the tutors. We now have around 40 new readers and lots of other useful hobby, interests and living skills books. As a book lover, I want to encourage you all to come and have a look at this exciting expansion of library resources and to browse and borrow regularly.

Each month, at the Tutors' Lunch look out for the **NEW BOOKS DISPLAY** to peruse and borrow from.

Also, outside Doug's office is a **NEW BOOK STAND**. Please feel free to take books for loan from here. Our most up to date, exciting new additions will be on display here each week.

New books to look out for 8 great new readers purchased at our National Conference. Titles include

- Rich Man, Poor Man (with CD)
- Marco (with CD)
- Sara Says No
- The Well
- A New Zealand Adventure (with a great activities section at rear)
- A New Hairstyle
- Moving House

8 new National Geographic readers ranging from beginner to intermediate.

Plus ...

A wonderful new **CRAFTS** book for our hobbies selection and 2 extra copies of the over popular **PICTURE DICTIONARY**.

DRIVING SKILLS update ROAD CODES AND TEST SHEETS
For those of you with learners learning to drive, lookout for the newest and most up to date **20 TEST SHEETS** and Road Code. These will replace some of our older copies. We also have some great new AA road and city maps of Nelson, Wellington and Christchurch, for those of you thinking about holidays and travel.

AA has advised us not to use Road Code books prior to the 2007 edition, due to new road code legislation. Pre 2005 test sheets should also not be used.

RESOURCE ROOM SURVEY

And finally, we are seeking feedback from you on the Resources room. We are constantly seeking to improve and would value your input. Please complete the **RESOURCE**

ROOM SURVEY (enclosed) and return to us as soon as possible.

Happy tutoring

Mary Kroch
Resource Room Coordinator.





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PO Box 1263
Nelson

SOCIAL ENGLISH GROUPS



Social English groups are
held in both Nelson and
Richmond...

Nelson: **Tuesday**
afternoons

1.00 - 2.30pm
Home Tutor office
2 Bridge Street

Richmond: **Monday**
evenings

7.00 - 8.30pm
Bible College
Building
23A Salisbury Rd
Richmond

Important Dates for your Diary		
Fri 4 July	6.30pm	Multi Ethnic Council pot luck dinner
Sun 20 July	6pm	Social event & film evening at the Suter
Wed 30 July	12 noon	Tutor lunchtime meeting
Fri 1 Aug	6.30pm	Multi Ethnic Council pot luck dinner
8 – 14 Sept		Adult Learners Week

Can we email you??

Sometimes it would be useful

If you have an email address
you please let us know at



and save time if we could contact you by email.

and are happy for us to contact you this way, could
nelson@esolht.org.nz or
esol@marlboroughonline.co.nz