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# Literacy Matters

## 'Literacies Connections' Conference

Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2007



As part of International Literacy Day celebrations, we are holding a conference specifically aimed at literacies tutors which will be held at the Marriott Hotel, Inverness on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> October.

There will be a presentation on 'the Wheel', a choice of morning and afternoon workshops and a chance to meet up with other tutors. Lunch and refreshments will be provided and the conference will be free to attend. For more information and to book your place, please contact the Adult Literacies Office.

## Funding Awards



### Literacies Award

**TAG Highland** has been awarded £7,250 for a project 'Windows on Ross & Cromarty' providing literacy and numeracy learning, integrated with and supporting training in creative arts

including digital photography and creative writing. One of the aims of the project is to produce a video on people and places in Easter Ross. The project runs from June 2007 to June 2008.



**ESF  
Challenge  
Fund**

**North Highland College** has been awarded £11,988 to provide progression routes to existing learners who wish to extend their knowledge of English. This Highland-wide project offers the opportunity for learners to study at SQA Intermediate 2 and Higher level. The project runs from July to December 2007.



## Funding Deadlines

The closing date for the next funding round for both Literacies and ESF ESOL funding is **Friday 10<sup>th</sup> August**. A further date has been set for **Friday 16<sup>th</sup> November** for literacies funding only.

## Working Group

### Minutes of Meetings

At our recent Highland Adult Literacies Working Group, it was decided that the minutes of the meetings should be circulated more widely. If you would like to be included in the circulation list, please email [Christina.mclintock@highland.gov.uk](mailto:Christina.mclintock@highland.gov.uk)



## WEA ESOL Tutor Workshops

The WEA will run a series of free monthly workshops from July to December 2007, dealing with specific aspects of teaching ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages). Each workshop will have a different focus, ie speaking activities, pronunciation, creating work-related materials, listening, vocabulary, grammar, reading & writing. They are aimed at new and practising ESOL tutors, including tutors working 1:1 or on a voluntary basis.

The first three workshops will be held at the **Beaufort Hotel, Culduthel Road, Inverness** on the following dates:

**Tuesday 17 July 10:00 - 12:00.**

The focus will be on using communicative speaking activities.

**Friday 17 August 10:00 - 12:00**

This session will focus on pronunciation awareness and learner practice.

**Thursday 20 September  
11:00 – 13:00**

Creating work-related materials. A light lunch will be provided at this session.

If you would like to book a place, please contact:

**Gillian Scott**  
ESOL Development Coordinator,  
WEA, 57 Church Street  
Inverness IV1 1DR  
[g.scott@weascotland.org.uk](mailto:g.scott@weascotland.org.uk)  
Tel: 07828 101987

There will be an update of the dates of future workshops, which may be held at different times and days.



## ABE News

Adult Literacies  
Awareness Course

Norman Ross and Mark Richardson recently completed the pilot presentation of the new Literacies Awareness Course to staff in the Merkinch Family Centre. It ran over three half days and was well received as the following feedback illustrates:

*"I really enjoyed the course. It made me think of the job I do and how I can be more aware of the families I work with and their literacy skills".*

*"Fantastic! I want to become a tutor".*

*"Very interesting and has made me consider how I approach form-filling with my clients".*

Mark and Norman would like to thank the staff at Merkinch for their excellent hospitality.

If you are a practitioner or part of a team which you think would benefit from the course, please contact Norman Ross at ABE.

### ITALL Courses

ITALL courses are planned for:

Fort William	July/August
Inverness	September
Portree	October

If you are interested, please contact the local Co-ordinator.

Adult Basic Education 01463 251278	
<b>Caithness</b>	
<i>Libby Cook</i>	01955~605423
<b>Inverness</b>	
<i>Mark Richardson</i>	01463~710013
<b>Ross &amp; Cromarty</b>	
<i>Norma Christie</i>	01349~864579
<b>Lochaber</b>	
<i>Ann-Marie Donoghue</i>	01397~707371
<b>Nairn</b>	
<i>Norman Ross</i>	01463~251279
<b>Sutherland</b>	
<i>Barbara Watson</i>	01549~402050
<b>Skye &amp; Lochalsh</b>	
<i>Joey Graham</i>	01478~614064

## Wanted – Six Numeracy Learners



We're looking for learners for a numeracy course which will be held in Dingwall. The course will run for 8 weeks, starting in Autumn 2007. Each two hour session will be held in the afternoon from 1.30 to 3.30 pm. We will be using a variety of ICT resources throughout the course including laptops, iPods and cameras.

If you are:-

1. interested
2. know of any potential learners
3. want more information

please get in touch with  
Marianne Ross 01349 865186  
[youthlit@youthhighland.org.uk](mailto:youthlit@youthhighland.org.uk)  
Sheila Maher 01463 710577  
[s.maher@weascotland.org.uk](mailto:s.maher@weascotland.org.uk)

## The Wheel Update



CD-  
ROM  
Version

Learning Connections has issued a CD-ROM version of the Wheel which can be used interactively to help learners and tutors plan and review learning together.

Copies will be sent to partners and practitioners in the next few weeks. If you would like a copy, please contact the Adult Literacies office.

There will be a demonstration of how to use the wheel with learners at the 'Literacies Connections' Conference on 4<sup>th</sup> October.