



Highland
Adult
Literacies

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Literacy Matters

'Local Heroes' – Writing by Adult Learners



'Local Heroes' is a booklet of recollections of people and places in Sutherland, illustrated with beautiful photographs of Sutherland landscapes by local photographer, Doug Johnson, and produced by Lairg Learning Centre. It is one of the latest selection of books written by adult learners across Scotland and funded by Learning Connections. Also amongst the collection are 6 more 'Saughton Stories' written by prisoners at HMP Saughton.

We have circulated sets to partners but have others available on request. We also have multiple copies of some of the titles, both by ESOL and literacies learners, which would be valuable for group work. Support materials to help tutors use the books effectively will be available soon, along with a toolkit to help groups develop their own publications. These will be available from Learning Connections and online at www.scottishbooktrust.com.

BBC My Story Competition

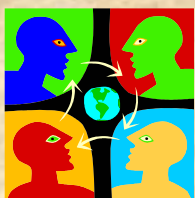
The BBC is launching a 'My Story' Competition, open to all British residents who are over 18. Stories must be between 300 and 1,500 words and the closing date is Wednesday 16th December. Fifteen of the best stories will be told in a major BBC1 series and five people will win a fantastic book deal. Booklets containing further details plus an entry form are available from libraries and the Adult Literacies office. Entries can also be made through the website www.bbc.co.uk/mystory which also contains further information about the competition.

Funding Awards

Lairg Learning Centre has been awarded £25,540 to help under-skilled people in Sutherland towards employment, voluntary work or accredited learning with a series of integrated literacies projects.

The **Workers' Educational Association** has been awarded £4,992 to work with existing providers to promote numeracy activities and also develop a network of numeracy practitioners in the Highlands. They will work with partners to target at least 12 learners, and will promote SQA accreditation if appropriate. They will also draw up a training programme for numeracy tutors.

In addition, WEA were awarded £3,173.20 for delivering the pilot programme leading to the PDA ITESOL which started on 18th September.



WEA ESOL Tutor Workshop

Thursday 10th December

Let your body do the talking!

WEA Tutor Organiser, community learning practitioner and movement theatre director, Sue Mitchell, will deliver a fun-filled workshop on how to communicate without speaking your learner's language. Many ESOL tutors feel that they should be able to use the learner's language to convey ideas, particularly with elementary level learners, but Sue will show us how other techniques such as mime, gesture and visuals can be exploited. This workshop also explores the physical learning environment and, for those who prefer to use their voices, voice projection techniques

The workshop is aimed at ESOL tutors and others interested in the field of communication.

The session takes place at the **Highland Homeless Trust, 57 Church Street, Inverness** from **10.00 to 12.00**.

To book your place, please contact Gillian Scott, on 07851 413276 or email g.scott@weascotland.org.uk

Inverness Culloden Rotary Club has been awarded £3,292 to provide English language courses at basic and intermediate level for migrant families in the Inverness area. They will hold evenings of cultural enhancement to help students identify with the area and they will raise awareness of other opportunities available.

Lochaber College has been awarded £1,560 to hold a short ESOL course for the autumn term. They aim to give learners to opportunity to gain ESOL qualifications and enhance their employment prospects.

Funding Deadlines

The closing dates for the next funding rounds are:



16th November 2009
16th February 2010

ABE News

ITALL courses are planned for the following areas.

Lochaber	November
Wick	November
Skye	January
Beaulay	March

The Beaulay course will also offer the PDA as part of the programme. In addition, Mark Richardson would like to hear from existing ITALL trained tutors who are interested in doing the PDA, as he hopes to promote this training opportunity in Inverness next year.

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Life in Great Britain

On-line resource

For people planning to take the UK Citizenship Test, the Life in Great Britain on-line resource is available to all Highland Libraries members. By using their library card number, members can access this website which allows them to work through the course materials for the test. There are also mock tests to help students prepare for the real one. You can access the site at www.220soft.net/highlands. The site is also listed in the eReference section on the Highland Libraries' web pages or you can link to it from the Notices page of the Adult Literacies website at www.halweb.co.uk.



Training Course

Wednesday 2nd December

Getting to grips with the Curriculum Wheel

Have you had the opportunity to really explore what the Curriculum Wheel has to offer? If not, and even if you have, this interactive session is for you! Linked to the Curriculum Framework, the Wheel provides tutors and learners with an abundance of resources - from video clips of learners, to a variety of planning and review tools, information and links to useful websites. This hands-on session will help you to identify how the Curriculum Wheel can add value to your literacy and core skills provision.

Presented by Hilary Lawson

The session takes place at the **Merkinch Community Centre, Inverness** from **10.00 to 13.15** followed by lunch and mince pies.

To book your place, please contact the Adult Literacies Office.