



## In this Issue

### Join in

1. [Call for papers 'Joining the dots: multiple literacies in multiple contexts'](#)  
2016 VALBEC Conference  
Friday May 20, 2016, William Angliss Conference Centre
2. ['Stories of Resilience'](#)
3. [Fine Print](#)

### Resources

4. [Let there be Light! The International Year of Light - lesson ideas](#)
5. [Science and light](#)
6. [PRACE PageTurners](#)

### Professional development

7. [Learn Local – 'Showcasing Innovation in Teaching Practice'](#)

### Seasons' greetings

## 1. Call for papers 'Joining the dots: multiple literacies in multiple contexts'

2016 VALBEC Conference

**Friday May 20, 2016, William Angliss Conference Centre**

Language, Literacy and Numeracy practitioners constantly grapple with new ways of connecting learners and learning. The demands of contemporary society mean that there are increasing pressures on us all to be literate and numerate in many realms beyond the traditional reading, writing and maths. Learners deal with multiple literacies – digital, financial, health, work skills, science, legal, correctional services, environmental and a whole range of civic and settlement issues.

At the 2016 conference we will connect participants in 'joining the dots' by showcasing innovative approaches and achievements in a range of literacies.

Shortly we'll be inviting you to submit a proposal for presentations and interactive workshops.

Or for something different for the 2016 conference there will be the opportunity to provide a poster presentation of how you are 'joining the dots' of literacy in context at your organisation. These presentations will be set up in the morning and available for people to view all day. During the lunch break presenters of each display will make themselves available to other conference participants to talk about their visual display, answers questions and exchange ideas in an informal way.

More on this shortly too.

## 2. 'Stories of Resilience'

When adults return to learning, as you know, it can have a positive effect across their whole life. People often feel stronger, more capable or their self-esteem grows in some way. They might feel more connected to others or their community, navigate the world of work more confidently or be more likely to encourage others around them to engage in learning.

ACAL's 'Stories of Resilience' project is all about adult learners telling their own stories of this kind of experience, and having their words published on the web. Many adult learners have found it motivating to share their stories with a wider audience - what about your learners?

We are looking for stories about resilience in adult learning. Your students may have already written something during the year that could be adapted or re-drafted. We are accepting written or spoken text, audio or video. This could be a good way for people to revisit their year's work. Join with us in this celebration of the learning journeys of our adult learners.

- Follow the stories via facebook: <http://facebook.com/learnResilience>
- More at ACAL <http://acal.edu.au/rapal-stories-project.htm>
- Additional files, inc brochure and release form: <https://goo.gl/SWWERC>
- Contact Michael Chalk, the project worker, via [ace@michalk.id.au](mailto:ace@michalk.id.au)

In collaboration with RaPAL (Research & Practice in Adult Literacies, UK).

Please pass on this info to anyone who may appreciate the opportunity.

### 3. Fine Print

We hope you have enjoyed reading Fine Print this year. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who have contributed and helped make each edition such a high quality read. Thanks in particular to the editorial committee: Sarah Deasey, Linno Rhodes, Lindee Conway, Liz Gunn and Sally Hutchison who have already begun planning for next year.

Practical Matters will continue to have a Vox Pop section of informal snapshots that provide examples of teaching practice and springboard ideas.

As the year comes to an end, we encourage you to spend some time reflecting on what has worked well in your classes this year and send your contributions (up to 250 words). If you have suggestions for themes and topics or would like to write about teaching and learning practice or projects, or if you are interested in joining the editorial committee contact the Fine Print editor [info@valbec.org.au](mailto:info@valbec.org.au)

## Resources

### 4. Let there be Light!

#### **The International Year of Light - lesson ideas**

VALBEC is observing 2015 as the International Year of Light (and light based technologies). Each month a VALBEC committee member will provide some resources, inspired by the Year of Light, for the classroom or of general interest to students to use as a springboard for thinking, researching, talking or writing.

In this issue Sally Hutchison takes us into the world of art and light installations from Melbourne and around the world

[More](#)

### 5. Science and light

It's 150 years since James Clerk Maxwell - poet, mathematician and the father of light - published his theory of electromagnetism (including light) which is the foundation for our modern technological society. It has given us radio, television, mobile phones and more. Albert Einstein said, 'I stand not on the shoulders of Newton, but on the shoulders of James Clerk Maxwell'.

[More](#)

### 6. PRACE PageTurners

You have probably heard all about PRACE PageTurners - the fun, easy-to-read stories for adult literacy learners. You may even know that series 7 was launched in July this year, with titles such as "Double Trouble" and 'The Drink Machine is Evil'.

Now the website has been upgraded. Books are now tagged by theme - as well as level and series - so you can view collections such as adventure, courage, learning and romance. This may help when you are teaching to a topic. Look for the colourful tag cloud down the side.

You can also now order and pay online.

[More](#)

## Professional development

## 7. Learn Local – 'Showcasing Innovation in Teaching Practice'

Do you have teachers at your Learn Local Centre doing amazing innovative teaching with their classes? Then consider recognising and sharing their great work through this Learn Local ACFE funded initiative. This is a Victoria wide search for innovations in teaching practice at Learn Locals. All applications will be put before a panel in March 2016 and the selected top eight entries will be showcased. The showcase will take the form of videos of the innovations on a dedicated You Tube channel and four regional events to take place in 2016.

This is an exciting project that will not only recognise and value teacher innovations but also form as professional development for teachers in the wider adult community education field.

So whether you are from Mildura, Mallacoota or Melbourne or anywhere in between, please share the great work that you do. We have tried to make the application process as simple as possible.

More: Contact Meg

Email: [innovation@wyndhamcec.org.au](mailto:innovation@wyndhamcec.org.au)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Showcasing-Innovation-in-Teaching-Practice-1642335549354659/>

Website: <http://www.wyndhamcec.org.au/innovation.html>

Due date for applications 5pm, **29th February 2016**

## Seasons' greetings

eVALBEC resumes on February 1.

VALBEC wishes you a safe and happy break over Christmas and the New Year.

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eVALBEC

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