



# Victorian Adult Literacy and Basic Education Council

**Active, Informed, Committed Practitioners**

**VALBEC leads and connects the adult literacy, language and numeracy field in Victoria**

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## **eVALBEC November 2010**

This is the electronic newsletter of VALBEC, the Victorian Adult Literacy and Basic Education Council, and is sent to about 850 practitioners on the first of each month (other than January). It is also available in the 'News' section of our web site <http://www.valbec.org.au>

Disclaimer: The activities, goods and services mentioned in eVALBEC are not endorsed by VALBEC in any way. People should make their own judgment about the suitability of each item.

**How to submit items:** <http://www.valbec.org.au/05/news.htm>

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### **1. VALBEC Regional forum • Innovative use of digital literacies in a community based history project Thursday 25 November 3.00 pm - 5.00 pm**

The Gordon, Geelong City campus, Library General Education room

To address the low levels of literacy within the Mount Evelyn community, Morrisons established a program that used football and netball as a 'hook' to engage participants. In this presentation Kerrin Pryor will describe how 27 participants built on their own strengths and passions to create a digital living history of the local football and netball clubs, while enhancing their own employability. The project was inspired by the Tynecastle Initiative set up by Edinburgh's Adult Learning Project that followed Paulo Freire's principles of focusing on dialogue and the experiences of the participants. To successfully engage learners Morrisons took the program to their learners' turf, holding sessions after training or around game time.

A great thing about this program was its use of digital technology to capture learners' attention and build their employability skills. Not only did learners improve their literacy skills through the program but they also increased their community awareness through its focus on the history of their sports clubs. A benefit of the program has been bringing together people of all ages through a shared passion and learning goal. Kerrin Pryor, the Project Manager has worked in Adult Literacy for over twenty years and on numerous projects including Integrating New Literacies into Classroom Practice. She now works as Education Coordinator at Morrisons.

Morrisons is a long established and largest adult education provider in the eastern region of Melbourne. Their programs have successfully helped people with low literacy levels engage in learning and connect with their community.

Refreshments provided

Cost: Free but booking is essential; preference to VALBEC members

RSVP [info@valbec.org.au](mailto:info@valbec.org.au) by November 23

Venue map and other details <http://www.valbec.org.au/RegForumNov10.htm>

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### **2. Literacy on the Map • ACAL / VALBEC conference 2011**

We are delighted to announce that the 34th ACAL conference will be hosted by VALBEC.

Date: 26-28 September, 2011

Venue: Victoria University, Flinders Street Campus, Melbourne.

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### **3. Sharing Good Practice – VALBEC event**

We will be holding a professional development event on Friday May 20, 2011 at the William Angliss Conference Centre. This one day event will provide an opportunity for practitioners to share and discuss good practice. The VALBEC annual general meeting will be held during the afternoon.

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### **4. Fine Print**

In our next issue we have two Feature articles which explore the development of partnerships to address literacy issues.

In our third Feature Sue Ollerhead reflects on literacy teaching frameworks in Australia and South Africa and raises some important questions for teachers. We also have conference reports about what is happening more broadly across the state and the country, including a discussion around policy and statistics and their relationship.

In Practical Matters Tim Morris discusses a way to give your students a real audience for writing.

You will read about technologies available to teachers within library systems and using voice technologies in Technology Matters.

Our Provider Profile gives insight into the strategies regional providers employ to tackle challenges they face.

Learn about the peculiarities of teaching English as a foreign language in Asia from our Foreign

Correspondent.

In What's Out There Helen Rosenberg reviews a new AMES resource about work and OH&S issues and Linno Rhodes brings us thoughts on a collection of writing about women and literacy.

Lastly we list Adult Community Education awards for 2010.

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#### **5. NCVER latest research**

Breaking down the barriers: strategies to assist apprentices with a learning disability

Sandra Cotton, Polytechnic West.

<http://www.ncver.edu.au/publications/2283.html>

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#### **6. Links Between Literacy and Numeracy Skills and Labour Market Outcomes**

<http://www.pc.gov.au/research/staffworkingpaper/literacy-numeracy-labour-outcomes>

This Australian Government Productivity Commission paper by Anthony Shomos was released on 20 October 2010.

Comments about this publication can be submitted by completing the publications feedback form.

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#### **7. Adult Learning Australia's 50th National Conference**

11 - 13 November 2010

Adelaide South Australia, the place of the first National Conference of the Association. The theme of the Conference will be Looking Back –Moving Forward celebrating the association's achievements from the past, with a focus on present practice across the adult learning sector and a view to the role and challenges in the future for the adult learning and community education sectors.

For more information <http://www.ala.asn.au/>

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#### **8. Employment opportunities in eVALBEC**

ACFE, ACE, RTO and TAFE managers post adult literacy, language and numeracy practitioner job ads in eVALBEC. Send your request (50 words limit) to [info@valbec.org.au](mailto:info@valbec.org.au) by the 26th of the month.

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#### **9. conVerge10 E-learning**

conVerge10 E-learning: creating a sustainable quality future be held on 25-26 November at Rydges Bell City, Preston. This conference focusses on the practical and applied ways of enhancing e-learning through stimulating presentations and workshops to ensure participants embark on spirited professional conversations and interactions beyond the conference. Register at <http://www.eworks.edu.au/converge/registration.htm>.

The cost of this conference is \$210 (ex GST) per delegate.

Keynote speakers include Andrew Douch, Tania Major (2007, Young Australian of the Year) and Joyce Seitzinger, an Education Technologist, New Zealand. Further, Jonathon Finklestein (Learning Times), USA, will also conduct a virtual workshop as part of the conference program.

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#### **10. Subscribe to eVALBEC?**

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