

## eVALBEC February 2012

This is the electronic newsletter of VALBEC, the Victorian Adult Literacy and Basic Education Council, and is sent to about 1000 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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### Committee News

#### 1. Planning Day

The annual VALBEC Planning meeting was held on 23 January, 2012 with wide ranging discussions around activities in 2011 and ideas for professional development and new projects in 2012. The National Year of Reading will provide the main focus for the conference and Fine Print.

The first committee meeting for the year will be held on Wednesday 15 February.

We welcome feedback and ideas so please send to [info@valbec.org.au](mailto:info@valbec.org.au)

#### 2. VALBEC Fees for 2012

Membership of VALBEC continues to be a great way to be connected with the LLN field, access professional development, receive Fine Print and be informed about the issues that affect learners and practitioners in Victoria. Invoices will be posted in February with payment due in March. Payment can be made online using PayMate or by purchase order, cheque or credit card.

### Professional Development

VALBEC will be applying for ACFE board funding to assist in offering a range of forums and workshops in metro and regional areas, as well as the annual state conference in 2012. We would like to hear from members who would be interested to co-host or have suggestions please send to [info@valbec.org.au](mailto:info@valbec.org.au)

#### 3. Read the word, Read the world • VALBEC 2012 conference • William Angliss Conference Centre

May 25 – whole day program of workshops and presentations.

Call for papers – we would like to hear from people who would like to present as an individual or team around one of the themes of worlds in which learners engaging in reading activities. See

<http://www.valbec.org.au/2012conf/call.htm>

Please note the shorter timeframe as we are catching up after the ACAL conference in September.

#### 4. National Adult Language, Literacy and Numeracy Assessment Conference – Industry, Training and Education: Partners in improving skills

ACER is pleased to present this national conference in Melbourne on May 4, 2012. The conference is a response to increasing national and state interest in addressing and improving the LLN skills of Australian youth and adults participating in the VET sector and in Australia's workforce. Two half day pre-conference workshops will also be held at ACER on May 3, 2012.

For further information or to register visit: <http://www.acer.edu.au/nallnac>

### Fine Print

#### 5. Fine Print theme of Reading

In line with 2012 being National Year of Reading, reading will be a prominent theme throughout the year.

**Lynne Matheson**, past co-president of VALBEC, will open a Year of Reading column and keep us informed about happenings and activities relevant to the adult and youth language and literacy field.

Our Feature writers:

**Mary Rhind** from Highland Adult Literacies Partnership in the UK writes about teaching Gaelic speakers.

Long term results of projects are not often reported on, and yet this data is perhaps the most significant, so as promised in 2010, **Julie Neeson** from Southern Grampians Adult Education, returns two years down the track with

evaluation of a project instigated to address social and economic disadvantage in a rural Victorian town. While on the subject of evaluation we will also hear from **Trish Bowen** and the CAVSS programme at NMIT. If you missed the last Twilight Forum, you will have missed hearing **Jennifer Miles** from Chisholm Institute, discuss her research about adult learners reflecting on their own transformation. For a second best experience, you can read about it in the next issue.

Something that hasn't appeared in Fine Print before, at least in my time, is a discussion on teaching same sex attracted adults. **Linno Rhodes**, committee member, and literacy teacher at Carlton Neighbourhood Learning Centre, will be our inaugural writer on this subject.

Social and technological changes are having a huge, and not yet understood, impact on reading; **Jacinta Agostinelli**, editor and writer, teases out some of the issues.

Our regular sections return: Practical and Technology Matters, Beside the Whiteboard, Provider Profile, The People in ACE and What's out there.

**Plus**, our VALBEC and Fine Print committee members will have a lucky-dip of anecdotes for avid readers, so don't miss issue 1, 2012.

## Resources

### 6. PageTurners Series 5 – the Australian Series

NEW and out now!

<http://pageturners.prace.vic.edu.au/>

10 Stories on Australian themes, some historical, some contemporary

Level 1 Running with Boats, The Camel Man

Level 2 Fire!, On the Goldfields

Level 3 Cyclone Tracy, Would I Lie to You?

Level 4 Phar Lap

Level 4 Extended (NEW) Ned Kelly, A Handful of Sand, Simpson and His Donkey

## Late breaking news

### 7. ACAL on the radio

Ger Pancini was one of several people interviewed on 'Life matters' as part of national Year of reading.

Hear it at <http://www.abc.net.au/radionational/programs/lifematters/national-year-of-reading/3792996>

## Employment opportunities

ACFE, ACE, RTO and TAFE managers can 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.

## On and off

### 8. Subscribe to eVALBEC?

Just send an e-mail to [info@valbec.org.au](mailto:info@valbec.org.au) with your name and email address (organisation if you wish) and we'll put you on the list to receive this monthly e-newsletter.

### 9. Unsubscribe?

Just send an e-mail to [info@valbec.org.au](mailto:info@valbec.org.au) with the word Unsubscribe in the subject.

### 10. Contact VALBEC

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