

eVALBEC March 2006

This is the electronic newsletter of VALBEC, the Victorian Adult Literacy and Basic Education Council, and is sent to about 900 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>

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IN THIS ISSUE OF e-VALBEC:

1. Coming up in the Autumn 2006 edition of Fine Print
2. Bendigo Twilight Forum
3. RiThre RiNow 2006 VALBEC Conference
4. NCVER breakfast briefings
5. Membership renewals
6. Commonwealth Games
7. Financial Literacy Foundation
8. Australia's largest online library opens for business
9. VALBEC committee news - Resignation
10. VALBEC turning 30!
11. Next VALBEC Meeting
12. Member offer - Melbourne International Comedy Festival
13. Short term LLNP position
14. Subscribe to eVALBEC?
15. Unsubscribe?

1. Coming up in the Autumn 2006 edition of Fine Print

- Contradicting Stereotypes: reflecting on case studies of success by Peter Waterhouse and Crina Virgona
- Policy-in-Practice: Practitioner Perspectives on ALBE in the Top End by Margaret Palmers
- Building on the best: the A-Frame for non-accredited learning by Karen Dymke
- ACE Connects with learners: findings from a longitudinal study by Anne Walstab

2. Bendigo Twilight Forum

Advance notification for this event to be held in the late afternoon of April 4 at a pleasant Bendigo city venue. Central, North and North Central Victorians take note!!
More information soon.

3. RiThre RiNow 2006 VALBEC Conference

Friday, May 5, 2006

William Angliss College, 555 La Trobe Street, Melbourne

Last minute call for papers

People wishing to present at the conference have until midnight March 1 to get their submission in).

Details <http://www.valbec.org.au/05/conf06/call.html>

4. NCVER breakfast briefings

NCVER will host the breakfast briefings 'Reading between the lines: Summing up adult literacy and numeracy research', in six capital cities in May. The briefings will provide a picture of adult literacy and numeracy activity in Australia - how much occurs, what the activity looks like, what is the impact of this work on individuals, workplaces and communities, what elements of provision are successful and what can be improved, and asks whose business is this anyway. For further information and to register, visit <http://www.ncver.edu.au/newsevents/events/adultliteracy/breakfast.html>

5. Membership renewals

Membership renewal invoices have been mailed out in the last two weeks.

Thanks to those who have made an effort to pay promptly - that saves administration costs.

6. Commonwealth Games

Are you excited? Or are you tired of hearing "because of the Commonwealth Games" as the reason why things are not happening as they should? This website may offer some ideas for class activities - go for Gold!

<http://www.melbourne2006.com.au/Getting+Involved/Education/>

7. Financial Literacy Foundation

The Financial Literacy Foundation has been established to deliver the Australian Government's commitment to give Australians the opportunity to better manage their money.

The 2006 information campaign aims to raise awareness of the immediate and long-term benefits of improved financial literacy, and to encourage consumers to engage with financial literacy information and resources.

More at <http://www.understandingmoney.gov.au/>

8. Australia's largest online library opens for business

<http://www.nla.gov.au/pressrel/2006/la-launch.html>

Libraries Australia, a service that enables anyone with an Internet connection to select from more than 40 million items held in over 800 libraries across the nation, was launched at 12.30pm Monday 27 February at Parliament House, Canberra by Senator Helen Coonan, Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts. This innovative service is an Australian first, opening up the collections of Australia's libraries to the public.

Libraries Australia, developed by the National Library of Australia, is an e-ticket to a world of information consisting of books, journals, newspapers, theses, pictures, music, manuscripts, maps and much more. Many online resources such as digitised images and full text government publications can also be accessed immediately online.

9. VALBEC committee news - Resignation

At our last meeting, we accepted with regret Fran O'Neil's resignation from the position of Co-President. Fran has been a driving force for VALBEC over a period of more than 15 years. Her commitment and tireless dedication to her roles as Co-President, Fine Print convenor and committee member have contributed a great deal to the organisation and the ALBE field. We would like to acknowledge and sincerely thank her.

10. VALBEC turning 30!

In 2008, VALBEC will celebrate 30 years and the committee has begun discussions about what we might do to mark this event. We welcome ideas from members.

11. Next VALBEC Meeting

March 9th let us know if you'd like to attend.

12. Member offer – Melbourne International Comedy Festival

We have two double passes for 'Family Ties' written and performed by Nelly Thomas.

Ever wondered what life might have been like if you'd grown up in a different family? In this irreverent show Nelly explores just that; pursuing the 'nature versus nurture' debate with a wicked sense of humour. The double passes are available for any of the following performances – April 13, 14, 15 or 16 at The Portland Hotel, cnr Russell and Little Collins Streets. Shows commence at 8.15 pm (Sunday 7.15 pm). See more about Nelly Thomas and 'Family Ties' at <http://www.nellythomas.com>.

To be in the running for the double passes, visit our web site <http://www.valbec.org.au>

13. Short term LLNP position

Charles Darwin University (NT) have a staff member retiring earlier than expected and need to locate a suitable replacement. The position is in Darwin working on the Language, Literacy and Numeracy Programme (LLNP) at CDU, and involves conducting NRS assessments, possibly some teaching, programme administration and the individual case management of clients. The appointment would be for 6 months on a fixed term contract from the end of April. The role would suit someone wanting a change and who is interested in working in a programme with significant numbers of Indigenous participants. There is potential for further work to be available after the initial 6 months, once results of the LLNP tender are known. If there is anyone in your network who may be interested please contact Lorraine Sushames, Manager, Language Literacy and Numeracy Programme, at lorraine.sushames@cdu.edu.au

14. Subscribe to eVALBEC?

Click this link <mailto:info@valbec.org.au?subject=eVALBEC_Subscribe> and we'll put you on the list to receive this monthly newsletter.

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