Taranaki Literacy Association looks forward to another exciting year of promoting literacy and bringing quality professional development to teachers across the region in 2018.

We held our AGM on 1st March. Special life member Gloria Dravitzki adjudicated at the election of new officers Jenny Dryden as secretary and Tina Johnson as delegate. Our president Jenny and treasurer Sharon graciously consented to continue their great work for us.

Our professional learning team were busy at the end of 2017 sharing ideas within our larger group, consulting school leaders and teachers to ascertain needs and researching presenters of current practice in literacy learning. We’re sure that the resulting mix of reading, writing and oral language will enlighten and inform our teaching and learning community.

Firstly we welcome literacy consultant **Rita Palmer** to New Plymouth on 21 March with her seminar **Writing Made Easy**. Rita believes that the secret to good writing is comprehension. She will share her knowledge around this concept and further expand on the use of mentor texts and writer’s notebook (Ralph Fletcher,) presenting them in real classroom terms.

In Term 2 **Jane van der Zeyden** will help fill the needs of those who might like to commit to the development of **Oral Confidence across the Curriculum** and our term 3 presenter is **Rebecca Jesson** – **Writing and Using Digital Tools.**

Allied with our usual coffees and collegiality, it’s going to be a great year. ☺