



Auckland Literacy Association Newsletter – Term 1 2017

Dear ALA Members and Friends,

Welcome to our first newsletter for 2017. We hope you were able to have some time to relax and spend time with family and friends over the summer. It's hard to believe that we are already nearing the end of Term 1. Hopefully your year has started well. If you have any queries or comments please let us know. Our contact details are available on www.nzla.org.nz, under the Councils page.

President's Pen

President's Report, Year ended March 2017

Welcome to all members of the Auckland Literacy Association (ALA).

This past year has been highlighted with amazing New Zealand literacy experts who shared a veritable smorgasbord of literacy ideas. They covered reading aloud with a critical lens and developing our youngest students into constructive writers. They showed us a picture of literacy research being undertaken in NZ schools and discussed the wider implications of this at the national level. We are privileged at ALA to have access to world renowned experts. Thanks to Helen Villers, Dr Barbara Watson, Dr Rebecca Jesson, Dr Aaron Wilson and Professor Stuart McNaughton for their contributions over the last year.

In 2016 ALA was pleased to sponsor five teachers to the NZLA conference at Waitangi. I found it an absolute pleasure to support these teachers at the conference; they will share some of their thoughts and learnings shortly.

At the conference ALA received an '**Honour Council Award**' for excellence from NZLA. And it was a special honour to be presented with a **NZLA "Citation of Merit"** on behalf of our special colleague, ALA and NZLA executive member, Sharon Pond, this was passed on to her family. Sharon continues to be greatly missed by us all.

ALA is also immensely proud of our Secretary Heather Bell. Last year her contributions to literacy were formally recognised at a national and international level. Congratulations on being made an '**Officer of the New Zealand Order of Merit**' and for being inducted into the '**Reading Hall of Fame**'. Both these are a recognition of your spirit and passion for literacy for both students and teachers.



At the end of the year we celebrated the writers and illustrators in our classrooms and with help from writers and illustrators in our community; Susan Brocker and Dave Gunson. The children and teachers who attended were treated to tips and support from our experts to ensure their own writing and illustrating continues to develop.

As president I would like to thank the committed and talented members of the ALA executive committee for their tremendous help and support. And a special thanks to Sandra Gilmore, our treasurer who is standing down after careful stewardship of our accounts.

Kind Regards

Bronwyn Wilkinson

President

Auckland Literacy Association

2017 ALA Executive Committee

President – Bronwyn Hayward

President-elect – Sue Court

Treasurer – Alarna Sutton

Secretary – Heather Bell

NZLA Delegate – Heather Bell

Programme convenor – Alice Musuku

Publications convenor – Emily Mason

Members

Christine Boocock

Jill Stephenson

Rob Southam

Aireen Ah Kui

Gemma Maddocks

Aylene FitzGerald

Sharon Croft

DJ Loveless



Some of our committee members at the 2017 Meet and Greet

Sue Court Presents at the AGM

'Off to a Flying Start with the New Ready to Read'





Student Writing

Stunning writing from a 5 year old at Manurewa Central School, inspired after he had been read 'One Cold Dark Night'

The farmer was angry at the animals.

The farmer said, "**Get out of my bed.**

You are grounded mister, you are so grounded!"





2017 Calendar

Time & Date	Programme	Venue
4.30 -6.00 pm Wednesday 15 March 2017	AGM and Sue Court 'Off to a Flying start with the New Ready to Read'	Kohia Education Centre 78 Epsom Ave Epsom
9.30am -3.30pm Saturday 1 st April 2017	NZLA Leadership Workshop for Regional Council Committee Members	Manurewa Central School 2 Hill Road Manurewa
4.30- 6.00 pm Wednesday 10 th May 2017	Jill Eggleton 'Words of Wisdom'	Kohia Education Centre 78 Epsom Ave Epsom
Term 3 TBC	Dr Rae Si'ilata- University of Auckland	TBC
Saturday 30 September 2017	40 th NZLA Conference Roadshow (ALA will advise when Sponsored Teacher applications are open)	Hamilton details TBC
Term 4 TBC	TBC	TBC