

May 2017

President's Report

Kia ora,

Wow! The first term has gone already – how time is flying for 2017.

The Canterbury Literacy Association has started on a strong note for the year.

Our AGM was held in the Heaton School library and a small but enthusiastic group listened to Jane Boniface giving very practical ideas to liven up our libraries whether classroom or school-wide and we thank her for giving her time for an excellent presentation.

We had a very stimulating and engaging event with Dr Viv Aitken in March (details in this newsletter.)

Our next event is with Dr Murray Gadd. Those of you who are not aware of his credentials will certainly be conversant with his works. Murray is an independent literacy consultant who works nationally and internationally on literacy issues, particularly reading and writing. For the Ministry of Education, he led the team that developed the national writing exemplars, he wrote *Effective Literacy Practice Years 5 - 8* and worked closely on the English section of the NZ Curriculum. He has a wealth of knowledge to share and is an entertaining speaker. I urge you to bookmark this date and suggest it be an integral PD for all staff members at your school.

Another date to bookmark is during the September holidays when the Waikato Literacy Association is hosting a one day roadshow throughout New Zealand in place of the annual NZLA Conference. The Christchurch roadshow is to be held on October 4. The keynote speaker will be Ralph Fletcher, an author of several internationally acclaimed textbooks aimed particularly at encouraging boys to succeed in the craft of writing. Also at this workshop will be Kyle Mewburn the acclaimed New Zealand children's book author and Sheena Cameron and Louise Dempsey well known to all of us from their books *The Writing Book* and *The Oral Language Book*. Check out the roadshow details in the newsletter.

If your school hasn't paid the annual subscription to the Canterbury Literacy Association we urge you to do this as it gives generous discounts to our events, subscription to the New Zealand Literacy Forum journal which contains many up to the minute research articles and practical ideas to stimulate your literacy practice within your classrooms.

We are always keen to welcome new members to our committee, so if you are considering joining feel free to contact anybody from the committee – it can be very rewarding and informative and certainly enjoyable. The more members we have the less the load is for each person.

Have a stimulating and safe term and we hope to see as many of you as possible at our next event with Murray Gadd.

Nāku noa,
Raewyn Maher
CLA President.

Best and Worst Books 2016: A Review

A great evening was had by all who attended the CLA's eagerly awaited annual, and last event of the year: Best and Worst Books, run in conjunction with Christchurch City Council Libraries. After some Christmas cake and a quick catch up, the evening opened with Mary Sangster, renowned bookshop owner, sharing her favourite books for the year and a few "not-so" favourites.

Jane Boniface - the Learning Resource manager at Heaton Intermediate School was the next panellist sharing her thoughts on a range of books especially those that encourage the reluctant boy-reader. Lynette Griffiths, from CCC Libraries enticed us to delve into picture books.

There was more delight to follow: 4 book-loving school students - Matilda, Shelby, Mila and Claudia, shared their passions on a range of books. These young readers "stole" the hearts of us all!

If you know of any avid readers who would love to present at this year's Best and Worst, let us know! A copy of the Christchurch City Council Libraries Best Books of 2016 accompanies this newsletter.

Karen Amyes



Jane Boniface



Lynette Griffiths

2017 CLA Annual General Meeting

A keen group of people attended the 2017 Canterbury Literacy Association's A.G.M. held at Heaton Intermediate School library on Thursday 2 March. All the business and election of officers was wrapped up in 15 minutes and the C.L.A. committee (Raewyn Maher, Karen Amyes, Sophie O'Rourke, Kate McClelland, Jacqui Malham, Scott Wolfe and Joy Hawke) warmly welcomed Barbara Aberhart, Kathleen Ryan and Rachel Wood as new committee members.

Livening up your school library was the focus for a talk by Heaton Intermediate's librarian Jane Boniface. She shared some of her ideas for helping students become more effective and enthusiastic library users.

Jane Boniface - 11 Ways to Liven up your Library/Learning Centre

1. Curate an awesome collection - buy them what they want to read!
2. Show off the collection – buy quality over quantity. Don't hide those good books. Weed the collection to keep it fresh.
3. Make it easy to find stuff – clear signage and labels – but not too much – children have to have some training to find things e.g. scavenger hunt, Kahoot.
4. Provide a great reading environment by making it inviting.

These 4 create a traditional library model –
It is the services that liven up your library....

5. Provide fun sessions e.g. speed dating books - 30 books selected by the librarian with black covers on them or in a paper bag and The Clash playing 'Should I Stay or Should I Go Now?' – when music stops students have to sit down and "date their books" read the back cover and a couple of pages. Ask for volunteers to introduce their book. Continue for another few rounds. A golden ticket is hidden in each book - whoever gets that is first on the reserve list to read the book.
6. Exciting competitions and challenges: e.g. Hell pizza challenge, Wacky Reader photo challenge
7. Entertaining book talks: teacher reads a carefully selected passage from the book.
8. Fabulous book recommendations: peer reviews put onto the catalogue system.
'Need a great read?' book display – Jane has printed the reviews written by students and the books sit on a stand so others can read the review and get them out straight away.
9. Irresistible book displays. "Sell the sizzle not the sausage" – **Rachel Van Riel** – selling the reader the experience that they are going to have with the book.
10. Lively events – Drop-in Days the last Friday of every month – the whole day is about book exchange
11. Really useful library website and catalogue: <http://www.readitlovedit.com/>

Joy Hawke

Dr Viv Aitken - Dramatically Enhancing the Teaching of Literacy in Years 1-8

In March, we had the pleasure of listening to the very talented Dr Viv Aitken. Her workshop entitled 'Dramatically Enhancing the Teaching of Literacy in Years 1-8' focussed on how classroom drama can be used to bring picture books to life and set up opportunities for authentic literacy tasks. With Viv, we learnt and practiced some warm up drama activities which were practical and easy to implement into our teaching programmes! I was so excited about these warm ups I used them the very next day with some children!

After the warm-ups, Viv discussed the importance of preparing children for entering a drama when the teacher will be in role as a character. Viv went through the three key steps that children need to be aware of:

1. Tell the children that you are taking on a role.
2. You will know that I am in role when I am wearing...
3. For this to work... You have to play along with me! Talk with me as though I am....

Let me tell you that these steps are gold! If they are followed before going into role there is no opportunity for the children to opt out or think you are being silly because you have given them the warning to start with.

Viv then took us through her 'Teacher in Role' adaptation of the Lighthouse Keeper. Viv went into role as Mrs Grindling before reading the book and telling us about a problem. I have to say although we knew that it was Viv in role we all believed, as adults, that Mrs Grindling was upset and needed our help!

The process drama of the Lighthouse Keeper was an example of how you can use Viv's techniques to adapt other picture books and stories. She has kindly put up the steps to create a drama from a picture book on her website for us to use as well as the plan for Mrs Grindling's Problem using the book the 'Lighthouse Keeper.'

Viv's tips for creating your own process drama were: use books with a problem near the beginning e.g. Grandma McGarvey, fairy tales, Where the Wild Things Are.

Any book used must have tension, a problem, and strong characters.

Viv showed us that using process drama from a book lends itself beautifully to writing as you are creating experiences for the children to write about.

Viv was an inspiration, her energy and passion about drama was felt by all listening (and I think rubbed off on lots of us too!) Her ideas were practical and she made even the drama novices feel like they could easily implement some process drama into their literacy programmes.

Drama is now a regularly implemented part of my literacy programme as engagement levels are high, risks are being taken, and authentic experiences are being created for all. We are lucky enough to have Viv coming back to work with some teachers at Waitākiri School!

<http://mantleoftheexpert.co.nz/process-drama-from-picture-books/>

Sophie O'Rourke

Interested in finding out more about Mantle of the Expert?

Planning in Mantle of the Expert

Monday May 22nd 4pm – 8pm

Cost \$60

Performing Arts Centre,
Rangi Ruru Girls School,
59 Hewitts Rd, Merivale, Christchurch

In this hands on session Viv will step you through a planning process for creating a Mantle of the Expert experience. The session will suit interested beginners to experienced Mantle practitioners.

To book your place email athomson@avonside.school.nz

Dr Viv Aitken





*Don't
miss this one!*

Note the date!!! This term's Professional Learning event.

(Information flyer for the staffroom at the end of this newsletter.)

*'Inspiring the Reading and Writing – What is
critical for reluctant readers and writers?'*
Dr Murray Gadd

Tuesday 30th May, 4.15-6.00pm

Cotswold School

Murray Gadd is a well-loved literacy consultant who has recently completed his PHD on effective teaching of writing. He works nationally and internationally on literacy issues, particularly reading and writing.

Come along and spend a very inspiring afternoon, where Murray will explore uses of quality picture books, how to be effective in using any text in guided or shared reading. He will also share what he's learnt from his PhD research about what the teacher of writing must do to be effective in the classroom and what this looks like, particularly for our reluctant writers.

Refreshments 4:15 – 4:30pm

Presentation 4:30 – 6:00pm

\$30 per person from 2017 member schools

\$40 per person from non-member schools

Discount rate for PRTS \$10 per person (member school or not)

RSVP
by Wed 24th May

Register by e-mailing your name and school to Lesa at: cla2014lesa@gmail.com

Bookings will be confirmed by e-mail on receipt of payment

'The Power of Words'

NZLA 2017 One Day Conference-Roadshow



Christchurch 4 October

This year's the Waikato Literacy Association has organised NZLA with a conference with a difference – A One Day Conference Roadshow.

Keynote speakers include: Ralph Fletcher
Kyle Mewburn
Sheena Cameron and Louise Dempsey.

It's affordable - For members (individual/schools) an early bird registration is only **\$200 pp**. Early bird rates available up until 31st May.

To become a member of your local Literacy Association follow the links on the NZLA website: <http://nzla.org.nz/>

NUMBERS ARE LIMITED FOR EACH VENUE

The conference roadshow is being held during the **Term 3 holidays**.

Your whole staff could have some extremely valuable Professional Development from some leading literacy experts who will be focusing on **The Power of Words** and in particular the global concern of engaging our Boys in Writing.

Christchurch venue – Haeata Community Campus, 240 Breezes Rd, Wainoni

Further details <http://nzla.org.nz/events/2017-conference-wla-literacy-the-power-of-words/>

We are on the web!

The NZLA website has been going through a significant makeover, it is now live and progressively updating.

There are a large number of valuable pieces of information from: The President, National Conferences, National events, Regional events, Scholarships, Literacy Forum and Regional Council spaces including our upcoming events, reports, newsletters and membership subscriptions.

Have a look: <http://nzla.org.nz/>

We are at: <http://nzla.org.nz/regional-council/canterbury/>



2017 CLA CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Term Two

Tuesday 30 May

Cotswold School
4:15 – 6:00pm

An afternoon with Dr Murray Gadd

Inspiring the Reading and Writing – What is critical for reluctant readers and writers?

Details in the newsletter. RSVP required.

Print off the flyer at the end of the newsletter for your staffroom.

Term Three

Thursday 10 August

Waitākiri School Hall
3:30 – 5:00pm

A children's event for member schools

"Mo Willems and friends"

Details to come...

School Holidays

'The Power of Words' - NZLA 2017 One Day Conference-Roadshow

Hamilton – 30 September

Wellington – 2 October

Christchurch – 4 October

Ralph Fletcher, Sheena Cameron & Louise Dempsey, Kyle Mewburn

<http://nzla.org.nz/events/2017-conference-wla-literacy-the-power-of-words/>

Term Four

Sometime in late November

Early evening

Venue TBC

The Best and Worst Books of 2017

In partnership with the **Christchurch City Council Libraries** this is a time to listen and laugh as a selection of children's books are reviewed by people passionate about books.

It's also a chance to have a drink and slice of Christmas cake and ease yourself into Christmas.

Cost - Gold coin contributions for drinks and raffle tickets on sale.

Canterbury Literacy Association Committee

President: Raewyn Maher

President Elect: Karen Amyes

Secretary: Sophie O'Rourke e: sophie.orourke@waitakiri.school.nz

Treasurer: Lesa McKenzie e: cla2014lesa@gmail.com

Committee: Barbara Aberhart, Joy Hawke, Jacqui Malham, Kate McClelland, Kathleen Ryan, Rachel Wood & Scott Wolfe.

New committee members are welcome - feel free to contact a committee member to find out more.



(Canterbury Council of the NZ Literacy Association)

Invoice
2017 CLA Membership
1st January 2017 – 31st December 2017

2017 School Membership \$65.00

Name of School _____

Full Postal Address _____

Telephone _____

Name of nominated school member (Essential) _____

Email (Essential) _____

OR 2017 Personal/Unwaged Membership \$45.00

Name _____

Full Postal Address _____

Telephone _____

Email (Essential) _____

Make cheques payable to: **Canterbury Literacy Association.**

Please complete this form and send it with a cheque to:

Lesa McKenzie
C/- Waitakiri School
170 Burwood Road
Christchurch 8083

OR

Payment can be made directly into our bank account.

Acct No: **03 0855 0371181-00**

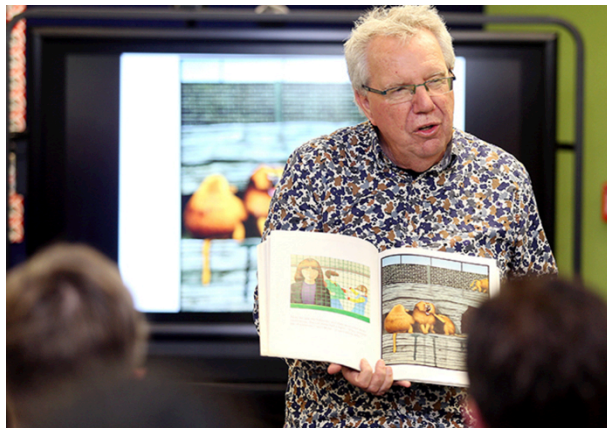
***Please include your school's name or your name as reference
And send this sheet back to Lesa as above.***

Position held _____

Canterbury Literacy Association
Presents



*'Inspiring the Reading and Writing -
What is critical for reluctant readers and writers?'*
with
Dr Murray Gadd



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4.15 – 6pm
Cotswold School*

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Lesla McKenzie, Waitākiri School, 170 Burwood Rd, ChCh 8083
Make cheques payable to 'CANTERBURY LITERACY ASSOCIATION'
OR payment can be made directly to our bank account.
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