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## NZ Literacy Forum online



The New Zealand Literacy Association is proud to present the new Literacy Forum online journal

### First Issue Free

This is a one time offer of a FREE copy of this peer reviewed journal focussing on research and professional development in the field of literacy.

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<https://forum.nzla.org.nz/issue-no-2-2021/>

www.nzla.org.nz

## President's Pen

Kia ora koutou,

Tēnā koutou,

This has been another tumultuous year that is far from over. Across Auckland teachers and schools have again stepped up to work diligently online with the challenges that entails to ensure our students continue to learn.

We have offered a few ideas and links to useful free literacy sites that will inspire your students in their literacy at home. Please let us know if you have other links that your school has found useful that we can share with members. We hope you have enjoyed reading the new improved NZLA Literacy Forum. The NZLA editor and editorial committee have created a stunning format filled with engaging articles. The next online issue will be out later in the year. As the year closes ALA will be holding the final GALA dinner with Dr Rae Si'ilata presenting. Please read through the flyer in this issue. We will keep you updated on details once Auckland moves down to lower alert levels.

Take care, be safe and we look forward to meeting up with you all soon at our Gala dinner.

Ngā mihi,  
Bronwyn Hayward  
President ALA

**Mark Your Diaries** — ALA Term 4 Gala Dinner  
Register now - Not to be missed!



## Auckland Literacy Association



### Creating Space in Classrooms for Translanguaging and Embodied Cultural Literacies



**Dr. Rae Si'ilata**

Ngāti Raukawa, Tūhourangi, Fiji  
Director of Va'atele Education Consulting

*Rae is contracted by the Ministry of Education to provide teacher professional learning and development, and to document research findings in ECE centres and primary schools.*

*Two current projects are the Pasifika Early Literacy Project (PELP) and the Pasifika Teacher Aide Project (PTAP), which focus on supporting teachers and learning assistants to privilege and utilise linguistically and culturally sustaining/revitalising pedagogies within their learning spaces.*

*Rae also works at Te Whare Wānanga o Awanuiārangi in the School of Indigenous Graduate Studies (SIGs), supporting Māori and Pacific taura in their Indigenous doctoral journeys.*

How do we support kaiako to consider how they might create space for the language and literacy resources of emergent bilingual learners within their English literacy teaching programme? This talk will share insights gleaned from the Pasifika Early Literacy Project, where kaiako are supported to create and normalise bilingual learning spaces. Pasifika dual language books are used as catalysts to enact translanguaging pedagogies and to grow learners' embodied cultural literacies. Teachers' willingness to share power and to surface and disrupt deficit assumptions supports Pasifika learners to utilise their full linguistic repertoires. As teachers change their beliefs about the centrality of learners' lived experiences, languages and cultures, their classroom practice changes, and learners are empowered to lead learning, and to share their voices in agentic and culturally located ways.

**When:** 10th November  
**Time:** 5:00 – 9.00 pm  
**Where:** The Parnell Hotel & Conference Centre  
20 Gladstone Rd  
Parnell  
**Cost:** \$75 for ALA members  
\$100 for non-members

#### Programme

5:00pm: Welcome Tea & Coffee  
5:30pm: Presentation  
6:30pm: Dinner & Cash Bar  
7:30pm: Talanoa and questions

**REGISTRATION LINK:** <https://forms.gle/Hbgzk77HkPV8NW4D8>

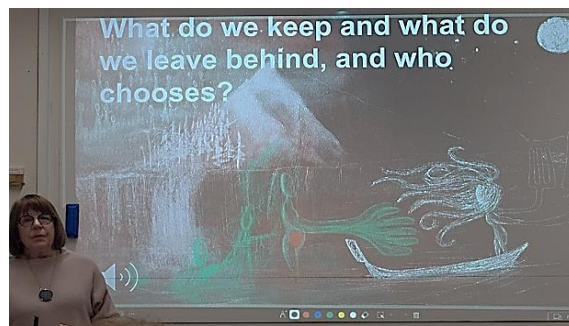
# “WHO SETS THE COURSE FOR LITERACY IN AOTEAROA?” REPORT



## ALA: Term 3 Event

Who sets the course for Literacy in Aotearoa? /New Zealand?  
A conversation about steering the literacy waka forwards by looking backwards:  
Auckland Literacy Association: 11 August 2021

Ninety people gathered to hear Associate Professor Rebecca Jesson and Professor Janet Gaffney shared a conversation About Literacy in New Zealand/Aotearoa. They opened by sharing that the conversation would be about walking backwards into our future and how this places us in a different mindset where we're moving towards the future, while keeping the past alive is key. They made the point that “what we do now matters to those who go before.” and how they view themselves as literacy researchers with commitments to learning equity.



The conversation was divided into six currents which encapsulated the past and present. Current One looked at the notion of the child. First words must mean something and must have intense meaning for a child. First books must be made of the child himself.

Current Two talked about the notion of teaching, that as teachers we need to walk in other's shoes and remember that what our students say matters.

Current Three focused on the notion of learning, Graham Nuthall reminds us that the reason learning experiences are different is complex and is “not because they learn more quickly or more efficiently, but rather that because of their cultural backgrounds their interests and motivation, and their skills in managing social relationships, they create more learning experiences for themselves.” Students are capable of creating their own space for teaching and learning to occur in.

Current Four discussed Collective Contribution. Publishers have an impact on the literacy landscape and what is available for our tamariki to read. In 1979 at Lopdell House the Ready to Read series was established. This was followed up by authors such as Joy Cowley and Margaret Mahy being invited to Hoban House in Christchurch and paid one thousand dollars to bring along a manuscript. It was in this environment that the authors saw the scrutiny of the manuscripts and understood better what a good manuscript for a children's story looked like.



Current Five entails Reading with Understanding. The new direction was collectively designed, and each group contributed another unique layer to the story. Myrtle Simpson suggested observing children at work in their classrooms. The notion of bi-directional relationships happening in the brain was born.

Current Six in a nutshell talks about engagement. Don Holdaway (1979, pg 170) describes it best by stating “There is no better system to control the complexities and intricacies of each person's learning than that person's own system operating with genuine motivation and self-determination within reach of humane and informed help.”

This discussion raised important questions; What do we keep? and what do we leave behind? and who chooses? and What matters? The notion of the child as culture matters. The notion of learning matters. The interactive space between learning and teaching matters. Collaboration matters and finally context matters. The presentation by Associate Professor Rebecca Jesson and Professor Janet Gaffney was well received by the audience.

Heather Irwin

**Storyline Online**<https://www.youtube.com/user/storylineonline/videos>

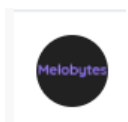
An award-winning and Daytime Emmy-nominated children's literacy website, Storyline Online, streams imaginatively produced videos featuring celebrated actors including Viola Davis, Allison Janney, Chris Pine, Wanda Sykes, Justin Theroux, and Betty White reading children's books alongside creatively produced illustrations, helping to inspire a love of reading in children.

**Pobble 365**<https://www.pobble365.com/>

Pobble 365 is an online platform for writing. It presents a new motivational picture every day or you can choose your own. There are also activities to improve editing skills.

**Fabo Story**<https://fabostory.wordpress.com/>

Fabo Story is a fabulous idea dreamed up by a bunch of children's authors to get kids writing. Anyone living in NZ or Australia aged 13 years and under can enter and win prizes! There are pop up prizes and other competitions too.

**Melobytes**<https://melobytes.com/en/app/rap>

Text to Rap. Write in your story and this app will change it to a RAP with music and a video. A bit of fun. Make sure the kids don't read the comments.

*Murray Gadd Literacy*

Free online videos using picture book text to inspire student writing from Dr Murray Gadd.

**Epic Reading**<https://www.getepic.com/>

Epic is a free online platform for reading. Teachers can assign books to their class or let the kids go for it!

**Foundation for Learning and Literacy**<https://foundationforlearningandliteracy.info/>

The Foundation provides information about relevant research and classroom practices that establishes an evidence base for effective literacy teaching and learning. This website offers resources that will help in fostering ongoing learner engagement and motivation.