

## Political Literacy Resource Pack Launched

LITERACY WORKERS AND LEARNERS GATHERED AT THE SCOTTISH PARLIAMENT LAST MONTH TO SEE ROSIE KANE MSP LAUNCH THE POLITICAL LITERACY RESOURCE PACK.

The pack is the culmination of the 'Powerful Literacies: Learning about the Scottish Parliament' project - which was featured in Beans in January. The aim of the project was to create a variety of literacy and numeracy based activities centred on the work of the Scottish Parliament.

The result is a pack of over twenty learning and teaching activities concentrating on engaging with the Parliament and MSPs. The packs will be distributed to literacy projects throughout Scotland.



James Tunney with the resource pack.



At the launch, Rosie Kane (left) said, "All the learners should be really proud of what they have achieved here. I am honoured to have been involved".

Michelle Smith and Vivianca Simone, learners who took part in the project commented,

"We really enjoyed working in a group with the other learners and tutors.

"We learnt a lot about the Parliament and feel it's important that everyone should be able to enjoy and understand what goes on at Holyrood.

"We hope this pack will make it easier for others to gain a greater understanding of our Scottish Parliament".

For more information about the project contact Catherine Macrae. Tel: 0131 270 6034 or 0131 652 3938. Email: catherine@clanedinburgh.org

Packs are available from Elizabeth Bryan at the WEA. Tel: 0131 335 7772. Email: e.bryan@weascotland.org.uk

You can also download online packs from: [www.scottish.parliament.uk/vli/education/resources/teachingResources](http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/vli/education/resources/teachingResources)

Last year CLAN Edinburgh recruited around 800 new learners through the Challenge Fund. In addition, almost £100,000 was distributed to 16 new projects aiming to recruit another 600 learners from some of the 'hardest to reach' client groups as identified in the national and local strategy plans.

Groups and organisations as diverse as the Criminal Justice Team, South Edinburgh Arts, Turning Point, Lothian Anti Poverty Alliance and Edinburgh Home-Link Partnership all received grants from the Challenge Fund, which will be running again over the next year.

### Application Rounds

In 2006-07 CLAN will be having two application rounds, the first submission date of which will be Friday 14 July, with the second submission date being Friday 15 December.

There will be a Briefing Session for would-be applicants who have not attended a previous briefing session at the CLAN Edinburgh offices on Wednesday 7 June. To book a place, contact Ariana Brochet on 0131 270 6072 or email: [ariana@clanedinburgh.org](mailto:ariana@clanedinburgh.org)

For more details visit the CLAN website. Please feel free to contact CLAN if you have an idea to discuss (see back).

**MOMENTS OF GLORY:** This month Hearts qualified for Europe's Champions League for the first time in their history and brought the Scottish Cup home to Edinburgh for the first time in eight years.

## Footie Beans



**THE THIRD ROUND** of the Adult Learning Project's 'Glory and Dismay: The story of Scottish football' is currently playing again at the Willie Bauld Suite, Tynecastle Stadium, Hearts Football Club, McLeod Street (just off Gorgie Road).

If you know any students who might be interested in writing about and sharing their football stories and memories, please let them know that they can drop-in any Thursday 7.00 – 9.00pm and practice their writing skills. The course plays on until 22nd June and will include guest speakers, the use of tapes, photos, video and computers. There will also be 5-a-side games on additional evenings.

For further details phone Hazel Lyons or John Player on 0131 221 5800. Email: [john.player@educ.edin.gov.uk](mailto:john.player@educ.edin.gov.uk)



## One-stop Shop for Eastern Europeans

This event will offer free advice, information and practical help about living in Scotland to eastern European migrant workers. It is aimed primarily at Polish newcomers who are settling in Edinburgh in large numbers despite the lack of a good support infrastructure.

EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO COME ALONG

WSZYSTKICH SERDECZNIE ZAPRASZAMY (Polish)

VŠETCI SÚ VÍTANI PRÍŠŤ K NA'M (Slovakian)



Information on ESOL/Literacies and many other services will be offered by a range of providers including Further Education Colleges, Adult Education Programme, Libraries, Community Learning & Development, Family Learning, Welcoming Project, Ark Trust, Housing, Lothian & Borders Police, Job Centre and Careers Scotland.

The event will run on **Thursday 8th June**, 10.00 am – 2.00 pm in South Bridge Resource Centre, Infirmery Street. For further information phone Douglas Bishop on 0131 558 3545 or email: [douglas.bishop@educ.edin.gov.uk](mailto:douglas.bishop@educ.edin.gov.uk)

## What's on for adults in South Edinburgh



### Learners' Mag

The Spring issue of 'Write On', the newsletter produced by learners for learners, is out now. This issue is packed with stories and poems. Look out for it at your projects and centres and make sure your learners get a copy.

If you cannot get hold of it where you are please get in touch with Claudia Esslinger. Email: [claudia.esslinger@educ.edin.gov.uk](mailto:claudia.esslinger@educ.edin.gov.uk)



This CBAL booklet is a guide to groups in South Edinburgh's Community Learning & Development centres and facilities including adult learning opportunities, parent and toddler groups, local clubs and activities. It also contains detailed information on everyday literacy and numeracy courses and providers in the area.

For more information or to obtain a copy contact Anne McCulloch. Tel: 0131 664 5101. Email: [anne.mcculloch@educ.edin.gov.uk](mailto:anne.mcculloch@educ.edin.gov.uk)

# STARTING POINTS

**'Starting Points' is one of the SQA accredited workplace courses developed by the Workers' Educational Association (WEA) in partnership with UNISON.**

It is designed to build participants' confidence in their communication skills – everyday reading, writing and speaking, and having built their confidence, take them through some stimulating assessments. If they wish they can achieve SQA accreditation at Access 3/Intermediate 1 in Communications.

Although the course takes place in the workplace and/or in work time, it is not a work-related course but recognises that if people are more confident in their communication skills, they will more confidently take on new tasks in the workplace.

## Range of workplaces

In Edinburgh, since the setting up of CLAN, the WEA has delivered Starting Points courses to workers in the Royal Mail, Remploy, the Royal Edinburgh Hospital, SERCO, Scottish Gas, the City of Edinburgh Housing Department (South Edinburgh), and to staff within Health & Social Care – predominantly Home Care and Residential Care staff.

## Celebration

To recognise and celebrate the success of these courses, the WEA held a Starting Points celebration and invited all those who had participated in the last year (approximately 60 staff!) to a small reception at Riddles Court.

It was a great opportunity to find out about the impact of this course on the various areas of their life – at work, at home, personally and in the community.

Participants gave feedback about specific achievements, changes and differences they had noticed.

Bill King, Manager – Home-based Services, Home Care and Support, and Dot Paterson, UNISON Lifelong Learning/Education Officer and a Home Care Coordinator, both from the Council's Health & Social Care Department, also participated.

Bill King paid tribute to the workers who had undertaken the course, and was particularly pleased to see and discuss a booklet which one group had produced entitled 'A Brief Guide to the Health and Value Base Issues of Home Care' as part of their course work. It is hoped that this booklet might be circulated to all new Home Care staff in due course.

A new Starting Points course is just beginning. If you would like to know more

about the course, or read the feedback from the participants at this event, contact Vickie Hobson (right), Workplace Learning Tutor Organiser at the WEA. Tel: 0131 225 2580. Email:

v.hobson@weascotland.org.uk



## WEB RESOURCES

# SEN Teacher

The SEN (Special Educational Needs) Teacher site at [www.senteacher.org](http://www.senteacher.org) has a range of materials designed for use with learners with learning difficulties.



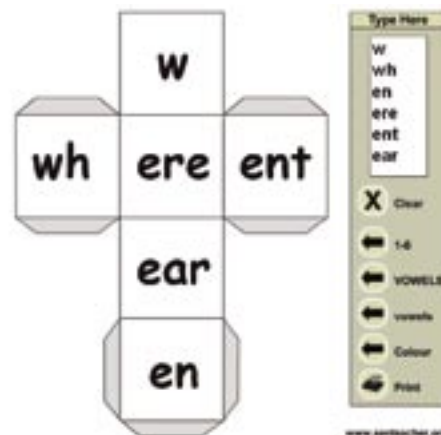
The Coin Machine Game can be played at seven different levels. You are shown a sum of money, e.g. £5.30 and you then click on the coins to make up that amount.

The game can be played online or downloaded as free software. For the online version, go to [www.senteacher.org/bin/moneynew.html](http://www.senteacher.org/bin/moneynew.html)

The Counting Game covers 1 – 10 and then offers a quiz asking users to count cubes. It is self correcting and has sound and animation, although a disadvantage is that the figure and voice used is a baby which seems odd. This game can be downloaded from [www.senteacher.org/shot/baby.php](http://www.senteacher.org/shot/baby.php)

The site also has a wealth of useful tools for creating printable material. These tools are generally adaptable, so you can change the numbers, letters or times, etc. to suit your purpose and then print out the sheets

They include number cards, letter and coin fans, coin cards, coin images and coin dice, clock faces, handwriting practice sheets, number and letter dice (see below), a domino generator (options are coins, shapes, numbers and colours) and number line generators. Go to [www.senteacher.org/main/print.php](http://www.senteacher.org/main/print.php)





## Clydesdale/ Learning Buddies

Jillian Gaunt (left) is a Business Partner with Clydesdale Bank.

Since the beginning of March, Jillian has been leaving her desk at the Business Banking Centre on Lothian Road every Monday afternoon and heading down to McDonald Road Library where she helps out with the Learning Buddies.

As part of Clydesdale's commitment to supporting the Learning Buddies, the bank were keen that a staff member should become involved on a voluntary basis, with the group. Jillian's main role is to call local organisations and arrange visits for the Learning Buddies.

*I wanted to do some voluntary work and this caught my attention as it's close to where I live and I was keen to help out with the local community.*

*It's so satisfying to see the Learning Buddies get to the stage they're at and I think we could all learn a lot from them.*



## Listening to Learners

Thursday 8 June 10.00am - 3.30pm

Quaker Meeting House, 7 Victoria Terrace

This workshop will provide staff in the adult education sector with the opportunity to consider the benefits of improved dialogue with their service users and stakeholders and share good practice.

It is organised by Learning Link Scotland and facilitated by Kay Muir of Adult Learners' Forum in Edinburgh (ALFiE). The one-day workshop will help delegates to:

- consider ways to increase the meaningful involvement of service users
- review techniques to engage less confident learners
- pick up practical hints and tips from an adult learners' forum

For further information and a booking form, phone Alasdair Ferguson on 0131 553 7992.

## Training Opportunities at CLAN Resource Base

### Using Videos in Learning Workshop

Wednesday 28 June 5.00 - 7.30pm  
Thursday 13 July 10.30am - 1.00pm

An introduction to using video with learners covering the basics of recording and saving film and moving on to basic tips on planning and editing projects.

### Digital Cameras Workshop

Wednesday 2 August 5.00 - 7.30pm

An introduction to using digital cameras to create teaching and learning materials or leaflets and posters. It will cover saving photos, inserting them into documents and then moving and changing images and adding text.

### Workshops on Request

CLAN Resource Base has offered a range of ICT workshops since 2003 and it is usually possible to offer these on request to small groups of 4 to 6 practitioners. Our workshops include: Using Word & PowerPoint; Software and Web Sites for Spelling; Software and Web Sites for Numeracy; Learning via the Web; Web Sites for Learning Styles; Desktop Publishing; Using SMART boards plus introductions to specific software programmes such as Inspirations, Clicker, Wordbar, etc.

### Homeless Learners Interest Group

Meets regularly to share practice. The next meeting is on Monday 10 July at 5.00pm and anyone is welcome. Please contact us if you would like to join but cannot manage that date.

## Summer Breakfast Drop-in

Breakfast drop-in at the Resource Base is a new way to meet other tutors and project workers and see resources.

**Everyone is welcome - no need to book!**  
**Let us know if there is a particular area or topic you are interested in.**

Our drop-in dates are:  
Tuesday 20 June, 10.00am  
Thursday 20 July, 10.00am

To book a place or find out more, phone us on 0131 652 3938 or email: [resources@clanedinburgh.org](mailto:resources@clanedinburgh.org)

## MORE BYTES

The next Beans will be out in June 2006. If you would like to contribute, send your items to Fiona Holmes, CLAN Edinburgh, 1-3 Canon Street, Edinburgh EH3 5HE. Tel: 0131 270 6073. Fax: 0131 270 6074. Email: [fiona@clanedinburgh.org](mailto:fiona@clanedinburgh.org) Web: [www.clanedinburgh.org](http://www.clanedinburgh.org)