

Learn for Life

at the Millennium Centre

Seven students in North Edinburgh successfully completed a Learn for Life course in June and now look forward to receiving their SQA certificates. The course was organised by the CLAN Health & Literacy Project and other members of the North Edinburgh CBAL team, with support from Telford Learning and local HOPS (Holistic Opportunities Programme) ESF funding.

The aim of the course was to meet the demand for follow-on community based learning and to introduce a one-day a week SQA accredited course for people who wanted the challenge of working towards qualifications.

The Millennium Centre in Muirhouse proved a popular and comfortable place to study and provided an excellent lunch every week. Children were well looked after in the crèche by North Edinburgh Childcare.

The Learn for Life course had four main parts:

- Communications
- Local Investigations
- IT
- Options & Choices

This combination of subjects offered a good range of core skills and the local investigation let learners study something that was important to them. Sessions were all co-tutored as student support was an important element of the course and students were all able to learn at their own pace.

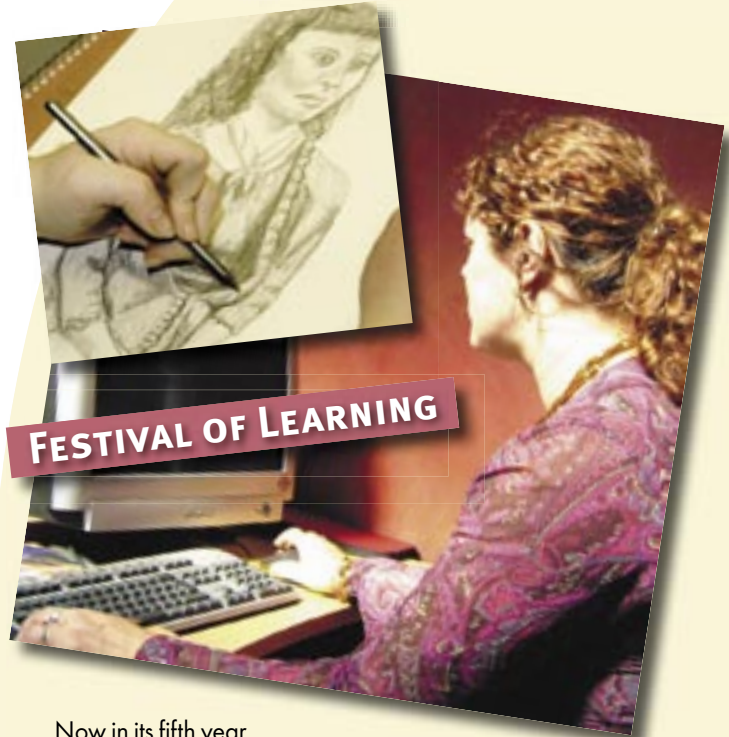
IT sessions were held at Telford Learning in Muirhouse Shopping Centre. All students gained IT modules, opened email accounts and used the Internet to help with their research for their local investigations.

Topics under investigation included: health issues such as childhood asthma and children's diet; the work of a local charity; the role of a Dad's support worker and an investigation on how to get a job in childcare.

All learners completing the course plan to continue learning and get more qualifications. They all reported an increase in their confidence and noticed an improvement in their reading, writing and spelling.

The Health & Literacy project and North Edinburgh CBAL team are now looking at ways of continuing this work and how they can continue to offer qualifications in the community.

Elspeth Hosie, Jo Aitkenhead, Scott Wilkins, Janet Cole & Sheila Duncan



Now in its fifth year, the Portobello Festival of Learning has established itself as a big attraction in the calendar of annual events. One of the reasons for this is that it truly is a festival for the community with something for everyone, whatever your age or ability.

There will be an entertaining mix of stalls, performances, exhibitions and demonstrations and lots of people on hand to offer advice, guidance and information. Amongst the many courses on offer, there will be first aid or computer skills for the practically minded or if you feel like getting creative you'll be able to find out about music, drama and song. There will be help for parents wanting to support their children with their homework and for those who would like to make the most out of their retirement.

Books for sale, raffle prizes and a café will all add to the atmosphere at Portobello Town Hall on Saturday 9 September, 1.30 - 4.00pm.

JOINING THE FESTIVAL

If you, your club, centre or organisation would like to be represented at the Portobello Festival of Learning call 0131 657 2607 or 0131 346 0249.



CLAN Training Programme

The sessions are aimed at Volunteer Tutor Assistants, Tutors, Project Workers, and F.E. Lecturers.

Please register with training@clanedinburgh.org

	DATE	TIME	TITLE	VENUE
AUGUST	17 Aug	10.15am-3.45pm	Focus on Numeracy Forum	Nelson Room, McDonald Road Library
	31 Aug	5.00-7.30pm	Curriculum Framework: Assessment and Accreditation	Canon Street
SEPTEMBER	2, 9 and 30 Sept	10.00am-4.00pm	WIGALL	The Number Shop
	14 Sept	5.00-7.30pm	Curriculum Framework: Assessment and Accreditation	Canon Street
	25 Sept	4.30-7.00pm	Dyslexia (Awareness) Part 1	Canon Street
OCTOBER	2 Oct	5.00-7.30pm	An Introduction to Scotopic Sensitivity	Canon Street
	9 Oct	10.30am-12.30pm	Curriculum Framework: Overview for Managers	Canon Street
	17 Oct	4.30-7.00pm	Curriculum Framework: Introduction	Canon Street
	25 Oct	5.00-7.30pm	Dyslexia (Strategies) Part 2	Resource Base
	31 Oct	4.30-7.00pm	Curriculum Framework: Assessment and Learning Planning	Canon Street
NOVEMBER	28 Oct, 4 and 18 Nov	10.00am-4.00pm	WIGALL	The Number Shop
	2 Nov	10.00am-12.00pm	Speaking the Same Language	Canon Street
	4 Nov and	10.00am-4.00pm	Introduction to Working with ESOL Literacies Learners – Part 1	Canon Street
	11 Nov	10.00am-4.00pm	Introduction to Working with ESOL Literacies Learners – Part 2	Canon Street
	7 Nov	4.30-7.00pm	Curriculum Framework: Assessment and Progress	Canon Street
	15 Nov	5.00-7.30pm	Dyslexia (ICT) Part 3	Resource Base

Details of ICT workshops will appear in the September issue of Beans.



Focus on Numeracy Forum

City-wide forum aimed at all practitioners – experienced in numeracy or terrified and would like to feel more confident – a variety of workshops including ICT and practical activities you can use with learners.

WIGALL (*Working in Groups with Adult Literacies Learners*)

Aim: to prepare tutors who have been working one-to-one with adult literacy and or numeracy learners for group tutoring.

During the course you will:

- consider the purpose, nature and dynamics of tutoring and learning in literacy/numeracy groups
- look at goal setting, negotiating activities and evaluating progress and learning in adult literacy/numeracy groups
- look at methods and approaches for learning about reading, writing and numbers in groups
- prepare and deliver a 15-minute presentation about a group work session you would like to tutor in your group
- give and receive feedback about your presentations
- look at the role of the group tutor in adult literacies learning
- reflect on your learning during the course and identify areas for further learning/training and support



AN ADULT LITERACY AND NUMERACY CURRICULUM FRAMEWORK FOR SCOTLAND WORKSHOPS

Introduction

Aim: to explore the content of the new curriculum document. Fun exercises to find your way around and use the wheel and scaffolding approaches.

Assessment and Learning Planning Assessment and Progress

Aim: to develop participants' understanding of assessment (Learning Planning/Progress) as outlined in the Curriculum Framework document.

To offer opportunities for participants to:

- try out appropriate tools and approaches for learning planning /recognising progress
- plan and assess own progress in learning about assessment
- share knowledge and experience of practical ideas

Assessment and Accreditation

Aims: two workshops to provide participants with an overview of accreditation available for ALN learning and understanding of its purpose and application based on the Curriculum Framework.

- discuss aims and purposes of accreditation
- explore particular SQA Units
- practice developing assessment materials
- explore levelling and using portfolios in accreditation

Overview for Managers

An overview of the Curriculum Framework (CF) for staff who manage, organise and oversee literacies provision.

Aims:

- provide an overview and introduction to the CF
- identify how the CF can improve the development and quality of both dedicated and integrated ALN learning programmes
- offer a networking opportunity for managers from CLAN partners and Challenge funded organisations and projects

An Intro to Working with ESOL Literacies Learners

A two-day training for literacies tutors (and assistants) covering:

- cultural considerations
- strategies for communicating with the learner
- teaching reading and writing, including to users of scripts other than the Roman script
- using and adapting published and authentic materials

Dyslexia (Awareness) Part 1

A basic introduction to dyslexia and how it impacts on adult learners. Includes identifying dyslexia and support available.

Dyslexia (Strategies) Part 2

For participants who have an awareness of dyslexia. Covers learning styles and strategies, including group exercises.

Dyslexia (ICT) Part 3

For participants who have an awareness of dyslexia and learning strategies. Covers ICT support for teaching.

An Introduction to Scotopic Sensitivity

A visual perceptive difference – what is it? How does it affect people? How does the screening work? What can you as a tutor do to help?

Speaking the Same Language – Raising Awareness of Adult Literacies and Numeracy

For Project Workers, Learning Advisors and Development Workers: How do we promote our provision in partnership working? Taking our own experience, learners' views and recent research into account, we will consider how we can enable partners to make their own definition of ALN as well as holding on to our values and principles.



Hi, my name is **Fiona Stewart** and I am the Community Learning & Development Worker based at South Bridge Resource Centre. I am looking into the provision of Literacy and Numeracy for British Sign Language users and then set up pilot courses to address this.

It will be a challenge to encourage BSL users to take an active part in Adult Education across the learning spectrum. It is difficult for BSL users to access courses due to lack of sign language interpreters and lack of accessible materials.

It would be great to hear from you if you are working with, or hope to work with, BSL users at the moment. Please do not hesitate to call me or pass my details to any interested parties. Until more established, contact Mary Law on 0131 558 8222 and she will pass enquiries on to me.

From Arabic to Yoga

The Council's Adult Education Class Programme brochure for 2006-07 will be available from **Wednesday 16 August** from libraries, bookshops and community centres, or on our website at egfl.net

See the free brochure for details of our wide range of day, evening and weekend courses.

If possible, please enrol by post before the end of August using the form in the brochure, as these enrolments are processed first. You will also be able to enrol in person at specific times and venues, by phone on specific days, and, if there are spaces available, in person at the first meeting of the class.

Caroline Cottrell recently took up the post of Administrative Assistant with CLAN. Having attended the ITALL course last Autumn, Caroline was already familiar with the CLAN Partnership and for the past nine months she has been a Volunteer Tutor with a Literacies and ICT group at Leith Academy.



"My group at Leith Academy is lovely and I have learnt a lot from it as well as from the ITALL course. However, by joining CLAN as a staff member I hope to learn more about the business and strategic side of the partnership as well as contributing my admin skills and ideas."

Caroline is based with the CLAN core team at Canonmills. If you need to contact her, please call 0131 270 6072 or email: caroline@clanedinburgh.org

Teaching Qualification in Adult Literacies (TQAL)

Application packs are now available and can be downloaded from the website: www.strath.ac.uk/Departments/CommunEdu/tqal

Packs can also be posted out on request by contacting the TQAL office. If you have any queries regarding your application contact David Wallace, Project Manager at david.wallace@strath.ac.uk or Mabl Hall, Project Administrator Teaching Qualification in Adult Literacies (TQAL). Tel: 0141 950 3688. Closing date for applications is Friday 8 September.

Research Bytes

Does numeracy matter more than literacy?

At the sixteenth Scottish Forum on Lifelong Learning, Diana Coben, King's College London, ran a workshop titled 'Researching adult numeracy - making a difference'. She highlighted current and recent research on numeracy in the Adult Literacy and Numeracy context with special emphasis on making a difference to students' lives and contributing to social inclusion.

GENDER BYTES

Drawing on research published by the NRDC (National Research & Development Centre), she made the following points:

- The jobless rate for men and women with poor numeracy skills is almost identical but women are actually more disadvantaged. Those women with jobs are more likely to be doing semi-skilled or unskilled work and less likely to be in full-time employment - irrespective of how many children they have. Women with poor numeracy skills are more than twice as likely to be unemployed as their numerate neighbours.

"Changes in the nature of employment are at the heart of the problem of numeracy for women ... Modern jobs of the kind that appeal to young women - for example, managing accounts or using ICT equipment for administration - demand numeracy skills."

- Poor numeracy appeared to be an even bigger handicap than illiteracy for the 1,350 thirty-year olds surveyed.

"Targeting poor numeracy skills among the most disadvantaged sections of the female population is likely to be a particularly important antidote to the risk of social exclusion".

Parsons & Bynner, 'Does Numeracy Matter More?'; NRDC, 2006

● CLAN Resource Base news

Catherine Macrae is now on leave until January 2007. For Resource Base enquiries contact Lorraine or Helen at resources@clanedinburgh.org or tel: 0131 652 3938.

The next Beans will be out in September. 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 Web: www.clanedinburgh.org