

**Mondays: 19 February – 26 March**  
(you can join the group after 19 February)  
7.15 pm – 9.15 pm  
Tollcross Community Centre  
117 Fountainbridge

A training programme offered by the Adult Learning Project to Community Learning & Development, Literacy, ESOL, Adult Education workers, and workers and activists from the voluntary sector.

Paulo Freire is one of the greatest educational thinkers of the twentieth century. His methods engage learners in educational work relevant to their own life situation. The Adult Learning Project has translated these methods to be applicable in a whole range of adult education and community development settings.

The programme offers participants the opportunity to engage with the ideas and methods of Freire and to introduce them into their own work.

There will be input from experienced practitioners including Stan Reeves, John Player, Vernon Galloway, Sheila McWhirter, and Gerri and Colin Kirkwood.

**For more information or to book a place contact Sarah Sibbert.**

Tel: 0131 221 5800

Fax: 0131 221 9264

Email: [sarah.sibbert@educ.edin.gov.uk](mailto:sarah.sibbert@educ.edin.gov.uk)

Web: [www.tollcross.edin.org/alp](http://www.tollcross.edin.org/alp)

A 'Rough Guide to Paulo Freire' is sponsored by the ALP Association.

## Getting Started in Adult Literacy and Numeracy An Introductory Course

Wednesdays: 7, 14 and 21 March, 9.45 am–4.00 pm  
St Columba's By-the-Castle, Johnston Terrace

Free training for staff in organisations who are supporting adult literacy and numeracy learners or thinking about getting involved in this work.

The aims are to enable participants to:

- identify how their work and organisation could become involved in the Adult Literacy and Numeracy initiative for Edinburgh
- support potential literacy or numeracy learners within their own settings
- consider how they might integrate learning about literacy or numeracy within other learning programmes.

There will also be a half-day ICT & Resources Session on Thursday 29 March, 10.30 am – 1.00 pm at CLAN Resource Base, McDonald Road Library, 2 McDonald Road.

*"I would like to say how enjoyable I found the course. It felt inspiring to look at all the different ways in which we can integrate literacy and numeracy into our working practice. I'm looking forward to finding ways to use this at Forth Sector"*

Tanya Bolton, Training & Development Co-ordinator, Forth Sector

**For further information or to register, contact Gillian Lawrence. Email: [gillian@clanedinburgh.org](mailto:gillian@clanedinburgh.org) Tel: 0131 270 6070. Fax: 0131 270 6074.**

### SAME DIFFERENCE?

Same Difference? is an online guide for people working in Community Learning & Development (CLD). It offers guidance and support to help you effectively and confidently work with equalities groups (groups promoting equal opportunities regardless of age, disability, gender, ethnicity, religion and beliefs, and sexual orientation). The guide was commissioned by Learning Connections and has been written with the involvement of CLD staff and equalities groups.

You can access the guide online at

[www.communitiesscotland.gov.uk/samedifference](http://www.communitiesscotland.gov.uk/samedifference)

### Learners Leading the Way

With May's national and local elections in mind, Adult Learners' Forum in Edinburgh ran a free seminar in last October (see Beans 37). Learners from the ALFiE committee presented ALFiE's Manifesto for Adult Education, which had been drawn up using learners' views and ideas. Politicians present at the seminar generally welcomed it and offered constructive comments and suggestions. Since then, the ALFiE committee has been working on the Manifesto, taking into account the views of adult learners and others attending the seminar.

**ALFiE**

You can now view or download the Manifesto at [www.alfieforum.edin.org](http://www.alfieforum.edin.org)

## Discovering Dyslexia

### What is dyslexia?

Dyslexia comes from the Greek meaning 'difficulty with language'.

Dyslexia is a difference rather than a deficit. It affects information processing (receiving, holding, retrieving and structuring information) and consequently the speed of processing.

Dyslexia can affect phonological or visual processing of sounds and/or letters, sequential aspects of language, number, time and direction. It can also affect short-term memory, making learning a more difficult process.

### Peer support

CLAN is forming an exciting new group for learners to find out about dyslexia and to support other learners. In this group learners will have the opportunity to:

- share how dyslexia can affect learners
- research dyslexia
- discover materials/information to show other learners with dyslexia
- and lots more!

There will be an opportunity for learners who may be used to taking a lead role in their own learning, to take a lead in supporting and informing other learners. Learners will be involved in every aspect of the project from researching new information/materials to planning and publicising the support that the project can offer.

We would like tutors to let the groups they are working with know about this exciting new opportunity and encourage interested learners to get in touch.

**I CAN'T READ THAT WELL  
BUT I CAN SKIM READ  
PICK OUT KEY POINTS  
SO WHEN I DO EXAMS  
I WOULD READ  
THE QUESTIONS  
THEN FIND THE  
BIT RELATED IN  
THE STRIP**



For more information and to download a letter and reply form for learners, visit the CLAN website at [www.clanedinburgh.org](http://www.clanedinburgh.org)

## Resource Base Online

CLAN has launched a new online version of the Resource Base by adding pages for practitioners to the CLAN Learn e-learning site. So we now have an area of the site where you can:

- hear about new CLAN resources
- share ideas and suggestions with other Resource Base users
- browse and search our catalogues of books and packs
- view and download our guides to good software and websites
- ask us to send books and packs out to you via any Edinburgh City Library (or City of Edinburgh Council offices, schools or centres, if you work there)
- find out about and book a place on one of our ICT training workshops.

The website is still being developed but is ready for you to use, so we look forward to meeting you online soon. We hope it will provide an easy way for you to find out what we have in stock, ask us for suggestions and keep in touch with other practitioners in the city. We seem to be off to a good start, as in the first four days twenty-eight people logged on!

Anyone who has an email address can log on to the Resource Base online. If you have already joined the CLAN Learn website, look for the Resource Base links on the home page.

If you are new to CLAN Learn, go to [www.clanlearn.org](http://www.clanlearn.org) and look for the message at the bottom of the log on page 'If you already have email you can join now by clicking here' and follow the simple instructions.



For more information contact Catherine or Lorraine at the Resource Base. Email: [resources@clanedinburgh.org](mailto:resources@clanedinburgh.org) or by phone 0131 652 3938.

To find out more about the CLAN Learn website, what it offers learners and how e-learning works, contact John McGrath, Innovations Project Worker, by email [john@clanedinburgh.org](mailto:john@clanedinburgh.org) or by phone 0131 652 3938.

## Research Bytes

Teaching individuals and groups questioning techniques

**When you're using questions to encourage learning, how long do you leave learners to answer?**

In *Adult Numeracy: shifting the focus*, *Scottish Executive*, 2005, page 24, Diana Coben draws on research from schools which was published in 2002 by two professors from King's College, London, and which she recommends is "more widely known by adult educators".

The research aimed to find out how pupils can become better learners. Based on findings that many teachers leave less than one second for pupils to answer, and then only encourage a small minority to answer, they encouraged teachers to do it differently.

They gave pupils much more time to think about the questions and also expected everyone to respond: teachers asked pupils to brainstorm in pairs for three minutes first so everyone engaged in thinking.

Pupils taught this way seemed to value the learning process more highly and actually achieved better GCSE results than pupils learning with other teachers.

The text by Coban can be downloaded from [www.lc.comunitiesscotland.gov.uk/stellent/groups/public/documents/webpages/cs\\_007417.hcsp](http://www.lc.comunitiesscotland.gov.uk/stellent/groups/public/documents/webpages/cs_007417.hcsp)

For more information, see *Working Inside the Black Box: Assessment for Learning in the Classroom*, P. Black and C. Harrison.

### WEA correction

In last month's Beans we published the incorrect phone number for the Workers' Educational Association. The correct phone number is 0131 225 2580.

## YOUTH LITERACIES

Friday 16 March  
9.00am - 2.00pm  
6VT, 6 Victoria Terrace

**Would you like to share or find out about current practices, build partnerships with other interested organisations and identify ways forward?**

Then come along to the City Wide Literacies and Numeracy Forum on Youth Literacies: building partnerships.

The forum is aimed at staff in voluntary and statutory organisations, colleges and City of Edinburgh Council (but no previous experience of working in youth literacies is required).

The forum will include discussion groups, networking opportunities, resources display and advice. Lunch will be provided.



Please register your interest by contacting Caroline at CLAN **by Friday 2 March**, giving your contact details, organisation, and if required, special support and dietary requirements. Tel: 0131 270 6072. Email: [caroline@clanedinburgh.org](mailto:caroline@clanedinburgh.org)

## Where is Adult Education?

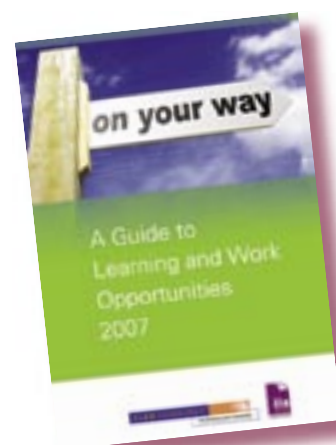
Wednesday 14 March  
9.30am - 12.00 noon  
City Chambers

**Are you an adult learner or an adult education worker who is interested in what's happening to adult education in Edinburgh?**

If so, come along to the Edinburgh Adult Education Group's exciting event called 'Where is Adult Education?' to give your views, share your ideas and find out from local politicians about their plans for the future.

To get a booking form for this free seminar contact EVOG Learning at 14 Ashley Place, Edinburgh EH6 5PX or phone 0131 555 9100.

The form can be downloaded from [www.edinburghcompact.org.uk/microsites/eaeg](http://www.edinburghcompact.org.uk/microsites/eaeg)



CLAN has just produced this free booklet which is aimed at learners who are thinking about taking their next step in learning or employment.

The booklet 'On Your Way' contains information on some of the various learning options that are available and also gives advice on where to go for information on finance, childcare and employment.

For more information contact Fiona Holmes at CLAN (details below).