



Issue 9, 26 September 2005

## **CLAN Edinburgh E-News**

### **Learning in Edinburgh**

**In this issue:**

**CLAN Planning Event – 21 September at Update**

**Getting Started in Adult Literacy and Numeracy**

**Health & Literacy Learners Celebrate**

**Numeracy Update – Cath Smith**

**Web Resources**

**Launch of the Big Plus website**

**Learning Connections E-News**

**Children & Families Dept. Newsletter**

**Edinburgh City of Literature**

**She is leaving us – How could she??**

### **CLAN Planning Event – 21 September at Update**

CLAN held a crucial planning event last Wednesday at Update. It was a key step in the process by which it is working with stakeholders to build up its Action Plan for 2006-08. CLAN had already engaged with learners over the last 12 months, building up a picture of learners' requirements, culminating in an event on Saturday 10 September at McDonald Road Library when learners further clarified the provision and developments they hoped to see in the coming years. Practitioners had already submitted a range of suggestions which CLAN intends to take forward through the Action Plan.

Wednesday's event, which was introduced by Mike Rosendale, heard a presentation by Angus Whyte on CLAN's Strategic Planning and by Gillian Lawrence on Learners' Views. Workshops were dedicated to reviewing

CLAN's targets for 2006-08 and how these might be achieved.

Stakeholders present including learners, employers, partners, practitioners and CLAN core staff gave CLAN much food for thought, which will be incorporated in the draft Action Plan 2006-08 to be considered by CLAN's Action Group on 29 September 2005.

The final version of our Action Plan is due with the Scottish Executive at the end of December 2005.

## **Getting Started in Adult Literacy & Numeracy**

An introductory course aimed at staff in organisations who would like to –

- Support potential literacy or numeracy learners within their own settings.
- Consider how they might integrate learning about literacy or numeracy within other learning programmes.

The course will run over three days in November from 9.30 am - 3.30 pm.

For more details and an application form please contact CLAN's Training Officer, Gillian Lawrence. Tel:0131 270 6070.  
Email: [gillian@clanedinburgh.org](mailto:gillian@clanedinburgh.org)

## **Health & Literacy Learners Celebrate**

Learners from the Health & Literacy project in North West Edinburgh celebrated their learning achievements at a special awards ceremony held at North Edinburgh Arts Centre last month.

The occasion was an opportunity for the learners to reflect on the tremendous achievement and progress they had made towards their individual learning goals.

Learners came from a variety of groups within the health & literacy project including – the Driving Theory Course, the Playsacks Group, the Muirhouse Library (Pals) Group, the Looking at Cooking Group, the Millennium Centre Literacy Group, some have worked from home and some have taken on open learning SQA accredited courses for example creative writing and child development.

Joanne who has been attending many of the groups commented, "*I have met lots of people and had a lot of support. Going along to the groups has given me a lot more confidence*".

Donna was referred by her health visitor two years ago and is now attending a creative writing course at Stevenson College.

For more information about the Health & Literacy Project in North West Edinburgh contact Jo or Elspeth. Tel:0131 537 4230 or Email:

[jo@clanedinburgh.org](mailto:jo@clanedinburgh.org) or [elspeth@clanedinburgh.org](mailto:elspeth@clanedinburgh.org).

## **Numeracy Update**

### **Second National Adult Numeracy Seminar on 7 December 2005**

Plans are now underway for the Numeracy Seminar on 7 December in Glasgow and invitations will be sent out nearer the time.

The main speaker is Dave Baker from the Institute of Education in London. He is one of the authors of *Navigating Numeracy* due out this summer but still to appear. Prue heard him speak on a social practice approach to numeracy at the Adults Learning Maths conference in the summer and he will do something similar for us but linking it to Diana's *Shifting the Focus* report.

We are also planning to have some workshops and I've have drawn up a list of possible topics. Please let me know if you can offer ideas or support with this.

**Financial inclusion** – Des Gallagher

**Numeracy and ICT** – Nora Mogey and Prue Pullen

**Numeracy in schools** – Alan Starritt and Deanne Thomas

**Family learning and numeracy**

**Buddies for Learning** – attracting new learners into numeracy provision – CLAN Edinburgh has agreed to provide this workshop.

**Numeracy Energiser training** – Jackie Howie and Angela Valente

**Games and Puzzles for numeracy learning**

**Numeracy Learning at the Glasgow Science Centre**

**M is for learning** – Prue Pullen

**Sharing good practice** –

**CAVSS approach to numeracy learning** (Course in Applied Vocational Study Skills)

## **Accredited numeracy for adult learners**

### **Health and numeracy**

### **ESOL and numeracy**

Catherine Smith  
Development Co-ordinator  
Learning Connections  
Communities Scotland  
27/29 Palmerston Place  
Edinburgh  
EH12 5AP

[cath.smith@communitiesscotland.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:cath.smith@communitiesscotland.gsi.gov.uk)

0131 479 5493

07909 890 177

### **Training for tutors**

We have commissioned NIACE to deliver a Scottish version of its **numeracy energiser** training to 40 tutors over the weekend 11 – 13 November. The training is designed for those tutors who may be experienced literacy tutors but feel less confident and competent in working on numeracy. Four tutors from Edinburgh have places on the course.

Two Scottish trainers, Jackie Howie of Glasgow University, and Angela Valente of Perth College will be part of the NIACE team for this event. By employing Jackie and Angela we are building up expertise in Scotland and hope to involve them in other training, either organised by Learning Connections or the individual partnerships. After the training the materials will be made available to the partnerships on a cdrom.

As part of Learning Connections' CPD programme we hope to run a training for tutors in the use of **ICT in numeracy learning** in 2006.

### **Awareness Raising with the Adult Literacies Partnerships**

Numeracy and financial inclusion were the two discussion topics at a recent meeting of the key contacts in the Literacies Partnerships and Learning Connections. CLAN provided copies of its numeracy action plan. There was a discussion around the successes and the issues for all the partnerships in attracting learners into numeracy and developing provision.

The contribution of the literacies partnerships and Learning Connections to the executive action plan on **Financial Inclusion** was also discussed. It was recognised that adult literacies provision had a valuable role to play but it was important to be clear on the distinction between working on financial topics with adult literacies learners and taking on the role of a financial advisor.

## **Numeracy Practitioner Network**

In response to feedback from our Numeracy Seminar last year a practitioner network has been set up to provide practitioners with an opportunity to meet each other, share good practice and discuss issues around numeracy. It had a very successful first meeting in June and I enclose some material from that session. The next meeting is on 7 October.

## **Numeracy Forum**

Interest in having an online numeracy forum was also expressed at the Numeracy Seminar. This has been set up on our website [www.lc.communitiesscotland.gov.uk](http://www.lc.communitiesscotland.gov.uk) My postings to this forum are read by a fair number of people but so far there have been very few postings apart from mine. Any contributions to the forum which might encourage others to take part would be appreciated.

## **International Literacy Day, 8 September 2005**

The market place at this event gave the literacies partnerships an opportunity to highlight some of the work they were doing. The stall for Clackmannanshire featured their work on **Financial Literacy** and Des Gallagher was on hand to discuss.

Two of the workshops at the conference had a numeracy theme:

**Don't be shy give numbers a try!** The **Learning Buddies** project has successfully trained learners to go out and speak to community groups and encourage people into learning. Two of the learners spoke about how much they had gained from their own numeracy learning, from gaining accreditation for it, and from being part of this project.

## **Numeracy for health care workers**

Mike Sabin of NHS Education for Scotland highlighted the importance of identifying and supporting the numeracy needs of health care workers at all levels. Prue is a member of the NHS Education group which is working on a national healthcare numeracy strategy. The strategy will go out to consultation in October.

## **The Use of ICT in Adult Numeracy in Scotland**

The first phase of this project ran from January to March 2005. Our website now has a copy of the report on the first phase as well as some examples of materials developed by the participants.

Details of the second phase of this research which will run from November 2005 to December 2006 have just been circulated to the literacies partnerships and to those in the numeracy network.

## **Financial Inclusion**

Learning Connections is contributing to the Scottish Executive's Financial Inclusion Action Plan.

Developing training to raise awareness about adult literacies for front line staff in financial organisations and money advice service is one of our tasks which we plan to address in 2006.

## **Financial Inclusion Forum, June 2005**

This national event organised by the social inclusion division of the Scottish Executive provided an opportunity for those involved in financial inclusion work across various sectors to hear about the work going on in this field both locally and internationally.

## ***Financial Literacy Education and Skills for Life, Coben, Dawes and Lee, NRDC, 2005***

This report is now available to download. <http://www.nrdc.org.uk>

***Helping Young Adults become Financially Capable*** [www.fsa.gov.uk](http://www.fsa.gov.uk), new publication includes some Scottish case studies.

## **SFEU**

The SFEU's Numeracy conference in June had the title *Shifting the focus – Challenges to Delivering Maths and Numeracy Curriculum in FE Colleges*. It featured an excerpt from the film of Diana talking about her report at our numeracy seminar last year. Joe Bradshaw is the contact for those in FE who would like to join SFEU's mathematics and numeracy network [Jo.Bradshaw@sfeu.ac.uk](mailto:Jo.Bradshaw@sfeu.ac.uk)

## **Changing Lives: Adult Literacy and Numeracy in Scotland, Aspect Report from HMIE**

This report identified numeracy as an area that required more development and one of its recommendations for the Adult Literacy and Numeracy partnerships was that, *Partnerships should create sufficient opportunities across all provision to meet the numeracy needs of learners.*

## **Web Resources**

### **[www.bbc.co.uk/voices](http://www.bbc.co.uk/voices)**

A useful resource for exploring language and dialect is available from the BBC. You can find voice recordings from all over Great Britain by clicking on a map. Many of these are discussing local language or words used for disability or attractiveness. The link to Voices in Your Area takes you to pages about local words and definitions and here you can send in suggestions. You can also hear clips and see transcripts of local people.

Follow the link to Word Map and you can create your own map and play a game on recognising accents.

An advantage of using the BBC site is that all of it can be read aloud by the free read aloud tool – [www.browsealoud.com](http://www.browsealoud.com)

### **[www.ello.org](http://www.ello.org)**

The English Language Listening Lab Online has over 500 listening activities. The audio clips are authentic conversations or interviews with English speakers from a range of countries (including Ireland, Canada and Australia). The topics are varied, e.g. cooking, books, first job, exercise and it is possible to search by level. Every day there is new material. The files can be played in sections with quiz questions or viewing a transcript and hearing the audio. Although intended as practice for ESOL learners, the material might also be enjoyed by others.

### **[www.niace.org.uk/ALW/WriteWhereYouAre/TeachingWriting.htm](http://www.niace.org.uk/ALW/WriteWhereYouAre/TeachingWriting.htm)**

NIACE (National Institute of Adult Continuing Education), as part of their Write Where You Are project have developed materials to support the teaching of writing, written by Jane Mace and Kate Tomlinson. They include guidance on scribing, starting points to inspire writing for your own purposes (using discussion and text) and Tasters, e.g. writing process, free writing, sentence growing. In addition to the material on the site, there are downloadable files with more ideas and information.

## **Launch of the Big Plus website**

On Thursday 8 September, Johann Lamont, Deputy Communities Minister, launched the Big Plus website. Ms Lamont introduced the website as part of her speech at a conference run by Learning Connections in Murrayfield stadium, Edinburgh to mark International Literacy Day 2005.

The Big Plus website has been designed to encourage adults in Scotland, who need help with reading, writing and numbers, to call the Big Plus free-

phone number – 0800 100 1080.

Log on to [www.thebigplus.com](http://www.thebigplus.com)

## **Learning Connections E-News (issue 14)**

Learning Connections is part of Communities Scotland and is tasked with supporting the work of the Adult Literacy and Numeracy Initiative. Learning Connections publishes an ENews Letter monthly.

Please log on to <http://www.lc.communitiesscotland.gov.uk> and sign up to get your copy sent direct.

### **In this issue:**

International Literacy Day Conference

Launch of the Big Plus Website

Report on the Scottish Adult Literacy and Numeracy Strategy 2004/05

LC News Issue 3

ICT and Numeracy Project

The use of ICT in adult numeracy teaching in Scotland

Revised ITALL pack published

Skills for life diagnostic tool

Citizenship materials for ESOL learners – workshops

Increasing the attractiveness of libraries for adult learners

On the web.

## **Children & Families Department – Newsletter**

The newly formed City of Edinburgh Council's Children & Families Department Newsletter is now online. This newsletter is sent out fortnightly.

To visit / sign up, please click on <http://egfl.net/news/inform/webinform.html>

## **Edinburgh City of Literature**

Edinburgh City of Literature produce a monthly E-bulletin. If you wish to be placed on the mailing list, please contact:

Anna Burkey, Administrator – [anna@cityofliterature.com](mailto:anna@cityofliterature.com).

## **She is leaving us – how could she??**

We've given you all the good news so far. Now for the 'BAD' news – Mags is leaving us to take up new challenges. We at the CLAN team are going to miss her sorely. In case you hadn't realised Mags is the techno-whiz behind this E-News letter. So prepare for some niggly problems with E-News for the next couple of copies, but Mags tells us we'll soon get the hang of it (if you believe that, you.....).

Anyway all best wishes to Mags.

## **CLAN Edinburgh**    ['back to menu'](#)

CLAN Edinburgh (City Literacy & Numeracy) is a partnership project funded by the Scottish Executive. The CLAN Partnership is a sub group of Edinburgh's Community Learning and Development Partnership and its activity integral to the CLD strategy. The partnership's key objectives are to increase the number of people confident about using English and Maths in their everyday lives, increase choice for learners and improve the quality of learning opportunities in the City of Edinburgh.

The funding we receive from the Executive is used to employ project workers in all parts of the City, working in Community Education and the Further Education Colleges as well as others with specialist briefs such as Workplace Learning, English as a Second or Alternative Language, Health and Literacy, Young people and the Voluntary Sector.

CLAN is currently attracting 6000 learners per year into literacy and numeracy learning.

For more information about CLAN Edinburgh please visit our website – [www.clanedinburgh.org](http://www.clanedinburgh.org)

The next issue of CLAN Edinburgh's E-News will be out on 10 October 2005. If you have any information you would like to share / publish in the next edition please email [enews@clanedinburgh.org](mailto:enews@clanedinburgh.org)