

**English Language Partners
Northland**

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Please put this date in your diaries—Tuesday 10th November 10.30am—12.30



Nicola Sutton, Operations Manager from our National Office, will be coming up to run a Tutor Workshop for **YOU**. Nicola has been the Chair of the National Association, a tutor and a centre manager and has a wealth of knowledge and experience to share with us, and I know you will benefit from her wit and wisdom! We have not finalised the topic for the workshop yet—I'll contact you as soon as I have the details. Please let me know if you can come—you won't be disappointed! We will have a shared lunch following Nicola's workshop, so you can get to meet her—and each other.

Did you know

In Shakespeare's time, mattresses were secured on bed frames by ropes. When you pulled on the ropes the mattress tightened, making the bed firmer to sleep on. Hence the phrase.....

I have had quite a few queries about the story behind our stunning new logo. Below is the explanation given on our website:

Kotahi te kohao o te ngira e kuhuna ai te miro ma, te miro pango, te miro wheno. I muri, kia mau ki te aroha, ki te ture, ki te whakapono."

"Through the eye of the needle pass the white threads, the black threads, and the red threads. Afterwards, looking to the past as you progress, hold firmly to your love, the law, and your faith."

This whakatauki was gifted by the late Tamehana Tai Rakana of Tainui to individual leaders in the disability and then wider community sector to support us in our work.

It originated with Potatau Te Wherowhero, the first Maori King, who, at the birth of the Kingitanga movement, spoke of strength and beauty through both unity and diversity, by alluding to the beauty and the strength of the woven tukutuku.

Individual threads are weak, but the process of weaving makes a strong fabric. Individual colours tell no story, but woven together they become beautiful, and can tell a story.

And what stories we tell!!! I think we're very privileged to have this logo. Kia kaha, e hoa ma!

Have a look at our website—there are many resources for you to use—and much more besides!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

- go to the website www.englishlanguage.org.nz
- Click 'login' at the top right hand corner of the screen
- Click on Tutor login
- User name - esolht
- Password—communicate

Enjoy!!

Out of the mouths of babes.....

"When someone loves you, the way they say your name is different. You just know that your name is safe in their mouth' *Billy, aged 4*

What has happened since the last newsletter?



All our SEGs groups visited the Fire Station, where we were welcomed with a lovely morning tea and were given lots of good advice about fire extinguishers, smoke alarms and cooking fires. We were shown all the equipment they use—and their quarters. Several of the learners sat in the cab of the fire-engine, including Galina, who was raring to go!



We held an 'Open Day' to launch our new name. All our SEGs learners brought food to share with tutors, friends and families. It was a lovely morning.



We had a very interesting morning at SEGs learning how to make flax flowers. Some learners made flax fish too. It was so nice to see everyone helping each other. On the whole, the learners were better than the tutors! Cassandra taught us all a Maori song to finish the session.



New Resources

Some of our new resources—please come and have a look! We have so much good stuff for your learners

700 Classroom activities—a huge repertoire of practical, supplementary activities for most levels

Natural English Collocations—a range of activities to help teach and improve natural language skills—Intermediate and Advanced

Tongue Twisters, Rhymes & Songs to improve your English pronunciation (with CDs) - a fun way to help your learner's pronunciation—any level

Understanding Spoken English— a focus on everyday language in context—Intermediate and Advanced

Taboos and Issues—photocopiable lessons on controversial topics—Advanced

Collins Cobuild Elementary English Grammar—just what it says!

Parts of Speech Bingo game—identifying parts of speech in sentences— my Intermediate class loved this!

Pacific Partners Upper Intermediate— many of the contexts refer to current social and political issues

Writing for the Workplace— a series of 5 books with tapes—suitable for Intermediate E4E learners especially

Practice makes perfect—high interest non-fiction reading with comprehension practice—using the first 1000 most commonly-used words

We also have a growing range for your learners from Beginner to



to Advanced

Come and have a browse—we'll give you a cup of tea!! We now have laminated worksheets on all sorts of different topics and would welcome input from you to build up this collection. It's for you!

Important information

From 4 May 2009 anyone giving immigration advice in New Zealand must be licensed. The law has been changed because of concerns that a number of migrants have been disadvantaged through poor immigration advice and fraudulent activities.

What does this mean for us?

- We can help learners who are involved with immigration matters be aware of this law and we can let them know where they can get advice.
- We cannot give them advice—we are not licensed! We can help our learners understand the English in documents from Immigration, and any publicly available material, but we need to be careful not to 'suggest' what the learner might do.

How do we know who is licensed?

An independent Authority in the Department of Labour has been established—Immigration Advisers Authority (IAA). It is responsible for licensing, for managing complaints, and will maintain a register for both.. A list of all licensed Advisers can be found at www.iaa.govt.nz

Another plea for help

We are in need of more tutors for our Monday morning SEGs classes. If one of our tutors cannot come to class, it is difficult for our other tutors to cover for them. Can you help? We can provide material for the lessons if you need it. It is mainly the lower level groups who are most affected if this

Adult Learners' Week

As part of the Adult Learners' Week celebrations, we joined together with other ACE providers for a 'Taste of ACE' - where we offered a prize for the person who visited at least 3 different ACE events held in Whangarei during the week. Classes included Art, Cooking, English, Kapa Haka, Computing, Literacy, Adobe Pizza ovens, New Zealand sign language — and many more. We had visitors to our Monday SEGs classes and they enjoyed taking part in our programme.

We had a shared meal (of course!) . We gained a learner from this, too—he had seen the poster in the Library and came to see what ELP classes were all about! He was hooked, and now comes to SEGs and our Conversation class.



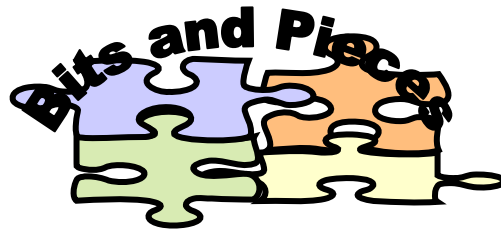
Congratulations!

During Adult Learners' Week, we also celebrated with our new certificated tutors! Four people have completed all their assignments—Agnes Hermans, Wendy Macpherson, Bob O'Reilly and Maureen Anker. Agnes and Maureen were able to come to our celebrations, which was lovely. Below are pictures of Agnes and her learner, Cho from Myanmar



.....and Maureen talking to Doreen from Sri Lanka. Maureen's learners— Guang Wu and Wen Yu were too busy in their Sushi shop to come to our celebrations, unfortunately,





Something to think about (not teaching my grandmother to suck eggs—where does that expression come from? - but just something to think about'

A learner from Asia saying 'yes' does not always mean that they understand. It often means 'yes, I am listening', 'yes, I hear you, please go on and I will understand shortly'. Sometimes it can mean 'I say yes because I think that is what you want to hear and I don't want to offend you by letting you know you are not doing your job properly!' You need to check for understanding. If you have given some instructions, you may ask your learner to repeat them to you. You might ask 'do you want me to explain that again?' Some habits can also be barriers. Writing someone's name in red pen may indicate they are dead (many Asian and some African cultures)! Writing a note to someone, no matter how polite, in red ink can be seen as a sign of anger. Leaning or sitting on a table when talking to someone can be seen as a sign of indifference. Using a handkerchief is simply disgusting to some ('why store it up in your pocket?'). Whilst other cultures may have habits that seem disgusting to us, it helps to recognise what might be disgusting to them! But..... A friendly smile and a genuine interest will make even the most obvious cultural gaffe irrelevant!!!!!! (From 'Four Winds', ie Limited)



Remember that Settlement Support is there for your learner. They can drop in and ask their questions face-to-face on Fridays from 9.00—4.00 at the Customer Service Centre, Forum North. For more information about Settlement Support, phone Ellen on 430 3056



The Whangarei Migrant Centre is a 'one-stop-shop' for information and support for our migrant communities. It is situated on the first floor in the Old Town Hall. You are more than welcome to visit and have a look round—and maybe volunteer!! Please tell your learner about the WMC - they probably know already, but they may not. For more information, phone Sabrina on 430 0571

Out of the mouths of babes..... (from an anonymous 2nd grade teacher)

The 'Middle Wife'

Erica, a very bright, very outgoing girl, waddles up to the front of the class with a pillow stuffed under her sweater. She holds up a photo of a baby. "This is Luke, my baby brother, and I'm going to tell you about his birthday.

"First Mum and Dad made him a symbol of their love, and then Dad put a seed in Mom's stomach, and Luke grew in there. He ate for 9 months through an umbrella cord.

"Then about 2 Saturdays ago, my mom starts going 'Oh, oh, oh!' - Erica puts a hand behind her back and groans. "She walked round the house for, like, an hour (and now Erica is doing a hysterical duck walk and groaning).

"My dad called the middle wife. She delivers babies, but she doesn't have a sign on the car like the Domino's man. They got my Mom to lie down in bed like this' (and Erica lies down with her back against the wall.

"And then, pop! My mom had this bag of water she kept in there in case he got thirsty, and it just blew up and spilled all over the bed. Then the middle wife starts saying 'push, push' and 'breathe, breathe'. They started counting but never even got past 10. Then, all of a sudden, out comes my brother. He was covered in yukky-stuff that they said came from Mom's play-centre, so there must be a lot of toys in there."

Erica took a big theatrical bow and returned to her seat.

What a nice note to finish on!!