



**The English Teachers
Association of Queensland Inc.**

Providing professional support
and advocacy for English teachers

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English Matters

All things visual up for discussion in seminar 2

It is a pleasure to have our patron, Catherine Beavis, teaming up with QUT's Michael Dezuanni to illuminate the visual in English for ETAQ's second seminar for 2014. Their presentation will focus on both educational and commercial games and their literacy and classroom implications.

Workshop presenters include Sydney's Di Laycock who will discuss the development of visual, critical and cultural

literacies through graphic novels as well as a range of quality presenters.

The program is included in this mailout.

When: May 31

**Where: Brisbane
Grammar School**

Grammar Refresher

Grammar is the keystone of English teachers' practice. Many of us would appreciate some help to teach it even better.



Garry Collins is meeting this need by offering **Grammar Refresher Day: a chance to brush up your knowledge about language to fully exploit the Australian Curriculum** on July 26 at the University of Queensland.

Look out for more info in Epistles and future mailouts.

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Renewal of membership

Well done – you have renewed your membership

It is great to have most of our members back on board for more ETAQ PD and English talk in 2014.

We rely on your support to be able to provide a quality service to members. Please check with your friends and

colleagues that they too are in the ETAQ circle. Any

queries around membership can be sorted by

contacting our Admin Officer Trish

Purcell at trish.purcell@bigpond.com





Fiona Laing
ETAQ President

I do hope you like our new look English Matters – shorter and with a few more graphics in line with our new website! It offers members an insight into what's happening in the exciting landscape of English.

Look out for past copies of both English Matters and E-pistles which will soon be available on the website for members. If you have anything you would like to communicate to members or check in about, be sure to contact me at

President@etaq.org.au.

Remember, ETAQ is your organisation! Be sure to make it work for you.

Members' money used to sponsor members

Just who is sponsored by ETAQ and why?

After the excitement of the AATE/ALEA National Conference in Brisbane last year, ETAQ has decided to use some of the profits for sponsorship of our members to access quality PD.

The AATE/ALEA 2013 National Conference in Brisbane has netted ETAQ as our share of the profit, around \$59 000. Part of this (\$15 500) was used to offset the loss which ETAQ would have made without the profit from the National Conference, with \$11 492 declared as profit for this year.

As past members will probably realise, ETAQ has been assisting a couple of members each year to attend the national conference by reimbursing them for the cost of early bird registration.

This year, the committee has decided to use some of the profits from the 2013 conference to create a reserve of \$32 000 to provide \$4 000 for these early bird registrations

each year for the next 8 years (when the national conference is again held in Brisbane), from the remainder of the \$59 000 profit.

The sponsorship money in 2014 is to be allocated to 2 members of the Management Committee (our delegate to the AATE Council and the editor of Words'Worth), 2 members who are not on the Management Committee and 1 other from either group, an annual cost of \$4 000.

Creating the reserve is good financial management for two reasons: firstly we are using profit from one activity to cover expenditure in that area; and secondly, it has the effect of evening out profits from one year to the next.

Sponsorships are also offered to 2 or 3 country members each year to assist them to attend our state conference, now known as the Jim Buckley Memorial Scholarship.

See p4 for BTD sponsorship

Digital Story Competition

Winners

Congratulations to the winners of the 2013 Digital Story Competition.

Co-sponsored by ETAQ and Jacaranda, this competition offers an opportunity for students to demonstrate their skills in digital narrative. The winners for 2013 are:

Junior Storyteller (yrs 7-9):

First Place: Kathleen Macfarlane (Our Lady's College, Annerley) – Original story

Second Place: Ruby Turner (St Aidan's Anglican Girls School, Corinda) – Original story

Third Place: Matisse Jacobs (Our Lady's College, Annerley) – Original story.

Senior Storyteller (yrs 10-12):

First Place: Kyle Walsh (Kirwan State High School) - Original story

Second Place: Jamie Howell (Faith Lutheran College Redlands) - Autobiography

Third Place: Lisa Kang (Runcorn State High School) – Original story

Many thanks to the teachers who supported all entrants.

2014 Competition

Please encourage your students to prepare for the 2014 Digital Story Competition with the flyer in this mailout and on the website.

What better way to teach your students than to have a go yourself at the **Masters section** for teachers and pre-service teachers?

Next PD

Saturday 10 May
Beginning
Teachers' Day

This day is especially designed for early career and pre-service teachers with keynote by Erin Geddes.

When: May 10

Where: Brigidine College, Indooroopilly

The program for 2014 includes sessions on:

- **Shakespeare** (Rachael Christopherson)
- **Debating** (Rebecca Hewitt)
- **Three-level Guides** (Matt Rigby)
- **Behaviour Management** (Brad McLennan from USQ)
- **Reading** (Julie Arnold)
- **Reflections/ tips from early career teachers** (Nicole Johns & Elizabeth Elms/Marian Wright)

Be sure to register soon to be part of this day.

Beginning Teachers' Day Sponsorship

ETAQ will provide sponsorship of \$200 each to three members from outside the South-east corner of Queensland to assist with the costs of attending the Beginning Teachers Day on May 10 2014.

If you live north of Gympie or west of Dalby, and you are an ETAQ member, you are welcome to apply. Applications are to be made to ETAQ President, Fiona Laing, flain1@eq.edu.au, explaining your teaching experience, current situation and why you think you would be a suitable recipient.

Applications close on April 28 and successful applicants will be advised by the end of April. Preference will be given to Full (i.e. personal) members but those covered by school corporate membership are also invited to apply.

Missing the wit and wisdom of Garry's letters?

You can still share Garry's letters by going to the blog section of the ETAQ website: <http://www.etaq.org.au/blog.html>, helping us all to follow key educational debates.

Be sure to also read two recent postings from:

- Paul Sherman OAM, ETAQ's newest life member, who has responded to Christopher Bantick's recent assertion, in *The Australian*, that poetry is badly taught or not at all
- John Carr, ETAQ past president and life member, who wrote an article entitled *Perennial Curriculum Problems: Instability and Polarisation*, in response to the current review of the Australian Curriculum.

We look forward to your responses to the blogs on our beautiful new webpage.

Contact

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Upcoming PD dates

Please keep the following in your diary.

Saturday 10 May –
Beginning Teachers'
Day

Saturday 31 May –
Seminar 2

Saturday 26 July –
Grammar Refresher Day
(new event – see pg 1)

Saturday 16 August –
State Conference

Sunday 19 October –
Literary Breakfast