

Literacy Central Vancouver Island

Literacy For All Individuals...1990

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Help someone learn to read and you open their door to hope...and a lifetime of possibilities! [℞]℞

THE HOME OF: WELL READ BOOKS & WELL READ **KIDS**

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Tutor Coordinators: Jacqueline Webster, Margaret Ames

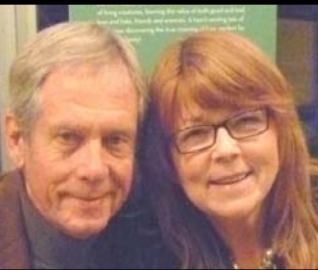
Executive Assistant - Wendy Chaplow

Computer Technician - Brian O’Rooney

Bookstore Supervisors - Jane Rose, Pat Donaldson,
Bronwen Brice, Louise Hamilton

From the desk of:

Rebecca Kirk - Executive Director



The purpose behind the man. What a delightful experience spending the day with Robert Bateman. Yes, he was gracious and charming but behind the public image and all the talent is a **purpose driven life**. Robert spends much of his time and his resources **educating the public worldwide about our fast disappearing natural world** and the consequences for all of us. Our friend in common, Thora Howell, sustainability learning, and the deep love of our wilderness brought us together, not to mention the fun of helping to launch his latest book.

One of the leading issues Robert spoke about concerned what we might be doing to our children by allowing hours of screen time every day, using all forms of technology at increasingly younger ages.

When children play outside and self organize they are learning lifelong skills. Not only are they becoming connected at a deeper level, finding appreciation and developing respect for the natural world around them, they are learning social skills, risk taking, leadership, decision making, empathy, using their imagination, and experiencing a feeling of freedom. Anyone could add to the long list of benefits. We need to be responsible **guiding our children into the new “technology age”**. Each generation develops its own wisdom and the true value of wisdom is in the sharing. We all need to examine the root causes of increasing childhood obesity, depression, increased feelings of insecurity and anxiety. **The natural world is an intrinsic part of our healing system** and it might be helpful for parents who notice some of these issues arising in their children to assess for any level of **Nature Deficit Disorder**. There is much to be said about raising **“free range children”** and it can certainly assist in their ability to be **mentally and physically prepared to learn**. I believe it is one of the most precious gifts that parents and grandparents can pass on to the next generations.

We want to thank our Sponsors once again for a very successful event held at our beautiful and friendly **Port Theatre; Vancouver Island University— Coastal Community Credit Union Harbourfront Branch— A Channel— Coast Bastion Hotel— CU Training and Greystone Books**.

You will notice from the newsletter heading that **we have re branded our children’s bookstore**. With the majority of the work completed on the restoration of our heritage building we wanted to be able to promote our new image as **the destination bookstore** for quality used, antiquarian and children’s books. From a marketing and awareness perspective having the names match more closely makes a lot of sense. **Our goal is to get as many inexpensive books into the hands and lives of children as we can.**

We are growing again! We have just received funding from the Immigrant Integration Branch of the Ministry of Jobs, Tourism and Innovation to develop an **English as a Second Language (ESL) tutoring program**. This program is for new comers in our rural catchment area which includes a population of 36,000. There is more information in our Adult Learning section.

Also, in partnership with **St. John Ambulance and United Way** we are once again offering the **Kids Reading With Dogs** Program. This program is designed for **children who are falling behind** and those with other challenges that currently inhibit the joy of learning to read. When a child and dog bond the stage is set for miracles! Please read the Well Read Kids section for more information.

Stay tuned, much more to come! We do everything we can on your behalf to help the 40% of our community that struggle with low literacy and are unable to fully participate in what life has to offer in the beautiful mid island.

Rebecca@LiteracyCentralVI.org

Membership

Fiscal Total 1416. Amazing! Thank - you for your continued support providing free Literacy Tutoring in your community! \$10.00 annual fee provides a 25% discount on book purchases. You can’t find a better deal!



WELL READ BOOKS - BOOKSTORE NEWS

One of BC's leading Social Enterprises...when you shop here your dollars change lives!

19 Commercial Street
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Phone: 250-591-BOOK (2665)
Fax: 250-754-8114
E-mail: bookstore@LiteracyCentralVI.org

Where in the World are You from? Guest Book

Denmark: Multiple happy visits!

Victoria: A fabulous selection and atmosphere!

Bradford Ontario: Very pretty Very diverse!

Fresno California: Fun & smells like a great bookstore!

Italy: Makes me smile!

Scotland: Great, well organized books!

Indiana: Love it!

Santa Rosa California: Wow, could spend the day here!

Vancouver: I came to Nanaimo just to be at this store.

Ottawa: I always visit your store when I come to Nan.

Malaysia: Very good place

Sointula: So lovely, thanks!

Ahousaht: Awesome store!

Cowichan Bay: So much variety!

The Netherlands: Geweldig - Awesome store, even Dutch children's books!

Australia: Lots of visitors and great comments

Winnipeg: Well organized, awesome variety!

WELL READ Kids

To prepare for future programming and marketing needs, we have re-branded our children's bookstore. The new name, shown above, will bring consistency and familiarity to our promotional opportunities. Our purpose is to help develop "Well Read Kids" it also shows the important relationship with our anchor store, Well Read Books. We hope you like it!

Some family reading tips from Well Read Kids:

- Find age appropriate Crosswords or Word Search Puzzles and work on them together.
- Routinely visit Libraries or Bookstores to browse and develop life long reading habits.
- Sing songs together and let the kids have fun making up new words to familiar tunes.
- Have the kids write the shopping list and fill in appointments on the calendar
- Read road signs and license plates, this helps develop quick thinking
- Have your child read recipes out loud when cooking or baking, this also involves math when figuring out amounts
- Most of all, be a role model, children learn by example, not words



Meet Ricco, he's passed all his tests and signed up for duty. Well Read Kids will once again be hosting our Reading with Dogs program. For more information e mail coordinator leila_latt@yahoo.ca

COMPUTER LEARNING CENTRE

Basic Computer Tutoring

1.5 hr. one on one classes
\$25.00 including manual

To schedule call Wendy at 250-754-8988

Computer Workshops

Word Excel Power Point Publisher Outlook

If your group, club, family or business would like to schedule a workshop for basic tutoring in any of these software applications please call Wendy at the above number. Up to 6 participants for 3 hours in our lab: \$300.00.

We refurbish and recycle donated computers—less than 5 years old - remember us!



ADULT LEARNING CENTRE

On the right is a small group of our volunteer tutors participating in a professional development workshop. The subject on this occasion was raising awareness around the difficulties some of our learners with “**learning disabilities**” may have experienced while attending school, and the possible impact on their current ability to learn. One of the **most positive shifts in this whole field of study** is the realization that the language needed to change. Evidence is showing that those who have been diagnosed or labelled with a learning disability are anything but disabled but they do have “**learning differences**” that need to be understood and teaching strategies modified.



ESL SAP English as a Second Language Settlement Assistance Program. We are very pleased to have received funding to help grow and sustain our volunteer tutoring for **new comers of any ethnic origin** in our rural regions. Canada values the culture and contribution immigrants bring to our country and every effort needs to be made to **assist them with transition, community participation and the adaption to Canadian culture**. Immigrants face many challenges. Our program is designed to help them learn reading, writing, conversation and cultural awareness. One on one tutoring allows them to **more quickly embrace their new life**, participate in their communities and make the **contributions they desire to offer**. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer ESL Tutor please email: Outreach@LiteracyCentralVI.org. If you live in Ladysmith, Cedar, Wellington, Lantzville, Nanoose or on Gabriola Island, have been in Canada less than 5 years and would like some help please call **Literacy Central at 250-754-8988**, we would be more than happy to give you further information or register you for tutoring support.

Financial Literacy— we have been working to develop “**train the trainer**” financial workshops for our volunteer tutors. At a minor level we have always delivered some financial tutoring to our learners because **the stress of managing household budgets and understanding such things as credit** often appear. We are pleased to be able to **support our tutors** by providing specific financial learning modules that they in turn can use to help strengthen and **build confidence** in their learners.

Introduction to Horticulture and Nursery Production Training Program at Nanaimo Correction Centre. In partnership with VIU, John Howard Society and Corrections BC we have just completed a pilot project with a number of residents of **Guthrie House, the Therapeutic Community within the correctional facility**.

This successful program was the first step towards a future integrating Essential Skills and job readiness skills into the training and tutoring provided at Guthrie House. There is cause for excitement and optimism as these courageous residents, who **have chosen to do the hard work to become well**, are now for the first time developing portfolios that document training, skills and knowledge that will take them into the workplace and allow them to become positive contributors to our community.

The program **received very high evaluations from the students**. Some of the comments included “**this course really motivated me to go back to school**” and “**I have more confidence in a class setting**”. Some wanted it to be longer with more material and some were amazed at how quickly they adapted to the learning as it went from basics to production. Opportunities to learn and experience success are vital ingredients to building confidence, **getting back in touch with hope** or experiencing it for the first time and seeing the possibilities for a healthy future.

