



**GIFTED RESOURCES NEWSLETTER  
JANUARY 2008**

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**NEW PO BOX  
PO BOX 4176  
CROYDON HILLS  
VIC 3136**

Welcome to the Gifted Resources Email Newsletter in the new pdf attachment format. If you are not able to receive attachments you can read this newsletter online at <http://www.giftedresources.org/web/newsletter.html> You may be receiving this newsletter because someone has forwarded their copy to you. If you would like to receive your own copy please subscribe from our newsletter website at <http://www.giftedresources.org/web/newsletter.html> You may also access back issues of the newsletter (from January 2005), or change your subscription options, from this address.

You can also read the newsletter online at <http://www.giftedresources.org/web/newsletter.html>

If you have news of events, conferences, lectures, workshops, children's programmes, etc. that you would like included in our newsletter please email [contributions@giftedresources.org](mailto:contributions@giftedresources.org)

**HAPPY NEW YEAR AND WELCOME TO THE FIRST  
GIFTED RESOURCES NEWSLETTER OF 2008**

**HOLIDAY TIMES**

Gifted Resources will be **closed 17 December 2007 to 7 January 2008**

**During January I will be mostly working from home** but can make appointments to go into the office at Luther College for teachers who find it hard to come in during term time and parents and Homeschoolers who wish to gather resources for the coming year.

To make an appointment email [jo@giftedresources.org](mailto:jo@giftedresources.org) or Phone (03)9876 1349

# GIFTED RESOURCES NEWS

## PREPARING FOR THE VISITS OF STEPHANIE TOLAN AND ROSEMARY CATHCART

As plans become definite the details are being posted on Gifted Resources website so please check regularly. I hope to be able to get all the flyers and registration forms up very soon

In the meantime to increase your anticipation read excerpts from the email correspondence we have been sharing, find out about the books of these two authors that are available in Australia and participate in the sponsorship and advertising opportunities.

### SHARING THE LETTERS

While we have been planning the visits Stephanie, Rosemary and I have been blessed as we shared our own stories during our exchange of email letters. We thought you would be interested to read some excerpts from these letters.

These can be found by clicking on the links on Gifted Resources home page

[www.giftedresources.org](http://www.giftedresources.org)

### SPONSORSHIP AND ADVERTISING OPPORTUNITIES

#### Types of Sponsorship and advertising opportunities available

1. Major sponsor \$5.000
2. Dinner speaking engagement \$5.000
3. Speaker sponsor (3 available) \$ 2,000
4. Printing sponsor \$1.000
5. Stationery sponsor \$500
6. Advertising material (up to 3 items no larger than A4 size) included in tour folders \$100
7. Miscellaneous items

**Please feel free to suggest any item or service that you would like to donate** to Gifted Resources for the Stephanie Tolan tour. These could be items or services which could be used as gifts, acknowledgements, or contribute to the organisation of the tour or to Stephanie's enjoyment of her visit.

Donations will be acknowledged on Gifted Resources website.

Items which are needed include

Folding Portable Overhead projector

Replacement globes for Hitachi CP-S225 Data Projector

Boxes of fruit (especially apples)

Slabs of bottled water or mineral water

#### **I would particularly like to draw your attention to the advertising option.**

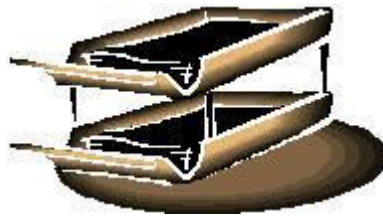
As one of the sponsors, Lynne Mackenzie-Sykes of Australian Gifted Network, said "If all the service providers who have material included in the Gifted Resources Info Pack and notify their events in the newsletter put in \$100 each you would have enough to cover the costs"

**TO ACCEPT THE INVITATION TO SPONSOR PLEASE PRINT OUT AND COMPLETE THE FORM WHICH CAN BE FOUND IN A PDF IN THE SECTION ABOUT STEPHANIE TOLAN'S VISIT AND SEND WITH PAYMENT BY 14 FEBRUARY 2008 TO**

**GIFTED RESOURCES**

**P.O. BOX 4176**

**CROYDON HILLS VIC 3136**



## WHAT'S IN THE IN TRAY?

These items have been received recently and can be found in the In Tray which is located on the Home page of Gifted Resources Website [www.giftedresources.org](http://www.giftedresources.org)  
If you would like information included in the newsletter and/or the In Tray please send to [contributions@giftedresources.org](mailto:contributions@giftedresources.org)

**MUSEUM OF ANCIENT CULTURES, MACQUARIE UNIVERSITY (SYDNEY)**  
Intensive workshop for Gifted & Talented Students in Gr 5 & 6  
16 & 23 January 2008 [PDF FLYER](#)

**C.H.I.P. Summer Holiday Program** [PDF FLYER](#)

**C.H.I.P. CHAT Geelong** [FILE](#)

**The Victorian Enrichment Centre 'Stretching Minds' project for 2008** [FLYER](#)

**'The Big Bang Coffee Club' Parent Group** [FLYER](#)

**NEO Psychology School & Educational Psychologists Clinical Psychology Seminar Program for 2008** [PDF FLYER](#)

**TOURNAMENT OF MINDS TONY RYAN WORKSHOP** [PDF FLYER](#)

**HAWKER BROWNLOW EDUCATION 5th ANNUAL THINKING AND LEARNING CONFERENCE** [PDF FLYER](#)

**G.A.T.E.WAYS Seeking Passionate Teachers for Gifted Programs** [NOTICE](#)

**Giftedness Researchers' Support and Discussion Forum** [NOTICE](#)

**NSW Association of Gifted & Talented Children Albury/Wodonga Support Group**  
Meets bi-monthly in Wodonga and welcomes interested parents & teachers [FLYER](#)

**GERRIC Summer Seminars in Gifted Education Series** [PDF BROCHURE](#)

**GERRIC CERTIFICATE OF GIFTED EDUCATION (C.O.G.E.)** [PDF FLYER](#)

**MONASH UNIVERSITY KRONGOLD CENTRE GIFTED SERVICES** [PDF FLYER](#)

## PARENT SUPPORT GROUPS

### MAROONDAH GIFTED CHILDREN'S PARENTS' ASSOC. INC.

Morning Coffee at MacDonald's, Maroondah Hwy. Croydon Vic. at 10.30 am on Wednesday 6 February, 5 March, 2 April

If you have suggestions for family activities, guest speakers, etc. for 2007 please phone or email Jennifer or Louise.

PO Box 1279

Croydon Vic 3136

Contact Jennifer Grant

Phone 9779 4218

[ijgrant@optusnet.com.au](mailto:ijgrant@optusnet.com.au)

Louise Howe Phone 9801 2912

[louise\\_h@tpg.com.au](mailto:louise_h@tpg.com.au)

### GIFTED SUPPORT NETWORK

(Formerly Bayside Young Active Minds - BYAMS)

Active network in Melbourne's south eastern region offering the following services to families with gifted children:

- \* "Mini Minds" - weekly activities for preschoolers
- \* "Primary Minds" - fortnightly activities for primary school aged children and their parents
- \* "Teens & Tweens" - activities for teenagers and their parents each term
- \* Information evenings with expert speakers covering issues relating to the gifted
- \* Daytime and evening social events for parents to share their experience of parenting the gifted child
- \* Comprehensive members library
- \* Quarterly newsletter containing professional articles

For further information visit [www.giftedsupport.org](http://www.giftedsupport.org)

or phone Carolyn (9576 5137)

P.O. Box 2808 Cheltenham, 3192

Email address is [gifted-support@hotmail.com](mailto:gifted-support@hotmail.com)

**For the full program of Gifted Support Network activities see the excellent calendar of events at <http://www.giftedsupport.org/news.php#event6>**

### V.A.G.T.C. Inc

Contact

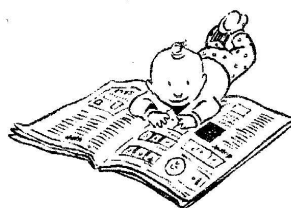
P O Box 132

Caulfield South

Vic 3162

Phone 0402 056 140

<http://www.vagtc.asn.au/index.html>



## **GERRIC 2008 WORKSHOPS FOR STUDENTS**

The Gifted Education, Research, Resource and Information Centre (GERRIC) at The University of New South Wales offers two day extension and enrichment workshops for students from 4- 16 years of age. In 2008 GERRIC will host over 200 workshops in January, April and July presented on various disciplines by either teachers with postgraduate training in gifted education or University Academics. A residential program is offered to interstate secondary school aged students and generous sponsorship places are also available. For further information please visit the GERRIC website. <http://gerric.arts.unsw.edu.au>

**The Victorians on the giftedfamilies email group are planning a get together during the school holidays To join giftedfamilies group visit <http://au.groups.yahoo.com/group/giftedfamilies/>**

### **FROM BILL ZIMMERMAN**

#### **Online Educational Comics Launched to Encourage Writing, Reading and Storytelling**

By Author/Journalist Bill Zimmerman

— <http://www.makebeliefscomix.com>

Dear reader,

I want to share with you news of my newest educational project and also ask for your help to make it succeed. I have launched a new web site -- [http:// www.makebeliefscomix.com](http://www.makebeliefscomix.com) -- where children and adults can create their own comic strips. They can select from 15 fun characters with different moods -- happy, sad, angry, worried – and write words for blank talk and thought balloons to make their characters talk and think. There also are story ideas and prompts to help users create graphic stories.

This site can be used by educators to teach language, reading and writing skills, and also for students in English-as-a-Second-Language programs to facilitate self-expression and storytelling, as well as computer literacy. Some educational therapists use it with deaf and autistic people to help them understand concepts and communicate.

Parents and children can create stories together, print them to create comic books or email them to friends and family. Others will find the site a resource to be creative, calm down and have fun.

Because so many Spanish-speaking users asked us for the ability to write their cartoons in Spanish as well as in English, we recently upgraded the site to accept words written in Spanish, including appropriate accent marks. This can be a useful tool for someone who is learning Spanish as well as someone whose first language is Spanish. In time, this feature will be extended to other languages.

I am hoping that you will share <http://www.makebeliefscomix.com> with your colleagues, teachers, students or readers of your publications and resource lists. The site is free with no advertising. Any help you might offer in getting word out about this project is very appreciated.

If you can suggest other people or groups whom I might contact to make them aware of the site please send me their names, email addresses or phone numbers. Relevant Internet resource sharing groups would be helpful, too. It takes a community to build a useful resource like this one.

As one who learned to read with comic books, I know that creating comic strips can help people tap into their creativity and practice their language and storytelling skills. The site is free and stems from my lifelong mission to create resources that help people find their voice and express themselves. The concept for [makebeliefscomix.com](http://www.makebeliefscomix.com) is derived from my earlier books, *Make Beliefs* and *Make Beliefs for Kids of All*

*Ages* (which can be found on my other web site:

<http://www.billztreasurechest.com>). A *Make Beliefs* interactive feature appeared for 13 years on my syndicated Student Briefing Page for *Newsday*, and in *National Geographic's World Magazine*.

I hope you like <http://www.makebeliefscomix.com> and will use it in your work and personal life.

Your feedback is welcome and very helpful.

With thanks and every good wish,

Bill Zimmerman ([wmz@aol.com](mailto:wmz@aol.com))

## CONFERENCES AUSTRALIA

### AUSTRALIAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE EDUCATION OF GIFTED AND TALENTED (AAEGT) Biennial Conference

Hobart, Tasmania, Australia.

July 9-11, 2008

<http://www.giftedconference.org.au/>

### HAWKER BROWNLOW EDUCATION 5<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL THINKING AND LEARNING CONFERENCE Classrooms@work Teachers make the difference

12-15 May 2008

The Heath Caulfield Racecourse Melbourne

For full details see [http://www.hbe.com.au/07\\_196\\_10.pdf](http://www.hbe.com.au/07_196_10.pdf)

Hawker Brownlow Education

PO Box 8580, Heatherton, VIC, 3202, Australia

54-56 Sunmore Close, Parkview Estate, Heatherton, VIC, Australia

P: +61 3 8558 2444

Toll Free (within Australia) P: 1800 334 603

F: +61 3 8558 2400

Toll Free (within Australia) F: 1800 150 445

E: [conferences@hbe.com.au](mailto:conferences@hbe.com.au)

## OVERSEAS

April 2-5, 2008, *Convention and Expo of the Council for Exceptional Children*, Boston, Massachusetts. Henry Winkler, keynoter. For teachers, administrators, students, parents, paraprofessionals, and other providers of support services to students with exceptionalities, disabilities, or giftedness.

<http://www.cec.sped.org/Content/NavigationMenu/ProfessionalDevelopment/ConventionExpo/default.htm>

April 4-6, 2008, *Intelligence at Risk: Transforming the Educational Paradigm*, Universal City Hilton, Universal City, California. By AEGUS (Association for the Education of Gifted Underachieving Students). For educators, parents, and clinicians.

<http://www.aegus1.org/conference.html>

May 18-20, 2008, The Ninth Biennial Henry B. & Jocelyn Wallace National Research Symposium on Talent Development, University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa. For educators and researchers in the gifted field.

<http://www.education.uiowa.edu/belinblank/events/researchsym/>

July 18-20, 2008, SENG 25th Annual Conference, Salt Lake City, Utah. For parents, educators, school psychologists, and others.

[http://www.sengifted.org/conference\\_about.shtml](http://www.sengifted.org/conference_about.shtml)

September 16-20, 2008, *11th Conference of the European Council for High Ability*, Prague, Czech Republic. Official language: English. For professionals, educators

[http://www.sengifted.org/conference\\_about.shtml](http://www.sengifted.org/conference_about.shtml) .

### Observance of Commonwealth Day

Commonwealth Parliamentary Association NSW Branch is accepting nominations

for one or two young people to attend Commonwealth Day celebrations in London on Monday 10 March 2008.

Plans include discussions on the Commonwealth, presence at the Observance Ceremony in Westminster Abbey (attended by Her Majesty the Queen) and visits to the Houses of Parliament.

Nominees should be within the approximate age range of 18-25, have shown an interest in Commonwealth and parliamentary affairs, displayed potential leadership qualities and already have plans to be in London or nearby on Commonwealth Day. It should be noted that any travel and accommodation costs involved would be the responsibility of the nominee. Applications close Monday 28 January. If you are interested in being a nominee please email [gordon.moyes@parliament.nsw.gov.au](mailto:gordon.moyes@parliament.nsw.gov.au)

## **SOME INTERESTING WEBSITES**

### **OCR Dear Colleague Letter: Access by Students with Disabilities to Accelerated Programs**

<http://www.ed.gov:80/about/offices/list/ocr/letters/colleague-20071226.html>

### **Taare Zameen Par**

The story of a gifted but dyslexic boy growing up in the very didactic, rigid and competitive educational system in India.

The older brother is gifted too and capable of fitting into the system but the younger brother is gifted, dyslexic and an out of the box creative thinker. It shows how a rigid lockstep system crushes this type of child.

<http://www.taarezameenpar.com/>

### **1 in 5 US school dropouts may be gifted – Delaware news item**

<http://www.delawareonline.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20071220/NEWS/712200356>

### **Maths linx**

[http://palmdps.act.edu.au:80/curric\\_linx/maths/maths\\_linx.htm](http://palmdps.act.edu.au:80/curric_linx/maths/maths_linx.htm)

### **lifeunseen**

<http://lifeunseen.com:80/>

### **The Australian blog “Do we give bright kids a fair go?”**

[http://blogs.theaustralian.news.com.au/yoursay/index.php/theaustralian/comments/do\\_w\\_e\\_give\\_bright\\_kids\\_a\\_fair\\_go/](http://blogs.theaustralian.news.com.au/yoursay/index.php/theaustralian/comments/do_w_e_give_bright_kids_a_fair_go/)

### **APDUK website**

<http://www.apduk.org/>

## **SOME NEW YEAR RESOLUTIONS TO MAKE GIFTED PROVISION EASIER**

For everything gifted check out Hoagies website <http://www.hoagiesgifted.org/>

Check out the EUMY Extension units <http://www.eumyeducation.com/>

Get organised with the eUNIT planner [www.eup.cm.au](http://www.eup.cm.au)

Subscribe to 2E newsletter <http://www.2enewsletter.com/>

Enhance maths skills with 24 Game tournaments from Brainy Days

<http://www.brainydays.com.au/>

Investigate the Gifted Resources website for resources for sale, programs, competitions and tournaments [www.giftedresources.org](http://www.giftedresources.org)

### **RITCHIES IGA COMMUNITY BENEFITS**

Gifted Resources is participating in the Ritchies IGA Community Benefits scheme. To give Gifted Resources benefit every time you shop for groceries ask at any Ritchies IGA for a Community Benefits card and nominate **Gifted Resources Number 90417**

**DISCLAIMER**

Gifted Resources aims to provide information about events, services, products and websites which could be of interest. Inclusion in Gifted Resources Website, Information Pack or Newsletter does not necessarily imply any endorsement or guarantee of quality or suitability to meet your specific needs.

Kind regards, Jo Freitag

Gifted Resources

Office

The Centre for the Exceptional Learner

Luther College

Plymouth Rd

Croydon Vic 3136

Phone (03) 9724 2452

Postal address

PO Box 4176

Croydon Hills

Victoria 3136

Phone (03)9876 1349

Website [www.giftedresources.org](http://www.giftedresources.org)

Email Jo Freitag [jo@giftedresources.org](mailto:jo@giftedresources.org)

Newsletter e-mail [contributions@giftedresources.org](mailto:contributions@giftedresources.org)