

**CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT
THE DYSLEXIA ASSOCIATION OF WAIKATO
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
30 AUGUST 2018**

Again, I am pleased to report that The Dyslexia Association of Waikato has had a successful year and continued to 'make a difference' to students and families with SLDs.

Our funding schemes in schools provide tuition and help students who learn differently, enabling them to learn more effectively in the educational setting. We have provided access to families recognised by schools as being able to benefit from this funding with the added advantage of sharing information about Dyslexia and other SLDs with teachers in these schools.

Schools who have benefited from these schemes include - Waitetuna Primary, ~~St Pauls~~, Nguarawahia, Waipa School, St Columba's, Pukete and Rhode Street.

Our grateful thanks to all our charitable organisations who have supported us with Grants this year. They include - Lyceum, DV Bryant Trust, Trust Waikato; Wel energy; COGs grant; Hamilton City; NZ Post.

My sincere thanks to Pam Gaskin and Yvonne Wilcock who have tirelessly made applications and dealt with our funders. Also thanks to Linda Walker and Catherine Hale who screen applications from schools and parents and in committee, allocate the tuition funds.

Our Professional development this year has included opportunities for our teachers to attend Brain Day in Auckland. Also LDANZ national conference in Palmerston North. We have had two PD/Information Days for parents, teachers and children October 2017 plus another early this year. These sessions included Nessy teaching programmes, book reviews, up to date resources and games, Brain gym and movement for coordination etc. These sessions are very important for reaching out to parents, teachers and families and the wider community with SLDs.

We plan another of these workshops early next term.

My committee has worked well together and I would like to thank them for their efforts. Ellen as Vice Chair, Rhondda as Secretary, Pam as Treasurer, Yvonne as Funding Officer, Linda and Catherine for vetting funding applications, David as Website person, Colin as keeper of the library and resources, Alan as supporter of our organisation.

My grateful thanks to our Accountant, Kathy Buchanan for her work with our Annual accounts and managing charitable funding monies and as a referee. Tony Allwood of W3 for maintaining our website and supporting us in many other ways, Helene Paterson educational psychologist. Thanks to our Trustees and supporters for their continued interest and support of The Dyslexia Association of Waikato. I look forward to working with you for another year.

Heather Ridge
Chairperson